



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,

We broke ground! We celebrated the past that has brought us to the present in order to take our next steps into the future. And we did it WITH GREAT JOY!

Two days later I got my knee replaced. Since then I have been on the sidelines, so to speak. I have not been able to help lead worship, teach Bible studies, or call on members. But...I have had some opportunities that I may not have otherwise had:

- The opportunity to worship via FaceTime. Jeanette (please applaud the caregivers in your life as I give thanks for and applaud this gift of God in my life) set her iPhone up in the tech booth and I was able to join you in worship just a few days after surgery.
- The opportunity to receive love and care from brothers and sisters in Christ.
- The opportunity to spend some time with my mom during her recent hospitalization.
- The opportunity to spend time with our son and daughter-in-law, Phil and Becky, and just enjoy life with them.

I hope this summer has been one of opportunities for you. I pray that you have seen God at work in some unplanned ways in your life. I invite you, as you are able, to join us for Bible studies, Lunch and Learn and worship. And if you can't... I invite you to warmly receive caring and calling hands from Concordia.

JOYfully yours in Christ, PM

LUNCH AND LEARN HAPPENINGS

Those who attended our June Lunch and Learn gathering were treated to a fun Betsy Ross portrayal by retired history teacher, Barbara Kay. Her energetic and engaging presentation of America's flag maker was warmly received by our group. A wonderful indoor picnic potluck lunch along with patriotic decorations and songs added to a very enjoyable gathering!

After a July break, we are looking forward to resuming our monthly gatherings on August 16. Concordia member Matt Wilson will share a program on the Disabled Veterans Scuba Diving Program which is designed to help improve the lives of disabled veterans through recreational water therapy. A taco bar with all the "fixin's" will be offered with a suggested donation of \$7.50.

September 20 will feature a presentation by Bob Wagner, a former National Football League referee. Even if you're not a football fan, we're sure that you will enjoy some of the interesting stories Bob will share with us. The food for our gathering will feature a potluck lunch with a tailgate theme.





Be sure to mark your calendars for our annual Oktoberfest on October 18 in the Concordia Commons. Everyone who has attended our past gatherings knows that they cannot be missed! Our Germany travelers will have returned from their trip and will share pictures and remembrances.

Again this year, our November 15 Lunch and Learn will have a military theme. We had hoped to have Kitty Bickford share a program on women in the military last November, but she was unable to come due to a scheduling conflict. We are looking forward to her visit this year.

And, finally, plan now to attend our Christmas party based on the theme "Emmanuel – God with Us." The date is Tuesday, December 11 in Concordia's dining hall. The annual Christmas gathering is always a very special event with a catered lunch, fun entertainment, and devotion.

As we begin our fall season, the Ageless Generation Team invites all for our Lunch and Learn gatherings at 11:30am. We are a fun group and a vital part of Concordia's ministry. Signups can be done on the bulletin welcome tab, on the list at the registration table, or by contacting Patty Wilson, pwilson@CKhome.org or 314.822.7772 x 128.

Please note: The Perry County trip which had been considered for this fall will be held off until a later date.

SERVANT HEARTS AND HANDS

...Appreciation is expressed to the many servant hearts and hands who helped to make this year's "Game On" Vacation Bible School a huge success. More than 100 volunteers of all ages (from 11 to 85) served the more than 300 attendees as teachers, craft helpers, crew leaders, decorators, snack providers, music leaders, recreation helpers and in many other ways!

With the help of a Thrivent Action Grant and generous donations, Concordia's Health Ministry Action Team shared a health focus each day that coincided with the daily theme. Prizes were awarded for answering questions correctly. We had more than 700 children who participated! Thank you to Debby Anzalone, Max and Greg Filley, Wanda Herweck, Julie Knost, Laverne Nolting, Patricia Reichwein, Cindy Roma, Judy Struefert, Alice Trebus, and so many more who made this such a success!

During VBS week, we were blessed to host 35 children from Christian Friends of New Americans and the Salvation Army Women's and Children's Shelter. We received word from the Salvation Army that the kids were singing in the hallways and were anxious to perform for the rest of the women and children in the shelter. What a blessing!

More than 1400 pairs of shoes were collected for the week's mission project. The shoes will ultimately assist with water projects in under-developed countries.



...During the month of August, the Giving Center will be receiving donations of school supplies to be shared with Christian Friends of New Americans and the Salvation Army Women's Shelter. Back-to-school sales provide a great opportunity to pick up supplies for children whose parents may not be able to afford them. Let's help to get these children off to a good start in the school year!

...This fall's mission trip to Uganda will be October 1-11. Pastor Hector Hoppe will accompany the group and will have an opportunity to teach at the Seminary there.

...This year's Hands on Kirkwood Day of Service will be on Saturday, October 6. Hands on Kirkwood is a one-day mission blitz of our local community. It is coordinated by Kirkwood Baptist Church but the events and volunteer opportunities are open to everyone. As the date nears, look for specific service projects on the website KirkwoodBaptist.org.

...Feed My People will hold a fundraising Race Against Hunger on Saturday, October 20, beginning at 8:00am at the Gold Star Pavilion area in Jefferson Barracks Park. A competitive 5K and a one-mile Family Fun Run/Walk will be part of the events. Online registration is at racesonline.com/events/race-against-hunger.



LIFELIGHT BIBLE STUDIES

LifeLight, 2018-2019, starts on Tuesday evening, September 4 at 7:15pm for men's, women's and couples' groups and on Wednesday morning, September 5 at 9:00am for men and 9:15am for women. In the fall nine weeks, the groups will study a Biblical Foundations Course on Prophecy. In the winter and spring sessions, LifeLight will study the Book of Acts, Parts 1 and 2. All are welcome to study God's Word together, featuring individual study in advance, group discussion and a lecture by Dr. Steve Carter who is in his 15th year as LifeLight leader. The Wednesday men's group follows the same material based on the lecture outline but features group discussion throughout without the advance preparation.

YOU MAY WANT TO KNOW....



...After many months of planning, it was "With Great Joy" that Concordia held its groundbreaking events for our new Christian Center for Education following services on Sunday, June 24. The vote to move forward into the construction phase had passed with 87% approval. The vote to incur debt to refinance our current debt and finance the new building also passed with 86% approval. The Ageless Generation team joined other groups in helping to "break ground!"

...The following have been elected to serve as Concordia's leaders: President – Matt Schelp; Vice-president – Keith Fatzinger; Council-at-Large – Jake Mohnke and Mel Spall; Nominating Committee – Karen Allman (chair) Keith Duesenberg, KristyAnn Pfister, Carrie Wetzel; CCLS School Board – Kerrie Karsten.



...Tom Wangler, who served on Concordia's Facilities Team since 2008, recently retired. Appreciation is expressed to Tom for his years of faithful service. His assistance with our Lunch and Learn activities was invaluable. We wish Tom God's richest blessings!

...Our new Director for Sanctuary Worship, Phillip Magness, has arrived. Phillip will be our primary organist and pianist for the 5:00pm and 8:15am services and will also direct choirs and instrumental groups. We welcome Phillip and his family to Concordia!

...Grandparents' Day is observed nationally on Sunday, September 9. We certainly know that this is a "Hallmark Holiday," but it does give us a chance to reflect on the blessings of family. All of us, whether or not we are grandparents, have wonderful opportunities to share our faith stories with those whom God places in our lives.

...Because of the increased food needs families have in the summer months as children are home from school, our area food pantries are in need of having their supplies restocked. Please take a yellow bag in the Lobby or Commons, fill it with non-perishable items, and return it to the large brown collection bin in the Lobby. The food is divided between Feed My People and Kirk Care.

UPCOMING

...Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, will begin its 180th academic year with a special worship service at 10:00am on Friday, August 24, in the Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus. Seminary President Dr. Dale Meyer will serve as preacher and will introduce the theme for the year, "Here am I! Send Me," from Isaiah 6:8. Additionally, the second annual Opening Weekend Hymn Festival is set for 3:00pm Sunday, August 26, in the chapel. The concert will feature Kevin Hildebrand, cantor of Concordia Theological Seminary in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. An ensemble choir will perform, consisting of Seminary students, faculty and staff, and musicians from across the St. Louis Lutheran community. The public is welcome to attend both the opening service and the hymn festival.



...The Shepherd's Center of Webster/Kirkwood will celebrate its 20th anniversary with a fall fundraiser on Friday, September 7, 5-7:30pm at Grace Episcopal Church, 514 E. Argonne Drive, Kirkwood. The dinner will include grilled chicken and pork, favorite barbecue sides, desserts, and drinks. Musical entertainment will be provided by The Zelle Trio. Donations for the evening will be accepted. Please go to ShepherdsCenter-wk.org for more information. The Shepherd's Center provides a variety of services and activities for seniors in the Webster/Kirkwood area. Both Carol Witte and Sharon Ema serve on the board.

...The final informational meeting for this fall's Germany Reformation Tour (September 27–October 8) will be held on September 9, 4:00pm in the Concordia Dining Hall. Information on Munchen will be featured and last-minute travel details will be discussed. After many months of planning, the trip is just around the corner!



...Christian Friends of New Americans (CFNA) will be holding their two major fundraising events this fall. October 9 will be the date for their 6th annual Golf Benefit at Norwood Hills Country Club and the 11th annual Trivia Night at the Lutheran Church of Webster Gardens will be on November 10. 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.



Gundermann Award

This award is given to Concordia members in honor of the ministry of Rev. Vernon Gundermann, Pastor at Concordia Lutheran Church in Kirkwood from 1990-2005. The award recipient(s) demonstrate involvement in human care outreach to the congregation and/or community as they touch people with Jesus Christ and "Be Faithful." Questions? Contact Sharon Ema, 314-822-7772 or sema@CKhome.org.

...The annual Lutheran Prayer Breakfast will be held on Wednesday, October 31 at the Orlando Events and Conference Center, 2050 Dorsett Village Plaza in Maryland Heights. Registration begins at 7:00am with breakfast and program at 7:30am. Be on the lookout for more information.

...The St. Louis West Zone of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League will hold its fall rally on Saturday, October 20 at Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church, Brentwood. Registration will begin at 8:30am with brunch and meeting starting at 9:00am. Additional details will be forthcoming.

WELLNESS

Know someone who may need assistance in a disaster? If you or a loved one are living with a physical, cognitive, or age related condition, check out the Access and Functional Needs Registry at StLouisCo.com/HealthandWellness/HumanServices/FunctionalNeedsRegistry. It's a confidential database that allows our first responders to identify priority rescue areas. For more information, contact Lisa Hautly, Certified Health Education Specialist, 314-825-6557 or lisa@lisahautlywellness.com.

REMEMBERING...

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

John Kuebler
Christopher Gutweiler
Pam Schmidt

