



Concordia News

December 2011



Volume 6

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

Number 12



Dear Members and Friends of Concordia Lutheran:

We find ourselves in the darkest month of the year. What is interesting is that one prone to dark moods,

namely Martin Luther, would become upbeat even bouyant during Advent. I believe this was due to his faith and imagination. The seasons of the church year were not some abstract human creations but living reenactments of the original events for Luther. No wonder Luther's mood lifted this time of year. He was celebrating again the incarnation, Immanuel, God with us. We are no longer bumping along in darkness alone and without hope. God has intervened in subtle yet powerful ways through His Son Jesus Christ born as a baby for you and for me, in the most humble of circumstances. I commend to you this following excerpt provided by Gordon Conwell Seminary. I hope it is as edifying to you as it has been to me and that this Advent and Christmas would be a blessing to you and yours:

In the theological tumult that was Martin Luther's life, the great reformer seemed to be heartened each year by the great festivals of the church, particularly Advent and Christmas. The man who "invented" the Protestant parsonage was also sustained by a blazing sense of humor and a happy home life. It was open house all year in the large converted monastery at the east end of Wittenberg where Luther, his wife Katie, and their six children lived, along with numerous students who stayed there as well. One of them wrote that as Christmas approached, Luther grew increasingly cheerful: "All his words and songs and thoughts concerned the incarnation of our Lord. Then he sighed and said, 'Oh, we poor people that we should be so cold and indifferent to this great joy that has been given us. For this is indeed the greatest gift, which far exceeds all else that God has created. Yet we believe so sluggishly, even though the angels proclaim and preach and sing, and their lovely song sums up the whole Christian faith, for 'Glory to God in the highest' is the very heart of worship."

Luther's writings contain a multitude of references to Advent and Christmas. The following excerpt comes from a sermon on the Nativity that he preached in 1530:

If Christ had arrived with trumpets and lain in a cradle of gold, his birth would have been a splendid affair. But it would not be a comfort to me. He was rather to lie in the lap of a poor maiden and be thought of little significance in the eyes of the world. Now I can come to him. Now he reveals himself to the miserable in order not to give any impression that he arrives with great power, splendor, wisdom, and aristocratic manners. But upon his return on that Day, when he will oppose the high and the mighty, it will be different. Now he comes to the poor, who need a Savior, but then he will come as a Judge against those who are persecuting him now.

May God continue to Bless you all.

Pastor Bruce

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Announcements & Assignments



Meeting: December 13 Noon
Lunch: Potluck



Cookie Servers

- December 4 Delores Hagene
- December 11 Mavis Wang
- December 18 Polly Hanson
- December 25 Doris Kassenborg
- January 1 Becky Jegtvig
- January 8 Orpha Hoelstad
- January 15 Germaine Gress
- January 22 Osie Juve
- January 29 Regina Hanson

If you know of someone in the hospital or in need of a home visit, contact Pastor Bruce at 218-329-2245.



Concordianews.org

"The First Commandment" are the subject for Kids Corner in December. Kids Corner is located in the Congregation section of our website.

Congratulations, Pastor Bruce!



As most of you know, Pastor Bruce's "full time job" is as an Air Force chaplain. Last month he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.



Glory to God in the highest, and peach to everyone the earth.



Sunday
December 11
following services

Proceeds will be used to finance the garbage dumpster.



Fuel oil is a major expense for the congregation. As winter sets in, donations to the Church's general fund will be greatly appreciated!

Bring canned or boxed groceries to the church and put them in the box in the Church narthex. They will be brought to



- one of the following:
- ++ Dorothy Day House
- ++ Churches United for the Homeless
- ++ Bread of Life

Christmas is love in action. Every time we love, every time we give, its Christmas.



Your Donations

can be made in honor or in memory of a loved one or event. We'll send confirmation of your gift to the address you provide.

General Fund:

Make checks out to Concordia Lutheran Church and mail to:

Lloyd Gunderson
105 3 St N
Moorhead, MN, 56560

Concordia Newsletter

Make checks out to Concordia News and mail to:

Valdemar Hagene
6756 70 Ave N
Glyndon, MN 56547

Concordia Cemetery Association:

Make checks out to the association and mail to:

Ray Johnson
7333 70 St N
Glyndon, MN 56547

Donations

Concordia Cemetery Association

*In memory of the Partyke Family
Paul & Jennifer Partyke*



THANK YOU Andy Ulven (grandson of Doris Kassenborg) and his parents Kim and Rich for mowing and trimming the cemetery this summer.

THANK YOU Val Hagene for mowing and taking care of the Leif Erickson cemetery. The cemeteries look great!



A Thank You from Far Away

Pastor Bruce received this email from a home-schooling mom in the state of Virginia:

I would like to thank you for your monthly children's page. I have been using it for a couple of years now as a homeschooler who is not an evangelical Christian, I really appreciate the way the faith is put out there and the music and other activities that are tied into your program...It is our Friday afternoon activity each week and we just finished up with this months work today and my 10 year old was excited about what will be next month's subject and guesses what will be part of it... I have meant to say thank you to you and your staff for a long time now...It is really appreciated.

Karen Montgomery-Eliot, Alyssa, Molly and Eric

Now and then we receive emails of appreciation from around the world thanking us for 'Kids Corner.'

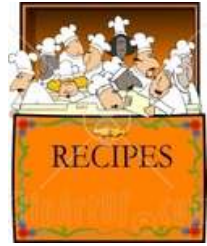
Thank you to everyone who helped decorate the church on Saturday, November 26. Thank you to Kathy and Orpha for the Christmas program and music with the lunch and fellowship that followed. A special start to the Advent season.



Recipe of the Month

Rullepølse

from the Norwegian-American Weekly



Ingredients

- 2 ½ lbs beef flank steak, butterflied (ask the butcher)
- 2 half-inch thick pork steaks
- 1 tbsp salt
- 1 tsp pepper
- 1 tsp ground ginger
- ½ tsp ground cloves
- ½ tsp sugar
- 1 medium onion, minced
- Beef bouillon

Directions

- Open flank steak to form rectangle, shiny side down. Pound to even thickness.
- Remove all bones and gristle from pork steaks and pound to even thickness.
- Mince onion, set aside
- Mix dry seasonings, except bouillon
- Sprinkle 1/3 seasonings onto steak and rub into the meat
- Sprinkle 1/3 onions onto seasoned surface of steak
- Place pork steaks over onions
- Sprinkle remaining seasonings and onions onto pork steak
- With the grain of the meat lengthwise, firmly roll the meat away from you. Tuck in stray ends.
- To close the roll, sew the final flap of meat to the roll. Tie a string around the meat lengthwise using clove hitches. Place the meat in a clean nylon knee-high and tie a knot in the end.
- Pierce the meat roll with a fork to prevent bursting.
- Place in pan, cover with water and add bouillon based on number of cups of water in pan
- Bring to a boil and then simmer slowly for 2 ½ to 3 hours (do NOT boil constantly)
- Place meat in flat pan and place a cutting board over the top, weighed down (e.g., with soup cans) to press out excess moisture and shape the meat into an oval.
- Press in refrigerator for 12 hours.
- Remove nylon, string, and all stitches
- Slice meat into thin slices.
- Serve on buttered rye bread



Three Services on Christmas?

In the earliest Christian days in Norway, people attended church three times at Christmas! The first service was a vigil that ended at midnight, which was believed to be the hour of Jesus' birth. This first service was also believed to represent the era before Christ's grace was known, so it was performed in darkness.

The second service was held at dawn, and represented the time when, although Christ was not yet among men, the prophets had foretold his coming and believers anxiously awaited his arrival (the coming of the light).

The daytime service, held at midday, celebrated the grace brought by Jesus' birth – destroying the darkness and bringing eternal light and life.

After the Reformation, the midnight service was abolished. A shortage of ministers meant that only one service could be held in most churches on Christmas. In some places the pastor had to cover so many miles to reach the churches in his parish that even one service in each congregation on Christmas Day was impossible. Christmas was officially extended to include December 26th and many communities held their Christmas services on that day.

December 26 is still an official holiday in Norway, and in America many Norwegian congregations (including Concordia) recognized this "Old Country" tradition by holding their community celebrations and children's programs the day after Christmas.

Why not *Kristmesse* in Norway?

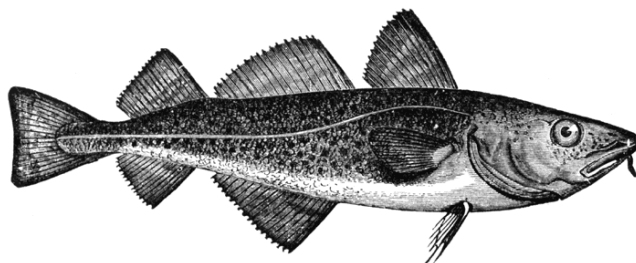


In Viking days, the winter solstice celebration was called Jól. When Haakon

the Good (920-960) introduced Christianity, he decided to combine the Old Norse celebration of Jól with the Christian observance of *Kristmesse*. Haakon outlawed animal sacrifice and other "heathen" practices associated with the ancient celebration, and traditional toasts to the Viking gods were replaced with toasts to Jesus and the Virgin Mary.

Haakon renounced Christianity on his deathbed, and it would be decades before it gained a real foothold in Norway. The name *Kristmesse* never caught on, and the Old Norse name for the winter solstice celebration (which was also celebrated in Great Britain as yule) has become synonymous with the celebration of Jesus' birth in Scandinavia.

Where did lutefisk come from?



Legend has it that the Vikings attacked a village and burned down the wooden stacks where the residents were drying cod. Water was poured on the fire to douse the flames. A few days later, as people were rummaging through the rubble, they found the cod had softened amidst the ash and water (i.e., lye). They boiled it and found it not only edible but quite tasty. And thus was lutefisk born!

Christmas Ideas

Are you looking for a unique gift for someone special at Christmas? Think about a "Concordia" gift!

- *Concordia Congregation and the Buffalo River Settlement* - copies of the book, magnets, and notecards are still available.
- T-shirts, caps, bags, mousepads and more are available with your credit card in Concordia's on-line store
- The 2010 Memorial Day slideshow of all of Concordia's veterans on DVD



Memorial Day DVDs benefit the Concordia Cemetery Fund.
Books and other Concordia gear benefit Concordia's General Fund.



Book Order Form

Concordia Congregation and the Buffalo River Settlement



Name _____

Address _____



Books

of Copies _____ X \$12.00 = _____

Large Print _____ X \$12.00 = _____

Notecards

Individual cards _____ X \$1.50= _____

Package of 5 _____ X \$6.00= _____



Magnets

"Old Concordia" _____ X \$4.00= _____

Concordia Today _____ X \$4.00= _____



Shipping:

of Books _____ X \$4.00= _____

No extra charge for Magnets & Notecards when purchased with a book

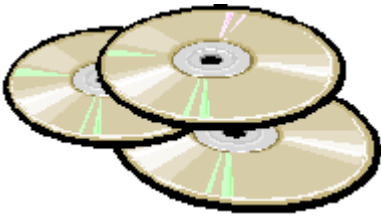
Magnet/Notecard order \$2.00= _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

Make checks payable to "Concordia General Fund"

Mail to:
Sylvia Teigen
915 4th Avenue South
Moorhead MN 56560

Memorial Day DVD Order Form



Name _____

Address _____

of DVDs _____ X \$10.00 = _____

Please send your check, made out to the Cemetery Association, to:
Ray Johnson
7333 70th Street North
Glyndon MN 56547



Visit

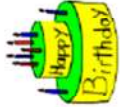
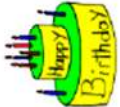



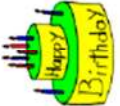
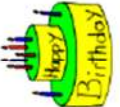


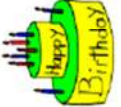
www.cafepress.com/concordialutheran



You can purchase the Concordia book, magnets and notecards with your credit card along with an interesting assortment of other "Concordia" gear on this website. Cafepress handles the sale, and Concordia receives a small commission on each item you purchase.



December 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1  Valdemar Hagene	2  Gordon Kassenborg Clinton Babolian	3
4 BLUE Communion 9:00am Coffee 10:00am Church	5 	6	7	8	9	10
11 BLUE 9:00am Coffee 10:00am Church 	12	13 WELCA Noon 	14	15	16  Paul Decker	17  Delores Hagene
18 BLUE 9:00am Coffee 10:00am Church	19	20	21	22	23	24 Christmas Eve
25 WHITE 9:00am Coffee 10:00am Church 	26	27 	28	29  Kristine Lynde	30	31 New Year's Eve

Concordia News

Remove from mailing list: _____

Add to mailing list: _____

Change of address: _____

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Mail to: Concordia Lutheran Church, 6637 80th Ave. N. Glyndon, MN. 56547

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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

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

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