

THE Concordia Messenger



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

August 2022

God's many blessings were evident during Concordia's VBS which was held the end of June with wonderful weather, delightful children and dedicated volunteers. The theme this year was "Diving into the Ten Commandments" and Pastor explained the commandments to the children. The children learned songs, heard Bible stories, played games, made crafts, and enjoyed yummy snacks each day. A program of song followed by a mini carnival with hot dogs and chips was enjoyed Thursday night by the children and their families. It takes many volunteers to put on a week of VBS activities for nearly 40 children. Concordia is blessed with many such volunteers, and we are thankful for all of you.

A big thank you to the following:

- **Concordia Members** for all the donations provided to support VBS
- **Thrivent** for the Action Team Grants that funded part of VBS
- **Sarah Shadday** for planning the entire week before maternity leave
- **Station Leaders:** Lorna Warren, Lynn Dombroski, Gail Brooks, Pastor Gaschler, Diane Conrad, Genny Hartley, Chris Brooks, Ruth Everson, Stacey Reinke, Lori Thetford, Linda Snyder
- **Group Leaders:** Jill Scifres, Becky Horn, Cindy Emkes, Deb Brooks, Dianne Beam Garland
- **Adult Helpers:** Barb Hoeltke, Paula Scott, Alex Chaudrey, Dick Brooks, Don Dombroski, Tracy Guinn, Cindy Boesenberg, Phyllis Infante, Phyllis Bolling, Edie Masters
- **Youth Helpers:** Kaylee Brooks, Abigail Brooks, Gary Brooks, Emily Thetford, Caroline Reinke, Luke Guinn, April Guinn, Lucas Crouch, Maddie Wiesneth
- **Set-up, Carnival, Clean-up Helpers:** Kati Gaschler, Rick Snyder, Mike Emkes, Dave Warren

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Our missions - local; to collect water bottles for "The Refuge" = 515 was reached. For our over seas mission we collected \$484.65 to be sent to the LWR (Lutheran World Relief) to fund safe water wells. Great Job!



Get involved in your faith walk, we did!



This is a tree making class, do you remember who was in the tree and asked to come down so Jesus could go to his house today? He gave his all to Christ and changed his way of life for the love of God.

Story time with puppets.



Director Christian Education

Dear Members:

My maternity leave ended in the middle of July. I love spending time with our new daughter, Esther, and our other girls. There will be days that are hard to go to work, but it's also nice to have a break. I was reading through Philippians because beginning August 9th, Tuesday Night Bible Study will start Deb Burma's book *Joy: A Study of Philippians*.



Philippians 3:4b-7a stood out to me, "If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. But whatever gain I had, I counted as a loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord."

Paul points out how he was the best of the best. He was set up to follow God's law even at 8 days old. He was from the tribe of Benjamin, one of the tribes of Judah. He was a Pharisee and was so zealous for his faith that he persecuted those that followed Jesus, like Stephen. In short, he was blameless and surely would be someone who could earn his way to heaven. Yet, Paul truly met Jesus on the road to Damascus. Paul finally realized who Jesus is. Paul realized all of his own works were trash compared to who Jesus was and what Jesus did. Paul realized only through Jesus's actions and saving grace could we be reconciled with God and earn eternal life. Not our works, God's works.

It's easy to fall into that pride trap. It may not be, "Look at how good I am." Instead, it may look like, "At least I'm not like...." (Luke 18:9-14). Instead, we should

focus on the one who died to take away our sins. We should rejoice in the inheritance we have in Christ's resurrection. We can thank God that our salvation depends on Christ's works, not our own because even our greatest works are like filthy rags in the site of God. Praise the One who continues to pour out blessings to us sinners. Thank Him for the forgiveness He gives us when we repent. Serve the one who served us first.

Sarah Shadday
Director of Christian Education



Quilting - Aug 13 (9 am - noon).
We meet in the Fellowship Hall. We can use some helpers who don't mind tying knots to finish up some quilts.



WHAT'S YOUR 80?
1942-2022 — 80 Years of God's Grace

LWML is celebrating its 80th birthday this year

(1942-2022) and encourages individuals and groups to bless others with 80 something. Almost there!!! **DON'T FORGET TO RETURN THEM** to the church when you have them done, we will then send them all to Phil's Friends.

Please check the LWCC bulletin board for information about school kits for Lutheran World Relief. We hope to assemble 20 kits. Thanks for your continued support of this project.



2021-2023 LWML Mission Grant #12 (Lexington Convention)

Mercy Medical Care for Tanzania—Mwadui Lutheran School and Community — \$68,182.

Mwadui Lutheran School in Shinyanga, Tanzania, has become one of the leading schools in the region, with enrollment increasing from 40 to over 200 students. It educates many new pastors, teachers, and professionals from all over western

Tanzania using a curriculum with a Christian worldview and daily chapel. This educational facility has become a valuable Christian outreach ministry to the community and region. However, malaria and other health issues continue to vex the students, teachers, staff, and community. The next step in enhancing this educational facility is starting a medical clinic. This grant will purchase medical equipment, medical supplies, and medicine to treat the various illnesses of the student community in the Southeast Lake Victoria



Chapel at Mwadui Lutheran School.



Students playing soccer in empty field at Mwadui Lutheran School



Rev. Yo-hana Nzelu (Mwadui Lutheran School-master) and Rev. Dr. Michael Bingenhimer

LWML Indiana District Convention held in Fort Wayne

The Indiana District met in convention on June 17-19 in Fort Wayne. Attending from Concordia were Cindy Boesenberg, Diane Conrad, Becky Lanning, Edie Masters, Miriam Neumann, and Sue Ranbarger. The delegates elected a new president, Sarah Rippy, for the 2022-26 term and selected 15

projects supported by our Mites. A total of \$130,000 is available for the selected grants. Each month we'll highlight one of the grants. Four times a year, we collect Mites, sending 25% to the LWML and keeping 75% for Indiana District grants.

Small Grant #1 (LWML Indiana District Convention 2022)

St. John Preschool and Daycare, Peru IN, asked for funds to install a Keyless Entry System to the front door to ensure the safety of the daycare children and staff. The congregation cannot fully fund the cost, and the grant of \$4,300 will enable them to install the keyless



**From
your**

“Who dieth thus dies well!”

Our Christian faith necessarily engages with death. Our Lord Jesus does not promise us riches, blessings, or immortality in *this* world. No, he calls us to follow on the path he has trod, and it passes through the trials, suffering, and even to death (LSB 685).

The Christian life begins by acknowledging death. We are born again from above in Baptism (John 3:5). Paul writes in Romans 6 “Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his **death**? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into **death**, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.”

We are dead men walking as Christians. Once baptized into Christ, our life is no longer our own. We are not focused on accumulating treasures in this life, nor squeezing every ounce of pleasure possibly out of it. Nor are we to avoid pain and suffering at all costs. Instead, Jesus beckons us to take up our own crosses, whatever they may be, and follow him (Matt. 16:24-26).

Our lives are no longer our own. When we give financially back to God in our offer-

ings, “we give Thee but Thine own” (LSB 781). We are only stewards of God’s creation, not just of possessions or materials, but our very being, our talents and abilities.

Selfishly, we tend to think of ourselves as standing “outside” of creation, as if we were God(!), forming expectations others ought to follow, and making excuses and exceptions for ourselves as needed. But truly, in our flesh and apart from the spirit, we are just like grass that sprouts up quickly and soon withers and fades (Isaiah 40:8).

Though we acknowledge our state of being actively dead in our sins, this does not mean that we should work to bring death upon us or others. Paul wrote to the Philippians “My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account.”

Though we are dead men walking, God works through even our sinful selves to accomplish his work. We are stewards of his creation and his work. While living, we do not abandon the work he has given us. God has and will continue to work great things through and despite us being selfish sinners.

And when the hour of death comes, we are privileged to engage it differently than the world does. Death is never good, but we do not fear or mourn death like those without the sure hope in Christ. We *should* mourn the death of loved ones, friends, and church members. But we are entitled to a bittersweet victory through our Lord Jesus.

When I have the privilege as a pastor to visit those near death, it is indeed a privilege to preach and remind both the individual and their loved ones about our Hope. I pray the Commendation of the Dying, to prepare everyone, but especially those near it, for death. It contains various options for scripture readings, similar ones to that for funerals, like Psalm 23.



What is not so commonly known is to pray over the individual the *Nunc Dimittis*, the Song of Simeon. This is well known in our church as what we sing after receiving Communion. “Lord, now you let your serv-

ant go in peace, your word has been fulfilled. For my own eyes have seen the salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all people. A light to lead you to the nations, and the glory of Israel”. This is fitting to pray after we have received our Lord in his Holy Supper. But even more so it is fitting at the time of death, as we reflect on the Christian life. Through Word and Sacrament, we come to know our Savior. So when death approaches, we can truly say, “Let us, your servants, go in peace.” We know that this word has been fulfilled, and that we have seen the Light of the World, and that it will lead us to life everlasting.

It is truly a privilege to pray this with those near death. If they are conscious, it often provides a great sense of peace and relief. Even if the individual is not awake, we trust the Holy Spirit is at work in these words in the heart, and it also is a source of peace and relief for the family if they are there to pray with me.

As Christians, we are in the business of enduring suffering, and acknowledging the wages of our sins being death. But since we know Christ tasted death for us, though we should die, yet we shall live, and the one who believes in Jesus will never truly die (John 11:25).

The final verse of O Sacred Head Now Wounded, the Good Friday hymn, is a fitting conclusion and devotion on Christian death:

*Be Thou my Consolation,
My Shield when I must die;
Remind me of Thy Passion
When my last hour draws nigh.
Mine eyes shall then behold Thee,
Upon Thy cross shall dwell,
My heart by faith enfold Thee.
Who dieth thus dies well!*



Rummage Sale

date has been set for Aug. 19-20. Please don't bring anything in before **Aug. 8**, as we have no place to store the items long term.

Larger items can be brought starting **Aug 16th** during set up.

Sale hours for Friday and Saturday, August 19-20 will be 8 am -2 pm. If you are willing to help please contact either Gail Brooks or Heidi Ford. Thanks.

INTERCESSION and PRAYER.

Concordia Members

Recently Hospitalized:

Surgery:

Testing / Recovery:

- Dianne Bean-Garland
- Nancy Waltz

Friends of Concordia

- Michael DuLuga 7/20/22
- Bodie Whalen 5/15/22
- Jayleigh Meyers 5/11/22
- Missy Golden 4/20/22
- Sophia Rubio 2/6/22
- Marianne Huckleberry 12/21/21
- Sylvia & Steve Perrish 12/21/21
- Judy Heine 11/22/21
- Courtney Chaney 10/1/21
- Pat Brooks 9/23/21
- 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
- Peter Economou 1/27/21
- Susan Soggs 1/7/21
- Rev. Howard Fabricius 1/2/21
- 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
- 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
- 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) Munoz**, 5757 Staples St., Apt 2318, Corpus Christi, TX 78413

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)



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

- the family and friends of **Dieter Tepner**, age 81, called home on 7/8/22. (8910 Depot Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46217)
- **Mike Finger** and family on the passing of his mother **Shirley Finger**, (5839 Darlene Dr., Greenwood IN 46143)
- **Doris & Jim Roemer** on the passing of their son **David Roemer** age 60 of Elizabethtown TN (4070 Serenity Way Ct., Greenwood IN 46142)



We welcomed into God's family, the Church, through the water and the Word of Holy Baptism,

7/31/22 Esther Abigail Shadday, daughter of Matt and Sarah Shadday (333 Springfield Circle, Greenwood IN 46143)

Treasurer's Report

June 2022

Income Description	June 2021 4 Sundays	June 2022 4 Sundays	Total To date (26) Sun
Unified Budget	21,433.00	19,712.57	143,448.43
Memorials (Non-designated)			130.00
Memorials (Designated)			
Designated Gifts *	1,435.09	1,092.57	12,659.44
Reimbursements & Refunds **	88.78	293.97	1,726.47
Rents & Wedding Fees	120.00		490.00
Miscellaneous ***			213,537.93
TOTAL INCOME	23,76.87	21,099.11	371,992.27
Average per/week Unified Budget	\$ 5,769.22	\$ 4,928.14	\$ 5,517.25
Amount needed per/week for Unified Budget	\$ 6,630.00	\$ 6,476.00	

* Altar Flowers \$150, Ann. / Birthday Blessings \$100, Bethesda \$10, Building Fund \$255, Fellowship 15 \$10, Hope-Full Living \$55.50, Internet Access \$68.17, LWCC \$10, Pennies from Heaven (Tuzla) \$ 40.90, Southside Times Ad \$10, Vacation Bible School \$ 175, We Raise Foundation \$ 10, Youth Envelope Wall \$188, Youth Group \$10 .

** Reimbursements & Refunds: Preschool State & Federal Taxes \$ 293.97.

Expenses Boards	June 2021	June 2022	Total To date
Pastoral Care	7,565.73	8,244.85	49,402.35
Congregational Worship	1,789.80	524.82	5,028.90
Missions and Outreach	697.50	687.50	7,280.00
Christian Education	6,267.08	6,612.30	38,643.59
Stewardship		0	379.12
Operations	9,421.10	10,866.68	70,633.69
Small Group Ministries		0	135.47
Christian Living	175.29	195.00	390.00
Unified Budget Total	25,916.50	27,131.15	171,893.12
Non-boards			
Non budget payments *	0	0	0
Reimbursement Expenses **	187.50	4,091.53	223,911.85
Total Non-Budget Payments	187.50	4,091.53	223,911.85
Total payments	26,104.00	31,222.68	395,804.97

* Non budget Payments:

**Reimbursement expenses: Pre-school Fed. taxes \$227.96, Pre-school Indiana taxes \$66.01, Building Fund Transfer to Steward Account \$2,905, Concordia Cares \$100, Easter Breakfast Free Will Offering for Tuzla \$149, Hope-Full Living \$55.50, Pennies From Heaven-Tuzla 228.06. Tuzla Mission \$150, We Raise \$60, World Relief -Ukraine \$150.

Lutheran Church Extension Fund Steward Accounts	LCEF Balance June 31, 2022
Anniversaries & Birthday	4,068.18
Board of Youth— (Trip)	7,505.27
Building Fund	16,148.26
Capital Improvements - \$ 5,733.93 Church sign - \$ 946.98 Church Landscaping - \$ 726.97 Heine Family Project - \$ 1,684.61	9,092.49
Concordia Cares	5,090.39
Inheritance Fund	210,636.93
Pre-School Landscaping & Gardening	2,369.46
Total in LCEF Steward Accounts	254,910.98
Interest earned	51.80

Church checking account balance June 2022	
Beginning	56,268.18
Deposits	21,099.11
Payments	31,222.68
Ending balance	46,144.61

Support is included in Unified Budget Expenses	June 2021	June 2022	Total to date
Missions— District Synod	500.00	500.00	3,000.00
Lutheran High School	750.00	750.00	4,500.00
Lutheran Hispanic Ministry Indy*	187.50	187.50	1,125.00
Total Support	1,437.50	1,437.50	8,625.00

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

	SS	HS	ADULT
7/3		4	
7/10	8	4	
7/17	7	4	
7/24	6	623	
7/31		272216	

Worship	2021	2022	Tithes
7/3	76	78	9,749.00
7/10	92	92	2,604.00
7/17	91	86	5,837.28
7/24	78	93	2,815.00
7/31			

Sunday attendance includes Monday pm worship.

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

8/7 These Are Not Our Kind of People
8/14 Everything Is So Expensive
8/21 Facing the Worst
8/28 The Vision We Need

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

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

Christian Living

August Wedding Anniversaries:

Larry & Anne Guthrie (44) 8/1
Mike & Tamara Spray (33) 8/8
Daniel & Jessica Coffey (31) 8/17
Ron & Carol Feeney (47) 8/23
Tommy & Kris Ragsdale (51) 8/29
Bob & Susan Herbst (31) 8/31

August Birthdays:

Hartley, Benjamin	8/3	Miller, Carol	8/20
Wilson, Vicki	8/4	Sellers, Mark	8/21
Turner, Phil	8/6	Stephenson, David	8/22
Boesenber, Cindy	8/7	Horn, Becky	8/23
Dewar III, Wes	8/9	McNally, Salah	8/24
Poole, Suzann	8/10	Kaiser, Andrea	8/25
Davies, Hannah	8/10	Scifres, Hannah	8/25
Hayes, Kay	8/13	McNally, Emily	8/25
Lanning, Becky	8/13	Barkes, Marvin	8/26
Scifres, Jill	8/16	DeFabis, Vince	8/26
Whitrock, Heidi	8/17	Patton, Carla	8/26
Bontrager, Cole	8/18	Smith, Diane	8/31
Olmos, Alexis	8/19		

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E-mail: concordia@concordia-lcms.com

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



Sunday Worship Services
9:30 a.m.

Sunday School & Adult Bible Classes
11:30 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

Office hours Mon. - Thur. 9am-3pm

President

Dick Brooks

President-Elect

Dean Owen

Vice President

Mike Finger

Vice President / Asst. Treasure

Don Boesenber

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



Concordia Lutheran Preschool

We are busily gearing up for the 2022-2023 preschool year, and classes begin in just a few weeks on Tuesday, August 23rd. Although our three day morning class is full, we still have openings in our Tuesday/Thursday afternoon class. Our staff of Lori Thetford, Linda Snyder and Sarah Shadday are planning a fun year of learning about Jesus, and many other things. I will be ending my time with the preschool, and I'd like to thank our congregation for allowing me the privilege of so many wonderful years with the children. You have blessed me!

Jill Scifres

We are busily gearing up for the 2022-2023 preschool year, and classes begin in just a few weeks on Tuesday, August 23rd. Although our three day morning class is full, we still



All ages gathered to participate in Vacation Bible School in June.

THE Concordia Messenger

65th Edition

August 2022



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& Preschool
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