



# Concordia News

## January 2012



Volume 7

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

Number 1



Dear Members and Friends  
of Concordia Lutheran:

While the season of Christmas extends into the first week of January, we are on the cusp of a far more bashful season, an often overlooked season of

Epiphany. Epiphany is literally God's revealing himself to humanity. The first Sunday of Epiphany is marked by the story of the Magi visiting Jesus. Here are what some authors say about this occasion:

Pastor Paul Martin writes the following about the Three Wise Men (the Magi): *Just 6 days ago, our thoughts were on Jesus in the manger. Then we found him visited by shepherds, men of little status whose working lives were such that they lacked the ritual cleanliness to be fully participating members of Israel's religious life which meant in effect being outsiders. Now we meet another group of outsiders, the mysterious Magi. We do not know when Matthew sees them as coming to visit Jesus. Often it is noted that they visit Jesus in a house as though this puts a considerable difference between the time of their visit and the earlier visit of the shepherds. However, this is not necessarily so. The Greek word that is often translated as "inn" in terms of no room at the inn, is "kataluma" which is only used elsewhere by Luke to refer to the arrangements for the upper room whilst in the Parable of the Prodigal Son, Luke uses a different word for a commercial inn. Given that most basic homes were one room homes with a lower level for animals who could reach up to a manger at the family living level, there is good reason to believe that Jesus was born in the main section of a home of relatives whilst the kataluma or spare room was already occupied. If so, the two visitations need not be far apart.*

*But what of these Magi? Their visit fits an Eastern pattern of great births being accompanied by momentous events in the sky. Certainly we know of a comet in 11 BCE in Gemini with its head towards Leo, seen by many as a symbol of Judah, which may have heightened messianic expectations. We also know of planetary conjunctions in both 7 BCE and 6 BCE which would have added to a sense that momentous happenings were on the way. Magi from present day Iran or Iraq would have noticed these things and taken them seriously. But who were they?*

One commentator, Brian Stoffregen puts it like this; *"Originally in Persia, Magi were dream-interpretaters. By Jesus' time, the term referred to astronomers, fortune-tellers, or star-gazers. In fact our word "magic" or "magician" comes from the word Magi. They were horoscope fanatics - a practice condemned by Jewish standards. We might compare the to people in fortune - teller booths, or people on the "psychic hotline" or other "occupations" that fore-tell the future by stars, tea leaves, Tarot cards etc. They were magicians, astronomers, star-gazers, pseudo-scientists, fortune tellers.."*

Another writer, Nathan Nettleton, puts it like this; *"They were the speakers of the sacred words at the pagan sacrifices. At worst, the term referred to a magician or sorcerer, or even a deceiver. Magi were people whose activities were repeatedly condemned and prohibited throughout the scriptures and were completely anathema to the people of Israel."*

What are the implications of Epiphany for us at Concordia? Perhaps it is that the presence of God is extended to those who are very different from ourselves and perhaps through these people we can be blessed. We may not agree with their beliefs or life styles but God may use these people as a blessing to us and to the world in ways that make us uncomfortable. Do we change our core beliefs because of this, of course not, but this is not to discount God's ability to work good through those that are outside of the Christian faith.

May you experience a measure of God's revelation of Himself through his Son Jesus Christ and through that experience receive the blessing of new life.

God Bless,  
Pastor Bruce

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Announcements and Assignments



No Meeting in January



Cookie Servers

January 1	Becky Jegtvig
January 8	Orpha Hoelstad
January 15	Delores Hagene
January 22	WELCA
January 29	WELCA
February 5	Polly Hanson
February 12	Sylvia Teigen
February 19	Doris Kassenborg
February 26	Linda Koester

The server rotation was changed but we did not have the list at the time of December's newsletter publication. This has now been corrected.

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 Seventh Commandment" is the subject for Kids Corner in January. Kids Corner is located in the Congregation section of our website.

Join the Cemetery Committee!



Two Cemetery Committee Member positions are expiring this year and if you or anyone you know is interested in serving on the Cemetery Committee, contact one of the following members for any questions or nominations:

- Aron Kassenborg 701-238-1950
- Gerald Hagene 701-261-4234
- Ray Johnson 701-238-4218.

Christmas "Un-Trimming"

We will meet to take down the Christmas decorations on Saturday, January 14 at 10:00 am and have coffee and cookies.



ANNUAL MEETINGS Congregation and Cemetery Association Sunday, February 5, 2012

A potluck dinner follows worship and precedes the congregation's annual meeting, The cemetery association meeting will follow the congregation's annual meeting.

From the Ole & Lena files



Ripped from da Headlines

Before construction of a new skyscraper could begin in New York City, archeologists were called in to examine the ground to a depth of 150 feet. They were surprised when at 25 feet they found copper wire. The New York Times reported that the copper dated to the late 1800's and proved that the city had an extensive telephone network earlier than had previously been suspected.

The Los Angeles Times then reported that an archeological dig in the oldest sections of Los Angeles found copper wire dating to the mid-1800's and concluded that the early Spanish settlers had a sophisticated communications system in place decades before New York.

Ole heard these reports on the news in Frostbite Falls. He and Sven decided to see what they could find. The Frostbite Herald reported that the duo figured they'd dug down about 300 years worth and found absolutely nothing. The paper boasted that these local 'archeologists' had confirmed that Minnesota had already gone wireless by the end of the 1700's.

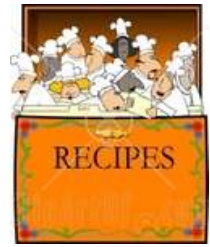
On New Year's Eve ... an optimist stays up to see the New Year in while a pessimist stays up to see the old year gone ...

# Donations

With Our Thanks

## Recipe of the Month

### Superbowl Cheesecake Spread



#### Concordia Cemetery Association

*In memory of Robert Burke*  
Mike & Donna Burke  
Matthew Burke Family  
Kara Orsini

*In memory of Harold Anderson*  
Harold Anderson Family

*In memory of Lucilla Anderson*  
Harold Anderson Family

#### Concordia Newsletter

*In Memory of Walter Engesetter*  
Lois Jensen

#### Concordia Lutheran Church

*In Memory of Harold and Lucilla Anderson*  
Harold Anderson Family



**Thank you** to the following members who purchased poinsettias for the church during this Christmas season.

*In Memory of Orabel, Eva, and Stella*  
Chuck and Holly Hedstrom

#### *In Memory of Loved Ones*

Doris Kassenborg	Mavis Wang
Ella Swanson	Delores Hagene
Regina Hanson	Lloyd Gunderson
Sylvia Teigen	Orpha Hoelstad
Harold Horpedahl	Kathy Krogstad
Kirby and Candy Kassenborg	



**Thank you** to all for supporting the cemetery with your thoughts and prayers, memorials, and donated time throughout the year.

Have a Happy and Blessed New Year!

*Concordia Cemetery Committee*

#### Martin Luther King Day – Jan. 16

Forgiveness is not an occasional act, it is a constant attitude.

*~Martin Luther King, Jr*

#### Ingredients

2 8-oz pkgs of cream cheese, softened  
1 cup finely chopped celery  
1 medium green pepper, finely chopped  
1 small onion, finely chopped  
3 hard boiled eggs, chopped  
2 tablespoons lime juice  
1 tsp salt  
1 tsp Worcestershire sauce  
1 tsp paprika  
¼ tsp hot pepper sauce  
1 ½ cups crushed cheese crackers  
1 ¼ cups thick & chunky picante sauce

#### Directions

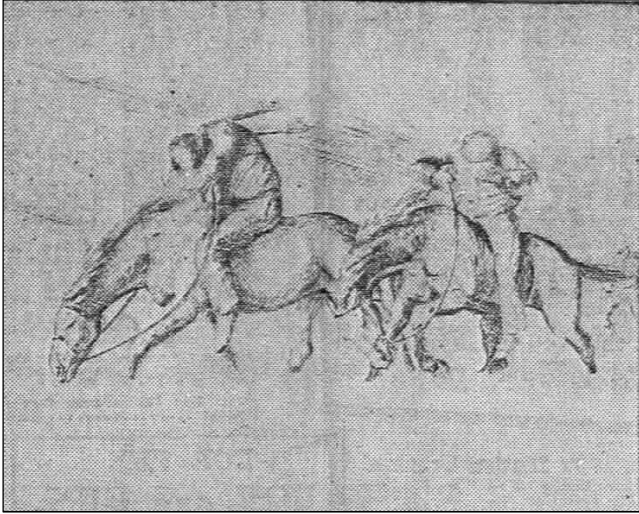
- In a large bowl, combine all ingredients except crackers and picante sauce
- Spread mixture evenly into lightly greased 9-inch springform pan
- Cover and chill 24 hrs to allow flavors to blend
- When ready to serve, remove sides of pan
- Sprinkle top with crushed crackers
- Spoon picante sauce into center of cheesecake
- Serve with crackers

#### Recipe for a New Year

Take twelve fine, full-grown months; see that these are thoroughly free from old memories of bitterness, rancor and hate, cleanse them completely from every clinging spite; pick off all specks of pettiness and littleness; in short, see that these months are freed from all the past—have them fresh and clean as when they first came from the great storehouse of Time. Cut these months into thirty or thirty-one equal parts. Do not attempt to make up the whole batch at one time (so many persons spoil the entire lot this way) but prepare one day at a time.

Into each day put equal parts of faith, patience, courage, work (some people omit this ingredient and so spoil the flavor of the rest), hope, fidelity, liberality, kindness, rest (leaving this out is like leaving the oil out of the salad dressing— don't do it), prayer, meditation, and one well-selected resolution. Put in about one teaspoonful of good spirits, a dash of fun, a pinch of folly, a sprinkling of play, and a heaping cupful of good humor.

## Along the Buffalo



Story and Sketch by Orabel Thortvedt  
As published in the *Fargo Forum*, 1941

Few of the Buffalo River folk experienced a worse winter storm than that of 1873. It came in the early part of January. The day dawned beautifully and Gunder Lee and Ola Midgarden took the Olav Thortvedt horses, Jim and Roudy, and drove to the J. P. Farmer homestead to help thresh grain with the flail method. Tarjei Skrei also was in the party.

In the afternoon the sky became leaden. Soon heavy snowflakes began to fall. The three men laid aside their flails and set off for home. It was none too soon. The temperature dropped fast and the wind came in from the north with biting ferocity, the icy blast all but taking the breath of the men. Their eyebrows, eyelashes, and beards became stiff with icicles. They could not ride fast (see sketch) for Tarjei Skrei was on foot and they were afraid of losing him. It was not long before they lost the trail, but they kept on doggedly and finally recognized a familiar landmark, the Skrei *slua* or slough. They followed the timber and were home, a thankful group of men.

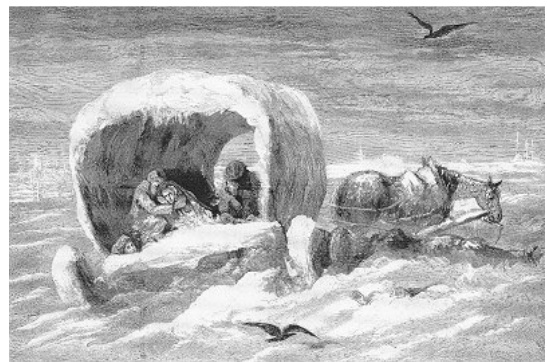
Despite the ferocity of winter storms, there is no record of any Buffalo River folk losing their lives. They were alert to changes in the weather and frequently glanced skyward as they went about their tasks. Their warm homespuns kept them comfortable and they struggled on.

## More about the Blizzard of 1873

The worst blizzard Minnesota ever experienced occurred January 7, 8, & 9 1873. It began as a mild day, with people enjoying the remarkably sunny warmth outside in their shirtsleeves. Dark clouds appeared in the west, and when the blizzard struck, the temperature dropped over 50 degrees. Many were stranded in their buggies or on horseback as the wind whipped into a frenzy that made it "impossible to see the horsewhip in your hand." Their plight was compounded because so many were not wearing their winter garb. 70 people froze to death; hundreds of cattle and other livestock froze in their pastures. Thousands of dollars worth of property was destroyed.











As the storm raged on, many were forced outdoors to bring in firewood, only to find their woodpiles buried under a mountain of snow. There were reports of farmers getting lost between house and barn and freezing to death within feet of safety. Snowdrifts, some reported to be two stories tall, stranded trains on the railroad tracks for days.

The storm covered much of the Midwest, reaching from Kansas and Nebraska to the Canadian prairie provinces. It was covered in eastern papers and magazines. Minnesota's legislature appropriated \$5,000 (\$90,000 in today's dollars) to help the victims of the storm, but that sum didn't even cover the bills submitted by doctors who had cared for frostbite victims!



Sketch from *Harper's Weekly* - February 15, 1873

# January 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 WHITE 9:00am Coffee 10:00am Worship  <b>HAPPY NEW YEAR!</b></p>	2	<p>3 Sally Horpedahl </p>	4	5	<p>6 Germaine Gress </p>	7
<p>8 WHITE 9:00am Coffee 10:00am Worship</p>	9	<p>10 Eddie Edwards </p>	<p>11 'Polly Hanson </p>	12	13	<p>14 <b>10 AM</b> <b>Christmas</b> <b>Un-trimming</b> </p>
<p>15 GREEN 9:00am Coffee 10:00am Worship</p>	<p>16 <b>MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY OF SERVICE</b></p>	17	<p>18 Harriet Wangberg </p>	19	20	21
<p>22 GREEN 9:00am Coffee 10:00am Worship  Dalan Rasmussen</p>	23	24	25	26	<p>27 </p>	28
<p>15 29 GREEN 9:00am Coffee 10:00am Worship</p>	<p>30 Irene Olson </p>	31				

## Concordia News

Remove from mailing list: \_\_\_\_\_

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City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

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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

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

To submit an item for the newsletter:

**E-mail:** [news@concordianews.org](mailto: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](http://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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**JANUARY 2012**