### Concordia Messenger



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

August 2025

### **Congregation at Prayer**

"How is God's name kept holy? God's name is kept holy when the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we, as the children of God, also lead holy lives according to it. Help us to do this, dear Father in heaven! But anyone who teaches or lives contrary to God's Word profanes the name of God among us.

Protect us from this, heavenly Father!"

– Luther's Small Catechism, First Petition of the

Lord's Prayer

Prayer is the simple means which God gives to us to ask Him as dear children for the things we need. His Word is given to us that we would know God's Will among us, and that the Holy Spirit would be given to us, giving us the power and strength to trust solely in Jesus Christ.

Prayer and God's Word are great gifts to us, and ones we can enjoy easily, every day of our lives. Enjoying these gifts doesn't need to be complicated, but can be as complex or uncomplicated as you need. Martin Luther gives the simplest way to enjoy these gifts in the Small Catechism. He encourages starting and ending each day with a simple prayer and a sign of the Cross, invoking the name of the Holy Trinity. These things remind us and keep our hearts focused on the one thing that's truly needful, and helps us to cast our cares and doubts onto God.

There are many resources out there for structuring this daily prayer and meditation on God's Word, and whatever you use to get into the Word daily is great. If you're not sure where to start, there are some wonderful resources easily accessible to anyone. The Treasury of Daily Prayer, published by CPH, offers a daily reading from the Old Testament, New Testament, some edifying words from a Church Father, and a simple collect to pray. This is great for those who need a structure but aren't sure where to start. The same daily readings are listed in the front of the Lutheran Service Book, under 'Daily Lectionary' on page 299. Just before this page are some simple orders of service that you can pray right in your own home, to accompany these readings. The head of any household can lead these services and guide his family to pray, as dear children would ask their dear Father.

**Pastor Scheltens** 

### Jesus Restores Paradise and Feeds Us Freely

In the Garden of Eden, our first parents received food freely from the gracious hand of God, apart from any burdensome work (Gen 2:7-17). But after the fall, food would be received only through toil and labor. The curse declared, "By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground . . ." (Gen. 3:19). In other words, "The wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23). But into this wilderness world came Jesus the Messiah to restore creation. Having compassion on the weary multitudes, He renewed the bounty of Eden on the third day, freely granting an abundance of bread to the 4,000 (Mark 8:1-9). So also our Lord Jesus, having endured the burden of our sin, was raised on the third day to bring us back to Paradise. He now miraculously turns the bread of death into the Bread of Life in the Sacrament, giving you His very body and blood for your forgiveness. For "the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Rom. 6:23).

Lectionary summary © 2021 The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Used by permission. <a href="http://lcms.org/worship">http://lcms.org/worship</a>

### PRAYER FOR OUR NEW PASTOR

Lord Jesus, You are our great High Priest, who intercedes with the Father on our behalf. During Your earthly ministry You called men to be Your apostles, and still today You call men to be pastors in Your Church—to proclaim the Gospel of the forgiveness of sins, to baptize, to nourish Your people with Your holy Supper, and to minister in countless ways to Your flock.

Thank you for our new pastor, Sam Scheltens, and grant him fidelity to Your Word, wisdom by Your Spirit, and strength from above, that he may carry out his calling faithfully. Make him a fearless confessor of Your truth. Keep him from error in his teaching and from scandal in his life. Give him courage to admonish those who stray, compassion to bind up the brokenhearted, and discernment to apply Law and Gospel to all appropriately. May he protect Your flock from ravaging wolves and shepherd Your lambs into green pastures.

Move the members of our congregation to have proper respect for our pastor, to obey him, and to gladly accept the Word preached to us. Keep our pastor and our parishioners faithful until death, that together we may receive the crown of life; in Your name, O Jesus, the only Savior of the world. Amen.

### **Director of Christian Education**

There are so many things that happened in July and are continuing into August. The one that weighs heaviest on my heart is the National Youth Gathering. The LCMS National Youth Gathering takes place every three years, bringing together around 20,000 youth and adults to share their faith in Christ

There are servant events during the Gathering. This year, 160,704 Mercy Meals were packed. Additionally, 6,700 resource kits were assembled, 3,380 individuals served offsite, 2,000 backpacks and health kits were prepared, 652 inches of hair were donated, 567 pints of blood were given, 450 diapers were sewn, and 320 braille books were created. There were also likely several thousand pounds of beads sorted. Our youth participated in sorting beads into groups of 12 and placing them into bags until we reached 30 pounds. Our table alone sorted 180 pounds of beads in about 45 minutes.

There are many powerful moments at the National Youth Gathering. Sometimes it's a sectional, an interaction with a speaker, meeting new friends or old, a concert, or worshipping and communing with around twenty thousand other Lutherans. The moment that struck me the hardest this year was "Tribute Night." It's not some dystopian Hunger Games thing—it's a beautiful moment where churches submit photos of youth and adult leaders who are now in heaven but would have attended the Gathering if they were still on earth. It's always emotional, but this year it hit me hard.

That morning in Bible study, I learned one of our preschool parents was declared brain dead recently. It was particularly heavy because her daughter graduated with my oldest. I could easily see myself in her place.

There is always hope for a miracle. Jesus showed us this in John 11 with Lazarus. It's hard, because we want to pray for miracles; but what is the greatest mercy? Having the loved one here on earth with us; or the loved one being with God forever in heaven? Here on earth, I want my loved one here with me. In reality, I should praise and thank God my loved one is safe, forever in His arms. During the tribute, I was thinking about this mom and her faith and trust in Jesus. I know she is one of those washed by the blood of the Lamb, now singing with the saints in heaven. In that moment, the best way I could love and honor her life and witness was to sing with her and with the cloud of witnesses who endured before her. In that Mass Event, all I could do was praise God with her

Now that I'm home, there are practical things I can do to show love and compassion to her family. I have many questions, but ultimately, they don't matter. My gracious God is giving me the opportunity to serve this family in some way. My gracious God extends forgiveness to this parent through Christ's death and resurrection. My gracious God has given her eternal life—one of the greatest miracles our loving Lord can give. And my gracious God extends all those same gifts to me and to all believers. The day after I wrote this article, I did find out she was "officially" in heaven; at least from what our human measurements could declare. In reality, only God knows how long she's been in heaven, but we do know God welcomed her with open arms and her place is ready. This does give some comfort to her family on earth; but I can't imagine the family's lament, pain, and logistical battles on the days to come. I can't imagine the questions they have for God; but I'll can trust that the God who loves me so much loves them too and will give them the faith and help they need to sustain this earthly body and life.

It will be hard, but in my grief, I will praise God that she ran the race with endurance and looked to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of her faith. I will praise God that He joyfully endured the cross for all believers. I will praise Him that He now sits in heaven, and that one day, I will join her and all

believers in praising Him—not as a mere 20,000 people, but as the whole people of God across every tribe, race, and generation.

Thanks be to God, who endured so much for us.

~Sarah Shadday

### **Bible Study Opportunities**

### Sunday School 10:45am

**Young Children** are learning about Creation, the Fall into Sin, Noah, Abram, and Jacob.

**Older Children** are learning about the Psalms and doing fun activities with them.

**Youth** are reading through Confirmation materials. **Adults** are having Bible Studies on the Small Catechism led by Pastor Scheltens in the Sanctuary. We would like to thank Pastor Fangmeyer for his service and his insights on Galatians.

Women's Sunday Night Bible Study are continuing Donna Snow's book *Unshakeable*.

**Women's Tuesday Night Bible Study** 7 pm are studying women in the Bible and meet on: Aug 12 and 26. In September, they will start a new book.

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### Preschool

Back to School Night is August 5th. We have 2 spots available in our 3's class for 2025-2026 and 4 spots in our PreK class for 2025-2026. All new families must tour before enrolling. Tours may be set up by contacting Sarah Shadday via text/calls or emailing <a href="mailto:sarah.Shadday@concordia-lcms.com">Sarah.Shadday@concordia-lcms.com</a>

Registration fee is \$125.

### 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

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### Congregational Fellowship Opportunities

Most fellowship events are on pause during the West Wing Renovation.

### LWML Mission Grants at Work

The delegates to the Omaha convention approved \$2,622,270 to fund 33 Mission Grants for the upcoming biennium (2025-2027). Your ongoing giving continues to spread His love and His Word across the world. Keep filling your Mite Boxes as we gather funds for our next convention in Oklahoma City in 2027.

Other fun statistics from Omaha include 713 who flew, 21 who arrived by train, 2,423 who came by car/van, 572 who arrived via motorcoach, 69 children registered for camp, 272 singers in the choir, 806 attendees at the Wake Up In The Word Bible studies, approximately 73,680 hugs given, and 10/10s for everyone brave enough to sing karaoke,

2025-2027 Mission Grant #1 (Omaha Convention)

### Regional Disaster Response LERT Shower Trailers, LCMS Office of National Mission, Disaster Response Ministry, U.S. — \$81,500

Lutheran Early Response Teams (LERT) serve thousands of individuals and families who are suffering from loss in the wake of disasters like hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, fires, and tornadoes. When deployed, LERT teams traditionally use congregations in the disaster areas as their base camps. The host congregations provide a place for the LERT teams to sleep, eat, rest, recover, and receive spiritual care during their time of service. Host congregations are incredible to work with as the teams help them rebuild their communities and share the life-changing message of the Gospel. One challenge for team members has been the lack of showers and laundry facilities at a host church. LERT members have showered at national gym chains, in members' homes, in personal campers, or even under cold garden hoses. This grant will fund half the cost of two combination bathroom/shower/laundry trailers for use during disaster response work.

> 2024 Indiana LWML District Convention Large Grant Recipient #8

### **Lutheran Bible Translators—Computers for Bible Translation, Columbus, IN – \$12,000**

Lutheran Bible Translators' partners in Ethiopia want their communities to experience the hope that God's Word

### We're Gathering School Supplies for Lutheran World Relief

Each school kit contains four notebooks, a ruler, blunt scissors, one pencil sharpener, five unsharpened #2 pencils, five black or blue ballpoint pens, one box of 16 or 24 crayons, and one 2-1/2" eraser. Please consider helping when back-to-school sales begin in July. Often notebooks are priced at 30 cents each with corresponding sale prices for the other items.

Stop by the LWCC bulletin board and pick a tag for the items you plan to buy for this project. Leave the school supplies in the designated bins in the Noah Room. Can we fill 20 backpacks by Sept. 1?

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### Concordia Ladies' Afternoon Out, August 10, 4:00 p.m.

Our summer afternoon out will be OUT indeed. We plan to meet at the church shelter for a 4:00 p.m. get together and light supper. (Plans are in place if it's too hot or rainy.) Picnic fare will be provided. Attire is very casual. Any gal age 13 to 103 is invited.

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### **TEXAS FLOOD RELIEF**

If you want to help the victims of the Texas flood, here is how you do it.

Mail a check to:

Texas District of the Lutheran Church-LCMS 1221 Satellite View Round Rock, TX 78665

100% of your gift goes to help victims, including pastors and members of the LCMS. On the memo line of the check put "Flood Relief".

# August 2025 Calendar

Sat	6	91	23	30	φ
10am - O.A.	CLWML Treatshop 9am - Oulting 10am - O.A.	10am - O.A.	10am - O.A.	10am - O.A.	10am - O.A.
F	9am - 3's First Day of School	[F] St. Mary, Mother of Our Lord	22	[F] The Martyrdom of St. John the	uo .
Thu 31	9am - PreK First Day of School	4-	21	58	4
Wed 30	Φ	43	20	27	м
Tue 29	5:30pm - Back to School Night 3's 6:30pm - Back to School Night	7pm - Women's Tuesday Bible	6	7pm - Women's Tuesday Bible	CN .
Mon 28	6:30pm - Properties 7pm - Elders	6:30pm - Worship Service	6:30pm - Worship Service 7pm - Church Council	6.30pm - Worship Service	6:30pm - Properties 7pm - Elders
Sun Sixth Sunday after Trinity 9:30am - Worship 10:45am - Sunday School 12pm - Youth Event	Seventh Sunday atter Trinity 9:30am - Worship 10:45am - Sunday School	Eighth Sunday after frinity 9:30am - Worship 10:45am - Sunday School 12pm - Youth Pool Party 4pm - Concordia Ladie's picnic	Ninth Sunday after Trinity 9:30am - Worship 10:45am - Sunday School	Tenth Sunday after Trinity  [F] St. Bartholomew, Apostle 9:30am - Worship 10:45am - Sunday School	Eleventh Sunday after Trinity 9:30am - Worship 10:45am - Sunday School

Treasurers Report

Income Descriptions	June 2024 4 Sundays	June 2025 4 Sundays	Total to Date
Unified Budget	14,530.93	19,283.50	166,577.85
Memorials (Non-Designated)	550.00	-	175.00
Memorials (Designated)	-	-	100.00
Designated Gifts	4,616.11	61,168.60	80,664.12
Reimbursements & Refunds	-		-
Rents & Wedding Fees	120.00	120.00	315.00
Miscellaneous	-	6,901.47	8,054.27
Total Income	19,817.04	19,283.50	255,886.24
Average per week Unified Budget	3,632.73	4,820.88	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	Jun-25T	otal to Date
Missions - District Synod	500.00	3,000.00
Lutheran High School	750.00	4,500.00
Lutheran Hispanic Ministry	187.50	1,125.00
Total Support	1,437.50	8,625.00

Board	June	Total	Total
Expenses	2025	To Date	Budget
Pastoral Care	5,765.32	36,048.27	125,400.00
Christian Education	6,613.23	43,221.83	81,800.00
Congregational Worship	170.36	5,192.64	7,200.00
Missions & Outreach	1,437.50	10,869.67	21,500.00
Office	1,891.93	14,285.20	32,500.00
Properties _	4,660.56	41,548.48	81,500.00
Unified Budget Total	20,538.90	151,166.09	349,900.00

Lutheran Church Extension Fund Steward Accounts	Balance 06-30-2025
Anniversaries & Birthday - 1073	4,682.96
Board of Youth - Trip - 5446	12,297.79
Building Fund - 2978**	98,990.29
Capital Improvements - 9545**	13,893.34
Church Sign	978.13
Church Landscapting	885.02
Heine Family Project	1,738.42
Total Capital Improvements - \$17,494.91	17,494.91
Concordia Cares - 6370	3,534.64
Inheritance Fund - 7423	127,056.28
Preschool Landscaping & Gardening - 2434	150.00
Total in LCEF Steward Accounts	264,206.87
Interest Earned	<b>l</b> 1,167.20

Total In Church Checking Account	\$ 146,801.11
Total in Preschool Account	\$ 14,962.84

## Our Spiritual Response in Worship, Bible Study and Giving to our LordChildren SSYouth SSADULT SSJune 29, 2025000July 6, 20259327

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July 13, 2025

July 20, 2025

July 27, 2025

Worship	2024	2025	Tithes
June 29, 2025	66	79	\$5,520.00
July 6, 2025	82	86	\$3,765.00
July 13, 2025	97	99	\$5,398.45
July 20, 2025	86	90	\$5,195.00
July 27, 2025	86	117	\$3,880.00

### INTERCESSION and PRAYER

(Matthew 8:17)

Your knees

### Concordia Members Surgery/Testing/ Recovery:

- Lynda Martin 6/16/25
- Fred Foster 3/30/25
- Jim Roemer 2/12/23
- Tommy Ragsdale 12/11/22
- Peter Economou 4/22/19

### Friends of Concordia

- Mike Smith 6/17/25
- Barb Norris 4/16/25
- Pastor Raji 2/2/25
- Kathleen Sebastian 1/30/25
- Beverly Tewell 1/30/25
- 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
- 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

### Rehab

• Pat Barnes, University Heights Rehab Center, Room 110

### **Homebound Concordia Members**

 Sharon Bruhn, 690 South State Ball Brothers 123, Franklin IN 46131

### 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)
- PVT Macy Ranbarger (Camp Pendleton)

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### **West Wing Renovation**

We are working on another fundraiser to acquire additional funds to use on the Fellowship/ Kitchen complex. Information on participating in the bazaars at Calvary Lutheran church and at Lutheran High School's Fall Christmas sale is being collected. We will have a table at the Sugar Plum Craft Fair at Lutheran High School on Oct. 25. We will have a table at Calvary Lutheran's Holiday Craft Fair on Nov. 8. 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 item have been made at this point but we would like to add to the selection.

### **Our Church Directory is Online!**

You can now view our church directory online or through the FREE mobile app.

To access the directory online, go to members.InstantChurchDirectory.com and enter your email address as listed in the directory. Click "Send Secure Sign-In Link". Then check your email and click on the "Log in to Instant Church Directory" button found in your email.

A free mobile app is also available in the **Apple App Store** and the **Google Play Store**. Just search for **'Instant Church Directory'** to download.

Important: Your email address must be listed in the directory before you can log in.

### Lutheran Hour Ministries Radio Schedule

The Lutheran Hour—Sundays WIRE (91.1 FM) 6:00 AM WBRI (1500 AM) 6:30 AM WCBK (102.3 FM) 7:00 AM WBNL (1540 AM) 1:00 PM

8/3 "Proclaim His Glory" 8/10 "Writing Him Off"

8/17 "The Stuttering Man of Destiny" 8/24 "Gideon, the Farmer General"

8/26

8/31

8/31 "Life Narrows Down"

Lutheran Hour is now broadcast on American Forces Network (AFN). To find other airings near you, check the broadcast guide at **lhm.org/guide**.

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

### **BIRTHDAYS:** Hartley, Benjamin 8/3 Wilson, Vicki 8/4 8/7 Boesenberg, Cindy Dewar III, Wes 8/9 McNally, Mary 8/9 Poole, Suzann 8/10 Akers, Hannah 8/10 Hayes, Kay 8/13 Lanning, Becky 8/13 Scifres, Jill 8/16 Whitrock, Heidi 8/17 8/18 Bontrager, Cole Fein, Leah 8/18 Olmos, Alexis 8/19 Miller, Carol 8/20 Sellers. Mark 8/21 8/22 Stephenson, David Horn, Becky 8/23 McNally, Selah 8/24 Kaiser, Andrea (Precord) 8/25 Scifres, Hannah 8/25 McNally, Emily 8/25 Barkes, Marvin 8/26 DeFabis, Vince 8/26

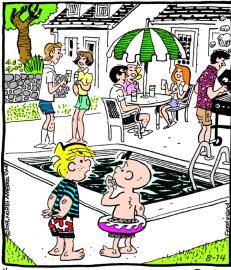
Patton, Carla

Smith, Diane

<b>WEDDINGS:</b>	Years	Date
Larry & Anne Guthrie	47	8/1
Mike & Tamara Spray	36	8/8
Daniel & Jessica Coffey	34	8/17
Ron & Carol Feeney	50	8/23
Tommy & Kris Ragsdale	54	8/29

### **HUMOR CORNER**

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



"ADULTS ARE WEIRD. THEY HAVE A **POOL**PARTY AND DON'T GO SWIMMING."

### 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

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Sam Scheltens

Staff

Sarah Shadday—Director Christian Education

Erica Stephenson - Deaconess Sarah Shadday —Preschool Director Brad Wheeler- Admin. Assistant

Office hours Mon. - Fri. 8am - noon

### **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

### **Breschool** Concordia Lutheran Church

305 N Howard Road, Greenwood, IN 46142



August 2025

# Concordia Messenge