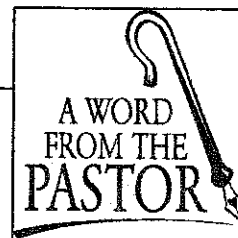


## Thoughts from the Pastor



*God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling. . . . "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations. I will be exalted in the earth!" The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.*

Psalm 46:1-3, 10-11

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

2003 is almost quickly coming to a close. And what an eventful year it has been. There have been so many events, positive and negative, happening on so many levels. The United States of America remains the most influential and prosperous nation in the world and as such is still the one destination of most who leave their home country. Yet, our nation is still involved in a war that has gotten uglier and uglier with each passing day and we remain under the constant threat of terrorism. Our judicial system remains the most equitable source of justice in the world today and yet many of our judges continue to wage war against Christianity as is evident by the decisions surrounding the Ten Commandments on a stele in front of an Alabama court house. Our church body continues to set the standard in missions as it has throughout its history in reaching out to people all over the world, with the 'Ablaze' campaign kicking off the push to reach 100 million people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ by the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the beginning of the Reformation in 2017. In the mean time, we in the LC-MS are tearing each other apart over how we go about fulfilling God's call to be "fishers of men" and how to correctly and lovingly be in but not of the world. Our beloved congregation seeks to minister to a community much in need of the healing balm of grace and mercy while we also participate in parking lot discussions that are un-loving and damaging to the unity of the body and the work of the Kingdom. Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Instead of shaking His head and throwing up His hands in disgust, He is indeed our refuge and strength as He continues to graciously forgive and patiently teach, strengthen, empower and send out.

The Reformation became a new start, a new beginning for the Christian church in the early 1500's. Much of the barnacles of sin that had covered the Gospel message because of the abuses of the church had been scrapped away and once again the light of Jesus Christ shone ever so brightly in a world of darkness and despair. It brought forgiveness, peace, strength and empowerment to God's people and led to growth in God's Kingdom through a more effective work of the church in the spreading of the Good News of Jesus Christ.

The Reformation continues to this day. Never before in the history of the world have more people had access to God's Word in their own language. In spite of the best efforts of the enemies of Jesus, the Gospel is reaching into all corners of the world. We in the USA continue to be blessed with the leadership of a Christian president who refuses to compromise his faith for worldly teachings. A judge in Alabama is fighting to do the same. Many in the LC-MS and across Christianity continue to work together in loving unity in healing sinful divisions and in bringing salvation to the nations. Our heavenly Father has given us at Concordia a divine purpose in Steamboat Springs and the Holy Spirit continues to work in our hearts, bringing unity through forgiveness and wisdom through His Word, using us as a beacon of the light of Jesus Christ. As we now begin to look forward to 2004 and beyond let us be still and know that Jesus is God and Savior of the world and let us stand firm on Him who is our refuge and strength. *The Lord of Hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.* Amen and amen.

In Christ's Service  
Pastor Scott

# Words from Ellie Bach

Dear friends,

October, '03

So the question of the week is this: how can you feel alone when you're surrounded by God? I'm not sure I have an answer, but I'm gonna try. So, I have been feeling a little lonely out here these past weeks. For someone as people-oriented as I am, living 20 minutes outside of town in a beautiful house, with no neighbors, no friends my age, and only actually knowing just a handful of people, these first few weeks were a little rough. But the other night I got a chance to stand outside under the stars, seeing them in all their brilliance and enjoying the moon and how it caused the mountains to cast grand shadows on the horizon. As I stood there I was overwhelmed...by the beauty? No. By the loneliness? No. But simply by God. Or, not simply, I should say. In that moment, He opened my eyes again to His presence in my life right at that very moment. It was one of the times I was standing completely by myself, and it was the least I had felt alone my entire time out here. So I stood there and smiled...at the sky. ☺ All I could do was thank God for all that He is to me. In that time He showed me what great opportunities to do His work are awaiting me in this place. He showed me how He has surrounded me not only with a picturesque view that screams His name, but with a great many people that love me with the love He has for me. I barely know the people here at this church, but the kindness and love you have shown me already could only come with the bond of Christian brotherhood. Fellow believers in Christ being Christ to each other. How great our God is that He works through us lowly creatures not only to do His will and spread the good news, but to minister to each other. How many times do we see in scripture that God would have us lift up and edify our brother, thereby building up His kingdom? Man, you'd think the Guy knew what He was doing when He made us the way He did!

After God and I spent that time together and after He reminded me again today of how I am surrounded by believers who care for me, I realized that I love it here. I do. I'm so excited that I get to spend a year in this place.

So, back to the original question: how can you feel alone when you're surrounded by God? Well, I just don't know. I'm not saying that I won't sometimes long for company, or that if when the holidays role around I am not with my family that I won't be a little sad. But I am saying that with God around, you can never really be alone. He is more company than I could ever ask for. And I'm thankful.

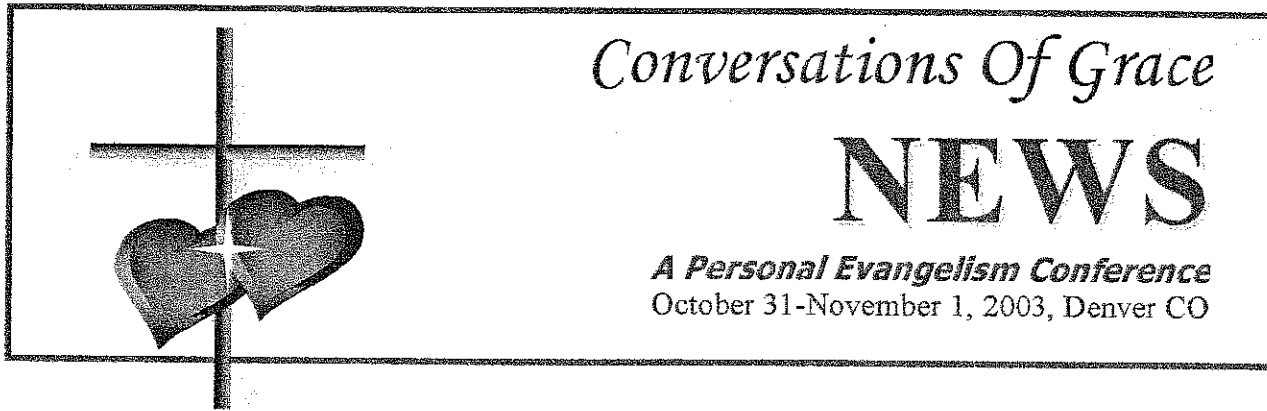
*Thank You, Jesus, for your presence in our lives. You are such an amazing God and we would be lost and lonely without You. Help us to live every day in the knowledge that You are right beside us.  
It is good to know You! In Your Name we pray,  
Amen*

**"I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers, because I hear about your faith in the LORD Jesus and your love for all the saints. I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith, so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ. Your love has given me great joy and encouragement, because you, brother, have refreshed the hearts of the saints."**

**Philemon 4-7**

Thank you for being Jesus to me.  
In His peace,





September 16, 2003

There are two major developments to report this week regarding the Conversations of Grace Conference. We are pleased to announce the details of a bonus workshop to be offered at the conference by outreach experts from our national office. We are also quite excited to report that we will be offering a Spanish language track for our conference.

**Bonus Workshop!** Adding to an already full program, a workshop will be offered during the Saturday lunch break by Rev. Dr. Johannes Mengstaeb, Synodical Director of Urban and Multi-ethnic Missions of the Board for Mission Services, and by Rev. Roger Altenberger, Director of Outreach and Revitalization.

Sharing this hour, Mengstaeb will discuss his insights on doing outreach cross-culturally, and Altenberger will present ideas on using small group ministry for evangelism. Grab your box lunch, and be sure to take advantage of this special opportunity at the conference.

**"Converaciones de Gracias" (Spanish Language Track)** - Did you know that twenty-five percent of the residents of the Rocky Mountain District reported in the last census that they were Hispanic? The number of Hispanic ministries and Latinos in our congregations is increasing. The hope of the conference steering committee is that outreach to this large group in our District can be strengthened by offering this opportunity. The plenary sessions will be translated and a Spanish language workshop track will be presented.

Workshop presenters will be: Rev. Juan Hormachea, the RMD Hispanic Ministry Facilitator and pastor of Cordero de Dios Lutheran Church in Denver; Rev. Karl Heimer, pastor/missionary of San Pablo Lutheran Church/Ysleta Lutheran Mission, El Paso, TX; Dr. Al Diaz, Hispanic leader of Mission Lutheran Church, Las Cruces, NM and member of the RMD Board of Directors, and Mr. Wilson Bensus, a native of Peru and mission developer of a Hispanic ministry at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, Longmont, CO.

Information about this tract will be shared with our Hispanic ministries. If you have someone in your congregation that may be interested, please be sure to contact Pastor Hormachea, [pastorjuanah@comcast.net](mailto:pastorjuanah@comcast.net) (303-452-5262) or Margery at the District Office [margery.richter@rm.lcms.org](mailto:margery.richter@rm.lcms.org) (303-695-8001).

**Don't Forget** - As was reported in our last edition, the registration for the Children's Track has been reduced to \$9 to make it more affordable for families to attend, and promises great fun on Friday evening and Saturday, and includes the noon meal. Under 3 is free. Check out the update on the website.

**Registration:** Registration grew by about 40 people this week, reaching **131** as of September 15. Be sure to get your registration in today and invite others to join you for this special event!

➤ You can register online at [www.conversationsofgrace.org](http://www.conversationsofgrace.org).

# October Happenings

Mark Your Calendars!!!



Saturday, October 18th is Crop Walk for Hunger at 10 AM. Come out and be a part of a worthy cause to raise money that will go to refugees and part will be given to Routt County Lift-Up. Let's share out of the abundance God has showered on us. Call Luther 870-9675 for more details.

## "HAPPY BIRTHDAY" TO OUR OCTOBER CELEBRANTS



"Happy Birthday to....."

- Oct 4 - Ryan Kelley
- Oct 12-Kyle Svendsen
- Oct 16-Jonathan Rinck
- Oct 19-Chloe Banning

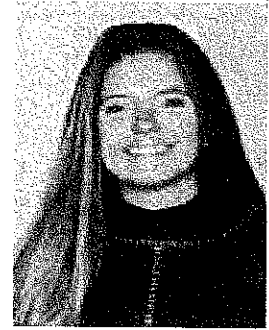
Baptism Birthdays



- Oct 4 - Peter Myller
- Oct 7 - Madison Truong
- Oct 13-Katie Truong
- Oct 15- Logan Banning

**Submitted by:** Lisa Warner of Captive Free South East  
**Journal Entry:**

9/20/03



A purposeful reminder...

During one of our first Sunday programs God reminded me why I am here. It seems so long ago when I look back at when I filled out the application and thought long and hard about why and if I wanted to join a year long commitment on the road. I remember looking back at my childhood and how Captive Free influenced me at a very young age. I remember dreaming of one day being a Captive Free team member. I was so excited because I wanted to be able to use my gifts and talents for God. A lot has happened since that day I filled out my application. As I was sitting in a small church in Shannon, Illinois, I watched as a man with a rugged farmer appearance sang "Skies of Blue" by Louis Armstrong. I was amazed by his song and I sat and just soaked up the world around me. I thought about the corn fields that surrounded the church and the small farming community that had welcomed us in so graciously. It finally occurred to me that I was not only here to use the gifts and talents that God has given me but that God had called my teammates and I this year to be fishers of men. I realized for the first time how much I love people and became so excited that I choked back tears. It served to remind me what a mighty God we serve. I am overwhelmed by how generous and kind people have been while on the road. Every need has been supplied and I thank God for every person we have come to know so far and praise him for all those that we will meet in the future.

Lisa Warner – Captive Free, South East

# LWML (Women's Guild) News...

## "Learning Through Faith"

At our September meeting we had eleven ladies and Kiwi present. Janis Herbert presented an inspiring program on faith and after our business meeting Janis served a super delicious dessert. Thank you Janis.

Please note change of date for our October meeting due to our rummage sale. LWML will meet Wednesday, October 15th, at 7:00 pm at the home of Judy Anderson, 42415 E. Deerfoot Lane off of CR44. Judy will be presenting a great "Faith" Story. We will carpool from the church at 6:45 pm.

We will be celebrating LWML Sunday October 19th. Please look for our display set up in the Narthex with LWML information on it.

Judy and her crafty ladies are hard at work making bazaar items every Monday evening at 7:00 pm. They meet in the Craft Room at the church. They are in need of some ladies who can sew and do piece work. Please contact Judy Anderson 879-8220.



It's Rummage Sale Time!!!

Our annual Fall rummage and bake sale will be on Friday

**Rummage Sale**

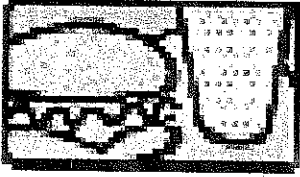
October 24 (9 am-5 pm) and Saturday October 25 (9 am-12 pm). We will begin to accept rummage 2 weeks prior to the sale starting Friday October 10. We will be sorting every night between October 20-23. All help is appreciated.

-We will accept gently worn, clean clothing, household items, furniture and toys. We cannot accept tires, computers, or large appliances. We have to pay to dispose of these items so please bring only sellable, clean items. Thanks so much for your donations. Many missions 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 and for clean up on Saturday.

Five ladies attended the LWML Western Zone Rally in Craig, September 6th. The day was enjoyed by all as we heard 4 missionaries speak and had wonderful fellowship with LWML members from other churches.

## Youth Group News



Looking for other ways to serve God and our young community of believers? The Youth Group is searching for volunteers, and not just parents, who would be willing to provide meals at Concordia Youth Group events. We are asking that a family or group of people be willing to prepare a small simple dinner once or twice a month when the youth Group gathers to enjoy Bible studies, games or discussions regarding God's role in their life. As a Church community we have all made an oath to support our Youth's Christian upbringing and we are looking for people who would like to serve God in this manner. If you are interested an have further questions please contact Ellie.



### UPCOMING EVENTS:

Mark your calendar - Jr. High Activity scheduled for October 5th  
 Senior High October 5th - National Youth Gathering Meeting @ 4:00 pm  
 October 12th - Scavenger Hunt @ 5:30-8:00 pm  
 October 26th - Bonfire

## CONCERT OF PRAYER

October Concert of Prayer is on Friday the 3rd 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. Church council will be here at 5:30 pm.



# TOOLS FOR LIVING

## STEP 12

**“Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to others, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.”**

Although we enter recover to heal a particular affliction, we find that, in the end, we have received far more than a specific healing of an addiction; we have received the gift of a profound spiritual awakening. In a sense, the addiction, the pain, the healing of the addiction, have only been stepping-stones to spiritual transformation and renewal. There is a phrase from the oral tradition of A.A. and other Twelve Step groups, by which people in meetings introduce themselves: “Hi, I’m \_\_\_\_\_, and I’m a grateful recovering alcoholic.” What they mean is that there is an element of gratitude for their addiction or dependency since it has served as the key to a spiritual awakening.

The second phrase in Step 12 reads: “we tried to carry this message to others”. Twelve Step programs place great emphasis on outreach to those who still suffer. Another oral tradition says, “You can’t keep it unless you give it away.” Having received healing and spiritual renewal, we can retain them only as we offer them to others. This evangelism aspect of Twelve Step recovery provides a bridge between recovery programs and the Christian church, which has a two thousand-year history of evangelism.

On a practical level, psychologists have long believed that there is a special capacity for empathy between persons who have shared the same addictions. That is why Bill Wilson encouraged alcoholics to help other alcoholics, and it is also why we now have such a proliferation of recovery support groups for different dependencies. Again, the premise is that people who have suffered from an addiction and have found spiritual healing from it are in better positions to understand and help others with similar problems.

The final phrase in Step 12 emphasizes practicing the Twelve Step principles “in all our affairs”. This means that if we have been spiritually transformed, people will begin to observe it in our financial lives, in our relationships, in our community lives, in our sexual conduct, and the list goes on and on. Our transformation will be apparent in all arenas of our lives.

Healing our addictions or co-dependencies is not the only goal of recovery. Rather, it is the starting place. Certainly we have to cap our addictions and put them in a state of balance or abstinence. But then begins the real journey of spiritual growth. Can our lives be remade?

We must remember that this growth is a process with one of the growth directions being toward God. Bill Wilson left the door open, saying, “It’s God as I understand Him,” but he was very explicit about who his God was. He was the God of our fathers and of the Lord Jesus Christ. We may start as agnostics. We may then come to view the group or recovery process as our higher power, looking to other people for strength. Gradually we accept a vague notion of god, which grows to a more specific monotheistic god. Eventually, we come to know the on true God.

If you are growing and searching for the true God, may we suggest the God of the Scriptures? Spending time reading Serenity and meditating on it can help you come to know this caring, loving, and merciful Father.

### RECOVERY MEDITATIONS

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

Mark 5:18-20

1 Corinthians 9:22-27

1 Corinthians 15:10

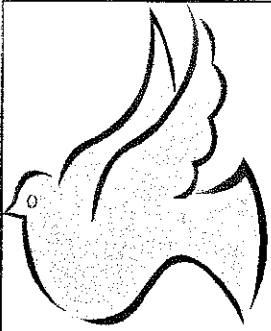
1 Timothy 1:12-16

Psalm 92:1-4

Psalm 96:1,2

Proverbs 31:26-31





### Confirmation

Is meeting on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am. 5/6 First year in the Chapel, 7/8 Second year in the old youth room!



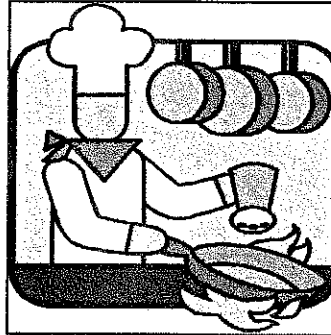
### YOUTH GROUP

Meets every Sunday morning at 9:30 in the Youth Room. Come have a lot of fun with our new leader, Ellie Bach.



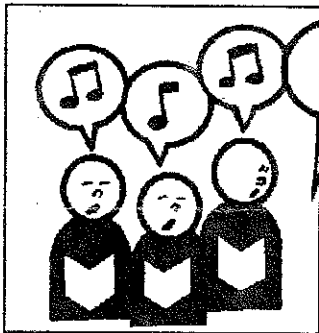
### STEPHEN MINISTERS

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



### Men's Breakfast

Saturday October 11th, 7:00 - 8:30AM in Fellowship Hall Invite A Friend!



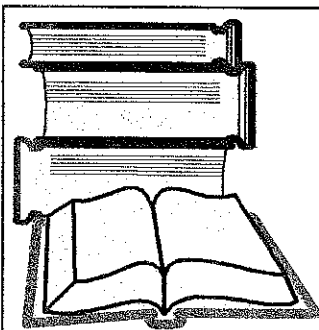
### YOUTH CHOIR

Meets every Wednesday right after school from 3:30-4:30 pm. Join us for a lot of praise & fun!



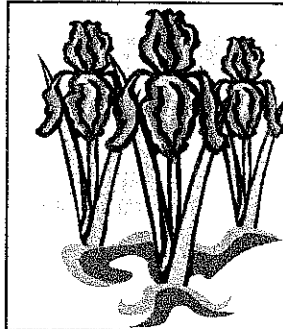
### Wednesday Morning Women's Bible Study

Meets every WEDNESDAY morning (new day) 9-10:30 AM Come water your faith seeds. We're studying Romans.



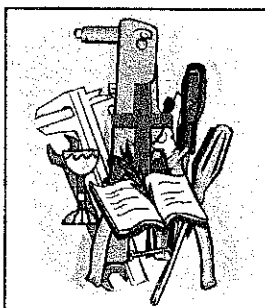
### Small Group Bible Studies

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



### LWML

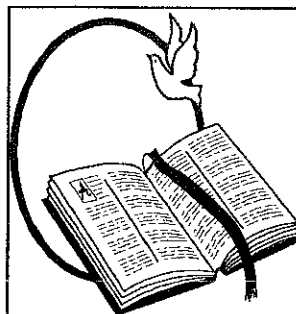
Our October meeting is Wednesday, October, 15th, 7:00 pm at Judy Anderson's home.



### 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 Sanctuary. 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](mailto: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.

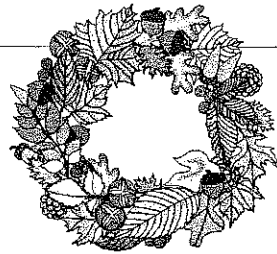
**Saturday Worship:** 5:30 PM

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

Concordia Lutheran Church  
755 Concordia Lane  
Steamboat Springs, CO 80487



**Oct 2003**

Concordia Lutheran Church **CHRISTOGRAM**



# October 2003



| Sun  | Mon  | Tue   | Wed  | Thu   | Fri  | Sat   |
|--|--|---|--|---|--|---|
|  |  |   | 1 Women's Bible Study<br>9 AM<br> | 2<br>Choir 6 PM<br>Bells 7PM                      | 3 Concert of Prayer<br>4:30-6:00 PM<br> | 4<br>Worship 5:30 PM  |
| 5 Worship - 8:00 AM<br>Educ Hr - 9:30 AM<br>Worship - 10:45 AM                                       | 6 Women's AA 7:00 PM<br>Crafts 7:00 PM                   | 7<br>Worship Comm 4:30 pm<br>Trustees 5:30 PM<br>O & A 5:15 PM<br>Elder's Meeting 6PM | 8 Women's Bible Study<br>9 AM  | 9<br>Choir 6 PM<br>Bells 7PM                      | 10   | 11 Men's Breakfast<br>7AM<br>Journey practice 10 -noon<br>Worship 5:30 PM |
| 12 Worship - 8:00 AM<br>Educ Hr - 9:30 AM<br>Worship - 10:45 AM                                      | 13 Women's AA 7 PM<br>Crafts 7:00 PM                     | 14 Church Council 7PM   | 15 Women's Bible Study<br>9 AM<br>LWML 7 PM<br>at the Andersons  | 16<br>Choir 6 PM<br>Bells 7PM                     | 17   | 18 Worship 5:30 PM<br><br>Crop Walk for<br>Hunger 10 AM                   |
| 19 LWML SUNDAY<br>Worship - 8:00 AM<br>Educ Hr - 9:30 AM<br>Worship - 10:45 AM                       | 20 Women's AA 7 PM<br>Crafts 7:00 PM<br><br>Sort Rummage | 21 Youth Board 6:00 PM<br><br>Sort Rummage  | 22 Women's Bible Study<br>9 AM<br><br>Sort Rummage   | 23<br>Choir 6 PM<br>Bells 7PM<br><br>Sort Rummage | 24<br><br>RUMMAGE<br>9 am - 5 pm   | 25 Worship 5:30 PM<br><br>SALE<br>9 am - noon                             |
| 26 REFORMATION<br>SUNDAY<br>Worship - 8:00 AM<br>Educ Hr - 9:30 AM<br>Worship - 10:45 AM<br>DWCC 1PM | 27<br>Women's AA 7:00 PM<br>Crafts 7:00 PM               | 28 Tools for Living 6PM<br>Board of Christian Ed 6 PM<br>VOTER'S MTG 7 PM             | 29 Women's Bible Study<br>9 AM   | 30<br>Choir 6 PM<br>Bells 7PM                     | 31<br><br>CONVERSATIONS<br>DENVER,   | OF GRACE<br>Colorado  |