



# Concordia Lutheran Church

*"Learning, Living, Sharing the Gospel"*

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Blessings to you, dearest brothers, and sisters in the Lord!

Over the past month – maybe a little longer – the Sunday Adult Bible Study has been reading and discussing Philipians. We have worked our way through the first two chapters. What have we discovered?

The Apostle Paul opens this meaningful letter to a congregation he had helped to start some years earlier with a prayer:

*"It is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God" (1:9-11).*

Paul prays for our love to "abound;" for our knowledge and discernment to increase; for our ability to identify what is excellent to improve; all so that we can be "filled with the fruit of righteousness" that comes through Jesus. In other words, the Holy Spirit wants us to live like redeemed human beings!

After writing about the advance of the Gospel in the congregation and larger community, Paul encourages the Christians to live in keeping with the Gospel:

*"Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, and not frightened in anything by your opponents" (1:27-28).*

Notice that the "manner of worthy life" for the Christ-believers is that we are standing united, striving together "side by side" for the Gospel of Christ, not being intimidated and frightened by our opponents. This unity and harmony in the Christian community is a necessary indicator of the work of the Holy Spirit among us ... and a necessity in the increasingly hostile world in which we live.

What Paul is advocating for Christian communities is that we do the work and put in the effort to find our way forward with a common awareness and understanding of the issues, the possible solutions, and the way we will work and act together to achieve our goal(s). This is, sometimes, difficult to accomplish. There are so many opinions in today's unsettled world. This is no different that the first century when Paul was writing. That is why his counsel and encouragement is just as meaningful today as it has always been.

This is a summary of Philipians 1. Let me encourage you to go read Philipians 2.

Luv ya'!

Pastor Craig

## Happy September Birthdays

09/03 Cole Moon

09/21 Raylene Olinger

09/07 Brian Thornton

09/26 Ann Gilbertson

09/30 Wendy Ward

09/14 Albert Deepe

09/29 Cindy Svendsen

## Happy September Anniversaries

09/06 Jake & Diane Weber

09/08 Doug & Mary Beth Bradfield

09/11 Michael & Dawn Moon

09/20 Tim & Wendy McConnell

09/26 Pastor Craig & Sheryl Henningfield

09/28 Rod & Raylene Olinger

09/29 Bert & Cindy Svendsen



### STAIR LIFT INFORMATION

Our church is in need of a Stair Lift to enable ALL individuals access to the lower level of our church. Besides the proposed fund-raiser, another opportunity is available to members of Thrivent. Thrivent Choice is a charitable grant program. If you are a member of Thrivent, please consider the following to determine if you are eligible to Direct Choice Dollars to Concordia Lutheran Church for our Stair Lift Fund. Phoning is very straightforward, helpful and quick.

#### Thrivent Members:

How to Direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars to Concordia Lutheran Church, Steamboat Springs, CO - Stair Lift Fund

#### Follow these steps:

TO DIRECT CHOICE DOLLARS BY PHONE:

1. Call 800-847-4836 and when prompted, say Thrivent Choice.
2. Or Press 6 to direct Choice Dollars (If prompted, say or enter your phone number and date of birth.)
3. A representative will assist you to direct Choice Dollars.
4. Please Direct your Choice Dollars to Concordia Lutheran Church, Steamboat Springs, CO 80477 (Mention Stair Lift Fund, if they ask for more information)

Thank you  
Your Parish Council

MICHAEL PAULISON

# UNSAFE

FOLLOWING GOD INTO THE UNEXPECTED

# FAITH



### Sisters in Spirit Fall Kick Off

Monday, September 20th at 5pm  
at Barb Illenberger's Home (125 Steamboat Blvd.)



When a flashlight grows dim or quits working, do you just throw it away? Of course not. You change the batteries.

When a person messes up or finds themselves in a dark place, do you cast them aside? Of course not. You help them change their batteries. Some need AA ... attention and affection; some need AAA ... attention, affection, and acceptance; some need C ... compassion; some need D ... direction.

And if they still don't seem to shine ... simply sit with them quietly and share your light.

### SAVE THE DATE! FALL RUMMAGE SALE

Friday, October 8th from 9am - 5pm  
and Saturday, October 9th from 9am - 12pm



Serving Opportunities @ Concordia  
Ushers  
Worship Computer

email: [concordia@steamboatlutheran.com](mailto:concordia@steamboatlutheran.com) for more info