

# Concordia News - Large Print

June 2014

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

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## From the Pastor

Dear Members and Friends of Concordia:

Steven Covey in his bestselling book on leadership entitled “The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People,” writes about what he considers to be the seven top character traits that not only make a person a good leader but also a fulfilled and content person.



Over the last two decades the themes of this book have become a part of many curricula throughout universities and even in leadership studies in the military. I would like to refer to one of them and place it in a little different context than Covey did. Herein lies the key to Jesus' promise to us, "I have come to give you life and life in all it's fullness."

### **"Begin with the End in Mind"**

If you are planning a long road trip, say a family vacation, it may be a good idea to adhere to this habit. Imagine the potential for familial mutiny should the vacation organizer, let's say the father, be

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perceived as having no destination in mind after a few days of driving, but is simply selecting routes at random. Even the most spontaneous people would eventually become frustrated by this meandering. Having a clear sense of what the destination is and planning backwards for the most enjoyable, safe and efficient way to get there would be considered by most a reasonable policy. In general, trip preparation and implementation should be based on having the route correspond with the destination. This make sense in many other areas of life from career selection to retirement planning. It also makes sense existentially. Knowing our eternal destiny, knowing what happens to us after death, having some inkling of what that existence is going to be like for the life after this one will likely inform how we live out our lives in the here and now. If our expectations for what is to come are vague or non-existent, chances are we will expend great energy intentionally NOT thinking about the end.

This is the premise of Ernest Becker's book "The Denial of Death." Unfortunately, it is a life which more and more Americans are choosing to live as one generation after another is slowly sliding away from weekly attendance at Christian worship. The consequence of this change in "habits" is that the historical event of

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Christ's resurrection has moved from being an historical event integrated into the daily life and world view of the individual to being at best a concept or at worst a myth comparable to the existence of the Easter Bunny; both simply quaint stories with no historical or personal relevance.

Beginning each day with not only THE end but also OUR end in mind is not some morbid fixation on death but the opposite; it is focusing our attention on the rock solid assurance that our final destination will be a good one - full of joy, not a black void or some nebulous, ill-defined existence. As each generation of Americans is increasingly trading in the incarnate reality of Jesus' death and resurrection story for other lesser stories, they are trading in confident hope for the best thing that could ever happen to them - life eternal with God and with those that have died in the faith - for simply a pipe dream, wishful thinking that maybe there is something out there beyond this life. More often than not this self-created "spirituality", whatever the spirituality may be, will evaporate when the individual is confronted with the cruel reality of their own mortality, hence the ongoing human project of denying mortality for an increasing number of Americans. The end result is that more and more people are living life in a daily attempt to deny that their

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existence will be utterly vanquished when their hearts beat their last. They cannot face the terror that all hopes, dreams, relationships literally dead end once they breathe their last breath. When the end of life is eternal death then all of life is pointless and devoid of meaning.

Steven Covey's point applies directly; if our end is ambiguous then our daily existence up until that end, will be lived in a vain attempt to not succumb to quiet despair. We are one car accident, one heart attack away from having our life journey ended by driving off a cliff into an eternal abyss of non-existence (at best).

Thankfully as Christians we have been guaranteed through God's grace, extended to us through Jesus' death and resurrection, that our journey's end will be far better than anything we have ever experience in the journey itself. By immersing ourselves in the rich biblical Easter narratives, by regularly experiencing the infusion of new life as we gather with fellow believers and receive the gift of forgiveness and a restored relationship with God, we are put "back on track" onto the road that will conclude with a wonderful destination.

Our lives are not one of aimless meanderings, pointless wanderings. Easter is not following rabbit trails but is a pilgrimage

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with a definite beginning and a wonderful end and a God that promises to journey with us through his Holy Spirit along the entire way.

In conclusion, I leave you with one Christian author's vision of what the end of the journey looked like from his perspective: "I believe that the second best-selling set of books, behind the Bible, of the last half century, has been J.R.R. Tolkein's Trilogy, 'The Lord of the Rings.' I have read this epic tale of courage, perseverance and hope, against all odds, several times. When it seems that all the efforts of the forces for good have failed, that the world is destined to be overrun by the forces of evil and that the last battle will conclude in a final defeat which will cast all civilization into eternal bondage and darkness.

PIPPIN, one of the main characters, turns to Gandalf, one of the tireless champions for good, and laments in despair: I didn't think it would end this way.

GANDALF: End? No, the journey doesn't end here. Death is just another path, one that we all must take. The grey rain-curtain of this world rolls back, and all turns to silver glass, and then you see it.

PIPPIN: What? Gandalf? See what?

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GANDALF: White shores, and beyond, a far green country under a swift sunrise.

PIPPIN: Well, that isn't so bad."

GANDALF: (smiling peacefully as the enemy prepares its final assault) No. No, it isn't."

For we who have been claimed by Christ, death is never the end but is simply the gate to a realm that is far better than anything we have known or could hope to imagine. The journey may be uncertain, ambiguous, perhaps even painful, but the end will be awesome."

Let us journey joyfully and confidently together with our Savior as we gather weekly around his Word and his meal that keep us on track and "give us life and life in all its fullness" all the way to our journey's end and beyond.

God bless,  
*Pastor Bruce*



**Father's Day is Sunday, June 15**

## Concordia Ladies



**Date:** June 10, 2014 **Time:** 1:30 p.m.

**Location:** Fryin' Pan

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## Coffee and Cookie Servers



### June

June 1	Doris Kassenborg	July 6	Regina Hanson
June 8	Linda Koester	July 13	Germaine Gress
June 15	Osie Juve	July 20	Sue Kassenborg
June 22	Irene Olson	July 27	Mavis Wang
June 29	Carolyn Edwards		

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If you know of someone who is in the hospital or would like a home visit please let me know. I can be reached at 218-329-2245.

Thank you! *Pastor Bruce*



Spring being a tough act to follow, God created June.

*~Al Berenstein*

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## Concordianews.org

“The Books of the Bible” is the subject for Kids Corner in June. Kids Corner is located in the congregation section of the website.

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### Eagle Scout Award

Adam Sip, a senior at Ada, Minnesota, was awarded the rank of Eagle Scout of Troop 624 along with 4 other scouts from Ada. They had to earn a minimum of 21 Merit badges and complete an approved Service Project which benefits the community. His project was involved with the County Fairgrounds.



Adam is the son of Cary and Sue (Horpedahl) Sip and the grandson of Sally and Harold Horpedahl. Congratulations to Adam and to his parents!

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On June 14, 1777 the second Continental Congress adopted the flag of the United States. Long may she wave!

**FLAG DAY is Saturday, June 14**

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**This is the 100<sup>th</sup> issue  
of Concordia News!**

**Barb Grover** edited the first 43 issues, from March 2006 - September 2009.

**Sylvia Teigen** and **Karolynn Decker** have been responsible for the last 57 issues, beginning in October 2009.



From the ***Moorhead Daily News*** - **June 25, 1931**

Concordia Church: Services to be held in English in the newly constructed basement Sunday at 11 a.m. Sunday School at 10 a.m. Confirmation class meets at the Riverside School House Friday, July 3, at 10 a.m. This class does not meet on Saturday this week.

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With Our Thanks

# Donations

## Concordia Cemetery Fund

*In Memory of Emmett Gunderson*

Dean Gunderson

*In Memory of Orvis Gunderson*

Marietta Gunderson and family

*In Memory of Glenn Kassenborg*

Kevin, Kathy & Andie Kassenborg

*In Honor of Doris Kassenborg*

Kevin, Kathy & Andie Kassenborg

*In Memory of Merle Meyer*

Darlene Meyer

## With Our Thanks

# Thank You

**So many to thank for the  
Spring Luncheon's  
success!**

❖ to all the guests who came to the spring luncheon. Many so kindly

expressed their appreciation of our efforts.

- ❖ to members and friends of the church who brought the many delicious salads which were definitely enjoyed by the guests.
- ❖ to those who helped make the krumkake. Yes, we appreciated the "quality control" group (as Pastor Bruce always calls this kind of service) who so patiently waited for their turn to help.
- ❖ to those who made rømmegrøt. The assembly line worked so well the project was completed in short order.
- ❖ to those who came on Friday to piece together decorations, set up tables and organize things for Saturday's luncheon. It looked so festive!

## With Our Thanks

- ❖ to Lorna Rockstad for making the flatbread, Barb Grover for making the buns and rømmegrøt and Sally Horpedahl for her painted dishtowels which were for sale.
- ❖ to those who tended to the details before, during and after the luncheon.
- ❖ to Jacob Nelson and Jessie Braaten who in their Norwegian bunads gave us a special gift of contemporary and spiritual music through singing and the piano. The singing in
- ❖ Norwegian and the music of Grieg gave a festive Syttende Mai celebration that fits so well into the history of our church.



*From the files of Ole and Lena:*

Sven asked Ole if he'd had a good summer

Ole smiled and nodded.

“Ya shoor. Ve had a picnic dat afternoon!”

If God had wanted me to touch my toes,  
he would have put them on my knees!

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## Recipe of the Month

# Recipe of the Month Easy Candy Crunch Pie



## Ingredients

### *Crust*

24 Oreo cookies

¼ cup melted butter

### *Filling*

2 pkgs instant chocolate pudding

2 cups cold milk

3 oz. baker's semi-sweet chocolate

1 8 oz. tub of whipped topping

2 chocolate covered toffee bars, chopped

## Directions

### *Crust*

- Add Oreo cookies to a food processor or blender to create coarse crumbs
- Pour crumbs in a bowl and add melted butter. Mix well.
- Press crumbs into sides and bottom of pie pan
- Refrigerate for at least one hour before filling.

## Recipe of the Month

### ***Filling***

- Whisk together pudding and milk in a bowl
- Microwave 2 oz. of chocolate on medium for about 1 minute. Chocolate should be almost melted. Stir until completely melted
- Stir in 1 cup pudding. Pour into crust.
- Add half the whipped topping and all but 3 TB of toffee to the remaining pudding. Spread evenly over pudding layer in crust.
- Top with remaining whipped topping.
- Sprinkle remaining toffee on cool whip
- Melt the remaining chocolate. Use a fork to drizzle it over the pie.
- Refrigerate for at least 1 hour.

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Stressed spelled backwards is desserts.

Coincidence?

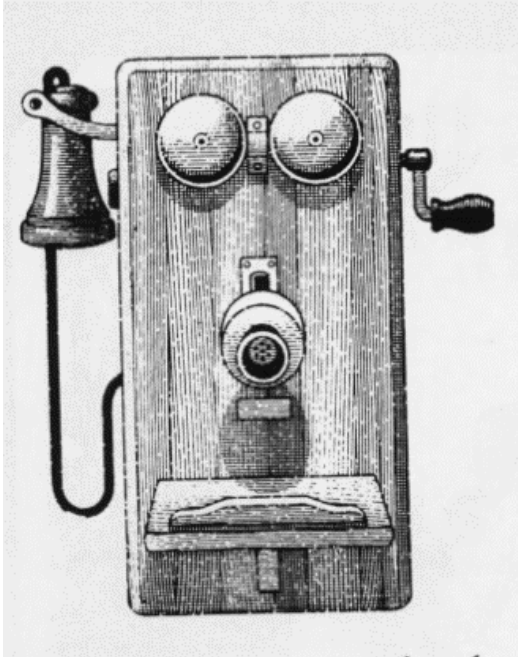
I think not!

~Author Unknown

## Bits and Pieces

From ***Clay County Illustrated Minnesota***

*Published 1916 by D. W. Meeker, Moorhead, p. 62*



### **Cheap Telephone Service**

The Buffalo River Telephone Company furnishes service to its 45 subscribers at \$9.00 per year, which includes \$6.00 terminal connection for each phone in use. At the time of beginning business eight years ago, each shareholder contributed \$40.00 and subsequently paid an assessment of \$15.00 to purchase the line forming the connecting link to the terminal. The company has no surplus and no debts – the \$3.00 above the terminal charge covering the expense of maintaining the 30 miles of lines.

B. J. Gunderson is president; Gunder O. Lee, secretary and treasurer; and A. T. Grover, manager.

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I'd rather regret the things I've done than regret the things I haven't done.

*~Lucille Ball*

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# Dates to Remember

## ***Worship Services every Sunday***

Coffee Hour: 9 a.m.

Worship: 10 a.m.

Sunday School: 11 a.m. (following worship)

Communion 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month

## ***Concordia Ladies***

June 10 1:30 p.m. Fryn' Pan

## ***Birthdays***

June 6 Mavis Wang

June 16 Kathy Krogstad

June 25 Colleen Edwards

June 26 Walter Teigen

## ***Anniversaries***

June 2 Harold & Sally Horpedahl

June 22 Virgil & Becky Jegtvig

Walter & Sylvia Teigen

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The large print edition of Concordia News is only available on-line.

*To submit an item for the newsletter:*

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