



Volume 13

Concordia News

May 2018



Number 5

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

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A Mother's Day Story of Hope

by Holley Gerth

It started with a wedding, a boy and a girl standing at the altar. They said “*I do*” and it seemed so simple. Years later when they thought about having children they said “*we will*” and thought it would be the same. Only it wasn't. Instead of picking out pink or blue onesies they stared month after month at single pink lines on pregnancy tests.

There were tears and prayers, moments of anger and frustration, loss and a little one that slipped to heaven before even a “*hello*” on earth. They wondered what family would look like for them, if maybe they had done something wrong or had been disqualified.

Then one night she watched a special on television about foster kids who age out of the system, who are told at eighteen, “*have a nice life.*” She wondered who would cheer for them at their college graduation, walk them down the aisle, rock their babies, who they would call when they lost a job or just had a bad day. “*That's not okay,*” she said, “*Not okay at all.*”

In the meantime, God showed her that she didn't have to be a physical mother to still be a Mama. In Genesis Eve is called “*the mother of all living.*” All women are mothers, she discovered, because *all women bring life into the world in some way.* So she birthed books and her friends threw her a book shower. Through her books, she got to mother women all over the world. She started to heal but there was still a place deep inside saved for someone. She prayed for her child who was out there somewhere without knowing a name or face.

Years went by and she was invited to a banquet at *Saving Grace*, a place for girls who age out of the foster system or would otherwise be homeless. She met a twenty-year-old young woman that night and she knew almost right away, “*This is my daughter.*” Her husband agreed. It took time. There were lunches and conversations and hugs and misunderstandings and prayers and they did the awkward dance of becoming family until they knew it by heart. One day that girl, Lovelle, moved into their guest bedroom. Took their last name. Called them “*Mom and Dad.*” Later Lovelle met a boy and her Dad walked her down the aisle in a white dress. She and the groom said “*I do*” too.

More time passed and last fall Lovelle called, emotion in her voice. “*Mom, I'm pregnant,*” she said. And I almost dropped the phone because this Mother's Day story is mine. *I'm going to be a Grandma.* Just last week I sat next to my daughter at another banquet for *Saving Grace*. I leaned over and placed my hand on her beautiful belly. And I felt a flutter, my granddaughter saying “*hello*” for the first time.

My eyes filled with tears. I thought of Mark and I on our wedding day, all those pink lines, meeting Lovelle, becoming a family, her wedding day too and the moment I knew that we would be grandparents. Then I imagined what years from now may hold as I hold that little girl—story times and bubble baths and trips to the zoo to see long-necked giraffes. *Oh, there is so much yet to be.*

If you are hurting this Mother's Day I want you to know I've been there. I wish I could wrap an arm around your shoulder, take you out for coffee, listen long and hard. This is what I know for sure—you may feel alone but there is hope. Your story is not over yet. Be patient. The One writing it knows what you need and when you need it.

If you are celebrating this Mother's Day then I am joining in with you. As a daughter, a Mama, a Grandma, a woman who has come to understand what extravagant grace looks like. I will wrap my arms around my family today and I will place my hand on that beautiful belly again. I will be grateful, so grateful, that nothing turned out the way I planned.

Proper stories seem to close with “The End” but that doesn't seem quite right at this moment. Because this feels like it's still only the beginning. There is so much more to come. *I can't wait to meet you, Little One.*

Happy Mother's Day to you, to me, to all of us, because we are all mothers in some way today. And we are all part of the great story of motherhood God is writing from generation to generation, from Eve to eternity.

COFFEE AT 9 A.M. – WORSHIP AT 10 A.M. EVERY SUNDAY

Announcements and Assignments

Coffee and Cookie Servers

May 6 Myron Hagene
May 13 Orpha Kragnes
May 20 Polly Hanson
May 27 Barb Grover
June 3 Kathy Krogstad
June 10 Becky Jegtvig
June 17 Carolyn Edwards
June 24 Sylvia Teigen



Bible Study

Wednesday, May 2
5:30-7:00 p.m.



Concordia Ladies

Tuesday, May 8
1:30 p.m.
Fryn' Pan

Join The Romeos!

Retired Old Men Eating Out
7:30 a.m., May 25
Fryn' Pan



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

In May the subject in Kids Corner is "Memorial Day". Kids Corner is located in the Congregation section of the website.



Veteran's Coffee Hour

Join your fellow veterans at the Fargo Air Museum from 10-noon Wednesday, May 9.

God could not be everywhere, so he created mothers.
~ Jewish Proverb



Ella Swanson 1920-2018

Ella B. Swanson, 97, Moorhead, MN passed away on Tuesday, April 3, 2018 at Edgewood Vista Assisted Living in Fargo, ND. Ella was born to Carl and Amelia (Johnson) Orud on May 20, 1920 in Wolverton, MN. She attended and graduated from Wolverton

High School.

Ella met the love of her life, Sigfred Swanson of Glyndon, MN and they were married May 18, 1940. They farmed near Kragnes, MN and later moved to Moorhead, MN. Together they have three children. Ella was an active member of Concordia Lutheran Church, and truly enjoyed the company of the "ladies aid" group. She loved going to the lake to spend time with family either at South Lida Lake or Lake Maud. Ella made many friends over the years and cherished the special relationships she had with each one. She enjoyed being called grandma, great-grandma and great-great-grandma by her family, as well as by the neighbor children who claimed she was their "extra" grandma.

Ella is survived by her son, Leonard (Vonne) of Fargo ND, daughter, Sharon (Bill) Lipp of Audubon, MN, daughter-in-law, Loretta Swanson of Moorhead MN; 14 grandchildren; 29 great-grandchildren, and 2 great-great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, parents, brother Eugene, son Gordon; and the Swanson in-laws; Sam and Adelle; Gunder and Alice; Bud and Lois; Carl; and Luella and Allen Ulness.

The funeral service was held at 10:00 A.M., on Sunday, April 8, 2018, at Concordia Lutheran Church, rural Glyndon, MN. Interment will take place in the church cemetery later in the spring.

Happy Mother's Day Sunday May 13

Cemetery Clean-up

Wednesday
May 23
5:00 PM

In case of weather delay:
Friday, May 25 at 5





HERITAGE LUNCHEON



Concordia Lutheran Church

10:30 A.M.

Saturday 19 May 2018



**Celebrating the
Music of Norway**

Rømmegrøt & Krumkake for sale

Cookbooks for sale



6637 80th Avenue North

Glyndon MN

From Highway 10: 7 miles north on County Road 11, turn left

From Highway 75: Turn right on County Rd 26 (90 Ave N)

Go east 4 miles, turn right on County Rd 11 (70th Street)

South 1 mile, turn right



MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE

MONDAY, MAY 28, 2018

10 A.M.

SERVICE WILL BE FOLLOWED BY
A CEREMONY IN THE CEMETERY
WEATHER PERMITTING



POT LUCK LUNCH FOLLOWS
CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH
6637 80TH AVENUE NORTH
GLYNDON, MINNESOTA

Donations

Concordia Church

In Memory of Ella Swanson

Ella Swanson Family Margret Kragnes
 Ray & JoLyn Johnson Ann Bengtson
 Virgil & Lois Scholz Carolyn Edwards
 Anne Olsgaard Germaine Gress
 Fern Olsen Ralph & Barb Grover
 Donald & Arlene Dickelman
 Bruce & Kathy Krogstad
 Blanchard & Doris Krogstad
 The McCaslin Family:
 Chad & Jessica McCaslin Robert & Carol McCaslin
 Kim & Jeff Case Martha & Phil Heisner
 and Carrie & Jesse Hagen

In Memory of Harold Horpedahl

Harold Horpedahl Family Dale & Patricia Hearn
 Lyle & Jennie Rasmussen Marjorie Iverson
 Chuck & Margaret Cheney Ella Swanson
 Bruce & Linda Boelton Bell Bank
 Leslie Hanson Michael & Dawn Ganje
 Robert & Deb Rosco Howard & LoRita Nelson
 Verna Kragnes & Richard Hall
 Reed & Roni Scheephoerster

Donation

Betty Bergland

Concordia Cemetery Association

In Memory of Donald Johnson

Dennis & Shirley Woltjer

In Memory of Merle Meyer

Darlene Meyer

In Memory of Lloyd & Doris Eidem

Terry & Joy Eidem

In Memory of Harold Horpedahl

Harold Horpedahl Family Dick & Mavis Wang
 Lloyd Gunderson Jason & Tanya Wang
 Deborah Farabee Rick & Jane Roggensad
 Ruth & William Farabee David & Connie Hoffman
 Randy & Penny Railing Myron Hagene
 Gregg & Kristi Trautwein Marilyn Fuchs
 Joe & Julie Bruhn Art Ruud & Linda Simms
 Doris Kassenborg Gordon & Ellen Ramstad
 Mike & Kay Edwards Jim & Ardis Haarstad
 Richard & Kim Ulven Marvin & Jean Jacobsen
 Bruce & Kathy Krogstad Cindy Yeager
 Regina Hanson Lilian Hilgers
 Osie Juve Vance & Katie Nicholson
 Lois Jensen Ray & JoLyn Johnson
 Beverly Rieck David & Peggy Kragnes

Cemetery Association: *In memory of Harold Horpedahl (cont'd)*

Valley Christian Church Margaret Kragnes
 Kjell & Orpha Hoelstad Doug & Kristin Johnson
 Dan & Nancy Ruud Bev Edenberg
 Dennis & JoAnn Loewen Bob & Sherri Pickett
 Lavon & Sharon Nelson Greg & Vickie Doeden
 McKaila Ruud Stan & Lorraine DeJong
 Tim & Teri Horpedahl Marrietta Gunderson
 John & Denise Horpedahl Delores & Gerald Hagene
 Eileen Horpedahl James Powers
 Verne & Carol Wik Chris Odden
 Doug & JoAnn Rosenfeldt Cary Sip
 Lance & Marilyn Nelson Ida Busby
 Stacey Stueness John Dahl
 Helen Kassenborg Lilian Hilgers
 Tom & Laurie Carwell, Nate & Drew
 Gordon & Sue Kassenborg
 Kirby & Candace Kassenborg
 Jeff, Renae, Taborn & Tori Formo
 Eileen, Sandy, Anet, Donna Haugen and Families

In Memory of Ella Swanson

Family of Ella Swanson Wes Tommerdahl
 Delores Hagene Dick & Mavis Wang
 Lloyd Gunderson Terry & Joy Eidem
 Sally Horpedahl Helen Kassenborg
 Dalan & Diane Rasmussen
 Lance & Marilyn Nelson



We want to thank the congregation of Concordia Lutheran for generations of religious teaching, community fellowship and support. Our family has been part of this congregation since our grandparents were young, as have many of the families. In this time of great loss, the support from this rural Clay County faith community has been very comforting. Like the show "Cheers" the Concordia Lutheran community is a place those of us raised in this community can always call home—we are always welcomed and cared for. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for that ongoing support!

Sally has moved from Moorhead to a very comfortable and caring home in Dilworth. Her new address is: Sally Horpedahl

1108 Summerwood Trail
 Dilworth, MN 56529

Correspondence and visitors are welcome!

The family of Harold Horpedahl

The gift of God is grace.

Concordia's Veterans



In Concordia Cemetery

Civil War

Aanund Kragnes Andres Rice

World War I

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Almer Gunderson | Signe Lee |
| Andrew Gunderson | John Morken |
| George Gunderson | Obert Morken |
| Leon Hammett | Thomas Olson |
| Ovean Hite | Paul Skarstad |
| Joseph B. Johnson | Eugene Studlien |
| Andrew Kosen | Goodwin Thortvedt |
| Fred Lee | Ed Wilson |

World War I and World War II

Roy Gorder Robert Olson

World War II

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Harold Bekkerus | Lester Kragnes |
| Florence Grover | Oberlin Kragnes |
| Gerald Grover | Russell Kragnes |
| Emmett Gunderson | Vernon Kragnes |
| Orvis Gunderson | Gust Langlie |
| Norman Hanson | Donald LaPash |
| Everette Hite | Eddie Menholt |
| Harold Johnk | Sidney Morken |
| Ann Thortvedt Johnson | Henry Skolness |
| James Juve | Thorance Snartland |
| Eloise Olson Kincaid | Ralph Stevenson |
| Davis Kosen | Carl Swanson |
| Bernard Kragnes | Mable Gunderson Young |

Korea, Vietnam, Cold War

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Joe O. Babolian | Eugene Kragnes |
| Donald Bekkerus | Burton Kragnes |
| Clarence Brown | Donald Johnson |
| Robert Burke | Harold Lohse |
| Ed Edwards | Merle Meyer |
| Walter Engesetter | Alton Mjolsness |
| Victor Gress | Jerry Sabo |
| Valdemar Hagene | Sidney Snartland |
| Harold Horpedahl | Jay Rex Stoutenberg |
| Allan Kassenborg | Richard Tommerdahl |
| Glenn Kassenborg | |

Veteran Sons of Concordia

Buried Elsewhere

| | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Merle Bekkerus | Dennis Nelson |
| Daniel Christianson | Donald Nelson |
| Allen Gunderson | Robert Nelson |
| William Gunderson | James Oberg |
| Bernhard Hegland | John Oberg |
| Arnold Horpedahl | Vernon Oberg |
| Ralph Johnk | Aulden Olson |
| Henry Kragnes | LeRoy Olson |
| Olaf Midgarden | Robert Tommerahl |
| Robert Morken | Harold Wik |


















Freedom Isn't Free

I watched the flag pass by one day,
It fluttered in the breeze.
A young Marine saluted it
And then he stood at ease.
I looked at him in uniform,
So young, so tall, so proud,
He'd stand out in any crowd.
I thought how many men like him
Had fallen through the years.
How many died on foreign soil?
How many mothers' tears?
How many pilots' planes went down?
How many died at sea?
How many foxholes were soldiers' graves?
No, freedom isn't free.

I heard the sound of Taps one night
When everything was still.
I listened to the bugler play
And felt a sudden chill.
I wondered just how many times
That Taps had meant, "Amen,"
When a flag had draped a coffin
Of a brother or a friend.
I thought of all the families,
the husbands and the wives,
Whose spouses, sons and daughters
Had given up their lives.
I thought about a graveyard
At the bottom of the sea,
Of the unmarked graves in Arlington –
No, freedom isn't free.



MAY 2018

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|---|---|---|--|---|---|--|
| | | 1 | 2 Bible Study 5:30-7:00 pm  | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 WHITE 9 am Coffee 10 am Worship Communion  | 7  | 8 Concordia Ladies 1:30pm  | 9 Veteran's Coffee 10 am-Noon  | 10  | 11 | 12 |
| 13 WHITE 9 am Coffee 10 am Worship MOTHER'S DAY  | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17  | 18 | 19 HERITAGE LUNCHEON 10:30 a.m.  |
| 20 PENTECOST RED 9 am Coffee 10 am Worship Newsletter Deadline  | 21 20 PENTECOST RED 9 am Coffee 10 am Worship | 22 | 23 CEMETERY CLEAN-UP 5:00 pm  | 24  | 27 ROMEOs 7:30 AM  | 26 |
| 27 WHITE 9 am Coffee 10 am Worship  | 28 Memorial Day Service 10 a.m.  | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |

Concordia Lutheran Church/Cemetery Association
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May 2018

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Concordia News

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**To submit articles, recipes, announcements,
etc.**

Email: news@concordianews.org

Mail: Alene Sladky
6938 State Highway 200 NW
Laporte, Minnesota 56461
Submission deadline is the 20th of the month

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<http://www.concordianews.org>

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