

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 concordia@steamboatlutheran.org

Editors: Pastor Scott Herbert, Jean Smith, and Janis Herbert.

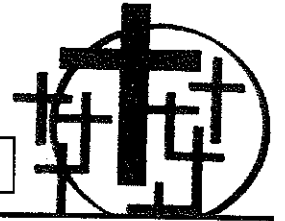
The Weekly Bulletin is printed on Thursday mornings. News items for the bulletin should be submitted by 9:00 am on Thursdays.

Saturday Worship: 5:30 PM

Sunday Worship: 8:00 and 10:30 AM **Education Hour:** 9:20 AM

Concordia Lutheran Church
755 Concordia Lane
Steamboat Springs, CO 80487

CHRISTOGRAM



Concordia Lutheran Church

MAY 2002

Train a child in the way he (she) should go, and when he (she) is old he (she) will not turn from it.
Proverbs 22:6

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

At the last Board of Education meeting, the devotion involved asking everyone to consider what their parents meant to them as they were growing up and to discuss which parent had the most influence on our life. As I considered the question, I was pleasantly reminded of the contributions that both my mom and dad made in my life and how each took part in the formation of who I am today. As I was considering, I came to the conclusion that my mom had the most influence on me for two reasons. First, it was mom who always insisted that my brothers and sisters and I never miss worship or Sunday School and that God's Word be an active part of our lives growing up. Second, Mom always prayed for us kids. And this didn't stop when we grew up. Mom still prays for us today. She rejoices in our triumphs and suffers with us in our pain. She always has time to listen and never fails to have constructive advise when it is asked for. However, I believe the most powerful influence was, and is, her prayers. Sunday, May 12th, is Mother's Day. It is the one day each year when we do what we should do daily, give thanks to God for Mom. I think moms truly cling to the divine promise found in Proverbs 22:6 and I believe it is the guiding force in most Christian mothers. So, how do we best show our thanks to our moms for doing as God has commanded them?

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honor your father and mother" – which is the first commandment with a promise – "that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on earth." Ephesians 6:1-3

This, I believe, is the best way we can give thanks to our moms, and to our Lord for what He has done in our lives through our mothers (and fathers). And isn't it just like God to even give additional blessings to what we do to simply honor our parents. Because of the influence and prayers of my mom, I can testify to the world, and give thanks to God, that it has indeed gone well with me in this life. Thanks Mom. Thanks Lord. Amen

Pastor Scott

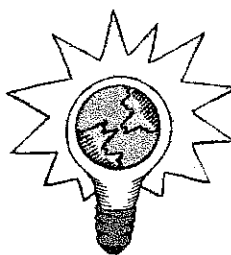
inside...

April, 2002

Concordia Lutheran Church **CHRISTOGRAM**

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

The Lord has truly blessed Concordia Lutheran. I can't help but feel an air of expectation, as though we are on the edge of a wonderful journey. Our congregation has a group of people that can truly make an enormous difference in our church, our community, and beyond. **We made some big decisions to support our Pastor and church with a full-time administrative position, and we have also decided to call a DCE or intern to work in youth and music.** It was stated in the Voter's Assembly that the community of believers at Concordia has stepped up to fulfill the ministry that God called us to do with sound decision making.



In Matthew 5:16, Jesus says, "In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in Heaven." This verse speaks about an attitude more than the actual deeds. When we look at service to our Lord, is it the first fruits or the leftovers we offer? Are we so excited and enthusiastic to serve and shining so brightly that others say, "There must be a God!" Jesus Christ dwells inside every believer and empowers us to serve in love. Not the "I love the mountains," or "I love vanilla ice cream," or "I love my dog" kind of love, but agape love. The perfect love that expects nothing in return and is only available to us through the Holy Spirit.

As a team we are capable of powerful, godly work that far outreaches anything we have done so far. God has seen to it that the gifts are in each one of us to do this work. I pray that our hearts and minds are open to God's plan.

Your friend in Christ,
Jim Sprengle



LOG JAM . . . A word from the Parish Administrator



Rethink your images of Jesus. We have heard the good shepherd analogy since childhood and for good reason. We learn something about our Savior when we say He is the "good shepherd." Jesus also might be referred to as a fine logger from the Washington coast. He has the ability to break up the log jams which can cause severe blockage. Blockage of hearts and minds - the locked up masses of sin and bitterness. You don't hear Jesus literally saying, "Break it up!" but I do believe the intent is there.

In Women's Bible Study we have been studying the book of Matthew. We are watching the scripture unfold before our eyes in "The Visual Bible." It is a dramatic interpretation of the exact words in Matthew from beginning to end. A vision of Jesus during his sermon on the mount (Matt. 7:1-5) keeps coming back to me. In the video, the man portraying Jesus picks up this huge log and holds it next to his eye and says these words: *"Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye."* Jesus smiles. The crowd listening understands. They all smile. Yeah, that's a pretty crazy thing to try and do.

In the past few weeks I have personally struggled with starting a new job as "Jean's Speck Removal Service," but a picture of Jesus and that log keeps popping up in my brain. With every speck I want to remove, the planks are building up. Perhaps I am creating my own personal log jam in the vision of my heart. In AA language, I have to do a little *personal inventory*. Maybe more than a little. Where do I need to look in the mirror? Where do I need to go and have those logs broken up so that the waters of grace can flow more freely in my life? I have some work to do. I will always have work to do. *But*, I know this incredibly gifted logger who is about the business of breaking up log jams. You might know Him as the Good Shepherd.

Scoop from the Sup . . .



Ellyn Myller

*Take...the SWORD OF THE SPIRIT, which is the WORD OF GOD.
Ephesians 6:17*

All year we have been putting on the armor of God. Every piece that we have made and reflected on protects or prepares us for the battle. But, now we know that we are in a battle, because we are taking up our weapon, which is the Word of God.

Let's think about the men and women of today who enter our armed forces. What do they do first; they enlist. Then they get equipped. And then they go to boot camp to be trained how to fight. They study and handle their weapon in order to be comfortable with it. They learn how to aim before they shoot. They practice using it!

This is a great analogy for the weapon that God has given us to defend against the attacks of Satan. We must study and handle the Word of God, so that we are comfortable with it. We must practice and learn what we are aiming at so that we are prepared to use it!

Jesus went out into the desert for 40 days and was tempted by Satan (Matthew 4:1-11). He was tempted in the same ways that we are with real needs. The physical need of hunger, the emotional need of security, and the psychological need of significance, power and achievement. Would God provide food, protection, and rule? In each case Jesus used the Word of God to fight off the temptation to give in (let Satan win) and kept His focus on God's purpose, plan, and person.

God's PURPOSE - Depend on God - Deuteronomy 8:3 "Man shall not live on bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.

God's PLAN - Don't test God - Deuteronomy 6:16 "Do not put the Lord you God to the test"

God's PERSON - No compromise with evil - Deuteronomy 6:13 "Worship the Lord your God and serve Him only.

(The Life Application Bible NIV - The Temptations pg. 1649)

How well are we prepared to use the weapon God has given us to "take a stand against the devil's evil schemes"? Being a Christian soldier is about being in Bible boot camp for life.

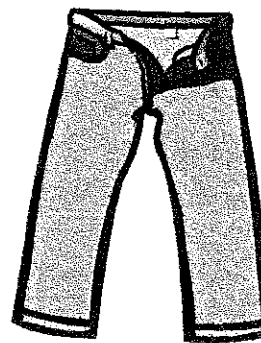
Let's be ready for the battle!!

Ellyn

Dates to Remember:

May 3, 10, 17 THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT

May 26 - Group Sunday School



It's Rummage Sale Time!! Our annual spring rummage sale will be on Friday, May 17th and Saturday, May 18th. We will begin to accept rummage on Sunday, May 12th and we will be sorting every night between May 12th and May 17th.



- We will accept gently worn, clean clothing, household items, furniture, and toys. We cannot accept tires, computers, or large appliances. We have to throw away a lot of items every year and we need to pay to do this so please bring sellable, clean items. Thanks so much for all your donations. Many people and ministries are supported through this sale.
- There will be a sign up for people to work the sale - we always need lots of help on Friday.



Relay for Life

Mark your calendars! Concordia's 3rd annual "Relay For Life," 2002 will be held in Fort Collins on June 14th & 15th, 2002. This is an 18-hour relay to raise money for cancer research, cures, and to celebrate all who have survived this terrible disease. There will be more information available to you in the very near future. Please contact Tina Tape, 879-7012 with any questions. If the date works out for you, and you know you would like to participate in the relay, please let Tina know. This has been a wonderfully moving experience for all who have been a part of it in the past. Last year, Concordia had 23 participants and for the second year in a row, won the relay itself! This is a great cause and one in which we all benefit. Hope to see you in Fort Collins! (definition of "relay" - walk, run, skip, hop, jump, or crawl, we do not discriminate.)



Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ:

During the early years of the church, the disciples not only had the responsibility of spreading the Word of God, but they also had to help meet some of the physical needs of its membership (distributing food to widows!). This proved to be so challenging to the disciples that they called everyone together and decided that while they would concentrate on prayer and ministry, seven would be chosen to help their membership with their worldly concerns (food). Stephen was one of the men chosen. Hence the story of the namesake for Stephen Ministers.

Through the study of the Word, regular church attendance and prayer, one can stay closely connected with God and the Living Body of Christ. But life, being what it is, is full of transitions - some voluntary, some involuntary. Sometimes in this process of change, nothing seems clear anymore. Everything seems confused, we seem lost. Wouldn't it be helpful to have a Christian friend to help you sort out the pieces of the puzzle that have become your life?

I am writing this article to let you know you do have such a friend in fact six of them. We are the Stephen Ministers of Concordia Lutheran Church. We have all participated in the Stephen Ministry training program and we are available to be of service to you. Here is how it works:

- 1) Decide if it would be helpful for you to have someone to talk to about your concerns.
- 2) Call Pastor Scott, Jan Fritz, or any Stephen Minister and let them know - yes, I could use a helping hand.
- 3) Either decide yourself which Stephen Minister you think would be most helpful to you or talk Pastor or Jan Fritz and they will help you decide.
- 4) Set up a meeting. These meetings are flexible, confidential and directed towards your needs. You may call any of us yourself or you can indicate you'd like us to call you. These meetings are intended to have closure at some point, but this tool is flexible, dependent on your needs.

Servanthood is one of the basic principles of Jesus' teaching. The purpose of the Stephen Ministry is to provide Christian support for you as you work through life's transitions. Let us serve you.

On behalf of your Stephen Ministers,
Your servant
Doran Teramoto

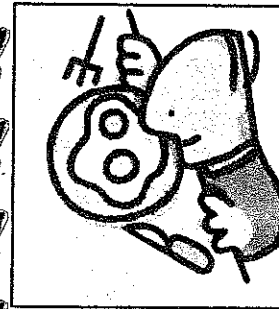
Concordia Lutheran Church - Stephen Ministers

Jan Fritz	879-8630	Mary Beth Bradfield	879-4181
Pattie MacArthur	879-4659	Gene Carrell	879-3019
Jean Smith	879-6594	Doran Teramoto	879-3735



YOUTH GROUP HAPPENINGS

SUNDAY MORNING LIVE: Every Sunday 9:20 AM



LATE-START BREAKFAST
Wednesday, May 8th, 9:00 AM

GOOD NEWS! GOOD FOOD!
Bring a friend!

YOUTH GROUP:

- Sunday, May 5th: 5:30-7:00 PM

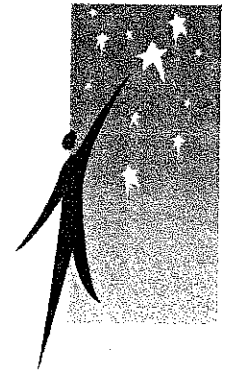
For youth in grades 7-12!

- Sunday, May 19th: 5:30-7:30 PM

See & touch a destructive object!

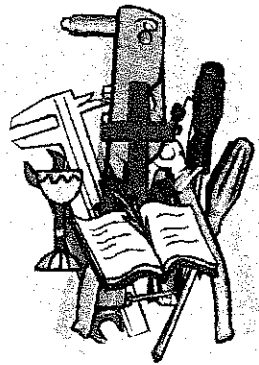
Welcome the new Confirmands! Celebrate our
Seniors who will be graduating!

(A meal will be served at both evenings. Bring a friend!)



CONFIRMATION IS ON MAY 19TH

SENIOR APPRECIATION SUNDAY, MAY 26TH



TOOLS FOR LIVING

Like many churches Concordia is family oriented, blessed with many children and we have made a commitment to serve them with Sunday school, VBS, confirmation classes, youth group and by calling a full-time DCE. We are also a church aware of the pain in the world and like other churches we have invested time and resources to train Stephen Ministers to be there for people in times of need. But we are the only church in the area that has a ministry that deals with addiction, recovery and prevention. This unique ministry is called Tools for Living.

This past year the TFL team has been working hard to become educated about addiction, recovery and prevention. We have read numerous books, attended AA and Alanon meetings, watched videos about addiction and prevention, and attended an intervention class presented by Ruth Koenig. Many of us knew a lot about addiction, but none of us knew much about prevention. It has been fascinating and eye-opening. Several months ago Jean Smith attended a four day workshop on prevention offered by the Colorado Alcohol Drug Abuse Department (ADAD) and came back armed with tons of information and ideas. The needs and opportunities in this area are huge and overwhelming, but exciting.

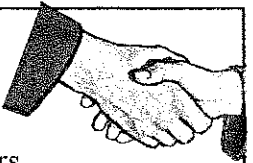
The latest research has found that "Families play the most important role in determining how children handle the temptations to use alcohol, cigarettes, and illegal drugs." Research has also identified risk factors and discovered (no surprise to us) that churches or "faith based communities" can play a vital role in prevention of substance abuse. TFL asked how we could best help in the area of prevention. But the opportunities are vast. How are we to get our arms around this?

When a workshop sponsored by ADAD called "Using Strategic Planning to Accomplish Your Goals" was offered, I jumped at the chance to go and it was awesome. Strategic planning will help us focus in on our mission, help us set our goals for accomplishing that mission, and provide ways to evaluate how we are doing. It would be wonderful if our church would use strategic planning, too.

Please pray for the Tools For Living Ministry Team as we go about the process of examining our mission, and setting our goals. And please pray for God to show us all ways in which we can help strengthen families and come along side when they are in crisis.

Judy Plumb

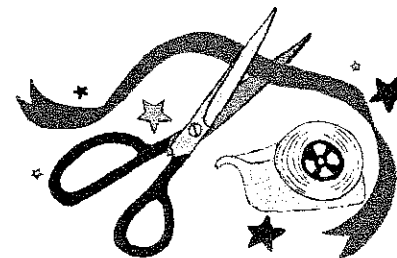
FELLOWSHIP



The Fellowship Committee finished up a busy month in March with Pastor Wayne leaving and Pastor Scott being installed, and soup suppers during Lent. Thanks to the committee and all who contributed to the soup suppers. The cost of the installation dinner was about \$6.25 per person according to what we spent and how many we served.

At our last meeting we discussed having an adult game night, but have not finalized any plans.

Respectfully submitted, Judy Anderson

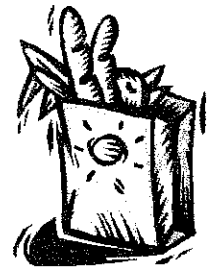


CRAP! NIGHT AT
CONCORDIA
(In the Fellowship Hall)

Each Monday Evening.
7:00-9:00 PM.
Where is everyone?

Questions? Call Judy Anderson, 879-8220.

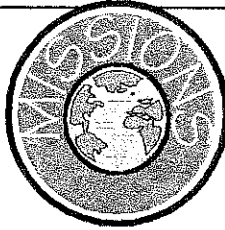
"LIFT-UP" those in need by participating in a drive to stock Steamboat's food pantry shelves.



Every church has been asked to participate in a one month drive to fill grocery bags with items needed by the food shelf. Each family will receive an empty bag during the month of May. It is a good reminder to think of those people who have basic needs in our community that go unmet. Help out by filling your bag and bringing it back to Concordia. Thank you!

LWML News (Women's Guild) ...

The **May get together** and meeting will be held at Lyn Worrell's home in Elk River Valley on Tuesday, May 21st at 7:00 p.m. We are continuing our discussion on Faith in the Fastlane. Please plan on carpooling from the church at 6:30 p.m.



The Christmas Cupboard crafting nights have begun! You can join the fun every and any Monday evening from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. downstairs in the fellowship hall. Judy Anderson is leading us in this endeavor again and she assures us that you don't have to be crafty to help - she can find a job for you no matter what your crafting gifts may be!

If you have a question about LWML, you can give Mary Beth Bradfield a call at 879-4181. Our group is committed to helping others through service and mission support but we also concentrate on feeding our own spiritual growth and needs. All of our get-togethers feature a devotion and Christian growth program, as well as a delicious dessert and fellowship time. Please join us!

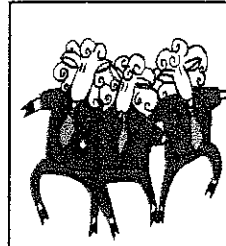
TRUSTEES

As most of you know, the parsonage kitchen project we began 6 weeks before Pastor Scott and Janis made the move to Steamboat has been completed. The approval of the project was at a Voters' Assembly meeting last year, but because of the debate on whether to keep the parsonage or sell it, the project was not begun until the call was accepted by Pastor Scott and their desire to live in the parsonage.

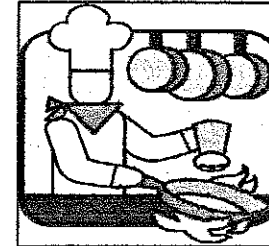
The total cost of the remodel was \$9,500.00. That includes 2 vanity cabinets for the bathrooms that will be replaced sometime this summer. We tore the floor out to the joists, walls down to studs, moved walls and doorways, new electric wiring and plumbing. We made a solid level floor, tiled it, and installed all new cabinets. All of this was possible because of the dedication of many willing workers. Our church is blessed to have such talent and willingness to work. If anyone would like to contribute funds to this project and relieve the church budget, please contact the Trustees or Bart Kounovsky.

The custodial staff has been replaced by A-Brite Cleaners. Lee Ladyga is cleaning on Monday and Friday evenings. The fellowship hall floor will be stripped down and redone following the rummage sale in May.

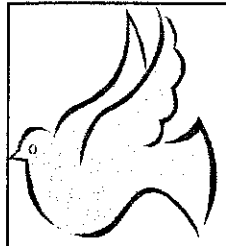
In Service of Our Lord,
David R. Anderson



YOUTH GROUP
Sundays, May 5th and
26th from 5:30-7:00 PM
LateStart Breakfast-
May 8th at 9:00 AM
Senior Appreciation on May
26th!



Men's Breakfast
Saturday
May 11th
7:00 - 8:15AM
in Fellowship Hall
Invite A Friend!



**Confirmation is on
May 19th at the 10:30
Service. Reception
will be between the
services at 9:20 AM**



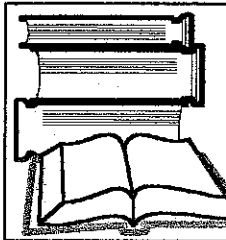
YOUTH CHOIR
Meets Wednesdays
from 3:30 to 4:30 PM.
All 1-6 graders welcome!



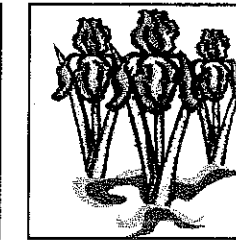
Recovery Room
5:30 PM Thursdays
in the Youth Room.



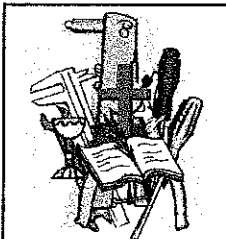
**Thursday Morning
Women's Bible Study**
At 9:00 am in the Youth
Room. Please join us!
(Childcare available)



**Discovery Bible
Study**
Meets every Wednesday
at 7:00 PM
in the Library



LWML
(Women's Guild)
The May meeting is
May 24th at 7 PM



TOOLS FOR LIVING:
(Ministry team for recovery,
addiction & prevention)

Next Meeting:
Tuesday, May 7th
6:00 PM



STEPHEN MINISTERS
"A friend who has devel-
oped gifts for bringing
Christ's healing to hurting
places."
Meet: Wednesday,
May 1st, 8:00 PM