

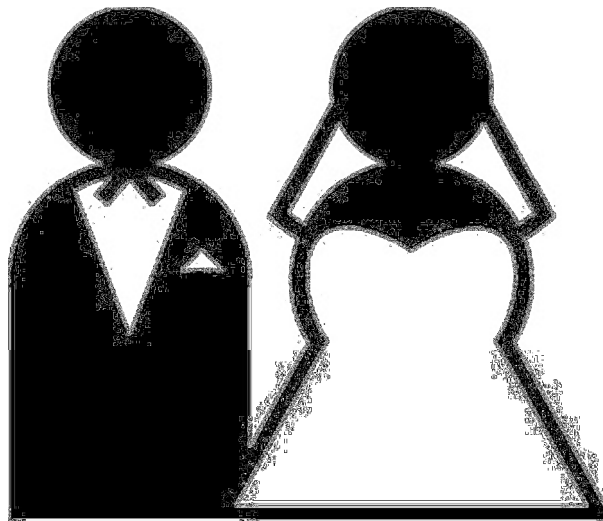
Concordia News – Large Print

June 2011

Volume 6

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

Number 6



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From Pastor Bruce



We are still in the season of Easter. A number of people have commented to me that they saw very little evidence of Easter in Fargo/Moorhead. There may have been an occasional display of a bunny, chicks or eggs, but the sense among some was that symbols which have been associated with the season are disappearing from the public square. Underneath this concern I believe lies a more profound one, more and more people are forgetting about the significance of Easter and increasingly it's life changing message of God's victory over death is not being assimilated into the daily lives of Americans, particularly the young. What grandparent doesn't lament the fact that they have grandchildren for whom Easter is at best only about hunting for candy? Even for we as Christians we need to put ourselves in the one place which reminds us of the reality of Easter and its ongoing power to infuse new life into our spirits that left on their own would wither and ultimately perish.

As an analogy to this I'd like to offer the following illustration of another day that for more and more Americans is becoming increasingly irrelevant (as some fear Easter is), just another day to stay home from work and little more. As a vet I find it awkward to refer to Veteran's Day; it is kind of like asking people to thank me for something, but I have no trouble referring to Memorial Day because it does not cast a spotlight on me but on others, namely those who have died in war while serving their country.

I derived the following piece from www.usmemorialday.org :

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance for those who have died in our nation's service. There are many stories as to its actual beginnings, with over two dozen cities and towns laying claim to being the birthplace of Memorial Day. There is also evidence that organized women's groups in the South were decorating graves before the end of the Civil War: a hymn published in 1867, "Kneel Where Our Loves are Sleeping" by Nella L. Sweet carried the dedication "To The Ladies of the South who are Decorating the Graves of the Confederate Dead"

(Source: Duke University's Historic American Sheet Music, 1850-1920). While Waterloo N.Y. was officially declared the birthplace of Memorial Day by President Lyndon Johnson in May 1966, it's difficult to prove conclusively the origins of the day. It is more likely that it had many separate beginnings; each of those towns and every planned or spontaneous gathering of people to honor the war dead in the 1860's tapped into the general human need to honor our dead, each contributed honorably to the growing movement that culminated in Gen Logan giving his official proclamation in 1868. It is not important who was the very first, what is important is that Memorial Day was established. Memorial Day is not about division. It is about reconciliation; it is about coming together to honor those who gave their all.

Memorial Day was officially proclaimed on 5 May 1868 by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, in his General Order No. 11, and was first observed on 30 May 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery. The first state to officially recognize the holiday was New York in 1873. By 1890 it

was recognized by all of the northern states. The South refused to acknowledge the day, honoring their dead on separate days until after World War I (when the holiday changed from honoring just those who died fighting in the Civil War to honoring Americans who died fighting in any war). It is now celebrated in almost every State on the last Monday in May (passed by Congress with the National Holiday Act of 1971 (P.L. 90 - 363) to ensure a three day weekend for Federal holidays), though several southern states have an additional separate day for honoring the Confederate war dead: January 19 in Texas, April 26 in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Mississippi; May 10 in South Carolina; and June 3 (Jefferson Davis' birthday) in Louisiana and Tennessee.

In 1915, inspired by the poem "In Flanders Fields,"
Moina Michael replied with her own poem:

We cherish too, the Poppy red
That grows on fields where valor led.
It seems to signal to the skies
That blood of heroes never dies.

She then conceived of an idea to wear red poppies on Memorial Day in honor of those who died serving the nation during war. She was the first to wear one, and sold poppies to her friends and co-workers with the money going to benefit servicemen in need. Later a Madam Guerin from France was visiting the United States and learned of this new custom started by Ms. Michael and when she returned to France, made artificial red poppies to raise money for war orphaned children and widowed women. This tradition spread to other countries. In 1921, the Franco-American Children's League sold poppies nationally to benefit war orphans of France and Belgium. The League disbanded a year later and Madam Guerin approached the VFW for help. Shortly before Memorial Day in 1922 the VFW became the first veterans' organization to nationally sell poppies. Two years later their "Buddy" Poppy program was selling artificial poppies made by disabled veterans. In 1948 the US Post Office honored Ms Michael for her role in founding the National Poppy movement by issuing a red 3 cent postage stamp with her likeness on it.

Traditional observance of Memorial Day has diminished over the years. Many Americans nowadays have forgotten

the meaning and traditions of Memorial Day. At many cemeteries, the graves of the fallen are increasingly ignored, neglected. Most people no longer remember the proper flag etiquette for the day. While there are towns and cities that still hold Memorial Day parades, many have not held a parade in decades. Some people think the day is for honoring any and all dead, and not just those fallen in service to our country.

Pastor Bruce



Memorial Day at Concordia - 2011

Announcements and Assignments



Date: June 14

Time: 1:30 PM

Lunch: Mavis Wang



Cookie Servers

June 5 Germaine Gress

June 12 Osie Juve

June 19 Regina Hanson

June 26 Linda Koester

July 3 Carolyn Edwards

July 10 Irene Olson

July 17 Sally Horpedahl

July 24 Sylvia Teigen

July 31 Phylis Nelson



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*



Father's Day is Sunday, June 19



Concordianews.org

“Joshua and Jericho – Part I” is the subject for Kids Corner in May. Kids Corner is located in the Congregation section of our website.



7-Lag Stevne

“Strength in Unity”

July 14-17, 2011

Fargo ND

Activities include classes, genealogical research, entertainment, tours and a book and craft sale. Schedule details, class descriptions, entertainer bios and registration information can be found on the 7 Lag website, www.7lagstevne.com

We attended the 2011 **Northwestern Minnesota Synod Assembly** at Concordia College on May 14-15. ELCA Bishop Mark Hanson said that we are a community of faith and will be defined by working together. Bishop Wohlrabi spoke about



keeping the next generation involved in the church through faith, example, and making the church a welcoming place to belong, and Pastor Susan Briehl, Bellingham Washington, said that we are all the synod.

One session we attended was on “Hospitality Matters in Worship” where Pastor Laurie Natwick, assistant to the Bishop, spoke on the need to make hospitality in our hearts first and then let it extend to everyone; learn to graciously give gifts of hospitality and accept hospitality in return; the coffee hour should be a time to make everyone feel welcomed and important to the church. Allen Westby, Pelican Rapids, was elected synod vice president. Candidates for the other synod positions were unopposed and were accepted as nominated. The next assembly will be May 11-12, 2012.

Sylvia Teigen and Karolynn Decker

With Our Thanks

Donations

Concordia Cemetery Association

In Memory of Margaret Hatledal

Donald Johnson

In Memory of Allard & Josephine Bergland

Allan & LuAnn Bergland

In Memory of Doris Johnson (mother of Marilyn Fuchs)

Harold & Sally Horpedahl

In Memory of the Hammett Family

Harriett Peterson Muffly

In Memory of Robert Burke

Alvina Burke

Donation for Gravestone Repair

in Memory of the Skrei Family

LeRoy & Alice Horpedahl

With Our Thanks

More Donations

Concordia News

Donations

Richard & Cheryl Ostlie

Burt & Lorna Rockstad

With many thanks to the ladies of Concordia Church for the beautiful Easter lily they presented me on Easter Sunday. It had many lovely blooms and still had a week later.

Love to all, Doris Eidem



With Our Thanks

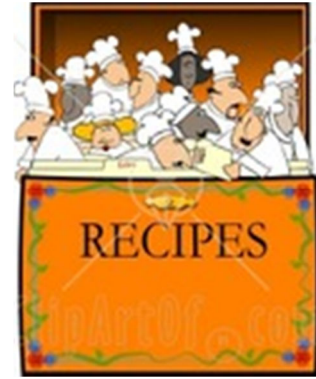


Mange tusen takk! What a pleasure to work with so many helping hands at our spring luncheon. Thank you to those who brought the delicious salads. Several guests told us how many salads there were to choose from, that there were no two alike, and they knew that they were good since they had tasted them all! Thank you to those who were on the committee, those who came on Friday to set up the dining hall, those who tended to the serving details on Saturday in the kitchen and the dining hall, and those who cleaned up afterward. It was a team effort that made the work fun. Thank you to Phylis Nelson for arranging for the Rusty Chords program.

It is rewarding when we take on such a challenge, to hear compliments come from our guests at the luncheon as well as several days later. Thank you to each and every one of you for your support.

Recipe of the Month

E-Z Beef Stroganoff



Ingredients:

½ cup chopped onion

1 lb. sirloin steak, cut into strips

1 tablespoon butter

¼ teaspoon pepper

½ lb. sliced fresh mushrooms

10 oz tub of Philadelphia cheese cooking crème

1/3 cup beef broth

2 cups hot cooked noodles

1 tablespoon chopped fresh parsley

Directions:

- Cook meat and onions over medium heat until done. Drain and remove from skillet
- Melt butter in skillet, add mushrooms and pepper and cook until onions are tender
- Add cooking crème and stir 2 minutes
- Return meat to skillet and add broth
- Cook 5 minutes, remove from heat, let stand 5 minutes
- Serve over noodles and sprinkle with parsley



On the Buffalo

by Levi Thortvedt

Excerpts from the serial
published in the *Moorhead
Daily News* in 1938

Sketch of the Thortvedt Cabin by Orabel Thortvedt

A little stage line was in operation between Tent Town (Probstfield's) and Oak Lake (now Lake Park), which was the terminal for the railroad at that time. This made it handy for us as we could send for sugar, coffee, and tobacco, but for the heavier freight, like flour and salt, they drove to Oak Lake with oxen. The distance was about 30 miles and it took two days. There was hardly any road at all, up hill, down hill, and soft places in between.

When the Northern Pacific surveyors came, two more lines were marked. One of them crossed the Buffalo and the stakes went across our field and pointed across the prairie to hit the Red River at Probstfield's. They had their camp near Bendick's place.

Bits and Pieces

This place was called Cross Camp, meaning that the railroad would cross there. The other camp was near the place where Tarjei Storaaslie was in the operation of building his house.

These people bought butter, milk, and eggs from us and we could buy sugar, coffee, and tobacco from them and Sir! things looked pretty lively on the Buffalo.

None of these lines surveyed were used, but the one located by Martin Wells, about 30 rods north of where the NP Railroad crosses the South Buffalo. I had an idea that the railroad was coming from the south and thus would pass our house about half a mile to the west. What a delight that would be to see the powerful locomotive with great volumes of smoke coming out of the proud looking "V" shaped smokestacks. There was nothing I loved so much in my boyhood days as a locomotive.

Tent Town (Probstfield's) had been moved four miles farther south to the old Burbank hotel. This house was now occupied by an old man by the name of Job Smith. He sold it to the Puget Sound Land Company, as it was then known, but it was in reality the Northern Pacific Railroad Company that bought it through their

Bits and Pieces

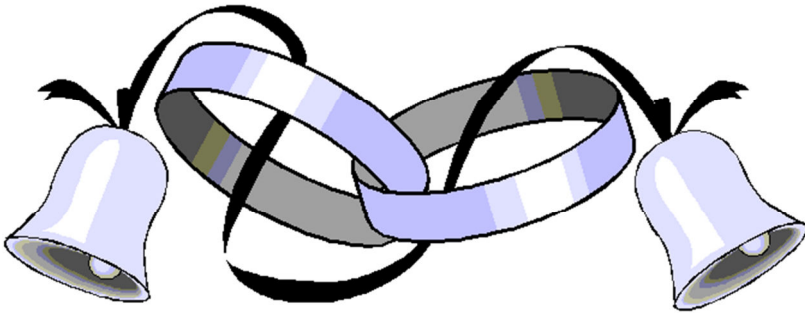
agent, Andrew Holes. Price we hear later was two thousand dollars.

This was the beginning of Moorhead. It was not certain that the failroad would cross at this place. The next question was what will the town be called? We heard many different names before Moorhead was decided upon. We did not like this name very well. What was its meaning? We called it "*Mere Hoved*," meaning more heads, in Telemarking josh. This name was used for a long time by the Norwegians talking amongst themselves.

Next Month: *First Harvest*

Coming Next Month:

A book, "Concordia Congregation and the Buffalo River Settlement" will include the full text of Levi Thortvedt's story of the early years in our community and the 75th anniversary history of Concordia. Details and ordering information will be available in the July newsletter, and in mid-June on concordianews.org. Copies will be available for pick-up at the church or mailed for an additional charge. A spiral bound large print edition will also be available.



Why is June the most popular month for weddings?

June has long been the month favored by American brides. The reason could be as simple as it being the first month when warm weather is pretty much assured, but ancient superstition and mythology may also play a part in its popularity.

A Roman proverb predicts, “Prosperity to the man and happiness to the maid when married in June.” In naming the 6th month, the Romans seem to have honored Juno, the wife of Jupiter, She was revered as the goddess of happy marriages (and the protector of women). The Roman festival for her was held in the first week of the month. Many weddings took place during that festival, and weddings filled the social calendars for all levels of Roman society throughout the month of June.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Worship Services every Sunday

Coffee Hour: 9 AM

Worship: 10 AM

Communion Sunday: May 1

WELCA

Tuesday, May 10

1:30 PM

Birthdays

June 5 Mavis Wang

June 6 Doris Eidem

June 16 Clarice Babolian

Kathy Krogstad

June 26 Wally Teigen

Anniversaries

June 3 Harold & Sally Horpedahl

June 8 Val & Delores Hagene

June 22 Virgil & Becky Jegtvig

Wally & Sylvia Teigen

June 2011

ISSN 2152-3339

The large print edition of Concordia News is only available on-line.

To submit an item for the newsletter:

E-mail: news@concordianews.org

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

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

Web Edition: Alene Sladky

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



Pastor:
Bruce Krogstad

Office: 218-233-0459

Cell: 218-329-2245