

# THE Concordia Messenger



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

June 2023



**Quilting** - See you **June 10 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.

**Save the Date:** The annual Fall Ladies' Retreat will be held on October 13-14 at Camp Lakeview. Last year the topic was *Scripture in Song*. Truths in the Bible were learned by studying hymns from our hymnal. Those who attended liked it so much that *Scripture in Song Part 2* was requested. As usual we will cut crosses and write Bible verses on the back. These are sent to Pastor Mommens who has a prison ministry. The women he serves really enjoy them—many sending them home to their children. If you have any greeting cards with covers appropriate to use on a cross, please give them to Miriam Neumann anytime before October. Thank you.

2021-2023 LWML Mission Grant #22 & 23 (Lexington Convention)

## **Ministry Vehicle Fund, Ethiopia and Sierra Leone** – Lutheran Bible Translators – \$70,000

Lutheran Bible Translators (LBT) use literacy programs within the local language communities to give people the skills to read the newly translated Bible, which results in a personal relationship with God. When they can read God's Word in their local or heart language, they know that God speaks their language and hears their prayers. Local personnel in Ethiopia and Sierra Leone, identified as partners with LBT, help teach their people. The long distances between the language communities have treacherous and hazardous terrain. The money from this grant will help purchase robust, reliable vehicles. Trainers will be able to travel to God's people who are waiting for the opportunity to learn to read the saving words of the Gospel in their heart language. Having reliable vehicles will impact multiple language groups in both countries.



*Literacy programs funded by Lutheran Bible Translators generally have 400–900 students. As Scripture is translated into the local languages, both the young and old need to be taught how to read it.*

**Showing God's Love in the International District, Albuquerque, New Mexico** – God Cares About You Mission – \$98,000

Albuquerque's International District is home to an ethnically diverse and disadvantaged population with a high crime rate. *God Cares About You Mission*, which nine area Lutheran churches support, is transforming lives now and for eternity. Their outreach includes a clothing bank, children's ministry, food bank, back-to-work program, Christian fellowship, meals, Bible studies, worship services, street evangelism, and counseling. With outreach only offered three days a week, the desire is to provide it six days. With this expansion, they need to add a services director and kitchen manager to manage better the programs offered. This grant will help with salaries. With the funds from this grant, *God Cares About You* can expand their ministry and reach more with Christ's love.



*This is the "God Cares About You" food distribution in which people get large boxes of food and everyone picks what they want.*

***Both grants have received total funding!  
We are thankful for what our mission mites  
are accomplishing.***

Large Grant #9 (LWML Indiana District Convention 2022)

**St John's Lutheran Church, Rochester, IN – Celebrate Recovery – \$7,300**

There are no faith-based addiction support programs in Fulton County. Seventy percent of participants in *Celebrate Recovery*, an addiction and homeless program, are unchurched, and interaction and group fellowship help participants grow emotionally and spiritually. The funds from this grant will continue the program of addiction support.

**Where did LWR Quilts & Kits go in 2022?**

From Oct. 2021-September 2022, 462,262 quilts and kits were shipped to 19 countries.

220,317 quilts	1,650 blankets
94,060 personal care kits	
90,860 school kits	46,560 baby care kits
8,815 fabric kits	31,950 face masks

See bulletin board in halfway to see the locations in blue. Thank you to everyone who has helped in anyway to help make this happen.

**From the Spring Social** held on April 30th. Served was great food for both the body and the soul. Soul Purpose brought both the new and old in songs together for everyone who was able to attend and enjoy.

The opening number was "Earth to God" and "God Bless the USA." After changing to people skirts, they sang "Johnny Angel," "Lollipop," "Can't Help Falling in Love With You," "Put Your Head on My Shoulder," "Close to You," and "All of Me." For their finale, they sang "We Believe."



## Director Christian Education



Vacation Bible School has been on my mind lately. This year's theme is God's Living Water. I would love to see lots of church members involved in participating or volunteering with VBS. This year

we'll be focusing on God providing water to the Israelites through Moses, God using the Jordan River to heal Namaan, the woman at the well learning that Jesus is the Living Water, Jesus washing the disciple's feet, and when thousands were baptized at Pentecost.

VBS is a time where we can share God's true Word with the members of our community and those connected with our church. It's wonderful seeing church members, family of church members, Preschool students, returning Preschool students, and community members all coming to our church to hear God's Word.

If you would like to volunteer to help with VBS, we have multiple ways you could help:

- Make water themed decorations
- Help on set up day (June 11th after church)
- Help on Carnival night (June 15th 5:30pm-8:30pm)
- Help with clean up (June 16th at noon)
- Help during VBS (June 12th-16th 9am-11:30am)

Feel free to contact me if you are interested in helping with Vacation Bible School.

Sarah Shadday @ cell 314-330-3782 or office 317-881-4477, thanks.



Concordia  
Lutheran  
Preschool

May and June are exciting months for Preschool. Concordia's support allows us to have some wonderful ministry moments and time to connect with our Preschool families. In May, we had an ice cream social for our 3's and their families. This is the first time in recent years that we've done a separate celebration for this class and their families. We also had 9 PreK students graduate. It's fun seeing the student and their families come to church to watch the graduation and celebrate together.

Our PreK class also filled up with 14 students the first week of May and we began a waitlist. We also began May with our target number of 3's enrolled. We are still allowing 3's students to register, but we would be happy to start classes with the current number of 3's enrolled.

The number of students enrolled speaks highly of Lori Thetford and Linda Snyder, our talented staff who shares God's love with the students and prepares them for Kindergarten and many more years of schooling. There were some days when we had a few PreK students and their families stay after school to have picnics on the lawn and let their kids play together. One of these impromptu playdates happened while we had a Preschool tour. After the tour, we watched the family go talk to the moms of our current students. This family ended up enrolling in our Preschool.

These families recommending Concordia's Preschool is a huge testament to the work Linda and Lori do. These families recommend our Preschool to others, enroll their kids from the 3's class to the PreK class, and send multiple children through our Preschool. We thank God for the work of these women and the work of all those who have worked and served in the Preschool since 1978. Through the ministry of the Preschool staff, we've been able to share God's Word with hundreds of children throughout the years. We trust God contin-

ues to grow those seeds of faith throughout the child's entire life.

We are also excited to see many of our students return to Concordia for Vacation Bible School in June. We love seeing our past Preschoolers come as we have more opportunities to share God's Word with them and their families. June also promises a special delivery of new playground equipment. It will be exciting to start the year with something new for the children to exercise their gross motor skills.

We would like to thank the members of Concordia for all of their support. Prayers for our staff, students, and Pre-school are always needed. Volunteering with the program and taking care of the physical property is always greatly appreciated. The donations and financial support help us provide updated educational opportunities for the children. Also, sharing the news about our Preschool allows us to share God's Word with more children and families. Thank you for investing in multiple generations of people throughout the years.



From  
your  
Pastor

### **“Thy Kingdom Come”: Building God’s Eternal Kingdom Right Now**

In the 40 days after Jesus rose from the dead and before he ascended into Heaven to the Father’s right hand, he spoke to the disciples about the kingdom of God (Acts 1). The disciples asked if Jesus was going to finally restore the Kingdom to Israel. We can imagine they had an earthly kingdom in mind, something that would rival the great Roman Empire.

Jesus responded: “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” He then ascended to heaven.

Jesus was sending them to bring his Kingdom and Reign into and all around this world. We often think of Kingdoms simply as land, but more specifically it is where a monarch has authority. Where a king’s people go, especially when they are sent out with his authority, the kingdom and reign goes with them.

This is what Jesus is doing with his disciples: sending them out with authority to preach the Gospel, forgive sins in Jesus’ name, to baptize, all of this to further and grow Jesus’ Kingdom.

Consider how Luther taught about “thy kingdom come” in his small catechism:

*What does this mean? The kingdom of God certainly comes by itself without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may come to us also.*

*How does God’s kingdom come? God’s kingdom comes when our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His holy Word and lead godly lives here in time and there in eternity.*

This work continues for us in the Church today. God is working through us to build his eternal kingdom now! Certainly we’re still waiting for the Last Day, when we’re gathered out of this sinful world into the perfect paradise of God’s Eternal Kingdom. But we enjoy the fact that even now we have this inheritance to look forward to, we are made members of God’s royal family right now.

While on earth, our churches aren’t perfect. Our congregations, our leadership, our staff, our pastors are far from perfect. But when we are doing his work as the church, gathering in his name, hearing his word and receiving his sacraments, and carrying out works of mercy in his name, then we are helping establish his perfect kingdom despite our imperfection. He does not leave us alone in this task, as we would surely fail, but he guides us by the Holy Spirit.

Let us do our work of serving God’s Kingdom here in our congregation with humble spirits that trust in God. Let us repent of all sins, let us be guided by God’s Word, strengthened by his Holy Spirit, and let us work with courage that God can and will build his kingdom through us.

Pastor Gaschler

## INTERCESSION and PRAYER,

### Concordia Members

Recently Hospitalized:

Surgery:

Testing / Recovery:

- Peter Eonomou
- Diane Beam-Garland
- Tommy Ragsdale

### Friends of Concordia

- Connie Henderson 5/14/23
- Rick Wildrick 3/30/23
- Emmanuel McCloud 2/26/23
- Judy Milles 2/22/23
- 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
- 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)



### Congratulations to

- Zachary Marot & Alexis McKeand who were married on 29 April 2023, at Concordia by Rev. Paul Gaschler.

- Michael Ian Yahl & Lia Claire Bierman who were married on 23

May 2023. Lia is the granddaughter of Herb & Barb Hoeltke.

God's blessings on their new life together as husband and wife.



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

- **Marvin & Linda Barkes** at the passing of their niece **Marcia Covert**, on 4/24/23. (904 Beech Dr., Greenwood IN 46142)

# Treasurer's Report

April 2023

Income Description	Apr 2022 4 Sundays	Apr 2023 5 Sundays	Total To date (18) Sun
Unified Budget	34,959.86	56,036.00	126,776.48
Memorials (Non-designated)			
Memorials (Designated)			
Designated Gifts *	4,527.38	3,414.80	6,654.64
Reimbursements & Refunds **	240.71	34.78	1,76.89
Rents & Wedding Fees	75.00		123.00
Miscellaneous ***			25.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>39,802.96</b>	<b>59,885.58</b>	<b>135,256.10</b>
Average per/week Unified Budget	\$ 8,739.97	\$ 11,977.12	\$ 7,514.22
Amount needed per/week for Unified Budget	\$ 6,476.00	\$ 6,570.00	

\* Anniversary/Birthday \$ 173, Concordia Cares \$ 246, Building Fund \$ 110, Flowers \$ 50, Easter Flowers \$ 121, Easter Lilly \$22, Easter Breakfast (Concordia Cares) \$382, Fellowship 15 \$ 26.78, Fort Wayne Seminary Student Food and Clothing Co-op \$ 2,000, Internet Access \$ 75, LWCC \$ 10, LWCC Mites \$ 20, Pennies from Heaven (Tuzla) \$ 46.26, Southside Times \$ 12.50, Vacation Bible School \$10, We Raise Foundation \$ 10, Youth Group \$ 100.26.  
 \*\* Reimbursements & Refunds  
 Preschool Federal and State taxes \$ 289.99, AT&T telephone refund \$ 144.79.  
 \*\*\* Miscellaneous:

Expenses Boards	Apr 2022	Apr 2023	Total To date
Pastoral Care	7,719.01	8,658.99	31,868.49
Congregational Worship	993.62	1,143.57	3,512.97
Missions and Outreach	3,687.50	3,687.50	5,906.00
Christian Education	6,357.82	6,823.70	26,413.84
Stewardship			299.03
Operations	9,173.37	11,067.45	40,696.89
Small Group Ministries		17.17	58.53
Christian Living			765.00
<b>Unified Budget Total</b>	<b>27,931.32</b>	<b>31,398.38</b>	<b>109,520.75</b>
<b>Non-boards</b>			
Non budget payments *			
Reimbursement Expenses **	3,386.71	3,069.54	7,676.65
<b>Total Non-Budget Payments</b>	<b>3,386.71</b>	<b>3,069.54</b>	<b>7,676.65</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>31,318.03</b>	<b>34,467.92</b>	<b>117,197.40</b>

\* Non budget Payments:  
 \*\*Reimbursement expenses: Easter Lilly & Hydrangeas \$ 168.45, Sacristy Renovation \$ 561.11, Fort Wayne Seminary Student Food and Clothing Co-op \$ 2,000, Lutheran Large Print Serving Book \$49.99, Preschool Fed. taxes, \$ 222.62, Preschool Indiana taxes \$ 67.37

Support is included in Unified Budget Expenses	Apr 2022	Apr 2023	Total to date
Missions— District Synod	500.00	500.00	2,000.00
Lutheran High School	750.00	750.00	3,000.00
Lutheran Hispanic Ministry Indy*	187.50	187.50	750.00
<b>Total Support</b>	<b>1,437.50</b>	<b>1,437.50</b>	<b>4,312.50</b>

Lutheran Church Extension Fund Steward Accounts	LCEF Balance Apr 30, 2023
Anniversaries & Birthday	4,397.87
Board of Youth— (Trip)	7,067.26
Building Fund	17,723.00
Capital Improvements - \$ 8,013.98 Church sign - \$ 951.16 Church Landscaping - \$ 860.44 Heine Family Project - \$ 1,692.03	11,517.61
Concordia Cares	3,361.11
Inheritance Fund	211,572.95
Pre-School Landscaping & Gardening	1,643.36
<b>Total in LCEF Steward Accounts</b>	<b>257,283.16</b>
<b>Interest earned</b>	<b>123.30</b>

Worship	2022	2023	Tithes
4/30	85	6 M	5,956.00
5/7	88	93	3,685.00
5/14	94	96	4,101.00
5/21	95	110	8,381.00
5/28	86		

Church checking account balance Apr 2023	
Beginning	57,448.60
Deposits	54,978.82
Payments	34,467.92
Ending balance	77,959.50

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

	SS	HS	ADULT
4/30			4
5/7	7	4	27
5/14			6
5/21	11	4	8
5/28			

Congregational meeting - 4/30/23 - 41 attendance  
 Congregational meeting - 5/21/23 - 28 attendance

Note: \$4,906.76 difference between April income and April deposits is due to Sunday April 30 offerings being deposited May 1.

## 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

**6/4        It's All Good - Even When It's Not**  
**6/11       Stength Out of Weakness**  
**6/18       Just Around the Corner**  
**6/25       Tears, Fires and a Song**

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

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

## Christian Living

**June Wedding Anniversaries:** Dick & Gail Brooks (44) 6/1  
Cliff & Heidi Whitrock (28) 6/7 Scott & Laura Ronczka (30)  
6/12 Wayne & Carol Monroe (9) 6/14 Daniel & Jessica  
Moreth (12) 6/15 Don & Cindy Boesenberg (47) 6/19 Herb &  
Barb Hoeltke (60) 6/22 Mike & Heidi Ford (57) 6/23 Tony &  
Andrea Kaiser (6) 6/25 Phil & Loura Turner (18) 6/25 John &  
Tracy Guinn (24) 6/26 Dick & Betty Economou (53) 6/27  
Leonard & Miriam Neumann (58) 6/27 Bryan & Genny Hartley  
(27) 6/29

### June Birthdays:

Bulthuis, Mistie	6/4	Kilgore, Della	6/17
Coffey, Shannon	6/4	Henrickson, Susan	6/18
Roberts, Rhyon	6/6	Bierman, Mike	6/23
Yeater, Jim	6/9	Roemer, Doris	6/23
Caruana, Sharon	6/10	Guinn, John	6/29
Shadday, Matt	6/12	Ralph, Barbara	6/29
Crouch, Aubrianna	6/13	Munoz, Chloe	6/30
Bontrager, Logan	6/15		
Caruana, Philip	6/15		
Hanneman, Konny	6/16		

## 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 Mihu



Have you ever been on a phone call where you couldn't hear the person on the other end very well? Maybe there was interference, you were in a dead zone, or maybe they were just plain ole mumbling. Did you leave that call wishing you had a better connection? A good connection is key in communication. This is true in our relationships here on earth and in our relationship with our God. We need connection. It's how we thrive.

Our Treatshop this year is designed to address just that. A treatshop is a one-day retreat and workshop all rolled into one. The theme of our treatshop is **Connecting Through Christ**. It is based on **John 15:5, "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing"** Through our time together, we plan to make connections, encouraging us in our walk with Christ and one another. Connecting Through Christ Treatshop is on **August 12, 2023 at Emanuel Lutheran Church in Tipton, Indiana**. The cost is **\$15.00** which covers materials and lunch.

To register, use this: [Connecting Through Christ Treatshop](#), to register online.

This is all about making connections. Bring a friend and enjoy the drive together. Meet friends at the Treatshop and renew your relationships. Come just to see how you can improve your relationship with Jesus. We pray that through this event you feel a strong connection to His love and grace.

[https://mcusercontent.com/443def63e8b9ce483a1745ec2/files/056da293-393c-4049-6770-1a1fad035545/LWML\\_Treatshop\\_Registration\\_2023\\_3\\_02.pdf](https://mcusercontent.com/443def63e8b9ce483a1745ec2/files/056da293-393c-4049-6770-1a1fad035545/LWML_Treatshop_Registration_2023_3_02.pdf)

<https://mcusercontent.com/443def63e8b9ce483a1745ec2/images/4c2b130f-0795-1ed5-6eb0-3e7e69fa4788.png>

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June 2023



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& Preschool  
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