

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,

I invite you to give thanks to God for Willis Carrier. Willis is not a member of Concordia, Kirkwood, but I believe that every member of Concordia is thankful for him. Willis is the inventor of the air conditioner. Many of you may recall what life was like without A/C: sleeping in the basement or on the back porch, opening the fire hydrant, praying for just a bit of shade or a breeze. And today, an air conditioned house, car, even church is almost taken for granted.

My personal summer A/C lesson has been this: Be sure and give thanks to God for all His blessings and mercies. As summer begins to wane, indeed it may have already cooled by the time you read this, let us pray and give thanks. Pray that God will bless our days with ample opportunities to give Him witness, praise and honor. Give thanks for His overflowing grace and mercy especially in Jesus Christ.

Stay Cool and JOYful,  
PM

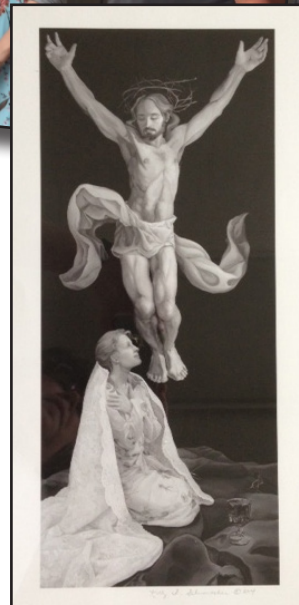
## LUNCH AND LEARN HAPPENINGS

Our June gathering featuring artist Kelly Schumacher was warmly received by those in attendance who enjoyed seeing some of Kelly's beautiful artwork and hearing the inspirational stories behind those creations. One of her pieces, entitled "The Bride of Christ at the Foot of the Cross," has been gifted to Concordia by Don Wolfinger.

After a July break, we are looking forward to resuming our monthly Lunch and Learn gatherings. On August 17, we will hear a presentation from Rev. Vince Stanley on his prison ministry. Christ Himself reminds us in Matthew 25:35-40 that "whenever you serve one of the least important of these followers of mine, you do it for Me!" Pastor Stanley will certainly have stories to share about serving some of "the least of these." Please join us in the Atrium at 11:30am. **Bring a salad or dessert to share.** A free will offering for Pastor Stanley's ministry will be received. *(There may even be a special surprise for Pastor Meggers!)*

**All are welcome!**

On September 21, Concordia's Dr. John Eckrich will share a presentation on wellness in our lives. His recent book "Vocation and Wellness" explores the importance of balancing mind, body, and spirit. For sixteen years, Dr. Eckrich served church workers through the Grace Place Ministry. In addition, he also serves as a Concordia communion lay visitor. We will meet in the Atrium at 11:30am. Lunch will be provided at a suggested donation of \$5.



## LUNCH AND LEARN HAPPENINGS

### Looking ahead –

Our annual Oktoberfest celebration will be held in the Concordia Commons on Thursday, October 19 beginning at 11:30am. Those who have attended in the past know that this is an event that can't be missed! Rev. David Mahsman will share information on the Wittenberg Project and a brief visit from "Katie Luther" is expected!

Our November 16 gathering will again have a veterans' focus. This year we hope to feature women who have served in the military. If you are aware of any female veterans, please share that information with Don Wolfinger, dlwolf@charter.net or 636-778-0416. If possible, we would like to know the branch of service as well as dates served. Sign up to bring soup, bread or dessert.

### 809 UPDATE

Since its beginning in May 2011, the 809 newsletter has been mailed to those in our congregation who are 60 and older. Its purpose is to ensure that our older members, some of whom do not receive electronically-sent congregational news and may not be able to attend worship, continue to feel connected to our Concordia family. Beginning with this August issue, the 809 will be sent via email to those for whom we have email addresses. It will continue to be mailed to our homebound members, to those for whom we do not have email addresses, and to anyone else who wants to receive a copy mailed to their home address. Please contact Patty Wilson, 314-822-7772 x128 or pwilson@CKhome.org, if you wish to remain on the home mailing list. Printed copies will continue to be available at church.

### SERVANT HEARTS AND HANDS

...Rev. Hank Rowold has been serving the International Lutheran Church in Seoul, Korea, while the pastor and his family are on home leave for an extended time. Pastor Rowold's recent update shared the challenges of living among people whose language he cannot speak or write. His solution: "I've learned to smile in Korean, which I try to do a lot!" Isn't it wonderful that smiles are universal! Pastor Rowold closed his recent message by sharing, "It is a never-waning thrill to see the Gospel alive in many different cultures and settings."

..."Mission-cation" project - Steve and Gail Carter  
On a recent Rhine River cruise from Amsterdam to Switzerland, we had the opportunity to meet many interesting people from all over the world. In a conversation with the retired nurse from CA, we talked at the breakfast table in the Lucerne, Switzerland hotel. She shared some of her life story and later that day we met again at the plaza of Mt. Stanserhorn, 6,000 feet above sea level. She has been searching for what God

has in mind for her now that she is retired. Steve then gave her his devotional book, "What's Next God?" She seemed delighted and said that she wanted to learn more, as she is a believing Christian of the Roman Catholic faith. A second encounter was with the couple from the D.C. area, he a former Lutheran from the midwest and she, a Roman Catholic, singing as a cantor in the mass of her church. Again, we were able to share a devotional book which they enthusiastically received and said they would definitely read. A third opportunity came sharing a breakfast with two couples, a San Antonio anesthesiologist and his R.N. wife and the couple from Toronto. We had a meaningful conversation regarding their faith and their purpose in retirement.

We continue to be amazed at the many opportunities that God gave us on this trip this summer!

...The Giving Center is collecting school supplies, as well as personal care items, for Christian Friends of New Americans (CFNA). Please pick up a needs list at the Giving Center and return your donation by August 13. Watch for those back-to-school sales and pick up a few items that can be shared with needy children in our community.

...Feed My People's annual *Manna March Walk for Hunger* will be held on Sunday, September 10 at the General Atkinson Shelter in Jefferson Barracks Park, 1:00-3:00pm. Register at Feed-My-People.org or call Jane at 314-631-4900 x312.

### YOU MAY WANT TO KNOW THAT...

...A \$750 check which represented half of this Lenten season's "Soup's On" free-will offering was recently presented to Dick Gast, general chairman of the Lutheran Hour Rose Parade Float Committee. The parade has been presented each New Year's Day for over 100 years, and the Lutheran Hour Ministries has participated for 67 years. About 5000 Lutherans from around the country volunteer to decorate not only the Lutheran Hour float, the only Christian-themed float in the parade, but also 10 other floats. These "Petal Pushers" have a wonderful opportunity for Christian witnessing! If you and your family are looking for a mission opportunity, consider signing up to be part of the Petal Pushers team next Christmas season. Contact: [petalpushers.org](http://petalpushers.org).



...At our recent congregational voters' assembly the following were elected: Council Secretary – Nate Schmoll; Council Treasurer – Carrie Duesenberg; Council At-Large – Keith Fatzinger and Don Wolfinger; Nominating Committee – Eric Erkkinen (Chairperson), Jenny Allen, Jacob Mohnke, Matt Wehmeyer, and P J Lowry; CCLS School Board – Brent Beumer and Tom Dankenbring. In addition, a vote to approve the expenditure of an amount, not to exceed \$450,000, for the final design of the Center for Christian Education and its integration to the existing Concordia Center facilities, was approved with a 89% "yes" vote. A vote to call Rev. Ken Krueger as Pastoral Assistant for Worship, was approved with a 97% "yes" vote.

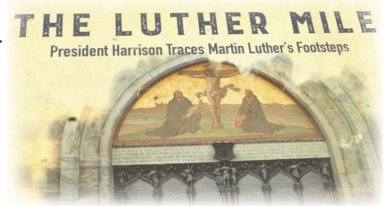


...Max Filley was recently recognized for her many years of faithful nursing service to St. Joseph's Hospital in Kirkwood, to Christ Community Lutheran School, as well as for her 20 years of service to Concordia's health ministry. She has touched many lives with Christ's love. Thanks for your faithful witness, Max!

...Sandy Bopp has been a coordinator of Concordia's Grief Ministry for over 14 years. She has made personal contacts, cards, and supplying resource booklets to support and care for those who have lost a loved one. All these ways and more have shown them Christ's love and comfort. Thank you, Sandy, for your faithful service with such a caring heart!

...The Shepherd's Center is offering a course on "Powerful Care for Caregivers" at the Webster Hills United Methodist Church, 1333 West Lockwood, on Mondays, August 21-October 2, 1:00-3:30pm (no class on Sept. 4). The workshop gives caregivers tools to care for themselves while also caring for a loved one at home, in a care facility or at a distance. \$10 for a 6-week course. To register, call 314-395-0988.

..."The Luther Mile," a two-part video depicting a walking tour of historic Reformation sites in Wittenberg, Germany is now available online at



lutheranreformation/luthermile.org. Produced by the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, the video features LCMS President Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison and Rev. Dr. Hans-Jorg Voigt, bishop of the Independent Evangelical-Lutheran Church, the Synod's partner church in Germany.

### BIBLE STUDIES RESUME...

BE ONE by joining one of the LifeLight Bible study groups starting Tuesday evening, September 5, 7:15pm or Wednesday morning, September 6, 9:15am. Session 1 (Sept. 5-Nov. 1) will focus on Wilderness Wanderings, with Session 2 (Nov. 7-29) and Session 3 (Jan. 2-Apr. 11) based on the Book of John. Come and enjoy a weekly in-depth study, led by Dr. Steve Carter, designed to teach us how to apply Biblical truths to our daily lives.

Our Women's Bible Study groups will begin Priscilla Shirer's study, *Voice of God: How to Recognize When God Speaks*. Study guides will be provided with extra resources for digging deeper if you desire. Bring a friend!

*Wednesdays, beginning September 13, 9:00-11:00am, childcare provided.*

Facilitated by Audrey Duensing-Werner.

*Thursdays, beginning September 14, 6:30-8:30pm. Facilitated by Lynn Finer.*

*Fridays, beginning September 15, 9:00-11:00am. Facilitated by Nancy Knost.*

### UPCOMING...



...A Tai Chi for Arthritis for Fall Prevention class

will begin on September 11 at Concordia. Classes will be held each Monday and Wednesday morning at 11:00am in the Library for 8 weeks. There is no charge for taking the class. It will incorporate a series of gentle movements to improve balance, strength, flexibility, and stamina. Registration begins August 9. Call 314-862-4859 x24.

...A Fall fundraiser for the Shepherd's Center of Webster/Kirkwood will be held on Friday, September 15, at Grace Episcopal Church, 514 Argonne Drive in Kirkwood, 5:00-8:00pm. BBQ pulled pork and tenderloin will be served along with side dishes. Musical entertainment will be provided and a raffle will be held. For more information or to make reservations, visit [shepherdscenter-wk.org](http://shepherdscenter-wk.org) or call 314-395-0988. The Shepherd's Center offers a variety of programs and services for seniors in our community.

...Christian Friends of New Americans (CFNA) will be holding their two major fundraising events this Fall. October 10 will be the date for their 5<sup>th</sup> annual Golf Benefit at Norwood Hills Country Club and the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Trivia Night at the Lutheran Church of Webster Gardens will be on November 11. Many Concordia members are involved with CFNA's gospel-centered ministry to immigrants and refugees in the greater St. Louis area. For information about these two events and ways in which you can help with this important ministry, go to [cfna-stl.org](http://cfna-stl.org).

...Mark your calendars for the upcoming Lutheran Prayer Breakfast to be held on Wednesday, October 11 at the Orlando Events and Conference Center, 2050 Dorsett Village Plaza in Maryland Heights.

...Family Shield Ministries is hosting a Christian concert by *Adams Road Ministry* on Friday, October 13 at Concordia, 6:30-8:00pm. *Adams Road* is composed of ex-Mormons who will also share their testimonies. There is no charge but a free will offering will be taken. Family Shield Ministries also sponsors a radio program each Saturday morning from 10:00-10:30am on AM 1320 KSIV featuring topics relevant to Christian families.



..."In Christ Alone We Stand: Redeemed, Reformed, Renewed" (Philippians 1:21) is the theme for the Lutheran Older Adult Retreat sponsored by the Southern Illinois District LCMS and Lutheran Senior Services at Pere Marquette Lodge, Grafton, IL 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. For further information and reservations, contact Margo Wolf, 618-622-0264 or [dmwvette74@gmail.com](mailto:dmwvette74@gmail.com).

### LWML UPDATE

"Jesus Christ Above All" (Philippians 2:9) was the theme of the International LWML's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Convention held in Albuquerque, NM in late June. Delegates adopted a goal of \$2,000,750 for the upcoming 2017-2019 biennium. By the grace of God,

twenty-two mission grants throughout the world will be funded as men and women respond in prayer and offerings (mites) during the next two years.

On a closer note, Concordia LWML will host the Fall Zone Rally on Saturday, October 21, beginning at 8:30am. Help will be needed on Friday, October 20 and Saturday, October 21, to set up, prepare food, decorate the cafeteria, serve and clean up. If you wish to assist either day, please contact Shirley Meckfessel, 314-892-3807 or [smeck@juno.com](mailto:smeck@juno.com).



### 500<sup>TH</sup> REFORMATION ANNIVERSARY TOUR

Members of Concordia, their families and friends are invited to join an inspirational Reformation Tour to Germany, September 27–October 8, 2018. Lutherstadt (Wittenberg, Erfurt, Eisenach and Eisleben) and Bavaria (Rothenberg, Oberammergau, and Munich), as well as Austria (Salzburg) are included in the itinerary. A guided tour will be offered at each town (including Berlin) but the schedule will also allow for personal time to explore the sites and enjoy the culture. Please indicate your possible interest on the bulletin's Welcome Tab or sign up at the registration table in the Commons. Formal commitments are not due until the Fall or Winter. For more information, please contact Don Wolfinger, 636-484-0248 or [dlwolf@charter.net](mailto:dlwolf@charter.net).

### REMEMBERING...

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

Connie Kitchel  
David Moran  
Freida Shepley

*Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying.*

*Everyone who lives in me and believes in me will never ever die..."*

John 11:25-26