

# THE Concordia Messenger



“How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity!” Psalm 133:1

September 2020



## From your Pastor

Dear Saints of Concordia,

The disruption of our routines has caused many to wonder their purpose in life. Specifically, for us as Christians, we might ask, “What is God’s will for me?” Or, “How can I live a more holy life?”. These are fine questions for us to ask. The obvious answer might be that we should pray and study God’s Word more. Those are fine answers.

When we pray to Our Father in Heaven, our prayers delight him, more than any sacrifice we could offer. We should be familiar with Psalm 142:1 “Let my prayer rise before you as incense, the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice.” Prayer helps shape our worldview to understand our God holds all things in his hands.

Likewise, God delights in our study of his word. It’s in this word that he shares with us his wisdom, and all of it points to Christ as our Savior. Like prayer, will help shape our worldview and understanding.

But what about when we’re not praying or studying God’s Word? What about the other 6 days of the week when we’re not participating in the Divine Service? We may be deeply inspired by our Lord Jesus at church or in our devotion time, but what if we don’t feel this in the other part of our lives?

Though we may recall from the scrip-

tures that we are to “...pray without ceasing” (1 Thess. 5:16), God has also given us “normal” tasks and jobs in life. From 1 Corinthians 7 “..let each person lead the life that the Lord has assigned to him, and to which God has called him.” God has given us all various tasks in life to serve one another.

With this in mind, consider what Jesus said were the greatest two commandments. First, that we love the Lord our God, and second, that we love our neighbor as ourselves. Our various “ordinary” tasks in life outside of church are pleasing to God when they serve our neighbor. It’s difficult to think of any job or vocation that does not provide some kind of service to others. We should delight in this, especially when our career may not seem glamorous. For example, janitors may not be held in the highest esteem, but we all prefer having clean public bathrooms to use, and we should be thankful for this service.

If you are struggling with purpose, ask yourself “how can I serve and love those around me better in my callings?”. How can we be better husbands or wives, parents or children, neighbors or citizens? Serving one another in love is pleasing to our God, especially when we do it knowing that we are all apart of God’s creation that Jesus laid down his life for.

A particular struggle is for those who don’t seem to have much of a vocation right now, whether that be a shut-in, someone who is quarantined, or those whose work has been suspended. This is a time to consider your family and relationships, how you may better serve those around you. But even if you cannot do that, rejoice that, though we are sick and afflicted, Jesus is the physician who has

## Director Christian Education

come to save us. There is no better time to realize our sinfulness and inability to do good apart from Jesus than at times when we truly aren't able to do much.

We all could spend more time praying and studying God's word, and this would be a good thing. But we should also recognize the purpose of the various callings that God has placed in our lives. One job is not necessarily more "holy" than another, especially if they are both being done in love. As a pastor, I do have an important job in teaching and preaching God's Word to you. There are many verses that could be quoted about the importance of a pastor. But that doesn't mean I'm more holy or fulfilling God's will better than you as members. I'm just as much a sinner in need of the Gospel as you.

Let us do as St. Paul instructs us in 1 Thesalonians 5 16-18: Rejoicing always in our Lord Jesus, praying ceaselessly (or perhaps better said, continually returning to prayer) and give thanks to God for his blessings to us in all circumstances. In doing these things, we are living out our Father's will for us, no matter what calling or vocation he has given us in life.

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Gaschler

## Christian Living

### September Wedding Anniversaries

Kenneth & Darlene Jensen (54), Vince & Wendy DeFabis (33), Thomas & Donna Cummings (49), Jim & Becky Lanning (46), Jennifer & Adam Musgrove (4), Macey Dale & Jenna Liechty-Dale (4), David & Suellen Dehnke (28), Mark & Marilyn Lawler (34), Dieter & Demetria Tepner (54).

**September Birthdays:** Pat Barnes, Albi Distler, Ian Claxton, Gaby Crouch, Jayme Yeater, Shawn Bauer, Shannon Barrick, Bryan Hartley, Suellen Dehnke, Bob Herbst, Cathy McClure, Gene Waltz, Gini Stephenson, Jessica Coffey, Carol Feeney, Abigail Herbst, Stacy Reinke, Don Boesenberg, Alex Chaudhary, Allen Distler, Jim Roemer, Sherry Slemmons, Dianne beam-Garland.

Dear Concordia,

There are many times I "drop the ball" in almost every court. I don't show enough love to my toddler, baby, husband, other family members, or friends. I don't write enough letters or call enough people. My house isn't clean enough. Yardwork still needs to be done. That Youtube message could be clearer. I'm not making enough milk or pumping as much as I should. My toddler only wants peanut butter today and I'm letting it happen. I did my best and it's terrible. I'm not eating healthy or exercising enough. It's not my fault, but it is. I didn't listen to this Bible reading or podcast well enough. I didn't even read my Bible today.

I often expect myself to be enough, better, or perfect. Sometimes people can hear me say, "Be better, Sarah." The harsh truth is I'm a sinner. I'm not perfect and never will be on this side of



heaven. No, this doesn't mean to give up and do whatever I want (as wonderful as that sounds). It does mean my expectations of perfection in this life are farfetched and impossible. What about the more realistic things like wanting to give my children enough food or a well-balanced meal? Those seem much more achievable and honestly don't seem related to sin at all. Yet the effects of sin are everywhere.

The world isn't perfect, our desires aren't perfect, and our bodies aren't perfect. My toddler wants the unhealthy food because eating tons of ice cream or peanut butter is delicious. My house isn't clean or even close because the times I do have to clean it, I'm lazy or would prefer something else. The days I didn't have enough time to read my Bible are lies. I can often look back and

see those missed opportunities when I had a few minutes here or there and chose social media over my Bible app.



It's easy to see the problems and defects in the world, our friends and family, and even ourselves. So who cares? Jesus does. He cared enough to see our sins, our original sin, and the results of sin in this world. It's not just the world or us that was broken. It was our relationship with God. That's why Jesus became man, so He could restore the relationship between God and man with His sacrifice on the cross. He was the one sacrifice for all times, places, and peoples. That includes me, my family and friends, and everyone in this broken world.

We will never see perfection on this side of heaven. We can read and hear about it in God's Word in the person of Jesus Christ. But remember, perfection isn't something we can reach in this broken world, especially by our broken, sinful selves. The bar will keep getting further away or we'll pull it closer to ourselves so we can reach our arbitrary perfection goal. In reality, we can never reach God's perfection on our own. If we could, Jesus would not have to die for our sins. We can take comfort in knowing what our Savior did for us and that we will be made perfect in Christ one day.

Wanting to be a better person isn't a bad thing. Wanting others to be a better person isn't a bad thing. However, knowing the truth about ourselves and others and extending grace and forgiveness is the important thing. That includes extending grace and forgiveness to others and ourselves when we fail. Thanks to the grace of God, we are able to do such a thing.

Sarah Shadday,

Director of Christian Education

## A Devastating Report

BALTIMORE, Aug. 6, 2020 — Three 40-foot shipping containers filled with humanitarian aid that included thousands of handmade quilts and baby-care items were destroyed in the devastating August 4 explosions at the port of Beirut, Lebanon, the NGO (non-governmental organization) Lutheran World Relief learned today.

The shipment, which also included school supplies for students and personal care kits, were destined for refugees living in Lebanon, principally from Syria and the Palestinian territories. The containers were part of a shipment to be distributed by Anera, an NGO and longtime Lutheran World Relief partner that provides humanitarian assistance and sustainable development to advance the well-being of refugees and other vulnerable communities in the Middle East.

The total value of the lost shipments was approximately \$624,000. The loss of more than 22,000 quilts, sewn by individuals and members of Lutheran congregations across the U.S., could mean a more bitter winter for thousands of refugees, said Melanie Gibbons, deputy director, outreach and engagement at Lutheran World Relief. "Our quilts are made with love by those who painstakingly craft them, and they're deeply appreciated by the people in distress who receive them, both for the warmth and the message of care they provide," Gibbons said. In addition, the shipping containers held 100 cartons of kits filled with school supplies, 300 cartons of personal care kits and 125 cartons of baby care kits.

"Our hearts are breaking as we grieve and pray with our brothers and sisters in Beirut," said Daniel Speckhard, president & CEO of Lutheran World Relief. "We are committed to replacing the aid that was lost and are working on an emergency response to provide assistance as the city recovers and rebuilds." The explosions killed more than 150 people, injured more than 5,000, and left at least 300,000 without shelter. The blast

was strong enough to register as the equivalent of a 3.3-magnitude earthquake and was felt as far as Cyprus, 150 miles away.

### **How can we help?**

Make a donation to Lutheran World Relief on its website (<https://lwr.org/beirut>), by phone (1-800-597-5972) or by mail to Lutheran World Relief, PO Box 17061, Baltimore, MD 21297-1061.

### **Help us finish quilts to replace those lost**

Concordia has a small group dedicated to making quilts for LWR. We have two sewing machines and many quilts ready for sewing the edges. The next step is knotting the three layers together. We're inviting everyone (men, women and children) to join us on September 26 anytime between 9 A.M.-3 P.M. Stay all day or for an hour or two. We'll provide sandwiches for lunch. Check the sign-up list to help us plan. Please contact either Becky Lanning (317-881-4477), Ruth Everson (317-350-5761), or Genny Hartley (317-530-5574) for more information.

Thank you to the many who have contributed to the school kits this summer. We'll be able to send 16 backpacks filled with school supplies to LWR.

2019-2021 Mission Grant # 13 (voted at the 2019 Mobile convention)

Digital Media Development — Lutherans for Life — \$30,000

The mission of Lutherans for Life (LFL) is to equip Lutherans to be Gospel-motivated voices for life. Life issues, such as abortion, embryo experimentation, and physician-assisted suicide, are not political or personal choices but matters of the heart that affect people, neighbors, loved ones, and family. They offer opportunities for us to demonstrate how God's loving grace gives immeasurable importance to every human being, no matter their age, appearance, or ability. One way to equip those making life decisions is through the development of digital media materials.

Almost 89 percent of the people in the United States use the internet, and 77 percent have a social media profile. Digital avenues like the internet, smartphones, and social media offer an open mission field to connect to people, partic-

ularly the younger generations before they face such life issues. Current online conversations surrounding life issues regularly become volatile, most of all for Christian advocates of life's sanctity since our values and perspectives run counter both to fallen human nature and prevailing public opinion.

LFL believes our Savior is calling them into this arena to share the truth in love. They need to translate their life-giving message into this 21st century language. The Digital Media Development grant funds will assist in creating a collection of infographics, memes, shareable video clips, webinars, and podcasts. These tools have the unique ability not only to proclaim, but also to portray and put into motion, how God's power and presence makes human lives worthy — especially to the least and the weakest among us.

LFL envisions that this digital media initiative will serve as a visual witness, while virtual conversation will enable Lutheran individuals and congregations to engage people using social networks such as YouTube, Facebook, iTunes, and Instagram. LWML's support and partnership through this \$30,000 grant will make it possible for LFL to help people treat life issues — and the souls facing them — with courage and compassion.

For more information on the work of LFL, check out the Lutherans for Life website: [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org).

Small Grant #2 (LWML Indiana Virtual Convention 2020)

### **Little Disciples Day Camp — Suburban Bethlehem Lutheran, Fort Wayne — \$5,000**

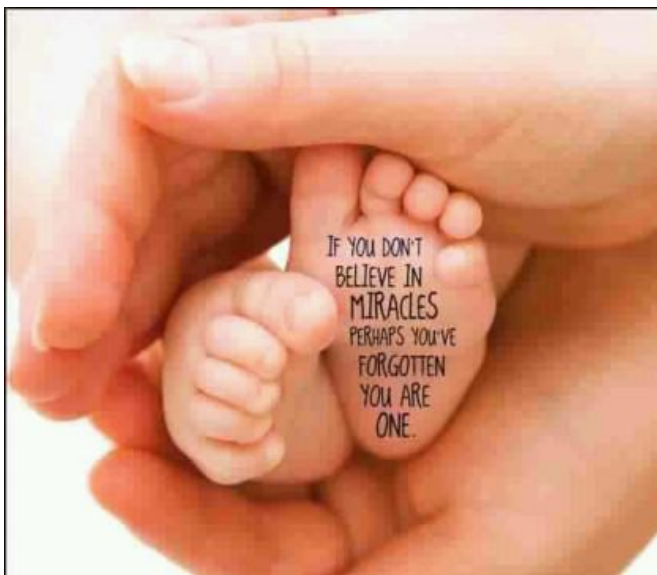
Suburban Bethlehem Lutheran Church provides a mission opportunity to children ages 4 through 12 in the Fort Wayne community and surrounding areas through a summer-long Christian day camp. There is a need for scholarship assistance for families/children to be involved in the mission and hear the Gospel daily but the Summer Ministry Board of the church cannot provide all the scholarship assistance needed for the growing number of campers. This grant of \$5,000 will support the mission of providing scholarships for families in financial need.



Digital media have become the primary means by which most people in our culture access information and exchange ideas for, on average, eleven hours per day, and especially the younger generations.

Social media messaging winsomely brings our Gospel message of worth and purpose in Christ Jesus to our neighbors and our entire culture through tools such as YouTube, iTunes, Instagram, and FaceBook.

Shareable video clips and graphics like this can connect communicate a powerfully life-affirming Gospel message directly into the desktops, living rooms, pockets, ears, and eyes of twenty-first-century neighbors struggling with life issues.





Mite box collection next month on October 4! You can bring them in any time and place in the Mite box in the Narthex on your way into Church.

# 2020

# SEPTEMBER

Sunday Worship—9:00 AM  
 Sunday School & Bible Classes—10:10 AM  
 Worship service - 11:00 a.m.  
 Monday Worship Service 6:30 p.m.  
 Holy Communion at every service

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat																																																								
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<p>6 9 a Worship service 10:10 Sunday school 11a Worship</p>	<p>7    <b>LABOR DAY</b>                      Church Office closed                       6:30 p Worship Service</p>	<p>8 7 - 8:30 p Kitchen Table Bible Study</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 6 a The Early Bird Bible Study</p>	<p>11                        WE REMEMBER SEPTEMBER 11</p>	<p>12 Mission Outreach fund raising, water drop for 5K  10 a. O.A.</p>																																																								
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<p>20 9 a Worship service 10:10 a Adult Bible Study 11a Worship  Guest Pastor Armao  Pastor Gaschler out of office until the 23rd</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 7 p Kitchen Table Bible Study</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 6 a The Early Bird Bible Study</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 10 a. O.A. 9 a - 3 p quilting bee</p>																																																								
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## INTERCESSION and PRAYER,

### Concordia Members

Recently Hospitalized:

Recovering:

- Duane Krall 7/18/20
- Konny Hanneman 7/13/20
- Kevin Horn 6/20
- Sharon Bruhn

Testing:

### Friends of Concordia

- Minnie Hicks 7/15/20
- Kareen Nielsen 7/2/20
- Hud Ozbun 7/1/20
- Judy Heine 6/10/20
- Peter Economou 5/19/20
- Charles Huckleberry 2/27/20
- Rick Zempski 1/20/20
- Curt Roemer 12/15/19
- Mina Van Arsdale 8/7/19
- Missy Golden 6/18//19
- Brandon Frederking 5/2/19
- Steve Stephenson 4/28/19
- Peter Economou 4/22/19
- Thomas Taylor 1/20/19
- Thomas Clark 12/16/18
- Marcella Dickmeyer 6/19/18
- Anne Kaiser 6/15/18
- Steve Parrish 10/18/19
- Erika Hannaman - 1/28/15

### Battling Cancer / MS

- Jerry Deleon 1/14/20
- Brandi Soggs 1/9/20
- Pastor Larry Isbell 10/24/19
- Matt McCollum 5/4/18
- Jane Halsey 3/19/18
- Angela Martin 9/8/17
- Julie Breymer 7/10/19
- Warren Kovich 12/12/18,
- Sara Kovich 8/20/18
- Philip Davis 12/12/16

### Our Homebound Members

### (Our Senior Prayer Warriors)

Please remember and pray for our Concordia homebound members.

- Mary Babbs 589 N. Meridian St., Greenwood, IN 46143
- Kathy Carroll, 874 Sleepy Hollow Place, Greenwood, IN 46142
- Rev. David Dehnke 5/15/19 1676 Bryn Mawr Ct, New Albany, IN 47150
- Eileen Ely 8/7/19 714 S. Eickhoff Rd. #604, Evansville, IN 47712
- Duane Krall, Demaree Crossing Assisted Living & Memory Care, #12, 1255 Demaree Rd., Greenwood, IN 46143
- Carmen Latondress 12/7/18 110 South Dogwood, 183 S Smock Dr., Greenwood, IN 46143
- Barb Poulos, 1070 West Jefferson St, Franklin, IN 46131

Non-member shut-ins being visited & communed:

- Gail Reinke 5267 E. Rosegate Lane, Indianapolis, IN 46237
- Laura McClain 183 Smock Dr. #109, Greenwood, IN 46143

### Please pray for our Military Servicemen & women.

Erica Stephenson, Army, National Guard (now home); Petty Officer 3rd Class Jordan Boling, Navy-USS West Virginia; MIDN Chloe Owen, P. O. Box 14247, Annapolis, MD 21412 (United States Naval Academy).



We pray the peace of Christ and the hope of the resurrection to

• **Fred & Marcia Foster** and family at the death of their son **Cory**, age 30 of Green-

wood, IN on 8/5/20. (455 Valley Oaks Rd., Greenwood, IN 46143)

• **Gail & Dick Brooks** on the death of sister's brother in law Paul Matzat on 5/18/2020. (637 Bookview Dr, reenwood IN 46142)

# Treasurer's Report

July 2020

Income Description	July 2019 4 Sundays	July 2020 4 Sundays	Total To date (30) Sun
Unified Budget	19,259.66	18,422.00	171,736.16
Memorials (Non-designated)			1,490.00
Memorials (Designated)			132.00
Designated Gifts *	967.02	733.94	11,173.95
Reimbursements & Refunds **	39.06	2,539.64	3,589.20
Rents & Wedding Fees		120.00	460.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>20,995.74</b>	<b>21,815.58</b>	<b>188,581.31</b>
<i>Average per/week Unified Budget</i>	<i>\$ 4,814.92</i>	<i>\$ 4,605.50</i>	<i>\$ 5,724.54</i>
<i>Amount needed per/week for Unified Budget</i>	<i>\$ 6,720.00</i>	<i>\$ 6,630.00</i>	

Expenses Boards	July 2019	July 2020	Total To date
Pastoral Care	3,685.09	6,758.16	48,356.18
Congregational Worship	904.86	612.99	6,485.97
Missions and Outreach	687.50	697.50	4,954.97
Christian Education	6,309.69	5,898.31	41,724.63
Stewardship	90.03	91.49	443.34
Operations	9,686.94	7,351.59	63,081.49
Small Group Ministries	23.23		68.07
Christian Living			276.92
<b>Unified Budget Total</b>	<b>21,387.34</b>	<b>21,410.04</b>	<b>165,391.57</b>
<b>Non-boards</b>			
Non budget payments			
Reimbursement Expenses **	1,555.73	91.01	14,197.93
<b>Total Non-Budget Payments</b>	<b>1,555.73</b>	<b>91.01</b>	<b>14,197.93</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>22,943.07</b>	<b>21,501.05</b>	<b>179,589.50</b>

\* Building Fund \$ 190, Custodial wedding clean-up \$ 45, Concordia Cares \$ 20.00, Flowers \$ 25, Internet Access \$ 57.68, Landscaping \$ 100, LWCC \$ 10, LWML Mites \$ 20, Pennies from Heaven (Pack Away Hunger) \$ 1.26, Pack a-way Hunger \$ 250, Southside Times \$ 20, Vacation Bible School \$ 20, We Raise Foundation \$ 10, Youth Group \$ 10.  
 \*\* Reimbursements & Refunds— DCE Reimbursement \$2,539.64.

\*\* Reimbursement Expenses: Custodial wedding clean-up \$ 45, Pennies From Heaven for Tuzla \$ 46.01.

Support is included in Unified Budget Expenses	July 2019	July 2020	Total to date
Missions— District Synod	500.00	500.00	3,500.00
Lutheran High School	750.00	750.00	5,250.00
Lutheran Hispanic Ministry Indy*	187.50	187.50	1,312.50
<b>Total Support</b>	<b>1,437.50</b>	<b>1,437.50</b>	<b>10,062.50</b>

Church checking account balance July 2020	
Beginning	34,178.91
Deposits	21,815.58
Payments	21,501.05
Ending balance	34,493.44

Worship	2019	2020	Tithes
8/2	95	67	6,120.00
8/9	100	88	2,830.00
8/16	92	90	4,024.15
8/23	99	76	2,808.00
8/30	tbd		

## Our Spiritual Response in Worship, Bible Study and Giving to our Lord

	SS	HS	ADULT
8/2			21
8/9			19
8/16			36
8/23			25
8/30			

Lutheran Church Extension Fund Steward Accounts	LCEF Balance July 31, 2020
Anniversaries & Birthday	4,902.96
Board of Youth— (Trip)	7,479.56
Building Fund	6,163.25
Capital Improvements - \$1,225.77 Church sign - 683.60	1,909.37
Concordia Cares	4,139.12
Pre-School Landscaping & Gardening	2,361.36
<b>Total in LCEF Steward Accounts</b>	<b>26,955.62</b>
<b>Interest earned</b>	<b>8.56</b>

Note: Due to the Corvid-19 virus attendance for church activities was down, however, u-tube viewing was used with a good response.

We hope to see everyone who can come in church in the coming months. Questions direct to Pastor Gaschler or the church office.

Gods continued blessings.



Articles for the Messenger are due by the 15th of the month and will be edited for content and space limitations. Artwork is used by permission through a subscription to *Newsletter Newsletter*, Communication Resources, Box 2625, N. Canton, OH 44720. If sending submissions to the newsletter via email, please be sure to include *NEWSLETTER* in the subject line.

## Lutheran Hour Ministries Radio Schedule

**The Lutheran Hour—Sundays**  
WIRE (91.1 FM) 7:30 AM  
WCBK (102.3 FM) 7:00 AM  
WMCB (1540 AM) 8:00 AM  
WLW (700 AM) 7:00 AM

**9/6 Jesus in the House**  
**9/13 Fireplace Spirituality**  
**9/20 I Stand at the Door**  
**9/27 Room at the Table**

Lutheran Hour is now broadcast on American Forces  
Network (AFN).

**Worship Anew—Sundays**  
WHMB (TV 40) 10:00 AM



From Beverly Ann & Pastor John,  
We deeply appreciate all the thoughts, prayers & cards sent our way at the loss of Beverly Ann's father. They were a great comfort. God bless all of you.. Love in Christ, Beverly Ann & Pastor John

## The Concordia Messenger

*Concordia Evangelical Lutheran Church*  
305 N Howard Road  
Greenwood, IN 46142-3836

**Telephone:** 317.881.4477

**Facsimile:** 317.881.4498

**E-mail:** [concordia@concordia-lcms.com](mailto:concordia@concordia-lcms.com)

**Website:** <http://www.concordia-lcms.com>



**Sunday Worship Services**  
9 a.m. / 11 a.m.

**Sunday School & Adult Bible Classes**  
10:05 a.m.

**1st & 3rd, Monday Worship Service**  
6:30 p.m.



**Pastor**

*Rev. Paul R. G. Gaschler*

**Staff**

**Sarah Shadday—Director Christian Education**

**Erica Stephenson - Deaconess**

**Jill Scifres,—Preschool Director**

**Becky Lanning— Office Manager**

**Carol Monroe— Administrative Assistant**

**President**

Dick Brooks

**President-Elect**

Dean Owen

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# THE Concordia Messenger

September 2020



## Volunteers needed!

We are a little late getting the request out for volunteers to man the water stops for the Annual Fair on the Square Half Marathon and 5K on 9/12 in Danville IN as well as the Indy Women's half Marathon and 5K on 9/19.

In the past we have participated and received money's toward Pack away Hunger funds that we support each year. It's suppose to work the same way this year with a few changes as they come in for covid-19. Please contact Diane Conrad (1-760-881-6187) or Carol Monroe (317-881-4477) leave a message in case you get an answering service] to let them know that you will be able to help with this fund raising event. Thank you in advance, volunteers will be up-dated as we get more information.



**Concordia Lutheran Church  
& Preschool**  
305 N Howard Road, Greenwood, IN 46142