

THE Concordia Messenger



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

February 2025

Jesus Came for Gentiles, Too

The Gospel of Christ is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Gentile (Rom. 1:8–17). Even in the Old Testament, the Gentiles were beneficiaries of God’s saving power. Though unimpressed at first with the Word of God, a Syrian commander is persuaded to receive that Word, and in the water he is cleansed and brought to faith in the God of Israel (2 Kings 5:1–15a). Evil is overcome by good (Rom 12:16–21). So also in the New Testament, a Roman centurion demonstrates great and humble faith in the Lord (Matt. 8:1–13). All he needs is the Word of Christ, for he trusts that Jesus’ Word of healing has authority to accomplish what it says. And indeed it does. The centurion’s faith is praised by our Lord above that of any Israelite. For the last shall be first, and the first last. Apart from faith in Christ, there is no salvation—not even for a Jew—but only weeping and gnashing of teeth.

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Bible Study Opportunities

Sunday School 10:45am

Young Children are learning about Jesus Healing a Blind Man, Jesus raising Lazarus, Jesus healing 10 lepers, and Jesus blessing the children.

Older Children are learning about the people wandering in the desert, the bronze serpent, the 2 spies in Jericho, and the fall of Jericho.

Youth are continuing through the Minor Prophets. These youth meet upstairs in the youth room.

Adults are having Bible Studies led by Pastor Fangmeyer in the Fellowship Hall.

Women’s Sunday Night Bible Study are continuing Donna Snow’s book *Unshakeable* and meet at Concordia Sunday nights from 6pm–7pm.

Women’s Tuesday Night Bible Study are studying women in the Bible and meet from 7pm–8:30pm on the following days: February 11 and 25, March 11 and 25, April 8 and 22, and May 13 and 27.

Director of Christian Education

In February, one of the things we celebrate is Valentine’s Day. There are lots of legends and stories surrounding St. Valentine, but people tend to focus on love for that day. Love is such a tricky word in the English language. Parents and children say they love each other. When people get married, they say they love each other. Some people love ice cream or tacos. Others love their parents or siblings. But, in all those situations I would say, “I love ____.” Unfortunately, we don’t have many other words to say we love something.

In the Greek language, there are multiple words for love. Someone may talk about *philia* the affection or friendship between family members or friends.

(Philadelphia the city of brotherly love.) *Storge* is the love or bond between parents and children. *Eros* is a romantic love. (Cupid/*Eros* was considered the Roman/Greek god of love/desire/attraction). There are more words for love, but probably the most important one for us to know is *agape*.

In the Christian context it is a deep and unconditional love. It’s the sacrificial love God has for his people. This is the love that drove Jesus to take on human flesh and to dwell among us. Without God’s love, we would be lost and wandering in darkness and lawlessness. “But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” (Romans 5:8) God loves us so much that He sent Jesus as the propitiation (atonement/appeasement) of our sins. God took away our sins so we could live with him in heaven one day. Because of God’s great love for us, we can respond to that love in joy and with love as well. Jesus sacrificed himself for us. Now we can show others Jesus’s sacrificial love.

We can serve our neighbors in their spiritual, physical, and emotional needs. We can share God’s True Word with all people. Is there any greater love than that? We can also help care for our neighbors with any other needs they have on this earth. We can only share this love because God first loved us.

While the world celebrates an earthly love this month; let us focus, as always, on the things of Christ. Let us remember God’s good gifts to us. Let’s remember the salvation He brings to all people. Let us share that love with all people so that all may believe in Christ as their Savior and have life in His name.

~Sarah Shadday

February Congregational Fellowship Events

We will have **Game Nights** once a month. This is a great time to talk, eat, and play games together. A light dinner will be served around 6pm at each game night. Everyone is welcome to bring any extra snacks, drinks, or games they would like. Our upcoming game nights will be on these Fridays from 5:30pm-8:30pm:

February 7	Gordon Food Service BBQ Sandwiches and Salad
March 14	Pizza and Salad
April 25	Costco Chicken, Salad, and Potatoes
May 16	Pizza and Salad

We will host the Right for **Life Euchre Tournament** February 22 from 8 am to noon. To enter the tournament, each participant should bring a pack of diapers. Participants can come as pairs or individuals. Individuals will be given a partner. The diapers will be donated to a local organization.

Preschool

Starting February 1st, our enrollment is open to everyone! All new families must tour before enrolling. Tours may be set up by contacting Sarah Shadday via text/calls 314-330-3782 or emailing Sarah.Shadday@concordia-lcms.com

Enroll soon to take advantage of our enrollment discounts!

PreK child should be 4 and potty trained by August 1st, 2025

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 9am-noon

\$175/month for 10 months

3's child should be 3 and potty trained by August 1st, 2025

Tuesday, Friday 9am-11:30am

\$125/month for 10 months

Registration Fee

\$80 if registered by March 1st

\$100 if registered by May 21st

\$125 for any day AFTER May 21st

~Sarah Shadday

LWML Mission Grants at Work 2023-2025 Mission Grant #23 (Milwaukee Convention)

A Legacy of Love for Special Needs Children

— Lutheran Special Education Ministries, U.S. —
\$100,000

One in five children in the United States has a learning need. Each child is unique; they all learn at a different pace, and some require different approaches to learning. Parents often must make the choice between a public school that addresses their learning needs or a Christian education that develops their spirituality.

Lutheran Special Education Ministries (LSEM) serves schools, churches, and families to advance the success of children with learning needs by providing resources to benefit them in the classroom and their church communities. They have served God's children with special needs for 150 years.

This grant will allow LSEM to continue developing and researching tools and techniques to provide resources to Lutheran churches to welcome, integrate, and support children with specialized needs and their families in their church bodies.



In 2023, Lutheran Special Education Ministries celebrated 150 years of serving God's children with special needs. They have a rich and full history, which began as an orphanage for children after the Civil War, turned into a Lutheran School for the Deaf, and has grown into Lutheran Special Education Ministries, now serving children with all kinds of learning needs across the country and internationally.

2024 Indiana LWML District Convention Large Grant Recipient #2

Hope for the Destitute and Caring for Orphaned and Vulnerable Children in Kismu Kenya - \$12,000

The Caring for Orphans and Vulnerable Children project currently has over 150 children who are cared for spiritually, educationally, and medically. Many of our children are so excited to learn and grow in the word of God that they are willing to walk miles to attend our school and are often exhausted in the morning before school. We bought a school van to help transport students to and from school. However, as the number of students increases, we need a second larger bus to help transport students. The van is also used upon request on Sundays to transport the elderly members of the community to attend our Lutheran Sunday worship.

PRAYER FOR CALLING A FAITHFUL PASTOR

O Gracious Father, You led Your holy apostles to ordain ministers for the proclamation of Your Word and the faithful administration of the Sacraments of Christ. Grant to this congregation the guidance of the Holy Spirit to choose a suitable pastor according to Your will for the blessing of Your Church in this place; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

CONGREGATION GAME NIGHT



February 2025 Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>26</div> <div>9:30am - Worship</div> <div>10:45am - Sunday School</div> <div>6pm - Women's Bible Study</div>	<div>27</div>	<div>28</div> <div>7pm - Women's Bible Study</div>	<div>29</div>	<div>30</div>	<div>31</div>	<div>1</div> <div>Enrollment (2025/2026)</div> <div>Preschool - Open to All</div> <div>10am - O.A.</div>
<div>2</div> <div>9:30am - Worship</div> <div>10:45am - Special Cong. Ming</div> <div>10:45am - Sunday School</div> <div>6pm - Women's Bible Study</div>	<div>3</div> <div>6:30pm - Properties</div> <div>7pm - Elders</div>	<div>4</div>	<div>5</div>	<div>6</div>	<div>7</div> <div>Congregation</div> <div>5:30pm - Game Night</div>	<div>8</div> <div>9am - Quilting</div> <div>10am - O.A.</div>
<div>9</div> <div>9:30am - Worship</div> <div>10:45am - Sunday School</div> <div>6pm - Women's Bible Study</div>	<div>10</div>	<div>11</div> <div>7pm - Women's Bible Study</div>	<div>12</div>	<div>13</div>	<div>14</div>	<div>15</div> <div>(Inside Work)</div> <div>9am - Church Work Day</div> <div>10am - O.A.</div>
<div>16</div> <div>9:30am - Worship</div> <div>10:45am - Sunday School</div> <div>6pm - Women's Bible Study</div>	<div>17</div> <div>7pm - Church Council</div>	<div>18</div>	<div>19</div>	<div>20</div>	<div>21</div>	<div>22</div> <div>8am - Euchre Tmry for CareNet</div> <div>10am - O.A.</div>
<div>23</div> <div>9:30am - Worship</div> <div>10:45am - Sunday School</div> <div>6pm - Women's Bible Study</div>	<div>24</div>	<div>25</div> <div>7pm - Women's Bible Study</div>	<div>26</div>	<div>27</div>	<div>28</div>	<div>1</div> <div>10am - O.A.</div>

Treasurers Report

December 2024

Income Descriptions	Dec 2023 5 Sundays	Dec 2024 5 Sundays	Total to Date
Unified Budget	54,184.80	57,549.69	314,769.07
Memorials (Non-Designated)	225.00	100.00	2,230.00
Memorials (Designated)	-	-	48,014.75
Designated Gifts	968.65	5,331.20	39,747.65
Reimbursements & Refunds	944.31		-
Rents & Wedding Fees	120.00	120.00	655.00
Miscellaneous	32,541.52	-	74,352.13
Total Income	88,984.28	57,649.69	479,768.60
Average per week Unified Budget	13,850.02	11,529.94	6,053.25
Amount needed per week for Unified Budget	6,476.00	6,728.85	6,728.85

Support is included in Unified Budget Expenses	Dec-24	Total to Date
Missions - District Synod	500.00	7,500.00
Lutheran High School	750.00	8,250.00
Lutheran Hispanic Ministry	187.50	2,062.50
Total Support	1,437.50	17,812.50

Board Expenses	December 2024	Total To Date	Total Budget
Pastoral Care	7,150.92	64,970.21	125,400.00
Christian Education	6,693.44	90,835.56	81,800.00
Congregational Worship	637.51	5,451.91	7,200.00
Missions & Outreach	3,887.50	24,672.04	21,500.00
Office	2,147.35	15,272.82	32,500.00
Properties	5,564.19	173,522.84	81,500.00
Unified Budget Total	26,080.91	374,725.38	349,900.00

Lutheran Church Extension Fund Steward Accounts	Balance 12-31-2024
Anniversaries & Birthday - 1073	4,640.58
Board of Youth - Trip - 5446	7,175.38
Building Fund - 2978**	19,856.79
Capital Improvements - 9545**	10,423.04
Church Sign	968.88
Church Landscaping	876.63
Heine Family Project	1,721.95
Total Capital Improvements - \$13,990.50	13,990.50
Concordia Cares - 6370	3,502.66
Inheritance Fund - 7423	124,975.64
Preschool Landscaping & Gardening - 2434	148.64
Total in LCEF Steward Accounts	174,290.19
Interest Earned	575.92

**Transferred year end balances to designated accounts 12-2024

Building Fund - \$77,804.40

Capital Improvements-\$3,305.02

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

	Children SS	Youth SS	ADULT SS
December 29, 2024	0	4	16
January 5, 2025	0	0	0
January 12, 2025	12	3	26
January 19, 2025	11	3	18

Worship	2024	2025	Tithes
December 29, 2024	81	63	\$34,885.00
January 5, 2025	81	58	\$5,130.00
January 12, 2025	44	77	\$3,120.00
January 19, 2025	73	80	\$4,870.00

INTERCESSION and PRAYER
(Matthew 8:17)

**Concordia Members
Surgery/Testing/
Recovery:**

- Betty Economou
- Gene Waltz
- Jim Roemer
- Peter Economou
- Tommy Ragsdale



Friends of Concordia

- Rick Zoellner 12/30/24
- Mary Grace McCullar 12/18/24
- Russell McCullar 12/18/24
- Tyshae Smith 8/28/24
- Josephine Shafer 8/13/24
- Leeroy & Vernon Good 6/10/24
- Ralph McGraw 1/2/24
- Alexandria Carrier 9/1/23
- Connie Henderson 5/14/23
- Rick Wildrick 3/30/23
- 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, Ste-
ve & Nicole Perrish 12/21/21
- Terry & Diana Deamron 9/10/22
- Beverly Stephens 8/20/22
- Ed Stephens 2/18/24
- Terry Haskett 5/15/22
- Missy, Austin & Travis Golden 4/20/22
- Judy Heine 11/22/21
- Pat Brooks 9/23/21
- Tami Economou 8/17/21
- Rose Swenson 7/27/21
- 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 Clark 12/16/18

Battling Cancer / MS

- Kelsey Merena 10/25/22
- David Buuck 9/27/21
- Brandi Soggs 1/9/20

Homebound Concordia Members

- Sharon Bruhn, 1375 Nicole Dr. Unit 329,
Franklin IN 46131-0028
- Konny Hannemann, 6818 Cadwell Cir-
cle, Indianapolis IN 46237

Military Servicemen & women.

- Erica Stephenson, Army, National Guard
- LTJG Chloe (Owen) Munoz, 8153 Vil-
lage Gate Ct, Jacksonville, FL 32217
- Ivan Munoz, (USS Gravely)
- Zach Goins, 822 Timbervale Trail, High-
lands Ranch, CO, 80129 (Navy Reserve)
- CPL Jadon Ranbarger (2166 Marmande
St., Kailua, HI 96734)

MITE BOXES

LWML is collecting Mite boxes from now until the end of February for the last quarter of the year 2024. Thank you to all of you who help support this part of our mission. God Bless.



Quilting February 8 at 9 am weather permitting. We will be needing dona-
tions of clean and unstained flat sheets
to use as backing for the quilts if you
have any that you would like to be put to
good use. Consider coming and help-
ing with the tying.

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

2/2 "Do the Things That Make for Unity"
2/9 "We Have an Advocate"
2/16 "The Bread of Our Lives"
2/23 "Need to Know"

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

Worship Anew—Sundays
WRTV (TV 6) 7:00 AM

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.



Pastor Vacant

Staff

Sarah Shadday—*Director Christian Education*

Erica Stephenson - *Deaconess*

Sarah Shadday—*Preschool Director*
Brad Wheeler- *Admin. Assistant*

Office hours Mon. - Fri. 8am - noon

February Birthdays:

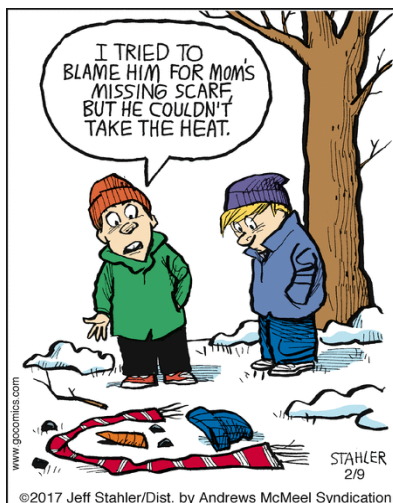
Sullivan, Rachel	2/2
Bierman, Daniel	2/3
Bontrager Jr., John	2/3
Conrad, Diane	2/4
Dombroski, Lynn	2/5
Kearns, Spencer	2/9
Reinke, Jeff	2/9
Williams, Rachel (Wilson)	2/9 2/9
Sullivan, Diana	2/10
Hassel, Deb	2/10
Ford, Heidi	2/11
Lawler, Mark	2/16
Barrick Steve	2/16
Bruhn, Sharon	2/21
Hartley, Genny	2/22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

Wedding Anniversaries:

Feb	Years	Date
Rick & Linda Snyder	53	2/5
Mike & Kris Bierman	35	2/24

HUMOR CORNER

Proverbs 17:22 "A merry heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones."



Church Council

President
Bruce Markel

Vice-President
Chris Brooks

Mike Emkes, Elder

Mike Finger, Elder

Mike Ford

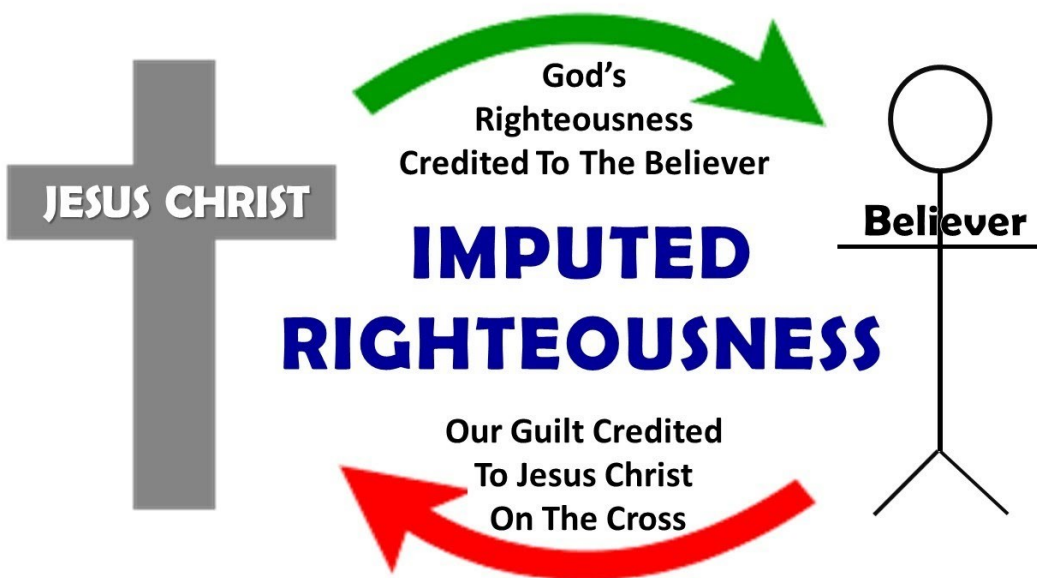
Emily McNally

Julia Yeater

Recording Secretary
Susan Ranbarger

Treasurer
Tammy Owen

Financial Secretary
Carol Monroe



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