

Concordia News – Large Print

December 2017

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

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Advent is countercultural. The definition of countercultural is simply an act, belief or lifestyle that goes against the norms from of the dominant culture.

One might say that Advent was countercultural from the beginning. Here are some examples: God chose a young unwed mother to bear his Son. Joseph did not reject (in effect, divorce) his pregnant betrothed, which was the norm of his time. The Son of God was born in squalor and grew up in poverty.

Advent is the season of the church year that is largely ignored by western society. The themes of Christmas (albeit increasing secular) are trotted into malls now even before Halloween as a way to increase sales. Many businesses will say that the weeks leading up to Christmas are the most profitable of the year and that it is essential to the bottom line to leverage consumers into unleashing their wallets. The themes of color, light, happiness embodied in a well-fed Santa Claus has served businesses well. It make sense that the earlier that Christmas is introduced the better the bottom line.

Most of you, readers of this newsletter, have long bemoaned the "commercialization of Christmas" in aversion to what I have mentioned. However, in many ways even we as Christians have fallen prey to these societal trends. I am not suggesting that we put up our Christmas trees as late as Christmas Eve, as many of our

ancestors did, but is there a way that we can honor the themes of Advent: anticipation, waiting, watching, unfulfilled longing? We who have the financial wherewithall to satiate our every desire immediately, thanks to Ebay, Amazon etc., must find ways to recapture the meaning of Advent if we hope to maintain the true meaning of Christmas.

Might we tithe on the time we spend shopping with time spent reading the great Advent texts? Even if we were to commit to spending not even 10% but 1% of the time we spend preparing materially for Christmas to preparing spiritually for Christmas by reading the rich and life giving Advent passages, such as those found in Isaiah? If we do, we will have the opportunity of truly appreciating the richness of Advent, the benefits of "waiting for it" and in turn we will be afforded a very real opportunity to thereby put the Christ back into Christmas, as we will have a deeper appreciation for the coming of the Christ child when the season of Christmas finally comes. In the meantime we join in the Advent prayer of anticipation and hope: "Oh Come oh Come Immanuel."

May your Christmas be rich and meaningful as you live in the season of anticipation, the season of Advent.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Bruce

Coffee and Cookie Servers

December 3 Doris Kassenborg

December 10 Mavis Wang

December 17 Orpha Hoelstad

December 24 Christmas Eve



Bible Study

December 6

5:30-7:00 p. m.

Concordia Ladies

No meeting in December



Join The Romeos!

Retired Old Men Eating Out

7:30 a.m., December 29

Fryn' Pan



If you know of someone in the hospital or in need of a home visit, contact Pastor Bruce at 218-329-2245.



Christmas Potluck
Sunday, December 3
following worship

In December's Kids Corner you'll learn about "Bethlehem." Kids Corner is located in the congregation section of the website.



Veteran's Coffee Hour

Join your fellow veterans at the Fargo Air Museum from 10-noon Wednesday, December 13.



Hat and Mitten Tree

Donations for the Hat/Scarf and Mitten Tree, (or anything you feel is needed) can be placed on the tree anytime. These will be brought to a homeless shelter.



The Bible is the cradle where Christ is laid.

~Martin Luther





Cancellations

Services will be cancelled when the wind chill exceeds minus 20 degrees or when the National Weather Service advises "No Travel." The congregation president and pastor will determine if other circumstances (low visibility, icy conditions) should result in cancellation. WDAY tv and radio should broadcast the cancellation, but a few times they have not. When in doubt, do not hesitate to call Pastor Bruce the day of at 218-329-2245. If you reach voice mail he may be talking to someone else, so please leave a message and he'll return your call as soon as he can.



Heating Season is upon us!

Your donation to the general fund will help us pay for heating this winter.



Gifts for Christmas

Notecards, Concordia's cookbook, a copy of the DVD honoring Concordia's veterans, and the book "Concordia Congregation and the Buffalo River Settlement" are all available to help you with your Christmas list.



A Very Special Sunday

Concordia Lutheran received a new member when Charli Mosey was baptized November

12. This was a day of great joy as Charli has had life threatening health issues since birth. Thanks to competent care, loving parents and prayer she is looking like she has not had any health issues at all!

This was a very special day for her family but also for the Concordia family as Charli's health had weighed on the hearts of many. Her baptism was a sign of God's having brought her safely from the darkness into the light both physically and spiritually.

A wonderful meal of celebration was provided by her parents for the entire congregation; an unanticipated gift of gratitude by Denise and Mike for God's grace extended to them and to Charlie as well as their appreciation for the support and prayers of our members during the Charli's first trying months.

Donations

Concordia Cemetery Association

In Memory of Cliff Anderson

Helen Anderson

In Memory of Donald Johnson

Mike & Kay Edwards Terry & Joy Eidem

Father Bob Schreiner Kelly Kassenborg

Jim & Kathy Tryba

In Memory of Glenn Kassenborg

Kelly Kassenborg



Thank you to Colleen Edwards for donating the candy for our Christmas bags, and **Ernie Edwards** for the delicious red apples. They also helped in putting the bags together. We had a great, fun time. **Thrivent Action**

Team also assisted by giving us seed money to help make more bags for the homeless shelter kids. **Thanks to all** who came and helped decorate our Church Christmas tree and the whole church. We had so much fun and fellowship, and our church looks radiant and festive with all the colors, lights and decorations. We are truly blessed this Christmas season.



Your Donations

can be made in honor or in memory of a loved one or event. We'll send confirmation of your gift to the

address you provide.

General Fund:

Make checks out to Concordia Lutheran Church and mail to:

Neil & Polly Hanson
7312 90th Avenue North
Glyndon MN, 56547

Concordia Newsletter

Make checks out to Concordia News and mail to:

Walter Teigen
915 4th Avenue South
Moorhead MN 56560

Concordia Cemetery Association:

Make checks out to the association and mail to:

Ray Johnson
7333 70 St N
Glyndon MN 56547

FATTIGMAND



Ingredients

- 3 egg yolks
- 3 Tablespoons cream
- 3 Tablespoons sugar
- ¼ to ½ teaspoon cardamom
- 1 ¼ - 1 ½ cups flour
- Powdered sugar

Directions

- Mix until just blended, do not over mix
- Wrap in plastic wrap and refrigerate for 2-3 hours (until well chilled)
- Roll out ½ of dough at a time (keep the rest refrigerated) to about 1/16" thick
- Cut into diamond shape with a slit down the middle
- Fry for 1.5 minutes in lard, flipping once.
- Rest on paper towel and sprinkle with powdered sugar

from the *Moorhead Daily News*



December 21, 1932

Grover School to Give Yule Play

Pupils of the Grover affiliated school located north of Glyndon will present their Christmas program Friday at 8 p.m, it was learned today. Miss Amanda Aarestad is the teacher in charge.

“Christmas Windows,” a play written by Miss Flora M. Frick of the Moorhead State Teachers College, will be presented.

Christmas Thoughts

One of the most glorious messes in the world is the mess created in the living room after opening presents on Christmas. Don't clean up too quickly!

Andy Rooney

Christmas is the day that holds all time together.

Alexander Smith

A good conscience is a continual Christmas.

Benjamin Franklin

He who has not Christmas in his heart will never find it under the tree.

Roy L Smith



A photo of Verne Wik, Myron Hagene, Lloyd Gunderson and Gerald Hagene who took the WDAY Honor Flight to Washington DC this fall.



Kjell and Orpha Hoelstad also made the trip, pictured here in front of the Vietnam War Memorial.



Dates to Remember

Worship Services every Sunday (except Christmas Eve)

Coffee Hour: 9 a.m.

Worship: 10 a.m.

Communion 1st Sunday of the month

Christmas Potluck December 3, following worship

Bible Study 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, December 6

Veteran Coffee Hour 10 a.m., Wednesday, December 13

Christmas Eve Service 4:00 p.m., December 24

Christmas Day Service 10:00 a.m., December 25

ROMEOS 7:30 a.m., December 29

Birthdays

2 Clinton Babolian *and* Gordon Kassenborg

16 Paul Decker

17 Delores Hagene

Anniversaries

26 Sue & Cary Sip

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