



Christogram

September 2004
Volume 2, Issue 9

Thoughts from the Pastor

Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." Hebrews 13:5

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

In the long ago past, there was once a very rich man who was interviewed for an article and was asked how much is enough. His response, "Just one dollar more."

We find in his response an attitude that belies a lack of contentment with what we have, an attitude that sometimes haunts us in the church as well. Sometimes, we see what other churches are doing that we are not, what successes they have that we don't and we lose track of the blessings of God in our midst. The writer of the book of Hebrews deals with this by reminding us that God never leaves us lacking. No matter what temptation or sin plagues our lives, forgiveness is always greater. No matter what situation in life leaves us doubting, God never forsakes us. No matter what trials tempt us to leave God and venture out on our own, God never leaves us. In God's Word is the comfort and peace in knowing that our Lord is greater than anything the world throws at us and strength in knowing that He is with us always. As we begin a new school year, as we venture forward into the unknown of the future, let us always cling to God's promise "*Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you*" just as Jesus Himself promises "*I will be with you always to the very end of the age.*" God's blessings and peace to you all.

In Christ's Service

Pastor Scott



Words from Ellie Bach

"Never will I leave you. Never will I forsake you."

Hebrews 13:5b

Hello friends,

September, '04

Peace. That's what this verse means to me. When I lived in Wisconsin I had this on my license plates so that I would never forget this great promise. And I must thank God from the first time I read it, because it has helped me through some rough times.

As some of you know, my parents got divorced this past month after thirty some odd years of marriage. I was surprised at how hard this was for me to handle even at this age. I struggled a lot with things surrounding the divorce. And to be honest, I still have a hard time. But I cling to this promise above. I don't think this verse tells us that it will be easier. And I don't think it tells us that God will take our troubles away by His presence. But I am sure that it tells us one thing: We are never left alone to handle life. While God allows us to make our own choices, He does not require us to do it alone. And while things of this world may plague us at every turn, He has not left us to fend for ourselves. God is always at our side. This is the only thing, sometimes, that keeps me going from day to day.

I went home a few weeks ago for several reasons, one of which was to solidify in my mind the reality of the change in my family's life: I went to my old house and found it empty and hollow. It was hard to walk around in the place where I spent my entire childhood and know that nothing would ever be the same. I wandered up the stairs and around in the house, my mind flooding with memories...my heart breaking. It was one of the hardest things I've had to do in awhile. But while I was in those empty rooms crying, I knew someone had His arms around me. And when I left, I knew that despite the hurt, I was going to be okay--we were going to be okay.

Sometimes life is challenging. And sometimes life is wonderful. Out here I am blessed with a place of my own, people that care about me, and a job that gives me an opportunity to work for Jesus every day. I am so thankful. And what I love about this verse is that it not only comforts me when I'm struggling, but it also reminds me that I am not celebrating alone either. I can have a party with Jesus anytime I want!!! God is such a stud, and definitely the coolest guy I know! He not only cries with us, but He laughs with us. He dances with us. He celebrates with us because we're His kids. We serve a great God. And there is more love coming from Him than we will ever be able to imagine. This month I encourage you to remember that, no matter where you are, what you've done, or what you're going through, you have never been and never will be without that one of a kind love of God. Peace in your hearts,



Heavenly Father,

Thank You so much for the promise of Your love and Your presence. It is such a great comfort for us to know that we are never alone. Thank You for Your faithfulness. And thanks for being all we need. See you at the next party. In Jesus Name,

Amen

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

It's Time to Break Out

Growing up I used to make fun of the Catholic monks who never left their monasteries. My chief criticism was that they never came out to share their great faith in Christ.

If living godly in Christ Jesus simply means that we maintain morally clean lives, attend a place of worship and respect our boss at work then its no wonder that most Christians in America are not seen as being different. I know non believers who do not drink or smoke, seldom swear, visit the elderly and keep their cholesterol in check. If being polite, maintaining godly habits and going to church are our only witness then it is no wonder why the polite pagan world is noticing us less every year.

A monastery without walls possibly describes any Christian who leaves his church on Sunday, goes home and says nothing for Christ, then returns to church the following Sunday to rejoice in the Lord. Such Christians have extended their monastery without walls and keep a vow of silence about Jesus. If we do this then we deserve the evil that is coming to our country.

Living godly in Jesus is being salt and light. Is our salt getting into the meat grinder of society? If we hoard our holiness, keeping it inside the church, is it really holy? Are we godly if we maintain the rules of righteous living and don't make His righteousness known? Our light, our verbal testimony, has a greater effect in the darkness than a Sunday School the world ignores.

God doesn't want just our hearts, He already has that. He wants our feet.

It is fashionable in most churches to be busy. If we emphasize that our business is using our talents within the church to have a successful church program we increase the rate of spiritual death in our town for they care nothing about coming inside to view our programs. We need to have the confidence to go out and share Christ. God's voice can come from the pulpit from the pastor but it doesn't stop there. The reason, maybe, for no church growth is because we are participating in our own internal programs. Outreach, being salt and light, is a lifestyle not a program that fits into our calendar.

Whether it is Steamboat or Craig, Jesus wants to give us a new kind of joy as we step out of

the monastery and share what He has given us. May we diligently ask the Lord for opportunities to witness. May we walk outside of our monastery walls with grace and boldness as we let the power of the Holy Spirit lead others to Christ.

It is time to break out church. Time to pick up His cross. Paul says to Timothy in 2 Timothy 2:12 "If we suffer we shall reign with Him, if we deny Him he will also deny us." Please do not keep the glorious message inside our churches walls.

In His Service
Gene Carrell

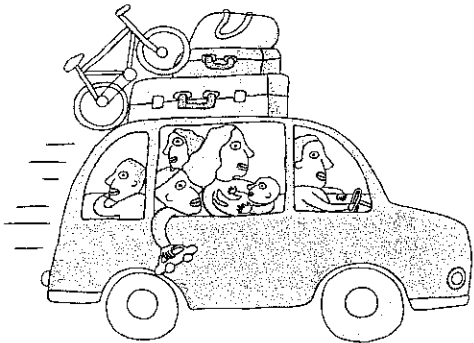


Sunday School Happenings

We're kicking off Sunday School on **September 12th**. We'll be *Cruisin' with Christ* this year and you won't want to miss the best road trip of your life – **an awesome journey of faith!!**

The adventure will start at 9:15 on the carpet in the fellowship hall. That'll be our starting point each Sunday afterwards as well. Bring your friends, your sisters, and brothers – the more the merrier - we want you riding along with us this year.

Any questions??? Call... Mary Beth Bradfield at 879-4181 or the church at 879-0175



COMMUNITY NEWS

Mount Olive Lutheran Church, Aurora, Colorado is celebrating its 40th Anniversary with a series of weekend worship services. These services will take place on Saturday evening at 5pm and Sunday morning at 8 and 10:45 am.

September 11-12: Commemorating the second decade (1974-1984) Rev. James Brockmann

October 2-3: Commemorating the third decade (1984-1994) Rev. Frank Winter

November 6-7: Commemorating the fourth decade (1994-2004)

Rev. Dr. Paul L. Maier

Seminar on Christianity & Archeology Saturday, Nov. 6 1-3:30 PM

We welcome you to join us in thanking and praising the Lord for "40 Years of Grace" by attending any of the above events. For future information see www.mtoliveluth.org or call 303.755.9123

LWML Guild News

Our FIRST GUILD MEETING will be at the home of Tammy Ryan, 27434 Brandon Circle – Heritage Park, on Tuesday September 21st at 7:00pm. Our theme for this year will be “A Woman after God’s Own Heart.” “A good work makes (the heart) glad.” Proverbs 12:25. We are excited about the Bible study we will be using and will be introducing it at our first meeting. We have books available for everyone attending our meetings. So, plan on attending, bring a friend and your “mite boxes”.

Start planning for our Annual Fall Rummage Sale on October 8th & 9th. We will be accepting donations two weeks prior to the sale and will be needing helpers to set up, sell and clean up. Sandra Hogrefe & Tammy Ryan have graciously offered to chair this important community service and fundraiser that helps support missions locally and world wide.

“Serve the Lord with Gladness”

We are planning to have “Concordia’s Taste of Christmas” to be held in early November. It will include the “Cookie Caper”, homemade Christmas food items, a brunch, and simple crafts that can be made in your home. We are looking for ladies to help us in all these areas. All proceeds go to support many important Christian missions worldwide. We really need your help and ideas. If everyone pitches in, as you have in the past, we will have another successful fundraiser. If you have questions call Billee Harris 879-0460.

LWML Sunday

This year we will be celebrating LWML Sunday on October 3rd at both services. The theme is “If the Truth Be Told”. We are looking for volunteers from our guild to serve at both services. Please contact Dianne Weber for more details and to volunteer @ 879-3863.



WALK IN THE WAY OF FAITH

Western Zone Fall Rally

September 11, 2004

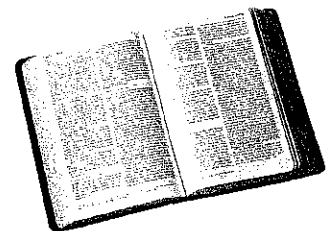
@Immanuel Lutheran Church in Paonia, CO.

Registration begins at 8:30am

\$5.00 (includes Lunch)

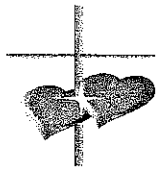
RSVP to Lynn Worrell at 879-3932

2Cor. 5:7 'Walk by Faith'



THE GATHERING RECIPIENT: Paonia Care and Rehabilitation Center.

Items needed: Small boxes of Kleenex, hand lotion, after shave for men, white socks for both men and women, hair brush, ball point pens, stamps, Birthday Cards.



"...Let your conversations be always full of grace..." Colossians 4:2-6

Conversation of Grace Encourages All Ages to Share the Good News

When we ponder the peace we have from knowing that our sins are forgiven, that our loving God will never forsake us, and that we have the promise of eternal salvation, one can't help but to want others to know this, too.

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, you can offer people this peace by sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ. For help, attend the "**Conversations of Grace**" personal evangelism conference, Oct. 29-30 2004, at the DoubleTree Hotel, 3202 Quebec (near Stapleton), in Denver.

Three internationally acclaimed speakers will be featured in plenary and workshop settings. **Rev. Dr. Paul Fynn**, president of the Ev. Lutheran Church of Ghana, will deliver the reformation service message. **Dr. Paul Mueller**, Director of the Oswald Hoffman School of Christian Outreach, will deliver the first keynote address on Friday night. **Rev. Larry Merino**, pastor of New Life Lutheran Church in Ft. Wayne will share his experiences as a past gypsy in sharing that no person is a "lost cause."

In addition to activities for the whole family, **15 workshops** will focus on increasing awareness, gaining knowledge, and building skills to improve your personal evangelism efforts.

New for 2004, a collection of full day preconference seminars are being offered on Friday, Oct. 29. The seminars include: Daughter Church Planting, How to Turn Your Church Around, Personal Witnessing Seminar – Witnessing to Mormons, Visitor and New Member Assimilation, African Immigrant Ministry Seminar and Mission Planter Coach's Seminar.

Consider attending with another person or group to give added momentum to implementing the strategies you learn once you return home. For every 10 from one congregation, an 11th can attend for free. Registration fees include lunch and are: Adults \$39, Youth \$19, Children \$9, under 3 – free, and Families \$89. Preconference only is \$19 and combined registrations \$49. For registration information, speak with your Pastor, church office, or visit the Web site www.conversationsofgrace.org.

Lodging at the DoubleTree Hotel, 3203 Quebec, is \$54/night plus tax for up to four people in a room if reserved by Oct. 14. Mention Conversations of Grace Conference to receive this special rate. Call (800) 222-8733 or (303)321-3333.

WORKSHOPS

SW - Assimilating Visitors and New Members *Workshop Sessions 2,3*
Sandy Wendelin, Director of Assimilation and Small Groups
Bethlehem Lutheran Church Lakewood, CO

CR - Backyard Missions: Sharing Christ *Workshop Sessions 3,4*
In Daily Life
Cathy Rossilli
Immanuel Lutheran Church Rifle, CO

HP - Discovering the Holy Spirit's Story *Workshop Sessions 3 and 4*
in Your Life
Rev. Howard Patton
President Emeritus, Kansas District-LCMS Angel Fire, NM

EK -How to Turn Around Your Church *Workshop Sessions 2,3*
Rev. Ed Krueger
Assistant to the President – Mission, CA-NV-HA District-LCMS Livermore, CA

September

YOUTH NEWS

Hello Youth!!!

Well, here we go again on another year. I am excited and ready to get this new school year started. A HUGE welcome to our new class of freshmen! We hope to see you soon.

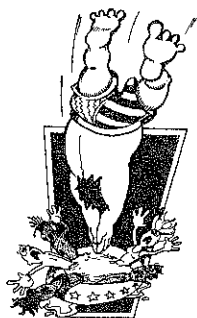
Before we get to the schedule for this month, I wanted to fill you in on a few details. In case you were wondering, you enter the Sr. High youth group when you become a freshman in high school. It used to be when you are confirmed; but since we are moving the age of confirmation down, we're changing it up a little. But, if you are already confirmed, have NO FEAR. You will not be required to sit through confirmation classes again on Sunday Mornings. We are creating a youth group just for you! This year the Jr. High group on Sunday mornings will just be the 8th graders. Debbie Trefethen-Cordova has agreed to teach you guys this year, and you are headed for a great time. Next year, the Jr. High will be 7th and 8th, and the year following will be 6th-8th. But watch your mail and the bulletins. Sometimes I include all three grades for the activities so you can get a head start on getting to know each other. So please come and check out all that's going on. We want these youth groups to be YOUR youth group. But we can't do that if we don't see your smiling faces. ☺

On to the Schedule:

September 19th YOUTH KICK OFF PARTY!!!



Susan Peterson has offered to host our group for the best party all summer. There will be food, games, swimming, and a ton of fun. So mark this date on your calendar and watch your mail for more details. See you there!

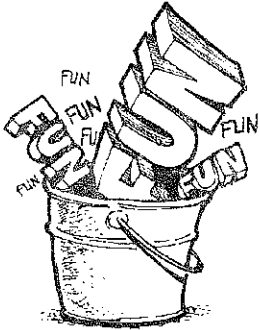


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Don't forget—every Sunday morning we meet in the youth room for Bible study. It's a great opportunity to hang out and talk about the stuff that's important to you.

Remember, my door is always open. And I'd love to come check out the sports and activities you do at school—so feel free to drop off a schedule and I'll do my best to come see you. God's blessings to all of you this school year. You'll do great!!

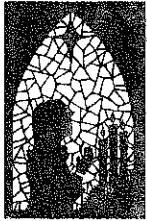
Fellowship Committee



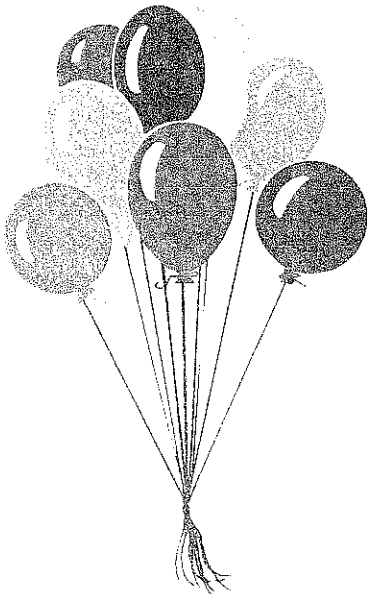
Join us on the first Wednesday of each month. We will be enjoying the time prior to "Prayer & Praise" to dine. Looking forward to seeing many of you there. Our next get together is September 1st. Bring a salad or dessert to share.

In His Service,
Paul & Vicki Draper

"PRAYER & PRAISE"



Join us on September 1st for a time to lift your hearts and voices in praise to God. Our theme this month is "Stillness". 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.



August Birthdays

Sher Scheiwe - 6th
Katie Truong - 13th
Savannah Atkins - 15th
Justin DelValle - 15th
Wyatt Reynolds - 15th
Gary Nelson - 18th
Whitney Koch - 27th
Madison Truong - 30th

Baptisms

Kyle Kounovsky - 5th
Will McConnell - 20th



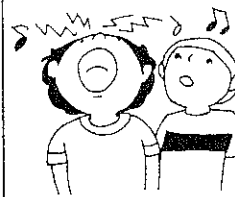
**Men's
Breakfast**
Saturday,
September 11th
7-8:15am in the
fellowship hall.
Bring a friend!

NEWS

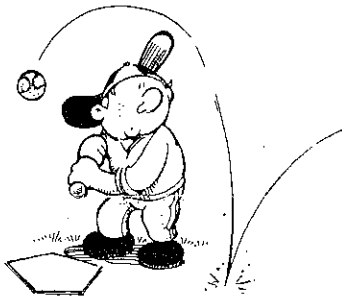


Kid's Praise is starting up again!!

If you're in 1st through 8th grade, come and sing with us every Wednesday after school from 3:30-4:30pm. We'd love to have ya!



Concordia's Adult Choir will begin rehearsal on Thursday evenings at 6:00pm beginning September 9th. Come sing the praises of the Lord with us!



A huge THANK YOU and a great big GOOD JOB to all those that were on the softball team this summer. We had a great time. See you next season!

ANNOUNCING OUR FIRST ANNUAL ALL SAINTS DAY PARTY!!!

On October 31st from 6:00-8:00pm we will be having a huge party in our fellowship hall. Equipped with Sloppy Joe's, games, prizes, a piñata, and of course lots of candy, families will be able to spend a fun filled evening together—out of the snow we inevitably get every year! Watch your mail for more information on how you can help and be a part of this great activity.



There's lots going on here at Concordia...GET INVOLVED!! We'd love to see your smiling faces. God bless!

CONCORDIA HANDBELL CHOIR Begins Thursday September 2nd at 7:00pm. Come praise God through music. If you're interested in joining talk to Rebecca.



Basketball season is upon us! Concordia will be having a co-ed basketball team again this year. If you're interested in playing, contact Hugh Scott. 9-7371

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. Church Office: 970-879-0175 Fax: 970-871-0190

Saturday Worship: 5:30 PM

Summer Sunday Worship: 8:00 & 10:45 AM **Education Hour:** 9:15 AM

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH
755 CONCORDIA LANE
STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, CO 80487



Jesus Lives For:

September 2004



September 2004						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
5	6	7	1	2	3	4
12	13	14	8	9	10	11
19	20	21	15	16	17	18
26	27	28	22	23	24	25
			29	30		

October 2004						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
3	4	5	6	7	1	2
10	11	12	13	14	8	9
17	18	19	20	21	15	16
24	25	26	27	28	22	23
31					29	30

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			September 1	2	3	4
			5:45pm Fellowship 7:00pm Prayer & Praise 	7:00pm Handbell Choir 	4:30pm Concert of Prayer 	5:30pm Worship Service
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8:00am Worship Service 9:15am Education Hour 10:45am Worship Service	OFFICE CLOSED 7:00pm Women's AA	4:30pm Worship Committee		7:00pm Handbell Choir	10:30am Pastors Prayer Meeting	7:00am Men's Breakfast 10:00am Journey Practice 5:30pm Worship Service
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
8:00am Worship Service 9:15am Education Hour 10:45am Worship Service 4:00pm Elinor Bach's Installation Service 5:00pm Potluck	6:00pm Elders 7:00pm Women's AA	7:00pm Church Council	3:30pm Kid's Choir 	6:00pm Adult Choir Practice 7:00pm Handbell Choir		5:30pm Worship Service
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
8:00am Worship Service 9:15am Education Hour 10:45am Worship Service 4:30pm Youth Kick Off Party @ Petersons	7:00pm Women's AA	6:00pm Board of Youth 7:00pm LWML@Tammy Ryan's	3:30pm Kid's Choir	6:00pm Adult Choir Practice 7:00pm Handbell Choir		5:30pm Worship Service
26	27	28	29	30		
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