



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,
Jeanette and I have had a wonderful spring break with our two grandchildren, Jackson and Claire. Along the way, we have seen some devastating flood waters in eastern Nebraska and the beauty of the snow in Minnesota as it melts and makes way for spring. It is the kind of journey and weather that helps me look forward to our upcoming celebration of Easter. If you have not been able to join us for a Lenten service and Soup's On meal, I hope you will. And then I will look forward to sharing the joy of Holy Week with you as well.

Be sure and take a look at our advancing construction of our new Center for Christian Education. It is with gratitude that I think of your support and what this building will mean for future generations at Concordia.

Joyfully yours, PM



LUNCH AND LEARN HAPPENINGS

Our February Lunch and Learn gathering featured a delicious P'sghetti's lunch and an informative presentation on family genealogy by Sharon Ema and Roger Burgdorf. Suggestions for gathering and sharing family histories were provided.

During this Lenten season, the Ageless Generation team has been organizing lunches following our 11:00am mid-week services. The lunches will continue through Maundy Thursday. Many willing hands are preparing an array of delicious soups, breads, and desserts which are enjoyed in the Concordia Center Commons. Special thanks to all who are helping with set-up and clean-up as well as to those who are bringing food. Worship, food, fellowship — what a wonderful combination! The luncheon free-will offerings will be shared between the Shepherd's Center and LifeWaters Disabled Veterans Diving ministry.





Our May 16 Lunch and Learn will be an out-of-town trip to Altenburg and Frohna where we will have the opportunity to learn about the origins of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. The group will leave Concordia at 8:00am by bus and travel to the Lutheran Heritage Museum in Altenburg. A tour of the Museum and Trinity Lutheran Church will be followed by lunch (Tuscan Garlic Chicken and fix-in's) at a local restaurant. The afternoon will feature a visit to the Saxon Memorial in Frohna with arrival back at Concordia at approximately 5:00pm. Cost of the trip, including lunch, is \$40 per person. Space is limited. If interested, please sign up on the list at the registration table or contact Patty Wilson, 314.822.7772 x121 or pwilson@CKhome.org. It promises to be a day filled with fun and learning!



Our June 20 gathering will be an indoor picnic in the Atrium at Concordia. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us at 11:30am for some old-fashioned food and fun! There will be no scheduled Lunch and Learn event in July.

AGELESS GENERATION TEAM

Under the direction of Sharon Ema and Pastor Meggers, Concordia's Ageless Generation team strives to ensure that social, service and spiritual opportunities are provided for our older adults. The team meets monthly for a planning session and will additionally hold its annual retreat on May 7. Jerry Witte serves as chair of the team; other members include Linda & Roger Burgdorf, Jackie Eggerding, Ruth & Joe Leigh, Bonnie Matzat, Jeanette Marcus, Carol Witte, Marge Schuppan, Jerry Schmidt and Don Wolfinger. Your ideas for programs, service projects, fellowship events, or any other ministry opportunities are always welcome.

REPORTER



Our Older Adult Ministry was featured in the February 2019 issue of the Reporter. Pastor Meggers, Sharon Ema and Jerry Witte were interviewed for the article and shared specifics of our ministry that is intended to be "to, by, for and with older adults." As more than 10,000 Americans turn 65 every day, more and more congregations are beginning to realize senior adults can be a vital resource for ministry. We are grateful for the opportunities we have here at Concordia to continue serving our Lord!

SERVANT HEARTS AND HANDS

...Concordia's Uganda mission team, under the leadership of Dr. Kent and Katie Killian, returned safely from their recent trip. During their stay in the village of Kawete, the group held Bible studies, worked with staff and students at CCLS-U, provided medical assistance, and fostered relationships that have been established in previous visits. Thanks to everyone who supported their efforts with monetary donations as well as with needed supplies.



...It's not too late to select a cross from the Lenten Giving Tree and bring the requested item to the Giving Center. Donations will be shared with area organizations in our community who serve the needy, including Moms on a Mission, Mary Culver House, Trinity Souldard, and Lutheran Family and Children's Service. Please return your items by Good Friday.

...Concordia's Special Needs Ministry continues to offer a weekly Bible fellowship class for adults with special needs, ages 18 and older, on Tuesdays from 6:00-7:15 pm in the Library. The class, led by Jerry Witte and Jessica Crawford, begins with Biblical instruction, delivered in a way that is accessible to adults with special learning needs, and concludes with refreshments and conversation.

...Concordia Outbound Ministries, the mission arm of our congregation, is receiving and evaluating grant applications for this year. These mission endeavors, both within and outside our congregation, are funded by earmarking a portion of your offering on your envelope or by giving through the online form.

...Please continue to be generous with food donations for Feed My People and Kirk Care. The long winter put quite a strain on area food pantries. Bring your non-perishable items to the Market Basket near the lobby desk.

YOU MAY WANT TO KNOW

...Concordia's oldest member, Mattie Maschmeier, recently celebrated her 102nd birthday! She was baptized, confirmed and married at Concordia. We wish Mattie continued blessings! We also wish Rev. Vince Stanley God's richest blessings on his recent retirement from prison chaplaincy ministry.

...The search for a director in our youth ministry program is ongoing. Several strong candidates have been interviewed but the call committee is continuing to seek that person whom God would have us call to serve our youth in this vital position. Please keep the process in your prayers.

...Concordia's Turkey Blessing outreach was recently selected as the winner of the most community-oriented project by Lutheran Hour Ministries Men's Network. The Network recognized the blessings that our congregation has shared with the needy in our community not only with gifts of Thanksgiving food but also with prayer and encouragement.

...Concordia's Health Ministry Action Team hosted another successful health and resource fair, despite having to reschedule due to bad weather. Representatives from the congregation and community provided information on health resources and ways for all of us to be in service to others.

UPCOMING



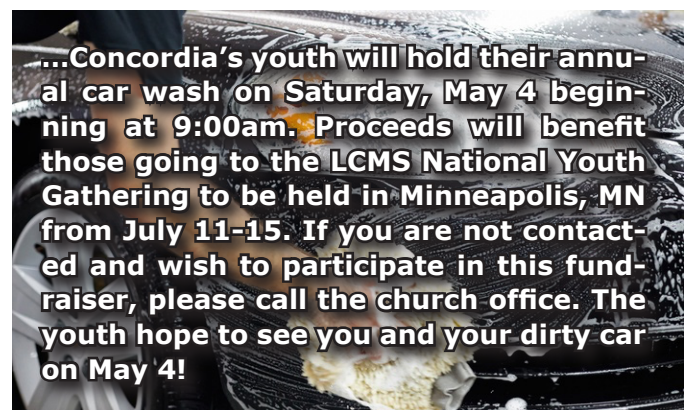
...Tickets are still available for the Shepherd's Center's Chef Wars to be held on Sunday, April 14 5:30-8:00pm at the Kirkwood Community Center, 111 S Geyer, Kirkwood. Chefs from Senior Living Communities will compete for the best entrée and best dessert. Local establishments will share their best appetizers and libations. A silent auction featuring theme baskets will also be held. Tickets (\$40 each) are available from Sharon Ema or Carol/Jerry Witte who serve on the Shepherd Center's board.

The Shepherd's Center provides a variety of services and activities for seniors in the Webster/Kirkwood area, including its annual Spring Chores Galore event, May 1-15. If you are in need of help with simple yard chores, please call 314.395.0988.

...Christ Community Lutheran School will observe Grandparents' and Special Friends' Day on April 25 and 26. Call the school office, 314.822.7774, for more information,

...Huge treasure sale on Tuesday, April 30 and Wednesday, May 1, 7:00am-2:00pm at Meramec Bluffs Retirement Center, #1 Meramec Bluffs Drive, Valley Park. Furniture, adult clothing, household goods, décor, small appliances, linens, books and more will be available for purchase.

...Candidates for the pastoral ministry will receive their first calls at a 7:00pm Call Day service in the St. Timothy and St. Titus Chapel on the Seminary campus on May 1. Vicarage assignments will be made that same day at a 3:00pm service. The public is invited to share in the joy of these special services as God's servants are sent into His harvest field.



...Concordia's youth will hold their annual car wash on Saturday, May 4 beginning at 9:00am. Proceeds will benefit those going to the LCMS National Youth Gathering to be held in Minneapolis, MN from July 11-15. If you are not contacted and wish to participate in this fundraiser, please call the church office. The youth hope to see you and your dirty car on May 4!

...The Greatest Five - New Bible Study

Five faith changing events from the early church for Christians today... to learn from... to apply in our everyday lives... to continue to grow God's church. Based on "The Greatest Five" by Glenn Sprich. This Bible study for men and women begins on Wednesday, May 1, 9:15-10:30am. Gather at 9:00am for coffee and fellowship!

The 38th Biennial LWML National Convention will be held June 20-23 in Mobile, AL under the theme "In Praise to the Lord" based on 1 Chronicles 16:23-24. Additional information can be found at their website — lwml.org/2019-convention.



...This theme of this year's Vacation Bible School, which will be held at Concordia from July 15-19, 9:00am-noon, is "Join Us in the Wild: Amazing Encounters with Jesus," based on John 20:31. Registration will open in early May for children ages three years old through 5th grade. In addition, a VBS program for special needs children and young adults will also be available, July 8-11.

Our Health Ministry Action Team will be sharing a health focus each day. Contact Sharon Ema know if you would like to volunteer at the VBS Health Table or if you could donate small prize items.

...The 67th National Convention of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod will be held in Tampa, FL from July 20-25 under the theme JOY: Fully Lutheran, based on 1 Thess. 5:16-18.



GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

...Save the date: On Saturday, October 5, Concordia will honor those couples who have been married 50 or more years. If you are among this group of special folks, please make sure the church office has your correct information, including your wedding date and the bride's maiden name.

MINISTRY MILESTONES

This year finds a number of area ministries marking special anniversary milestones. The 809 will feature one of these ministries in each of the upcoming issues. At the top of the list is our own congregation, Concordia Lutheran Church, which was established in 1874 and turns 145 years old this April. The following is from a brief history as found on the St. Louis Genealogy website:

The initial frame church on West Madison Street in Kirkwood, just east of Kirkwood Road, was built by Peter Bopp Sr. and some of his sons who were among the church's first members. The small church adopted the long name of Concordia Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Unaltered Augsburg Confession. In 1885 it became part of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Concordia purchased a new site at Taylor Avenue and East Clinton Place in 1907 and completed a new building soon thereafter. In 1945 the congregation purchased the present location and construction began. The new church and school opened in 1947. Both old sites were sold and razed in 1979.

REMEMBERING...

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

- Jim Jacobi
- Lois Dankenbring
- Jane Wood
- Kevin Wolf

