

# Concordia News – Large Print

March 2013

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A newsletter for members, families,  
and friends of

Volume 8

Concordia Lutheran Church and Concordia  
Cemetery Association

Number 3



ISSN 2152-3339

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*From Pastor Bruce*



Dear Members and Friends of Concordia Lutheran:

At the beginning of Lent, we read in the Gospel of Luke about Jesus' 40 days in the wilderness as being the first event immediately following his baptism, which was the inauguration of his ministry. The number 40 weaves its way through scripture. As we track the usage of this number (40) throughout scripture we see some very important themes accompanying it. I pass on the following portion of the online resource Wikipiedia for your information.

Good Friday services will be March 29 and Easter will be March 31. Lenten services will follow a simple supper (5:00 on Wednesdays) which will continue through March 20th.

I wish you and yours a blessed Lent,

*Pastor Bruce*

*The number forty has many Biblical references: the forty days Moses spent on Mount Sinai with God (Exodus 24:18); the forty days and nights Elijah spent walking to Mount Horeb (1 Kings*

*From Pastor Bruce*

*19:8); the forty days and nights God sent rain in the great flood of Noah (Genesis 7:4); the forty years the Hebrew people wandered in the desert while traveling to the Promised Land (Numbers 14:33); the forty days Jonah gave in his prophecy of judgment to the city of Nineveh in which to repent or be destroyed (Jonah 3:4).*

*Jesus retreated into the wilderness, where He fasted for forty days, and was tempted by the devil (Matthew 4:1–2, Mark 1:12–13, Luke 4:1–2). He overcame all three of Satan’s temptations by citing scripture to the devil, at which point the devil left Him, angels ministered to Jesus, and He began His ministry. Jesus further said that His disciples should fast "when the bridegroom shall be taken from them" (Matthew 9:15), a reference to his Passion. Since, presumably, the Apostles commemoration of his burial.*

*It is the traditional belief that Jesus lay for forty hours in the tomb[9] which led to the forty hours of total fast that preceded the Easter celebration in the early Church[11] (the biblical reference to ‘three days in the tomb’ is understood as spanning three days, from Friday afternoon to early Sunday morning, rather than three 24 hour periods of time). One of the most important ceremonies at Easter was the baptism of the initiates on Easter Eve. The fast was initially undertaken by the fasted as they mourned the death of*

*From Pastor Bruce*

*Jesus, Christians have traditionally fasted during the annual catechumens to prepare them for the reception of this sacrament. Later, the period of fasting from Good Friday until Easter Day was extended to six days, to correspond with the six weeks of training, necessary to give the final instruction to those converts who were to be baptized.*

*Converts to Catholicism followed a strict catechumenate or period of instruction and discipline prior to baptism. In Jerusalem near the close of the fourth century, classes were held throughout Lent for three hours each day. With the legalization of Christianity (by the Edict of Milan) and its later imposition as the state religion of the Roman Empire, its character was endangered by the great influx of new members. In response, the Lenten fast and practices of self-renunciation were required annually of all Christians, both to show solidarity with the catechumens, and for their own spiritual benefit.*

*Announcements and Assignments*



**Date: March 12, 2013**

**Time: 1:30 p.m.**

**Place: Fryn' Pan**



## Coffee and Cookie Servers

### March

### April

March 3 Osie Juve

April 8 Mavis Wang

March 10 Irene Olson

April 15 Phylis Nelson

March 17 Carolyn Edwards

April 22 Barb Grover

March 24 Regina Hanson

April 29 Orpha Hoelstad

March 31 Germaine Gress

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 Importance of Good Friday” is the subject for Kids Corner in March.

*Announcements and Assignments*



## **Don't Forget**

### **Daylight Savings Begins**

**Sunday March 10**

Set your clocks back one hour before going to bed Saturday, March 9!

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## **Join us Wednesdays in March!**

**Lenten services** continue. Each Wednesday during Lent join us for an evening meal at 5:00 p.m. followed by services at 6:00 p.m.



Lenten supper and services will continue on

March 6            March 20

March 13          March 27

*Announcements and Assignments*

# Church Dinner



## **PALM SUNDAY**

following worship

on March 24

Free will Offering

**Spring Luncheon  
at Concordia Church**  
May 18, 2013  
**Growing Up in Occupied Norway  
during WWII**  
Guest Speaker: Kjell Hoelstad

**Do you still have old copies of the *Informer*?**



All of the old issues of Concordia News can be found in the "Newsletter" section of our website. Now and then someone inquires about a story, recipe, or obituary that

## *Announcements and Assignments*

appeared prior to March of 2006 in our previous newsletter, *The Informer*.

If you have one or more issues of the old church newsletter (or know where we can find them), we'd like to borrow and scan the original(s) for the website so they are available to people interested in "old news."

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Sadly, we no longer have vacation bible school at Concordia in the summer. Those of us who did attend VBS at Concordia have great memories of that experience. We'd like to collect stories and photos of your recollections about Vacation Bible School at Concordia for the June edition of the *Concordia News*.



Do you have special memories of any of the programs that you participated in? Who were your teachers? What kinds of craft projects did you make? What games did you play?

Send to Karolynn Teigen Decker, 915 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, Moorhead, 56560; or email to [news@concordianews.org](mailto:news@concordianews.org) Deadline for these submissions is May 17, 2013.

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*With Our Thanks*

# **Donations**

## **Concordia Cemetery Fund**

*In Memory of Evangeline Johnson*

Donald and Wendy Johnson

*In Memory of Alton Mjolsness*

Family of Alton Mjolsness

*In memory of Doris Eidem*

Harold and Sally Horpedahl

(inadvertently omitted in previous issues)

## **Concordia News**

*In memory of Valdemar Hagene*

Irene Morken Hogstad

*In Memory of George Lee*

Lorna & Burton Rockstad

Orpha & Kjell Hoelstad

Osie Juve

Ella Swanson

*With Our Thanks*

# **More Donations**

## **Concordia News (cont'd)**

*In memory of Will and Luella Grover*

Susie Offutt

### *Donations*

Jean Anderson      Clinton Babolian

Jim Skree          Amy Kragnes

Harry & Phyllis Fillafer

Ralph & Barb Grover

Lois Horpedahl

## **Concordia General Fund**

*In Memory of George Lee*

Delores Hagene and family

Myron Hagene      Regina Hanson

Gordon & Sue Kassenborg

Mavis & Richard Wang

*With Our Thanks*

# **More Donations**

## **Concordia General Fund (*cont'd*)**

Jim & Linda Koester

Neil & Polly Hanson

## **Concordia Church**

*In Memory of Gene Kragnes*

Stacking chairs with arms for the dining room

and new cushions for the altar chairs



## **Concordia Boards**

At the annual meeting on February 3, **church officers** were elected as follows:

President: Gordon Kassenborg    Secretary: Sylvia Teigen

Treasurers: Neil & Polly Hanson

Directors: Irene Olson                      Wescott Tommerdahl

Walter Teigen                      Harold Horpedahl

## *With Our Thanks*

Sincere thanks are extended to retiring president Don Johnson and directors Lloyd Gunderson and Karolynn Teigen

Cemetery **association board members** were re-elected:

President: Aron Kassenborg

Treasurer: Ray Johnson

Board Members: Wescott Tommerdahl

Gerald Hagene

Harold Horpedahl

Two cemetery board positions remain vacant. If interested in serving, contact Aron or Ray.

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### **From the Mailbag ....**

I can hardly wait for next month's issue of the newsletter! One of the first things at Concordia after I came was an exhibit of her paintings that had been loaned for the exhibit. I also met and called on Orabel while I was at Concordia.



Pastor Wes Mathre

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## Recipe of the Month

### Apple Spice Cake



#### Ingredients

3 Granny Smith apples

2 MacIntosh apples

3 cups all-purpose flour

¼ tsp salt

4 large eggs

1 cup vegetable oil

2 ½ tsp vanilla extract

1 TB fresh lemon juice

1 ½ tsp baking soda

1 1/8 tsp cinnamon

2 cups granulated sugar

½ cup orange juice

Confectioners sugar

#### Directions

- Preheat oven to 350
- Halve all 5 apples and cut them into ½ inch wedges Toss in lemon juice in a large bowl
- Coat 9 X 13 cake pan with cooking spray. Line with parchment, leaving an overhang on two sides.
- Mix flour, baking soda, and 1 tsp cinammon

## *Recipe of the Month*

- In a large bowl, whisk together eggs, sugar, oil, orange juice and vanilla
  - Add flour to egg mixture and mix until just combined.
  - Add half the apples to the flour mixture and spread evenly in pan.
  - Arrange remaining apples on top. Sprinkle with remaining cinnamon.
  - Bake 50-60 minutes, until a toothpick inserted in the center of the cake comes out clean.
  - Cool for 15 minutes in the pan. Use the overhanging parchment to transfer the cake to a wire rack to cool completely.
  - Dust with confectioners sugar and serve.
- 

### **Where did the tradition of eating fish on Friday come from?**

Early Christians fasted on Friday because Jesus was crucified on a Friday. In those days, meat was a luxury food. Anyone could afford vegetables or catch a fish in a lake or a stream. So meat was rich people's food and fish was poor people's food. That is why the most common form of fasting was to omit meat and eat fish.

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## Orabel's Altarpiece (part 2)

*By Markus Krueger*

*of the Historical & Cultural Society of Clay County*

*Reprinted by permission from the society newsletter*

Then came October, 1936. Orabel and her sister Flo, roommates in Minneapolis, were called home because their mother needed surgery. She came out of the operation but did not recover. On October 6<sup>th</sup>, Ingabor Thortvedt died with her children at her bedside. Her body was brought home for the visitation. Orabel's painting of *Christ in the Garden of Gethsemane* hung in the southwest corner of the room. In her tear-jerking account of her mother's death in the 1934-1937 Thortvedt Family Diary, Orabel wrote "It was a hard day for dad – when he hobbled painfully on his crutches to the coffin to take his first look at his sweetheart and wife – dry sobs wracked his frame...It was a love-match – mama confided to us daughters that papa was the only one she cared for – They had their ups and downs in their marital life but love did not die on either side – and dad paid mother the biggest compliment any person can pay another and that is to die of grief for her."

Orabel said goodbye to her father for the last time on October 13<sup>th</sup> as she and Flo returned to Minneapolis. Orabel returned to her work. She was doing an ink drawing of some Pekinese dogs when her roommate Florence “Girlie” Johnk tapped her on the shoulder, on the verge of tears. The phone had rung but Orabel, being mostly deaf, could not hear it. She scrambled for her hearing aid. “Is it papa!” Orabel asked. The old pioneer was not expected to live through the night. Orabel frantically packed her bags and borrowed \$4 for cab fare and a ticket home.

Orabel Thortvedt was at a crossroads in her life. Stay in Minneapolis and continue her artistic career or go home to the farm and family. Just before her father died she put all of her money into art supplies, a sign that she fully intended to continue in Minneapolis as a working artist until she lost both of her parents within three weeks. If she agonized over the decision return home, she did not write about it in any accounts that we have come across in the archives. Orabel took over Levi Thortvedt’s duties of writing the family diary and keeping the family stories.

Orabel tried to continue working as an artist at the farm. While it was very difficult to make a living as an artist in Minneapolis, it



was all but impossible to make it as a working artist in 1930s Fargo-Moorhead. She found a few patrons, most importantly Helen and W.W. Wallwork. Helen was a former president of the Fine Arts Club and her husband owned show horses and race horses, ironic considering that, as one of the area's early car salesmen, he was



responsible for taking a lot of horses off the roads. Orabel did some illustrations for a book and submitted two short stories to magazines but nothing was published. She worked on a portrait of her grandfather, Ola Thortvedt, in her attic studio.

Meanwhile, the Concordia Lutheran Church was rising from the rubble. On November 12, 1936, less than two weeks after her father died, the Thortvedt house received visitors. “[A]t noon

*Orabel tried to repair the original*

Rev Runsvold and Mr. Swanson came to get measurements of “Gethsemane” – the old painting that I had restored after it had been ravaged by the tornado.” They came for the repaired 1894 painting but they left intent on convincing the congregation to choose Orabel’s version of the scene instead. “There will be a meeting next Monday in which Rev Runsvold will put it to vote to see if the Congregation will want my painting as altar piece and the old one to be put down in the Sunday School room” Orabel wrote in the diary that day. “I would indeed be honored if my picture is chosen – one of my cherished dreams come true.”

*This story concludes in the next issue of Concordia News.*

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## **Easter in Norway**

A unique Norwegian tradition is the publishing of series of books as "Easter-Thrillers" or *Påskekrimmen*. Norwegians decorate their houses with yellow chicken figurines. Easter break lasts from the Wednesday before Easter through the Tuesday after. People look forward to spending time with their families and taking holiday trips for Easter.



# Dates to Remember

## ***Worship Services every Sunday***

Coffee Hour: 9 a.m.

Worship: 10 a.m.

Communion 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month

## ***Lenten Services 6:00 p.m. Supper: 5:00 p.m.***

March 6

March 20

March 13

March 27

***Ham Dinner*** Sunday, March 24 following worship

***WELCA*** March 12, 2013 1:30 p.m.

## ***Birthdays***

March 1 Peggy Kragnes

March 7 Kathy Grover

March 20 Karolynn Decker

March 27 Dick Wang

March 30 David Kragnes

## ***Anniversaries***

March 22 Jim & Linda Koester

March 23 Ralph & Barb Grover

March 31 David & Peggy Kragnes

**March 2013**

ISSN 2152-3339

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

*To submit an item for the newsletter:*

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