



# Concordia News

## December 2019



Volume 14

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

Number 12

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In a culture that increasingly is defined by instant gratification, the season of Advent stands as a



bulwark. The sense of the season is anticipation. It is a season of waiting and watching for God's great work of the incarnation. Advent is not Christmas. It is a time to contemplate the significance of a life where the incarnation is a possibility and to recognize that the message of Christmas is a profound intrusion into the hopelessness of a world without a present and indwelling God.

May you be blessed in this season of "already but not yet" as we look to the coming of the Christ Child. I pass the following portion of a Wikipedia article FYI:

Grace and peace,  
*Pastor Bruce*

**Advent** is a season observed in many Christian churches as a time of expectant waiting and preparation for both the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas and the return of Jesus at the Second Coming. The term is a version of the Latin word meaning "coming". The term "Advent" is also used in Eastern Orthodoxy for the 40-day Nativity Fast, which has practices different from those in the West.

The Latin word *adventus* is the translation of the Greek word *parousia*, commonly used to refer to the Second Coming of Christ. For Christians, the season of Advent anticipates the coming of Christ from three different perspectives. Philip H. Pfatteicher, formerly a professor at East Stroudsburg University, notes that "since the time of Bernard of Clairvaux (d.1153), Christians have spoken of the three comings of Christ: in the flesh in Bethlehem, in our hearts daily, and in glory at the end of time." The season offers the opportunity to share in the ancient longing for the coming of the Messiah, and to be alert for his Second Coming.

Advent is the beginning of the Western liturgical year. In the Roman Rite of the Catholic Church, the Western Rite of the Orthodox Church, and in the Anglican, Lutheran, Moravian, Presbyterian, and Methodist calendars, Advent commences on the fourth Sunday before Christmas—the Sunday nearest to St. Andrew's Day (30 November). It can fall on any date between 27 November and 3 December. When Christmas Day is a Monday, Advent Sunday will fall on its latest possible date. In the Ambrosian Rite and the Mozarabic Rite of the Catholic Church, Advent begins on the sixth Sunday before Christmas, the Sunday after St. Martin's Day (11 November).

**Christmas Tree Trimming has been  
Rescheduled for Saturday, December 7  
1 pm**

**COFFEE AT 9 A.M. – WORSHIP AT 10 A.M. EVERY SUNDAY**

Announcements and Assignments

Coffee and Cookie Servers

- December 1 Sue Kassenborg
December 8 JoLyn Johnson
December 15 Orpha Hoelstad
December 22 Lloyd Gunderson
December 29 Carolyn Edwards
January 5 Germaine Gress
January 12 Clinton Babolian
January 19 Carolyn Edwards
January 26 Irene Olson



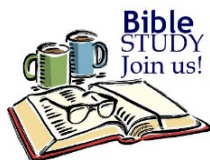
Sunday

December 8

Join us for our annual Christmas Potluck following services on December 8.

Bible Study

Wednesday, December 4
Wednesday, December 18
2:30 pm



Home of Kjell & Orpha Hoelstad

Don't forget to bring something for the Hat & Mitten Tree! The 'decorations' will be donated to benefit homeless kids in Fargo-Moorhead.



Christmas Eve Service

Tuesday, December 24
4:00 p.m.



Christmas Day

Wednesday, December 25
10:00 a.m.



Concordia Ladies

Tuesday, December 10
1:30 p.m.
Fryn' Pan

Join The Romeos!

Retired Old Men Eating Out
7:30 a.m., December 27
Fryn' Pan



Church Cancellations

It's the season of ice, snow, and cold weather again. 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 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.

Stay warm! Stay safe!

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 December, celebrate Christmas in Kids Corner. 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 11.

What do you call people who are afraid of Santa Claus? Claustrophobic!



Happy New Year!

# Donations

## Concordia General Fund

*In Memory of Sally Horpedahl*  
Alice Horpedahl

## Concordia Cemetery Association

*In Memory of Donald & Evangeline Johnson*  
Don & Wendy Johnson

*In Memory of Richard Skrei*  
R Paul Skrei



I want to thank everyone at my old church, Concordia, for your thoughts and prayers for me following my brain bleed. Thank you Pastor Bruce for your prayers and mom or placing my name on the

prayer chain.

I am doing very well – What I have to work on is my balance; I want to go to the left. I have a walker and a cane nearby so I'll just be careful. Thank you again, all of you, for your concerns and prayers.

Kari (Kassenborg) Kinley & family  
Bill, Brett, Bernie & Cooper  
Danny, Nichole & Dale

## A Special Gift and Remembrance

Don Johnson loved his Concordia family and especially enjoyed seeing the church decorated at Christmas. A new Christmas tree was given to Concordia last year by his family in his honor. This beautiful tree will be a wonderful way to include this special community member in our Christmas celebrations for years to come. THANK YOU!

**Murphy's Law:** *Bev Edenberg sent me a lovely note about this last November (2018), It was personally delivered to me by a neighbor in March. It seems the letter was delivered to my snowbird neighbors the day they left for Arizona (they had mistakenly started forwarding one day later) and it was patiently waiting in their mailbox when they returned. I thought it would best be printed in a "holiday" newsletter when the tree was up and decorated. AS*

## Recipe of the Month

### Norwegian Christmas Cabbage



#### Ingredients

- 8 slices of bacon
- A large head of cabbage, cored and shredded
- ¼ cup flour
- 1 tsp. caraway seed
- Salt & Pepper to taste
- ½ cup vinegar, or to taste
- ½ cup white sugar, or to taste

#### Directions

##### Each Layer

- Place two slices of bacon across the bottom of a large pot.
- Cover with cabbage
- Sprinkle a light dusting of flour
- Add a pinch of caraway seed
- Season with a little salt & pepper

Add as many layers as the pot can hold  
Fill with water about ¾ up the side of the pot.  
Bring to a boil, turn down to medium heat  
Cook about 45 minutes, until cabbage is soft, stirring occasionally.

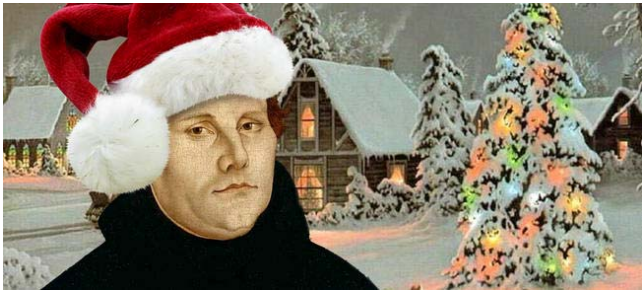
Take the pot off the stove and let it cool for about 15 minutes.

Stir in a little vinegar, then a little sugar until you have it the way you want it to taste.



According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, both male and female reindeer grow antlers in the summer each year (the only female members of the deer family who do). Male reindeer drop their antlers at the beginning of winter, usually late November to mid December.

Female reindeer, however, retain their antlers until after they give birth in the spring. Therefore, according to every historical rendition depicting Santa's reindeer, every single one of them, from Rudolf to Blitzen.... had to be a female. We should have known – they never get lost!



### Martin Luther Loved Christmas!

Martin Luther instituted many of the Christmas traditions we hold dear today.

He felt music was the perfect praise and Christmas music most of all. He wrote "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come" for Christmas. He is credited with introducing the Christmas tree, with candles (now lights) representing the stars that shone on the night of Jesus' birth.

Gifts had been given to children on December 6, but Luther moved the gift-giving to Christmas Eve to remind us all of the gift from God that lay in a manger on that sacred night.

Martin Luther so loved Christmas because he knew that the Christmas story allows us to share in the pure joy of God's eternal love for each of us.

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### Letters to Santa

#### *From the Moorhead Daily News*

**December 23, 1930**

Dear Santa,  
I am a little girl. Please bring me a doll that goes to sleep. Mama says I'm a good little girl.

Adeline Kragnes  
Georgetown

Dear Santa:  
I am a little boy, only five years old, and I am a good little boy. Please bring me a doll that can walk.

Alvin Kragnes  
Georgetown

Dear Santa:  
This is my first year in school. I am a good little girl and I haven't missed a day of school. I help mama every evening. Please send me twin rubber dolls that can say ma-ma. Also a little Ford coupe that runs.

Your most loving friend,  
Gladys Olson  
Felton

Dear Santa:  
I have read other letters that kiddies have written you so I am having my cousin write for me. I am four years old. I am going to start school next year.

I want a kiddy car for Christmas. Don't forget to come.

Robert Johnk  
Glyndon

Dear Santa Claus:

I hope you are feeling better now. You better tell your wife to rub some salve on your chest.

What I want for Christmas is an all day sucker. I like candy best of anything, also send me a rocking horse.

My friend is writing for me. I am four years old.  
Melvin Hatledal  
Glyndon

Dear Santa:

I'm a good little boy. That's what mama says. I seldom miss a day of school. Can you come down our chimney with a box of tinker toys, and a bushel of --- babies that I can give other boys to make them happy? Hope your cold isn't as bad as mine.

Bernhard Ingebretson  
Felton

### **December 13, 1930**

Dear Santa:

I'm glad you are well again. I am 8 years old. I go to school. My teacher's name is Miss Scott. For Christmas I would like a plant with flowers on it, also a ball and a pencil box. Please don't forget what I would like.

Ann Olah Thortvedt  
Glyndon

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### Viking Christmas Traditions














**God Jul!** (Happy Christmas!)

When Christianity was introduced in Norway, the name "Christmas" just didn't catch on. Throughout the Viking lands they continued to use the name for the pagan celebrations of the winter solstice, Jul ("Yule") for the Christian holiday.

The All-Father, the great god Odin, was honored during the solstice. He was known as "Fadder Jul" - "Father Christmas." During the season he would ride through the skies on his 8-legged horse *Sleipnir* and visit the homes of mortals. The Dutch adopted this tradition, giving Father Christmas the name St. Nicholas -- Santa Claus. Instead of an 8-legged horse, Santa Claus travels the skies in his magical sleigh drawn by 8 reindeer.



# DECEMBER 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
<p>1 BLUE 9 am Coffee 10 am Worship</p> 	<p>2 <i>CLINTON BABOLIAN GORDON KASSENBERG</i></p> 	<p>3</p>	<p>4 Bible Study 2:30 PM</p> 	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	
<p>8 BLUE 9 am Coffee 10 am Worship CHRISTMAS POTLUCK</p> 	<p>9</p>	<p>10 Concordia Ladies 1:30 pm</p> 	<p>11 Veteran's Coffee 10 am—Noon Veterans Coffee Hour</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	
<p>15 BLUE 9 am Coffee 10 am Worship</p>	<p>16 <i>PAUL DECKER</i></p> 	<p>17 <i>DELORES HAGENE</i></p> 	<p>18 Bible Study 2:30 PM</p> 	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	
<p>22 BLUE 9 am Coffee 10 am Worship</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 WHITE 4:00 pm Worship</p> 	<p>25 WHITE 10:00 am Worship</p> 	<p>26</p>	<p>27 ROMEOs 7:30 am</p>	<p>28 <i>BEV EDENBERG</i></p> 	
<p>29 WHITE 9 am Coffee 10 am Worship</p>	<p>30</p>		<p>January 1, 2020</p>				

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

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etc.**

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