

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: Pastor Koenig, Jean Smith, and Cindy Svendsen

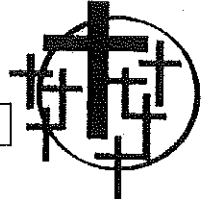
The **Weekly Bulletin** is printed on Thursday mornings. News items for the bulletin should be submitted by 9:00 am on Thursdays.

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

CHRISTOGRAM



Concordia Lutheran Church

January, 2001

A note from the Pastor . . .

THE ADVENTURE CONTINUES. . .

As the congregation of Concordia continues in its search for a new Pastor, the Koenigs continue their journeys "over the river and through the woods". The destination is not "grandmother's house", but God's House. For the most part, we enjoy the journey. An exception would be the "great white out" of December 15.

It is always great to be with you folks of Concordia. You have a marvelous spirit. You are so appreciative and encouraging. We love the opportunity that is ours to share teaching, learning, preaching and worshiping with you. It is a real gift of the Lord for us to be with you. Ruth and I want to thank you for your most generous gifts and greetings at Christmas time. You are kind and thoughtful! We also appreciate your

support and prayers for Kristen as she was conducting her job search. We will be driving her to New York City where she will join the faculty of Concordia, Bronxville as Associate Professor of Sociology.

Boy, you surely know how to celebrate Christmas! All of the services were very well attended and the musical offerings were just lovely.

Meanwhile...

The Call Committee is doing their work very faithfully and effectively. I know that soon they will be presenting names before you as candidates for the position of Pastor. I am convinced that God is also doing His work alongside this process—guiding events and people into His own Will.

I encourage your faithful and regular prayers, and your positive support for the Call Committee. Your patience

would also be a blessing.

The parsonage has received a lot of caring attention. It has been painted inside, and some new carpeting installed, and new entrance tile. The downstairs windows have been replaced and the house is nice and cozy and draft free. We appreciate being able to stay there while we are with you in Steamboat.

We pray God's continued blessings on the congregation. We hope you will continue to be faithful in your worship and encouraging toward one another in your life in Christ together.

God's power and love to you in the New Year!

See you in Church.

Pastor Wayne

January, 2001

Concordia Lutheran Church **CHRISTOGRAM**

inside...

"Captive Free Concert" - January 5, 2001
"Epiphany Party" - January 6, 2001
"Concordia's 2001 Theme!"

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

Fellow Believers in Christ,

As the year 2001 begins, I would like to set a challenge before each and everyone of us. The challenge is the personal increase of Bible study, privately and cooperatively. Isaiah 9:6 states, "Unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace." This Isaiah passage, as we all know, is speaking of Jesus our Savior, coming to rule over a kingdom of people submitting to the prince's supreme authority. And the prince himself would provide loving counsel to those he ruled over, guiding and directing their lives by the power of the Holy Spirit through his word. Jesus is God's explicit message to us, the divine Word made flesh. Thus, Jesus governs us by the written, revealed Word of God. How do we know of His love, His lifestyle for us, our hope for eternity, if we do not spend time in the Bible where He makes His Word known to us. Hebrews 4:12 tells us how powerful His Word is and how it will govern us.

In our society, the Bible has become the object of mockery and derision. It has been outlawed in schools, courts, and public places. Has that happened in your life, too? The scriptures make it quite clear that when you submit to His holy Word, He fills your life with joy. James 1:25 states, "The man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard but doing it, he will be blessed in what he does." This is where real joy may be found.

I ask you again to challenge yourself this year and open His love story to allow the Holy Spirit to bless you. Open up the Word in your home, join one of Concordia's Bible study groups, share His love with others.



In service to Christ,

Gene K. Carrell
Elder

GOOD SHEPHERD MONTH



January is Good Shepherd month. There will be a form to fill out in your mailbox and turn in by the end of this month. Dues are \$5 for the year. This is a wonderful opportunity to support the "Good Shepherd Home" in Littleton, CO, which provides housing for physically and mentally challenged adults.

Questions - contact Billee Harris, 879-0460

SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM

What happened to the Sunday School Christmas Program? What happened to the kids in white with angel wings and Mary and Joseph and the Shepherds? Well, there will still be a Sunday School Program, but this year we're doing it to celebrate Epiphany. There will be wise men and their entourage...Mary and Joseph but not at the manger—they have more permanent quarters now...not the angels singing "Glory to God in the Highest" but angelic voices singing, "We are marching in the light of God."

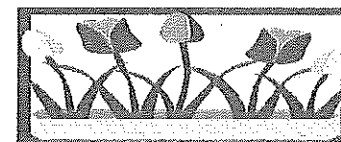
The light has come! Epiphany!

Program: Sunday, January 21st at 10:30 AM
Rehearsals: Saturday, January 13 at 9 AM
Saturday, January 20 at 9 AM

VOTER'S ASSEMBLY

Sunday, January 21, 2001, 11:30 AM

At the January Voter's Assembly, Concordia voters will have an opportunity to participate in making the decision of whether or not to offer classes to prepare our children, fifth grade and up, to receive Holy Communion. A copy of the resolution to be presented is on the bulletin board above the coffee pot in the narthex.



ALL NEW FLOWER CHART

The Flower Chart for 2000 is up on the moveable bulletin board. Sign up early for the dates you would like to remember a birthday, anniversary or just a thank you to God for blessings received. The cost is \$12.50 per vase, payable to Concordia Lutheran Church. On the Sundays you provide flowers, you may take them home following the late service.

Concordia's theme for the year 2001 is:
“Faith comes from hearing the message.”

Romans 10:17



**SIDE-DOOR EVANGELISM OPPORTUNITIES
 IN JANUARY:**

-  Captive Free Concert at Concordia: Fri., Jan 5th at 9:00 PM
-  Epiphany Party at Concordia: Sat., Jan 6th at 6:30 PM
-  Book Club at Jean Smith's: Mon., Jan 8th at 7:00 PM
 (The Road Less Traveled by Sam Peck)
-  Men's Breakfast: Saturday, Jan 9th at 7:30 AM
-  LWML at Elaine Stronceks: Wed., Jan 17th at 7:00 PM
-  MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers): Wed., Jan 10th at 8:45 AM
-  Parents of Teens Support Group: Sun., Jan 21st at 4:30 PM
-  Youth Group: Sun., Jan 7th or 21st at 4:30 PM
-  Choir: Thurs., at 6:00 PM Bells: Thurs., at 7:00 PM
-  Journey: Sat., Jan 13th at 10 AM
-  Recovery Room: Thursdays at 7:00 PM

INVITE SOMEONE IN THROUGH THE SIDE DOOR!



Repent: times of refreshing are at hand.”

“Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, and that he may send the Christ, who has been appointed for you – even Jesus.” Acts 3:19

Sitting in the choir on Christmas Eve gives one a peculiar vantage point. Stretched before us we see the entire congregation – the parents trying to calm edgy children, the families who are visiting from out of town, the entrances and exits, and the ushers finding seats for latecomers. This is the first time, however, that I witnessed what I would like to present as an image of gospel repentance.

When John the Baptist is the voice crying in the wilderness once senses that repentance is a call to get your act together now and to straighten up and fly right. John's cry to “Repent!” seems to lean heavily on the threat of law. Watch out...the kingdom of God is at hand! And yet, the kingdom of God comes

in a helpless babe in a manger. If repentance means truly ‘to turn’ towards our Savior God, then that is really not a threatening mandate. It is an invitation.

When the Bell choir began to play their beautiful Christmas piece of “Still, Still, Still” I witnessed the immediate response in the children who turned their whole bodies to discover where the wondrous melody was coming from. There was a look of sheer joy on their faces displaying the pleasure of the sound coming from the beautiful bells.



Adults, as well, inclined their bodies and faces toward the melody with smiles of appreciation and pleasure. Watching them turn in their seats I was struck with the phrase I have heard from Pastor Tim on many occasions: “repentance means to turn.” The ‘turning’ I witnessed on

Christmas Eve was not done with fear and trepidation, but with a joyful recognition of something beautiful to behold and witness. At Christmas, the gospel clearly invites all people to turn and bask in the light and love of the embodiment of the Good News – Jesus Christ. This repentance is one of great joy – which shall be for all the people.

To turn towards the life and beauty and love that God offers is a joyful and wondrous thing. It truly offers us the possibility for “refreshing” our lives in gospel grace. The image of people turning in joy to catch a glimpse of who was creating that beautiful bell music will stay in my heart and mind and always be, for me, connected to ‘Good News’ repentance turning – a recognition of the grace, love, beauty and priceless treasure of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

In Christ's love,

Jean Smith
 Parish Administrator

Epiphany Party January 6, 2001

Time: 6:30 PM
 Tickets: \$10 for adults
 \$ 5 for children 6-12 (5 & under-free)
 Dinner: Beef or chicken, salad, rolls, dessert,
 and beverages
 Entertainment

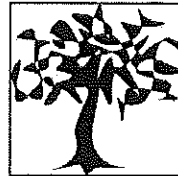


CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

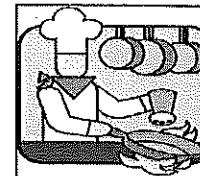
The Call Committee would again like to thank each and everyone of you for remembering Concordia and the call process in your prayers and take this time to update everyone. The committee would like you to know that we are diligently meeting, discussing, and praying over the call process. We are now concentrating on a group of approximately five pastors. In December we sent the congregational profile, along with additional information on our congregation to some of these selected pastors. This will allow them to get an idea of what our congregation is about. We tried to keep in mind that we need to be respectful of their time during this holiday season; we want to make sure that they have the time to devote attention to our congregational information. Having said this, the **earliest** the committee can see having a congregational meeting about extending a call would be later on in the month

As the Holy Spirit guides us in this exciting journey, please continue to remember Concordia, and also Pastor Wayne in your prayers.

Bart Kounovsky,
 Call Committee



Parents of Teens
 Will meet Sunday,
 January 21st, 4:30 PM
 (no meeting on 1/7)
 These sessions are lead by
 Ruth Koenig, licensed family
 therapist



Men's Breakfast
 Saturday
 January 13th, 2001
 7:00 - 8:00AM
 in Fellowship Hall
 Invite A Friend!

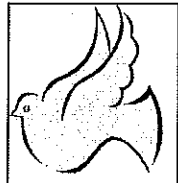


YOUTH GROUP

Will meet on Sundays,
 January 7th, 4:30 PM
 January 21st, 4:30 PM
 (snacks provided)

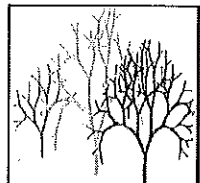


**Tuesday Morning
 Bible Study**
 at the Church (Fellowship
 Hall) 6:30 - 7:30 AM
 All are welcome!

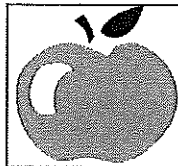


Confirmation

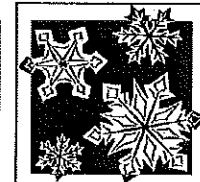
Will meet on Sundays,
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 January 21st, 4:30 PM
 (snacks provided)



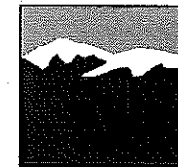
**Thursday Morning
 Women's Bible Study:**
 "Smart Choices: Making
 Your Way Through Life"
 9:00 AM in the church
 library
 (Childcare Provided)



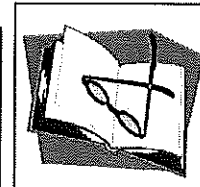
Recovery Room
 Thursdays, 7:00 PM
 at the Church
 in the Library



LWML (Women's Guild)
 will meet on Wednesday,
 January 17, 2001 at Elaine
 Stroneck's home, 850 Aspen,
 879-2442, at 7:00 PM
 Topic: "Friendship/sharing
 Christ with friends"



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



BOOK CLUB

Book Club will meet on Mon-
 day, January 8th, 7:00 PM at
 Jean Smith's, 40519 Steam-
 boat Dr.
 Book: "The Road Less Traveled"
 by Sam Peck

Interested Musicians?



"The Christ, The Cross and the Crown"

Lent may seem like a long ways off, but Ash Wednesday begins on February 28. During this Lenten season we would like to attempt a Lenten Cantata called, "The Christ, the Cross and the Crown" which consists of about 12 pieces of music and narration and drama. However, of course, we need musicians and rehearsal time in order to prepare it for three consecutive Wednesday evenings during Lent. If you are interested in putting in some rehearsal time (probably around 12 hours) during Feb/March please let me know as soon as possible. Otherwise, we will have to shift gears and make other arrangements. The cantata would be presented on March 21, 28 and April 4. There is a possibility of presenting the piece in its entirety at another time for the community. Rehearsal times would depend on those who are willing to participate. Call Jean Smith at 879-0175 if interested.

Confirmation Class is scheduled for Sunday, January 7 at 4:30 PM

"Meet your sponsor..."

Sponsors will be invited to attend this class and the theme will be on baptism. Hopefully, it will be a good time to make connections with your sponsor for this confirmation year. Hope you can make it!

LWML (Women's Guild)

The January LWML get-together will be held at Elaine Stroncek's home at 850 Aspen at 7:00 PM. We will be discussing how we can share the Good News of Christ with our friends. Invite a friend and join the ladies of Concordia for a special meeting!!!



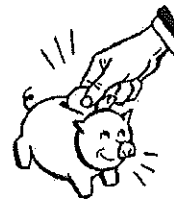
LCEF

Lutheran Church Extension Fund

Thanks to all of you who opened new accounts during the promotion fund drive. They still need funds so that they can make loans to new and growing congregations. When we reach \$450,000 on deposit with them, we will receive a 1% rebate on the interest Concordia pays, cutting our mortgage costs by \$4,500 per year.

Thank you for your support of LCEF!

Clair Erickson
Congregational Representative
879-4419



**CAPTIVE
FREE
CONCERT**

A contemporary Christian Band that brings the message of hope through music.

Date: Friday, January 5, 2001
Time: approximately 8:30 PM
(following SSHA basketball game)

**EVERYONE WELCOME!
INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!**

(free will offering)

Sheep News

January 2001

Calendar

January

5 Captive Free
5th Quarter
(following bb
game ~8 p.m.ish)

7 Youth Group
4:30 p.m. @
church
6 p.m. Youth
Committee

21 Youth Group
4:30 p.m. @
church

February

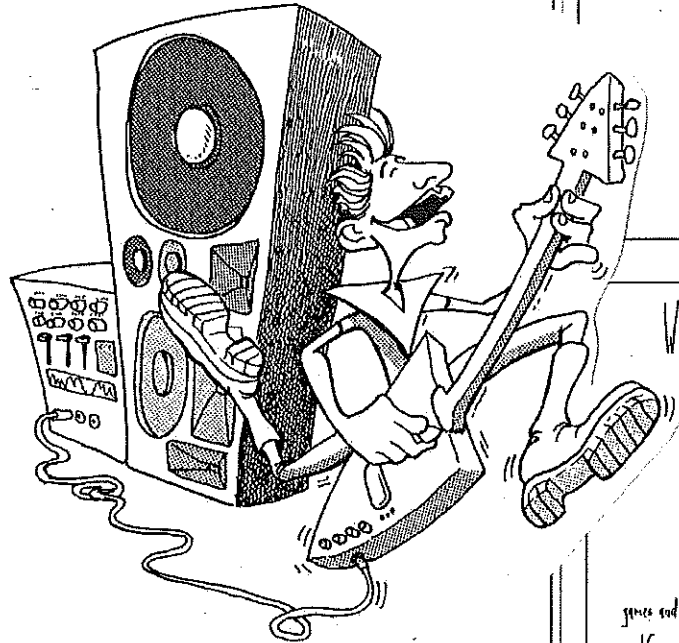
2-4 Retreat (see info
on this page)

4 Youth Gp
4:30 p.m. @
church

25 Youth Gp.
4:30 p.m. @
church

Youth Committee Meeting 6 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 7

We really need to discuss details and fundraising for the New Orleans Youth Gathering. It's important to get everyone together to make sure all details are cared for. All adults involved in the youth gathering either on the list to go or on the youth committee are as follows: Mary & Doug Dombey, Tom and Julie Monterotti, Guy and Jodi Wojtowicz, Tina Tape, Sarah Beurskens. All youth on the youth committee also need to attend this meeting.



ROCK W/
CAPTIVE
FREE!

Captive Free 5th Quarter

Don't Miss. Captive Free is here!
Following basketball game at
8 p.m.ish
Friday, Jan. 5

GAMES
MIXERS
CONCERT
and MORE!

Invite your friends!!!

Winter Youth Group Retreat

Feb. 24
O Lutheran Valley Retreat
in Woodland Park, CO

Youth groups from all over Colorado will gather for
games and devotions around a campfire to renew their faith and have fun.

If you've been worrying about grades, your future, your relationships,

you need a faith booster!

Come with us and get strengthened in faith and fellowship.

You will be so glad you went.

For more info, talk to Sarah at
church or call her at 870-1710.



January



2001

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Womens AA-7:00 PM	2 Bible Study-6:30 AM Outreach-7:00 PM W.O.R.M.-7:00 PM	3 Prayers-6:30 PM Discovery-7:00 PM	4 Womens Study-9 AM Choir-6:00 PM Bells-7:00 PM Recovery-7:00 PM	5 Staff Mtg-noon AA Group-6 PM Captive Free Concert at Concordia-9:00 PM	6 Worship-5:30 PM Epiphany Party- 6:30 PM
7 Worship 8/10:30 AM Educ Hr-9:15 AM Elders-11:30 AM Youth-4:30 PM Confirmation-4:30PM	8 Womens AA-7:00 PM Book Club-7 PM at Jean Smith's	9 Bible Study-6:30 AM Church Council-7 PM	10 MOPS-8:45 AM Prayers-6:30 PM Discovery-7:00 PM	11 Womens Study-9 AM Choir-6:00 PM Bells-7:00 PM Recovery-7:00 PM	12 Staff Mtg-noon AA Group-6 PM	13 Mens Breakfast-7 AM Journey-10:00 AM Worship-5:30 PM
14 Worship 8/1-:30 AM Educ Hr-9:15 AM	15 Womens AA-7:00 PM	16 Bible Study-6:30 AM	17 Prayers-6:30 PM Discovery-7:00 PM LWML-7 PM at Elaine Stroncek's	18 Womens Study-9 AM Choir-6:00 PM Bells-7:00 PM Recovery-7:00 PM Fellowship-7 PM	19 Staff Mtg-noon AA Group- 6 PM	20 Worship-5:30 PM
21 Worship 8/10:30 AM Educ Hr-9:15 AM SS Program-10:30 AM VOTERS-11:30 AM Youth/Conf-4:30 PM Parents/Teens-4:30 PANCAKE BREAKFAST 7-10:15	22 Womens AA-7:00 PM	23 Bible Study-6:30 AM VOTER'S ASSEMBLY 7:00PM	24 MOPS-8:45 AM Prayers-6:30 PM Discovery-7:00 PM	25 Womens Study-9 AM Choir-6:00 PM Bells-7:00 PM Recovery-7:00 PM Vista Verde Ski Day	26 Staff Mtg-noon AA Group-6 PM PARENTS NIGHT Out 5:30 - 8:00pm	27 Worship-5:30 PM
28 Worship 8/10:30 AM Educ Hr-9:15 AM DWCC-12:45 PM	29 Womens AA-7:00 PM W.O.R.M.-7:00 PM	30 Bible Study-6:30 AM	31 Prayers-6:30 PM Discovery-7:00 PM			