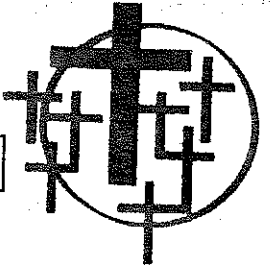


CHRISTOGRAM



Concordia Lutheran Church

FEBRUARY, 2002

The Christogram is a monthly newsletter of Concordia Lutheran Church, Steamboat Springs, Colorado. Deadline for newsletter items is the third Sunday of each month. We welcome contributions of news items, art work, and other appropriate articles. You can email us your contribution at clc@snowcap.net.

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

"Aufwiedersehen", just practicing my German...

Ruth and I are traveling to Germany in September where I will have the privilege of conducting worship and preaching for two weeks in the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Dr. Martin Luther's home Church!

So I am practicing my use of the language.

"Aufwiedersehen" literally means— "until I see you again." That's the perfect word for what I am saying to you this month. Our time with Concordia is coming to a close. Pastor Scott Herbert and Janis are coming! For this we give thanks to God, and we pray for a long and blessed partnership with the Herberts and the people of Concordia!

Ruth and I will miss you! It has been such a joy to develop a close relationship with so many of you. It has been our privilege to be with you for the almost 19 months we have been coming over from Fort Collins. What a surprising gift that turned out to be.



That means that the angels safely directed almost 26,000 miles of driving. We always said they rode in the back seat, and sometimes they were probably at the steering wheel when we encountered tricky weather. Ruth has become extremely religious due to her increased practice of prayer!

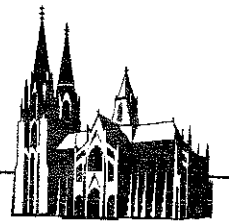
However, leaving the people of Concordia is different than the leaving of other churches previously in our

ministry. Here, we can come back. We can maintain relationships and we can stay in touch without interfering with someone else's pastoral ministry. At least that is our intention.

Thank you for the honor and privilege of serving you. It is our intention to be with you most of the Sundays until March 17th when Pastor Herbert is installed.

We will then say: "Aufwiedersehen" - until we see you again.

Pastor Wayne and Ruth



inside...

"Knock Harder, I May Not Hear You!"
"It's Coming Again!" (NETWORK)
"Vista Verde Ski/Snowshoe Day"

February, 2002

Concordia Lutheran Church **CHRISTOGRAM**

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

Peace to all from Jesus Christ our Savior:

Back in 1994 I took a group of teens to Tijuana, Mexico to work for Habitat for Humanity. The work they had us do was right up my alley. We sheet-rocked, poured concrete slabs and stuccoed. After the five days of work, we accomplished more than any other group previously, by stuccoing four homes, sheet-rocking two, and pouring two concrete slabs. The master craftsman, Donacho, was so impressed by our work that I had the opportunity to finish the concrete along side of him. On the last day, Donacho came to say goodbye. He brought a camera to take our picture so he could remember the group from Minnesota. With tears in his eyes, he said through the translator, "My heart is filled with joy for meeting you, but my eyes are filled with sadness and tears for today I see you go."

This is how I view my relationship with Pastor Wayne and Ruth. You have brought so much joy to a congregation that needed a pastor and now I'm sad to see you go. God has truly blessed this church, for He gave us someone who did more than we could expect. Pastor Wayne and Ruth dug right in, filling in voids with the service and other church functions that it seemed like we didn't miss a beat. They dedicated themselves to the service of Christ and for this, I'm eternally grateful. Thank you Pastor Wayne and Ruth, for you've enriched my life and the lives of others. May God bless the both of you as you continue in your journey of life.

As we pray for Pastor Wayne and Ruth, let us also pray for Pastor Scott Herbert and his family. God has answered our prayers for a new pastor and I'm hopeful that Pastor Scott's move will be an easy one. I didn't get to meet him and his family, but from what I've heard, we got the "cream of the crop" and I'm looking forward to his arrival.

Take care and may God bless you this day and everyday.

Guy Wojtowicz
Elder



Knock Harder! I may not hear you.

A word from your Parish Administrator

Yesterday I went to someone's door to pick up something and saw this sign: **Knock Harder! I may not hear you.** It struck me that I have the same problem and should probably tattoo the message on my forehead. Sometimes I get so caught up in all the details and problems of the week that I don't do a very good job of focusing on the people who need my attention. There might be someone standing right outside my door knocking, and I'm lost in the chaos on the other side. My own daughter has taken to calling me *Jean* in order to get my attention. Could I really have tuned "mom" out of my response category? However, I know that it must be true because she has caught me looking up and responding to her "Jean!" on more than one occasion. It makes me wonder what other important people I'm tuning out. It's not intentional. Please, knock harder! I may not hear you.

When you encounter people who work in a church I think it's often assumed that they're listening for all those knocks on the door. But gosh, it's awfully noisy in here sometimes! I often feel that I haven't made the appropriate connections or responded to people in the way that I should. There are so many details! But what's really more important? Last I heard, details don't take communion or get confirmed. Details don't sing in the choir or go to Sunday School. Details don't make their first visit to our church and wonder what Concordia is all about. Details can consume much of our life but they don't breathe, shed tears or reach out their hands in times of need. They don't isolate themselves when they feel no one cares.

When I say, "*it's not intentional,*" that should be a clue for me, and perhaps for all of us. We *need* to be intentional about listening for those knocks on our doors. We have to say that this detail I'm working on can be set aside for a time in order to answer the door. We have to train ourselves to listen for those opportunities to open doors and see the people on the other side.

I don't think I'm the only one who gets caught up in the chaos and business of life. I hope that I can improve on my listening and response skills with God's guidance. But as we struggle to learn these important lessons from our God who flings the door open at every quiet tap, let us be patient with one another. Let us encourage one another to be intentional and respond to those who are knocking—our children, our friends, our family of faith and all those children of God who need a door to be opened.

Scoop from the Sup . . .



Eilyn Myller

Just towards the end of last year I finished reading a little book entitled, "I Learned it First in Sunday School!" I enjoyed it immensely because it was a story that I was familiar with. It reminded me of the people and the lessons that influenced my life as a child and the impact that they have had on my life as an adult. I believe in Sunday school for so many reasons; but the one reason that stands out above all is, that it is were I was introduced to Jesus and answered His invitation to "Follow Me!"

One of the stories in that book, talked about a teacher who always led one particular song in the opening session. It was "her song" and she could sing it with heart felt meaning. I decided to make it the bed time song for our family this year. It's a great one to close out the day and reflect on the new one with...

Every day with Jesus is sweeter than the day before.
Every day with Jesus I love Him more and more.
Jesus SAVES and keeps me and He's the one I'm waiting for...
Every day with Jesus is sweeter than the day before.

Lately I Can't get over what being in a relationship with Jesus has meant for my life! Simply following Him, knowing He SAVES and keeps me, and waiting for His return makes every day sweeter than the day before. I know that you too can experience that. If you haven't been introduced to Jesus - FIND ME/CALL ME - I'd like for you to meet Him, so that you can experience the difference He can make in your life today.

Living in His Grace,

Eilyn Myller

On Valentine's Day, Jesus says, "I Love you, BE MINE!"

DATES TO REMEMBER:

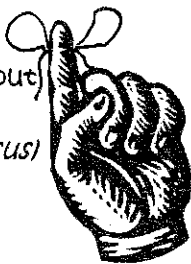
January 27, February 3 & 10:

We are putting on the "Helmet on Salvation" in Sunday School - have you put yours on?

Act 4:12 *Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name (Jesus) under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.*

February 17 & 24: Group Sunday School - "THE PRINCE OF EGYPT"

We'll be showing this movie in two parts for those kids who will be around town for the winter break.



Stephen Ministry

"A man of sorrows, acquainted with grief."

We have a tradition of placing ornaments on a Christmas tree in memory of those we have lost. I recently recorded all those names of 2001 to include in our prayer requests file. There were three pages of mothers, dads, grandfathers, grandmothers, uncles, friends and cousins. There were the names of children lost—daughters and sons. Magnify those losses by all the people who were affected by their death. The list on those three pages began to symbolize a very large sorrow and grief for our congregation. None of us escape being touched by loss and the grieving which surrounds it. "Jesus wept."

As Stephen Ministers we spend a fair amount of time learning about the grieving process. It is different for everyone, but it is always painful. I share an excerpt from *Healing After Loss* by Martha Whitmore Hickman.

"Love. . . Bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends."
I Corinthians 13:7-8

What a truckload of responsibility and potential for pain we take on when we love another human being: all the dangers of misunderstanding, of betrayal, of indifference, and ultimately, of loss.

To more than balance those dangers, we feel the possibility of life made rich through sharing experiences with another—of physical and spiritual warmth and communion, of enriched understanding and common achievement, of a stay against loneliness and isolation.

Most of us have no trouble opting for love.

But then, to have invested so much of our life's energy in the life of a loved one—and then to find that loved one gone! Is it any wonder we are, for a time, laid low?

But the love we have shared helps form the strength to deal with loss. The hope and joy we have known help us believe in the possibility of hope and joy again.

And the intensity of grief (which will moderate, though we may find that hard to believe) mirrors the intensity of shared love, which will continue to beam through our life, to illumine and nourish all that we do and are.

Love never ends. Never.

VISTA VERDE SKI/SNOWSHOE DAY

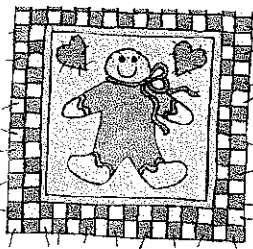
Wednesday, February 20th, 9:00 AM

Carpool from Church and participate in skiing and snowshoeing followed by lunch at 12:30 PM

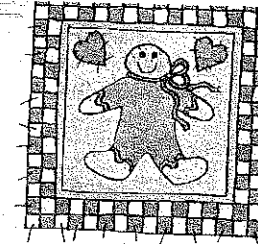
Cost for lunch is \$25. Cost for snowshoe rental is \$5

Call the office or Tina Tape, 879-7012 if you would like to go or if you have any questions.





February 2002



AN OPEN LETTER TO MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF CONCORDIA

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The road was much longer than any of us thought, but we do indeed have a new Pastor coming! Pastor Scott Herbert and his wife, Janis will be with us by mid-March. I would like to publicly thank all the members of the Call Committee for their dedication to the call process. They are:

Luther Berntson
Rebecca Duryea
Mary Dombey
Judy Plumb
Walt Taylor
Dianne Weber
Brian Weerts

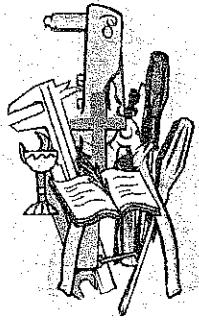
The trustees are moving forward with making changes to the kitchen at the parsonage. Pastor Herbert's home in Amarillo, TX is already under contract and the movers are about to be contacted. We have scheduled the Installation Service for Pastor Scott on March 17th at 4:00 PM. This is done to allow other Pastors in the Circuit to attend the service. We have invited Pastor Roger Krause, District President, to attend. Please watch for more information regarding this Celebration.

I once again would like to thank Pastor Wayne and Ruth for their service and devotion to our congregation. We have been richly blessed by their presence with us. Thank you.

Please keep Concordia and Christ Lutheran in Amarillo in your prayers as Pastor Scott continues in this journey of transition.

Bart Kounovsky
Call Committee

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Staff Ntg-noon ← Ski	2 Worship-5:30 PM Group
3 Worship-8/10:30 AM Educ Hr-9:20 AM →	4 Women's AA-7 PM	5 Tue Bible Study-7 PM Trustees-5:15 PM Elders-6:00 PM Tools4Living-6:30 PM Fellowship-7:00 PM	6 Youth Choir-3:30 PM Youth Board-6:00 PM Discovery-7:00 PM	7 Womens Study-9 AM Choir-6:00 PM Bells-7:00 PM Recovery-7:00 PM	8 Staff Mtg-noon	9 Worship-5:30 PM Mens Breakfast-7 AM Journey-10:00 AM
10 Worship-8/10:30 AM Educ Hr-9:20 AM "Pledge Sunday"	11 Women's AA-7 PM	12 Tue Bible Study-7 PM Church Council-7 PM	13 ASH WEDNESDAY Youth Choir-3:30 PM Worship-7:00 PM Youth Breakfast-9 AM	14 Womens Study-9 AM Choir-6:00 PM Bells-7:00 PM Recovery-7:00 PM	15 Staff Mtg-noon	16 Worship 5:30 PM Youth Lock-In-9 PM
17 Worship 8/10:30 AM Educ Hr-9:20 AM No Sunday School	18 Women's AA-7 PM ← Blues	19 Tue Bible Study-7 PM LWML-7:00 PM (Elaine Stroncek's) Break	20 Youth Choir-3:30 PM Soup Supper-5:30 PM Youth Board-6:00 PM Worship-7:00 PM Vista Verde Ski Day-9 AM	21 Womens Study-9 AM Choir-6:00 PM Bells-7:00 PM Recovery-7:00 PM	22 Staff Mtg-noon	23 Worship-5:30 PM
24 Worship-8/10:30 AM Educ Hr-9:20 AM New Members-8 AM No Sunday School DWCC-1:00 PM	25 Women's AA-7 PM Bd of Ed-TBA	26 Tue Bible Study-7 PM WORKNIGHT-6 PM	27 Youth Choir-3:30 PM Worship-7:00 PM	28 Womens Study-9 AM Choir-6:00 PM Bells-7:00 PM Recovery-7:00 PM		



TOOLS FOR LIVING

“Conocimiento” - Getting to know someone at a deeper level.

What do you know about the person who sits in the pew next to you? What does it mean to know somebody on a deeper level? The depth of our understanding can enable us to do effective prevention.

I recently attended the *Substance Abuse Prevention Training* in Grand Junction on behalf of the Tools for Living ministry team because we had very little knowledge about substance abuse prevention. My knowledge and experience lies on the side of recovery. Apparently, that's a typical problem. Many who work in recovery and treatment know little about prevention. And on the other side, those who work in prevention have little knowledge of recovery.

A key element of what I discovered in the four days was that effective prevention can only come when we understand the people we're trying to help at a deeper level. We need to know their stories. In that respect, faith communities like Concordia should be in the business of prevention by their very nature. If we are not striving to discover who people are at a deeper level, we are not reaching out as Jesus did.

If you think of *conocimiento* as a spiral journey with the goal of reaching the center where trust and respect reside, it is a gradual process. You can't skip over the spiral and jump to the center. There are no shortcuts. Each community, each individual, are unique. There are no cookie cutter prevention programs. Understanding the culture is at the heart of social change. Understanding the people we wish to help is at the heart of effective prevention. Communication is a key element of that.

One participant shared that they felt the Apostle Paul was an excellent example of someone who desired to know the culture he was dealing with on a deeper level so that he could effectively preach the Gospel. He did not have one set approach which he carried to every community. We can learn by his example.

I am excited about sharing the multitude of prevention resources and educational materials I received at my training with the *Tools for Living* team and the congregation as a whole. Drug and alcohol abuse is a problem that looms large in our community and in our world. I am grateful that Concordia has made an investment in a prevention/recovery ministry. You can be a big part of prevention in someone's life. Be prepared to take a journey some evening in the near future and walk through the spiral of *conocimiento*.

Let the prevention begin! — Jean Smith, *Tools for Living* team member

Trustees

The Trustee Committee began their year with two new members: Doug Warner and Chris Klemz. We thank Mike Beyer and Loretta Hammerslag for their dedicated service having served on the committee for the last two years. The other Committee members are Scott Myller, Judy Anderson, and Dave Anderson. We meet on the first Tuesday of every month at 5:15 PM and you are welcome to attend.

As a lot of you are aware, we've had problems with the cleaning staff and we are working out those problems and assure you that the church will be cleaner. Some of you also may not only look up to the Lord, but may look up to the sparkling clean lights in our sanctuary and narthex after our successful WORKNIGHT on January 21, 2002. A big thank you to Doug & Suzi Warner, Luther & Helen Berntson, Bob & Billee Harris, Cindy Svendsen, Doug & MaryBeth Bradfield & family, Scott Myller, Randy & Mary Kelley & sons, and Dave & Judy Anderson, who came and shared not only the work but a bowl of chili and ice cream. Just think! Next WORKNIGHT, YOU can have that opportunity to share in the fellowship, laughter, and satisfaction of having done something good. Our cleaning budget does not allow any cleaning staff to thoroughly clean the church, so worktimes like these are necessary.

We will be starting on the parsonage kitchen and if you have time or talents you would like to share, please contact me or the church office. We have need of carpenters, electricians, and plumbing people. We also will be having a "parsonage cleaning day" before Pastor Scott and Janis make their move to Steamboat. We will post that date in the church bulletin.

In Service,
Dave Anderson



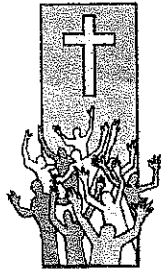
Fellowship Committee

The new Fellowship Committee is being formed and LUCKY YOU! - we still have openings! Those who have agreed to serve on this Committee are: Wayne & Marjory Arbogast, Joanne Boomgarden, Dave & Judy Anderson, Greg & Ann Gilbertson, and Jake & Dianne Weber.

We have some very important things coming up with the Installation of the new Pastor, and also showing our love and gratitude to Pastor Wayne and Ruth doe dedicating their retirement to Concordia for the last year and a half! Also, Lent is quickly approaching and we will be having 3 soup suppers before services. If you do not wish to participate as a committee member, maybe you would consider volunteering to help on one of these events. There will be sign-up sheets in the Narthex. Please help us carry out these events by volunteering.

Judy Anderson
Fellowship Chair





Come, Join the Ministry of LCEF

More than 110,000 Lutherans make up the family of investors in Lutheran Church Extension Fund. This is the strength of the Fund, a growing number of fellow believers, investing large and small amounts, to develop a sound fund that enables congregations to finance the growth of the church. Just contact, Clair Erickson, 879-4419, your LCEF Congregational Representative, to see how easily you can be a part of the action!

It's Coming Again!

NETWORK—the right people, in the right places, for the right reasons.

March 2nd & 9th, 8:00 AM to noon

You're invited to discover what the Bible says about spiritual gifts, the ones that you have been given and how they are to be used. Find out what you care about and what is your most natural way of working with people.

It has been said that "ignorance is bliss." This is not true when you are looking for a place to serve in the church. It is far better to know what tools God has given you to serve with. God intended us to be in service to the church, our community, and the world. He also meant for it to be a JOY—so come, discover!

To reserve your spot in this next session, fill out the enclosed slip or call the church office, 879-0175. Workbook cost is \$10 (scholarships available).

Ellyn

Adult Sunday School

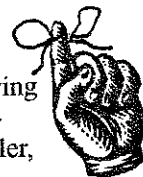
February 3rd & 10th—Stephen Ministry

February 17th—Responding in Reverence

Don't Forget!

Christian Ministries Convention—"Proclaim the Hope"

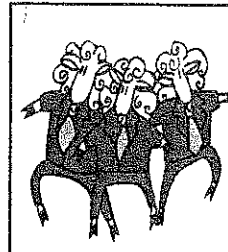
February 7, 8, 9, 2002 in Denver. It's a Thanksgiving meal for the soul! Information available on the resource table in the narthex or by calling Ellyn Myller, 871-1860 or log on to www.cmcdenver.com



LWML News (Women's Guild) ...

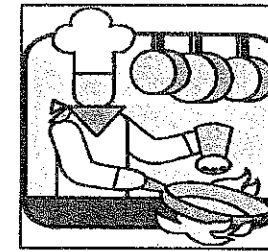
The February Women's Guild Get-Together will be on Tuesday, February 19th at 7:00 PM at Elaine Stroncek's home, 850 Aspen St). Along with a discussion about contentment, we will be presenting our mission recipients for the year at this get-together. Come and find out where all that money from our Christmas bazaar and rummage sales goes. Then stay for some chit-chat and great dessert.

If you're a new gal at Concordia Lutheran Church and want to know more about LWML (Women's Guild), please call Mary Beth Bradfield at 879-4181. We'd love to have you come to our next meeting!



YOUTH GROUP

Meets every Sunday at 9:20 AM (SML-Sunday morning live!)
Youth Lock-In, Feb 16th, 9:00 PM



Men's Breakfast
Saturday
February 9th
7:00 - 8:15AM
in Fellowship Hall
Invite A Friend!

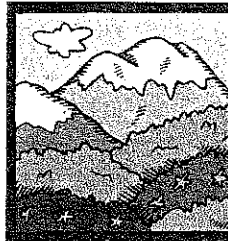


Confirmation

Meets every Sunday between services at 9:20 AM



YOUTH CHOIR
"The Rock Slinger & His Greatest Hit"
Meets every Wednesday from 3:30 to 4:30 PM. All 2-6 graders welcome!

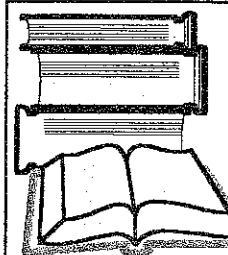


Recovery Room

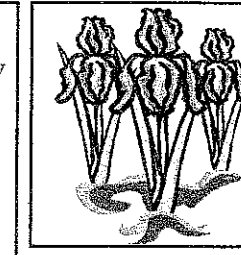
Thursdays, 7:00 PM in the church library (Christian support open to anyone dealing with an addiction or an addicted person.)



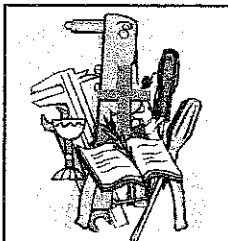
Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study
At 9:00 am in the Library. Please join us! (Childcare available)



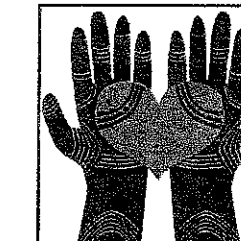
Discovery Bible Study
Wednesday
7:00 to 8:00 PM
in the library



LWML (Women's Guild)
The February meeting will be on February 19th at 7:00 PM at Elaine Stroncek's home (850 Aspen).



TOOLS FOR LIVING:
(Ministry team for recovery, addiction & prevention)
Next Meeting
Tuesday
February 5th
6:30 PM



STEPHEN MINISTERS
"A friend who has developed gifts for bringing Christ's healing to hurting places."