



CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

755 Concordia Lane Steamboat Springs, Colorado 80487
970 879-0175

"Learning, Living, Sharing the Gospel"

July, 2008

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

"Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world..." Romans 12:2

As a little boy there was always one thing I wanted when we went to the State Fair of Texas. There was a booth every year that sold chameleons. They were cool because they could change colors. I thought this would be fun, and impress my friends. This, after all, wasn't like the other lizards we found in our neighborhood.

A chameleon is less than beautiful. They have a compressed body, a conical head, and bulging eyes which move independently of each other. They have long toes and a tail to grasp branches in trees. And they have a darting tongue which grabs insects for food.

The ability of a chameleon to change colors takes place inside its thick lizard skin. It works sort of like marbles in a jelly substance. Suppose you had yellow, black, and white marbles. If all the yellow ones came to the surface, they would hide the other two colors, and the surface would look yellow. Those roving eyes of a chameleon are sensitive to certain wavelengths of light and those signals cause their cells to react in their skin. In a similar way the chameleon reads and changes colors to match the background around it. Obviously, those color changes are limited, but they are amazing to see.

For us as God's children though, becoming like a chameleon can be unhealthy. We may find it easier to blend into the crowd rather than appearing as someone whose values and beliefs are different. But being squeezed into the mold of the majority isn't what we have been called to do. Jesus calls us to be the "light of the world" and a "city set on a hill that cannot be hidden." (Matthew 5:13-16) Discipleship means playing for the coach, not for the crowd. And that means that Christians will stand out against the backdrop of the world's colors.

That is not only true for us as individuals, but it's also true for us as the church. The church has been pulsating with life when it has been dissatisfied and restless with the world in which it lives. The church has been weak when it has become comfortable and cozy with the world around it.

You and I were not called to be a chameleon in the world. God calls us to be his children. Jesus tells us to follow him as disciples. And that walk will be on a different path than what the world values. That is truly living right side up in an upside down world. Henry David Thoreau wrote: "If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer. Let him step to the music that he hears, however measured or far away."

Our Lord has called to us to tune into his frequency...and walk in this world as his children. What could be more exciting? Representing God...and standing out, so that others can see it is awesome to be God's child.

Peace+
Pastor Dave



Happy June Birthdays

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 7-2 Linda White | 7-20 Mary Beth Smith |
| 7-4 Greg Fritz | 7-27 Debbie Wolf |
| 7-7 Jeanne Willman | 7-27 Andy Hogrefe |
| 7-9 Jade Hanson | 7-27 Leon Vandahl |
| 7-10 Sherri McKnight | 7-28 Erik Svendsen |
| 7-14 Elaina Vande Velde | 7-28 Lara Craig |
| 7-15 Debbie Scott | |
| 7-20 Garrett Anderson | |

Happy July Anniversary

| |
|-----------------------------|
| 7-8 Chris & Rebecca Duryea |
| 7-15 Joe & Lottie Turon |
| 7-24 Greg & Sherry Kammerer |
| 7-29 Greg & Jan Fritz |
| 7-29 Brad & Lara Craig |





Concordia's Dinner Belles

Are you tired of making the same old dinners? Do rising grocery bills put a frown on your face?... Would you like to meet and enjoy Christian fellowship with others and have fun while putting together meals for yourself and your family?...

Have meals on hand already prepared for those busy times, or you can even share and bring one to someone who is recovering from illness, injury, or celebrating the birth of their baby!

It's Simple.....Our easy-to-follow recipes are displayed at our prep stations and all the ingredients are ready. After 2 hours, you'll head home with delicious meals ready for cooking when you want them and the cooking instruction are included!

Go to our website: www.steamboatlutheran.org and click on the "Ministries" button for more information. If you have any questions, please speak with Clare Tarcha or Sherri McKnight.

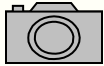
Concordia Members' Corner.....

Men's Bible Breakfast is July 12th at 7am at the Egg & I. Join us for fellowship, study and food.

No Stewardship Meeting in July. The next meeting will be in August.

Worship in the Park

Sunday, August 24th - 10am (one service)
Bring your lawn chairs or blanket and enjoy music by our praise team and worship service with Pastor Dave in "Library Park" (13th & Lincoln)



Church Pictorial Directory

Mark your calendars for October 3rd & 4th!
Olan Mills will be taking pictures for our new church directory!

Vacation Bible School Beach Party Surfin' Through the Scriptures



Mark Your Calendars
July 14th - July 17th
9am until Noon

Preschool 4 through 5th Grade

*We are looking for VBS teachers & volunteers
Call the Church office if you can help!

Heavenly Hikers

We will be hiking a 14K - leaving Concordia on August 10th and returning on August 11th. The location is to be determined so look for more details, or call Kris Tratiak at 879-1510



2008 American Cancer Society Relay for Life

Last year Concordia Lutheran Church's participation in the Relay For Life Event was outstanding. Participate in this year's event and make a difference for others and your community!

Join one of the Concordia Teams by going to: www.steamboatrelayforlife.com
(or speak with Marv Lindsey)

Event dates: August 8th & 9th, 2008
Steamboat Springs High School Athletic Field

The New Website

The address is: www.steamboatlutheran.org



Missed a Sunday? Do you want to hear the sermon? You can click on the sermon section and choose the audio sermon and listen to it at your computer! Also, find the latest news and events and the calendar which will keep you up-to-date on meetings and happenings!