

# the 809

February 2018  
Volume XXXIX



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....

On December 31, New Year's Eve Day, I sat in the back row of our Sanctuary (a very good Lutheran place to sit) and was fed by Pastor Chris Paavola of All Nations Lutheran Church, University City. He told of the challenges of reaching people with the Gospel. He inspired us with the story of their break-through into the community. It happened when they discovered a deep need for tutoring after school. And once people saw how this church was serving their community in the name of Jesus, they began to open up to hearing about Jesus. Pastor Chris left us with this Gospel insight, "Jesus is seen through Service."

I get to visit various ministries in our area and have discovered a common need. It goes beyond dollars. Feed My People, Christian Friends of New Americans, our own Children's Ministries and so many other ministries need volunteers. They need you. In your service they will see Jesus. And in Jesus they will receive life.

There are so many opportunities. Contact me. Contact a ministry leader. We would love to help you help people see Jesus.

In His Love and JOY, PM

P.S. Get ready. Ash Wednesday is February 14 and that means "Soup's On" luncheons begin!

## LUNCH AND LEARN HAPPENINGS

"What Child Is This" was the theme for our annual Lunch and Learn Christmas party attended by nearly 100 joyful participants. The Concordia dining hall was festively decorated, and those attending enjoyed a delicious pork tenderloin lunch catered by the Hawthorne Inn. Our CCLS preschoolers charmed everyone with their songs and Bonnie Matzat presented an inspirational portrayal of Mary, the mother of Jesus, as an older woman. A beautiful cookie table organized by Carrol Virus, a sing-a-long of favorite carols accompanied by John Frank, and a devotion by Pastor Seidler completed a very special event. Thanks to the members of the Ageless Generation team for their planning, to Jerry and Carol Witte for food arrangements, to the CCLS students who helped serve, and to all those who assisted in various ways. It was a wonderful party!







Our gathering on January 18 was a *Lunch and Serve* opportunity as we brought a soup lunch, played bingo, and enjoyed visiting with our neighbors at Rose Hill House. Thanks to all who brought delicious soups, breads, desserts and bingo prizes and to those who shared their best gift of all....their time! The smiles on the faces of the Rose Hill residents testified to a special gathering.



### SOUP'S ON

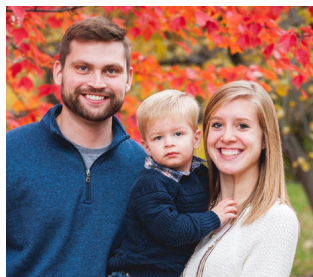
Again this Lenten season, the Ageless Generation team will organize and serve lunches following our 11:00am worship services, beginning with Ash Wednesday and including Maundy Thursday. Many willing hands will be needed to prepare soups, breads, and desserts for our gatherings in the Concordia Commons. Help will also be required for set-up and clean-up. A free-will offering will be taken at each lunch. This year's offerings will be split between Concordia's Turkey Blessing project and All Nations Lutheran Church in University City.

All are welcome to join us for these wonderful times of worship and fellowship! Please sign the list at the registration table in the Commons or contact Patty Wilson, 314.822.7772 x128 or [pwilson@CKhome.org](mailto:pwilson@CKhome.org). It is helpful to know ahead of time how many will be attending and also who will be bringing food.

Because of our Soup's On lunches, there will be no regularly-scheduled Lunch and Learn meetings on the third Thursdays during February and March. Our gatherings will resume on April 19. Be on the lookout for additional details!

### STAFF ADDITIONS

Jacob and Rebecca Schultz have recently joined Concordia's staff on a part-time basis. Jacob, a PhD candidate at the seminary, will assist with general pastoral ministry. Rebecca, an elementary school teacher, will assist with our children's ministry program. They have a two-year-old son, Isaiah, and are expecting a daughter in April. Welcome to our Concordia family!



### SERVANT HEARTS AND HANDS

...The financial generosity of Concordia's membership allowed our congregation to meet its 2017 obligations and to look ahead to a vibrant year of ministry in 2018. Thanks to all who gave with a sacrificial and joyful heart!

...A special thank you to all those who responded so generously (and deliciously) in baking cookies for our homebound. The overwhelming abundance allowed us to also deliver trays of cookies to senior communities in our area where they were received with great appreciation by staffs and residents. We received several thank you notes expressing gratitude for the cookies!

...Concordia members were also very generous in donating gifts for children of incarcerated parents for the annual Mission Gate Christmas parties held at Christ Memorial Church and in Cuba, MO. Janel Burch reported that approximately 900 children, ages newborn to 16 years of age, participated in the two parties. In addition to Janel, Jeanette and Jim Kille, Mary Partridge and Kathy Brown also helped with delivering and wrapping gifts. Thanks for sharing the love of Christ with these children.

...Many immigrant and refugee families will be warmer this winter due to the large number of blankets that were donated for Christian Friends of New Americans at our Giving Center. Thanks to all who shared the gift of warmth!



...Concordia's Wednesday morning women's Life-light Bible study group adopted four families this year – two from Farragut School and two of our Seminary field workers. The generosity of our ladies provided the beds and TV needed by one family and the kitchen appliances needed by another. These gifts were accompanied by clothing, books, toys and shoes that everyone needed. The Sunday morning Bible class responded to a request from Pastor David Lewis at St. Trinity who were sponsoring a Christmas store for neighborhood parents to shop for their children. Books, toys, games, and clothes were donated for this purpose. Ruth and David Hemmann delivered the items to St. Trinity.



...Make the Giving Tree part of your Lenten observance. It will be located at the Giving Center beginning Ash Wednesday. Choose a tag from the tree, purchase the item, and return it by Good Friday. Your contributions will be shared with a number of organizations in our community that serve the less fortunate.



...Come and enjoy a hot bowl of soup on Sunday, February 4, beginning at 10:30am in the dining hall to help support the Belize mission trip. A variety of soups will be available, including the popular brie and wine soup. A free-will offering will be accepted. Sixteen people from grade schoolers to grandparents will be heading to Belize over spring break, March 15-21, to serve the people of Bermudian Landing.

...Christ Community International team will be leaving in March to Kawete, Uganda. Here are a few items that will be needed. Please consider donating: bar soap, deodorant, floss, razors for men, pencils, blue and red ink pens, pink erasers, toothpaste (no toothbrushes). Please bring items to the Lobby.

### YOU MAY WANT TO KNOW...

...Virginia Zimmermann's is Concordia's most recent 100-yr-old! She celebrated her birthday in December. We wish her God's continued blessings!



...Lutheran Family and Children's Services of Missouri will celebrate its 150<sup>th</sup> birthday this year. LFCS began in 1868 as a residence for children left homeless after the Civil War as a promise to a dying soldier to take care of his surviving son. Ninety-eight years later, what blossomed into an orphanage was eventually sold, and LFCS began to focus on child placement in foster care and adoption environments. The proceeds from the sale of the orphanage were used to create an endowment that has strengthened and sustained LFCS to this day. It currently serves more than 46,000 individuals and families annually with programs including counseling, adoption, crisis pregnancy assistance, foster care, child care, youth mentoring services and disaster relief.



...Concordia's Deaf Ministry invites our Concordia family to learn American Sign Language. The class meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of each month from 7:00-8:00pm. All ages and abilities are welcome!

...The plans for our Next Step building project are moving through the process of being reviewed by various Kirkwood boards and councils with the possibility of ground-breaking taking place in April.

### ...Devotionals

The current HopeFull Living devotions for January thru March are gone. We are unable to order additional copies of that issue. Sorry for the inconvenience. We have increased our order of HopeFull Living devotions starting in April. Lenten devotionals also will be available soon.

...Join Royce and Krista Hartmann, married 25 years, for a seven week video led study on marriage beginning Sunday, February 4, 9:30am, in Room 105. *Making the Most of Marriage: Building a Relationship that Will Last a Lifetime* by Dr. Kevin Leman presents a unique blend of exceptional knowledge accompanied by an enjoyable sense of humor. \$10 for the workbook.

### UPCOMING...

...Bible fellowship for adults with special needs will be held at Concordia starting on Tuesday, February 6, 6:00-7:15pm. This class will be led by Jerry Witte and will meet weekly.

...Congregational Voters' Assembly meeting will be held on Monday, February 5, 7:00 pm. The annual budget for 2018 will be presented and voted on at this meeting. You are invited to attend.

...A Health and Resource Fair "Healthy Living... Healthy Giving," sponsored by Concordia's Health Ministry Action Team, will be held from 9:00-11:00am on Sunday, February 11, in the upstairs Commons and main level Lobby. Representatives from the congregation and the community will provide information on health resources and ways for you to serve others.

...The Lutheran Women's Missionary League Mite Box will be available for collections at the Adult/Older Adult Ministry table during the Health Fair. Small mite boxes and a folder listing the mission projects adopted for 2017-19 will also be available. Please continue saving used postage stamps, leaving 1/4" around the stamps. A "Stamps for Missions" Box will be at the Health Fair.



...A Blood Drive in memory of Benjamin "Pounder" Schrieber will also be held on February 11, 8:00am-1:00pm. He would have been 10 years old this year. The blood drive is the Schriebers' way of paying forward the generosity that was given to them in Pounder's time of need. For an appointment, call 314.941.1324 or go to RedCross Blood.org and enter sponsor code *Pounder*.



...The next informational meeting for this fall's Germany Reformation Tour will be held on March 11, 4:00pm, in the Concordia dining hall. Information on Erfurt and Eisenach will be featured along with travel tips and a little German language instruction.

...The Gospel of Mark, a dramatic portrayal by a group of Concordia Seminary faculty and area pastors, will be presented on Tuesday, March 27, 6:30pm, at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 115 South Sixth Street, St. Charles. The presentation is free and open to the public.

...Mark your calendars now for the "Chef Wars" which will be held on Sunday, April 15. This event will benefit the Shepherd's Center of Webster/Kirkwood which offers a variety of programs and services for seniors in our community. Sharon Ema and Carol Witte serve on the Shepherd Center's board and a number of our members are dedicated volunteers at the Center. Tickets will be available from either Sharon or Carol or by calling 314.395.0988.



## REMEMBERING...

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

Krista McClellan (11/4)  
Randy Schuppan (12/9)  
Bee Kilgore (12/23)  
Erna Sue Nolting (12/23)  
Alma Buesching (1/9)

*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*