

the 809

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June 2017



CONCORDIA
Lutheran Church

Inspire ♦ Involve ♦ Inform

(The number 809 represents the approximate total of Concordia's membership age 50 and older)

A WORD FROM PASTOR MEGGERS....



Dear Friends in Christ,

What a JOY to be able to award Rev. Dr. Bill and Bonnie Matzat, and Ron and Micki Horstman the Gundermann award for service on May 21. They are an inspiration to us all and, as you might expect, gave all glory to God for their service opportunities.

Sunday, June 4 you are invited to worship at 10:00am with our Ageless Generations team at St. Trinity Lutheran Church in Carondolet. We will present a check to them to assist with the work they are doing on their mission house.

BIG NEWS: We have a summer worship schedule change beginning Sunday, May 28. Sunday morning schedule will now be 8:30 am Sanctuary Service and 10:00am Concordia Center service. Our hope is that we have fuller services during these summer months, our singing is more robust, and you get to meet and know folks that ordinarily worship at other services. (If you are really attached to a particular pew, you might want to arrive early [smiley face]. The Saturday evening sanctuary service at 5:00pm will remain as usual.

And BIG NEWS for our family: Our daughter and Son-in-law, Deaconess Kristina and Nate Paul, are expecting our third grandchild. This little one will be a December Christmas present!

Summer JOY, PM

LUNCH AND LEARN HAPPENINGS

For our May Lunch and Learn gathering, we visited the LCMS International Center where we toured the museum and heard Pastor Bill Matzat and Pastor David Mahsman explain the Reformation altar replication currently on display in the International Center's chapel. Lunch at Concordia, including cake and ice cream for "birthday boy" Pastor Meggers, completed our enjoyable outing.



Our June 15 Lunch and Learn will feature a program by Kelly Schumacher, a local artist who has created some very beautiful artwork in a religious theme. She will share her motivation and thought process as she creates these masterpieces. She is a 2013 MFA Graduate from the PA Academy of Fine Arts and is founder of Agnus Dei Liturgical Arts with the goal of reestablishing classical religious art in the LCMS. Lunch will be provided with a suggested donation of \$5.00. Please join us in the Atrium at 11:30am. Sign up on the sheet in the Concordia Commons, on the bulletin tear-off tab, or by calling Patty Wilson, 314-822-7772, ext. 128. **All are welcome!**

No Lunch and Learn gathering is planned for July. Our normal monthly schedule will resume on August 17. Be on the lookout for details!



SOUP'S ON

Thanks to the generous free-will offerings shared at the Soup's on lunches following our 11:00am Lenten services, \$1500 will be split between St. Trinity Lutheran Church in the Carondelet area and Lutheran Hour Ministries, specifically the Rose Bowl parade float.

The St. Trinity gift will be presented at their 10:00am worship service on June 4. If you would like to join other Concordia members who plan to attend that service, please arrive at St. Trinity, 517 Koeln Avenue, 9:45am. We are thankful for the ways in which God is blessing the renewed ministry being carried out in that area under the leadership of Pastor David Lewis. A number of Concordia members have been involved with St. Trinity's ministry in various ways.

The Lutheran Hour Ministries check will be presented to Richard Gast, general chairman of the float committee, when he is in St. Louis for a LHM board meeting in July. He and his wife Lynn recently received the Christus Vivit Award from Concordia Seminary for their 27 years of service to the Lutheran Hour Float Committee. The theme for the 2018 float will be "Bringing Christ to the Nations."

STAFF CHANGES

...Several staff changes have recently taken place at Concordia. Carlea Halverson, who assisted in Concordia's Children's Ministry, has accepted a full-time position with the Compass Tower Grove ministry that provides before and after school care to children who live in at-risk situations. Nyssa Lytikainen, an assistant worship leader, will be moving to New Jersey where her husband Matt will begin his pastoral ministry. Kyla Rodriguez, an assistant DCE to Children, Youth and Families, will relocate to Frankenmuth, MI with her husband Adam for his vicarage year. Our thanks and prayers go with them!

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Concordia's Building Launch Team, Church Council, and staff have been evaluating proposals submitted by three area design/construction firms for our congregation's proposed building program. These proposals encompass the first two phases of our project priorities --developing a parking lot and early childhood play area in the green space along Clay Ave as well as constructing the Center for Christian Education. Meetings to provide up-to-date information and to allow for questions and comments by congregational members are being offered:

Sunday, June 4 at 9:30am
Sunday, June 11 at 11:00am

The information sessions will be held in the Atrium. Based on feedback from these meetings, the proposals may be revised and a final vendor recommendation and financial package will be presented to the congregation for a vote the weekend of June 17/18 and at the congregational voters' assembly meeting, June 19 at 7:00pm.

YOU MAY WANT TO KNOW THAT...

...Concordia Seminary's Call Day was observed on April 26. Fifty-six fourth year students received their first calls as pastors, missionaries and chaplains. In celebration of the 500th Reformation anniversary, these concluding students received red Reformation stoles adorned with the Luther seal and the dates 1517-2017. Among this group of new pastors is Matt Lytikainen who was called as missionary-at-large in New Jersey. In addition, forty-eight vicarage assignments were given, including four Concordia field workers: Matthew Bergstresser to Macomb, MI; Sam Fink to Orchard Park, NY; Kevin Koester to Howard's Grove, WI; and Adam Rodriguez to Frankenmuth, MI. We pray God's richest blessings to these servants as they head into His mission field.

...The family of Jane Fobian is requesting birthday greetings to be sent to Jane for her 90th birthday on July 1. See the church directory for her address or contact the church office.

...John and Ellen Miller have retired from their years of service to the music ministry of CCLS and Lutheran High South. Congratulations, John and Ellen, and thanks for all the joy you brought into the lives of so many students and their families!



SERVANT HEARTS AND HANDS

...Regardless of our age or situation, our pastors are challenging each of us in our Concordia family to consider at least one "mission-cation" this summer – an intentional act of serving others with God's mercy and grace. For some of us, that may be as simple as a making a phone call, sending a card, or going out of our way to speak a word of encouragement. For others, it may be a more organized act of service whereby we share God's love to someone in need. For all of us, it can involve prayer as we ask God to be in the lives of those around us as well as those far from us. A report board will be in the Commons for those who wish to take a picture or share a short story of their "mission-cation" endeavor. It will be fun to see where God takes our family!

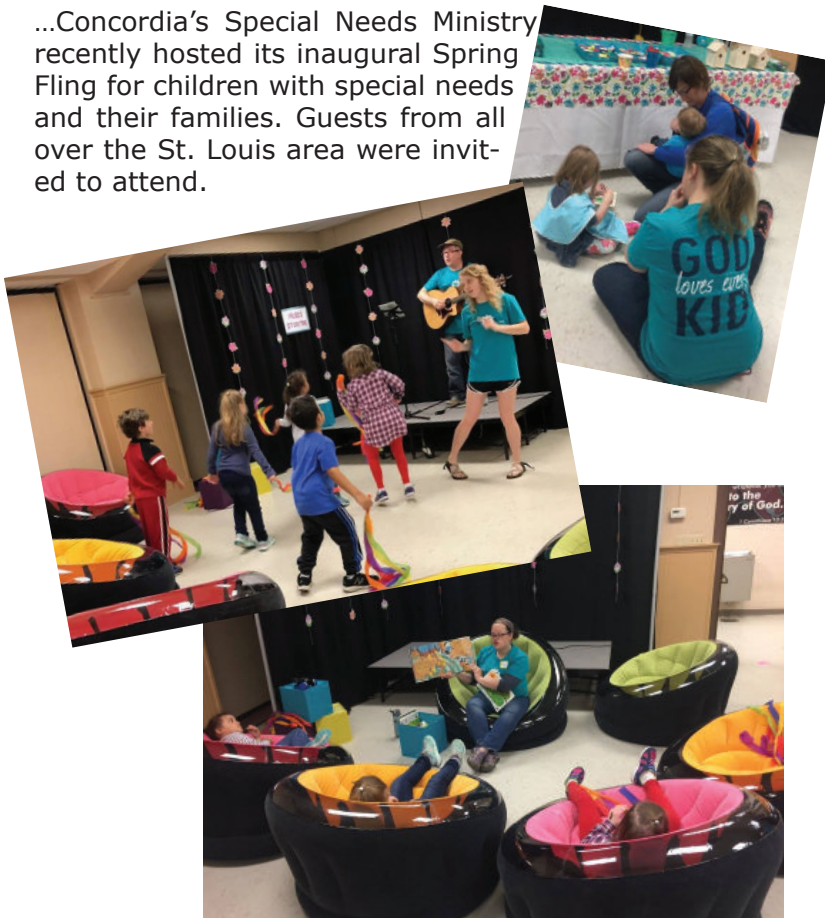


...This summer our 9/10th graders will be joining 400 other high school youth from around the nation serving and ministering to people in Middletown, Ohio from July 9–14. Concordia's 11/12th graders will be serving at the edge of the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation in Montana from July 27–August 3. Jayme Nichols, our youth director, is asking for Prayer Warriors to surround our youth and their chaperones while they are on these servant trips. Thanks to everyone who supported their recent fundraiser car wash. The youth are sharing 10% of their proceeds with the November Turkey Blessing project!



...The Men's recent BBQ Sale and Corn Hole Tournament raised \$5,000 for this year's Turkey Blessing. Approximately \$35,000 will be needed to once again "Feed the 5000" in November. Be watching for ways in which you can help with this ministry project.

...Concordia's Special Needs Ministry recently hosted its inaugural Spring Fling for children with special needs and their families. Guests from all over the St. Louis area were invited to attend.



...The Giving Center is currently collecting food for Feed My People. The summer months can be especially difficult for some of our neighbors as their children are home from school. Please be generous and bring non-perishable food items to the Giving Center in the Concordia Commons. As in the past, food donations will continue to be collected in the Lobby throughout the year.

...Appreciation is expressed to all those who offered willing service to their neighbors, including some Concordia members, during the recent flood. Prayers were offered, sand bags were filled, water was swept away, and gift cards were donated.

GUNDERMANN AWARD



Ron & Micki Horstmann and Bill & Bonnie Matzat are the newest recipients of the Gundermann Award, given to recognize exceptional service to the congregation and community. The award is given in remembrance of the ministry of Rev. Vernon Gundermann, pastor at Concordia from 1990 to 2005. Thanks for your faithful witness, Ron, Micki, Bill and Bonnie!

LWML NEWS

...The National LWML will celebrate its 75th anniversary at their Convention to be held in Albuquerque, NM, June 22-25. The theme for the convention is "Jesus Christ Above All." Delegates will adopt a new mission goal for the 2017-2019 biennium. The first LWML convention was held in 1943 with delegates approving a grant of \$15,000 in mite offerings to help fund construction of a building for Christ Church for the Deaf in Cleveland, Ohio. The congregation was one of the first racially integrated churches in the Lutheran Church – MO Synod. It is now part of St. John Lutheran Church, a suburb of Cleveland.

...On a closer note, Concordia LWML will host the Fall Rally on October 21 beginning with brunch at 8:30am. Help will be needed to set up, bake and serve. More information will be forthcoming but mark your calendar now and save the date.

UPCOMING...

...June 5-9, from 9:00am to noon, is this year's Vacation Bible School week at Concordia. Our facilities will be buzzing with activity as children ages three years through 5th grade come to learn about Jesus.



Under the leadership of Sharon Ema, our Health Ministry Action Team will be sharing a health focus each day that coincides with the daily theme. If you have any time to help at the Health Table during VBS week, please let Sharon know. Special thanks to Wanda Herweck for her donation of prizes!

...Two of Concordia's pastor members will be recognized on Sunday, June 11, during the 10:00am service in the Concordia Center. Rev. Dr. Steve Carter and Rev. Dr. Bill Matzat are both marking their 50th year in the ministry. Although retired from full-time ministry, both continue to serve God in numerous ways both inside and outside our congregation. We are thankful for their years of faithful ministry.



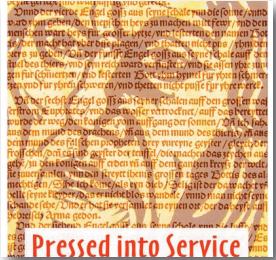
...Carillon concerts will be held in the quad on the Concordia Seminary campus each Tuesday evening in June beginning at 7:00pm. The concerts are free and open to the public. Bring your lawn chair or blanket and enjoy a beautiful hour of music played by professional carilloneurs. The Seminary's carillon of 49 bells is one of only 170 such instruments in North America.

...Mark your calendars for the Older Adult Retreat to be held at Pere Marquette State Park on October 25-26. Along with other interesting sessions and activities, Bonnie Matzat will present her Katie Luther portrayal and Bill Matzat will share a presentation on his ecclesiastical art.

500TH REFORMATION ANNIVERSARY UPDATE

...Plans are being formulated for our congregation's observances of the upcoming 500th anniversary of the Reformation. Lunch and Learn's October gathering will feature a presentation on the Wittenberg project by Rev. David Mahsman as well as a return visit from "Katie Luther." Other events are still being finalized. Be on the lookout for details.

...Concordia Historical Institute, located at 809 Seminary Place on the campus of Concordia Seminary, currently has a major exhibit of rare books and coins documenting the 500-year history of the Reformation. Under the title "Pressed into Service by the Word of God," this special exhibit explores the history of Martin Luther (1483-1546) and the Reformation that began on October 31, 1517. Regular exhibit hours are Monday through Friday, 9:30am to 3:30pm.



...A trip to Germany is in preliminary planning stages headed by Concordia member, Don Wolfinger. Scheduled for fall 2018, it will be a 501st Reformation anniversary trip!! Details will continue to be shared as they are finalized.

REMEMBERING...

Please keep the families of these departed saints in your prayers.....

- Jack McKee
- Tom Reck
- Edith Reck
- Lorraine Wagner

Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church that day— about 3,000 in all.

Acts 2:41