

Concordia News

Large Print Edition

A newsletter for members, families, and friends of Concordia
Lutheran Church and Concordia Cemetery Association

December 2007

Contents

Words from Pastor Gretchen	Pg 2
December Announcements	Pg 4
Thank You	Pg 9
Bits & Pieces Page	Pg 14
December Calendar	Pg 19
Credits	Pg 20



Words from Pastor Gretchen

Trim the hearth! Set the table! Light the candles! For Christ is coming to us! Advent is about getting ready for Christ's coming in the manger. And it is

about getting ready for something that has not yet happened. "The Lord is coming in a way and in a form that we have not yet experienced," writes Peter Gomes. "We wait for that which we have not yet seen. We work for that which has not yet been accomplished. We wait for new heavens and a new earth. That is the Advent agenda. That's our hope!"

We are able to bear our world and all its symptoms of death -- war, sickness, family difficulties, death itself -- because we believe in a dawn which will give way to the glorious day of God's kingdom in all its fullness.

And while we wait for Christ's coming among us in a way that we have not yet experienced, we are called to care for each other, to

out-do one another in ways of kindness, to work and pray for justice, and to speak truthfully to one another. For in doing these things, you help to prepare the way for the Lord.

May God's peace and joy be yours as we worship, pray, and gather at the Lord's table in this holy and hope-filled Advent season.

Pastor Gretchen



**Concordia Lutheran Church
Concordia Cemetery Association
6637 80th Ave. North
Glyndon MN 56547**



WELCA

December 11, 2007

Noon

Bible Leader: Group

Lunch: Potluck



Cookie Servers

December 2 Phylis Nelson

December 9 Irene Olson

December 16 Barb Grover

December 23 Group

December 30 Polly Hanson



CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE

10:00 am



Congratulations

to Ray and Tara Amundson on the arrival of their new son,

Lucas John Amundson.

Lucas weighs 7 lbs 13.9 oz. and is 21 inches long. Lucas was born on November 26, 2007. Tara is our organist.



Adopt- a-Family

This year we are participating in the YWCA's Adopt-a-Family program. We are sponsoring a family of 6, mom and 5 children. Due to limited finances the mom is unable to provide Christmas presents for her children. You can help by picking the name of one of the children or the mom and purchase something off of their wish list(it need not be the most expensive item). If you do not care to or cannot go shopping, but would like to contribute, please give or send your contribution to Barb Grover, at church or mail it to her .**The deadline is Sunday- December 16th**. Please remember to get a gift receipt when purchasing a gift, just in case it needs

to be returned. Also if you could bring it wrapped that would be nice.

There is a sign up sheet on the table in the narthex, please sign your name by the person that you are buying for, so that everyone will get something.

Lynette (mom) - Telephone, Body wash and lotions, clothing-size 18 tall, X-large shirts, shoes-size 10.

Manuel, Jr. – age 16- Pants- 34X32, Large Men's shirt, shoes- size , (or a gift card), TV for his room,

Raina- age 13 –clothing- size 16 pants, girls large shirt, Heelys (or any shoe) size 8, or a gift card, CD player, Karaoke CD (Mariah Carey), TV

KaShondra- age 10 – clothing size 12 girls pants, shirt size 14 girls, Heelys size 6 (or any shoe), spy toys, Sponge Bob blanket and pillow (twin), guitar

Alyssa- age 9- clothing- pants size 16, shirt large girls, Heelys size 7 (or any shoe), big fuzzy pillows, ice cream maker, mechanical dog, drums

Sophia- age 8 months- clothing-size 12-18 months, shoes- infant size 3, teething toys, learning toys, baby wash, baby lotion, baby shampoo.



What Do We Love About Christmas?

What do we love about Christmas;
Does our delight reside in things,
Or are the feelings in our hearts
The real gift that Christmas brings?

It's sharing the holiday with those we love,
And sending Christmas cards to friends far and near,
Appreciating people who bring us joy
Not just at Christmas, but throughout the year!

Thank You For:

Concordia Newsletter

In memory of Ronald Zimmerman

Ella Swanson

Regina Hanson

In memory of Earl Engebretson

Ella Swanson

Gift

Dorothy Powers

Cemetery Association

In memory of Victor Gress

Germaine Gress

Lloyd Gunderson

Don & Evangeline Johnson

Cemetery Association (cont'd)

In memory of Earl Engebretson

Lois Jensen

Don & Evangeline Johnson

Osie Juve

Cora Frederick

In memory of James Kragnes

Lyda Nelson

Veteran's Memorial

In memory of Ronald Zimmerman

Harold & Sally Horpedahl

Lloyd Gunderson

Don & Evangeline Johnson

In memory of Walter Engesetter

Lois Jensen

In memory of Carl Swanson

Luella Ulness

Veteran's Memorial (cont'd)

In Memory of Kragnes Veterans

Evelyn Kragnes

Sharon Jack

Carol Zeigler

Sue Kjelland

In Memory of Orvis & Almer Gunderson

Marietta Gunderson

In Memory of John Gunderson & all who Served

Anne (Larson) Gunderson

In Memory of Emil & Signe (Kosen) Boen & Orville Boen

Anne (Larson) Gunderson





This Time of the Year

By Delphia Frazier Smith

That old Christmas feeling
Is all around just now;
Songs and happy greetings
And trimmings for each bough...

The wide eyes of children
As they shout, filled with glee,
Awaiting the presents
Beneath the Christmas tree....

Cookies, pies and fruitcake
Made for the coming kin,
Who soon will be appearing
Amid the lusty din....

The carols and the sleigh rides...
Snowmen who stand so tall....

The children's happy laughter
And mistletoe in the hall...

All sitting at the table,
Their faces lit with love,
Warm hearts joined together
As peace comes like a dove...

A time when hearts turn homeward
To be with ones so dear...

Lots of love and sharing
At this time of year.



Submitted by Harold Horpedahl

Bits and Pieces

The Gift



'Twas the night before Christmas, he lived all alone,
in a one bedroom house made of plaster and stone.
I had come down the chimney with presents to give,
And to see just who in this home did live.

I looked all about, a strange sight I did see,
No tinsel, no presents, not even a tree.
No stocking by the mantel, just boots filled with sand
On the wall hung pictures of far distant lands.

With medals and badges, awards of all kinds,
A sober thought came through my mind.

For this house was different, it was dark and dreary,
I found the home of a soldier, once I could see clearly.

The soldier lay sleeping, silent, alone,
curled up on the floor in this one bedroom home.
The face was so gentle, the room in such disorder,
Not how I pictured a United States soldier.

Was this the hero of whom I had just read?
Curled up on a poncho, the floor for a bed?

I realized the families that I saw this night,
owed their lives to these soldiers who were willing to fight.

Soon round the world, the children would play,
And grownups would celebrate a bright Christmas day.
They all enjoyed freedom each month of the year,
because of the soldiers, like the one lying here.

I couldn't help wonder how many lay alone,
On a cold Christmas Eve in a land far from home.
The very thought brought a tear to my eye,
I dropped to my knees and started to cry.

The soldier awakened and I heard a rough voice,
“Santa don’t cry, this life is my choice;
I fight for freedom, I don’t ask for more,
My life is my God, my Country, my Corps.”

The soldier rolled over and drifted to sleep,
I couldn’t control it, I continued to weep.
I kept watch for hours, so silent and still
And we both shivered from the cold night’s chill.

I didn’t want to leave on that cold, dark night,
this guardian of honor so willing to fight.
Then the soldier rolled over, with a voice so soft and pure,
whispered “Carry on Santa, it’s Christmas day, and all is
secure.”

One look at my watch, and I knew he was right.
“Merry Christmas my friend, and to all a good night.”

Anonymous

Submitted by Harold Horpedahl

CONTRIBUTIONS

If anyone wishes to make any further contributions to Concordia Church or the calendar year 2007, please do so by December 31, 2007. You can place your donation in the offering plate or mail it to the treasurer, Clinton Babolian at:

Clinton Babolian

65 King Street

Moorhead, MN. 56560



Concordia Congregation's Kids Corner










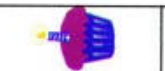



Kid's Corner on Our Website

This fall we added a place for kids in the Congregation section of Concordia's website. A new Bible story provides the theme for the section each month. Kids of all ages can print and enjoy the word search, and there is also the story in the Bible, a picture to print and color, music, a craft project, and often a link to an on-line game or other special treat. In October, over 100 visitors spent time in the Reformation-themed Kid's Corner!

Drop by and celebrate Christmas with the shepherds this year. Pass along the link to family and friends, too. Links to previous months' sections are included, so you can catch up with Jacob's Ladder, Noah's Ark, or check out the Reformation. We so often hear about the dangerous content on the internet for the young folks; it's great to be able to offer a safe and fun place for kids to visit!

<http://www.concordianews.org/congregation/youth.htm>

December 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Valdemar 
2 BLUE 9:00am Coffee 9:30am Sunday School 10:00am Church 1st Sunday in Advent Clinton Babolian 	3 	4	5	6	7	8
9 BLUE 9:00am Coffee 9:30am Sunday School 10:00am Church	10 	11	12	13	14	15
16 BLUE 9:00am Coffee 9:30am Sunday School 10:00am Church 3rd Sunday in Advent  Delores Hagene	17	18	19	20 	21	22  Winter begins
23 BLUE 9:00am Coffee 9:30am Sunday School 10:00am Church 4th Sunday in Advent	24 	25 Christmas Day Service 10:00am 	26  Glenn & Doris Kassenborg	27	28	29  Kristine Lynde
30 WHITE 9:00am Coffee 9:30am Sunday School 10:00am Church 1st Sunday after Christ-	31 New Year's Eve					

The Concordia News is published monthly by Concordia Lutheran Church and Concordia Cemetery Association.



The Large Print Edition is available only on the Concordia News Website, <http://www.concordianews.org>.

Articles, announcements, acknowledgements, photos, etc. should be given to the editor. Deadline for submission of material is the 20th of the month.

Concordia Newsletter Staff

Editor: Barb Grover

Layout/Typesetting: Barb Grover

Treasurer/Distribution: Valdemar Hagene

Web Edition: Alene Sladky