



# CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

755 Concordia Lane Steamboat Springs, Colorado 80487  
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October, 2017

*"Learning, Living, Sharing the Gospel"*

Dear Concordia,

Two experiences draw together for my thoughts here. The first is our congregation's reading of Galatians throughout this month. I hope you're reading along with us, using Luther's 1535 Galatian commentary as a way to engage the text.

The second is our congregation's support of the Yampa Valley Men's Bible Study hosted here on Thursdays each week. We are studying and applying the wondrous OT teaching of Daniel. You are always invited and can join with us at any time.

How are these related? Both Daniel and Galatians proclaim the Kingdom of God. Both explore the stunning beauty of the King – Jesus – and how to enter His Kingdom, enjoy its riches, proclaim its truth, embody its teaching, demonstrate its reality, and inherit its promises. Both recognize the Kingdom of God as the true Empire that stands against all other empires, allegiances, lords and kings, presidents and prime ministers, bureaucrats and tyrants.

This is the Gospel of the King and His Kingdom!

Interestingly, Paul marvels that the Galatians can even consider another so-called "gospel." Last Sunday, I asked if there even is another gospel than the Gospel of King Jesus. While the answer should be "no," the truth is that there are other gospels running amok in the world today, even in North America.

I offered two examples. First, there is the widely proclaimed and much-love "gospel of libertinism." The main message of this fake gospel is, "You are welcome in God's kingdom, and you don't have to change." At the heart of this gospel, from which many versions take form, is placing worldly and cultural desires over and above the Word of God. Not much of a gospel!

Secondly, there is the "gospel of legalism." The main message here is, "You are not welcome in the kingdom unless you change." At the heart of this gospel is placing the strength and capabilities of the human being over and above the Word of God. Again, not much of a gospel!

From this perspective, what is the Gospel? The Gospel of the Kingdom announces, "I welcome you into My Kingdom, and as a result, you will be changed." At the heart of this Gospel is the work of Jesus the Christ as our Redeemer and Savior linked to the teaching of Jesus the Christ our Master and Teacher. We are brought into the Kingdom by grace; we are sustained in the Kingdom through the Spirit working through Word and Sacrament in the congregation.

In truth, this is the purpose of Confirmation, learning and applying the work of God in and through Baptism. At the end of this month, when we gather on October 29<sup>th</sup>, I will introduce the seven confirmands to you. They are discovering their place in the Kingdom of Jesus. I hope you'll get to know them, pray for them, and, as you can, encourage them in their faith-journey.

Luv ya'!

Pastor Craig

## Happy October Birthdays

10-6 Jan Fritz	10-22 Bob Harris
10-8 Lynn Jones	10-22 Lexi VandenBurg
10-8 Charlyn Vance	10-25 Dean Duryea
10-16 Barb Illenberger	10-29 Ruth Moon
10-16 Zach Holm	

## Happy October Anniversaries

10-1 Don & Judy Sherrod
10-12 Rosemarie Idler & Eric Armbrust
10-24 George & Janis Noyer
10-24 Randy & Mary Kelley



Concordia Members' Corner.....

Women's Fellowship: 10/2 at Aurum 5pm.

Men's Bible Breakfast is October 14th at 7am at the Egg & I. Join us for fellowship, study and food.

October 14th: Dr. Matthew Phillips will be at Concordia 9am-noon teaching about Martin Luther and history of the Great Reformation. Lunch will be served after so please sign up on the entryway table.

S.I.S. Rummage Sale October 27th & 28th.

Congregational Voter's Meeting: It is important for you to participate on Sunday, October 29th after the combined service. We will have election of officers for 2018 and some other brief business.

Christmas Bazaar: Saturday, November 18th Crafters, Cookie Bakers, Specialty Item Makers... we need you!

Men's Fellowship: The men get together the 4th Monday of the month at 5pm at Dude & Dan's. October's date is Monday, 10/23.

Combined Service: Mark your calendars for 10/29! This is a 5th Sunday in October and we will have one service at 10am, a brief voter's meeting and lunch following.

**ONE SERVICE & POTLUCK**

On Sunday, October 29th it is a 5th Sunday of the month and we will have **ONE COMBINED/BLENDED** service and lunch following service.

**When: 10/29**

**Study Time: 9am Adult Bible Study**

**Service Time: 10am Blended Service**

**Voter's Meeting after service and then a Potluck lunch.**

**Last names A-C** (bring a dessert) **D-H** (bring a side dish) and **I-Z** (bring a casserole or main dish).

*\*There will be no Children's Sunday School during this special service but there will be nursery available.*



**Operation Christmas Child**

**CONCORDIA'S CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES**

**Pack Your Boxes...**Start now by collecting materials for your children's Christmas boxes. Collection week is 11/12-11/19.

**S.I.S.**

**Fall Rummage Sale: 10/27 & 10/28**

**Rummage Sorting: 10/23 through 10/26** come daytime or evenings, from 6pm-around 7:30pm. All help is welcome!

**Christmas Bazaar : 11/18** We need cookie bakers, craft makers and helpers... Please consider serving!

**Christmas Cookie Baking Days: Monday, 10/30, Thursday, 11/2, Monday, 11/6, Friday, 11/10, Monday 11/13 and Wednesday 11/15.** Gingerbread Men baking on 11/14. We start around 10am!

**Concordia's Website .....**

**The address is: [www.steamboatlutheran.org](http://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!**