

# Concordia News – Large Print

## January 2019

Volume 14

A newsletter for members,

Number 1

family, and friends of

Concordia Lutheran Church and

Concordia Cemetery Association



From Pastor Bruce .....	2
Announcements and Assignments.....	5
With Our Thanks .....	9
Recipe of the Month .....	11
Bits and Pieces .....	13
Dates to Remember .....	16

Moving into a new year historically has been an opportunity for people to assess the previous year and to make vows to improve not their material status but also to improve themselves and their relationships. The assumption behind this hopefulness is that we have the power to change ourselves, our habits, our personality or perhaps even character for the better. The intent behind this initiative is good, however, most of us know that, in and of ourselves, such vows do little to make changes that extend beyond February. I pass some as found on the following website:



<https://www.wishesquotes.com/new-year/inspirational-new-year-quotes-messages>

"End each year with a few good lessons and start the new one by showing that you have learnt the lessons of the past well. The new year has brought another chance for us to set things right and to open up a new chapter in our lives. The most important thing to remember as we approach 2017 is that it's much better to commit mistakes that can strengthen your character other than playing it safe. Don't think of the opportunities that you have missed in the last year. The New Year is an unwritten book, so choose your actions and words wisely and fill it up with pages that are worth reading by

the end of the year. Leave behind you the old chapters that were filled with pages of worries and begin the New Year with happiness, cheer and smiles. Unlike what most people think it is never late to be what you wish to be."

It is hard to argue with the value of any of these resolutions. I invite you to read through them 4 or 5 times and then take stock of how you feel afterwards. Having done so I felt tired, frustrated and a little out of sorts. Maybe part of this is that as we have grown older we have become aware that the vast majority of our previous New Years resolutions have gone unfulfilled. It is human nature to stop banging one's head on the wall when the wall never budes no matter the number of attempts. If we are serious about our resolutions (especially if we tell other's about them) we can become despondent and lose faith in ourselves.

This is precisely the point where God has a great opportunity to reach us, and to reach us for good. When we "lose faith in ourselves" God reminds us that our faith is to be in him alone. God also reminds us that it is not our personal, typically ill fated, campaigns of attempted self-improvement that make lifelong differences, but rather his coming to us not just at the beginning of the new year but at the beginning of each and every new week. This encounter is not marked by the accusatory question of "how is your self-improvement

From Pastor Bruce

effort coming" but is defined by the statement, "I love and accept you just the way you are despite your sins and failings." When we are enveloped by his unconditional positive regard, when we realize we don't HAVE to do anything, we are then freed to become that which God knows we can become, in effect better versions of ourselves, not because we have to, but because we want to. We become better people not out of guilt and shame but out of the freedom we are given because of God's undeserved grace.

Let us remember that God can and does make all things new in the resurrection of his Son. This year I invite you to put yourself in the one place where that may happen, the place where God has promised to meet us, Word and Sacrament, in other words, at worship.

May God bless you and yours this new year,

*Pastor Bruce*

## Coffee and Cookie Servers



January 6	Germaine Gress	February 3	Sue Kassenborg
January 13	Clinton Babolian	February 10	Clinton Babolian
January 20	Carolyn Edwards	February 17	Sylvia Teigen
January 27	Irene Olson	February 24	Myron Hagene

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## Bible Study



Wednesday, January 2

5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

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## Concordia Ladies

Tuesday, January 8

1 p.m.

Fry'n Pan

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## Join The Romeos!

*Retired Old Men Eating Out*

7:30 a.m., Friday, January 25

Fryn' Pan

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

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In January the subject in Kids Corner is “King David.” 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, January 9

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## **Christmas “Untrimming”**

On **Sunday January 20** we will be taking down the Christmas tree and decorations following worship. After the work is done we will have coffee and fellowship. Bring any leftover Christmas goodies to share for the coffee.

Thank you to all who helped make Concordia look so beautiful for Christmas and then for helping to put the decorations away for Christmas next year! We could not do it without each one of you!

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## Cancellations

Services will be cancelled when the wind chill exceeds minus 20 degrees or when NOAA (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.

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## Help Sally Celebrate Her 85<sup>th</sup> Birthday!

Everyone is welcome at an 85<sup>th</sup> birthday get-together for Sally Horpedahl on **Sunday, January 13** from **1-3 pm** at Tender Hearts, 1108 Summerwood Trail, on the east edge of Dilworth. Stop in for cake and coffee with Sally – she'd be so blessed to see you! Questions? Call her daughter Diane at 701-642-9785. If you leave a message she'll get back to you.

We hope to see you at Sally's get-together!

*Sally's kids*

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## Annual Meetings

February 3



A potluck will follow morning services. Volunteers are needed to set up before and clean up after the meal.

**Concordia's annual meeting** will follow the meal. Financial information to be included in the Annual Report should be turned in to Wes Tommerdahl by **January 15<sup>th</sup>**.

The **Cemetery Association annual meeting** will follow the congregation's meeting.

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### Open Cemetery Board Seats

There are two vacancies on the cemetery board. Consider volunteering! It isn't a time-consuming job, but it is an important one. You can find out about what's involved by speaking to any current board member.



The Emancipation Proclamation, signed by President Lincoln, went into effect on January 1, 1863.

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Recipe of the Month

# Donations

## Concordia Cemetery Association

*In Memory of Ella Swanson*

Irene Olson

*In Memory of Glenn Kassenborg*

Kirby and Candace Kassenborg

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## Decorating for Christmas Saturday December 1`

Concordia members and friends gathered at Concordia on Saturday, Dec. 1 for the annual church decorating and Advent program. The guys took

charge of decorating the Christmas tree, with everyone spreading signs of Christmas cheer throughout the church and narthex.



Once decorating was complete, Sue, Keith and Clinton led a wonderful Advent program with lots of carols to sing.

Kathy & Orpha provided the music *and* organized the festively decorated tables full of wonderful Christmas goodies, too. **Thanks to Kathy, Orpha and all** who participated, provided treats, and helped with setting up the basement and cleaning up after. It was a wonderful way for our community to begin the Christmas season!



## Recipe of the Month

### ***No-Bake Chocolate Cookies***

***Makes about 18 cookies***



#### **Ingredients**

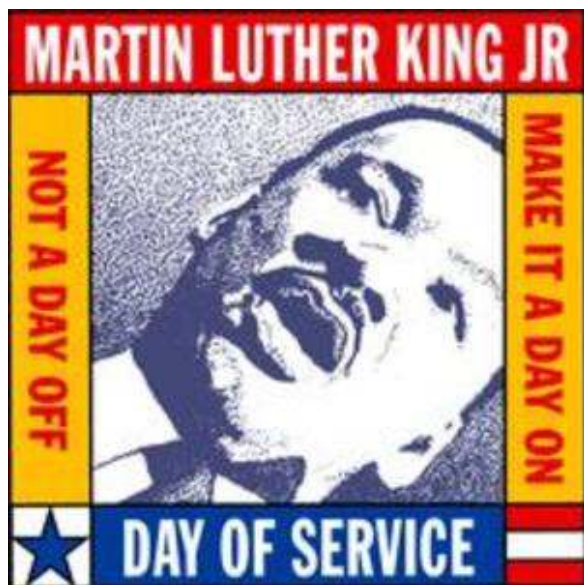
- 1/3 cup coconut oil (vegetable oil okay)
- 2 TB baking cocoa
- $\frac{3}{4}$  cup sugar
- 1/3 cup milk
- 1/3 cup peanut butter (creamy or crunchy)
- 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  cups rolled oats
- 1 tsp salt
- $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp vanilla
- $\frac{1}{2}$  cup coconut and/or ground nuts

#### **Directions**

- Line a large baking sheet with parchment paper
- Measure all ingredients and set aside.
- Melt coconut oil in medium sauce pot over medium heat
- Add cocoa, sugar and milk and blend.
- Turn heat on high and bring mixture to hard boil (bubbles all the way to the center of the pan).
- Set timer for 1 minute.

- When timer sounds, remove from heat immediately and quickly blend in peanut butter before adding oats vanilla and salt. Mix well.
- Add in coconut and/or nuts and mix well.
- Dough firms quickly: Drop dough in about 1 TB balls on cookie sheet.
- After about ½ hour, they are ready to eat.

Cookies can be stored in covered container at room temperature for up to 2 weeks. You can also store in the refrigerator for a longer period or freeze them.



## Martin Luther King Day of Service

Martin Luther King, Jr. said, "Everybody can be great because everybody can serve."

Celebrate MLK Day on Monday, January 21 by serving others. Whether it's helping in an organization or just making a meal for a friend, it's a day for not-so-random acts of kindness!



from the **Moorhead Daily News**

January 29, 1934

## **Blizzard Maroons 150 in Clay County Mercury “Nose-Dives”**

Along with the blinding snow and 30-mph winds, the mercury took a sudden nose-dive and changed the weather in the vicinity from a balmy January thaw which left water running in the streets Saturday afternoon to a frigid winter atmosphere.

The thermometer registered 40 above zero at 1 p.m. Saturday, but by 3 a.m. on Sunday showed just 3 above, and sank to 17 below by 9 a.m. on Sunday. It was a drop of 57 degrees from 1 pm Saturday to 9 am Sunday.

### **56 Spend Night in School House**

Fifty-six persons attending a Saturday night “fun fair” at the Gunderson school, located on the prairie and in the teeth of the wintry gale were forced to stay in the building until 8:30 Sunday morning. The meeting became a two-day carnival .

The severe weather kept 56 men, women and children at the school all night, and after serving breakfast with what remained from the food sale, they departed for their homes about 8:30 am.

One group who decided to leave earlier in the evening drove into the ditch, but were near enough to the school house to get aid.

About midnight, another group set forth for their homes. The more wary ones, numbering 56 in all, decided to stay all night.

Miss Alice Nisvold, teacher at the school, furnished most of the ideas for stunts to make the time pass more quickly, and there seemed no end to her resourcefulness, it was reported by the committee. The children, too, were good sports. There wasn't a whimper ... like their elders, they entered into the spirit of adventure, which sounds like pioneer life.

When it was discovered that the weather would keep them all night, the stunts and games were stretched out as long as possible. Besides the usual fair attractions at booths and sideshows, there was a grand march, a mock wedding, a police court, etc. Even these had to end, and about 2:30 am the children began to seek out places where they could cuddle up and sleep. The grown-ups merely sat around and chatted. When morning light appeared, the storm had abated and the women bustled about and served breakfast.

No one seemed to mind the forced stay at the school house, it was reported. They heeded the verdict of the weather man and bided their time with caution.

The fair was sponsored by the school PTA to raise money for school improvements. And in spite of the weather the fair was called a success.





**The story also reported** that 100 were marooned in Dilworth after spending the evening at night clubs there. They remained until 8 a.m. "pacing the floor, singing

songs, attempting to create entertainment, or trying to grab a 'snooze' on the floor in the corner."

According to the news article, about midnight 8 carloads of revelers from Fargo and Moorhead set out for home but ran in the ditch about a mile out of Dilworth. They walked back to the bars in Dilworth, with a woman employed by the Fargo hair dressing academy freezing her hands, fingers, and feet. A young man partially froze his hands and feet. They were reported to have recovered without permanent damage.

About 50 were stranded at "Bill's Corner" with almost as many at "The Dilworth." The rest returned to other establishments. In the morning, the stalled cars wouldn't start so taxis were called to get the occupants back home.

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# **Dates to Remember**

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

Coffee Hour: 9 a.m.

Worship: 10 a.m.

Communion first Sunday of the Month

***Bible Study*** 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, January 2

***Concordia Ladies*** 1 p.m., Tuesday, January 8

***Veteran Coffee Hour*** 10 a.m., Wednesday, January 9

***Tree "Untrimming"*** January 20 following worship

***ROMEOS*** 7:30 a.m., Friday, January 25

***ANNUAL MEETINGS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3***

## ***Birthdays***

January 3 Sally Horpedahl

January 6 Germaine Gress

January 11 Polly Hanson

January 30 Irene Olson

**January 2019**

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