



Concordia News



October 2009

Volume 4

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

Number 10



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It is a grey day. The meteorologist just announced that yesterday marked a record rainfall for the day. For those far removed geographically and relationally from the farm they may have actually welcomed the rain as it means stronger lawns going into the winter. However, anyone who farms or ever has farmed, the reaction has likely been far less positive. The question of harvest/fall plowing is now in question. The welfare of lawns doesn't rate very highly when one's livelihood lies well beyond the Kentucky Blue Grass planted around one's house. What matters is what is going on beyond the confines of one's yard. Weather, ag markets, financial markets are all factors that impact a farmer's life in ways that are hidden to most who have never farmed. Farmers are aware that forces that you can't see can dramatically impact your life.

As Christians we are aware that forces that are unseen can be a powerful force for good or ill. As we continue through the season of Pentecost, we acknowledge the existence of the spiritual, in particular the presence of the Spirit of God. While we cannot have control over any aspect of all these hidden forces, at least in the case of God's Spirit, we know that while it is not a rubber stamp for our desires, it is a source for good. Martin Luther stated that while we are not manipulators of the Holy Spirit, we are beneficiaries of the Spirit's presence. Luther stated that while the Spirit is everywhere, it is there "for us" only in Word and Sacrament. It is in our participation in the simple forms of bread, wine and water that God reaches into our lives to give us hope, purpose and comfort. The Holy Spirit, and our participation with that Spirit whenever we gather around God's proclaimed word and sacrament, is what gives us a sense that not only are we not alone in this universe, but that a powerful yet hidden force hovers around us, sustains us, and guides us throughout our life.

Are the forces of weather, grain and financial markets powerful forces that influence our lives? Yes, of course. Are they the only hidden forces that impact our lives? No. There is another Presence at work in our lives that will be with us not only in this life but in the life to come. We are not alone buffeted about by anonymous and apathetic forces. There is One who is our Advocate that promises to strengthen and comfort us. It is the Spirit of the risen Christ.

Come let us join together at Concordia as we celebrate and experience what this Spirit promises for you and for me!

Pastor Bruce Krogstad

Announcements & Assignments



Meeting: October 8, 2009 at 1:30 pm

Bible leader: Group

Lunch: Doris Kassenborg



Cookie Servers

Oct. 4 Mavis Wang

Oct. 11 Carolyn Edwards

Oct. 18 Germaine Gress

Oct. 25 Delores Hagene

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



Concordianews.org

At Kids Corner, the theme for October is the Reformation and the story of Luther at the Diet of Worms. This and every month, you'll find Bible passages, a picture to color, a word search, music, and a craft project, with extras like videos and worksheets to help kids learn about the topic.

Kids Corner is located in the Congregation section of the website. Encourage your kids and grandkids to stop in and enjoy the fun. Grown-ups welcome, too!



Fall Dinner

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

Bread of Life - Food Pantry

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

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.



Recipe of the Month Beet Cake

Ingredients

Cake

- 2 cups beets mashed, cooked
- 4 eggs
- 2-1/2 cups sugar
- 1 T pure vanilla extract
- 2-1/2 cups flour
- 2/3 cups cocoa
- 2-1/2 stick butter
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp baking soda

Frosting

- 1 stick butter, softened
- 2 cups powdered sugar sifted
- 2/3 cup cocoa powder
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 4 oz cream cheese softened

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
- Sift flour, cocoa and baking soda together. Set aside.
- Cream the butter and sugar together until well blended and smooth. Add eggs one at a time, beating after each addition. Add the mashed or pureed beets and mix well. Add in flour mixture. Combine well and beat until smooth.
- Pour batter into a greased 9" springform pan. You may also use a bundt-style pan or a large loaf pan.
- Bake for 50-60 min. or until toothpick inserted into center comes out clean. If beets were very moist, you may have to increase baking time.

Frosting

- Mix all ingredients together and beat until smooth and creamy.
 - Liberally cover top and sides of cooled cake. Eat!
-

Donations

**Sunday, October 11
is Clergy Appreciation Day!**

Concordia Cemetery Association

In memory of Walter Hanson
Family of Walter Hanson

In memory of Rick Leach
Mavis & Dick Wang

Donation

Jane & Ted Bekkerus

Donations for Cemetery Entrance Pillars:

Lloyd Gunderson
Ray & JoLyn Johnson
Davis Kosen
Walter Hanson Family
Glenn Kassenborg Family

Thank You Barb!

Barb has retired as newsletter editor after many years of volunteer service. She was the editor of the Informer when Concordia News replaced it in 2006.



Church News

We'll work hard to keep our newsletter as informative and enjoyable as its been under Barb's watch.

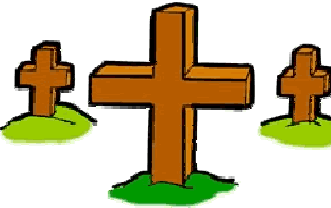
Karolynn & Sylvia



Standard Time Returns

Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour before going to bed on Halloween. Standard time returns on Sunday, November 1st.

The Egyptians were the first to develop a 24-hour day. They assigned 12 hours to night, 10 hours to day, and a twilight hour was designated for dawn and sunset.



Concordia Cemetery Association

We have several grave markers and monuments that are in need of repair. Some are close to tipping over and have become a safety concern. The policy of the Cemetery association is that each family is responsible for the monument or markers that have been installed in the cemetery. Several monuments belong to families that are no longer living in the area, or no surviving family members living. The Board has identified several that need a new foundation or only need to be re-leveled. The cost of the entire project is about \$1300. If you recognize some of the family stones that need repair and you would like to be part of this rebuilding program, any contribution would be appreciated.

Here is a listing of some of the markers that have been identified for repair:

- Aadne Halverson
- Gustav Grover
- Mable & Alice Grover
- Gunnil & Halvor Salveson
- Thilda Bekkerus
- JJ Aggerholm
- G. Muhle
- Ida & Lars Svenkeson
- Tweten
- Studlien
- Kittel
- Engesetter
- Gorder

If you would like more information contact:
Harold Horpedahl (218) 233-7201

The Journey to the Buffalo



Levi Thortvedt wrote the story of his family's journey from Houston County in southeastern Minnesota to what became the "Buffalo River Settlement" in Clay County as a serial for the Moorhead Daily News in 1938. Since Concordia Congregation became the central institution in that settlement, we thought it would be great fun to reprint excerpts from Levi's story.

It was on May 18, 1870 that a little band of Norwegians started for the West Red River Valley or Ottertail County as their destination.

This little band of settlers consisted of three families, four single men and one old man. The leader of this little flock of home seekers was my father, Ola Gunderson Thortvedt. Our family had two covered wagons, one drawn by a team of horses and the other by a team of oxen. We had four cows and a heifer, two yearling colts, thirteen head of sheep and about twenty-five chickens.

The second family was that of Aanon (Gunderson) Gjeitsta, my father's brother. The third family was Tarjei Skrei. He and his family left their home on Corn Creek, Houston County, driving their yoke of oxen. They also had two cows. The men were Ola Midgarden, Halvor Fendalsveit (Salverson), Ola Anderson, Tarjei Muhle, and G. G. Weum. Tarjei Muhle had a yoke of steers. Old Man Weum had a big mule and a single wagon.

Next: The Journey Begins



A Sunday school class was studying the Ten Commandments. The teacher asked if anyone could tell her what the 10th Commandment was.

Susie raised her hand, stood tall, and quoted, "Thou shall not take covers off thy neighbor's wife."

The Reformation

The Protestant Reformation began on October 31, 1517, when Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the door of Wittenberg Church in Germany. He introduced the revolutionary notion that not only does every person have a direct relationship with God, but s/he also has the power to choose whether to obey or resist authority. The Reformation broke down the wall built by the Church between God and ordinary people.

This new way of thinking about religious authority also changed how people thought about the secular authority, too. Protestantism unleashed a wave of new ideas about government that swept over Europe and eventually crossed the Atlantic Ocean and fueled the American Revolution.

The Reformation changed attitudes and priorities throughout society. Art was no longer limited to illustrating Biblical motifs and began to portray real life. Protestantism valued science and ushered in the Age of Reason. By empowering people, it shaped ideas about work and business, and laid the groundwork for the Industrial Revolution.

Martin Luther set out to fix what was broken in the Catholic Church. Unintentionally, he led the way into the modern world.



There are 72 million Lutherans in the world today of whom almost 12 ½ million live in the U.S. The ELCA accounts for about 4 ½ million American Lutherans. Germany, Luther's homeland, has more Lutherans than any other country. However, by percentage of population (83%) Norway is the most Lutheran country in the world, followed closely by Denmark and Sweden.

October 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 GREEN Communion  9:30am Coffee 10:30am Church	5	6	7 Jane Bekkerus 	8	9 Leif Erickson Day 	10
11 GREEN 9:30am Coffee 10:30am Church <i>Clergy Appreciation Day</i>	12 <i>Columbus Day</i> 	13 WELCA 1:30 	14	15	16	17
18 GREEN 9:30am Coffee 10:30am Church <i>Paul & Karolynn Decker</i> 	19	20 	21	22 Lloyd Gunderson 	23	24
25 GREEN 9:30am Coffee 10:30am Church	26	27	28	29	30	31 Reformation Day 

Concordia News

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You can also visit our website at: <http://www.concordianews.org> and click on "Newsletter" to read the current or past issues of Concordia News in regular or large print, change your address, sign up to receive the newsletter by mail, or 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

Editors: Karolynn Decker & Sylvia Teigen
Treasurer/Distribution: Valdemar Hagene

Articles, announcements, acknowledgements, photos, etc. should be given to the editor.

To submit an item for the newsletter:

E-mail: news@concordianews.org

Write: Karolynn Teigen-Decker
915 4th Avenue South
Moorhead MN 56560

Deadline for submission of material is the 20th of each month

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

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Sunday Worship:

Coffee Hour: 9:30a.m

Worship Service: 10:30a.m.

Communion: 1st 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



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