



CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

"Learning, Living, Sharing the Gospel"

March, 2011

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Addiction may be the spiritual disease of our time. It includes chemical dependencies, but it also includes so much more. We buy objects that require us to buy more objects. We make some money and then ratchet up our lifestyle so we need more income just to sustain us. The harder we work, the more work there is to do. The harder we play, the more fun becomes elusive. Yesterday's thrill is today's old news. We always need more.

One of the hallmarks of addiction is building up a "tolerance" – which is the experience of requiring an ever-increasing amount of something in order to be satisfied. That's easily recognizable with drugs and alcohol. But it's harder to spot for those of us who are compulsive about work, food, approval, ministry, possessions, intimacy, security, or any of a number of other socially acceptable addictions.

Addiction is a spiritual issue...and we are all addicted to a variety of substances, behaviors, and thought patterns. Our search for satisfaction and significance cannot be quenched because the things we are addicted to can never stop the longing for more or the search for answers to our struggles.

A section in Haggai seems so current that it is hard to believe it was written over 2,500 years ago. The Israelites had returned from their Babylonian captivity to find the temple in ruins. They intended to rebuild it...but first they had their own places to fix and their own fields to replant. When those things were taken care of...then they would get started on the Temple.

Through the prophet Haggai God asks: *"Is it a time for you yourselves to be living in your paneled houses, while this house remains in a ruin?...Give careful thought to your ways. You have planted much, but have harvested little. You eat, but never have enough. You drink, but never have your fill. You put on clothes, but are not warm. You earn wages, only to put them in a purse with holes in it...Why?...Because of My House which remains a ruin while each of you is busy with his own house."* Haggai 1:4-6, 9 (NIV)

Work that is unproductive, food and drink that don't fill or quench, money that doesn't last, substances that no longer bring the high or mask the pain all indicate– to quote a rock and roll song – that we, like the Israelites, "can't get no satisfaction". God tells them that life is filled with diminishing returns because they have neglected the temple. The only way for them to enjoy the productive, satisfying existence God intends for them is to spend time in that holy place once more. The same thing can be important for us as we look to find satisfaction and significance in our lives to today.

On one level...it is truly a call to make sure that we gather faithfully in worship. In worship we encounter God's Word for instruction and encouragement. In worship we are nourished by the Sacraments. In worship, we gather before the cross of Christ on equal footing. We see God's love and forgiveness demonstrated toward us, and we are empowered to share the love we have first freely received from God.

On another level...in the New Testament Paul writes: *"Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body."* 1 Corinthians 6:19-20. Satisfaction cannot be found by feeding our addictions. Satisfaction, and a life of significance, can only be found when we each spend intentional time with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ who is "The Bread of Life" and "The Living Water." And we need that time with our Savior every day. Only life with Christ can bring fullness, wellness, wholeness, security, and satisfaction.

Peace+
Pastor Dave



Happy Birthdays

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3-1 Jim Schlaver
3-1 Samuel Schumacher
3-2 Monica Hillmer
3-3 Marty Boomgarden
3-7 Doug Smith
3-9 Gene Carrell
3-11 Hannah McCreight
3-14 Dianne Weber
3-17 Jake Weber

3-22 Mette Smith
3-20 Matthia Duryea
3-23 Grace Olinger
3-23 Katelyn Olinger
3-25 Deb Nelson
3-25 Nancy Kounovsky
3-27 Bette Rinck-Vandahl
3-28 Ava Ford
3-28 Bonnie Baggenstoss
3-29 Sarah Kammerer

3-29 Wendy McConnell
3-30 Lance Andrews
3-30 Donna Wentzel
3-30 Michael Williams

Happy Anniversary

3/11 Joel & Clare Tarcha
3/12 Clint & Nina Hanson
3/12 Dave & Joni Moss
3/14 Donna & Cy Starbuck
3/14 Keith & Shirley Zuehlke

Lent & Easter 2011

◇ Soup Suppers:	3/9, 3/16, 3/23, 3/30, 4/6, 4/13	5:30 - 6:30 pm
◇ Lent Worship Services	3/9, 3/16, 3/23, 3/30, 4/6, 4/13	7pm
◇ Palm Sunday	4/17	8 & 10:30 am
◇ Maundy Thursday	4/21 (Communion)	7pm
◇ Good Friday	4/22	7pm
◇ Easter Sunday	4/24 (Communion)	6:30am
◇ Easter Sunday	4/24	8am & 10:30am
◇ Easter Breakfast	4/24	7:30am - 10:00am

Mission Trip Opportunity

Concordia's Adult Mission Team is sponsoring a mission trip to Navajo Ministries in Farmington, NM from June 25th through July 2nd, 2011. The mission work will be light construction & maintenance and we will also be teaching VBS at a Navajo church on the reservation. All Concordia members are invited to join in. If you are interested, please sign up in the back of the church or contact Ron Wentzel at 846-5190.



Concordia Members' Corner.....

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

Thrivent Burrito Breakfast sponsored by the Sr. High youth will be on March 20th between services. Free will offering will be collected and will help with the 2011 Mission trips.

Concordia Women's Retreat

Attention all Concordia Women... last chance! We are going to the Fish and Cross Ranch in Yampa. We will be arriving at the ranch on Friday, March 25th around 4:00 and leaving Saturday, March 26th around 5pm. If you can't stay overnight but would like to join us for the day, please let us know and we will make arrangements for that.

We encourage all women to join us for this fun, spiritual, and uplifting event. We hope you can join us!

Celebrate Recovery ...

...Helping People with Hurts, Habits, and Hang-ups FIND HOPE!

Join us each Thursday Evening at 6:15pm in the church basement.

Concordia's 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!