

Christogram

Thoughts from the Pastor

July 2004
Volume 2, Issue 7

Special Interest Articles

- Ellie's concert coming July 18th
- VBS July 12th-16th
- Ongoing Ambassadors for Christ here July 20th.

Individual Highlights:

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For this reason I remind you to fan into flames the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.

2 Timothy 1:6-7

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

Throughout Scripture we are called to be servants of the Most High God. In humility and repentance, we are the children of God, here to be humble witnesses to the world of the love of God in Christ Jesus. But, how does that play out in our daily Christian lives?

In the beginning of St. Paul's second letter to the young pastor, Timothy, Paul gives encouragement to Timothy to do exactly that by remaining faithful and in doing so to **"not be ashamed to testify about our Lord"** (2 Timothy 1:8a). But, how? How does one witness and yet remain humble? How does one stand strong for the gospel and still be loving and caring? We find the answer in Paul's words from 2 Timothy as well as from the definition of a well known, but possibly misunderstood word.

Webster's New World College Dictionary defines "samurai" as follows: nominal form of *saburahu*, to be in attendance, to serve. 1. in feudal Japan, a member of a military class, consisting of the retainers of the daimyos: a samurai wore two swords and lived by the code of Bushido 2. later, used in English to designate a Japanese army officer or member of the military caste

In the root source of the word *samurai* we find what Paul is trying to get across to Timothy and to all children and servants of God. The samurai were servants of the Emperor. They always wore two swords, representing the strength and power with which they served and protected the Emperor. To the Emperor, they were humble, always repenting of their shortcomings in their service to the Emperor; but against the enemies of the Emperor, they wielded the strength and power that was theirs because of their gifts and their training.

Paul reminds us to **fan into flames the gift of God** which we know from other parts of Scripture is the salvation given **by grace through faith** and the divinely promised Holy Spirit which Paul says is a **spirit of power, of love**

and of self-discipline. To our heavenly Father, we are humble, always repenting of our shortcomings in our service to Him and to each other. Against the enemies of God, we wield the strength and power that is ours because of the gifts of God given to each of us and because of the training God gives us through the study of His Word and attendance to worship and participation in the Sacraments. Likewise, just as the samurai were never without their swords, so also we are never without that which is our weapon **the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God (Ephesians 6:17b)**. It is through the daily study of God's Word and the constant attention to repentance and prayer that we fan the gifts God has given us into the flames that empower and strengthen us. As we continue to live our Christian lives, as we continue to struggle with being faithful witnesses and loving servants, let us be encouraged as Timothy was, by knowing that God is our all in all.

In Christ's Service
Pastor Scott

Words from Ellie Bach



"For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love, and of self discipline."
1 Timothy 1:7

Hello again, friends:

I have some questions for you: how hard is it for you to stand up for the truth you believe in? Is it hard for you to approach a friend when you fear some of their behavior might be hurting themselves or others? When you see things going on that shouldn't be, is it easier to join in or to confront those participating? These are all questions I've had to face in my life at one point or another. As a child we have numerous opportunities to join the popular kids in making fun of others. As teenagers, we often fall prey to participating in things we know we shouldn't so as not to be considered "un-cool". And as adults, how many times do we find ourselves engaged in conversations that tear down rather than build up?

All of these things are challenging for me. My human nature and my sinfulness help me to fall into these traps over and over again. But this verse reminds me that this is not the way we were

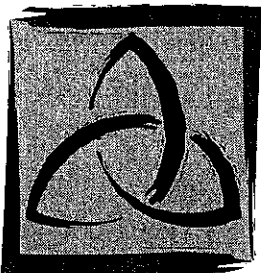
created. We were created with power—power to love, power to teach, power to uplift, and power to control ourselves with the help of the Holy Spirit. Those times when we find ourselves in a situation that calls for a difficult choice are not hopeless. No matter how strong the battle inside, we were given the power to fight and come out on top. When we find ourselves shrinking away from opportunities to speak to someone about the love we have inside, we can come back with confidence because we are not given "...a spirit of timidity, but of power, of love, and of self discipline." What great confidence that knowledge can inspire inside of us...if we let it.

My trouble with this is that I forget. I forget that I have inside me exactly what it takes to be Jesus in any situation I find myself in. Although we are sinful, and we'll never be perfect this side of heaven, we are called to try. God still requires perfection from us, and our goal should always be to act like Jesus. We don't have the option of just giving in since "we'll never be perfect anyway." We just need to remember two things: first, God has placed in us what we need to do what He asks of us.

Secondly, when we mess up anyway, God sees us through Jesus. And it is through Him that we are perfect in every way.

So this month, keep this verse in the back of your mind. When you're in those tricky situations, no matter how great the temptation, know that God is standing next to you fighting with you. He can help you choose the right decision if you let Him. And when you're talking with a friend and you feel that feeling in the pit of your stomach that says, "Don't say anything, just let it go because you probably won't have the right thing to say anyway." Stand up tall and know that the Spirit will speak through you, giving you the words to say. Speak to them not with a timid spirit, but with a spirit of power and love.

Walk this month in the confidence of God's presence.



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

Chariots of Fire

My elders report is a review of the movie "Chariots of Fire". A movie review is a strange topic for an elder's report, but this movie warrants the attention. If you haven't seen it recently or at all, I strongly encourage you to rent it (or borrow it from me).

"Chariots of Fire" is a true story that compares the lives of two British sprinters who ran in the early 1920's. The first, Harold Abrahams, is a Jewish student at Cambridge who uses his running as a weapon to combat anti-Semitism. The other, Eric Liddel, is the son of Scottish missionaries to China. Liddel intends to join his parents as a missionary to China, but first he wants to run. His goal in running is to bring glory to God and secondly bring attention to the mission work in China. He tells his sister, "*I believe God made me for a purpose, He also made me fast, and when I run I feel His pleasure*".

Liddel and Abrahams face each other in the 100 yard dash in a track meet in England. Liddel prevails, but Abrahams hires a coach to help him take Liddel on the next time. Both men

achieve a spot on the 1924 British Olympic track team. As they are boarding the ferry for France on their way to the Olympic Games in Paris, a reporter asks Eric about his chances against the Americans in the qualifying heat on Sunday. Liddel is stunned! He didn't know that the heat was scheduled for the Sabbath. He agonizes over the decision but ultimately informs the British Olympic Committee that he will not run on the Sabbath.

After the Olympics have started, but before the heat on Sunday, the British committee including the Prince of Wales tries to convince Eric to run. Eric stands firm and the meeting is at an impasse until Liddel's teammate Lord Lindsay, who has just placed 2nd in the high hurdles, offers Eric his spot in the 400 yard dash. Liddel agrees. Even though this is not the event he trained for, he wins the event setting a world record of 47.6 seconds.

Can you imagine training for a chance to win a gold medal in the Olympics for years, and then giving it up? At the time he made the decision, Liddel must have felt like he was giving up everything, the chance of a lifetime. The irony is that by giving up the race for the sake of

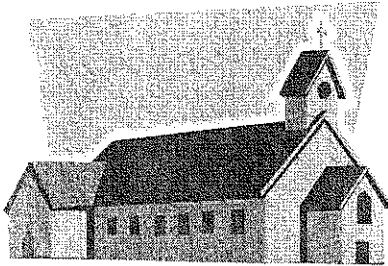
principle, God grants him a much more glorious victory. Had Liddel run the heat on Sunday, he may well have won the gold medal in the 100 yard dash, but few would remember the event decades later. Because Liddel refused to run on the Sabbath, his life is still testifying to the gospel 80 years later. Had Liddel run the heat on Sunday the movie would never have been made.

Eric Liddel went on to serve in mission field in China. He was captured by the Japanese during their occupation of China and died in the Japanese concentration camp Weihsien on February 21, 1945. Because he was a man of principle, his life is still encouraging Christians all over the world nearly 60 years after his death.

"For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it" - Mark 8:35

-Don Patterson





*\$50,000 Matching
Grant Established*

Words from our Stewardship Chair

Dear Concordia
Members,

In April of this year, a member of our congregation made the decision to step outside his/her comfort zone and offer a matching gift to our church in this time of opportunity.

Debbie & I were excited by this kind offer from a fellow member that was so kind. We have raised 50% of the matching gift's total amount to date. This is the last month, and it's crunch time, 4th down and long, we're down by 3 with 10 seconds left in game, it's the bottom of the ninth with 2 outs and nobody's on base, okay enough with the sports metaphors. At any rate, we're in the final days of this unique and kind opportunity from one of our own.

I would like to say praise God for all of you, and especially to the one offering of him/herself financially for the good of all. It kind of

reminds me of another story of someone that gave of himself for the good of us all. I can't say with any more conviction than I do now, that if every single one of us took the time to offer like the one among us has been moved to do, what a blessing that would be. I don't mean to say that it always has to be a financial offering, but all of us could learn from this that if we truly were to give from our heart and soul to Concordia, and to one another, what a truly wonderful and blessed place we'd be in. Can any of you imagine the Joy that giving of yourself to the limit of your own capabilities would do? It's a very powerful thing to ponder, and I want each and every one of us to do exactly that, ponder and prove to yourselves what you can do to the glory of God.

In closing, I challenge all of us to reach the goal that's been so freely given to

us in this last month of the campaign. It's not going to be easy, but if we have each participating member of our church step up to the plate, we can really accomplish great things. I figure that each of us needs to prayerfully consider this and call me directly to get an update of where we are, and how you can help us reach our goal. I can be reached at 879-2680 x214. So, let's get going and blow this goal of \$50,000 away, for you, me, our church, and most especially for GOD, and the work He wants us to do.

In Christ!

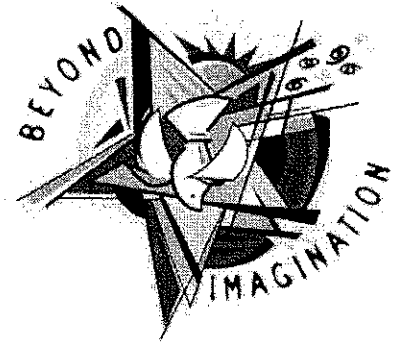
Hugh Scott

Stewardship Chair

July

Hello Youth!!

Well, this is the big month—We're going to Orlando!!!! I'm so excited for all the possibilities this trip holds. I have been praying for you and I know it will be great. We do not have any activities this month due to preparation for the trip as well as VBS and a few other things going on. But here are a few things you should keep in mind.



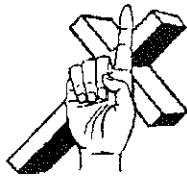
- The flamingo fundraiser is still going on. Be ready for random phone calls asking you to come help move them to another yard. We never know when we're going to get the phone call from the latest yard, so be flexible and ready to go at any time.
- We have one more Bible study to do before our trip, and that will take place on July 18th. This will also be the time that parents should come with any questions or concerns they have. It is super important that you be there for this meeting. It is the last time we will have together before we leave. If you cannot make it, BE SURE TO LET ME KNOW.
- Bible study is still taking place Sunday mornings. We have a guest leader—Paul Draper—for a few weeks while I teach adults. Be sure to check it out!

That is all for July. I hope and pray that you all are doing well. Whether you're going on the trip or not, you have all been in my prayers. God's blessings to you as you enjoy your summer!



Happy
4th of July!





Ongoing Ambassadors For Christ

Do the people around our church know Jesus as their Savior? We have a special chance to tell them of the Savior with the help of the Ongoing Ambassadors For Christ. These young people are trained in evangelism and canvass nearly once a month in their home areas. They will lead us in a canvass on July 20th beginning at 3:30p.m. You may accompany them as an observer or a "fellow speaker." You will find the experience great inspiration and boost to your faith. Call the office & let us know if you would like to go along. 879-0175

Host Families signing up to house team members.

If you would serve as a host family (provide a place to sleep and breakfast) for one of more of the Ambassadors, please sign up on the red sheet in the rear of the church.

Evening Meal plans.

At 6:00 pm we will have a shared-meal "potluck" for all members of the congregation & O AFC. Bring your favorite dish. This will be followed by an evening program beginning at 7:00p.m. where they will share about their witness of Jesus our Savior and their outreach ministry. All ages are encouraged to attend the evening sharing time. Plan to come and bring a friend!

A Time of

Sharing The Good News

- **Singing**
- **Drama/Puppets**
- **Personal Witnesses**
- **& More**

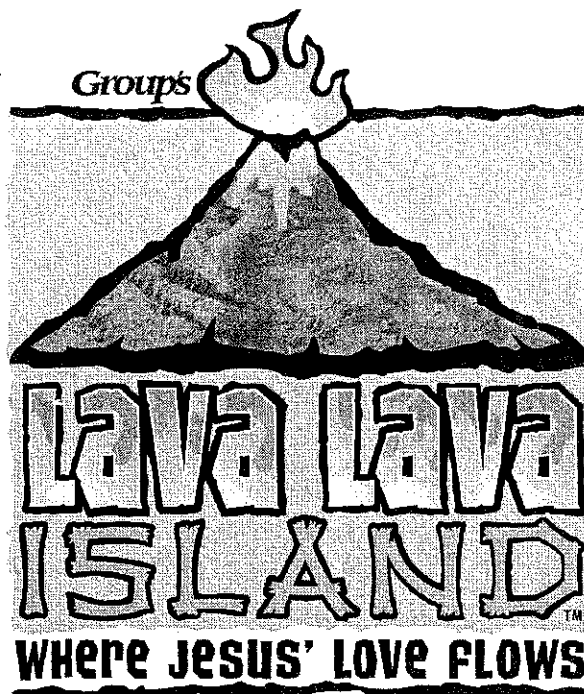
Come join us for
a fun, island time!



July 12th-16th
9:00AM-12:00PM

Call 879.0175 to
pre-register.

See you there!!



And a **HUGE** thank you to all
who took bananas off of our
supply tree. Your contributions
will help make this VBS great.

THANKS!!!!





Transformation Day...



Come join us on July 5th from 1:00pm-3:00pm and/or 5:00pm-7:00pm while we transform our church to Lava Lava Island.

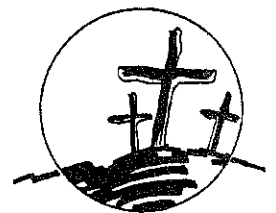




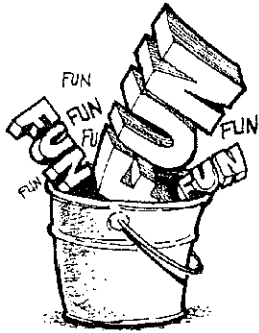
FREE

CONCERT

**Featuring three of Concordia's very own.
Sunday July 18th, 2004
Steamboat Christian Center
7:00pm
Refreshments following**



Fellowship Committee



Join us on the first Wednesday of each month through the summer. We will be enjoying the time prior to "Prayer & Praise" to dine and play some fun games. Looking forward to seeing many of you there. Our next get together is July 7th. Bring a salad or dessert to share.

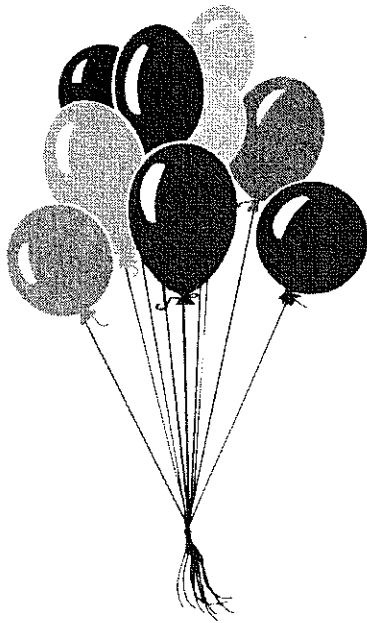
We are also planning a trip to Elitch Gardens in Denver sometime this summer. Watch for more details to follow.

In His Service, Paul & Vicki Draper

"PRAYER & PRAISE"



Join us on July 7th for a time to lift your hearts and voices in praise to God. Our theme this month is "FREEDOM". Come sing and pray with us on the first Wednesday of every month at 7 pm. This is an awesome opportunity to come together and support, encourage and lift one another up. A great time has been had by all who have attended the first 2. Just ask Jim (Schlaver) or Brian (Thornton). In fact, come watch Brian resurrect his hidden musical drumming ability. He's awesome and he has fun too.



July Birthdays

Jordan Anderson - 2nd
Skyler Nelson - 2nd
Sam Scully - 3rd
Gabriel Hart - 7th
Janis Herbert - 7th
Jade Hanson - 9th
Jake Huselton - 12th
Debbie Scott - 15th
Garrett Anderson - 20th
Jerad Bussell - 20th
Mary Beth Smith - 20th
Lucy Goldstein - 22nd
Spencer Roos - 23rd
Erik Svendsen - 28th

Baptisms

Kailee Duryea - 3rd
Ben Bradfield - 11th
Hannah McCreight - 16th
Gavin Scully - 16th
Gabriel Hart - 18th
Madison Knutson - 21st
Daniel Atkins - 23rd

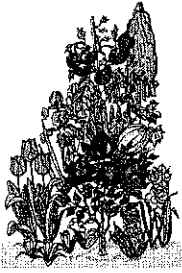


**Men's
Breakfast**
Saturday,
July 10th 7-8:15am
in the
fellowship hall.
Bring a friend!

ANNIVERSARY

Greg & Sherry Kammerer 24th

LWML (Women's Guild) News...



The final summer 2004 meeting of the LWML was held with the Annual Salad Supper. We will take a break until the September meeting when we will start a new year under the guidance of the newly elected officer: President: Lynn Worrell; Vice President: Dianne Weber; Secretary: Billee Harris; Treasurer: Tammy Ryan and Christian Growth Chairman: Sara Lindsay. Have a great Summer.

About Our Organization...

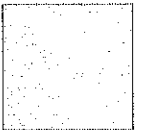
The Christogram is a monthly newsletter of Concordia Lutheran Church, Steamboat Springs, Colorado. Deadline for newsletter items is the third Sunday of each month. We welcome contributions of news items, art work, and other appropriate articles. You can email us your contribution at concordia@steamboatlutheran.org
Editors: Pastor Scott Herbert and Rebecca Duryea

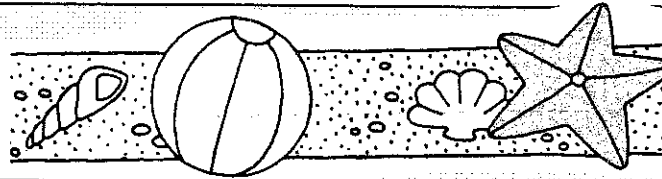
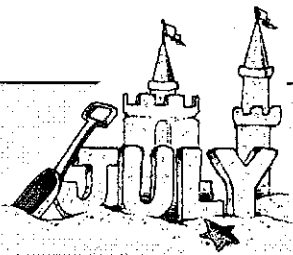
The Weekly Bulletin is printed on Thursday mornings. News items for the bulletin should be submitted by 9:00 am on Thursdays.

Saturday Worship: 5:30 PM

Summer Sunday Worship: 9:00 **Education Hour:** 10:15 AM

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH
755 CONCORDIA LANE
STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, CO 80487





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				6:00pm Handbell Choir	4:30pm Concert of Prayer	5:30pm Worship Service
JULY 4th						
9:00am Sunday Worship 10:15am Education Hour	1:00pm VBS Church Transformation Day 5:00pm VBS Church Transformation Day 6:00pm Elders 7:00pm Women's AA	4:30pm Worship Committee 6:00pm Board of Youth	5:45pm Fellowship 7:00pm Prayer & Praise		10:30am Pastors Prayer Meeting	7:00am Men's Breakfast 5:30pm Worship Service
9:00am Sunday Worship 10:15am Education Hour	7:00pm Women's AA	7:00pm Church Council	VBS		11:30am VBS Closing 12:30pm VBS Picnic	10:00am Journey Practice 5:30pm Worship Service
9:00am Sunday Worship 10:15am Education Hour 11:15am Last Orlando Gathering Meeting 7:00pm Free Concert (Steamboat Christian Center)	OFFICE CLOSED 7:00pm Women's AA	3:30pm OAFCCanvass Neighborhood 6:00pm OAFCCPotluck 7:00pm OAFCCPresentation		6:00pm Choir	Youth Group at Orlando Youth Gathering	
						5:30pm Worship Service
			Youth Group at Orlando Youth Gathering			
9:00am Sunday Worship 10:15am Education Hour 1:00pm DWCC	OFFICE CLOSED 7:00pm Women's AA	6:00pm Board of Education	7:00pm Prayer & Praise Practice			5:30pm Worship Service