

# THE Concordia Messenger



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

February 2022



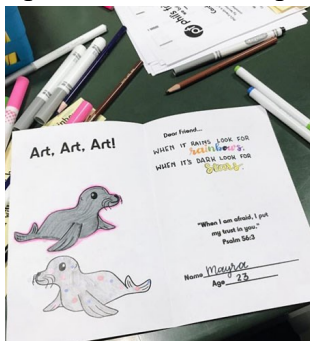
**Quilting - February 12, (9 am - noon).** Still meeting in the Fellowship Hall. We can keep social distancing and still get quilts put together.



2021-2023 LWML Mission Grant #6 (Lexington Convention)  
**Hope of Christ for Cancer Patients—Phil’s Friends—\$70,000**

Phil Zielke started Phil’s Friends after battling cancer twice in his mid-twenties. Phil had Christ in his heart, and the care items and notes of Christian encouragement received from family and friends gave him hope and made him realize many did not have that hope. When he recovered, he made it his mission to provide hope to cancer patients. Phil’s Friends, a full-time ministry, began in 2009.

Care packages contain a Bible, blanket, hat, socks, lip balm, toothpaste, toothbrush, lotion, journal, pen, puzzle book, and playing cards. Also included is a Gospel message explaining how our “hope” comes from our relationship with our Lord. When someone is battling cancer, it is so important to know of the unending love of Jesus. With these grant funds, Phil’s Friends will provide 1,000 cancer patients with the hope and encouragement that only Jesus can bring.



After the person with cancer receives their care package, they receive a Card of Hope for 12 consecutive months. These cards are colorfully decorated and contain a Bible

verse and an uplifting message from a Phil’s Friends volunteer. The recipient knows that someone is still thinking about them and praying for them.

The care package recipients receive so much joy from receiving the package. They know that a group of individuals who made the care package has just shown them unconditional love. Showing unconditional love opens the door for Phil’s Friends to share the Gospel message and God’s Word.

Phil’s Friends volunteers colorfully decorate care packages. They are sent anonymously and provide an emotional uplift when received by the person with cancer.



**Last November,** the LWCC decided to ask the congregation to help Afghanistan children at Camp Atterbury. We planned to ask for monetary donations in February. Since then, we’ve learned that many families have resettled in Indianapolis and other areas. There is no longer a need at Camp Atterbury. A local group, "Exodus Refugee.org," is helping the Afghanistan families establish a new life in Indiana. We plan to collect monetary gifts this February. For example, a \$25 donation can purchase a \$25 English picture dictionary, or \$100 can provide uniforms and supplies for one child. We’ll combine all gifts, large and small, at the end of February and send them to Exodus Refugee, who can purchase and distribute whatever our contributions will provide. Please mark your gift "Helping Afghans" anytime during February.



## From your Pastor

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I pray that you all had a good Christmas season. For many this was a much more pleasant holiday season than last year. We had strong attendance at our Christmas Eve and Day services, as well as New Years. But I know some of you are still very much at-risk and isolated with Covid, and so I keep you especially in my prayers.

In this newsletter article I'll touch on two different subjects:

### Lent Schedule

I have discussed with the Board of Pastoral Care ways to reduce my workload with the number of services we are offering. It was agreeable that the best place to cut back are our upcoming Lenten Midweek Services. For Ash Wednesday, we will still offer services at 4:00 and 7:00 PM, based on strong past attendance for that service.

However, for the following Wednesday midweek services in Lent, and as well as for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, we will have only 1 service at 7:00 PM. We encourage all those who cannot attend a later service to make use of our livestream. I know this will be a disappointment for some, but it was not a decision made lightly. We felt it was important to free up more of my time and energy for other necessary pastoral duties, especially visitation.

Our Easter service schedule is still being discussed and will be shared in later announcements.

### “...And explain everything in the kindest way”

Luther says these words in his explanation of the 8th commandment, that we should not bear false testimony against each other. Instead, we ought to *explain every-*

*thing in the kindest way.* We commonly call this “putting the best construction” on something.

The world teaches us the opposite. We love to tear each other apart through our words, putting the worst spin on what someone says. You see this in the news, especially in politics, but also online with the likes of Facebook and Twitter. We regularly put the worst construction on what people say, and explain things in the most *unkind* ways.

That's the way of the world. It should not be the way for us Christians. Consider how God can show his grace through how his Church lives. We should be patient in our reactions, not twisting other's words, seeking to understand what they really mean to say and where they are coming from. This doesn't mean we have to sugar-coat everything; we can call things as they are and disagree, but we can do so in the kindest and most helpful way.

Don't let negative news programs and articles make you bitter. Put the best construction on everything our president, governors, and local politicians say, even and especially when you don't agree with it! It's not always easy...but it's what we're called to do.

Social Media is a breeding ground for nasty speech and comments. Don't fall for it. Be careful and aware of what you post, whether it's original content, or if you are commenting on someone else's post. Jesus taught us to love our neighbor as ourselves. If you wouldn't want someone twisting your words into what you didn't mean to say, then don't do it to others! Strive to understand where others are coming from when you don't agree with them.

Our God does not put the worst construction on us, but sees us as his children, redeemed by Jesus' blood, and not just as the disobedient sinners we are. We should strive to see each other that way too.

In Christ,  
Pastor Paul Gaschler

## A Prayer to our omnipotent God

Remind us, O God, that you are above us, watching over us as a good shepherd. You can see what we cannot see. Remind us that you are below us, ready to lift us up in our weakest moments. Remind us that you are behind us, to give us encouragement when we feel like giving up. Remind us that you are in front of us, calling us to move forward in faith, even when we can't see how things will work out. Remind us that you are beside us, holding our hands, no matter what we're going through. Remind us that you are within us, closer than each breath we take.

Jesus, thank you for being Emmanuel, God-with-us, and for not abandoning us. Thank you for sending us your Holy Spirit, who comes alongside to help us, even when no one else can. As we remember you, O God, strengthen our hope and restore the joy of our salvation. Amen.

## The Right words for victory in Jesus

My mom tells a story of me as a preschooler, swinging in our backyard and singing loudly (and off key, I'm sure): "Oh victory in Jesus, my Savior forever. He *socked* me and *bopped* me with his redeeming blood." Though that isn't an example of how to effectively share Jesus with your neighbors, the mistaken words might contain a nugget of truth.

In 1939, a stroke partially paralyzed hymn writer Eugene Bartlett. Bedridden and unable to perform anymore, he penned his final, most beloved song, "Victory in Jesus." The actual lyrics read: "O victory in Jesus, my Savior forever. He sought me and bought me with his redeeming blood."

It's beautiful to realize that Jesus did indeed seek me out and pay the ultimate price for me. But sometimes I forget - and that's when he "*socks me*" and "*bops me*." Jesus loves me too much to let life's chaos and struggles distract me from him and what he's done. Let's all remember to celebrate our victory in Jesus!



Concordia  
Lutheran  
Preschool

## Preschool Scoop

We are excited for February at the preschool! Of course we will be talking about our love for each other, and Jesus' great love for us, as we celebrate Valentine's Day with a class party. We will also be learning about shadows, dental health and community helpers. On pretty days, we will bundle up and make our way outside to enjoy fresh air and our playground. Maybe there will even be some snow for us to enjoy!

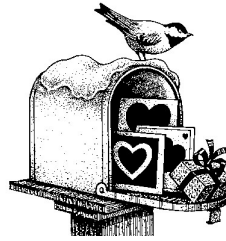
*In Jill Scifres, Director of Preschool*

## Library News

A number of free puzzles are available in the Church Library. If you like doing puzzles on these dreary winter days, stop by and pick out one or two to take home. Also remember, there are many books available to check out to read. There are a number of books by Lutheran authors from Concordia Publishing House as well as lots of fiction books by Christian authors. Be sure to visit the Church Library.



# 2022 February



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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## INTERCESSION and PRAYER.

### **Concordia Members**

Recently Hospitalized:

Surgery:

Recovering:

- Larry Guthrie 12/8/21
- Nancy Waltz

Testing:

- Kat SanTiego
- Diane Bean-Garland
- Phillis Infante
- April Guinn

### **Friends of Concordia**

- Marianne Huckleberry 12/21/21
- Sylvia & Steve Perrish 12/21/21
- Judy Heine 11/22/21
- Evan Schaffer 10/21/21
- Courtney Chaney 10/1/21
- Pat Brooks 9/23/21
- Jim Spray 9/9/21
- Brent Perry 9/8/21
- Tami Economou 8/17/21
- Bill Gascoigne 8/16/21
- Rev. Jacob Sutton 8/3/21
- Rose Swenson 7/27/21
- Anne Perkinson 7/1/21
- Brynn Dunlap 4/20/21
- Renae Barrett 3/19/21
- Peter Economou 1/27/21
- Travis Golden 1/10/21
- Susan Soggs 1/7/21
- Rev. Howard Fabricius 1/2/21
- Rick Zempski 1/20/20
- Minna Van Arsdale 8/7/19
- Brandon Frederking 5/2/19
- Steve Stephenson 4/28/19
- Thomas Taylor 1/20/19
- Thomas Clark 12/16/18
- Anne Kaiser 6/15/18
- Erika Hannaman - 1/28/15

### **Battling Cancer / MS**

- Donald & David Buuck 9/27/21
- Beverly Stephens 9/12/21
- Janine Orr 8/16/21
- Sloane Bullman 5/13/21
- Brandi Soggs 1/9/20
- Angela Martin 9/8/17
- Philip Davis 12/12/16

### **Our Homebound Members**

(Our Senior Prayer Warriors)

Please remember and pray for our Concordia homebound members.

- Kathy Carroll, 515 Tropic Ct., Apt. 1504, Indianapolis IN 46237
- 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 183 S Smock Dr. #110, Greenwood, IN 46143
- Cathy McClure, 3933 Creekwood Dr., Greenwood, IN 46142

Non-member shut-ins being visited & communed:

- Gail Reinke 8517 Ridge Hill Dr., Indianapolis IN 46217
- 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**, 302 Windemere Dr., Kingsland GA 31548  
Ensign **Chloe Owen**, 526 Batten Blvd., Pensacola FL 32507

**Zach Goins**, 761 Fordham Rd., Grovetown, GA 30813 (Navy Reserve)

**Jadon Ranbarger** (LCPL J Ranbarger)  
Marinee Barracks 8th & I Streets SE, Washington, DC 20003 (USMC) Sue Ranbargers nephew.



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

- **Miriam Neumann and family** at the passing of her sister Ruth McClain, age 87 of Columbus OH on 12/27/21 (8710 Winding

Ridge Rd., Indianapolis IN 46217)

- **Ruth & Ray Everson** on the passing of their daughter **Nancy Martin**, age 51 on 12/30/21. (2993 Beckenham Way, Greenwood, IN 46143)
- **David Krause** family and friends with his passing on 1/14/22, age 73 (6626 Clay Circle Dr., Greenwood IN 46143)
- **Phil Caruana** and family on the passing of his sister **JoAnn Rickard**, age 76, of St. Louis. (2884 N. Wind Chime Circle, Greenwood IN 46143)

# Treasurer's Report

Dec 2021

Income Description	Dec 2020 4 Sundays	Dec 2021 4 Sundays	Total To date (52) Sun
Unified Budget	42,372.64	35,974.95	319,617.66
Memorials (Non-designated)		--	5,288.00
Memorials (Designated)		--	--
Designated Gifts *	9,709.90	6,070.54	20,312.27
Reimbursements & Refunds **		285.86	1,868.28
Rents & Wedding Fees		75.00	845.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>52,132.54</b>	<b>42,406.35</b>	<b>347,931.21</b>
Average per/week Unified Budget	\$ 10,593.16	\$ 8,993.74	\$ 6,146.49
Amount needed per/week for Unified Budget	\$ 6,630.00	\$ 6,630.00	

\* Altar Flowers \$ 101.10, Building Fund \$ 315, Concordia Cares \$ 512.33 [transfer from Concordia Cares Steward Account], Fellowship 15 \$ 9, Internet Access \$ 68.17, Landscaping \$ 350 [250 transfer from Capital Imp Steward Acct.], LuHi Hymnals \$ 500 [transfer from Birthday/Ann. Steward Acct.], LWCC \$ 10.00, Paraments \$ 3,324 [Heine Project, transfer from capital improvements steward acct.], Pennies from Heaven (Tuzla) \$ 31.94, Silk Flowers \$ 520, We Raise Foundation \$ 10.00, Youth Group \$ 310.

\*\* Reimbursements & Refunds: Preschool State & Federal Taxes \$ 285.86.

2021 Donations by Receipt \$3,193.95

2021 Thrivent Choice Dollars designated for Concordia Cares \$332.

Lutheran Church Extension Fund Steward Accounts	LCEF Balance Dec 31, 2021
Anniversaries & Birthday	4,065.24
Board of Youth— (Trip)	7,499.84
Building Fund	13,233.57
Capital Improvements - \$ 4,230.48 Church sign - \$ 946.31 Church Landscaping - \$ 726.45 Heine Family Project - \$ 1,683.39	7,586.63
Concordia Cares	5,086.63
Pre-School Landscaping & Gardening	2,367.74
<b>Total in LCEF Steward Accounts</b>	<b>39,839.72</b>
<b>Interest earned</b>	<b>4.32</b>

Church checking account balance Dec 2021	
Beginning	67,563.95
Deposits	40,450.95
Payments	40,012.99
Ending balance	68,001.91

Expenses Boards	Dec 2020	Dec 2021	Total To date
Pastoral Care	7,280.61	7,512.10	89,216.90
Congregational Worship	1,061.41	1,183.96	12,358.41
Missions and Outreach	697.50	697.50	8,380.00
Christian Education	6,000.26	6,513.28	72,916.46
Stewardship		0	679.07
Operations	10,569.94	12,412.86	119,810.79
Small Group Ministries	4.27	168.58	367.68
Christian Living	729.60	765.00	1,448.98
<b>Unified Budget Total</b>	<b>26,343.59</b>	<b>29,253.28</b>	<b>305,178.29</b>
<b>Non-boards</b>			
Non budget payments *			512.97
Reimbursement Expenses **	14,193.74	10,759.71	17,642.61
<b>Total Non-Budget Payments</b>	<b>14,193.74</b>	<b>10,759.71</b>	<b>18,155.58</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>40,537.33</b>	<b>40,012.99</b>	<b>323,333.87</b>

\* Non budget Payments: .

\*\*Reimbursement expenses: Pre-school Fed. taxes \$ 226.71, Pre-school Indiana taxes \$ 59.15.

Bethesda \$ 50, Birthday/Anniversary \$ 169, Building Fund \$ 3,325, Concordia Youth Group \$ 2,019.29, Heine Project - Paraments, \$ 3,324 [from steward account], Hope-Full Living \$ 55.50, LWCC \$ 287, Lutheran World Relief \$ 100, Pennies from Heaven (Tuzla) \$ 184.06, Preschool \$ 560, Save the Seminary Campaign, \$ 200, Tuzla \$ 150,

Support is included in Unified Budget Expenses	Dec 2020	Dec 2021	Total to date
Missions— District Synod	500.00	500.00	6,000.00
Lutheran High School	750.00	750.00	9,000.00
Lutheran Hispanic Ministry Indy*	187.50	187.50	2,250.00
<b>Total Support</b>	<b>1,437.50</b>	<b>1,437.50</b>	<b>17,250.00</b>

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

	SS	HS	ADULT
<b>1/2</b>			27
<b>1/9</b>	7		
<b>1/16</b>	7	7	25
<b>1/23</b>			
<b>1/30</b>	tbd	tbd	tbd

Worship	2020	2021	Tithes
<b>12/31/21</b>	20	26	200.00
<b>1/2/22</b>	44	69	6,867.00
<b>1/9/22</b>	60	153	3,490.00
<b>1/16/22</b>	58	84	4,790.00
<b>1/23/22</b>	44	4	2,205.00
<b>1/30/22</b>			

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

**2/6      How Christians Can Admire the Jewish Sabbath**  
**2/13     The Unexpected**  
**2/20**  
**2/27**

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

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

## Christian Living

### February Wedding Anniversaries:

Rick & Linda Snyder (50) 2/5  
Duane & Norma Krall (44) 2/11  
Mike & Kris Bierman (32) 2/24

### February Birthdays:

Sullivan, Rachel	2/2		
Bierman, Daniel	2/3	Bruhn, Sharon	2/21
Bontrager Jr., John	2/3	Hartley, Genny	2/22
Conrad, Diane	2/4	Wagener, Hank	2/23
Dombroski, Lynn	2/5	Kearns, Logan	2/24
Yeater, Jenna	2/7	Herbst, Rachel	2/27
Kearns, Spencer	2/9	Owen, Dean	2/27
Reinke, Jeff	2/9	Snyder, Kevin	2/27
Williams, Rachel	2/9	Hoeltke, Herb	2/28
Sullivan, Diana	2/10		
Hassel, Deb	2/10		
Ford, Heidi	2/11		
Lawler, Mark	2/16		
Barrick Steve	2/16		
Herbst, Jill	2/19		

## 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.

**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

**Vice President**  
Mike Finger

**Vice President / Asst. Treasure**  
Don Boesenberg

**Recording Secretary**  
Diana Sullivan

**Treasurer**  
John Bertsch

**Board for Christian Education**  
Linda Snyder

**Board for Christian Living**  
vacant

**Board for Missions & Outreach**  
Diane Conrad

**Board for Operations**  
Herb Hoeltke

**Board for Pastoral Care**  
Mike Emkes

**Board for Stewardship**  
Diana Sullivan

**Financial Secretary**  
Rose Mihu



## Lenten Midweek services

March 2 - Ash Wednesday - 4 & 7 pm

March 9 - Lent Mid week 2 at 7 pm

March 16 - Lent Mid week 3 at 7 pm

March 23 - Lent Mid week 4 at 7 pm

March 30 - Lent Mid week 5 at 7 pm

April 6 - Lent Mid week 6 at 7 pm

Holy Week to be announced.

# THE Concordia Messenger

February 2022



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