



Concordia Lutheran Church

"Learning, Living, Sharing the Gospel"

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Easter Greetings to you and your family!

Christ is risen ... He is risen indeed!!

Consider the story of Florence Chadwick (1918 – 1994). The daughter of a San Diego policeman, she began competing as a swimmer at the age of six. When she was eleven, she won first place in a six-mile rough water race across the San Diego Bay Channel. For the next 19 years, she continued as a competitive swimmer, winning many distance and endurance events.

On July 4, 1952, at the age of 34, Chadwick attempted to become the first woman to swim 21 miles across the Catalina Channel, from Catalina Island to Palos Verde on the California coast. With unfavorable weather, cold water, and thick fog she was hardly able to see the support boats that followed her. Sharks prowled around her, forcing the support crew to shoot at them. While Americans watched on television, she swam for hours. Everyone encouraged her to keep going. However, after 15 hours and 55 minutes, with only a half mile to go, she asked to be taken out of the water.

Afterwards, when asked, she commented: "Look, I'm not excusing myself, but if I could have seen land, I know I could have made it." The fog had made her unable to see land, and it had felt to her like she was getting nowhere. She was so close but gave up because she could not "see" the goal. She lost hope.

With all the uncertainty and confusion in our world today, Christians can also give up because we cannot "see" the goal. The Resurrection of our Lord Jesus establishes the clear goal: New Creation. *"I am making all things new,"* says the Voice from the Throne. This begins in our baptism, continues in our daily application of God's Word, and motivates us toward the New Heavens and the New Earth. Let us not give up or give in.

The Scripture agrees: "Not that I have already obtained this goal or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:12-14).

In the coming weeks, we will consider the "goal." We usually just call it "heaven," thinking we have some idea of what this means. We will explore this important topic, discovering the wonder of what the Resurrected Jesus has prepared for us, taking notice of how this impacts our lives in the world today. Hope to see you soon!

Luv' ya!
Pastor Craig

Happy April Birthdays

04/13 John Wharton VI

04/21 Mary Beth Bradfield

04/26 Jakob Riemenschneider

04/29 Shannon Smith

04/30 Geri Bateman

04/30 Beth Watson

The CHOSEN SEASON ONE



For the first time ever, the greatest story ever told is being presented as a multi-season show. Digging deeper into the backstories and context of the people and events of the gospels, *Season One* of the #1 highest crowd-funded media project of all time introduces you to people such as Simon Peter, Nicodemus, Mary Magdalene, Matthew, and of course Jesus in a way never before seen on film. You can watch on [YouTube](#) or you can download the app “The Chosen: Jesus TV Series” and watch from the app.

RUMMAGE SALE

**IT'S FINALLY TIME TO
CLEAN OUT THOSE CLOSETS!!**

**The Spring Rummage Sale IS HAPPENING
this year!**

Friday, May 14th and Saturday, May 15th.

**Please bring your rummage sale items
the week before May 3rd - May 7th.**

*Join Pastor Craig and Sheryl,
reading the Scriptures each day
throughout the month of April.*

April 7 - Luke 24

April 8 - Mark 16

April 9 - Jonah 1

April 10 - Jonah 2

April 11 - Jonah 3

April 12 - Ephesians 1

April 13 - Ephesians 2

April 14 - Ephesians 3

April 15 - Ephesians 4

April 16 - Ephesians 5

April 17 - Ephesians 6