



Concordia News

September 2020



Volume 15

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

Number 9

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Matthew 16:21-28

From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo



great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. 22 And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." 23 But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." 24 Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. 25 For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. 26 For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? 27 "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. 28 Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,

As you may recall, last Sunday the text, which immediately preceded the text above, was about Jesus asking the disciples who people said that he was the disciples listed off several responses, all of which were wrong. Peter weighs in by corrected identifying Jesus as the Christ the Son of the living God. Jesus clips Peter's wings a bit when he stated that it was God that inspired his response but then proceeded to tell Peter that he will build the church upon him and that the kingdom of Satan will not prevail against it. In today's text Jesus predicts his suffering, death and resurrection. Peter is mortified. He could not make sense of why Jesus would want to throw away his future and the future of the organization which Jesus had just done saying Peter would lead. Of course if Peter would have had his way, Jesus would die a normal death at a normal age and neither God's kingdom or the church would have gotten a foothold on earth, hence Jesus seemingly harsh but accurate assessment that Peter was playing into Satan's hand. That if Jesus were to have accepted Peter's very harsh correction (about not taking up his cross) that God's kingdom would have decreased and Satan's would have increased. How is it that Peter who had risen so high could fall so low? I pass the very well presented message below for your consideration from professor Audrey West:

Security. Influence. Power. It is hard to resist their glorious lure. Perhaps that is Peter's challenge. He cannot help thinking that his close association with the Messiah will right all that is wrong about the world. But Jesus' announcement of the death-dealing events about to unfold in Jerusalem point to anything but the glory of security, influence, or power. What about the new church, and its authority to bind and to loose? What about withstanding the power of death ("the gates of Hades")? How can these things happen if God's own anointed one is to be tortured and executed?! No wonder Peter protests. "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you!" Jesus' response is swift and to the point: "Get behind me, Satan!"

Even in translation, the similarity to Jesus' command to the devil in the wilderness is clear: "Away with you, Satan!" (Matthew 4:10). Could it be that Peter's fervent wish, that God would prevent the horrors about to be visited upon Jesus, is something like the Tempter's offerings in the wilderness?

Satan dared Jesus to use his authority as Son of God for his own purposes instead of serving God's mission in the world. He tempted Jesus to set his mind on human things rather than on the things of God (see also Jesus' words to Peter, Matthew 16:23).

Jesus refused. Instead of hoarding bread made from stones to relieve his own empty stomach, he fed the hungry multitudes (Matthew 14:17-21; 15:33-38). Instead of claiming the privileges of Sonship to call on God's angels for his own benefit, he used his privilege to save, heal, and restore the lives of sick and marginalized persons. Instead of grasping after worldly varieties of power and authority, he opened the kingdom of the heavens to all who would follow after him in the way of righteousness.

Jesus refused to fall into the Tempter's trap and be diverted from God's mission. He showed the falsehood of the world's measures of authority. Along the way, he revealed what it looks like to serve in the ways of God.

At Caesarea Philippi, Jesus' response to Peter echoes his wilderness repudiation of the devil. He refuses to avoid the journey that lies ahead, despite the fact that pointless suffering, caused by human sin and violence toward an innocent one, will appear to win (as he outlines in this first of three passion predictions).

It is necessary (Greek: *dei*) for him to go to Jerusalem. Why? Because, "on the third day he will be raised" (Matthew 16:21). God will put the lie to violence as ultimate power.

Getting behind the Messiah

Worth noting is a distinction between Jesus' commands to Satan and to Peter, one that is more obvious in Matthew's Greek than in most English translations.

In Matthew 4:10, Jesus expels Satan from his presence: Go [away]! (*hypage*). But to Peter, Jesus adds words that remind him of his place as a disciple: Go behind me (*hypage opiso mou*, emphasis added).

In Matthew, the words *opiso mou* ("behind me" or "after me") signify discipleship. The proper place for a disciple is behind Jesus, in the place of a follower. For example,

- Jesus' call to Simon Peter and the others: "Follow me (literally: Come *opiso mou*), and I will make you fish for people" (Matthew 4:19).
- In a discourse about discipleship: "[W]hoever does not take up the cross and follow me (literally: Come *opiso mou*) is not worthy of me" (Matthew 10:38).
- In this week's passage: "If any want to be my followers (to come *opiso mou*), let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me" (Matthew 16:24).

Peter is the recipient of blessing (Matthew 16:17), but now, he is putting his own thoughts ahead of the ways of God, which makes him a stumbling block—a hindrance to Jesus' mission. Nevertheless (and this is significant), Jesus does not break relationship with him. Instead, he reminds Peter of the proper place for a follower.

There are some hopeful things in this account, however. While Jesus did not slather Peter with praise for coming up with the right answer in last week's gospel text, nor does he condemn people for the very wrong response in today's text. Also, nowhere else does Jesus mention Peter's gaff. Not only does he not lord it over Peter, he does not retract his promise that he would build the Church upon Peter. So while Peter was the Rock which would have caused Jesus entire mission to fail (a stumbling block or stone) Jesus maintains Peter's status as one who will be the rock, nonetheless, upon which Jesus would build this new movement (born out of his death and resurrection). So while Peter was not allowed to boast when he got it right he was not shamed or condemned when he got it desperately wrong. The coming Kingdom was not to be about human rightness but it was to be about divine grace, a very important lesson which Peter would learn and relearn as he fumbles and fails at following Jesus to the end, that is to Golgotha. This is also a good lesson to his modern disciples, you and me. While God wants us to get it right he knows our weakness and our sinfulness and stands ready to hold us accountable (confession) and, even more importantly, absolution, then brushing us off and with an encouraging word of grace sending us on our way again. Our right relationship with God is not up to us it is up to God. He has claimed Peter, you and me not only as disciples but more importantly, through our baptisms, as his children.

Pastor Bruce



Monday, September 7

Coffee and Cookie Servers

(when services resume)

- September 6 Barb Grover
- September 13 Myron Hagene
- September 20 Sue Kassenborg
- September 27 JoLyn Johnson
- October 4 Barb Grover
- October 11 Regina Hanson
- October 18 Delores Hagene
- October 25 Linda Koester



If you know of someone in the hospital or in need of a home visit, or if you'd just like to talk through your concerns about the pandemic, contact Pastor Bruce at 218-329-2245.

September Birthdays



- September 9 Doris Kassenborg
- September 18 Ernest Edwards

September Anniversary



- September 9 Neil & Polly Hanson



First Day of Fall – Tuesday, September 22



from the
Moorhead Daily News
 August 13, 1943
 Page Three
“Comets Have Meeting”

The Buffalo River Comets 4-H Club had their regular monthly meeting Friday at the schoolhouse. The meeting was called to order by president, Helen Kassenborg. On the program was a demonstration by Helen Kassenborg and Ilene Olson on canning. Slides were shown by County Agent G. E. May and Sidney Snartland gave a reading. Lunch was served by Mrs. Olaf Wik and Mrs. Eleanore Kassenborg.

So...We're into our 6th month of COVID-19...

1. The virus that can be killed by sanitizer and hand soap keeps spreading anyway?
2. Is it too early to put up the Christmas tree yet? I have run out of things to do.
3. When this virus thing is over, I still want some of you to stay away from me.
4. If these last months have taught us anything, it's that stupidity travels faster than any virus on the planet.
5. Getting off the phone has gotten a lot more difficult. You can't just say "I have to run..."
6. If you believe all this will end and be back to normal just because we reopen everything, raise your hand. Now slap yourself with it.
7. Another Saturday night in the house and I just realized the trash goes out more than me.
8. Whoever decided a liquor store is more essential than a hair salon is obviously a bald-headed alcoholic.
9. Remember when you were little and all your underwear had the days of the week on them? Those would be helpful right now.
10. Need a laugh? Stand in the produce section at the grocery store. Watch people try to open plastic bags without licking their fingers.
11. Remember all those times when you wished the weekend would last forever? Well, wish granted. Happy now?
12. Did a big load of pajamas so I would have enough clean work clothes for this week.

Donations

Concordia Cemetery Association

In Memory of Sylvia Teigen

Lloyd Gunderson

In Memory of Edgar Wright

Lloyd Gunderson

We Need Your Support



With worship services and other activities suspended for almost half the year, your donation to the general fund of any

amount can help fill that gap. Donations to the cemetery fund and newsletter are always greatly appreciated as well.

If you wish, your donation can be made in honor or in memory of a loved one or event.

General Fund:

Make checks out to Concordia Lutheran Church and mail to:

Ray Johnson

7333 70 St N

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

National Thank You Day September 15

Most of us say "Thank You" as a matter of course, as a polite thing to do. National Thank You Day is a day in which to share the sincerest of thank-yous with those who touch our lives. Say thank you to those who make your life better!

Recipe of the Month Stuffed Peppers

Ingredients

- 1/2 lb ground sausage
- 1/2 lb ground beef
- 6 large peppers, any color
- 1 clove garlic
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1 cup cooked rice
- 1 can Rotel (diced tomato w/seasonings)
- 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
- 2 TB chopped fresh parsley
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp pepper
- Olive oil



Directions

- In a large skillet, brown sausage, beef, garlic, and onion in oil.
- Add the chopped parsley and cooked rice.
- Stir in Rotel and 1/2 cup of cheddar cheese.
- Season with salt and pepper.
- Cut off the tops of peppers, and trim the bottom so they sit flat in your dish.
- Finely chop scrap pepper tops and add to filling (optional).
- Place peppers in baking dish and stuff until full.
- Drizzle peppers with olive oil.
- Cover dish with foil and bake at 375 degrees for 40 minutes.
- Remove from oven and take off the foil. Use remaining shredded cheese to top peppers, bake uncovered another 15 minutes.



September Word Search



P	O	U	P	L	G	B	S	A	P	P	H	I	R	E	N	B
W	I	C	S	B	C	K	A	S	E	G	X	O	F	J	X	A
X	N	L	Q	M	O	Y	F	J	I	V	O	P	P	S	G	C
T	L	A	B	O	R	D	A	Y	O	U	K	A	D	B	C	O
T	E	S	L	R	D	L	L	U	L	P	J	T	P	I	F	R
J	L	S	Q	N	U	B	L	G	W	K	W	R	R	K	A	N
V	Y	R	N	I	C	Z	W	D	S	Z	T	I	J	O	P	L
V	M	O	V	N	P	M	C	Y	S	M	H	O	V	S	Q	E
S	C	O	Z	G	M	A	S	T	E	R	B	T	A	H	Q	G
K	X	M	Z	G	B	Q	K	V	P	Z	H	D	V	H	I	Z
S	I	G	A	L	V	O	M	P	T	O	R	A	Y	A	P	I
K	P	V	B	O	G	D	E	Z	E	G	L	Y	M	R	W	A
J	R	T	X	R	A	U	T	U	M	N	V	J	D	V	K	D
P	Y	C	W	Y	X	Y	V	A	B	F	K	B	L	E	T	X
E	J	R	J	Y	F	Y	Y	V	E	K	N	F	F	S	N	Y
G	Y	N	B	M	H	R	C	H	R	V	G	O	A	T	I	C
J	B	L	T	X	R	P	D	S	C	H	O	O	L	T	T	F
S	F	H	H	N	F	C	R	T	L	P	W	P	T	E	R	K
V	Y	C	A	E	Q	U	I	N	O	X	K	B	H	C	D	I
G	R	N	C	M	D	F	V	Z	P	R	C	C	Q	K	U	X
T	S	U	N	F	L	O	W	E	R	I	O	F	S	U	B	N
X	F	C	O	N	S	T	I	T	U	T	I	O	N	D	A	Y



SEPTEMBER
SCHOOL
ACORN
SUNFLOWER
CLASSROOM

LABOR DAY
FALL
AUTUMN
HARVEST
SAPPHIRE

MORNING GLORY
EQUINOX
PATRIOT DAY
CONSTITUTION DAY
ASTER



How to Vote in Minnesota

Election Day is Tuesday, November 3, 2020. Polling places are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Along with pre-registered voters, those who have not registered can register at the polling place and then cast their ballot.

REGISTERING TO VOTE

You can check online to see if you are registered by providing your name, birthdate, and zip code or county here:

<https://mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us/VoterStatus.aspx>

You can register to vote online. To vote in Minnesota, you must have established residency at least 20 days before the election (October 9, 2020). 17 year olds can register if they will be 18 on Election Day (November 3). You need to have an email address to complete your registration on-line. In addition, you will need to provide one of the following:

- Minnesota Driver's License Number
- Minnesota ID Number
- The last 4 digits of your social security number

<https://mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us/VoterRegistration/VoterRegistrationMain.aspx>

Allow two weeks for the processing of your on-line registration application. Online registration ends at midnight on October 9, 2020.

You can register to vote by mail. The application form can be found on the next page. Send it to the Minnesota Secretary of State's office in St. Paul (address on the application) or, in Clay County, send it to Clay County Auditor, 807 North 11th Street, Moorhead MN 56560. Allow 3 weeks for your registration application to be processed (it can take up to 14 days to process your application once it is received)

Registering on Election Day

Registration formally ends 20 days before the election, but you can register on Election Day, or before you vote during the early voting period at your local county election office. You must present a valid ID (can be expired) showing

your name and current address OR a photo ID (driver's license, passport, student ID, tribal ID) and a document verifying your current address (utility bill, credit card/bank statement, mortgage or lease). A registered voter *from your precinct* who can confirm your name and address can take the place of id and documents. That person must appear in person with you at your voting place.

VOTING

Early Voting begins on Friday, September 18 and ends Monday, November 2. You can vote (and register if necessary) during normal business hours at your county election office (Clay County Auditor's Office in the Courthouse).

Vote By Mail (absentee)

You can apply for an absentee ballot for any reason – or no reason at all. An Absentee Ballot application is included later in this newsletter. You do not have to register to apply for an absentee ballot.

Once your application is approved, a ballot will be mailed to the address on the application. When you receive it, mark your ballot. You do not have to vote in every race for the votes in races you do mark on your ballot to be counted. Place the ballot in the signature envelope and sign it. For your vote to count, you must read and follow the directions very carefully. This year, because of COVID-19, registered voters are not required to have a witness sign their signature envelope. If you are not already registered, you still need a witness to sign. Place the sealed signature envelope inside the mailing envelope. Absentee ballots must be postmarked on or before Election Day and reach your county office by November 13. Given the difficulties being experienced at USPS, don't wait until the last minute to mail it in! You can track your ballot to make sure it was received and counted online at

<https://mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us/AbsenteeBallotStatus.aspx>



Minnesota Voter Registration Application

Apply online at mnvotes.org, or complete lines 1 through 8 of this form. Please print clearly.

Personal Information & Qualification

1. Are you a U.S. citizen? Yes No	election official use only IP M AB		
2. Will you be at least 18 on or before the next election? Yes No If you mark "NO" to either of these questions, DO NOT complete this form.			
3. last name or surname	first name	middle name	suffix (Jr., Sr., II, III)
4. address where you live (residence)			
apt. number			
city			
zip code			
5. if mail cannot be delivered to the address above, provide P.O. Box			
city			
zip code			
6. date of birth (not today's date) / /	school district (if known)	county where you live	
phone number	email address		
7. mark one box and provide the number that applies to you: I have a MN-issued driver's license or MN ID card number: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			
I do not have a MN-issued driver's license or MN ID card			
The last four digits of my Social Security Number are: XXX-XX- <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			
I do not have a MN-issued driver's license, a MN-issued ID card, or a Social Security Number.			

Registration Updates - Are you currently registered under a different name or address?

previous last name	previous first name	previous middle name
previous address where you were last registered		
city		
state		
zip code		

Read And Sign Only If All Parts Apply To You.

8. I certify that I:

- will be at least 18 years old on election day;
- am a citizen of the United States;
- will have resided in Minnesota for 20 days immediately preceding election day;
- maintain residence at the address given on the registration form;
- am not under court-ordered guardianship in which the court order revokes my right to vote;
- have not been found by a court to be legally incompetent to vote;
- have the right to vote because, if I have been convicted of a felony, my felony sentence has expired (been completed) or I have been discharged from my sentence; and
- have read and understand this statement, that giving false information is a felony punishable by not more than 5 years imprisonment or a fine of not more than \$10,000, or both.

sign here **X** _____ date: _____ / _____ / **20** _____

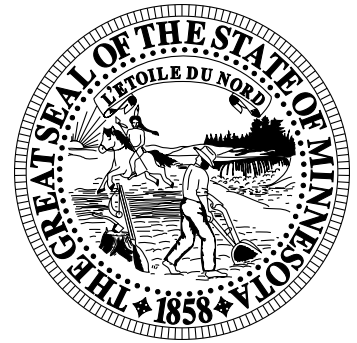
Election Judge Official Use Only

W _____ P _____ SD _____ Initials _____	ID with Current Name & Address ID Number: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> MN Driver's License, Learner's Permit, MN ID Card, or Receipt <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal ID Card	Photo ID + Document with Current Name & Address Document Type: _____ Photo ID Number: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Driver's License, Learner's Permit or State ID Card <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Passport <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Military or Veteran ID <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal ID <input type="checkbox"/> Student ID	Other <input type="checkbox"/> Vouched For <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Late Registration <input type="checkbox"/> Valid Registration in Same Precinct <input type="checkbox"/> Student ID with College List ID Number: _____
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Where to Return This Application

Mail or drop off this form to:

Secretary of State
60 Empire Drive
Suite 100
St. Paul, MN 55103



Deadline Information

We encourage you to register before Election Day — it will save you time at the polling place. The deadline to register in advance is 21 days before Election Day. Otherwise, you can register on Election Day at your polling place. Visit mnvotes.org to learn what documents and/or identification you will need to bring.

An application that a third-party collects must be received by the Office of the Secretary of State, or by the voter's county election office within 10 days of when the voter signed and dated the application.

Assistance

Large-type applications are available upon request from your County Auditor or the Office of the Secretary of State. Special assistance available to those who are elderly, have disabilities, or are in health care facilities. Contact the Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State or your County Auditor for more information. Applications are available in other languages at mnvotes.org.

Privacy Notice

Your exact date of birth, email address, and any ID number you give (Minnesota driver's license, state ID or last four digits of Social Security number) are private. Only election officials and other authorized government agencies may access this information.

Election officials use your exact date of birth and ID number to confirm your identity with the Minnesota Department of Public Safety or Social Security Administration. If you have an ID number but refuse to give it, your application may be incomplete and you may have to apply again or show proof of residence before you can vote.

Election officials ask for your email so they can contact you about your application. Also, the Office of the Secretary of State may email you (or contact you another way) about voting and elections, or ask for public input about voting and elections.

The rest of the data on your application is public when used for elections, political, law enforcement or jury selection purposes. If you need to keep your contact data private because of personal safety concerns, call 1-877-600-8683.

Additional Voting Information

For more information on voting, registering to vote, finding your polling place, state election results, campaign information, or conducting elections, go to the Minnesota Secretary of State website at mnvotes.org or call toll free 1-877-600-VOTE (1-877-600-8683). For a TTY/TTD (deaf and hard of hearing) communication, contact the Minnesota Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 or 711.

2020 Minnesota Absentee Ballot Application

Apply online at <https://www.mnvotes.org> OR

Complete lines 1 through 7 below. Please print clearly.

Return this application as soon as possible. Ballots must be returned by election day to be counted.

Important: Active duty military and overseas voters should not use this application. See the other side for more information.

1. absentee ballots requested for the following election(s) *(if no election is marked, a ballot will be mailed for the next election only)*

2/11 Special Election	4/14 Special Election	8/11 Primary Election	Both 8/11 & 11/3 Elections
3/10 Township Election	5/12 Special Election	11/3 General Election	Other (specify date):

2.

last name or surname	first name	middle name	suffix
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3.

date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy)	county where you live	phone number
----------------------------	-----------------------	--------------

email address

4. mark all boxes that apply:

I have a MN-issued driver's license or MN ID card. The number is:

I have a social security number. The last four digits are: **XXX-XX-**

I do not have a MN-issued driver's license, MN-issued ID card or a social security number.

Your identification number will be compared to the one on your absentee ballot envelope.

5.

address where you live (residence)	apt.	city	MN	zip code
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6.

address where your absentee ballot should be sent	apt.	city	state	zip code
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7. I certify that I:

- am completing this application on my own behalf;
- will be at least 18 years old on election day;
- am a citizen of the United States;
- will have resided in Minnesota for 20 days immediately preceding election day;
- maintain residence at the address given on this application form;
- am not under court-ordered guardianship in which the court order revokes my right to vote;
- have not been found by a court to be legally incompetent to vote;
- have the right to vote because, if I have been convicted of a felony, my felony sentence has expired (been completed) or I have been discharged from my sentence; and
- have read and understand this statement: The above information is accurate, and I sign this application form under penalty of perjury, a felony punishable by not more than 5 years imprisonment, a fine of not more than \$10,000, or both.

sign here: **X** _____ date ____/____/____

See other side for special instructions for voters with disabilities or power of attorney.

official use only

Primary → <input type="checkbox"/> reg <input type="checkbox"/> non-reg	received date	ballot issued date	initials	type M C HCF	reason replaced <input type="checkbox"/> rejected <input type="checkbox"/> lost <input type="checkbox"/> spoiled <input type="checkbox"/> never received	repl. date:	precinct
General → <input type="checkbox"/> reg <input type="checkbox"/> non-reg	received date	ballot issued date	initials	type M C HCF	reason replaced <input type="checkbox"/> rejected <input type="checkbox"/> lost <input type="checkbox"/> spoiled <input type="checkbox"/> never received	repl. date:	school district

Return this application as soon as possible to:

Where to return your application

You should return this to your local election office. If not provided above, contact information for your local election official can be found under “Find County Election Office” at <https://www.mnvotes.org>.

Options for returning absentee ballot applications

For federal, state or county elections, submit an absentee ballot application online at <https://www.mnvotes.org>. -OR- Paper absentee ballot applications may be returned by mail, fax or as a scanned attachment to an email.

When your ballot will be sent

Your absentee ballot materials will be sent to you at least 46 days before the election, (excluding town elections held in March where materials will be sent 30 days before the election). If you applied after this date, your ballot will be sent when the application is received. Contact your local election official if you have not received your ballot. To check the status of your absentee ballot, visit <https://www.mnvotes.org>.

Privacy Notice

Your exact date of birth, email address, and any ID number you give (Minnesota driver's license, state ID or last four digits of social security number) are private. Only election officials may access it.

Election officials ask for your exact date of birth so they can match your application to your voter record. If you refuse to give your date of birth, you won't get an absentee ballot.

Election officials ask for your email so they can contact you about your application. Also, the Office of the Secretary of State may email you (or contact you another way) about voting and elections, or ask for public input. If you refuse to give an email address, you cannot apply for an absentee ballot online and you will need to apply with a paper application.

Election officials ask for an ID number to check that the person who is casting the ballot is the same person who applied for it. If you have an ID number but refuse to give it, your absentee ballot might get rejected, and you won't be able to check your absentee ballot status online.

The rest of the data on your application is public when used for elections, political activities or law enforcement purposes. If you need to keep your contact data private because of personal safety concerns, call 1-877-600-8683 to learn what you can do.

Who may apply for a ballot

Each person must apply for themselves. It is a felony to make a false statement in an application for an absentee ballot, to attempt to cast an illegal ballot, or to help anyone to cast an illegal ballot.

If you think you may not be registered to vote

If you are not registered at the legal residence address provided, you will be sent a voter registration application with your ballot materials.

Information for active-duty military and overseas voters

If you are applying for an absentee ballot because you or your family are active-duty military or because you will be overseas and/or outside of the territorial limits of the United States, do not use this application. You are entitled to special protections if you apply using the Federal Postcard Application. For more information and to apply online, go to <https://www.mnvotes.org>.

Options available to you if you have a disability

You may:

- sign the application yourself,
- make your mark, or
- ask another person to sign for you in your presence (have the person sign their own name as well.)
- If you have adopted the use of a signature stamp for all purposes of signature, you may use your signature stamp or ask another person to use your signature stamp in your presence. (See *Minnesota Statutes*, section 645.44, subdivision 14.)

Information regarding Power of Attorney

Voting is not covered by power of attorney. A power of attorney pertains only to affairs affecting property. A person with power of attorney may only sign for you in your presence, as outlined above. (See *Minnesota Statutes*, section 523.24, subdivision 14.)

Your participation in the 2020 Census is important to all Minnesotans.

A complete and accurate count will benefit communities across our state. Census results determine our political representation, and help inform how billions of dollars are distributed for all kinds of community programs and services.

Will my answers be private?

Whether you answer the census online, respond by phone, or mail your completed form, your personal information is safe, secure, and protected by law. Your answers will be combined with others to produce statistics, which help inform government and business planning. Your census response cannot be used against you in any way—not by your landlord, local police, DHS, or ICE. There are no exceptions.

I want to do more. How can I get involved?

COMMIT TO BE COUNTED!

Text **COUNT** to **662020** to make a pledge to participate in the 2020 Census, and to sign up for text reminders.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Take part in spreading the word about the 2020 Census via social media, and see what other people are saying, using the hashtag **#WeCountMN**

FACEBOOK

Minnesota 2020 Census

INSTAGRAM & TWITTER

@MN2020Census

Learn more about the census online
mn.gov/2020census or 2020census.gov



Census 2020

**YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE
2020 CENSUS IS IMPORTANT TO
ALL MINNESOTANS**



**we count
minnesota**

CENSUS • 2020

Your census response will guide more than \$15 billion in federal funds to Minnesota communities, through programs like these:



Healthcare

Medical Assistance Program (Medicaid)



Infrastructure

Highway Planning & Construction



Education

Head Start, Pell Grants



Employment

Unemployment Insurance



Food Assistance

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)



Public Safety

Assistance to Firefighters Grant



Entrepreneurship

Small Business Development Centers



Family Services

Child Abuse & Neglect State Grants



Community Support

Section 8 Housing Assistance



Environment

State Wildlife Grants

How will I be counted?

In mid-March 2020, every household in Minnesota will receive an invitation in the mail to complete the census. It's easy to respond online, by mail, or by phone. Choose whichever method works best for you.

ONLINE

This year will be the first time you can respond to the census online. It's convenient, easy, and secure. Visit my2020census.gov to respond using your computer, tablet or smartphone.

BY MAIL

If you don't respond online, a form will be delivered to your home. Simply fill out the form and drop it in the mail. You don't even need a stamp.

BY PHONE

Census takers are available to answer your calls seven days a week. Call 844-330-2020 to respond to the census over the phone.

For non-English speakers, census guides and websites are available in 59 languages. Find them online at 2020census.gov/languages.

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Concordia Lutheran Church*
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Because of COVID-19, this issue of Concordia News is only being distributed digitally. Regular mail delivery will resume after this crisis has passed.



September 2020

Concordia News is published monthly by Concordia Lutheran Church and Concordia Cemetery Association.

Concordia News

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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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