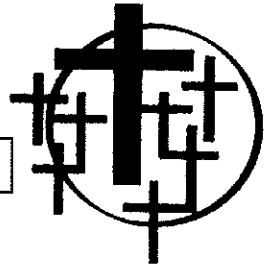


CHRISTOGRAM



Concordia Lutheran Church

September, 2000

The Christogram is a monthly newsletter of Concordia Lutheran Church, Steamboat Springs, Colorado. Deadline for newsletter items is the fourth Sunday of each month. We welcome contributions of news items, art work, and other appropriate articles.

Editors: Jean Smith, and Cindy Svendsen

The Weekly Bulletin is printed on Thursday mornings. News items for the bulletin should be submitted by 9:00 am on Thursdays.

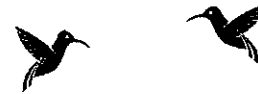
Saturday Worship: 5:30 PM

Sunday Worship: 8:00 and 10:30 AM **Education Hour:** 9:15 AM

Concordia Lutheran Church
755 Concordia Lane
PO Box 770428
Steamboat Springs, CO 80477

A Note From The Pastor . . .

The sign said "hummingbird garden." It was located at the lovely, new botanical garden along the river walk. Helen, Luther and I were strolling there last Sunday afternoon. But there were no hummingbirds there. There were a few flowers, but none of those energetic, fascinating, miniature, helicopter-like birds.



But, down about 50 yards, without benefit of a sign, there were some tall flowers growing that attracted dozens of those busy, darting little creatures. They were swarming all over these orange, bell-like flowers. I guess a hummingbird knows a hummingbird garden when it sees one, and doesn't need a sign.

John, chapter six, where several of the Gospel lessons come from these Sundays, is about "Bread." Now, you would think bread could be recognized by people when they see it. Bread is that which satisfies and nurtures the human body for living.

But people get fooled by signs of our culture that say other things are bread. "Success" is bread. "Wealth is bread. "Popularity" is bread. "Sensual satisfaction" is bread. But no matter how many signs say it—it ain't bread!

Jesus says, "I am Bread." People really find satisfaction and nourishment in Him. You can't fool a hummingbird, and you can't fool a spiritually hungry human being either.

There is no one else, no philosophy, no earthly treasure that has gone to the cross for us, to die for our sins and to rise again in power to the everlasting praise of God!



That Good News feeds and nurtures our human spirit. It satisfies like nothing else. Whether we are Sunday School kids sitting on the floor while the Pastor talks to them, whether we are High School young men and women planning out their year, whether we are people spending our days at the Extended Care Center, or somewhere in

between, in terms of age, health and situation, nothing satisfies people like the Bread of Life—Jesus!

Make sure you come regularly and get your slice!

Nothing we do nurtures our Christian fellowship and our personal spiritual well being like regularly gathering at the table while fresh, energizing Bread is being sliced and passed around to share.

I am encouraged, as your Interim Pastor, by the kindly and warm welcome you gave me on Sunday, August 20th. I look forward to meeting more of you.

Encourage one another—share the worship times when you are able—pray for your church—eat more Bread!

Yours in Christ,

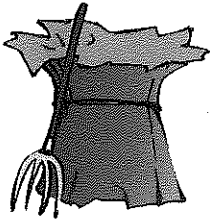
Pastor Wayne Koenig
 (pronounced "Kay nig")

September, 2000

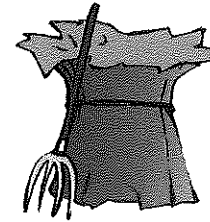
Concordia Lutheran Church **CHRISTOGRAM**

inside...

"Diner's Club"
 "Calling All Musicians"
 "Singles' Potluck"



September



2000

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Staff Mtg—noon AA Group—6 PM Parent2Parent-6 PM at Scott's, 1851HuntersCt Wed Reh—6 PM	2 Worship—5:30 PM Wedding—2 PM
3 Worship 8/10:30 AM Educ Hr—9:15 AM Outreach—4:30 PM	4 Women's AA-7 PM Book Club-7 PM LABOR DAY	5 Bible Study-6:30 AM Elders Mtg- 7 PM Church Council-7 PM	6 Prayers—6:30 PM Discovery—7 PM	7 Womens Study-9 AM Choir—6 PM Bells—7 PM Recovery—7 PM	8 Staff Mtg—noon AA Group—6 PM Sun School Rally-6 PM Wedding Reh.—6:30 PM "Drive-In"- 530-7 PM	9 Mens Breakfast—7AM Journey—10 AM Wedding—1 PM Worship—5:30 PM
10 Worship 8/10:30 AM Educ Hr—9:15 AM Sunday School Begins! Youth Group-4:30 PM Confirmation-4:30 PM	11 Women's AA-7 PM Crafts—7 PM at Billee Harris' W.O.R.M.-7 PM Book Club—7 PM	12 Bible Study-6:30 AM	13 Prayers—6:30 PM Discovery—7 PM Stephen's—8:00 PM	14 Womens Study-9 AM Choir—6 PM Bells - 7 PM Recovery—7 PM	15 Staff Mtg—noon AA Group—6 PM ← Strip Basement	16 Worship—5:30 PM Floor →
17 Worship 8/10:30 A Educ Hr—9:15 AM	18 Women's AA-7 PM Crafts—7 PM at Cindy Svendsen's	19 Bible Study-6:30 AM	20 Prayers—6:30 PM Discovery—7 PM Music Night—7 PM At Weber's	21 Womens Study-9 AM Choir—6 PM Bells—7 PM Recovery—7 PM	22 Staff Mtg—noon AA Group 6 PM	23 Worship—5:30 PM
24 Worship 8/10:30 AM Educ Hr—9:15 AM E.C.C.—12:45 PM Youth Group-4:30 PM Confirmation-4:30 PM	25 Women's AA-7 PM Crafts—7 PM at Elaine Stroncek's	26 Bible Study-6:30 AM	27 Prayers—6:30 PM Discovery—7 PM	28 Womens Study-9 AM Choir—6 PM Bells—7 PM Recovery—7 PM	29 Staff Mtg—noon AA Group—6 PM Singles' Potluck-7 PM at Susan Dreska's	30 AA Group-4 to 8 PM In Basement Worship—5:30 PM

TRUSTEES REPORT . .

The trustees are trying to arrange for temporary furnishing for the parsonage to accommodate our interim pastor. If you have any of the following items that can be used on a temporary basis, please call Mike Beyer, 879-3019. All items will be returned after we call a new pastor.

TV

TV stand

Coffee table

Desk

End tables

Dining room set

Floor Lamp

Table lamps

Dresser



Concordia's Wish List

The following is a list of several items that Concordia is in need of, but have not been budgeted for. If anyone is interested in helping out with the purchase of or would like to donate an item from the list (in good condition), please contact the office:

- Digital camera
- Special Music funding
- VCR
- Color TV (19" or larger)
- Pleated shades for Sunday School rooms
- New office Chair for Pastor



STEPHEN'S MINISTRY
(For September)

All Stephen's Ministers will meet on Wednesday, September 13th at 8:00 PM

Thank you to the Fellowship Committee for all their hard work in preparation for the Church Picnic and Cartwright's Celebration, both happenings in August.

Guess who's coming to dinner? Concordia Diners' Club

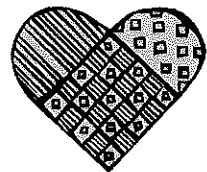
The Fellowship Board is starting up a "Diners' Club" at Concordia to encourage new friendships. This is how it works: Sign-up as a couple or single adult and say, "Yes! I want to get to know more people at Concordia." Beginning in September and for the next three months members will gather at someone's home once a month in a group of 8. The host home will prepare the meal. Can't cook? No big deal. Stouffers makes an awesome lasagna and you can find it in your freezer section. Pizza works. Gourmet cook? Hey, have at it! BUT the whole point is to gather around a meal with fellow Christians and share in some conversation. Friendships are the goal. At the end of four months your group changes.



Fellowship Adventures in Dining

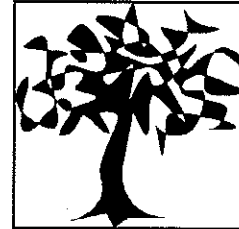
Sunday, August 27 is your last chance to sign-up for a Fall start up. Questions? Call the office or see someone on the Fellowship Committee: Sher Scheiwe, Kim & Thong Truong, David Luchtenburg, Kathy Bertrand or Barbara Youngs.

Share a meal—"Encourage one another."

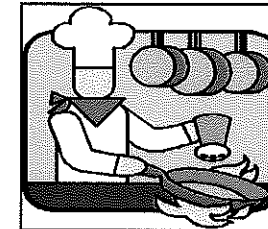


Mom's Playgroup

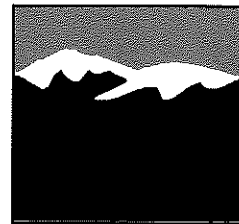
Will meet in September, location to be announced in weekly bulletin. For information call Belinda Hart, 879-7486.



Parent To Parent Group
Will meet on Friday, September 1st, 6:00 to 8:00 PM at Hugh & Debbie Scott's, 1851 Hunter's Court, 879-7371. Pizza provided.
A-M bring a salad
N-Z bring a dessert



Men's Breakfast
Saturday
September 9, 2000
7:00 - 8:00AM
in Fellowship Hall
Invite A Friend!



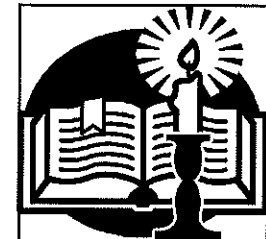
Discovery Bible Study
Wednesdays - 7:00 PM
at the Church
(3rd/4th grade classroom)
Prayers - 6:30 PM
(childcare provided)



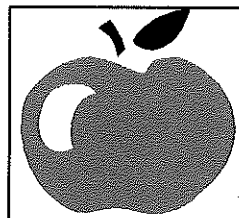
Tuesday Morning Bible Study
at the Church (Fellowship Hall) 6:30 - 7:30 AM
All are welcome!



Confirmation
Will meet on Sundays, September 10th and 24th, at 4:30 PM (parents need to be present on September 10th) snacks provided



Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study:
"Smart Choices: Making Your Way Through Life"
9:00 AM in the church library
(Childcare Provided)



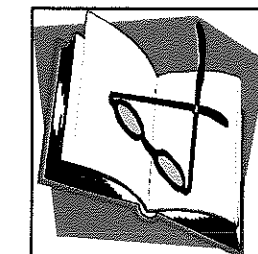
Recovery Room
Thursdays 7:00 PM
at the Church
in the Library



LWML (Women's Guild) will start the year off with a weekend retreat at Euzoa Conference Center on Sept 22nd & 23rd. Details in your mailbox or office.



YOUTH GROUP
Will meet on Sundays, September 10th and 24th, at 4:30 PM, parents need to be present, snacks provided.



BOOK CLUB
will meet on Monday, September 11th, 7:00 PM, location to be announced in bulletin. This month's book is "Eddie's Bastard"

Youth Group News

And They Shall Be Called...

Everything is in a name. We need a name. Either on your own or with friends, come up with some ideas for names. Need help? Here are some ways to get the brain wheels spinning.

1. Brainstorm what you want to say. For example, the name Captive Free came out of this truth: We are CAPTIVE to sin; we are FREE by the blood of Christ.

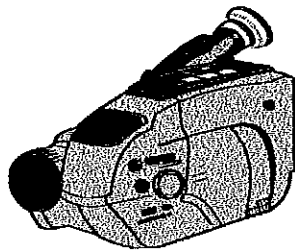
2. Pick out a Bible verse that speaks to you and choose key words from it. (The band Jars of Clay is from 2 Cor. 4:7)

3. Brainstorm names of Christian bands, other youth groups and do a variation on those. (i.e. Sonic Flood, Disciples Unlimited.)

Give your ideas to Sarah. We'll vote on a name at the Sept. 24 youth meeting. Winner or winners receive a delectable prize.

Smile you're on candid camera!

VIDEO SCAVENGER HUNT
Sunday, Sept. 10
4:30 p.m.
Meet @ the church



YAHOO!

FUN!

Youth Group
Sunday, Sept. 24
4:30 p.m.
@ church

MUSIC TEAM
Be a part of our new music team. We need guitarists, keyboard players, lead singers, drummers, sound system people. Tons of fun. Tell Sarah if you're interested.

Notes from the Youth Leader

In late August I met with 11 juniors and seniors and, can I just say, they are a fabulous group of young people. I was so impressed with their leadership abilities and their kindness. We got together to plan activities and topics for the year. Having not been active with the youth for the past six years, it was really great to hear the voices of young people again—their energy and position on things. They are such a life force in our church!

We discussed switching the youth meetings to Wed. eve so that Sundays could be preserved for family time. In the end, that didn't work. But we moved the Sunday meeting time to 4:30-6:30 p.m. This matches the confirmation schedule and reduces the number of trips parents have to make to the church. Hopefully this will allow families to gather for a family meal after youth group.

We're planning some fun events kicking off with a video scavenger hunt on Sunday, Sept 10 at 4:30 p.m. We are hoping to start a youth-led Saturday evening service once a month. If you're feeling down at all, give this service a try. God has blessed these young people with a vitality and faith which radiates to those around them.

Thank you high schoolers for giving me the incredible privilege of worshipping, working and having fun with you this year.

Blessings,
Sarah

August STATISTICS

August Average Sunday Attendance

1991.....	107
1992.....	150
1993.....	193
1994.....	208
1995.....	200
1996.....	210
1997.....	202
1998.....	240
1999.....	223
2000.....	317

August 2000 Sunday Attendance

Week #1.....	27 (Sat).....	102 (E).....	137 (L).....	266 (T)
Week #2.....	12 (Sat).....	216 (E).....	271 (L).....	499 (T)
Week #3.....	13 (Sat).....	80 (E).....	95 (L).....	188 (T)
Week #4.....	Not available at printing			



SCOOP FROM THE SUP...

We have had some fun this summer in Sunday School. We have learned that God can do amazing things! We also have learned the importance of good advice, courage, believing in God, finding refuge in Him and trusting Him. I may have leaned more than the kids!

As parents and teachers, we are only beginning to lay the foundational building blocks on which our children will build their faith. I hope that future "spiritual" archeologists will dig up the truth in the lives we and our children live.

Joshua 24 recounts the history of the Israelites for the young and the forgetful to remind them of all God's faithfulness to them. At the end of the chapter, Joshua says, "Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve...but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

Tomorrow we "begin" another school year; I like beginnings because they give me a chance to set new priorities. I feel fresh and hopeful. I love that this last Sunday School lesson focuses on making the best

choice, to serve the Lord.

Take time with your kids to talk about whom your family is going to serve and how that becomes a reality in your life.

Coming up...

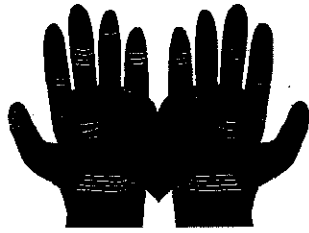
AAAHHHHH...the WORM is coming! We are going to be Wiggling Out the Real Meaning to some Biblical truths this next year in Sunday School. Our first rotation will be on creation.

Important dates to remember...

September 8th-Sunday School Rally & Open House, 6:00 PM—Come visit the Bethlehem Bijou—now showing "Creation!" Get your historical perspective at "Priscilla and Aquilla's (the tentmakers) Home!" Don't miss the live entertainment at "The Coliseum!" Check it out..."Creations Corner!"

Sunday School Begins September 10th! Don't Miss out!

P.S. There are still opportunities to serve in Sunday School ministry, call Ellyn Myller for details, 871-1860.



We are blessed to welcome three new Stephen Ministers to our ongoing ministry of one-on-one caring at Concordia. They are Mary Hood, Patricia MacArthur and Doran Teramoto.

Stephen Ministry is a program in our congregation that equips lay persons to provide distinctively Christian one-to-one care to those who are experiencing all kinds of life needs and circumstances, both in our congregation and community. There are times when each of us needs the care of another person, a Christian friend, a Stephen Minister! These needs include but are not limited to . . .the hospitalized, the terminally ill, people who are in transition, those grieving losses, the homebound, those in a job crisis, those with disabilities, the separated or divorced, households experiencing birth or adoption, those in spiritual crisis, etc. It is a confidential ministry and those who are receiving care can be sure that their identity and what goes on in the caring relationship will remain private.

If you would like the care of a Stephens Minister, or are interested in becoming one, please contact Jean Smith in the church office (879-0175) or fill out a communication tab which is located in the church pews. During a time of pastoral transition we are blessed to have people trained to provide quality Christian care in a Stephen Minister program.

“ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER AND BUILD ONE ANOTHER UP.”

Calling all Musicians: Come join us for an evening of music and fellowship!



When: Wednesday, September 20 at 7:00 PM
Where: Jake & Dianne Weber's home (1769 Timothy Drive)

Bring an appetizer to pass and a love for music. This is open to everyone who is interested in the music ministry at Concordia. There will be no try-outs or auditions! Our only requirement is that you think it might be fun to make a joyful noise unto the Lord. (It is fun.)

WE ARE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY MUSIC PROGRAM AT CONCORDIA: ALL ARE WELCOME!

“Some things never change.” A word from your Parish Administrator

Even in our technologically advanced society there is still an oral tradition—stories that are shared amongst ourselves. They may be tales of bad days at work, or episodes of frustration with kids or a spouse. They may relate a wonderful mountain-top experience hiking in our Colorado splendor or the enjoyment of a quiet afternoon fishing. There will soon be stories of the hunt. We continue to share our stories and thus, we learn to know one another.

I would like to tell a story and it is a true one. There were no videotapes or recordings. It's accuracy is not in the exact words shared but I will try to remain true to it's central meaning.

Several weeks ago Marlys told this story to me—and now I share it with you. She and Tim had just gone to visit Gert Farrell knowing it would be, perhaps, their last visit in Gert's home because of their plans to move to Spokane. Understandably, Gert was sad about the departure. She and Marlys had built a wonderful friendship over the last year. Marlys attempted to reassure her by telling her that although they were moving, God doesn't. God is a constant presence in her life. In essence, “God doesn't change.” To which Gert replied, “I don't change either.”

Marlys laughed as she relayed this interchange. “Some things never change,” she emphasized

with a smile, “Jesus and Gert—they never change.”

Yes, many things seemed unchangeable about Gert. There was a constancy in her that I grew to appreciate. Her hospitality did not change, the careful way she tended to her friendships as she tended to her flowers—nurturing and attentive; her quiet witness to her faith in a loving God did not change. I was looking forward to getting to know this ‘changeless’ Gert Farrell better over the next year.



I am glad that Marlys shared this story with me. As I remember the telling and remember the smiles it brought, it now is more likely to bring a tear. It is more poignant now.

Yes, there has been a great change in Gert Farrell — an unexpected one. Death has come and there is a finality which changes all of us who knew her. Family and friends will have to grieve this loss—this change in the constancy of Gert Farrell. But where death has come, it has not claimed. God has claimed Gert as His own. For there are other stories that are true.

“Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—in a flash, in the twin-

king of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality.” (1Cor 15:51-53)

The capacity to change and be changed is our gift. God gives us the ability to change daily, and at our death He transforms us eternally.

In our baptisms we are continually renewed: we die to our old nature and rise up to new life in Christ. Every day. Change is as constant to us as God is unchangeable. Every time we turn away we are invited to turn back towards the light and enter in to a life in Christ; for every sin there is forgiveness to change and free us; for every straying there is an invitation to return.

As difficult as changes are for us, the invitation and ability to change is also one of our greatest gifts. Surely God loves us and sees the potential within us. We are not perfect. But God has said, let there be change—and renewal, and new life, and wonderful possibilities within you. And ultimately, your failures will amount to nothing for I have saved and rescued you. You are mine. Even in death, I will change you. “In a flash—in a twinkling of an eye—the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.”

Tenets, Tidbits and Trails . . . the Elder's report

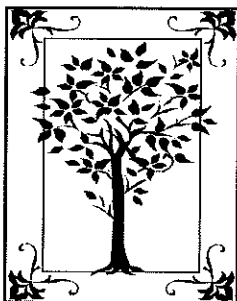
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Well, here we are in a pastoral vacancy. We've said good-byes to the Cartwright's and will miss their loving presence and grieve that genuine loss. We've had an opportunity to meet and welcome Pastor Koenig, who will serve during the time that we engage the task of calling a pastor who will follow Pastor Tim, not "replace" him.

We have an opportunity to look back at the spiritual growth that has occurred in our midst and assess the direction we would like that growth to proceed.

These changes, along with the hectic pace of our daily lives, may tempt us to wonder how things will work out. Then, to our amazement, we notice that our ministries remain vital, some growing, changing, or evolving in ways we might not have imagined, as inspired and talented people among us step forward, sharing gifts of all kinds that reflect the love of God in their hearts.

I hope you will join me in saying thanks to all those who have given of themselves in obvious or hidden ways, and in giving thanks to our amazing God who has given us all that we have and inspired us, by the gift of His Son, Jesus, to serve one another and share His love.



In His Service,

Albert Deepe
Elder

Singles Potluck!

**Friday, September
29th at 7:00 PM**

Where: Susan Dreska's home

Directions: From downtown Steamboat, take highway 40 east to Walton Creek Road. (left at Comfort Inn); go up Walton Creek Road to Whistler Road; take a right on Whistler to Stone Lane (Creekside Condos...No Dogs sign!!). Make a right on to Stone Lane then take very first left on to Hiawatha; follow street to first stucco house on right (white and grey), #3432. (879-4273).



•Concordia would like to establish a Singles ministry. Our intent is to provide fellowship opportunities for singles and provide avenues to nurture and support the concerns and needs of singles in our midst.

Call Jean Smith (879-0175) if you have any questions or ideas for singles ministry.

Bring a friend, bring your sense of humor, bring a dish to pass, bring your ideas for future events.

LWML (Women's Guild)

Fall Retreat, September 22nd, 4:00 to 9:30 PM and September 23rd, 7:30 AM to 2:00 PM. Don't miss this wonderful weekend of fellowship and spiritual renewal. The retreat will be held at Euzoa Conference Center in Strawberry Park. We have a special guest speaker, Pastor Carol A. Wood from Mesa, AZ. She will be speaking on the book of Esther and the retreat is entitled "A Nail in a Sure Place." Registration forms will be in the narthex. Cost for the retreat, including Friday evening's lodging and two meals is \$55. A \$15 deposit is due by Sept 10th. Scholarships are available for those in need, please contact Judy Plumb.

Regular monthly meetings will begin in October. All women are invited and encouraged to join us. This year's theme is "A Living Faith."

Thank you to all the ladies who provided food and help following the funeral service for Gert Farrell/

Craft Nights for September will be:

Monday, September 4th, no crafts, Labor Day Weekend

Monday, September 11th, 7:00 PM at Billee Harris', 450 Grand, 879-0460

Monday, September 18th, 7:00 PM at Cindy Svendsen's, 671 Amethyst, 879-7028

Monday, September 25th, 7:00 PM at Elaine Stroncek's, 850 Aspen, 879-2442

