



Concordia News

September 2011



Volume 6

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

Number 9



<u>Contents</u>	<u>Page</u>
Words from the Pastor	1
Announcements & Assignments	4
Thank You	5
Bits and Pieces.....	6
September Calendar.....	7
Envelope Page	8

Grace to you in the name of Christ our Lord. In reflecting on the 10th anniversary of 9/11 I was looking around the internet for Lutheran pastors' reflections on this event. Given that I have deployed several times in support of our country's response to this event, I believe it would be best for me to defer to a colleague to address this anniversary. Of all that I encountered I would like to share with you a portion of the following reflection from a Missouri Synod Lutheran pastor:

Rev. Paul J Cain, Jr.
Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church
Green River, Wyoming

Grace, mercy, and peace to you from God our Father and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
Amen.

For Christians, no matter what befalls us as citizens, be it Pearl Harbor or September 11th, no matter what we endure as individuals, personal or family tragedy, persecution, hardship, or just a bad hair day, nothing can overshadow Good Friday or Easter Sunday. The centrality of Christ's death and Resurrection overcomes all the shadows of this world. Look at our calendar. B.C. and A.D. or even the secular B.C.E. and C.E. still center our history on Jesus story.

The Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments center upon Christ and Him crucified, offering comfort and hope to hurting and anxious people today. That Gospel, Good News, should be the common thread running through any pastor's sermon, whenever he takes the pulpit. Sometimes, other concerns seem to overshadow the Gospel message we have been given to proclaim.

Much has been said about patriotism. Also, much has been shown. Flag burners have become flag wavers. For all of its diversity, America stands united against terrorism. For all of its power, patriotism cannot save. Even the most patriotic American in the Twin Towers, aboard Flight 93, or working in the wrong part of Ring E of the Pentagon was not spared in the terrorist attacks. There are times, like then and now, when patriotism is not enough. Eternal security and citizenship are real needs.

Surely, the Scriptures commend good Christian citizenship as an extension of the Fourth Commandments teaching to honor father and mother. But there is more. Citizen and government each have responsibility to one another.

Sometimes, patriotism is not enough. Patriotism has its purposes. We can show solidarity against a moral evil. We can show support for our President and the armed forces. We can show a united front against terror and for truth, justice, and political freedom. But patriotism has its limitations. It cannot forgive sin. Patriotism cannot guarantee homeland security. It cannot guarantee eternal security. Sometimes patriotism is not enough.

A Canadian-born pastor writes: In the process of becoming an American citizen I learned that, since the mid-1970s, Canada has recognized the citizenship of a Canadian who

has taken out citizenship in another country. I am technically the citizen of two countries the United States and Canada. It's called dual citizenship.

Jesus described His followers as being part of two kingdoms or two worlds [in] (John 17). Physically, they were a part of this present world and therefore under the rule of human kingdoms. Spiritually, they were also part of a heavenly kingdom, representing a greater allegiance. By virtue of natural birth, I am a Canadian citizen, he continued. To become a citizen of the United States I needed to be naturalized.

Christians have been naturalized into citizenship in the kingdom of heaven by the Holy Spirit. Holy Baptism is a washing of rebirth, regeneration, and forgiveness where disciples are made, in conjunction with instruction in all that Jesus has given us. The Holy Spirit uses that Word of God in and with the water of Baptism to bring an unbeliever to faith, and gives the gifts of new life, forgiveness, and the promise of resurrection and eternal citizenship in heaven.

This is taught Biblically in Philippians 3:17-21: "Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us. 18For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. 19Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. 20But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself. Our eternal Christian citizenship is in heaven!

There has been, I believe, a good deal of emotionally charged "hype" as we have drawn closer to this day. Our emphasis here and now is as it has been, "Is not even this in God's hands? Remember your Baptism! You are a child of the heavenly Father! Our Lord will neither leave nor forsake you!" It has been interesting to see what has gone on today and leading up to this first anniversary. Not everything promoted in the public square has been helpful. Much has been opportunistic.

Our Lord, however, is not such a Lord. He is an ever-present help in trouble and prosperity. For all the overuse and corniness of the poem Footprints in the Sand, it those outside of Christ will face judgment according to their own deeds. Those in Christ have as Judge their own defense attorney. Christians are

judged according to Christ's work. In an age of terrorism, patriotism is not enough. We need something more than a secure homeland for this life. We need an eternal home, for a Christian's eternal citizenship is in heaven. The Lord is the only true security anyone can have.

I would like to share with you this evening a few paragraphs that look at the "big picture" in which we live today, in an age of terrorism, and all the issues that have arisen in light of the 9/11 attacks. This is a thoughtful reflection from a gifted writer. I highly recommend the entire work from which these thoughts are culled.

I am struck by how appropriate and wonderfully clear this statement is a statement that captures the essential realities of the times in which we live. It is precisely this clarity of confession and this genuine witness to the Gospel that the world needs to hear. Nothing can be more loving than to speak this very truth, in love, in gentleness and with respect for all. This is from the new Concordia Publishing House book: Christianity In An Age of Terrorism. I commend it and these thoughts to you.

The United States, its citizens targeted in an unprovoked attack, is waging a war of necessity, indeed, a just war. And yet, we have much to repent for. Every kind of catastrophe, every horrible accident and crime, reminds us of the fragility of our lives, taking away our security by which we deny the certain prospect of death. Facing death and the ever present possibility of death speaks to us of Law, the inescapable reality of sin, and the wages of sin.

The uneasy climate of the age of terrorism, the realization that an attack or a bombing or a biological weapon could be imminent at any time, makes it less easy to enjoy complacency, that great obstacle to the faith. Living in the knowledge of death and the knowledge of sin in the world, including our own, can drive people to the grace of God in Christ.

Christianity has to do with the Gospel, and Christians must beware of lurching from complacent immorality to the other extreme of a new self-righteous legalism. We are not saved by our good works, and those who think they are--such is the power of sin--tend to actually perform bad works. Thus, the terrorists claim allegiance to the most moralistic of religions, which they use as a pretext to commit the most brutal atrocities. Christians must not play that game.

Some think today that all religions of the world are the same; that is to say, equally good. Others agree that they are the same, but conclude that they are equally bad. Perhaps

Christians, who believe in the Gospel, should agree with the secularists [on this one point]: The world's religions are all wrong, insofar as they result in self-righteousness, self-divinization, and a seared conscience that justifies wickedness in the name of its false gods.

The Gospel, in contrast, puts its trust in God's action, not our own, trading sin for forgiveness, hate for love, and glory for the cross. In an age of terrorism, Jesus Christ is the only security anyone can have.

*Amen.
Pastor Bruce*

Two Thousand One, Nine Eleven

Written by:

Paul Spreadbury, York Beach, ME

Two thousand one, nine eleven
Five thousand plus arrive in heaven
As they pass through the gate,
Thousands more appear in wait.

A tall bearded man,
wearing a stovepipe hat
steps forward and greets them,
Then says, "Lets chat."

They settle down in seats of clouds
A man named Martin shouts out proud
"I have a dream!" and once he did
The Newcomer says, "Your dream still lives."

Groups of soldiers in blue and gray
Others in khaki, and green then say
"We're from Bull Run, Yorktown, the Maine"
The Newcomer says, "You died not in vain."

From a man on sticks one could hear
"The only thing we have to fear.
The Newcomer says, "We know the rest,
trust us sir, we've passed that test."

A man with a twang from New England shores
Then proclaimed in a voice they had all heard
before

"Courage like yours does not hide in caves
You can't bury freedom, in a grave,"

A silence fell within the mist
Somehow the Newcomer knew that this
Meant time had come for her to say
What was in the hearts of the five thousand plus
that day:

"In the land of the living, we wrote reports,
Watched our children play in sports,
Worked our gardens, sang our songs,
Went to church and clipped coupons.

We smiled, we laughed,
we cried, we fought
Unlike you, great we're not."

The tall man in the stovepipe hat
Stood and said, "Don't talk like that!
Look at your country, look and see
You died for freedom, just like me."

Then, before them all appeared a scene
Of ruined streets and twisted beams
Death, destruction, rubble and dust
And people working just 'cause they must.

Hauling ash,
lifting stones,
Knee deep in hell
But not alone.

"Look! Blackman, whiteman, brownman, and
yellow
Side by side helping their fellow!"
So said Martin, as he watched the scene
"Even from nightmares, can be born a dream."

Down below three firemen raised
The colors high into ashen haze.
The soldiers above had seen it before
On Iwo Jima back in '44.

The man on sticks studied everything closely
Then shared his perceptions on what he saw
mostly

"I see pain, I see tears,
I see sorrow - but I don't see fear."

"You left behind husbands and wives
Daughters and sons and so many lives
are suffering now because of this wrong
But look very closely. You're not really gone.

All of those people, even those you've never met
All of their lives, they'll never forget
Don't you see what has happened?
Don't you see what you've done?
You've brought them together, together as one.

The man named Abe stood and said
"Welcome my friends," and from there he led,
five thousand Newcomers, all heroes to heaven
On this day of our Lord, two thousand one nine
eleven.

A grandfather brought his
grandson to his vacation cabin.
They kept the lights off until
they were inside to keep from
attracting pesky insects. Still,
a few fireflies followed them
in. The grandson whispered,
"It's no use Grandpa. Now the mosquitoes are
coming after us with flashlights."



Announcements & Assignments



Date: September 13
Time: 1:30
Lunch: Doris Kassenborg



Cookie Servers

September 4 Doris Kassenborg
September 11 Becky Jegtvig
September 18 Orpha Hoelstad
September 25 Germaine Gress
October 2 Osie Juve
October 9 Regina Hanson
October 16 Linda Koester
October 23 Carolyn Edwards
October 30 Irene Olson

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

“The Fourth Commandment” is the subject for Kids Corner in September. During this school year, we’ll look at a different commandment each month. Kids Corner is located in the Congregation section of our website.



September 11, 2011

Esther Kassenborg 1909-2011

Esther Kassenborg was buried at Concordia on Tuesday, August 9, 2011 after a funeral at Eventide Lutheran Home in Moorhead. She died on August 3.



Esther was born November 4, 1909, to John and Lettie (Syntegaard) Grinde. She grew up and attended school near the family farm in rural Kragnes, MN. Esther married Gilbert Kassenborg in December, 1935. Together they made their home and farmed in rural Glyndon, MN, until moving to Moorhead in 1962. Esther worked for a time at Agassiz Nursery and later at Concordia College. Gilbert died in 1979. In 1996, Esther moved into Eventide's Linden Tree and into Eventide Lutheran Home in 2006, where she had most recently lived.

Esther was a life-long member of Concordia Lutheran Church in rural Glyndon. She enjoyed knitting, crocheting and embroidery. She also enjoyed fishing, traveling and even playing piano in her earlier years. She will be dearly missed.

Esther is survived by her son, Gordon (Susan) Kassenborg of Glyndon, MN; grandchildren, Aron (Laura VonBank) Kassenborg of Moorhead; Holly (Robert Lind) Kassenborg and great-granddaughter, Ayla, of Minnetonka, MN.

She was preceded in death by her parents, brother and sisters.

Richard E. Erickson

Dick Erickson, 74, was found dead at home in rural Felton on Tuesday, August 9, 2011. He was the nephew of Esther Kragnes, and remained on the farm after her death in 2002. Per his request, there was no funeral. Richard's remains were scattered on his parents' graves in North Dakota.

Donations



Recipe of the Month Pork 'n Bean Bread

Concordia News

In Memory of Esther Kassenborg
Myron Hagene

In Memory of Alys Oberg & Richard Erickson
Regina Hanson

Concordia Cemetery Association

In Memory of Partyke Family
Paul & Jenifer Partyke

In Memory of Norma Jean Oberg
Osie Juve
Ella Swanson

In Memory Alys Oberg
Lloyd Gunderson
Val & Delores Hagene
Harold & Sally Horpedahl

In Memory of Dick Erickson
Doris Kassenborg
Dick & Mavis Wang

In Memory of Esther Kassenborg
Val & Delores Hagene
Don Johnson
Lloyd Gunderson
Elmer Oberg
Lois Oberg
Dick & Mavis Wang
Helen Kassenborg
Cindy & Bryce Christopherson
Nancy & Bruce Kusler
Heidi Kassenborg & Grant Gugisberg
Jean Oberg
Dalan & Diane Rasmussen
Marlin & Jeanette Oberg
Harold & Sally Horpedahl;
Wescott Somerdale & Marie Thomson
Doris Kassenborg
Lois Jensen
Duane & Joan Erickson
Marge Brantner
Regina Hanson
Glenn Kuehl
Dorothy Powers
Marietta Gunderson

In Memory of Gilbert Kassenborg
Gordon Kassenborg Family

Donation
Jane & Ted Bekkerus

Ingredients:

2 c. sugar
1 c. vegetable oil
3 eggs
1 16 oz. can pork & beans, drained
2 cups flour
1 tsp cinammon
½ tsp baking powder
½ tsp baking soda
1 cup raisins
1 tsp vanilla

Directions:

- Preheat oven to 325 degrees
- In a large bowl, mix sugar, oil eggs and beans and beat until smooth
- In another bowl, combine flour, cinnamon, baking powder and baking soda. Add to bean mixture, stirring just until combined.
- Stir in raisins and vanilla
- Pour into two loaf pans
- Bake for 50-55 minutes

Thank you from the Spring Luncheon

Thank you for inviting us to sing in your beautiful church. The audience was terrific and the meal was out of this world – great.



Again, thank you for the donation. It is very thoughtful of you folks to be so generous. God Bless!!!

The Rusty Chords Trio
Marilyn Lee, Noah Chelliah, Cecil Malme

A grandmother was telling her little granddaughter what her own childhood was like: "We used to skate outside on a pond. I had a swing made from a tire; it hung from a tree in our front yard. We rode our pony. We picked wild raspberries in the woods. "The little girl was wide-eyed, taking this all in. At last she said, "I sure wish I'd gotten to know you sooner!"

On the Buffalo



by Orabel Thortvedt

Excerpts from the serial published in the *Fargo Forum* in 1941

Sketch by Orabel Thortvedt

In 1874, Olav Thortvedt had found his small cabin inadequate and in that year built a new log house, large for those times. It was 26 by 23 feet, and 16 feet to the eaves. He felled the straightest and tallest trees. These he hewed, then engaged the four best timber-cutters in the settlement: Gunnar Svenkeson, Lars Svenkeson, Johan Danielson, and Olaus Kristoferson. They each had a corner of the house to build and there was keen competition.

From the then booming town of Moorhead, Olav bought the rest of the materials, such as 26 windows with 12 panes each, six-inch floor boards, bricks, tin stove pipes, square-headed nails, etc. Olav made one mistake. Instead of having the brick pipe reach from top to bottom, he had it extend only to the floor of the attic. From there on and down, tin pipes were installed.

On the evening of December 16, 1899, Olav Thorvedt brought in some wood. It was used for fuel the morning of the 17th, and Ingebor Midgarden, who had become the wife of Leif Levi Thortvedt, had no difficulty in frying the pancakes to a delicious brown. The children caught the odor of the "*pannekaker*" and came downstairs. Alpha and Dora had pushed their bed and straw-filled mattress against

the tin stove pipe, and blithely left it. The mattress caught fire.

Goodwin, a lad in his teens, started up with a pail of water. Little Ole ran to the stable, bridled a bay morgan mare, *Gamle Steady*, and galloped to the Gundersons and Skreis for help. Neighbors came running on foot, by sleigh and on horseback. A brisk south wind sprang up and soon the house was an inferno. Burning shingles blew a mile across the fields to the Nikalsen homestead. Only a few heirlooms were saved.

Next: A wedding to remember

Concordia Congregation and the Buffalo River Settlement

includes Levi Thortvedt's story of the early years in our community and the 75th anniversary history of Concordia. Cost of the 68-page book is \$12.00. A spiral bound large print version of the book is also available. Books can now be purchased at the church. For an additional \$4, books will be mailed to you.

Mail in your order using the form below. Books and Concordia logo items can be purchased on-line with a credit card:

<http://www.cafepress.com/concordialutheran>

We receive a small commission on each item ordered. Profits to Concordia's general fund.

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




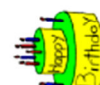

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Mail to: "Concordia History Book"
c/o Sylvia Teigen
915 4th Avenue South
Moorhead MN 56560

September 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 GREEN Communion 9:00am Coffee 10:00am Church	5  Labor Day	6	7	8	9 Neil & Polly Hanson  Doris Kassenborg	10
11 GREEN 9:00am Coffee 10:00am Church <i>HAPPY GRANDPARENTS DAY</i>	12  Ray & Tara Amundson	13 WELCA 1:30 PM  Sylvia Teigen	14	15	16	27
18 GREEN 9:00am Coffee 10:00am Church	19	20 	21  Dick & Mavis Wang	22	23  Curt Lynde	24
25 GREEN 9:00am Coffee 10:00am Church	26	27	28  Ray Amundson	29	30	31

Concordia News

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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

Web Edition: Alene Sladky

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

Concordia Lutheran Church/Cemetery Assoc.

6637 80th Avenue North

Glyndon, MN. 56547

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

www.concordianews.org

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

Handicap Accessible

Sunday Worship:

Coffee Hour: 9:00a.m

Worship Service: 10:00a.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



September 2011