

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 and Jean Smith

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

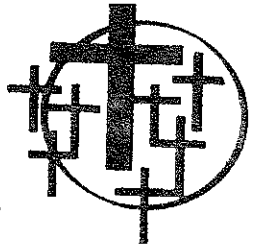
Sunday Worship: 8:00 and 10:45 AM **Education Hour:** 9:30 AM

Concordia Lutheran Church
755 Concordia Lane
Steamboat Springs, CO 80487

Aug 2002

Concordia Lutheran Church **CHRISTOGRAM**

CHRISTOGRAM



Concordia Lutheran Church

AUGUST 2002

My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you, turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding, and if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, and if you look for it as for silver and if you search for it as for hidden treasure, then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God. For the Lord gives wisdom, and from His mouth come knowledge and understanding.

Proverbs 2:1-6

Blessed is the man who finds wisdom, the man who gains understanding. . . By wisdom the Lord laid the earth's foundations, by understanding he set the heavens in place; by His knowledge the deeps were divided, and the clouds let drop the dew. My son, preserve sound judgment and discernment, do not let them out of your sight; they will be life for you. . .

Proverbs 3:13, 19-22a

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

As God says in His Word, "Blessed is the man (person) who finds wisdom, the man who gains understanding. It was truly a blessing for me to be able to take a couple of short term classes back at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis during this summer. I am thoroughly convinced that taking classes every year helps to keep me fresh, energized and ready to pass on to you God's Word. Thank you very much for allowing me to take the classes this year.

Also, I firmly believe in the importance of all of God's children actively seeking His will and guidance through the study of His Word. Salvation is a free gift from our loving Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ; but, getting to know God's path for our lives and growing closer in our relationship with Him and His Son takes dedicated effort on our part. We need to be in Bible Study and we need to be reading His Word and taking to Him in prayer daily. As Solomon says in Proverbs, "they (sound judgment and discernment) will be life for you." And this sound judgment and discernment comes only to those who diligently and joyfully study and take into their lives God's Word.

Therefore, I encourage each and every one of you to consider the best place and scenario for you to be involved in a bible study. An adult bible study class is being led by

inside...

LWML's upcoming theme: "Weave us together in Unity and Love"

me at 9:30 AM every Sunday. There is a women's bible study that is held every Thursday at 9:00 in the morning at the church. There is a Wednesday evening bible study led by either, Walt Taylor, Gene Carroll or myself at church. We are also planning to start up some in-home small-group bible studies in a couple of different households this fall. There are many opportunities to be strengthened, encouraged and equipped by God's Word. I pray you will prayerfully consider which is best for you and attend one or more. By the way, the more people we have in bible study, the healthier spiritually the body of Christ at Concordia Lutheran, Steamboat Springs, Colorado will be, and the more effective we will be in reaching the lost for Christ and serving the community in love. God's blessings and peace to all of you.

In Christ's Service, Pastor Scott




 **What's the Buzz all about??**




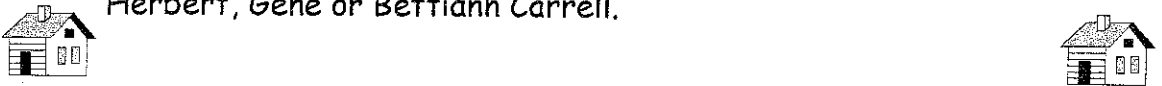
 **SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDIES!!**



 What's that? An opportunity to make new friends and study the Bible together. Small group members foster spiritual growth and become an anchor of support in your day to day life.



 Please pick up a yellow interest form in the narthex or contact any one on the Board of Christian Education: Ellyn Myller, Debbie Scott, Jim or Michelle Sprengle, Pastor Scott or Janis Herbert, Gene or Bettiann Carrell.



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

Fellow Believers in Christ,

A couple of Sundays ago, I had the humble experience of sharing the message with the congregation. God laid upon my heart the importance of the written word and the word in Jesus, which hopefully I brought about in relationship to the sowing to the seed.

Paul takes this concept of sowing the seeds even further. Paul says we are actually God's letters to the world. In 2 Corinthians 3:2-3, God states you are epistles written in our hearts, known and read by all men, the epistle of Christ written not with ink but with the spirit of the living God; not in tablets of stone, but in fleshy tablets of the heart. Our lives are letters written by the Holy Ghost and sent out to a lost world, and we are being read continually by those around us.

God has sent us, personal letters, to an unconverted humankind. Yet these letters aren't in ink or bound in leather. They are living, breathing, walking scriptures. We embody the gospel of Christ which is the power of God unto the salvation to everyone that believes. The spirit constantly speaks of Christ, making him clearly known to human understanding. He manifests Jesus in many ways, but God chose to make his son known to sinners in a most effective way, by revealing him in flesh and blood epistles, us, living messages that can be read by everyone.

What an incredible word Paul has given us here. He is saying it is possible to become such shining lights of Christ that we literally impact peoples' consciences. We are to become so like Jesus through the person of the Holy Spirit, so reflecting his purity, that others can't help being changed. Christ's image in us strikes through every wall they have erected, every idol, sin and evil.

Only as we live and spend time with Christ, will we manifest Jesus fully, and only then will our lives be filled with Holy Ghost power, touching the consciences of everyone around us. As we sow the seed, let our lives become living epistles of Christ and people will ask us why we are like we are, and then the greatest opportunity comes to share the reason for the joy in our hearts.



Sow the Seed In Christ
Gene Carrell, Elder

Comfort Zones

A word from the Parish Administrator

Concordia Lutheran Church is a comfort zone for me. Over the years I have been blessed by a family of faith who has taken me in like family. When I moved here from Syracuse, New York it meant leaving the familiar comfort zones of friends and another family of faith and entering foreign territory and the unknown. It might as well have been the wild, wild, west.

This is beautiful country. I remember telling my friends back in New York about being able to drive for an hour and not meet a car. There were foxes in town. Horses and cattle stopped traffic. Little did I know that within months of living here I would consider a trip to K-Mart in Craig an *outing*. Things were different from what I had become comfortable with in New York. I had no idea that I would end up working in a church and being blessed beyond belief by the experience. The unfamiliar Steamboat, in time, became another comfort zone.

In a sense, many of the ministries at Concordia are

about taking a risk and moving out of a personal comfort zone. Outreach and Assimilation would have us invite our neighbors and friends to church. That may be an uncomfortable task for many of us at first -- but practiced over time it can become a natural and comfortable part of our lives.

Stephen Ministry would have us reach out to people in crisis. Many are uncomfortable around people who grieve or face a grave illness. Through training, as we learn to be caregivers, we learn over time and experience to be at ease and comfortable with people who need consistent one-on-one care.

When Christ commands that we pick up the cross and follow Him that might entail carrying that cross outside of our comfort zones and into unfamiliar territory. It can be frightening. It can be downright *uncomfortable*. The amazing and wondrous thing, however, is that these very emotions can be replaced with comfort and joy. It broadens our experience and helps us to

grow. It forces us to depend more on God and less on the people or environments we're comfortable with.

As I get ready to leave Steamboat, and Concordia in particular, I definitely feel the fear of the unknown and the anxiety of leaving that which is so comfortable. I have had to rely much more on the promises of God to be with me and to give me strength and courage for the journey.

My experience here has flung open more windows of possibility than I had ever considered -- and I don't even feel the door shutting. You have blessed me with opportunities for growth and the ability to use my gifts in very gratifying ways. Thank you for your encouragement and support along the way. I can't begin to convey how much I appreciate the work you have entrusted me with over the years.

God has compelled me to move out of my comfort zone. As a congregation you have had a large part in giving me the ability to take that step. Thank you.

Scoop from the Sup . . .



Eliyn Myller

Vacation Bible School starts this week and we are going to...

"God's Great Gallery!!"

Have you ever been in an art museum and come across a piece of art that stops you in your tracks? You say to yourself "WOW!!" Or how about a painting that you can crawl into and feel a part of because it makes you feel dreamy about a time or place that you have wanted to be in. This year in Vacation Bible School we are going to be talking about art...God's art and His mark on history.

All week we are going to discover that we are one of God's great masterpieces and that God Created us for a purpose. First to recognize that we are known by Him and then to know Him. That is the message of the Gospel - "good news", God is our Creator and He has been revealing Himself to people throughout all of time. He showed Himself and His love most clearly in the Son he sent, Jesus Christ, who became for us the "work" that secured our eternal life and relationship with God.

WOW! WHAT A GOD!

WOW! JESUS IS POWERFUL!

WOW! GOD IS WITH US!

Everyone is invited to join us on Thursday evening at 7:00 pm to hear our last story and join in some singing, take a walk through our gallery, enjoy a snack and some fellowship. You won't want to miss out!!

"GOD'S GREAT GALLERY" - August 5-8, 9-11:30 a.m.

Bring your kids, bring your neighbors kids!!

(Please come early on Monday to register)

Sunday School -

August 4 - Bible Man and the Incredible Force of JOY

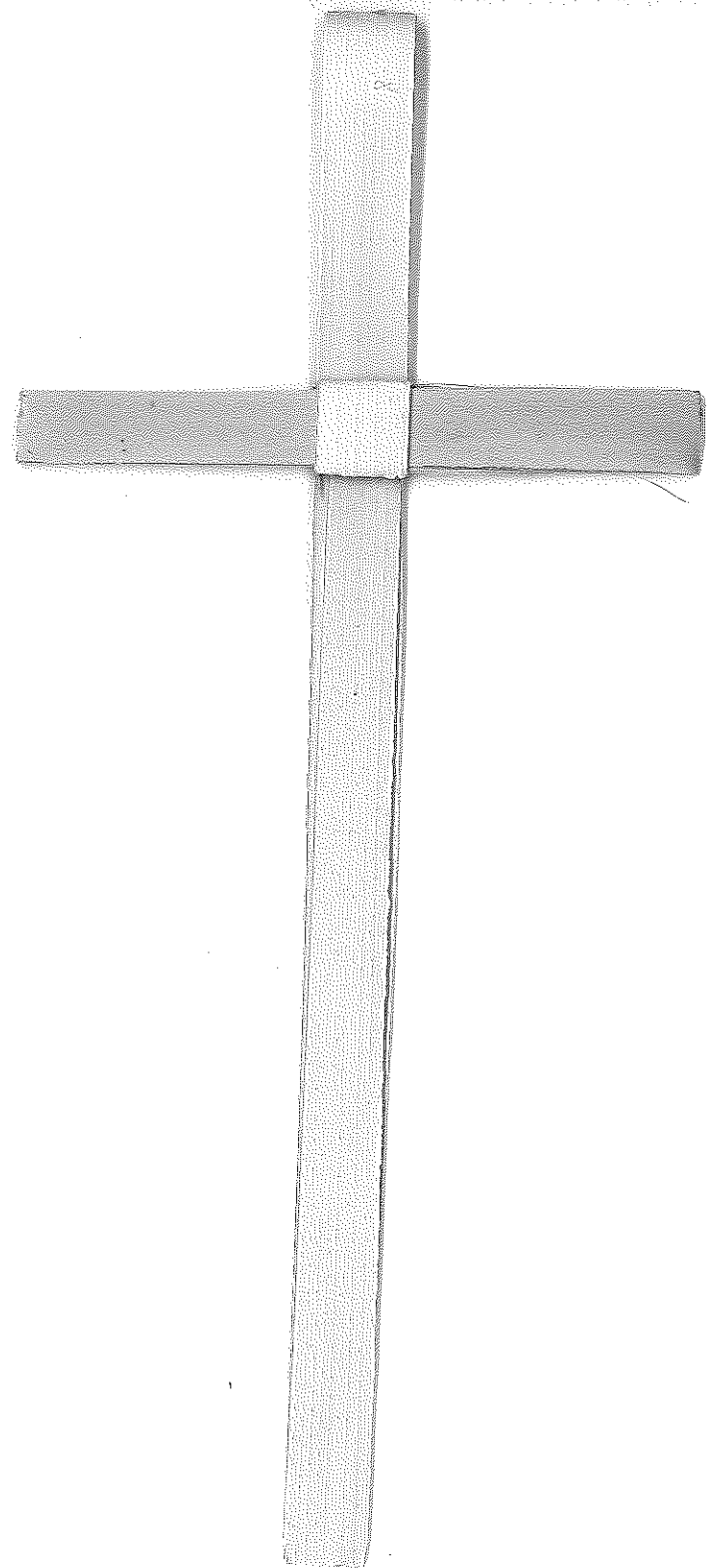
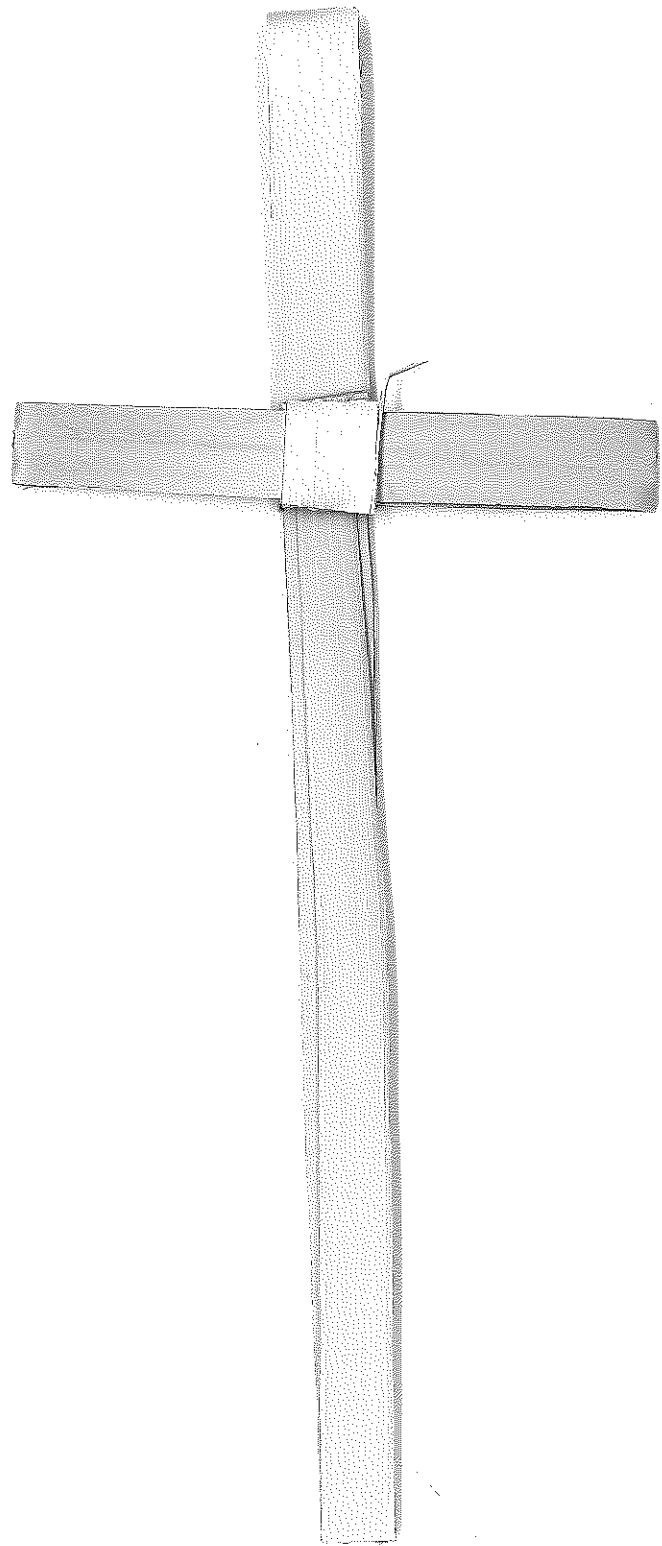
August 11, 18, 25 - Prayer, Pottery, and Puzzles



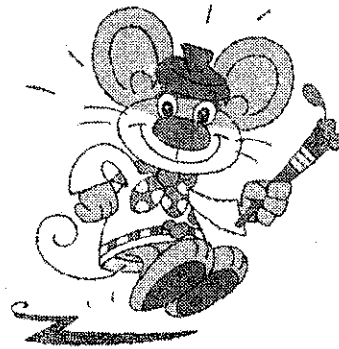
AUGUST 2002



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 No Womens Study Recovery-5:30 PM Choir-6 PM	2 Prayer Vigil 3-8 PM	3 Worship-5:30 PM
4 Worship-8:00 AM Educ Hr-9:30 AM Worship-10:45 AM	5 Women's AA-7 PM Craft Night-7 PM	6 Trustees-5:15 PM Tools/Living-6PM Elders-6 PM Fellowship-7 PM	7 Discovery-7 PM VBS	8 No Womens Study Recovery -5:30 PM Bells-7 PM VBS Program-7 PM	9	10 Men's Breakfast-7AM Worship-5:30 PM
			VBS			
11 Worship-8:00 AM Educ Hr-9:30 AM Worship-10:45 AM	12 Women's AA-7 PM Craft Night-7 PM	13 Church Council-7AM Primary Election: 7AM-7PM	14 Discovery-7 PM	15 No Womens Study Recovery -5:30 PM Bells-7 PM	16	17 Network 8-12 AM Worship-5:30 PM
18 Worship-8:00 AM Educ Hr-9:30 AM Worship-10:45 AM	19 Women's AA-7 PM Craft Night-7 PM	20	21 Discovery-7 PM	22 No Womens Study Recovery -5:30 PM	23	24 Network 8-12 AM Worship-5:30 PM
25 Worship-8:00 AM Educ Hr-9:30 AM Worship-10:45 AM DWCC-1 PM	26 Women's AA-7 PM Craft Night-7 PM 1st Day of School	27 Board of Ed 6:00 PM	28 Discovery-7 PM	29 No Womens Study Recovery -5:30 PM Choir-6 PM	30	31 Wedding-3 PM Worship-5:30 PM



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

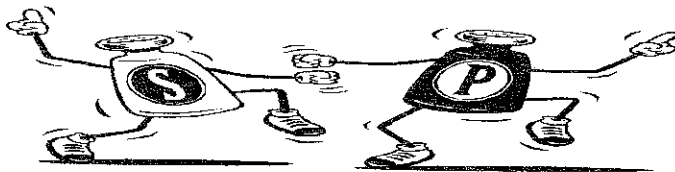


**Register For Concordia's Vacation
Bible School, Monday, 8:30-9:00 !!
August 5-8 (Mon. thru Thurs)
9:00 to 11:30 AM
(Program is Thursday evening at 7:00 PM)**

Pre-registration: Please fill out your child's name and phone number on the enclosed form and return to Concordia and place in Eilyn Myller's mailbox. The cost for VBS is \$5 per child. Any adults or youth able to volunteer a couple of hours during VBS, please call Eilyn Myller, 871-1860 or Belinda Hart, 879-7486.

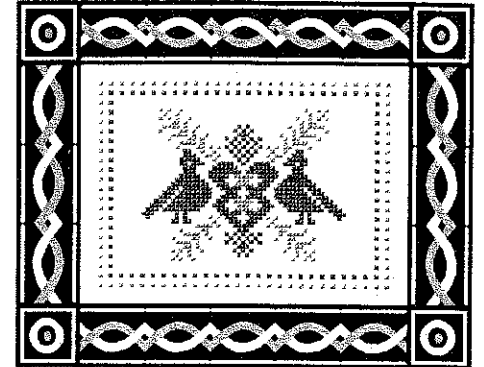
CONCORDIA'S DINERS' CLUB

The upcoming rotation for our Diners' Club will commence in September. If anyone would like to be deleted or added to this fellowship group, please contact Susan Dreska (879-4273) no later than August 26th! Any questions, feel free to call and leave a message. If your current groups have not met this past session, please contact Susan. Also, if any of the current diners have email and would prefer to receive their upcoming listing via pc, email Susan at SEDRESKI@AOL.COM. PLEASE INDICATE "DINERS' CLUB" IN SUBJECT!!!



LWML (Women's Guild)

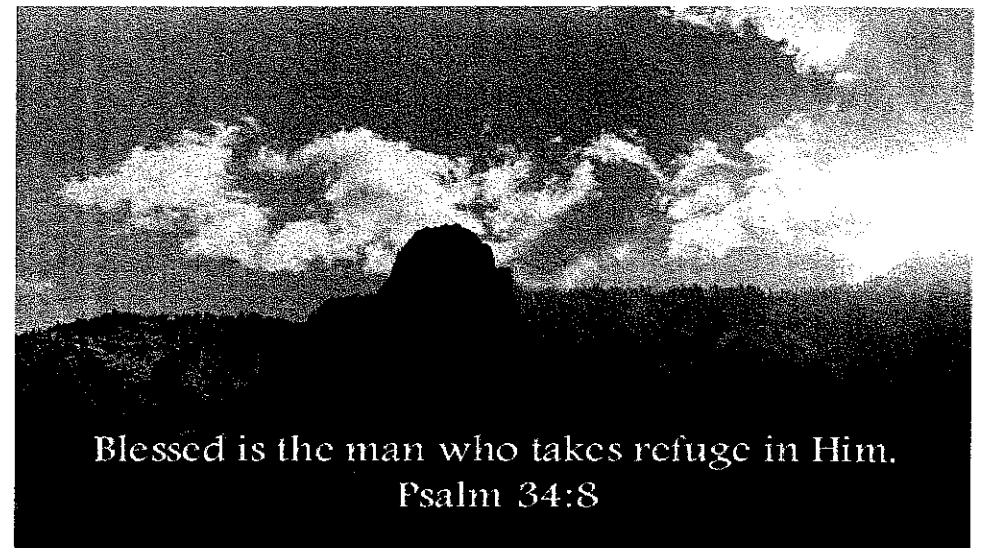
The LWML board is busy planning for the upcoming year and we are excited to meet with all of you again. We have chosen the following theme for the 2002/03 get togethers: **"Weave us together in Unity and Love"**. Our chosen verse is from **Romans 15:5**:
May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity amount yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus.



Our first meeting will be Tuesday, September 17th, at 7:00 pm at Pam Patterson's home in Elk River Valley. Pam's mother, Barb Foles, will be leading us in a weaving project

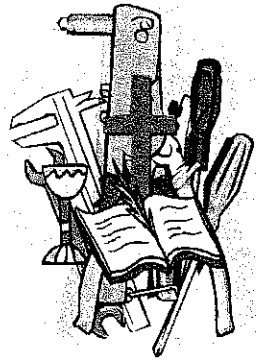
We still have some spots open in our calendar for monthly hostesses, program and devotional leaders. If you'd like to help out with any of these, please let Mary Beth Bradfield or Lynn Worrell know.

See you in September!



Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him.
Psalm 34:8

TOOLS FOR LIVING



Have you seen the latest commercials on TV for drug prevention? They're pretty good. They don't stress the eggs frying in a pan with warnings of "this is your brain on drugs." It's a frightening thought but it isn't very effective for deterring drug use. They don't tell you to "just say no." (The comment about that campaign has been, if we could just say no we wouldn't need a Savior.) The Apostle Paul, himself, couldn't *just say no*. Nor can we. We constantly battle our dual nature of sinner and saint.

These new commercials center on communication. Talk to your kids. Ask them questions. Inquire about their lives. Trust is important. Know where they are. Keep the lines of communication open. Healthy communication between parents and children is the best way to prevent drug and alcohol abuse. That communication can prevent a lot of other things as well - like resentment and bitterness.

In the process of recovery, one of the tools for living that you learn is to communicate better. Learn to be honest about your feelings. Don't stifle resentments. Grumbling *isn't* healthy - speaking the truth in love *is*. Be open and honest with people. If you have a problem or a concern about something go to that person and speak about it. Keep the lines of communication open. Be willing to admit your faults to another person. Ask for forgiveness. Repent. Rejoice in the mending of fractured relationships through healthier communications.

Several weeks ago we had an open forum on worship concerns. It was a wonderful opportunity for our congregation to share their concerns, desires and ideas. It is a good thing to encourage honest communications with one another. We do have different opinions and desires. We don't agree on some issues. But the process of listening to one another allows us to gain a new perspective or insight we had not considered before. What is good for preventing alcohol and drug abuse is also good for us as a congregation. It prevents the resentments and bitterness which can lead to fractures in our congregation. For years I took the grumbling route. I still do sometimes because it seems easier than being honest. Speaking the truth in love, as Jesus did, is not always easy. But if we ignore speaking honestly when we should we run the risk of building up resentments. If you have concerns share them with the appropriate people. Don't *just say nothing*. Keep the lines of communication open.

And now these three remain: faith, hope and love, but the greatest of these is love, 1 Corinthians 13:13

YOUTH GROUP
Car Wash fundraiser for Lift-Up
Saturday, Aug 17th
Wells Fargo parking lot from 9-12 Noon

Men's Breakfast
Saturday August 10th
7:00 - 8:15AM
in Fellowship Hall
Invite A Friend!

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

Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study
No Meetings in August

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

LWML
(Women's Guild)
Women's Guild does not meet during July & August. See you in September!

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

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