



CONCORDIA

# Connection

APRIL 2019



EASTER WORSHIP SCHEDULE • CHILDREN AND YOUTH SUMMER SCHEDULE • NEW MEMBERS



# PASTOR'S NOTE

PASTOR SEIDLER • SENIOR PASTOR • SSEIDLER@CKHOME.ORG



Happy Spring, Concordia Friends! We are in the homestretch of Lent now. Holy Week is coming. Kids Ministry is rockin'! Soup luncheons are spectacular! We're hearing so many stories about how our Concordia family is out in our community, serving, sharing, working and showing Jesus to people. So many GOOOOD things to say "Thank you, God!"

My encouragement continues to be: Find a community, a small group, a tight-knit circle of

Christians with whom you can share life outside of worship. Once a week, a couple times each month, on Sunday mornings or a weeknight/morning of your design. Discipleship happens in groups, and we have a LOAD of GOOOOOOD groups flourishing at Concordia. Or, form your own!

Take some time to check out this Concordia Connection newsletter—the summer schedule for children and youth, VBS, ministry program notes, etc., all dedicated to our spiritual growth and the mission of the Gospel that grows like fruit on those strengthened spiritual branches of ours!

## SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sanctuary worship with traditional hymns led by organ and piano

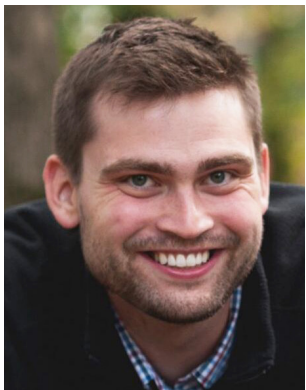
- **5:00pm, Saturday**
- **8:15am, Sunday**

Concordia Center with modern worship music and hymns, led by worship band

- **9:30am, Sunday**
- **10:45am, Sunday**

# PASTOR SCHULTZ

ASSOCIATE PASTOR • JSCHULTZ@CKHOME.ORG



Spring has sprung. The weather is warmer and soon the daffodils will start poking their heads out, heralding the arrival of spring. It seems to have been a long time in the making, but the end result is well worth the wait.

The weather is not the only thing we have been waiting for at Concordia. Soon, many of our confirmation students will receive communion for the first time on Maundy Thursday. Each week, these students attend confirmation with 70 other confirmands. Each week, they study the mysteries of God. Each week, they grow more in the knowledge of Jesus Christ. And on Maundy Thursday, we will welcome 32 confirmation students to receive communion for the first time. This is a moment that has been a long time in the making. After preparation and careful study, these students will be welcomed to receive Jesus'

body and blood. This is a significant moment in the Christian life. Jesus is present in the bread and wine. He gives himself fully for the forgiveness of sins through ordinary bread and wine. While communion for these confirmands has been a long time in the making, it is well worth the wait.

I encourage you to attend the Maundy Thursday service this year. Celebrate the mystery of Holy Week and celebrate with our confirmands this significant gift they will receive. God is making all things new, including us. As we anticipate the day when Jesus returns, stay in the faith, hope and love of God. It is well worth the wait.

# ADULTS

PASTOR MEGGERS • ASSOCIATE PASTOR • DMEGGERS@CKHOME.ORG



I don't know if you've heard, but Easter is coming! I also don't know if you've heard, but while we wait for Easter, there is an opportunity to sign up for a trip to Perry County, MO. The journey takes place on **Thursday, May 16**. You may wonder, "Why spend a whole day just to go to Perry County, MO?" Well, let me tell you a story:

In the spring of 1989, I was concluding my year of graduate school at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. Professor August Suelflow, a true scholar of our American Lutheran history, was organizing the annual seminary trip to Perry County. Jeanette and I thought the trip would be a nice wrap-up to our years in St. Louis, especially since our children would get to experience a childhood wish: riding on a bathroom bus. (I guess after all our many car trips to Minnesota and Iowa, a bus with a bathroom on it sounded pretty cool.)

We traveled with folks of all ages, some seminary families and singles, and some folks who just wanted to take this trip. Traveling to Perry County is a step back in time, thanks to the efforts of historically minded folks who have preserved much of the history of the Saxon (German) immigrants who made this area their home and established the foundations of our Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod. Preserved for our appreciation and contemplation are tools, utensils, implements and documents of these pioneers. We explored the beauty of the first churches and were awed by the log cabin seminary that eventually became Concordia Seminary. Somewhere there is a picture of our family of four on Perry County's version of Plymouth Rock, a large stone that marks the landing site of these brave souls.

Now, 30 years later, I will have the chance to revisit this place of beauty, history and faith. If you would like to join us, contact Ruth Leigh at **314-706-2362** for more information or to sign up. It will be \$40 well invested.





# WORSHIP ARTS

BRENDAN KNORP • DIRECTOR FOR THE WORSHIP ARTS • BKNORP@CKHOME.ORG



"Regular" church attendance (i.e. attending weekly) is somewhat of a novelty these days in American Christianity. One consequence of that is that the larger narrative of Scripture we teach and preach on becomes less impactful when experienced every other week, or less.

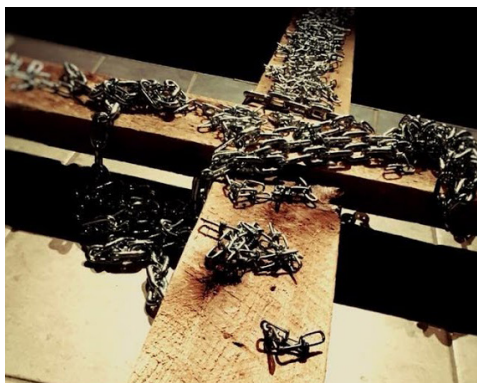
I bring this up today because we are approaching Easter and the preceding Holy Week that begins with Palm Sunday. During this week, we have a service on Thursday called Maundy Thursday and one on Friday called Good Friday. These services offer a play-by-play into the events leading up to Easter by retelling the story on each of these days as they happened in real-time, and the church has been doing this for thousands of years.

Many Christians have a general familiarity with Jesus washing His disciples' feet, or the first time He gave them communion. They've heard that He was betrayed, put on trial, and crucified. And they certainly know the Easter story of His rising from the dead. Years ago, my family hosted an exchange student from Korea who was acquainted with those same things. On our way home from worship on Maundy Thursday, I was struck by her comment that she'd really never understood the context and meaning of the events we read from Scripture that night until then. Sure, we reference these things occasionally in worship, but we generally don't read these texts straight through and reflect on them.

I'd like you to consider coming along for the journey in its fullness this Holy Week. We take the time to retell these stories each year, because time and again, they shape us and remind us of God's grace and mercy. I'm certain that you will be blessed by the experience and Easter will have an even deeper meaning because of it. Attending worship three times in one week is definitely not the norm, but I hope many of you will do something a little different and set aside time for this special occasion.

A graphic for Holy Week with a background of a sunset over a landscape. The title "Holy Week" is written in a large, green, cursive font. Below it, the days of the week are listed in a smaller, white, cursive font, each followed by the date and times of the services.

Palm Sunday	Maundy Thursday	Good Friday	Easter Sunday
April 14	April 18	April 19	April 20 April 21
8:15am 9:30am 10:45am	11:00am 7:00pm	11:00am 7:00pm	5:00pm 6:30am 8:00am 9:30am 11:00am



# PALM SUNDAY

**Sunday, April 14 at 8:15, 9:30, and 10:45am**

Palm Sunday commemorates Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem, when palm branches were placed in His path, before His arrest on Holy Thursday and His crucifixion on Good Friday. It thus marks the beginning of Holy Week, the final week of Lent. Our services in the Concordia Center will include a special procession for the children.

# MAUNDY THURSDAY

**Thursday, April 18 at 11:00am Sanctuary**

**Thursday, April 18 at 7:00pm Concordia Center** (Childcare and sign interpreter provided)

The name for this day comes from the Latin word "mandatum," meaning "commandment." It refers to the two "new" commandments our Lord gave to His disciples on this day: "love one another" and "do this in remembrance of Me." Join us as we meditate on our Lord's final hours. We will also celebrate first communion for many of our youth.

# GOOD FRIDAY

**Friday, April 19 at 11:00am Sanctuary**

**Friday, April 19 at 7:00pm Concordia Center** (Childcare and Sign Interpreter provided)

Christians around the world gather on this solemn day to remember the greatest sacrifice of love the world has ever seen. The "tenebrae" is a service of darkness, in which a series of candles are gradually extinguished, symbolizing the death of Christ. In quiet reflection, we ponder the great cost by which we receive the gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation with Jesus' final words on the cross, "Father, Into Your Hands I Commit My Spirit".

# EASTER

**Saturday, April 20:**

5:00pm in the Sanctuary

**Sunday, April 21:**

6:30am – Sunrise service at Oak Hill Cemetery

8:00am and 9:30am in the Sanctuary

9:30am and 11:00am in the Concordia Center



# SENIOR YOUTH CAR WASH

[WWW.CKHOME.ORG/HSYOUTH](http://WWW.CKHOME.ORG/HSYOUTH)

Consider supporting the Senior Youth as they work to get to the National Youth Gathering this summer in Minneapolis. We have 77 youth attending! The cost is around \$1400 per person so they are working to raise money. Please consider not only getting your car washed on **Saturday, May 4**, but pledging to the car wash as well. The car wash is **FREE** to the community and no donations will be accepted at the car wash itself. Youth will begin making phone calls on **Sunday, April 7** with a large calling party on **Sunday, April 14**. You can also give online at [www.CKhome.org/carwash](http://www.CKhome.org/carwash).

PLEASE NOTE: Any pledge you offer supports ALL the youth going, not just the person who happens to call or ask you so most likely you will only be asked one time. Concordia has always proved great support for your youth. We pray that continues this year as well!

# VBS

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**ZOOM IN! FOCUS ON JESUS! JULY 15-19, 2019!** Gas up the all-terrain vehicle and get ready to head out on a wilderness adventure like no other! This summer kids will focus on some amazing, real-life encounters with Jesus.

Our theme for 2019 is based on **John 20:31**: "But these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name."

Volunteer registration for VBS is now open! If you know you will volunteer for VBS, please sign up as soon as possible! We still need **80** volunteers! We will only open child registration for as many kids as we can safely manage. Children's registration will open around **Wednesday, May 1**. Similar to last year, we will set the number of children we can serve based on the number of volunteers we recruit. This will ensure we provide a safe, positive, and rewarding experience for both children and volunteers. We are committed to a well-organized, structured program for volunteers! Visit [www.CKhome.org/VBS](http://www.CKhome.org/VBS) for more information and to volunteer!



# KIDSMIN

REBECCA SCHULTZ • CHILDREN'S MINISTRY ASSISTANT • [RSCHULTZ@CKHOME.ORG](mailto:RSCHULTZ@CKHOME.ORG)



The warmer weather is making its way here! Spring and summer bring new activities that keep us busy! Even though school is wrapping up, it doesn't mean our lives slow down—graduations, vacations, sporting events, family and friend get-togethers, etc. are all headed our way! Our weekly calendar fills up quickly and deciding which events to attend can be hard when there is so much going on. Children are ready for school to wrap up! They are restless and ready for the freedom of summer!

If there is one thing you make sure happens every week, make it be worship! A place to BE STILL, hear God's Word, receive the forgiveness of sins. Amidst our busy lives there is nothing more valuable than our relationship

with our Savior. We know that what our children see us doing they too will do. Let them see us put God first. Let them see us worship. Let them see us sing God praises. Let them see us confess our sins. Let them witness faithful parents.



## ONGOING KIDSMIN FAITH-BUILDING PROGRAMS

**SUNDAY KIDSMIN** is a chance EVERY WEEK to learn about Jesus and grow in faith. Our committed teachers look for ways to engage children in the Bible story and encourage them to live out their faith each day. Please join us!

**9:20-10:20AM** in the Dining Hall (3 year olds-5th grade)

At **CONCORDIA KIDSNIGHT**, we are digging into the life of Jesus and walking in His footsteps, from birth to Resurrection and Ascension. Each week, we discover that Jesus is a real person—a real friend—who makes a difference in our lives each day.

**Wednesdays; 5:30-7:15PM** (1st-5th grade) Kids can join at anytime!

## EPIC NIGHTS

Join us once a month as 4th and 5th graders have an opportunity to gather to get to know one another better and connect with Christ! We eat, talk, and play games that are sure to involve everyone! Feel free to bring a friend!

Last **EPIC NIGHT** of the school year:  
**Friday, April 26, 6:00-8:00PM**

Contact me for more information or visit our website at [www.CKhome.org/children](http://www.CKhome.org/children).





# SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY

JESSICA CRAWFORD  
JCRAWFORD@CKHOME.ORG

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES WITH SPECIAL NEEDS



Children with special needs have always been welcome to attend VBS here at Concordia. Last year we took it up a notch and began offering VBS just for children with special needs in the afternoon.

It is our goal that EVERY child who wants to participate in VBS and grow closer to God is able to do so!

This year, we will again offer an alternate, shorter, four-day VBS for children with special needs the week of **July 8 from 10:00am-12:00pm**. *That's a week early!* In this VBS setting, children with significant needs whose parents have decided that they would not be able to attend a typical VBS will receive the care and attention that they require along

with lessons and materials designed just for them.

Here are some examples of what VBS might look like this year for a child with special needs:

- Full inclusion in all VBS rotations, no assistance required
- Full inclusion in all VBS rotations with the assistance of a buddy
- VBS for Kids with Special Needs from **10:00am-noon, July 8-11**
- VBS for Young Adults with Special Needs from **10:00am-noon, July 8-11 (NEW!)**

*But wait! Did you catch that?*

The parents attending Night to Shine expressed a desire for a VBS designed for their teenage and young-adult-aged children. This is our chance to invite all those families back to Concordia! But before we can offer any of these programs, we will need your help! From one-on-one buddies to rotation leaders, these VBS programs require teenage and adult volunteers!

We have the following needs on the Special Needs VBS Team either July 8-11 and/or July 15-19:

- Buddy
- Bible Study Leader/Assistant
- Recreation Leader/Assistant
- Crafts Leader/Assistant

For more information or to sign up, please visit [www.CKhome.org/specialneedsvbs](http://www.CKhome.org/specialneedsvbs).

Do you know a family whose child with special needs has not been able to attend VBS before? Invite them!





# NEW MEMBERS

MARCY SCHOLL • MSCHOLL@CKHOME.ORG



## **Eddie and Amanda Brauer** **Adella, Jack, Haseley**

Eddie and Amanda have three children. Adella is a kindergartner at Keysor Elementary, and Jack and Haseley attend daycare at Kirkwood KinderCare. Eddie is a water resource engineer with the US Army Corps of Engineers, and Amanda is the Manager of Roads and Traffic for St. Charles County Government. They enjoy traveling the world, exploring new places and walking to free concerts and other events around the Kirkwood area.

## **Brian and Kelsy Decker** **Hannah**

Brian was raised in St. Louis (Lindbergh HS & CCLS alumni) and went to college at UMR for Mechanical Engineering. Kelsy grew up in the Rolla/St. James area. They recently moved back to Missouri from San Antonio to be closer to family. Brian works as a program manager for Essex Industries and Kelsy is working remotely for Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church (LCMS) in San Antonio. Their daughter, Hannah, will be three years old this month, and they are expecting their second child in April. Brian enjoys playing the drums and working on his Jeep. Kelsy's hobbies include photography, painting, and ukulele playing.



## **Candace-Rae Haislip** **Connor, Liam**

Candace-Rae is mother to Connor and Liam. She was raised in Tipperary, Ireland on a sheep farm; however, she is American-born. Currently, she is employed as a flight nurse with St. Louis Children's Transport Team. Additionally, she is completing two Doctors of Nursing Practice (DNP) at University of Missouri-Columbia. She is also competing in her first half-marathon this October! Last October, she summited three mountains in three days in Colorado State Park. Connor is a 5th-grader at CCLS and Liam is four. They look forward to getting to know members better and sharing in life as fellow workers of the faith.

## **Eileen Harris**

Eileen is single and lives with her sister, Kimberly Miner, in their childhood home. She retired from the medical field in 2004. She likes to bake cakes, pies and cookies. She has a collection of over 250 zebras and collects dolls. Eileen likes to color and play games on her iPad. Her sister calls her Snooky.

## **Kimberly Miner**

Kimberly lives with her sister, Eileen Harris (Snooky). She has degrees in Religious Studies and Philosophy. She retired in 2013 and is a cancer survivor of six years. She likes to cook and bake breads and crackers and enjoys canning as well as other food preservation methods. Kimberly likes art and growing things and everything with monkey and apes.



Left: Kimberly | Right: Eileen

# CHILDREN & YOUTH EVENT CALENDAR

2019 CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Get ready for summer with this full calendar of what is going on in our children's and youth ministries! This is in addition to ongoing weekly/bi-weekly activities.

## APRIL

- 18 (Maundy Thursday) Seder Meal for 6<sup>th</sup>-graders taking their 1st Communion
- 26 EPIC Night for 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>-graders from **6:00-8:00pm**

## MAY

- 4 Car Wash to benefit Youth Gathering participants at **9:00am**

## JUNE

- 3-7 IMPACT Mission Week at Feed My People (FMP) for '18-'19 6<sup>th</sup>-graders\*
- 10-14 IMPACT Mission Week at FMP for '18-'19 7<sup>th</sup>-graders\*
- 18-21 Camp Trinity for 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>-grade (Overnight in New Haven, MO)
- 24-28 IMPACT Mission Week at FMP for '18-'19 8<sup>th</sup>-graders\*

## JULY

- 8-12 EPIC Mission Week at FMP for '18-'19 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>-graders\*
- 8-11 VBS for Kids with Special needs
- 15-19 Vacation Bible School for pre-K – 4<sup>th</sup> grade
- 15-19 Vacation Bible School Crew Leader volunteering for 5<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade
- 10-17 LCMS Youth Gathering in Minneapolis
- 20-27 Senior High Mission Trip to Linnville, NC
- 29-2 High School Mission Week at FMP\*

## SEPTEMBER

- 6-8 All Youth Retreat at Lake Williamson for 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>-graders

## OCTOBER

- 19-20 Witness Weekend for our Confirmands
- 26 Confirmation Brunch and Rehearsal
- 27 Confirmation



**For more information for CHILDREN'S EVENTS, visit: [www.CKhome.org/children](http://www.CKhome.org/children)**

**For a full list of YOUTH REGISTRATION links, visit: [www.conta.cc/2JJ39Em](http://www.conta.cc/2JJ39Em)**

*\*All Mission Weeks at Feed My People (FMP) are **Monday through Thursday, 8:00am-3:00pm**. These are peer-group-building opportunities to serve under-resourced members of our STL community. Each day begins and ends at church. We have a short devotion, drive down to FMP, work until noon, eat lunch at a faster food establishment, and then enjoy some afternoon leisure activity such as Epic6, the Lodge of Des Peres, an escape room, etc.*