

Concordia News – Large Print

April 2017

Volume 12

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

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From Pastor Bruce



This coming season of Lent, Concordia Lutheran will be using a drama series based on Martin Luther's teachings in recognition of the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation. The following is a very good summary of what Lent means to Lutherans provided from Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church in

Virginia:

The season of Lent is a time of reflection and soul searching. It has been a time of preparation for Easter since the earliest days of the church and a preparation for Holy Baptism. Lent is observed as 40 days beginning on Ash Wednesday and ending on Maundy Thursday. All churches with a history before 1500 AD observe Lent. The ancient churches that propagated the New Testament believed observing was a commandment of the apostles.

In the Western Church Sunday is a day of the Resurrection, therefore we skip Sundays in the calculation of the length of Lent. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, the seventh Wednesday before Easter. The last day before Lent has become the "last fling" before the solitude of Lent. This day may be called Mardi Gras,

Shrove Tuesday, Carnival or *Fasching*. By custom, we fast during Lent by abstaining from eating meat during Lent. This is why some refer to the festival Carnival which is Latin for Farewell to Meat.

Eastern churches do not skip Sundays in calculating the length of Lent or as they refer to it as Great Lent. Great Lent begins on Clean Monday, the seventh Monday before Easter and ends the Friday before Palm Sunday and uses the eastern date of Easter. The Lenten fast is relaxed on weekends in honor of Saturday and Sunday. Great Lent is followed by Lazarus Saturday and Palm Sunday. These are feast days and then the fast resumes on Monday of Holy Week. Holy Week is a separate season from Great Lent in the Eastern Church.

Why 40 days? There are 40 days in lent, which represent a time of fasting from both foods and festivities. There are three practices during Lent – Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. Some people will give up something they like or money for Lent and donate the time or money to charity. It is a time of reflection with a break in the fast on Sundays. For the Roman Catholic Church, other liturgical Christian churches, Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday form the Easter Triduum. Lent is a season of penitence that ends with a celebration of Easter. In the Eastern Orthodox circles, Lent is known as Bright Sadness. In former times, food was stored in the autumn

From Pastor Bruce

and was running out or would spoil if not used up. Few or no new crops were due. This may be the origin of the semi-fast. For the Roman Catholic Mass, the Lutheran Divine Service and Anglican Eucharist, the Gloria in Excelsis Deo and the Alleluia are not sung during the Lenten season.

The Liturgical calendar relives major events in Jesus' life in real time, which is why Lent is 40 days. Assuming Jesus was born on December 25th, his conception, his incarnation, would have been nine months earlier or about March 25th. That would have been when the angel Gabriel would have announced to Mary the birth of Jesus.

The forty day period is symbolic of many things:

- **Moses & Elijah** spent forty days in the wilderness
- **Noah** had rain for forty days and forty nights
- **The Jews** wandered forty years to the promised land
- **Jonah** gave the city of Nineveh forty days to repent
- **Jesus** fasted forty days in the wilderness with temptation.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Bruce

Coffee and Cookie Servers

April 2	Germaine Gress	May 7	Orpha Hoelstad
April 9	Mavis Wang	May 14	Polly Hanson
April 16	Lloyd Gunderson	May 21	Barb Grover
April 23	Sue Kassenborg	May 28	Kathy Krogstad
April 30	Myron Hagene		



Lenten Service on April 5 – Supper at 5 pm,

Services follow



Maundy Thursday Communion Service

April 13 – Service begins at 5 pm

CELEBRATE THE RESURRECTION!

Easter Services at 10 a.m. April 16



**Bible
STUDY**
Join us!

BIBLE STUDY

No Bible study in April



Concordia Ladies

Tuesday, April 11

1:30 p.m. Fryn' Pan

Join the ROMEOS!

Retired Old Men Eating Out

7:30 a.m. Friday, April 28 - Fryn' Pan



Pastoral Care

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*

The lesson for Kid's Corner in April is "Holy Week." Kid's Corner is located in the congregation section of our website.



Veterans Coffee Hour

Fargo Air Museum

1609 19th Avenue North, Fargo

Wednesday, April 12

10 a.m. – Noon



We are the People of Easter and Hallelujah is our song!

Church Dinner



Ham Dinner

Palm Sunday – April 9, 2017

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Free Will Offering



One-Room Schoolhouse Stories

Do you have a story or memory about any of the one room schoolhouses that served our community? If you have information, pictures or memories to share in *Concordia*

News, email them to news@concordianews.org or mail them to Alene at 6938 State Hwy 200 NW, Laporte MN. Alene put the story about the Grover School in “Bits and Pieces” together for a project in one of her Norwegian-American groups.

With Our Thanks

Donations

Concordia Cemetery Fund

In memory of the Partyke Family

Jenifer Partyke

In memory of Merle Bekkerus

Marge Bekkerus

Don Johnson

In memory of Sid Snartland

Phillip Snartland

Concordia News

In memory of Burton Rockstad

Lorna Rockstad

Donation

Roger Kragnes

The first of April we remember what we are the other 364
days of the year.

~Mark Twain

The Grover School



When Tarje Grover and his wife Geline Kassenborg moved to the Buffalo River Settlement in 1874, one of their first projects was to establish a school on the corner of their property. Tarje purchased the materials and provided most of the

labor to build the school. Their son Edward served as the teacher with occasional assistance from older brother Gustav.

Later their daughter Elise and son Otto taught for short periods of time. The family also provided room and board for the school's teachers. The school served the community until 1935.

The original school burned down in the early 1890s and was replaced by the current structure.

Each year all school districts in Minnesota were



required to file a student census. Tarje's son Otto Grover was the

school board clerk in 1915 when he reported 18 students from 8 families living in district 6 (not all attended the Grover school).

The school day began at 9 a.m. and concluded between 3:30 and 4:00 p.m. There was a 15-minute recess at mid-morning and again in mid-afternoon. Lunch was brought from home. Orabel Thortvedt wrote about school lunches in her journals: "I can feel the gnawing pain of an empty stomach so closely associated with our Grover School days - we certainly had plain fare in our lunch pails – if fruit should be included we'd stiffen and blush with self consciousness....and then to witness before our very eyes the delectable lunches of the Fuches, Raes, Klevens and Richards..... Little Alice Gunderson enjoyed plain fare too, mostly mustard for sandwich spread and when she chanced to have fruit, she'd invariably give it away – she was that big hearted – if one refused, she would chase one around the schoolhouse 'till she could force it into one's hand. The Muhle kids usually had bread spread thick with fine sour cream and sugar and doughnuts; and Johnnie, who was unusually fond of doughnuts and would, given the chance eat a good many, earned the nickname 'Doughnuts.'"

After eating the children could spend the rest of the 1-hour lunch period playing games outside. Older boys were expected to carry in wood for the stove during the winter (adults usually donated and cut

the wood), and the girls might be tasked with melting snow for water in the winter or bringing it up from the nearby river in the warmer months. Younger children handled simpler tasks: cleaning the blackboard and erasers, sweeping the floor or bringing garbage out to the burn barrel.

The school was a social center in the community. In March of 1928, the *Moorhead Daily News* reported “Seventy-five people enjoyed the program at the Parent-Teachers meeting at the Grover School last night. Following a short humorous playlet by several pupils of the school, Supt. Dewey of Glyndon gave a highly interesting and extremely instructive talk about his experiences in the Philippines as a teacher. Mrs. Dewey wore the costume of the high-class native woman. D. A. Caldwell played and sang. Refreshments were served. Miss Gladys Gutaw of this city is in her second year of teaching at the school.” There were less than 20 students, many of whom were siblings, so the attendance number reflected the interest of the entire close-knit community.

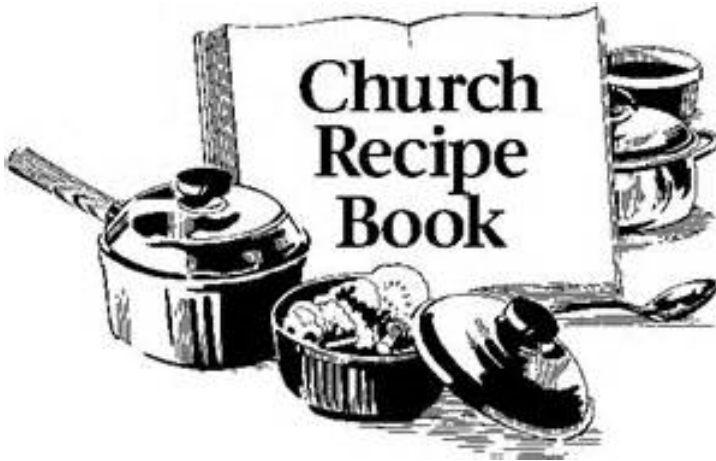
Moorhead State Teacher’s college maintained close contact with the rural schools in the area. Each spring MSTC sponsored a “Play Day” that brought all the rural schoolchildren, their teachers and parents together for a day of games, contests, singing and skits on the college campus. Students proudly dressed in their school colors

(Grover School's were blue and white). "Play Day" was a highlight of the year. The college's positive involvement with the rural schools was an excellent recruitment tool for the college's laboratory high school. When the time came for the 'country kids' to head to high school, most rural students selected the MSTC High School Baby Dragons over the Moorhead public school's Spuds!

The Grover School is the last intact one room schoolhouse in Clay County, largely due to the restoration and preservation efforts of the property's current owners, Tom and Sherry Watt. A reconstructed belfry and the original bell were raised into place in 2012. If you or your family enjoy geocaching, the Grover School is on the list! Park in the driveway and you'll find the geocache near a utility pole.

Thanks to John Hammett, who provided a current photo and a copy of Orabel's journal entry about the Grover School.

COOKBOOK ORDER FORM



We are doing a cookbook. The proceeds from the cookbook will go to the General Fund.

We will ship the cookbook to you when they arrive, which will be around Mother's Day.

Price per book \$15.00

Shipping & Handling 4.00

Total Cost per book \$17.00

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

How many copies: _____

Extra copies will be available after this date at the cost of \$15.00 per book, plus S&H.

Make checks out to: Concordia Lutheran Church

Send to: Sue Kassenborg

5955 80th Ave. N.

Glyndon, MN 56547

Dates to Remember

Worship Services every Sunday

Coffee Hour: 9 a.m. Worship: 10 a.m.

Communion 1st Sunday of the month

Lenten Supper and Services April 5

Supper at 5 p.m., Services follow

Palm Sunday Ham Dinner April 9, following worship

Maundy Thursday Communion Service April 13, 5:00

Concordia Women 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 11

Veteran Coffee Hour 10 a.m., Wednesday, April 12

ROMEOS 7:30 a.m., Friday, April 28

Birthdays

April 10 Regina Hanson

April 14 Lee Eidem

April 16 Kjell Hoelstad

Anniversaries

April 9 Gordon & Sue Kassenborg

April 2017

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: Sylvia Teigen

915 4th Avenue South

Moorhead MN 56560



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