



Concordia News

February 2019



Volume 14

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

Number 2

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We are now squarely in the new year of 2019. By now attendance at gyms has likely dropped to the levels immediately prior to Jan. 1. Cynics would say that there is nothing



to be gained by recognizing the passing of one year and the hope filled advent of a better year to come, as there is little evidence that there is no long termed benefit to individuals for attempting to muster an optimistic spirit. We can even see some evidence to back up this dismal view of life in scripture where in Ecclesiastes it is written, "there is nothing new under the sun for all is vanity (and thereby fleeting)..". Given the experience of the Jewish people, with only a small fraction of their history being marked by being anything but vassals of foreign powers, it is understandable how attitudes of optimism and helpfulness would be greeted with disbelief and derision.

It would be tempting for us today to identify with this dark world view except for the in breaking of God's new work revealed in Jesus Christ. At the risk of over simplification, it is the Christ event, particularly his resurrection that has made Christianity a religion of optimism. If through our relationship with God, through Christ, we have victory over the greatest destructive power of all, death, then all other deaths/defeats/enemies are ultimately proven to be devoid of power over us.

Hopefulness is one of the most apt descriptors of the Christian life. This is not a superficial thing, comparable to wishful thinking, where just by a positive attitude we can obtain anything our hearts could desire. Instead Christian hope springs out of the depths of our being our spirituality. It is not an emotion and cannot be reduced to simply having a positive outlook about day to day events (although it can include such an orientation), but it is having the assurance of the ultimate victory over death trickle down to the everyday. By having our eyes focused on our ultimate victory over death, we can endure weaker powers that might threaten us, knowing that the God who can have life spring out of death will be able to work his resurrection power through all other ostensible "deaths". One of the primary missions of the Church in general, and Concordia Lutheran in particular, is to be reminded of our fortunate/blessed status which our relationship with Christ secures.

Insofar as a congregation is faithful in being a community of hope, it will inevitably be involved in spreading that hope beyond itself. Concordia Lutheran has done this throughout its existence through prayer, acts of compassion and generosity through its individual members but also collectively through its benevolence donations to our immediate community and beyond. Insofar as Concordia is faithful in this enterprise it has a reason for being and all associated with Concordia do as well. May the Lord bless Concordia and each of us as we live out our daily life in the hopeful light of Christ's and, through him, our resurrections. It has been a privilege to be a part of this great endeavor with you all this past year and will be again, the Lord willing, into this new and hope filled year, as well.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Bruce

Coffee and Cookie Servers

- February 3 Sue Kassenborg
- February 10 Clinton Babolian
- February 17 Sylvia Teigen
- February 24 Myron Hagene
- March 3 Kathy Krogstad
- March 10 Irene Olson
- March 17 Becky Jegtvig
- March 24 Polly Hanson
- March 31 Linda Koester



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 have been turned in to Wes Tommerdahl by **January 15th**.

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

Bible Study

Wednesday, February 6
5:30 – 7:00 p.m.



Concordia Ladies

Tuesday, February 12
1:30 p.m.
Fryn' Pan



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.

Join The Romeos!

Retired Old Men Eating Out
7:30 a.m., February 22
Fryn' Pan



Cancellations

Services will be cancelled when the wind chill exceeds minus 20

degrees or when NOAA (the National Weather Service) advises "No Travel." 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.



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

In February the subject in Kids Corner is "Jesus is Rejected." 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, February 13



On Our Website ...

Under "History" in the congregation section of our website, you will find links to lists and images of the original records for baptisms from 1873-1940 that include the names of sponsors, confirmations from 1876-1969, marriages from 1876-1939 that identify parents and witnesses, the 1949 membership list, and a list of memberships and donations from 1878-1880. You'll also find pictures, programs, and other interesting articles. Check them out!



"If you could kick the person in the pants responsible for most of your troubles, you wouldn't sit for a month."

~President Theodore Roosevelt

Donations

Concordia Cemetery Association

In Memory of Clifton Anderson
Helen Anderson

THANK YOU!

A sincere thank you to all who came to Sally's 85th birthday celebration or sent greetings another way! Sally was blessed to see so many, it was a beautiful day!

Sincerely,
Sally and family



A Gift of Music

Thank you to the men who again sang for us on Christmas Eve. You always make that service special with your voices and smiles! The organist and the pianist are al-

ways so grateful for the special music you give us on that special night. You have now become a Christmas Eve tradition!!



Recipe of the Month Aunt Jane's Potato Soup

Ingredients

- 1 lb. chopped bacon
- 2 diced stalks of celery
- 2 cups sliced carrots
- 1 chopped onion
- 3 minced garlic cloves
- 8 peeled & cubed potatoes
- 4 cups chicken broth
- 3 TB butter
- ¼ cup flour
- 1 cup heavy cream
- Grated sharp cheddar cheese
- Salt & Pepper to Taste

Directions

- Cook bacon over medium heat in an open heavy pot (with a good lid) until done.
- Pour off all but ¼ cup bacon grease
- Cook celery & onion in bacon grease, about 5 minutes
- Stir in garlic and cook another 2 minutes
- Add potatoes and carrots and stir to coat
- Cover & simmer until potatoes are tender
- In a separate pan, melt butter and whisk in flour. Stir constantly for about 2 minutes. Add in heavy cream and chicken broth, stir constantly until it comes to a boil and thickens
- Pour cream mixture into potato pan.
- Stir well, cover and let simmer about 15 minutes. Salt & pepper to taste
- Sprinkle on cheese & place under broiler until cheese is golden brown

Suggested variations:

- Can also use cubed pork, beef or venison sausage with or instead of bacon
- Add a little cumin for a Mexican twist or add finely diced peppers for added zing
- Before simmering, puree soup for a smoother texture

“A Fork in My Right Hand”



There was a woman who had been diagnosed with a deadly illness and had been given three months to live. So as she was getting her things “in order,” she contacted her pastor and had him come to her house to discuss certain aspects of her final wishes.

She told him which songs she wanted sung at the service, what scriptures she would like read, and what outfit she wanted to be buried in. The woman also told her pastor that she wanted to be buried with her favorite Bible. Everything was in order and the pastor was preparing to leave when the woman suddenly remembered something very important to her.

“There’s one more thing,” she said excitedly.

“What’s that?” came the pastor’s reply.

“This is very important,” the woman continued. “I want to be buried with a fork in my right hand.”

The pastor stood looking at the woman not knowing quite what to say. “That surprises you, doesn’t it?” the woman asked.

“Well, to be honest, I’m puzzled by the request,” said the pastor.

The woman explained, “In all my years of attending church socials and potluck dinners, I always remember that when the dishes of the main course were being cleared, someone would inevitably lean over and say ‘You can keep your fork.’ It was my favorite part because I knew that something better was coming... like velvety chocolate cake or deep-dish apple pie. Something wonderful, and with substance!

“So I just want people to see me there in that casket with a fork in my hand and I want them to wonder, ‘What’s with the fork?’ Then I want you to tell them: ‘Keep your fork... the best is yet to come.’”

The pastor’s eyes were welled up with tears of joy as he hugged the woman goodbye. He knew this would be one of the last times he would see her before her death. But he also knew that the woman had a better grasp of Heaven than he did. She knew that something better was coming.

At the funeral, people were walking by the woman’s casket and they saw the pretty dress she was wearing, her favorite Bible and the fork placed in her right hand. Over and over, the pastor heard the question, ‘What’s with the fork?’ And over and over he smiled.

During his message, the pastor told the people of the conversation he had with the woman shortly before she died. He also told them about the fork and about what it symbolized to her. The pastor told the people how he could not stop thinking about the fork and told them that they probably would not be able to stop thinking about it either. He was right.

So the next time you reach down for your fork, let it remind you, oh so gently, that the best is yet to come...
from littlethings.com



from the

Moorhead Daily News

February 11, 1938

Page Eight

Morken, 51, Dies in New Orleans

Body of World War Veteran, Former Glyndon Resident to be Brought Here








John A. Morken, 51, former resident of Morken township and World War veteran died today at 5:40 a.m. in New Orleans, La., where he had been making his home for the last five years. The body is to be brought to the Wright Funeral Home in Moorhead. Funeral services will be arranged from there.

Morken Township was named for his father, T. O. Morken, who was the first to settle in that vicinity about 1875. His mother died in March, 1937 at the age of 71.

Born in Morken Township, February 5, 1887, Morken was a farmer near Glyndon before the war. He served as a private during the war, a portion of the time in Siberia. His discharge was effective in 1919. His death occurred at a government hospital in New Orleans to which he had gone as a disabled war veteran. He was a member of Concordia Lutheran Church.

Surviving are six brothers: Andrew, Grygla; Gilbert, Coeur d’Alene, Idaho; Alex, Felton ; Martin and Obert, Glyndon; three sisters, Misses Tilde and Trina, Glyndon; and Mrs. Martin Swedeen, Moorhead.

FEBRUARY 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2 
3 GREEN 9 am Coffee 10 am Worship POTLUCK ANNUAL MEETINGS	4 	5	6 Bible Study 5:30 pm 	7	8	9
10 GREEN 9 am Coffee 10 am Worship	11	12 Concordia Ladies 1:30 pm 	13 Vets Coffee 10:00 am 	14	15 	16
17 GREEN 9 am Coffee 10 am Worship  BECKY JEGTVIG	18 	19	20 	21	22 ROMEOS 7:30 am 	23
24 GREEN 9 am Coffee 10 am Worship	25	26	27	28		

Concordia Lutheran Church/Cemetery Association
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Concordia Lutheran Church*
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Concordia News

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**To submit articles, recipes, announcements,
etc.**

Email: news@concordianews.org

Mail: Alene Sladky
6938 State Highway 200 NW
Laporte, Minnesota 56461

Submission deadline is the 20th of the month

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