



Concordia
CONNECTION

December 2017

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PASTOR'S NOTE



Merry Christmas, Concordia!

A bit early, I know ... but, EVERY DAY is an opportunity to celebrate the most monumental moment in human history. To welcome the presence of God in this world in the birth of that baby in Bethlehem ... it's worth celebrating!

And that's what Concordia's patterns of worship are all about: spreading the celebration over the course of many weeks instead of just a single weekend. If you and your family are one of our 200+ new members this 2017 year, welcome to the party! Whether it's our hosting of Lutheran High School South's Wind Symphony on December 10 and the Cantata, with choirs and ensemble, the following weekend or the midweek services and

festive congregational parties like our Older Adult Christmas Celebration or Sr. Youth gathering—ALL of these are extensions of the celebration of the birth of Jesus on December 25.

I hope you can enjoy as many of them as possible.

During December, however, we still have "business to do" for the sake of Concordia's ongoing ministry. Our Executive Director, Kristin Anderson, will be hosting small group gatherings to bring you up-to-speed on our progress with the new Center for Christian Education. Your generosity is a tremendous blessing as we bring to fulfillment our final \$433,000 needed for ministry in 2017. Your year-end gift is critical. Thanks for your intentional sacrifice during this joyous season. And, finally, we have some Youth and Family ministry staffing opportunities ahead of us in 2018. Great stuff, all around!

At the heart of what we do is the joy-filled Name of Jesus. He is the very reason for everything we endeavor to accomplish—whether holiday celebrating or soul serving! Jesus gave His sinless life in order to transform our sinful world. Let's celebrate that this month. And let's also set aside time in our families, and with our friends and fellow congregation members, to remember the God who loves us that much and who gives our ministry many reasons to celebrate and be overjoyed.

Merry Christmas (*had to get that in one more time!*)

Warmly,

Pastor Seidler

Senior Pastor

sseidler@CKhome.org

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP AT CONCORDIA

Wednesday, December 20, 7:00pm

"Early" Christmas Eve (Sanctuary); this service is designed specifically for those who may be out-of-town on Christmas Eve.

4th Sunday in Advent

Saturday, December 23; 5:00pm Sanctuary

Sunday, December 24; 9:30am Sanctuary

Christmas Eve services (Sunday, December 24)

All services are identical candlelight worship and will be held in the Concordia Center. Service times are 3:00, 5:00, 7:00 (sign-language interpreted) and 10:00pm. Childcare available at 3:00, 5:00 and 7:00pm.

Monday, December 25, 10:00am

Christmas Day worship in the Sanctuary

ADULTS

Dear Friends in Christ,

Advent is a season of anticipation and preparation. I love the heightened spirit of “expectation” as we await Jesus’ birth ... as we also prepare for Him to come again! The Meggers Family enjoys a bit of a booster-shot of watchfulness with three birthday celebrations in-between: brother Larry, son Phil and granddaughter Claire. We were also exceptionally watchful for newest grandson Oliver Robert Paul, who was born on December 4!



Advent is the Church’s invitation to itself to watch, anticipate and prepare in Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love.

BE STILL – Each week the Advent wreath presents yet another candle lit until, finally on Christmas, the center or Christ candle will celebrate the birth of the Savior. Each **Wednesday (12/6, 12/13, and 12/20) at 11:00am and 7:00pm**, we can gather with our worship family for our own “booster-shot of watchfulness” during Concordia’s midweek Advent services (*NOTE: The 7:00pm service on 12/20 will be our “Early Christmas Eve”*).

BE ONE – One of our most anticipated Older Adult annual events is the Christmas Party Lunch and Learn. This year it will be held on **TUESDAY, December 19!** Our celebration will be focused around the theme “*What Child Is This?*” Enjoy special entertainment, devotional time and fun fellowship. Copies of Kelly Schumacher’s illustrated book—*The Creation, The Fall and The Promise*—will also be available. Lunch, catered by The Hawthorne Inn, features delicious pork tenderloin. The cost of the meal is \$15; bring a dozen cookies to share. RSVP for upcoming Lunch and Learn events at pwilson@CKhome.org.

BE FAITHFUL – Basking in the afterglow of our 3rd Annual Turkey Blessing, I want to share a couple stories from this event that I hope will encourage you to seek ways to serve those around you with JOY. For me this annual BE FAITHFUL event has become Concordia’s kick-off to this festive season:

- Among the 800 turkey meals given away were 20 meals offered to People of the Book Lutheran Outreach (POBLO). Hady and Vicky Matta, native Egyptians, work to bring the Gospel to immigrants and refugees from primarily Muslim countries. When Hady made the initial request for turkeys this year, I was not able to promise him any due to funding. He told me in a recent email that he and his family “*prayed to God to provide turkeys this year as these turkeys made a difference to them last year.*” Ultimately, Concordia was able to provide them with 20 turkeys; his pastor from Epiphany, Rev. Ziegler, also provided his van. They delivered these meals, along with a copy of the *Jesus* film, to 20 households. Of these 20 households, four responded favorably when asked if they could be prayed for in the Name of Jesus. Christmas is coming! Let’s bring Jesus to many more homes.
- **From Council President Matt Schelp:** “*My personal highlight was two women in the last two cars who didn’t receive turkeys (we slightly miscalculated), but had waited in line and were told dinners would be available. (Meanwhile, due to overwhelming response, we ran out.) Without hesitation, a group of guys just reached into their pockets and gave each car \$40.00 in lieu of the turkey dinner.*” Matt goes on to say that they prayed for one passenger’s daughter, a niece recently killed in a bicycle accident, and about the promise of Heaven, “*I plagiarized from Pastor Seidler’s sermon,*” he added.



Turkey Blessing represented an amazing outpouring of love from us to the community (pictures of the event on page 11). Let it also point you to the much, much more amazing outpouring of love found in a manger in Bethlehem, where God became Immanuel for us!

Blessed Advent JOY,
Pastor Meggers
Associate Pastor
dmeggers@CKhome.org

LUNCH AND SERVE

Our **Thursday, January 18**, gathering will be a “Lunch and Serve” opportunity. Be on the lookout for additional details SOON!

WORSHIP ARTS



This holiday season brings unique worship opportunities and schedule adjustments, especially with Christmas Eve falling on a Sunday this year. **Please refer to Concordia's website or our weekly *FrontPage* emails to stay informed as you make plans.**

December 17 will be a special Sunday, when our Festival Choir, Kids Song, Sign Choir, handbells, and instrumentalists present Concordia's Christmas Cantata, *There Is A Rose*, in worship. We will have just **two services** that morning at **8:30** and **10:00am**—both in the Concordia Center. It's the perfect weekend to invite a neighbor,

friend or co-worker to visit our church and be blessed by a great morning of music. We have invitation postcards for pick up at the Spotlight Table in the Commons. (*Regular 5:00pm worship will be held in the Sanctuary on Saturday, December 16.*)

For those of you interested in choir singing, our Sanctuary Choir will resume rehearsals in January; it's a once-a-month opportunity, so even if you normally don't worship at the earlier Sanctuary service on Sunday, it's only an occasional change to your normal routine. You can find a complete schedule of rehearsals at CKhome.org/sanctuary-choir.

On a final note, this past Summer/Fall we made adjustments to our worship times in an effort to simplify the Sunday morning schedule and incorporate our weekly KidsMin Sunday into the 9:30am hour. We learned a lot through the congregational survey conducted in August and knew, going forward, that we would need to give the new schedule time to settle in before reflecting on how effectively it met our goals. One thing we have both heard, and personally felt, is that having services back-to-back on the hour creates a very rushed experience and doesn't leave time for social interaction with our pastors and friends who attend other services. We have also discovered challenges associated with our 10:30am Sanctuary service, such as lighting, visibility of pastors, and the screen. After reflection, prayer, and conversation with Church Council, we have **decided to make additional slight adjustments** that will **begin the weekend of December 30-31**. Here are the details:

Saturday

5:00pm worship in the Sanctuary

Sunday

8:15am worship in the Sanctuary

9:30am KidsMin Sunday in the Dining Hall

9:30am worship in the Concordia Center

10:45am worship in the **Concordia Center**

We believe this will increase our opportunities to BE STILL and BE ONE on Sunday mornings, while maintaining a central time for KidsMin Sunday and maximizing staff and volunteer resources in our worship spaces! Thank you for your patience and feedback over these past several months as we continue to work, together, to make the most of our worship and discipleship times on the weekends.

Brendan Knorp

Director for the Worship Arts

bknorp@CKhome.org

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES



Happy Advent everyone!

As a parent, these are exciting times when we see our children light up at all the activity and anticipation. This is especially true when you witness firsthand your preschooler understanding Christmas for the first time! The season takes on a whole new meaning, filled with thankfulness and blessings. I know that, as my children grew from toddlers to preschoolers and into elementary school, the commercialization from ads, songs, and movies began to overwhelm the “reason” we celebrate Christmas at all.

Kids LOVE tradition! If you start intentionally focusing on Christ during Christmas when they are young, this will continue even into the teens. Yes, even teenagers will fight over who can open the baby Jesus on Christmas morning or who will be the one to open the December 24 window on the Advent calendar. So, if you find yourself looking for ideas to celebrate the “reason” with your own children, here are some ways my family focused on Advent over the years:

- **Make Nativity scenes the central focus in your home.** Kids, and even teens, LOVE to decorate for Christmas. And, I can tell you from experience, they grow attached to those bins of decorations. (*Don't even think about getting rid of the older, tacky ones – kids have sentimental attachment to them!*)
- **Gift wrap baby Jesus until Christmas morning.** Wrap all the mangers in special packaging and let that be the first present you open on Christmas morning.
- **Read Advent devotions together at bedtime, dinner or in the morning.**
- **Make a birthday cake and have a birthday party for Jesus!**
- **Encourage your kids to go through their “inventories” and donate some toys to charity.**
- **Light an Advent wreath or make sure your Christmas Advent calendar is Christ-focused!**

KIDSMIN SUNDAY SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHED

After four weeks of KidsMin Sunday, 134 kids have attended at least once—with most attending multiple times. Thanks to ALL of the 57 adults and youth who are serving at least one time per month to enable this ministry. We have heard lots of positive feedback from kids and parents alike; we promise to continue tweaking the program (as necessary) as we move forward. **REMINDER: Check-in begins at 9:20am. For those parents attending 9:30am worship, your children will be brought into the Concordia Center at 10:15am in order for you to commune together. All other kids will be picked up at 10:20am in the Dining Hall.**



HOLIDAY KIDSMIN SCHEDULE

Wednesdays - Our year-end Concordia Kids Night will be held on **December 13** for a Christmas Celebration! Kids Night **WILL NOT meet on December 20, 27, or on January 3** as most kids are on Christmas break during those times. Regular Wednesday night activities will resume **January 10**.

Sundays - KidsMin Sunday **WILL NOT meet on December 17** (Cantata Sunday), **December 24** (Christmas Eve) or **December 31** (New Year's Eve).

2018 CONCORDIA KIDS NIGHT—REGISTRATION OPEN!

This faith- and fun-filled program is open to all kids 1st grade through 5th grade. We especially love it when you bring friends! Registration is open for the 2nd semester at CKhome.org/kidsnight.

Weekly Schedule

5:00pm	Kids Song (for any child who loves to sing)	6:30pm	Bible Study and Recreation
5:45pm	Dinner and Group Activity	7:45pm	Pick Up

Kristin Anderson

Executive Director and Interim Minister to Children
kanderson@CKhome.org

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

The holiday season is here. The holiday season is here? The holiday season is here! No matter what punctuation you put on the end of that phrase, the truth of the matter is that the holidays are quickly approaching. And every year it feels as if they come more quickly than the year before. This Fall, I walked into Lowe's and caught myself contemplating whether they had any Christmas trees or decorations I liked, before I realized ... WAIT it's October!

I found myself intentionally walking away from the Christmas decorations and pushing the thought of Christmas out of my mind. But, in reality, I don't want to treat Thanksgiving or Christmas as if they are just any other day. I don't want to push them out of my mind to deal with later. They are holidays! One dictionary defines "holiday" as: *a day fixed by law or custom on which ordinary business is suspended in commemoration of some event or person; any day of exemption from labor; a religious feast day; A HOLY DAY.*



Did you catch that? Holiday = HOLY DAY. This means it is a day set apart from the rest, a day that is exalted above the others, and a day devoted to something special. What a perfect opportunity we have, no matter what stage of life we are in, to pause and once again have our eyes drawn back to Jesus, the true Holy One, and all the ways He has been faithful in our lives.

As we enter this precious holy day season, let's remember the words of this humble Jewish girl who sang a song of praise even though her circumstances were difficult, her family would not understand her, and she had no idea of the stark reality of her future. (Mary's song has been paraphrased from Luke 1.)

*"My soul chooses to glorify the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for He is always mindful of me and my situation ...
The Mighty One has done great things for me ... holy is His Name.
His mercy extends to all those who fear Him,
From all past generations, to me and to all those to come.
He has performed mighty deeds even for me ...
He continues to fill my hungry soul with good things.
He has helped me, His servant; He remains merciful to me even as He promised."*

Therefore, today—and all through this coming season of holy days—I stand quiet before Him, I stand still; I know that He is God.

My prayer for all of us this holy day season is that we would all "know that He is God" no matter what life circumstances we face, that our eyes would be drawn and our hearts exalted to the Holy One on a holy day!

Jayne Nichols, DCE
Minister to Youth
jnichols@CKhome.org

EPIC DAY

EPIC Night turns to EPIC Day on **Thursday, December 28**, from **1:00-3:00pm**. Our interim EPIC leader, Pastor Seidler, will host a Christmas break gathering to get our 4th and 5th graders out of the house and into God's Word and the company of Christian brothers and sisters in our Concordia family. Cost is \$5 to cover snacks and such. Specific details of activity will be published right around Christmas as the weather forecast becomes a bit clearer ... could be "snow fun" outside or some indoor activities. Mark your calendar and sign up today at CKhome.org/epic.

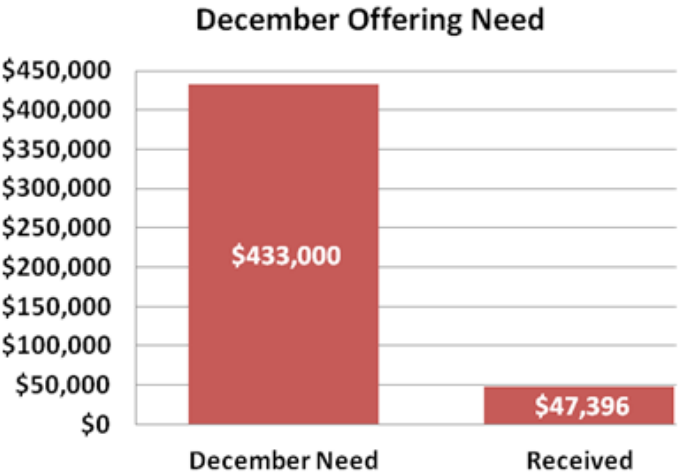


EXECUTIVE REPORT

YEAR-END FINANCIALS

As we move into December, we estimate the financial need to meet our financial obligations is \$433,000. Our Inbound financials, particularly in the last half of the year, have been lower than expectations. Over the last three years, our December giving has averaged \$360,000, so without increased generosity in December 2017, we will likely experience a moderate deficit.

The graph is an estimate of offerings needed during the month of December to meet our expenses. Your “intentional, sacrificial and joyful” generosity can help Concordia in this successful year of ministry and provide a solid foundation for 2018.



NOW IS A GREAT TIME TO GIVE STOCK!

Did you know that if you donate appreciated stock you will have no capital gains tax to pay? In addition, your tax-deductible contribution equals the market value of the stock on the date of the gift. This is a great way to maximize your gifts to ministry and save money at the same time. Concordia has an easy process to donate stock. If interested, contact me.

Kristin Anderson
 Executive Director
 kanderson@CKhome.org

OUR NEXT STEP

On November 17, our building proposal was submitted to Kirkwood! Over the next 2-3 months, we will go through many reviews and approvals with the City of Kirkwood. The schedule is as follows:

Date	Committee	Purpose
12/6/17, 7:00pm	Planning and Zoning Commission meeting (P&Z)	Introduce project; establish a sub-committee
Week of 12/11/17	P&Z sub-committee	Review project details
1/3/18, 7:00pm	Planning and Zoning Commission meeting	Vote on plan approval
1/8/18	Architectural Review Board (ARB)	Submit plan
1/15/18, 7:00pm	ARB review meeting	Review plan details
2/1/18, 7:00pm	Public Hearing meeting	
2/15/18, 7:00pm	City Council meeting	Hopefully, approve project!

Our architect, Arch Images, held several informal pre-meetings with the city, so we are confident our building design meets city ordinances and requirements. However, the formal review process with P&Z, ARB and the public could lead to modifications of our plan. Because of this issue, we cannot publish our plan widely until it is approved. If you would like additional details, I would be more than happy to share the current plan with you in person; please drop by my office at any time. I LOVE to talk about the new building and the ministry potential it brings!

Additionally, I will be available two Sunday mornings in December for you to stop by, review the drawings and ask questions about the detailed design:

Sunday, December 10 10:45am Atrium Room
Sunday, December 17 9:30am Dining Hall

SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY



For You created my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

– Psalm 139:13-14



CONCORDIA'S SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY IS GROWING AND WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Typically, in order for a child or youth with special needs to participate in a program at Concordia, the assistance of a buddy is required to do so. Right now, we have children with special needs who cannot attend programming because they are waiting for buddy assignments.

Who is a buddy?

Buddies are those with hearts that desire to serve children and youth with disabilities to help them learn about the love of Jesus. Buddies generally have been middle school to college-aged youth, but adults are encouraged to volunteer as well.

What does a buddy do?

Sometimes all that is needed from a buddy is to be in the same room where the child or youth requires a little bit of extra encouragement or guidance. Other times, a buddy will work closely with their friend with special needs, providing constant support so they can participate with their peers.

Sound intimidating?

It shouldn't! Each volunteer is trained by me before being placed with a child or youth with special needs. No buddy is ever left to "fly solo" until I know they are ready to serve.

How much time is required of a buddy?

Buddies volunteer during children and youth programming on Wednesday nights and/or Sunday mornings. Only want to volunteer during the Summer? We have needs for buddies then, too! A weekly commitment is appreciated, but not required to join the buddy ministry.

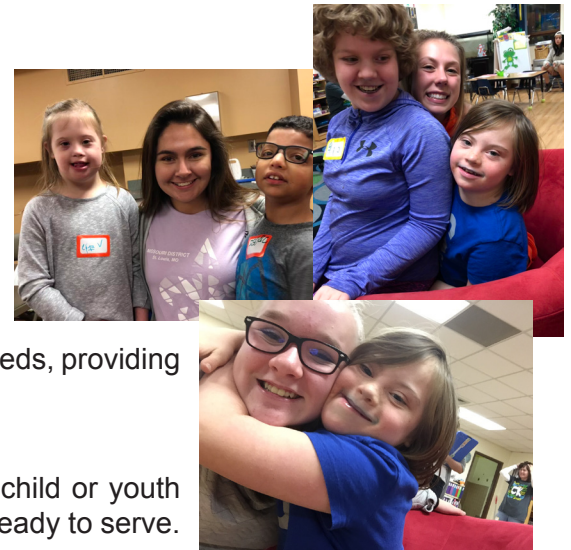
Here's what some of our buddies have to say:

- *"Being a buddy has been an amazing experience because I have been able to make the Word of God accessible for all kids."*
- *"It's a lot of fun being able to connect with the kids, and it's a really good experience."*
- *"I think it's really awesome being a buddy. I really connected with Christ through this experience."*
- *"Being a buddy has impacted me by helping someone special with their faith journey and seeing them grow in God."*

If you would like to be a buddy or have any questions, please email me or call/text 314-374-0682.

Jessica Crawford

Director of Children and Families with Special Needs
jcrawford@CKhome.org



CKDEAF MINISTRY

Looking for a Bible study? Interested in learning American Sign Language (ASL) while, at the same time, digging deeper into God's Word? This will be unlike anything that has been offered before!

The **ASL Bible Study** class will meet to learn how to sign songs from worship and to also discuss how those songs are part of our faith through related Bible study. The CK Sign Choir will perform a song learned in the ASL Bible Study class four times per year during worship (performing with the CK Sign Choir is not a requirement). Everyone is invited to join the ASL Bible Study. This class is open to all ages and abilities! Email me for more information at jcrawford@CKhome.org or call/text 314-374-0682.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



The Boyher Family

Tim and Michelle live in Fenton with their four children: Julia, Miranda, Lauren and Joey. Tim works for Ameren as an electrical planner and supervisor. Michelle worked as a medical surgical nurse before staying home with their kids. Julia is in the 8th grade at Rockwood South Middle School, while Miranda is in the 4th grade and Lauren is in the 1st grade at Stanton Elementary. Joey will start preschool next year.

The family stays busy with kids' sports, but also enjoys playing outdoors, visiting local attractions, cheering on the Cardinals and Blues, and spending time with friends and family.



Jeremy Knake

Jeremy moved to St. Louis from northern Illinois. He is currently on staff at UMSL in the business services office, where he processes contracts and agreements for the university. His hobbies include fishing and canoeing. On October 14, 2017, he married Ann Rosentreter.

The Carlson Family

Casey, Jodi and their daughter Aliza moved to Ankeny, Iowa, eight years ago. They have now returned to Concordia with four additional children. Aliza is in 5th grade, Bianca in 3rd grade, and Malachi in 1st grade; all attend Bowles school. Fiona attends PreK and Ellis is 2 years old. The children love to read, enjoy crafting and sports. Casey's job with the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) brought the family back to St. Louis. At LCEF, Casey works with LCMS churches and schools across Missouri to provide competitive loan packages and ministry support services. Jodi is a stay-at-home mom and has been paramount in the faith formation of their five little ones. An avid runner who enjoys a good mystery book, she also loves to volunteer at the kids' school and takes an active role in PTO and other school-related activities.



Diane Erke

Diane comes from generations that have been part of Concordia's family and has now rejoined. She attended Concordia School and Church. Before retiring, she worked as a secretary and then worked part-time for a company that tests soil. She enjoys updating family albums. Diane loves fur-babies; her cat is named Savana.



Regina McGuire and Benjamin Maguire

Regina attended Concordia University in Austin and currently works for a preschool in early childhood education. She has three sons: Isaac, Patrick and Benjamin, who is six months old and will be baptized at Concordia.



Brendon Papineau

Brendon, the owner of a landscape company, moved from Indiana. He is married to Libby.

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

Our 2018 orientation schedule is:

Monday, January 22, 6:30-8:30pm

Monday, February 19, 6:30-8:30pm

Sunday, March 11, 11:45am-1:45pm, with lunch

Monday, April 30, 6:30-8:30pm

Monday, June 11, 6:30-8:30pm

Childcare provided. Register at CKhome.org/membership or contact **Marcy Scholl** at mscholl@CKhome.org.



CONCORDIA OUTBOUND MINISTRIES (COM)

COM, funded entirely through designated offerings from you (the second line on your envelope), supported many projects, missions and agencies during 2017. Thank you for all the support we were able to provide to the following initiatives:

2017 CATEGORIES OF FUNDING

Short-Term Missions – Supporting those individuals from our congregation going on short-term trips to Belize, Montana, Ohio, and various local missions. **Total Funded: \$15,363**

Missionary Support – Supporting the mission efforts of members in our congregation, specifically Hank Rowold in Taiwan and Vince Stanley's Jail Ministry through Humanitri. **Total Funded: \$10,000**

LCMS at Large – Supporting our denomination at large through the Missouri District, Pastoral Leadership Institute, KINDLE (leadership organization for DCEs), Grace Place and various other miscellaneous needs. **Total Funded: \$12,270**

Human Care Individual Assistance – Supporting both those inside and outside our congregation who need some immediate financial support for basic needs. **Total Funded: \$2,706**

Christian Education – Supporting Lutheran education for elementary, high school and seminary students. This aid is specifically for ethnic immigrants and member seminary students. **Total Funded: \$12,000**

Agency Partners – Supporting those Lutheran Agencies that provide spiritual, emotional or physical care to those within our community:

Christ Community International (Uganda)	\$12,000
Christian Friends of New Americans (CFNA)	\$10,000
International Student Ministry	\$2,250
St. Trinity Lutheran Church	\$4,000
Feed My People	\$4,000
Mt. Olive Lutheran Church	\$2,500
People of the Book (POBLO)	\$2,000
Shepherd's Center of Webster/Kirkwood	\$1,500
Family Shield Ministries	\$1,500
Kirk Care	\$1,000
Gideons International	\$1,000
Lutheran Women's Missionary League	\$1,000
Sub-Total	\$42,750

OTHER CONCORDIA OUTBOUND GIVING

Concordia members responded generously to both the Hurricane relief efforts in Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico, as well as the 3rd Annual Turkey Blessing meal giveaway last month.

Hurricane Relief *	\$27,689
Turkey Blessing	\$36,663

**The Lutheran Foundation matched \$10,000, so our total amount given for hurricane relief was \$37,689.*

Thank you, Concordia!

INTERESTED IN SPENDING SPRING BREAK IN BELIZE?

Join us for a mission trip **March 15-21, 2018**. We will lead worship, visit preschools and nursing homes, work with special needs children, and do some light construction. Kids and adults are welcome on this trip. Email **Kippin Schelp** at kimberlysanchez@hotmail.com for more information.

TURKEY BLESSING PICTURES



AS A GROUP WE PRAYED OVER THE FINAL CAR AND THANKED GOD FOR HIS BLESSING.

COUNCIL CORNER

Church Council met on **November 20, 2017**. After an opening prayer, Pastor Seidler began the meeting with his report, which focused on a discussion of ongoing “joys and opportunities” at Concordia. The recent launch of Children, Youth and Families ministry (including KidsMin Sunday), the robust new member inflow (more than 200 new members year-to-date), building project progress and reinvigorated volunteer activity were a few of the “joys”; in the “opportunity” category, Pastor Seidler talked about ongoing monitoring of the worship schedule, Youth and Family staffing, and his overall management strategy. Kristin Anderson’s report outlined Concordia’s financials and the offering need required to meet our 2017 budget. In addition, Kristin shared with Council the progress being made in permitting and design for the Center for Christian Education. Council will not meet in December, but anticipates further discussion of staff management, staffing issues, and the building project in January 2018.



If you have any questions or would like to have something considered for inclusion on the agenda for the next meeting, please contact me at matthew.schelp@gmail.com.

Matt Schelp

Church Council President

PRE-MARRIAGE SEMINAR

Many couples today are spending a great deal of time and money planning for their wedding day, but spending little, if any, time planning for their future marriage. You must pass a test before you receive your driver’s license, yet you can get a marriage license for just a few dollars. A successful relationship requires more preparation than an elaborate wedding!

Concordia values the importance of strong Christian families and wants to support and encourage couples who are planning to be married. We require each couple that will be married at Concordia to attend a **Pre-Marriage Seminar, led by Charlie and Debbie Davis**. This seminar will be based on the **PREPARE/ENRICH inventory** and will cover marriage expectations, personality issues, communication, conflict resolution, financial management, leisure activities, sexual expectations, children/parenting, family/friends, role relationships and spiritual beliefs. Charlie and Debbie look forward to working with each couple, helping them to prepare for a lifelong marriage. They are **trained PREPARE/ENRICH facilitators** and have been leading these seminars at Concordia for more than 10 years.



The **seminar dates for 2018** are Saturdays, March 3, June 2, September 1 and December 1, from **10:00am-4:00pm**. Register at CKhome.org/weddings.



CONCORDIA
Lutheran Church

BE STILL, BE ONE, BE FAITHFUL

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