

the 809

October 2018
Volume XLIII



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,

Oktoberfest and Veteran's Day are two of our biggest and best attended Lunch and Learns. Of course, Christmas trumps all but let's save that JOY for a couple of months. If you have never attended a Lunch 'n Learn, give our Oktoberfest a try. You will experience great food, great beverage, and great connections with folks from Concordia whom you may not even know are a part of Concordia. Who are the folks who attend? They are a wide variety and of a broad range of ages, and what they share is a love of the Lord, a love of gathering together, and a love of service. They have energy and are strongly committed to their church. You will like them. Parking may be a little more challenging, but come and join us. You will be blessed!

LUNCH AND LEARN HAPPENINGS

Our August Lunch and Learn attendees were treated to an inspirational program presented by Concordia member Matt Wilson on the Disabled Veterans Scuba Diving Program. He shared some amazing stories of the life-changing effects that these diving experiences have on the veterans and volunteers who participate. If you weren't able to be present, check out the LifeWaters.org website for some heartwarming stories and information.

Our September gathering featured a wonderful presentation by Bob Wagner, a former National Football League official. His wit and humor, coupled with his deep love for his Savior, were in evidence as he traced his journey from officiating Little League games to the highest levels of the NFL, including a Rams' Super Bowl victory. He enthralled all of us with the inspirational pieces of poetry and Scripture selections he shared in his stories. A potluck tailgate-themed lunch topped off a very fun event!

Now it's time to think about Oktoberfest! Those who have attended our past October gatherings know that this event can't be missed. Brats and fixin's, including wine and beer, will be served for a suggested donation of \$7.50. Our program will include pictures and remembrances from our Germany travelers who will have returned just a few days earlier. Please join us at 11:30am on October 18 in the Concordia Commons. We will be joining in a nation-wide "Socktober" outreach effort and are asking for donations of new men's socks (size large or extra-large).





In November, we will again have a veterans' theme as we welcome Kitty Bickford who served 10 years on active duty in the Air Force and was married to a career military person. We will be collecting for the St. Louis Fisher House which was established to provide "a home away from home" for the families and caregivers of our military men and women during their time of need. More details to come. Please join us in the Atrium on November 15, 11:30am. We are planning a soup, bread and dessert menu for our lunch. You will be given the opportunity to sign up to bring needed food items.

Please note the date change for our December Christmas gathering. This year's event will focus on the theme "Emmanuel -God with us" and will be held on Tuesday, December 11, 11:30am in the dining hall. The meal will be catered by The Hawthorne Inn. As always, there will be special entertainment and fun fellowship.

RSVP's for Lunch and Learn events 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 x121.

SERVANT HEARTS AND HANDS

...Help is needed on Saturday, October 20, 8:00am-2:00pm when Lutheran World Relief will have a tractor-trailer parked at Concordia. Volunteers will move boxed ingathering items from vehicles and stack them in the larger box trailer. The quilts, kits and soap that are collected will be distributed throughout the world. Please contact Cindy Redecker, 573-579-7128 or cmredecker@yahoo for more information. Volunteer for a couple of hours or the entire day.

...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.

...Our Special Needs Ministry is hosting a Trunk-or-Treat event on Sunday, October 21, 2:00-4:00pm, for children with special needs and their families from the community. Help is needed! If you would like to decorate your trunk and hand out goodies, help with games during the event, or wish to donate, please call or text Jessica Crawford, 314-374-0682.



...A community 5K run/walk to raise awareness of and to gather funds for Christ Community Lutheran School – Kawete, Uganda will be held November 3, 9:00am at Queeny Park, 550 Weidman Rd, Ballwin. The races will begin at Smith Shelter.

There is a \$25 entry fee with a \$50 family maximum. The first 30 registered will receive a bracelet made in Uganda. All participants registering by October 20 will receive a t-shirt. For more information and to register, go to ChristCommunityInternational.org.

CHRIST COMMUNITY INTERNATIONAL



"EXPRESSING GOD'S LOVE THROUGH SERVICE"

...Many servant hands will again be needed for our annual Turkey Blessing event which will be held the Sunday before Thanksgiving. Due to construction at Concordia, details are still being worked out. Opportunities to assist with funding Turkey Blessing will be available at our Giving Center in the near future.

...Concordia Outbound Ministries, the mission arm of our congregation, is continuing to process grant applications for this year. In addition to helping fund short-term mission trips, COM also provides funding for other mission endeavors both within and outside our congregation. Recent grant recipients include Christ Community International, Gideons, Humanitri, KirkCare, Shepherd's Center, LHSA-Angel Fund, Family Shield Ministries. To donate to COM, earmark a portion of your offering on your envelope or through the online giving form.

UPCOMING

...Christian Friends of New Americans will hold their 11th annual Trivia Night at the Lutheran Church of Webster Gardens will be on November 10. For information or ways in which you can help with this important ministry to refugees and immigrants in our area, go to cfna-stl.org or call Carol Buckman, 314.517.8513.



...The St. Louis West Zone of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League will hold their 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. A Sing Fest with Rev. Terry Dittmer will be held and a freewill offering for the St. Louis West Zone treasury will be taken. Please RSVP by October 12 to Annette at amt14405@gmail or by calling Shirley Meckfessel, 314-270-7539.

...The Shepherd's Center is holding its Fall Chores Galore from October 22-November 3. Volunteer groups of all ages will be available to help rake leaves and get yards in shape for the winter. If you are an older adult in need of this service, please call 314.395.0988.

...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. The featured speaker will be Rev. Dr. John Arthur Nunes, president of Concordia College, New York. He previously served as a professor at Valparaiso University, as President/CEO of Lutheran World Relief, and as an inner-city pastor in Dallas and Detroit. Individual tickets are \$25; tables of 10 for \$250 can also be reserved. Go to lcms.regfox.com/2018-lutheran-prayer-breakfast for more information or to register.

LADIES BUNCO NIGHT

Join other Concordia women for fun and fellowship on October 29, 6:30-10:00pm in the Atrium for Bunco Night. Bring \$10 to play, BYOB and a snack to share. Please RSVP by October 24 by calling Regina Massie, 314-541-7664. Proceeds collected will be going to a local charity.



YOU MAY WANT TO KNOW

...Two groups of Concordia folks are currently out of the country and will be returning soon: Dr. Kent and Katie Killian and their mission team are in Uganda ministering to residents of Kawate and to Christ Community School-Uganda. They will return on October 11. Thanks to everyone who recently donated supplies for their ministry through our Giving Center.

Travelers on the Germany Reformation Tour return on October 8. They were led by Pastor and Mrs. Meggers and Concordia member, Don Wolfinger. We look forward to hearing some of their stories at our Oktoberfest.

...The Amani Choir will be here October 12-15 from Africa. Host families are still needed. Responsibilities will include housing, as well as transportation and a lunch when they are dropped off at Concordia on the morning of October 15. They will be performing in all three services on Sunday, Oct. 14, and will need to be brought to church early that morning. Please contact Lisa Byers, smilingnews@hotmail.com if you're interested in helping.

...Our new director, Phillip Magness, reports that Concordia's sanctuary choir is off to a great start with more than 20 people joining their hearts and voices in praising God. Anyone with a heart for worship is invited to come to practices on Wednesdays at 7:00pm. Phillip has shared that altos and a couple more basses are especially needed.

...Kirk Lowry has joined Concordia's Facilities Team, having previously served the City of Ellisville for 26 years. He is married to PJ; they have two children, Ty and Chase. Kirk and his family have been Concordia members since 2008 and are active in children's and youth ministries. Camping and cheering his kids at their sporting events are among Kirk's favorite activities.

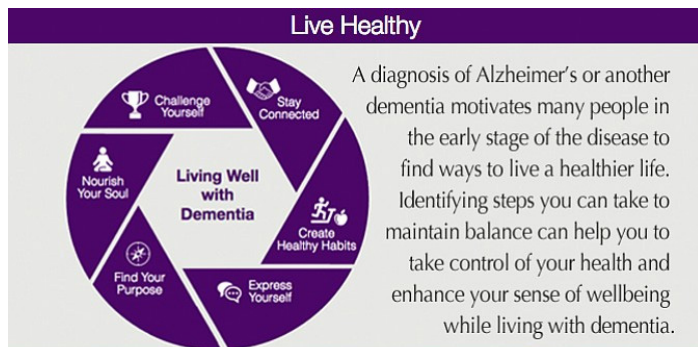


...Construction on Concordia's new Center for Christian Education is underway!! As a result, parking is somewhat of an issue, but everyone seems to be adjusting well. Patience and flexibility will be key in the months to come as we watch this project continue.



WELLNESS

Having memory loss/dementia/Alzheimer's disease is life-changing and leads to many questions. What will this mean for me and my family? How do we plan for the future? Where can we get needed help? A free 4-part program to get answers to these questions and hear from others who are facing this challenge is planned on Wednesdays, November 28-December 19, 1:00-3:00pm at the Shepherd's Center at Webster Hills United Methodist Church, 1333 W. Lockwood. The "Living with Memory Loss" program is sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association. Pre-registration is required and class size is limited. Call 800-272-3900 for more information or to register.



alzheimer's
association



REMEMBRANCE ON ALL SAINTS' DAY

Following the late service on Sunday, November 4, a special service of remembrance will be held in the sanctuary. Pastor Meggers will lead the service of reflection and hope. Participants will be given an opportunity to share a brief remembrance of their loved one, if they wish.

If possible, please share the names of loved ones who have died since last All Saints' Day to the church office by October 21, 314.822.7772 x108.

REMEMBERING....

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

Bobby "Bob" Seay
Jim Berg

I AM
THE
RESURRECTION
AND
THE
LIFE
JOHN 11:25