

THE Concordia Messenger



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

May 2025

“Lord, show us the Father.”

Philip did not yet recognize that the Father is glorified in the Son. In His name we have access to the Father, for they are one. Jesus is “the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through [Him],” and whoever believes in Him will do the works He does and greater (John 14:6–13). And so Philip and James did; the “household of God” is built on the apostles, with Christ as her chief cornerstone (Eph. 2:19–22). The beloved words of Jesus from today’s Gospel were the words of their “Teacher,” echoing in their ears as they walked in His way (Is. 30:20–21). And so their hearts were not troubled (John 14:1) as they ate “the bread of adversity and the water of affliction” (Is. 30:20). Philip, who in John’s Gospel brings Jews and Greeks to Jesus, is said to have journeyed to Phrygia where he was martyred. James “the Younger” (son of Alphaeus, whose mother Mary was at the crucifixion) is said to have died by being sawn in half. Where Christ is, they also are, and so shall we be (John 14:3).

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Bible Study Opportunities

Sunday School 10:45am

Young Children are learning about Jesus Rises, Road to Emmaus, Jesus Appears to Thomas, and Jesus Appears in Galilee.

Older Children are learning about the Old Testament and do fun activities with their lessons. They are working through the book of Judges.

Youth are learning about books of the Bible they are interested in. These youth meet upstairs in the youth room.

Adults are having Bible Studies led by pastor Fangmeyer in the Fellowship Hall. They are currently in the book of Hebrews.

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: May 13 and 27, June 20 and 24, July 8 and 22.

Director of Christian Education

The other day, I was listening to *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* with my kids. One part that makes me chuckle is the line in *Go, Go, Go Joseph* where the chorus encourages Joseph, singing:

“Go, go, go Joseph, you know what they say;
Hang on now Joseph, you’ll make it some day;
Don’t give up Joseph, fight till you drop;
We’ve read the book, and you come out on top.”

It’s funny when you think about it- Joseph and his brothers certainly didn’t know how the story would end, but we do. We know Joseph, betrayed by his own brothers, unjustly imprisoned, and forgotten by those he helped, eventually by God’s help, rose to become second-in-command in Egypt. He saved countless lives, including the very brothers who sold him. We know the ending, so it’s easier to watch the hardships and trust what’s coming. For Joseph, he had to live in those hardships and trust in God despite his seemingly worsening circumstances.

Listening to our pastor in Bible study this week, I was reminded of Moses’. In Acts 7, we’re told Moses was 40 when he killed the Egyptian; he spent another 40 years in Midian before God appeared to him in the burning bush. Then, God uses Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. God uses him to spend the final 40 years of his life wandering the desert, patiently shepherding the Israelites. That’s a lifetime of trusting God’s without stepping foot in the Promised Land, only relying on the promise God made.

Then there were the disciples. They celebrated Passover with Jesus, only to hear that one of the disciples would betray Him. Some followed Him to the Garden, saw Him arrested, scattered in fear, and watched their teacher unfairly tried, flogged, and ultimately crucified. Their world turned completely upside down. For three years, they had followed Him, believed in Him, left everything for Him... and suddenly, He was gone. What now?

We are blessed to know how these stories end.

We know Joseph reunites with his father.

We know Moses delivers God’s commandments and leads his people right to the edge of the Promised Land where they will live.

We know the tomb is empty. Jesus doesn’t stay dead. He rises, just as He said. Thanks to the disciples, we know this.

(continued next page)

We know these endings—but in the moment, none of them did.

We are living in the middle of a story, too. Our stories are different and we may be waiting for different things. Still, we are waiting. Like Joseph in prison, like Moses in the desert, like the disciples in that long, quiet Saturday—we're in the tension of "not yet." It's easy to get discouraged, to feel like nothing is happening, like maybe God has forgotten.

The story isn't over.

Ultimately, all Christians are waiting for the return of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. One day, Christ will return. The waiting will end, and we'll see clearly the end of our story, the fruit of the salvation Christ won for us. For now, we wait, and hold on to the Word of God, the Sacraments, and hope Christ won for us.

~Sarah Shadday

Congregational Fellowship Opportunities

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:

May 16	pizza and salad
June 13	GFS pasta and salad
July 11	pizza and salad
August 8	GFS BBQ and salad

In June, we are hosting our Vacation Bible School. All are welcome to come to our VBS program on Thursday, June 19 starting at 6:30pm. We will also be hosting a picnic dinner and some games after the program.

Preschool

We enjoyed celebrating Easter this month with our Preschool students. They've all grown so much since the start of the school year in August! So many of them are ready for Kindergarten or to move on to our PreK class. Our 3's ice cream social and PreK graduation will take place later this month.

We still have spots left in both Preschool classes. 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

\$100 if registered by May 21st

\$125 for any day AFTER May 21st

LWML Mission Grants at Work

2023-2025 Mission Grant #30 (Milwaukee Convention)

Repairs for St. Paul's Lutheran School - St. Paul Lutheran School, Cullman, AL - \$50,000

St. Paul's Lutheran School has served the church and the Cullman community since 1887, and the current building was built in 1951. It is one of two Lutheran elementary schools in northern Alabama. It currently teaches pre-K through 6th grade, intending to add 7th and 8th grades. The building has been through multiple tornadoes, and safety concerns need to be addressed, including replacing windows and emergency doors and updating heating technology. Because of its location, the school is a mission, reaching unchurched children and their families. Parents are encouraged to attend the daily chapel services, and families attend Sunday Divine Service, especially when their child or children sing.

This grant would assist in updating the heating system and replacing windows and emergency doors.

2024 Indiana LWML District Convention Large Grant Recipient #5

Y4Life/Lutherans for Life - \$12,000

Y4Life Engage and Equip Events will teach and train more than 3,000 Indiana District in congregations, schools, and campus ministries to become motivated ambassadors for life.



VBS

Our church's Vacation Bible School is **9am-11:30am, June 16-20**. We will have an Epic Australian Adventure, an unforgettable journey with Jesus! Children will learn about when God calls Moses, when God leads His people through the Promised Land, the parable of the good Samaritan, Peter and John's race to the tomb, and Jesus's ascension.

There are many ways to help with VBS:

1. We will need lots of volunteers to help during Vacation Bible School week. If you would like to volunteer during VBS week, please, let Sarah Shadday know. We will have two VBS trainings: Saturday, May 24th 9am-10am and Sunday, June 8th noon-1pm. Snacks will be provided at these meetings. It is recommended to come to ONE of the meetings. Volunteers will learn about what we're doing at the station during VBS, our mission projects, and have an opportunity to give valuable feedback and share thoughts. The second part of the meeting is for those who have not done our child protection training and for those who have not completed a background check. If you would like to volunteer and have not completed child protection training and a background check and CAN NOT make it to the trainings, please arrange a time with Sarah Shadday to complete those trainings.
2. Volunteers are needed to help set up for Vacation Bible School. Set up will take place on Sunday, June 15th at noon. We will provide a light lunch.
3. Volunteers are needed to help during our VBS program and celebration. We need volunteers to run our games during the picnic for the children and to help serve food to families.
4. Donations are needed. Please, check the bulletin board in the lobby to see what donations are needed. Please keep in mind that fresh items like fruit are needed closer to the time of VBS. Other items like cleaning supplies can be brought in at any time.

Thrivent Action Teams

If anyone is a Thrivent member, you most likely have a Thrivent Action Team you can use for this year. It is up to \$250 of seed money for a special project. To check out if you have an Action Team left for this year, go to <https://www.thrivent.com/about-us/membership/thrivent-action-teams> and log on to your Thrivent account. It should list how many teams you have for the year.

We are looking for sponsors for:

Preschool Ice Cream Social
Preschool Graduation
Vacation Bible School
Vacation Bible School Carnival
Vacation Bible School Volunteer Trainings

Contact Sarah Shadday if you would like to sponsor one of these events.

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Help appreciated - from the Renovation Committee!!

We are working on another fundraiser to acquire additional funds to use on the Fellowship/Kitchen complex. Information on participating in the Oct bazaar at Calvary Lutheran church and later at Lutheran High School's Fall Christmas sale is being collected. Dates and times will come later when the information is available. Until then we would ask that if you have a talent for making things (sewing, woodworking, baked items, and home canned goods) it would be nice to know that you are willing and able to help us. It will also give you time to work on the projects through the summer. Of course the baking would have to wait until the week of the sale but you can still plan on what you would like to do in the mean time.

Please contact Adele Tinsley, Heidi Ford, Diane Conrad, or Becky Lanning to let us know what you can do to help. Several items have been made at this point but we would like to add to the selection.

May 2025 Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>27</div> <div>Second Sunday of Easter</div> <div>9:30am - Worship</div> <div>10:45am - Sunday School</div> <div>6pm - Women's Bible Study</div>	<div>28</div>		<div>30</div>	<div>1</div> <div>[F] St. Philip and St. James,</div>	<div>2</div>	<div>3</div> <div>10am - O.A.</div> <div>10:45am - Church Basement</div>
<div>4</div> <div>Third Sunday of Easter</div> <div>9:30am - Worship</div> <div>10:45am - Sunday School</div> <div>6pm - Women's Bible Study</div>	<div>5</div> <div>6:30pm - Properties</div> <div>7pm - Elders</div>		<div>7</div>	<div>8</div>	<div>9</div> <div>9am - Quilting</div> <div>10am - O.A.</div>	<div>10</div>
<div>11</div> <div>Fourth Sunday of Easter</div> <div>9:30am - Worship</div> <div>10:45am - Sunday School</div> <div>6pm - Women's Bible Study</div>	<div>12</div>	<div>7pm - Women's Bible Study</div>	<div>14</div>	<div>15</div>	<div>16</div> <div>5:30pm - Congregational Game</div>	<div>17</div> <div>10am - O.A.</div>
<div>18</div> <div>Fifth Sunday of Easter</div> <div>9:30am - Worship</div> <div>10:45am - Sunday School</div> <div>6pm - Women's Bible Study</div>	<div>19</div> <div>7pm - Church Council</div>	<div>8am - PS 3's ice cream social</div>	<div>21</div> <div>6:30pm - Prek Graduation</div>	<div>22</div>	<div>23</div>	<div>24</div> <div>9am - VBS Training</div> <div>10am - O.A.</div>
<div>25</div> <div>Sixth Sunday of Easter</div> <div>9:30am - Worship</div> <div>10:45am - Sunday School</div> <div>6pm - Women's Bible Study</div>	<div>26</div>	<div>7pm - Women's Bible Study</div>	<div>28</div>	<div>29</div> <div>The Ascension of Our Lord</div>	<div>30</div>	<div>31</div> <div>10am - O.A.</div>

Treasurers Report

March 2024

Income Descriptions	Mar 2024 5 Sundays	Mar 2025 5 Sundays	Total to Date
Unified Budget	21,797.60	26,375.50	67,742.85
Memorials (Non-Designated)	-	-	175.00
Memorials (Designated)	-	50.00	50.00
Designated Gifts	992.45	4,269.00	7,740.92
Reimbursements & Refunds	-	-	-
Rents & Wedding Fees	120.00	-	195.00
Miscellaneous	-	-	1,152.80
Total Income	22,910.05	26,375.50	77,056.57
Average per week Unified Budget	4,359.52	6,593.88	4,357.47
Amount needed per week for Unified Budget	6,728.85	6,728.85	6,728.85

Support is included in Unified Budget Expenses	Mar-25	Total to Date
Missions - District Synod	500.00	1,500.00
Lutheran High School	750.00	2,250.00
Lutheran Hispanic Ministry	187.50	562.50
Total Support	1,437.50	4,312.50

Board Expenses	March 2025	Total To Date	Total Budget	Our Spiritual Response in Worship, Bible Study and Giving to our Lord			
Pastoral Care	9,230.03	17,851.27	125,400.00		Children SS	Youth SS	ADULT SS
Christian Education	10,730.15	24,448.56	81,800.00	March 30, 2025	0	0	0
Congregational Worship	287.33	740.43	7,200.00	April 6, 2025	9	3	21
Missions & Outreach	3,375.00	6,537.50	21,500.00	April 13, 2025	10	3	28
Office	3,917.40	8,177.29	32,500.00	April 20, 2025	0	0	0
Properties	4,352.20	18,957.61	81,500.00				
Unified Budget Total	31,892.11	76,712.66	349,900.00				

Lutheran Church Extension Fund Steward Accounts	Balance 03-31-2025
Anniversaries & Birthday - 1073	4,665.49
Board of Youth - Trip - 5446	12,236.67
Building Fund - 2978**	98,375.85
Capital Improvements - 9545**	13,824.47
Church Sign	973.23
Church Landscaping	880.57
Heine Family Project	1,729.69
Total Capital Improvements - \$17,370.84	17,407.96
Concordia Cares - 6370	3,521.46
Inheritance Fund - 7423	126,110.68
Preschool Landscaping & Gardening - 2434	149.45
Total in LCEF Steward Accounts	245,059.60
Interest Earned	704.31

Worship	2024	2025	Tithes
March 30, 2025	130	98	\$5,889.35
April 6, 2025	82	85	\$23,485.00
April 13, 2025	86	98	\$4,080.00
April 20, 2025	97	146	\$5,670.00

Total In Church Checking Account **\$146,456.85**
Total in Preschool Account **\$ 16,144.36**

INTERCESSION and PRAYER
(Matthew 8:17)

Concordia Members
Surgery/Testing/
Recovery:

- Linda Snyder
- Fred Foster
- Betty Economou
- Jim Roemer
- Peter Economou
- Tommy Ragsdale



Friends of Concordia

- Barb Norris 4/16/25
- Falon Wildrick 3/31/25
- Pam Perry 3/31/25
- Pastor Raji 2/2/25
- Rev. John Sebastian 1/30/25
- Kathleen Sebastian 1/30/25
- Beverly Tewell 1/30/25
- Rick Zoellner 12/30/24
- Tyshae Smith 8/28/24
- Josephine Shafer 8/13/24
- Leeroy & Vernon Good 6/10/24
- Ralph McGraw 1/2/24
- 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, Steve
& 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
- 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

Homebound Concordia Members

- Sharon Bruhn, 690 South State Ball
Brothers 123, Franklin IN 46131
- Pat Barnes, 8601 Shelby St, Apt 236,
Indianapolis, IN 46227

Rehab

- Konnie Hanneman, Greenwood Meadows
1200 N State Road 135, Greenwood
IN 46142

Military Servicemen & women.

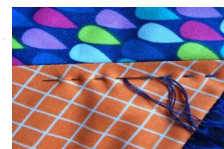
- Erica Stephenson, Army, National Guard
- LTJG Chloe (Owen) Munoz, 12137 Red
Barn Ct, Jacksonville, FL 32226
- Ivan Munoz, (LTJG)
- Zach Goins, 822 Timbervale Trail, Highlands
Ranch, CO, 80129 (Navy Reserve)
- CPL Jadon Ranbarger (2166 Marmande
St., Kailua, HI 96734)

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**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.

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Quilting May 10 at 9 am. We will be needing donations 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 helping 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

5/4 "An Old Place, A New Beginning"
5/11 "How to Be Happy"
5/18 "Truth That Takes Us In"
5/25 "What's Your Story"

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

Birthdays:

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

Wedding Anniversaries:

	Years	Date
Tony & Regina Moyers	6	5/5
Chris & Shawn Bauer	31	5/7
Carlos & Kat SanTiago Salazar	11	5/14
John & Shanda Bontrager Jr	30	5/20
Mike & Cindy Emkes	45	5/30
Carlos & Adriana Carlos	22	5/30

Church Council

President
Bruce Markel

Vice-President
Chris Brooks

Mike Emkes, Elder

Mike Finger, Elder

Mike Ford

Susan Henrickson

Julia Yeater

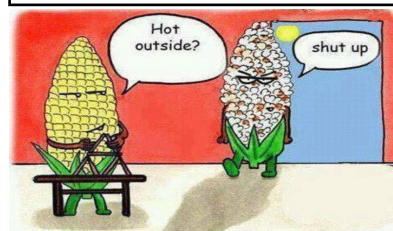
Recording Secretary
Susan Ranbarger

Treasurer
Tammy Owen

Financial Secretary
Carol Monroe

HUMOR CORNER

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





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& Preschool**
305 N Howard Road, Greenwood, IN 46142