



Celebration of the Lords Ascension, May 18, 2023
 "This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." Acts 1: 11b

THE *Concordia Messenger*



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

May 2023



Quilting - See you **May 13 at 9am** What can you do? you can sew together tops at home, if you would like to come to the church and sew we have two machines and bags of kits to put together. Don't sew?, then come and tie knots in the quilts we have ready.

2023 LWML National Convention is this June. Five ladies from Concordia will be attending. On our bulletin board you will see a long strip of paper called GIFTS FROM THE HEART. Please take one and consider getting some of the items on the list and returning them to the Noah room where we will sort and then take them with us to convention. You will recognize Phil's friends, MOST Ministries and Orphan Grain Train plus a new one, Refuge for Women. Please bring them in before June 9, 2023 - thanks.



Do you appreciate receiving communion?

Consider assisting with communion set-up. The time commitment is 45 minutes on Saturday and 15 minutes on Sunday.

One can serve alone or with a friend, spouse, teen. Training (mentoring) is available. There is NO heavy lifting. Generally, one volunteers for a month. Subs are available when you need to be out of town.

If you are willing to give it a try, let Pastor, Sarah, or Becky know. Or you can sign up on the serving bulletin board near the double doors.

2021-2023 LWML Mission Grant #21 (Lexington Convention)

Mercy House Belize Lutheran Campus – Seine Bight, Belize – \$100,000

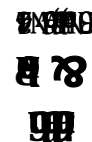
Seine Bight, a coastal village in southern Belize with over 1,200 people, struggles with poverty, a high unemployment rate, young single motherhood, and a literacy rate of only 79 percent. The country of Belize, along with this village, hosts a variety of religious influences, many of which are misunderstood and combined by the people. Christ Lutheran Church, located in Seine Bight, is the first Lutheran church in Belize and was founded in 2019 by The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) and Belize Mission Society.

Belize Mission Society (BMS), a Recognized Service Organization of the LCMS, began in 2003 with seven volunteers on a short-term mission trip providing Vacation Bible School (VBS) to 180 children. The mission has expanded over the years with construction projects, dental and medical clinics, adult and youth Bible studies, sports programs, an education tutor program, scholarship programs, and an elementary school lunch program.

In 2009, the mission realized that many of the students at the village's school did not have food for lunch. BMS worked with a resident to begin feeding 30 students in her home, resulting in a program called "Food for Thought." Teachers noticed improved students' test scores and increased attention in class. As BMS contributions increased, the mission turned an empty classroom into a kitchen and lunchroom for 60–65 students, 20 percent of the school's enrollment. A larger space is needed to provide food to more children.

Currently, the BMS dental clinic is in a multi-purpose building in the village. The multi-purpose building also holds mission team supplies, such as VBS, dental and physi-

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cal therapy, and construction equipment. The contract with the village to use the multi-purpose building expires in 2024, and the village does not wish to renew it.

This mission grant will allow the construction of a Mercy House on the property next to Christ Lutheran Church and the village school. BMS will run it in cooperation with Christ Lutheran Church. The Belize Lutheran Campus will be a focal point for tutoring children, VBS activities, adult Bible studies, medical and dental services, serving meals to students, sharing the Gospel of Jesus, and supporting short-term mission team activities.

And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him – a threefold cord is not quickly broken (Ecclesiastes 4:12). By building Mercy House next to the church, relationship building of the BMS with residents will provide a tangible connection to Christ Lutheran Church. By caring for the physical needs of the people of Seine Bight, missionaries can share a saving relationship with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

This grant of \$100,000 is paid in full. Praise the Lord for the generous gifts through our mission Mites.



Children in the program begin their meal with prayer and thanksgiving.



The dental clinic is located at the Multi-Purpose Building in the village. The BMS keeps supplies for mission team needs for construction, VBS, medical, dental, and food preparation at the clinic. The agreement with the village expires in 2024.

Large Grant #8 (LWML Indiana District Convention 2022)

Gloria Dei Hispanic Mission – Mobile Food Pantry Project – \$10,000

Under the faithful leadership of Pastor Tomas Agnon, Gloria Dei has served Spanish-speaking people in Northwest Indiana for over 20 years. The ministry of Gloria Dei has confirmed a growing need within the international newcomer community to offer a mobile food pantry as a means of mercy and to build relationships for the sake of the Gospel. The funds will purchase a box truck to meet this need.


Director Christian Education

Vacation Bible School is around the corner! We need lots of volunteers to be part of *God's Living Water* June 12-16, 9am-11:30am. Anyone who would like to volunteer for either VBS week, VBS set up, VBS clean up, or the VBS Carnival on Thursday night, June 15, please contact me Sarah.Shadday@concordia-lcms.com



We need lots of volunteers to share God's love with the children and families at VBS. One of my favorite things is to see some of our previous Preschool and neighborhood families come back from year to year. I also love when those kids want to volunteer at VBS when they're older because it was special to them when they were participating. It's also fun to see how much the kids learn and grow in their faith throughout the week. It's also inspiring to see the generosity of the families and volunteers as we exceed our mission collection goals.

Articles for the Messenger are due by the 15th of the month and will be edited for content and space limitations. If sending submissions to the newsletter via email, please be sure to include *NEWSLETTER* in the subject line.



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

5/7 Sojourn
5/14 Reason to Hope
5/21 TBD
5/28 A Timely Invitation

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

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

Christian Living

May Wedding Anniversaries: Tony & Regina Moyers (4) 5/5
Chris & Shawn Bauer (29) 5/7 Carlos & Kat SanTiago Salazar (9)
5/14 Bob & Sharon Bruhn (66) 5/19 John & Shanda Bontrager Jr
(28) 5/20 Mike & Cindy Emkes (43) 5/30

May Birthdays:		Carroll, Kathy	5/19
White, Jan	5/2	Shadday, Rachel	5/21
Martin, Lynda	5/3	Finger, Mike	5/26
Marot, Andrew	5/3	Bertsch, Steve	5/27
Bierman, Lia	5/7	Olmos, Ashley	5/28
Santiago, Carlos	5/7	Foster, Dana	5/29
Moreth, Liam	5/12	Bulhuis, Rick	5/30
Moreth, Lucas	5/12		
Lanning, April	5/13		
McNally, Andrew	5/14		
Ranbarger, Sue	5/15		
Cravens, Keigan	5/15		
Krall, Duane	5/15		
Reinke, Drew	5/16		
Spray, Mary	5/16		

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

✚
Sunday Worship Services
9:30 a.m.

Sunday School & Adult Bible Classes
10:30 a.m.

✚
Monday Worship Service
6:30 p.m.

✚
Pastor
Rev. Paul R. G. Gaschler

Staff
Sarah Shadday—Director Christian Education
Erica Stephenson - Deaconess
Sarah Shadday, —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 Boesenberg

Recording Secretary
Diana Sullivan

Treasurer
John Bertsch

Board for Christian Education
Linda Snyder

Board for Missions & Outreach
Diane Conrad

Board for Operations
Andrew McNally

Board for Pastoral Care
Mike Emkes

Board for Stewardship
Diana Sullivan

Financial Secretary
Rose Mihi

Treasurer's Report

March 2023

Income Description	Mar 2022 4 Sundays	Mar 2023 4 Sundays	Total To date (13) Sun
Unified Budget	19,254.00	29,701.48	70,740.48
Memorials (Non-designated)			
Memorials (Designated)			
Designated Gifts *	977.52	892.79	3,239.84
Reimbursements & Refunds **	249.58	457.36	1,242.11
Rents & Wedding Fees	120.00		123.00
Miscellaneous ***	213,537.93		25.00
TOTAL INCOME	234,139.03	31,051.63	75,370.43
Average per/week Unified Budget	\$ 4,813.50	\$ 7,425.37	\$ 5,441.58
Amount needed per/week for Unified Budget	\$ 6,476.00	\$ 6,570.00	

* Altar Flowers \$ 65, Building Fund \$ 40, Easter Flowers- hydrangeas \$ 23, Fellowship 15 \$ 41, Internet Access \$ 136.34, Lenten Dinner offerings (Concordia Cares) \$ 433, LWCC \$ 10, Pennies from Heaven (Tuzla) \$ 34.45, Sacristy Renovation \$ 75, Southside Times \$ 15, We Raise Foundation \$ 10, Youth Group \$ 10.
 ** Reimbursements & Refunds
 Preschool Federal and State taxes \$ 457.36.
 *** Miscellaneous:

Expenses Boards	Mar 2022	Mar 2023	Total To date
Pastoral Care	7,937.06	8,598.87	23,209.50
Congregational Worship	942.43	869.13	2,369.40
Missions and Outreach	687.50	843.50	2,218.50
Christian Education	6,770.59	6695.22	19,590.14
Stewardship	170.66	184.80	299.03
Operations	20,921.46	10,558.13	29,629.44
Small Group Ministries	42.35		41.36
Christian Living	195.00	195.00	765.00
Unified Budget Total	37,667.05	27,944.65	78,122.37
Non-boards			
Non budget payments *			
Reimbursement Expenses **	214,323.01	1,007.36	4,607.11
Total Non-Budget Payments	214,323.01	1,007.36	4,607.11
Total payments	251,990.06	28,952.01	82,729.48

* Non budget Payments:
 **Reimbursement expenses: Concordia Cares \$ 550, Preschool Fed. taxes, \$ 352.49, Preschool Indiana taxes \$ 104.87.

Support is included in Unified Budget Expenses	Mar 2022	Mar 2023	Total to date
Missions— District Synod	500.00	500.00	1,500.00
Lutheran High School	750.00	750.00	2,250.00
Lutheran Hispanic Ministry Indy*	187.50	187.50	562.0
Total Support	1,437.50	1,437.50	4,312.50

Lutheran Church Extension Fund Steward Accounts	LCEF Balance Mar 31, 2023
Anniversaries & Birthday	4,395.76
Board of Youth— (Trip)	7,063.87
Building Fund	17,714.51
Capital Improvements - \$ 8,010.14 Church sign - \$ 950.70 Church Landscaping - \$ 860.03 Heine Family Project - \$ 1,691.2	11,512.09
Concordia Cares	3,359.50
Inheritance Fund	211,471.56
Pre-School Landscaping & Gardening	1,642.57
Total in LCEF Steward Accounts	257,159.86
Interest earned	136.24

Worship	2022	2023	Tithes
3/29	35		
4/2 s	78		
4/6 mt	35		
4/7 gf	129		
4/9 s	54		
4/16	72		
4/23	163		
4/30	85	tba	

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

	SS	HS	ADULT
4/2			
4/9			Easter
4/16			
4/23			
4/30	tba	tba	tba

Church checking account balance Mar 2023

Beginning	55,348.98
Deposits	31,051.63
Payments	28,952.01
Ending balance	57,448.60



Concordia Lutheran Preschool

May is a special month for our PreK students because they graduate from our school. After summer, they go to their kindergartens or home schools. We love to celebrate with them and would love the congregation to come and see them on May 18th at 6:30pm.



Preschool is a special ministry for Concordia. It's amazing to see the work Lori Thetford and Linda Snyder did with the students over the course of the academic year. It's also wonderful to see the faith they shared and the love of Jesus. We would like to thank both Lori and Linda for the hard work they do and the ministry they provide both for Concordia and the children and families in our Preschool.

A few ways you can support our Preschool ministry are: praying for the staff and students, thanking our staff, promoting Preschool to people you know, purchasing items for our classrooms, or volunteering for special events. If you would like to consider volunteering at Preschool for special events, talk to Sarah Shadday to complete a background check and sign the Child Protection Policy.



From your Pastor

The Church often runs out of steam after Easter. We rightfully put much time and effort into Holy Week, both with services and events. But it's good to still give proper attention to the Day of Pentecost. Its name comes from the Greek word for 50, the number of days after Easter.

Pentecost is all about the Holy Spirit, the Helper and Comforter, being sent to em-

power us as Jesus' Church. He promised his disciples that though he would be ascending to the Father, he would send this great helper (John 15:14-31).

Consider what we confess about the Holy Spirit as taught in the Small Catechism:

Third Article of the Creed

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

What does this mean?

I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.

Let us pray that the Holy Spirit would be at work doing all of this in our midst.

In Christ,
Pastor Gaschler



INTERCESSION and PRAYER,

Concordia Members

Recently Hospitalized:

Surgery:

Testing / Recovery:

- Peter Eonomoou
- Heidi Whitrock
- Cindy Boesenberg
- Diane Beam-Garland
- Tommy Ragsdale

Friends of Concordia

- Rick Wildrick 3/30
- Emmanuel McCloud 2/26
- Judy Milles 2/22
- Nancy Hogan 2/1/23
- Family members and Konny Hanneman; Sandy Risner 11/13/22, Hazel, Levi, Joshua & Savannah Bragdon 11/13/22, Marianne & Charles Huckleberry 12/21/21 Sylvia, Steve & Nicole Perrish 12/21/21
- Terry & Diana Deamron 9/10/22
- Beverly Stephens 8/20/22
- Anthony Joel Rubio 8/18/22
- Terry Haskett 5/15/22
- Jayleigh Meyers 5/11/22
- Missy Golden 4/20/22
- Austin & Travis Golden 4/20/22
- Sophia Rubio 2/6/22
- Judy Heine 11/22/21
- Pat Brooks 9/23/21
- Tami Economou 8/17/21
- Bill Gascoigne 8/16/21
- Rose Swenson 7/27/21
- Anne Perkinson 7/1/21
- 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

Battling Cancer / MS

- Rev. Samuel Ruiz 2/20/23
- Marcia Covert 11/13/22
- Kelsey Merena 10/25/22
- Amanda Gurvitz 9/4/2022
- David Buuck 9/27/21
- Janine Orr 8/16/21
- Brandi Soggs 1/9/20
- Angela Martin 9/8/17

Our Homebound Members

(Our Senior Prayer Warriors)

Please remember and pray for our Concordia homebound members.

- Bob & Sharon Bruhn, 628 Brook Dr., Greenwood IN 46143
- Kathy Carroll, 6530 Capricorn Dr., Apt 2702, Indianapolis IN 46237
- Konny Hannemann, 6818 Cadwell Circle, Indianapolis IN 46237
- Duane Krall, Demaree Crossing Assisted Living & Memory Care, #12, 1255 Demaree Rd., Greenwood, IN 46143

Non-member shut-ins being visited & communed:

- Gail Reinke 8517 Ridge Hill Dr., Indianapolis IN 46217

Please pray for our Military Servicemen & women.

Erica Stephenson, Army, National Guard
Ensign Chloe (Owen) Munoz,
Zach Goins, 761 Fordham Rd., Grovetown, GA 30813 (Navy Reserve)
Jadon Ranbarger (LCPL J Ranbarger)
Marine Barracks 8th & I Streets SE, Washington, DC 20003 (USMC)

