

Concordia News

July 2019

Volume 14

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

Number 7

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The following was Bishop Larry Wohlrabe's final contribution to our synod's newsletter prior to retiring. It is a fitting theme for his swan song.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Bruce

The ELCA at 25: An Interdependent Church

“After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. 2He said to them, ‘The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. 3Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. 4Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. 5Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace to this house!’ 6And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. 7Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. 8Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; 9cure the sick who are there, and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’ 10But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, 11‘Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.’ Luke 10:1-10

“The congregations, synods, and churchwide organization of this church are interdependent partners sharing responsibly in God’s mission. In an interdependent relationship primary responsibility for particular functions will vary between the partners...” Constitution, Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Chapter 5.01.c.

This familiar story from Luke 10 (which will pop up in our lectionary on July 7th) is about going out into God’s mission field, proclaiming God’s rule over all things in Christ, and doing so with haste and urgency. The 70 apostles are to travel light, not get bogged down with “stuff,” and keep on the move.

The reason Jesus can send out his disciples in such focused, Spartan fashion is that he’s counting on them running into allies along the way (v. 7). There may be wolves out there in the mission field—but there are also other lambs out there. Jesus’ representatives can “pack light” because he’s assuming that others will help them, supply their wants, and look after their needs.

Continued on page 2

Announcements and Assignments

Coffee and Cookie Servers

July 6	Kathy Krogstad
July 13	Linda Koester
July 20	Barb Grover
July 27	Becky Jegtvig
August 4	Sue Kassenborg
August 11	Carolyn Edwards
August 18	Lloyd Gunderson
August 25	Orpha Hoelstad



From Pastor Bruce (cont'd. from page 1)

Inherently Communal

Mission in Jesus' name is always a group endeavor. Discipleship is inherently communal. It's a "we" thing, not a "me" thing. When we forget that, our effectiveness in serving God's mission is imperiled.

One of the late great teachers at Luther Seminary in St Paul liked to say, "There are no Robinson Crusoe Christians." In my judgment, this means there is also no such thing as an autonomous congregation.

In the Upper Midwest, "them's are fightin' words." One of the great Lutheran predecessor church bodies that used to have a strong presence on the territory of our synod proclaimed that "the congregation is the right form of the Kingdom of God on earth."

There is a strong element of truth in that statement—congregations are the basic, core "cells" in the Body of Christ on earth! But such statements also tend to foster the mistaken notion that a congregation can be independent or totally "free" or autonomous. That, according to the Bible, the Lutheran Confessions and the lived experience of Christians down through the ages and all across this globe, is patently false.

The Body of Christ, the universal church of our Lord Jesus, has exactly zero "autonomous" congregations. And that's because bringing Christ's love to the world, proclaiming God's surprising and gentle Rule over all things, serving God's global rescue mission—it's all an inherently you-and-me-together business. We are always trading places as senders and receivers, proclaimers and hearers of the Gospel.

Bible Study

No Bible Study in July



Concordia Ladies

No meeting in July

Join The Romeos!

Retired Old Men Eating Out
7:30 a.m., July 26
Fryn' Pan



Pastoral Care

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



Kids Corner will be back in August with more on the "Ark of the Covenant."



The 7-Lag Stevne is a celebration of Norwegian history and culture that will take place from July 10-13 at the Holiday Inn Conference

Center in Fargo. Descendants of immigrants from 7 areas of Norway representing Oppland, Buskerud, Vestfold and all of Agder and Telemark county put on this annual event. 6 of the 13 charter members of Telelaget (Telemark) were from Concordia.

If you are interested in exploring your family genealogy, enjoy presentations about Norwegian immigration and pioneers (including two sessions that will include information about the Buffalo River Settlement), Norwegian folk dancing, vendors who specialize in Scandinavian and especially Norwegian wares, and a chance to sample some traditional Norwegian foods, you don't have to be a member to join the fun.

Visit www.7lagstevne.com for details.

Veterans Coffee Hour

Join your fellow veterans at the Fargo Air Museum from 10-noon Wednesday, June 12.



Sven and Ole went fishin up in Canada, doncha know. Dey come home with just one fish. "Da vay I figger it," says Sven, "dat fish cost us \$400." "Well by golly den, a good ting ve didn't come home with any more!" says Ole.



Donations

With Our Thanks

Memorial Day Service 2019



Thank you to all who helped with the Memorial Day Service - whether it was in the program or downstairs taking care of the meal and clean up – you made it happen!

Special thanks to the Minnesota National Guard Honor Guard Team.

- Kathy Krogstad and Orpha Hoelstad for their beautiful music
- Denise Fuchs, Autumn Fuchs and Tonya Jacobson for wonderful voices and singing.
- Pastor Bruce Krogstad, Dawn Gunderson and Gerald Hagene for their speaking.
- Terry Teiken for sharing his message.
- Aaron Johnson for the video.
- JoLyn Johnson for all the prep work and support.
- Verne Wik for his skills on the bugle. Verne you still have it! It was awesome!

Concordia General Fund

In Memory of Richard Wang
Irene Olson
Carolyn Edwards
Germaine Gress
Regina Hanson

Concordia Cemetery Association

In Memory of JoAnn Kragnes Jones
Margie Brantner Joni (Seter) Colby
Carolyn Edwards Terry & Joy Eidem
Trent & Laura Eidem Lloyd Gunderson
Doris Kassenborg
Gordon & Sue Kassenborg
Pat Lynde-Hemmah
Jessica & Peter Myxter
Pr. Bruce & Kathy Krogstad
Dalan & Diane Rasmussen
Dan & Nancy (Horpedahl) Ruud
Kristi & Gregg Trautwein
Delores & Gerald Hagene

Concordia News

In Memory of JoAnn Kragnes
Kjell & Orpha Hoelstad



Each year people gather to honor Concordia's veterans on Memorial Day. Wonderful program, warm fellowship and great food!



The Story of the Declaration of Independence

Even after the initial battles in the Revolutionary War broke out, few colonists desired complete independence from Great Britain, and those who did—like John Adams—were considered radical. Things changed over the course of the next year, however, as Britain attempted to crush the rebels with all the force of its great army. In his message to Parliament in October 1775, King George III railed against the rebellious colonies and ordered the enlargement of the royal army and navy. News of his words reached America in January 1776, strengthening the radicals' cause and leading many conservatives to abandon their hopes of reconciliation.

That same month, the recent British immigrant Thomas Paine published "Common Sense," in which he argued that independence was a "natural right" and the only possible course for the colonies; the pamphlet sold more than 150,000 copies in its first few weeks in publication.

In March 1776, North Carolina's revolutionary convention became the first to vote in favor of independence; seven other colonies had followed suit by mid-May. On June 7 at the Continental Congress meeting at the Pennsylvania State House (later known as Independence Hall) in Philadelphia, the Virginia delegate Richard Henry Lee introduced a motion calling for the colonies' independence. Amid heated debate, Congress postponed the vote on Lee's resolution and called a recess for several weeks.

Before departing, the delegates also appointed a five-man committee to draft a formal statement justifying the break with Great Britain:

Thomas Jefferson of Virginia
John Adams of Massachusetts
Roger Sherman of Connecticut
Benjamin Franklin of Pennsylvania
Robert R. Livingston of New York

Jefferson had earned a reputation as an eloquent voice for the patriotic cause after his 1774 publication of "A Summary View of the Rights of British America," and he was given the task of producing a draft of what would become the

Declaration of Independence. As he wrote in 1823, the other members of the committee "unanimously pressed on myself alone to undertake the draught [sic]. I consented; I drew it; but before I reported it to the committee I communicated it separately to Dr. Franklin and Mr. Adams requesting their corrections....I then wrote a fair copy, reported it to the committee, and from them, unaltered to the Congress."

As Jefferson drafted it, the Declaration of Independence was divided into five sections, including an introduction, a preamble, a body (divided into two sections) and a conclusion. In general terms, the introduction effectively stated that seeking independence from Britain had become "necessary" for the colonies. While the body of the document outlined a list of grievances against the British crown, the preamble includes its most famous passage:











We hold these truths to be self-evident; that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; that to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.

The Continental Congress reconvened on July 1, and the following day 12 of the 13 colonies adopted Lee's resolution for independence. The process of consideration and revision of Jefferson's declaration (including Adams' and Franklin's corrections) continued on July 3 and into the late morning of July 4, during which Congress deleted and revised some one-fifth of its text. The delegates made no changes to that key preamble, however, and the basic document remained Jefferson's words. Congress officially adopted the Declaration of Independence later on the Fourth of July (though most historians now accept that the document was not signed until August 2).

As the first formal statement by a nation's people asserting their right to choose their own government, the Declaration of Independence became a significant landmark in the history of democracy. In addition to its importance in the fate of the fledgling American nation, it also exerted a tremendous influence outside the United States, most memorably in France during the French Revolution. Together with the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, the Declaration of Independence is one of the three essential founding documents of the United States government.

from history.com

July 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 GREEN Communion 9 am Coffee 10 am Worship	8	9	10 Veterans Coffee 10 am 	11  SUE KASSENBERG	12	13
14 GREEN 9 am Coffee 10 am Worship	15 	16	17	18 	19	20 Newsletter Deadline 
21 GREEN 9 am Coffee 10 am Worship	22 PASTOR BRUCE SAMMY HATMAN 	23	24	25 	26 ROMEOs 7:30 am 	27
28 GREEN 9 am Coffee 10 am Worship	29 LINDA KOEESTER 	30 	31			

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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

Early submission deadline for July: **June 8, 2019**

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