

# Concordia News

## September 2009

A newsletter for members, families, and friends of Concordia Lutheran  
Church and Concordia Cemetery Association



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Summer greetings,

Summer is a time marked by a time of growth and hope. It is a privilege to walk outside without fear of the risk of frostbite.

Most of our ancestors survived only because a third of the year provided enough sun, heat and rainfall to produce crops.

Summer (including spring work and harvest) was not a time of kicking up one heels, but a nervous time where a farm family lived with the awareness that physical life depended on the outcome of the crops in the summer months. There was an awareness that survival depended on the weather and hard work.

This summer we have realized that many in our community are aware that their livelihood still counts on timely rains and sun based BTU's. The question for many is will the crops produce enough to cover at least the cost of production plus enough to cover living expenses. There is a reason Northern European folk songs are written in the minor key; life is marked by uncertainty.

The difficulty is, the youngest generation of Americans (called Generation Y) do not remember a time of national adversity or a financial recession. Their expectations of life have been one of optimism and hope for a steady upward progression of financial success. They have been attracted to churches that speak of opportunity and possibility based on the powers of positive thinking. Worship in these churches is marked not by hymns in the minor key but "Praise Songs" in the major key. Worship is defined by words like: celebration and praise. Lament and the Cross has been excluded. The legacy for many has been disillusionment and betrayal. They have been optimistic and yet God has "let down His side of the bargain" .

Luther, in contrast, held to a theology of the cross: life is hard, it is full of injustice and disappointment. Life, according to Luther's understanding, may be marked by adversity and defeat, but through the cross (the ultimate symbol of adversity and defeat) and resurrection, we as Christians have been given the gift of ultimate hope and victory.

Summer, then, with its diminishing hours and now, ever cooler temperatures, is not something to which we need to cling. Life is in Christ, the crucified yet resurrected one who has transcended diminishing sunlight and has ensured us a better life beyond this one.

Praise be to our resurrected Lord, Jesus Christ! *Pastor Bruce*



September 8, 2009  
1:30 PM

Bible leader: Group  
Lunch: Doris Kassenborg



### Fall Dinner

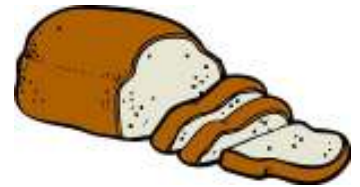
We are going to have a dinner in October. Please look in the October newsletter for more information

### Cookie Servers

September 6 Doris Kassenborg  
September 13 Sue Kassenborg  
September 20 Ella Swanson  
September 27 Sylvia Teigen



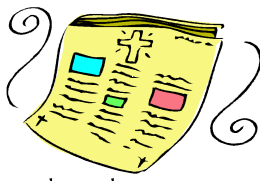
### Bread of Life Food Pantry



Your help is needed to fill the shelves for the food pantry in Felton.

### New Newsletter Editors!!!!

Karolynn Teigen-Decker and Sylvia Teigen will be the new Editors of the Concordia News, starting in October. You can still e-mail your articles or any other news to the e-mail address on the back of the newsletter, by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month. To mail something to them you can send it to:



Church News

Karolynn Teigen -Decker  
915 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. S.  
Moorhead, MN 56560

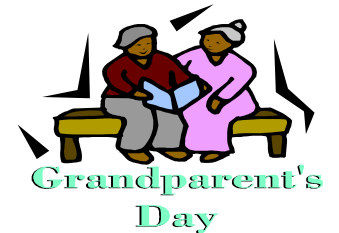
The most needed items are:

- 1. Ketchup
- 2. Canned goods
- 3. Deodorant
- 4. Toilet Paper
- 5. Bath soap

Please bring your donations to the church and put them in the boxes under the table in the narthex.

### GRANDPARENTS

Grandparents bestow upon their grandchildren The strength and wisdom that time And experience have given them.



Grandchildren bless their Grandparents With a youthful vitality and innocence That help them stay young at heart forever.

Together they create a chain of love Linking the past with the future. The chain may lengthen, But it will never part...

~Author Unknown

If you know of someone who is in the hospital or would like a home visit please let me know. I can be reached at 218-329-2245



Thank you! Pastor Bruce

# Thank You For:

## **Concordia Cemetery Association**

*In memory of Walter Hanson*  
Family of Walter Hanson

*In memory of Rick Leach*  
Mavis & Dick Wang

*Donation*  
Jane & Ted Bekkerus

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## **WAY TO HEAVEN**

I was testing the children in my Sunday School Class to see if they understood the concept of getting to heaven.

I asked them, "If I sold my house and my car, had a big garage sale and gave all my money to the church, would I go to heaven?"

"NO!" the children answered.

"If I cleaned the church every day, mowed the yard, and kept everything neat and tidy, would that get me into Heaven?"

Again, the answer was "NO!"

By now I was starting to smile. Hey, this is fun! "Well then, if I was kind to animals and gave candy to all the children, and loved my husband, would that get me into Heaven?"

"NO!" the children replied.

I was just bursting with pride for them. "Well then, how can I get into Heaven?"

A five year old boy shouted out "YOU GOTTA BE DEAD."

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God Himself does not propose to judge a man until he is dead. So why should you?



I spent 5 years as Concordia's organist, and it was a privilege to do so. I learned how tough it can be to make time in your schedule to practice (especially when you have kids), to have to say no to "fun" last-minute week-end opportunities because of your Sunday morning obligation, to always be subject to the critiques and personal preferences of others, to deal with the Sunday mornings when mistakes seem to come too easily and too often – in retrospect, it's a really tough job.

Even though there's a stipend, the commitment is more about contributing to the congregation. The organist ends up making personal sacrifices to do the job that no one ever knows about and s/he rarely regrets. The next time you decide at the last minute not to go to church, consider that your organist can't really do that.

Week-ends are usually time off work, time for family and should be for fun, but taking on the responsibility of being the organist changes that – not every week-end, but often enough. Concordia is very lucky to have a dedicated organist like Tara and the weekly service would be far less without her. Organist to organist, I just wanted to pass along my appreciation for her willingness to share her talents!

Alene Grover Sladky

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Thank you once again to Jim and Linda Koester for providing such a wonderful view along the road south and east of their house. The flowers are beautiful as always!

## Bits and Pieces



### 1915 Rules for Schoolteachers

Ladies who wanted to teach school had to toe the line both in and out of the classroom. Dorothy Wille shared this stringent set of rules for teacher conduct from 1915.

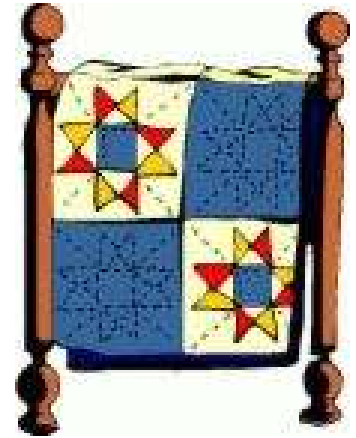
1. You will not marry during the term of your contract.
2. You are not to keep company with men.
3. You must be home between the hours of 8 pm and 6 AM unless attending school functions.
4. You must not loiter downtown in any of the ice cream stores.
5. You may not travel beyond the city limits unless you have permission from the chairman of the school board.
6. You may not ride in a carriage or automobile with any man unless he is your father or brother.
7. You may not smoke cigarettes.
8. You may not dress in bright colors.
9. You must wear at least 2 petticoats.
10. Dresses must not be more than 2 inches above the ankle.
11. To keep the school neat and clean, you must sweep the floor at least once daily; scrub the floor at least once a week with hot soapy water; clean the blackboards at least once a day; and start the fire at 7 am so the room will be warm by 8 am.

*This was published in the Country Extra magazine in November, 2008.*

### A Quilter

*By Larry Howland,  
Elsie Michigan*

A quilter brings us comfort  
On the chilliest of nights,  
With unseen hands  
she tucks us in  
And softly dims the lights.



What many others throw away,  
She knows she can use.  
She brings together every square,  
Arranging varied hues.

With simple needle and mere thread  
And batts without a form,  
She sews each piece with tender love  
To keep us snug and warm.

The Lord has helped her understand  
The value of things old,  
She swaddles us in memories,  
Each precious to behold.

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 **National  
Grandparents Day**

**Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>**

The impetus for a National Grandparents Day originated with Marian McQuade, a housewife in Fayette County, West Virginia. Her primary motivation was to champion the cause of lonely elderly in nursing homes. She also hoped to persuade grandchildren to tap the wisdom and heritage their grandparents could provide. In 1978, President Jimmy Carter proclaimed that National Grandparents Day would be celebrated every year on the first Sunday after Labor Day.

## **“REAP WHAT YOU SOW”**

The man slowly looked up. This was a woman clearly accustomed to the finer things of life. Her coat was new.

She looked like she had never missed a meal in her life. His first thought was that she wanted to make fun of him, like so many others had done before.

"Leave me alone," he growled...To his amazement, the woman continued standing. She was smiling - her even white teeth displayed in dazzling rows. "Are you hungry?" she asked.

"No," he answered sarcastically. "I've just come from dining with the president.. Now go away."

The woman's smile became even broader.

Suddenly the man felt a gentle hand under his arm. "What are you doing, lady?" the man asked angrily. "I said to leave me alone."

Just then a policeman came up. "Is there any problem, ma'am?" he asked.

"No problem here, officer," the woman answered. "I'm just trying to get this man to his feet. Will you help me?"

The officer scratched his head. "That's old Jack. He's been a fixture around here for a couple of years. What do you want with him?"

"See that cafeteria over there?" she asked. "I'm going to get him something to eat and get him out of the cold for awhile."

"Are you crazy, lady?" the homeless man resisted. "I don't want to go in there!"

Then he felt strong hands grab his other arm and lift him up. "Let me go, officer. I didn't do anything.."

"This is a good deal for you, Jack," the officer answered. "Don't blow it."

Finally, and with some difficulty, the woman and the police officer got Jack into the cafeteria and sat him at a table in a remote corner. It was the middle of the morning, so most of the breakfast crowd had already left and the lunch bunch had not yet arrived.

The manager strode across the cafeteria and stood by his table. "What's going on here, officer?" he asked. "What is all this, is this man in trouble?"

"This lady brought this man in here to be fed," the policeman answered.

"Not in here!" the manager replied angrily. "Having a person like that here is bad for business."

Old Jack smiled a toothless grin. "See, lady. I told you so. Now if you'll let me go. I didn't want to come here in the first place"

The woman turned to the cafeteria manager and smiled. "Sir, are you familiar with Eddy and Associates, the banking firm down the street?"

"Of course I am," the manager answered impatiently. "They hold their weekly meetings in one of my banquet rooms."

"And do you make a goodly amount of money providing food at these weekly meetings?"

"What business is that of yours?" I, sir, am Penelope Eddy, president and CEO of the company."

"Oh...."

The woman smiled again.. "I thought that might make a difference." She glanced at the cop who was busy stifling a laugh. "Would you like to join us in a cup of coffee and a meal, officer?"

"No thanks, ma'am," the officer replied. "I'm on duty."

"Then, perhaps, a cup of coffee to go?"

"Yes, ma'am. That would be very nice."

The cafeteria manager turned on his heel. "I'll get your coffee for you right away, officer."

The officer watched him walk away. "You certainly put him in his place," he said.

"That was not my intent... Believe it or not, I have a reason for all this." She sat down at the table across from her amazed dinner guest. She stared at him intently. "Jack, do you remember me?"

Old Jack searched her face with his old, rheumy eyes. "I think so -- I mean you do look familiar."

"I'm a little older perhaps," she said. "Maybe I've even filled out more than in my younger days

when you worked here, and I came through that very door, cold and hungry."

"Ma'am?" the officer said questioningly. He couldn't believe that such a magnificently turned out woman could ever have been hungry.

"I was just out of college," the woman began. "I had come to the city looking for a job, but I couldn't find anything. Finally I was down to my last few cents and had been kicked out of my apartment.. I walked the streets for days.

It was February and I was cold and nearly starving. I saw this place and walked in on the off chance that I could get something to eat."

Jack lit up with a smile. "Now I remember," he said "I was behind the serving counter. You came up and asked me if you could work for something to eat. I said that it was against company policy."

"I know," the woman continued. "Then you made me the biggest roast beef sandwich that I had ever seen, gave me a cup of coffee, and told me to go over to a corner table and enjoy it. I was afraid that you would get into trouble. Then, when I looked over and saw you put the price of my food in the cash register, I knew then that everything would be all right."

"So you started your own business?" Old Jack said.

"I got a job that very afternoon. I worked my way up. Eventually I started my own business that, with the help of God, prospered..." She opened her purse and pulled out a business card. "When you are finished here, I want you to pay a visit to a Mr. Lyons. He's the personnel director of my company. I'll go talk to him now and I'm certain he'll find something for you to do around the office."

She smiled. "I think he might even find the funds to give you a little advance so that you can buy some clothes and get a place to live until you get

on your feet. If you ever need anything, my door is always open to you."

There were tears in the old man's eyes. "How can I ever thank you?" he asked.

"Don't thank me," the woman answered. "To God goes the glory. He led me to you."

Outside the cafeteria, the officer and the woman paused at the entrance before going their separate ways... "Thank you for all your help, officer," she said.

"On the contrary, Ms. Eddy," he answered. "Thank you. I saw a miracle today, something that I will never forget. And... thank you for the coffee."

Don't forget that when you "cast your bread upon the waters," you never know how it will be returned to you. God is so big He can cover the whole world with his Love and so small He can curl up inside your heart.

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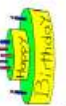

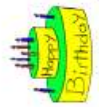
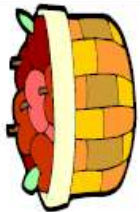
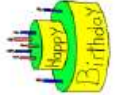


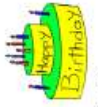
When God leads you to the edge of the cliff, trust Him fully and let go. Only 1 of 2 things will happen, either He'll catch you when you fall, or He'll teach you how to fly!



God closes doors no man can open & God opens doors no man can close..

Have a blessed day and remember to be a blessing...

# September 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>6 GREEN              9:30am Coffee            10:30am Church</p>	<p>7  </p>	<p>1    <b>WELCA</b>            1:30 pm</p>	<p>2            9 Neil &amp; Polly Hanson              Doris Kassenborg</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5            12 Ray &amp; Tara Amundson  </p>
<p>13 GREEN            9:30am Coffee            10:30am Church            Sylvia Teigen              Happy Grandparents Day!</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15            22 First day of Fall  </p>	<p>16            23            Curt Lynde  </p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19            25            26</p>
<p>20 GREEN            9:30am Coffee            10:30am Church  </p>	<p>21            Dick &amp; Mavis Wang  </p>	<p>29            30</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28            Ray Amundson  </p>	<p>29</p>	

## Concordia News

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Please clip the upper portion of this page and mail with any changes. You can also visit our website at <http://www.concordianews.org> and click on "Newsletter" to read the current or past issues of the newsletter in regular or large print editions, change your address, sign up to receive the newsletter by mail, or to request an email notification when each newsletter appears on the website.

The Concordia News is published monthly by  
Concordia Lutheran Church and Concordia Cemetery  
Association.

### **Concordia Newsletter Staff**

Editor: Barb Grover  
Treasurer/Distribution- Valdemar Hagene

Articles, announcements, acknowledgements,  
photos, etc. should be given to the editor. To  
submit an item for the newsletter, email  
[news@concordianews.org](mailto:news@concordianews.org) or write  
Karolynn Teigen-Decker, 915 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue South,  
Moorhead MN 56560  
Deadline for submission of material is the 20<sup>th</sup> of  
each month.

**Concordia Lutheran Church/Cemetery Assoc.**  
6637 80<sup>th</sup> Avenue North  
Glyndon, MN. 56547  
[www.concordianews.org](http://www.concordianews.org)

**You are always welcome at  
Concordia Lutheran Church**

**Handicap Accessible**

### **Sunday Worship:**

Coffee Hour- 9:30a.m.  
Worship Service-10:30 a.m.  
Communion -1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month

### **Concordia Women of the ELCA:**

Second Tuesday-1:30 p.m.

### **Pastor:**

Bruce Krogstad  
Office: 218-233-0459  
Cell: 218-329-2245



*September*  
**2009**