

Concordia Lutheran Church

CHRISTOGRAM

Volume 1, Issue 6

September 2003

Thoughts from the Pastor



"Wisdom has built her house; she has hewn out its seven pillars. She has prepared her meat and mixed her wine; she has also set her table. She has sent out her maids, and she calls from the highest point of the city. 'Let all who are simple come in here!' she says to those who lack judgment. 'Come, eat my food and drink the wine I have mixed. Leave your simple ways and you will live; walk in the way of understanding. . . . The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding'"

Proverbs 9:1-6, 10

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

St. Peter writes the following Word of God as a warning:

"But there were also false prophets among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the sovereign Lord who bought them—bringing swift destruction on themselves. Many will follow their shameful ways and will bring the way of truth into disrepute. In their greed these teachers will exploit you with stories they have made up."

II Peter 2:1-3a

We live in such a time. There is so much false teaching being touted as the true word of God that it is very difficult to discern what is; truly God's Word. But how do we know? How do we protect ourselves against the false teachers St. Peter warns about? And what do we teach to the children God has entrusted to us so that when they go out into the world, they may stand firm in their faith? On Sunday, September 7th, we will deal with these questions as we are guided by God's Word in Proverbs to see exactly what is; His wisdom for our lives.

The following Sunday, September 14th, we will begin a seven week sermon series on Christian teachings titled: "The Faith We Believe" which will conclude with a Reformation Celebration on Sunday, October 26th. The seven week series will follow the outline of a bible study series, *Myth or Faith Part 2*, as these materials will be used in the small-group home bible studies during that time. It will be a time to examine what the Bible says concerning basic Lutheran Christian teachings and a time of fellowship to unify us as a body of believers ready to reap the harvest by sharing the Word about Jesus. The small groups are encouraged to begin the study in *Myth or Faith Part 2* the week of September 8th and the sermons will conclude each week on the following Sunday.

It is my solemn prayer that the Lord of the harvest continue to work mightily in our midst by bringing us together as one in the One who gave His life for us, and then to use us mightily in this community and beyond by telling of the love of God in Jesus Christ. May God grant this according to His grace and mercy.

In Christ's Service
Pastor Scott

Ellie Is Here!

Hello Members of Concordia:

Welcome to my first official document as a DCE intern! You're excited, aren't you?! Actually, I was pleased to find out today that I get to add my two cents to this newsletter that you all get to read. I'm sure I will have a few things to say over the next year. ☺

But since I just started, the only thing I have to say in this letter is thank you again. You have all been so kind to me since I arrived. I couldn't have asked for a better reception from the members of this congregation. You have all helped make my transition here a little easier, and for that I am grateful. I know that I met quite a few of you the first two Sundays I was here, but I look forward to actually remembering your names in the future. Ha!

I can tell that this is a very special congregation. I have been able to sit back and watch all of you interact for two weeks and I've just had to smile. My first Sunday here was when the Wojtowicz family left and I knew already then that there is a great love at work in this church. To me, it seems like a miracle every time I see Christ's love at work in the people of His church. And that's what I see here. What a great thing we have. It is evident that you are blessings to each other, and you have definitely been blessings to me. Thank you for your support. I am greatly looking forward to working with all of you. I know God will do great things here. I can't wait to see what ministry opportunities God has for me and for us here in this place. With His guidance and assistance, I know that He will be glorified through all of us. Please keep myself, as well as the rest of the staff here in your prayers; and we will do the same for you. God's peace in your hearts!

In Him,

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

In Jesus Name, Greetings!

Have you washed anyone's feet lately?

Or to put it in less obscure language (even for Christians) "Have you tried to help anyone humbly without expectation of any return?"

I learned a long time ago that it's easier to criticize and cut down an individual than it is to build them up or offer help. You know, the poor, the illiterate, those who aren't the best at what they do, etc. It wasn't quite as long ago that I learned how self serving that is and that no matter how much I degraded someone else it never made me a better person. Just a better person at being destructive.

However, I must admit being self serving and negative is a lot easier than serving someone else. You know, first it's an offer of aid, then you feel good, like you're being a blessing, then all of a sudden it's offer and being blessed constantly. Service, mercy, love and there's just no time anymore to do what I want. What's a person to do?

If the politics here upset you, jump in and help. If you feel Concordia is backsliding, or falling, offer to be hitched up to the team and work to pull us forward. Don't accept no or no thank you. If anyone involved in the work of this church seems to be failing at any portion of their responsibilities, offer to help.

Serve the Lord with GLADNESS! Even though the alternative seems easier.

By the way, may we wash your feet?

Brian

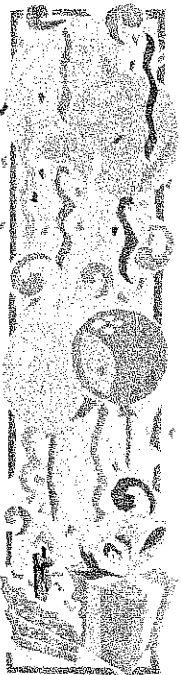
Message from the President

No not HIM! It's
Bart Kounovsky.

Just a brief note to let everyone know that nominations are just around the corner. The nominating committee will be making contacts to people for positions that are or will be vacant in 2004. Please be prayerfully considering if the Lord is calling you into a position of leadership at Concordia. The Lord has great things in store for this congregation in 2004 and just needs a few leaders to accomplish those things.

Thanks for your prayerful consideration. Bart K.

"HAPPY BIRTHDAY" TO OUR SEPTEMBER CELEBRANTS



"Happy Birthday to"

Baptism Birthdays

Sept 4 - Kevin Bertrand
 Sept 13-Katie Truong
 Sept 15-Savannah Atkins
 Sept 15-Justin DelValle
 Sept 15-Wyatt Reynolds
 Sept 18-Gary Nelson
 Sept 26-Sara Pugh
 Sept 27-Whitney Koch
 Sept 30-Madison Truong

Sept 5 - Kyle Kounovsky
 Sept 6 - Catherine Davis
 Sept 6 - Michael Davis
 Sept 6 - Mike Davis
 Sept 13-Anna Hoj
 Sept 20-William McConnell

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

IT'S TIME TO THINK OF ABOUT OUR STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENTS AGAIN

The church year is three-fourths over!! In 12 weeks Advent will be here and we will all wonder why time seems to go by so quickly. The administrative year for Concordia comes to an end a month later just after the celebration of our Savior's birth. A budget for next year, new officers and ministry chairpersons will be selected before the beginning of Advent so that these "housekeeping" events don't interfere with the Advent celebration.

As we come to the end of this year we may want to think about how we can serve the Lord in the coming year. Some of us may want to review the Forty Days of Purpose study guide. What should our individual ministries be? Some will be asked to serve as officers or ministry chairpersons. Do you have the time to serve? or the talent?

How much of our treasure are we going to share with the Lord? Is it going to be a prayerfully planned amount, or is it going to be a last minute decision as the collection plate is being passed.

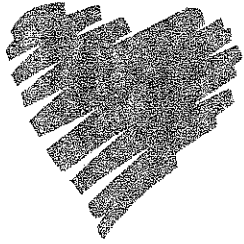
What would be the greatest stewardship each of us could commit ourselves to in the coming year? Would it be a good positive Christ centered attitude as we participate in the numerous ministries and missions at Concordia? I think so.

A positive problem solving approach will help us as we spread the Good News and invite people to follow The Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ.

Romans 14:19 "Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and mutual edification."

In His Service,

Bill Baldwin



Lutheran Marriage Encounter

"A Weekend of Discovery..."

...A Lifetime of Love."



What's different about couples that stay happily married?

It's not that they are better looking, more in love or more passionate. It's not that they have fewer differences or less to fight about. In fact, successful couples have the same number of disagreements as the couples who divorce. Even more interesting, all couples disagree about all the basic issues - money, kids, sex, housework, in-laws and time. The difference between successful and unsuccessful couples is how they handle their differences. Successful couples disagree in a way that makes their relationship stronger. They also have other skills and attitudes, which help them, build long-term happiness and satisfaction. Strengthen your marriage through the skills you can learn on a Marriage Encounter Weekend. Registration deadline is **Sept. 30th**.

Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend to be held
October 17-19, 2003.

For more information please call Al & Betty @ 303-795-0697

Or John & Jennifer @303-969-9613.

Registration deadline is September 30.

Lutheran Engaged Encounter Weekend is October 3-5.

Call Frank & Fran @ 303-279-2130 for more information

The Bible in 40 Words!

God made
Adam bit
Noah arked
Abraham split
Joseph ruled
Jacob fooled
Bush talked

Moses balked
Pharaoh plagued
People walked
Sea divided
Tablets guided
Promise landed
Saul freaked
David peeked
Prophets warned

Jesus born
God walked
Love talked
Anger crucified
Hope died
Love rose
Spirit flamed
Word spread
God remained.

**Parenting with Love and Logic:
A Christian Perspective
Wednesday, September 10, 6:00 p.m.
Supper Provided
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
9th & Oak
879-0925**

Call for more details &/or to sign up for this evening of learning together.

Chuckles and Deep Thoughts

Church bulletin item: *The Magic of Lassie*, a film for the whole family, will be shown Sunday at 5 P.M. in the church hall. Free puppies will be given to all children not accompanied by parents.

Doctor to patient: "By the way, do you still have those pills I have you last week? They were beads my wife wanted to have restrung."



A woman was dying. A priest was summoned, and he attempted to comfort her, but to no avail.

"I am lost," she said. "I have ruined my life and every life around me. Now I'm going painfully to hell. There is no hope for me."

The priest saw a framed picture of a pretty girl on the dresser. "Who is this?" he asked. The woman brightened. "She's my daughter, the one beautiful thing in my life."

"And would you help her if she were in trouble or made a mistake? Would you forgive her? Would you still love her?"

"Of course I would!" cried the woman. "I would do anything for her! Why do you ask such a question?"

"Because I want you to know," said the priest, "that God has a picture of you on His dresser."

LWML (Women's Guild) News...

Attention, Women

KICK OFF! Our Fall Kick-off is Tuesday, September 16th at 7 pm at the Herberts, 579 Grand, Old Town. We will carpool from the church at 6:45 for those who need a ride.

Our theme for 2003-2004 is "Learning through Faith". Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see." Janis Herbert will present the devotion and reflection time. Reminder - Please bring your mite boxes.



The LWML Zone Rally is Saturday, September 6th. Registration is at 8:15 AM at Faith Lutheran Church in Craig. We will carpool from the church at 7:15 AM and arrive back at the church around 4:00 PM. The theme is "For God so Loved the World" based on John 3:16. Questions -- call Lynn Worrell 879-3932.

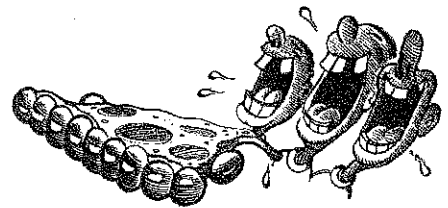
"Gifts From the Heart"

We are collecting Gifts from the Heart for the Yampa Valley Pregnancy Center. Please place your gifts in the bassinet located in the narthex. Items are needed by Friday, September 5th. Here are a few items that are needed: Disposable diapers size 2-5, Formula: regular or soy, small travel packs of diaper wipes, baby shampoo, lotion, oil or powder, small diaper bags.



Youth Group News

On September 14th we will be meeting at 5:30 pm to have pizza and some other fun activities to be divulged that evening. Mark your calendar. You don't want to miss our first activity with our new DCE intern, Ellie Bach.



We will also be having our HIGHWAY CLEAN UP DAY on September 28th. The time will be announced in the bulletin. This is always a fun time to do our community service together.

REMINDER:

Be thinking about the National Youth Gathering, July 2004.

Registrations are due in October 22, 2003.

More information will follow regarding registration, fund raisers, etc.

CONCERT OF PRAYER

September Concert of Prayer is on Friday the 5th from 4:30- 6:00PM.

Come join us when you can. All are welcome and encouraged to come together to pray for our church and our community and share any personal prayer requests.



TOOLS FOR LIVING

STEP 11

“Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.”

Step 11 provides daily spiritual maintenance. As recovering persons, we may use our support groups and recovery literature as springboards toward spiritual and emotional growth. We will probably reach a bevel, though at which we hunger for an even deeper contact and communication with God. This is where the organized church, the Bible, other Christian literature, and prayer and meditation become indispensable tools for lasting spiritual growth. Bill Wilson, for example, found great peace and encouragement through Christian literature and the Bible. In fact, one of the books he came back to again and again was Oswald Chambers' "My Utmost for His Highest". In Step 11, we slow down, take ourselves out of the driver's seat, and set a specific time to seek God's will through prayer and meditating on His Word.

Studying the Bible helps us to know God better and to find out what He wants for our lives. Serenity: A Companion for Twelve Step Recovery gives specific examples of how God's Word relates to the recovery issues we are facing. We see this in the meditations on the Twelve Steps and in the related recovery scriptures highlighted throughout the text. As we practice Step 11, we may want to use Serenity as a part of the special time we spend with God.

If we have had little or no experience with prayer, we should probably begin in a simple fashion. That means putting aside perfectionists' concerns about praying "the right way". We should pray simply and forthrightly to God as a loving Father, not worrying about what we should and should not say.

Over time, as we become comfortable with God, we will talk with Him as with a trusted friend. He will be the Person with whom we can conduct our daily inventories of grief and confession issues. And we will begin to sense His answers to our prayers. These may not be cast in stone or echoed from a burning bush; but as we talk with God, we will intuit His direction coming back to us.

As we examine Step 12, we shall explore how this growing spiritual wisdom is to be carried to others and practiced in our own lives

RECOVERY MEDITATIONS

(To help you understand what the Scriptures say about surrendering your will and life to God.)

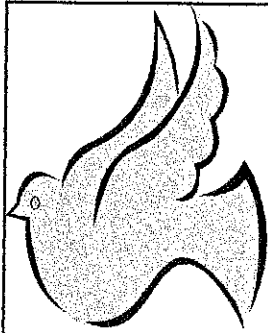
John 4:13, 14
Philippians 4:6-9

Romans 8:26-28
Psalm 84:5-12

Galatians 2:20
Psalm 127:1,2

Titus 3:1-7

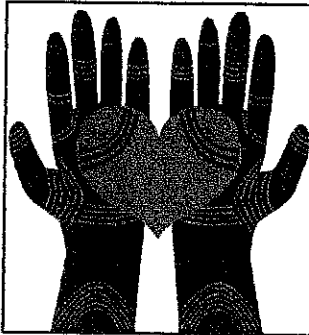
From "SERENITY – A Companion for Twelve Step Recovery" by Dr. Robert Hemfelt & Dr. Richard Fowler
(Visit Concordia's library for more inspirational readings—Tools for Living section.)



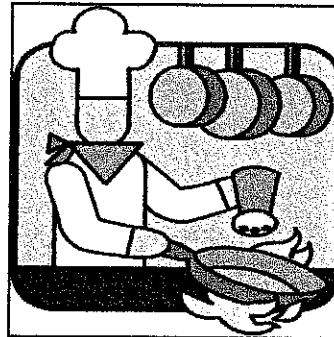
Confirmation
 Will be meeting on
 Sunday morning at
 9:15 am. It will begin
 on September 14th.
 See you there!



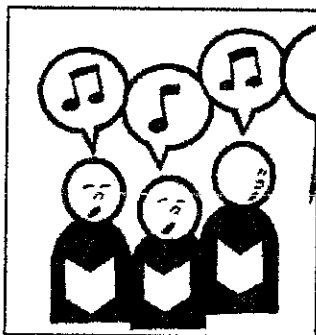
YOUTH GROUP
 Meets every Sunday
 morning at 9:15 in the
 Youth Room. Come meet
 our new leader, Ellie Bach.



STEPHEN MINISTERS
 "A friend who has de-
 veloped gifts for bring-
 ing Christ's healing to
 hurting places."



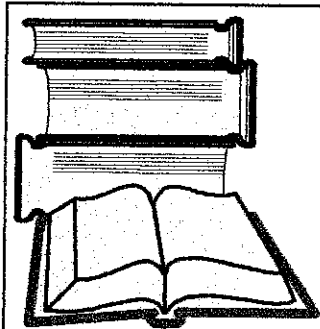
Men's Breakfast
 Saturday September
 13th, 7:00 - 8:30AM
 in Fellowship Hall
Invite A Friend!



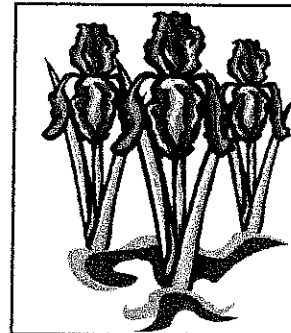
YOUTH CHOIR
 Will begin soon.
 Please give us a call
 if you are interested
 so that we know how
 much music to order!
 879-0175



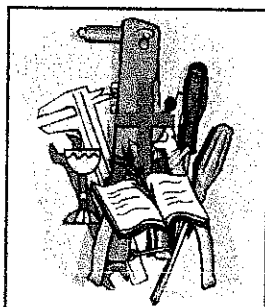
**Thursday Morning
 Women's Bible Study**
 Meets every Thursday
 morning 9-10:30 AM
 Come water your faith
 seeds. We're studying
 Romans.



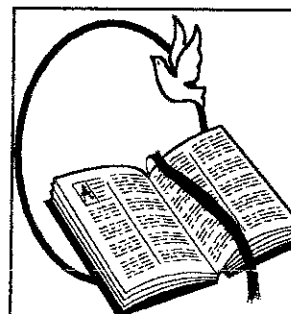
Small Group Bible
 Studies are meeting at
 various homes. Check
 the board in the narthex
 for Bible study
 opportunities.



LWML
 Fall kick-off is
 September 16th, 7 PM at
 the Herberts.



TOOLS FOR LIVING:
 Ministry team for recovery,
 addiction & prevention
 Next Meeting
 September 9th 5:30 PM



ADULT BIBLE STUDY
 Christianity 101 is meeting in
 the library. Our second Bible
 study is meeting in the
 Chapel. We are studying
 II Peter.
 Come join us.

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 Rebecca Duryea

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

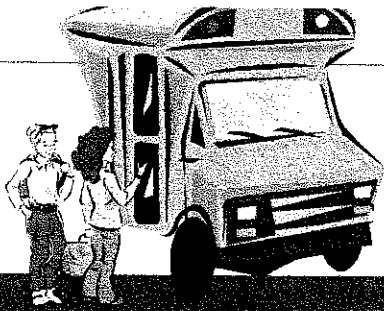
Saturday Worship: 5:30 PM

Sunday Worship: 8 & 10:45 AM Education Hour: 9:15 AM

Concordia Lutheran Church
755 Concordia Lane
Steamboat Springs, CO 80487



Sept 2003

Concordia Lutheran Church *CHRISTOGRAM*



September 2003



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>1 Women's AA NO CRAFTS TONIGHT</p> <p>LABOR DAY OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>2 Worship Comm 4:30 Trustees 5:30 PM O & A 5:15 PM Elder's Meeting 6PM Small Group Leaders</p>	3	<p>4 Women's Bible Study 9 AM Choir 6 PM  Bells 7PM</p>	<p>5 Concert of Prayer 4:30-6:00 PM</p> 	<p>6 Get Out of Debt in 5-7 Years 9 am- 1 pm Worship 5:30 PM</p>
<p>7 Worship - 8:00 AM Sunday School Rally Day Educ Hr - 9:30 AM Worship - 10:45 AM</p>	<p>8 Women's AA 7:00 PM Crafts 7:00 PM</p>	<p>9 Tools for Living 5:30pm Church Council 7PM</p>	10	<p>11 Women's Bible Study 9 AM Choir 6 PM Bells 7PM</p>	12	<p>13 Men's Breakfast 7AM Journey practice 10 -noon Worship 5:30 PM</p>
<p>14 Worship - 8:00 AM Educ Hr - 9:30 AM 2nd Grade Bible Presentation Worship - 10:45 AM</p>	<p>15 Women's AA 7 PM Crafts 7:00 PM</p>	<p>16 Youth Board 6:00 PM</p> <p>LWML 7 PM at the Herberts</p>	17	<p>18 Women's Bible Study 9 AM Choir 6 PM Bells 7PM</p>	19	<p>20 Worship 5:30 PM</p>
<p>21 Worship - 8:00 AM Educ Hr - 9:30 AM Worship - 10:45 AM</p>	<p>22 Women's AA 7 PM Crafts 7:00 PM</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Board of Christian Ed 6 PM</p>	24	<p>25 Women's Bible Study 9 AM Choir 6 PM Bells 7PM</p>	26	<p>27 Worship 5:30 PM</p>
<p>28 Worship - 8:00 AM Educ Hr - 9:30 AM Worship - 10:45 AM DWCC 1PM</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Women's AA 7:00 PM Crafts 7:00 PM</p>	30				