

# Concordia News – Large Print

## 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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From Pastor Bruce

**Matthew 16:21-28**



21 From that time on, Jesus began to show 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."

From Pastor Bruce

*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

From Pastor Bruce

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*

From Pastor Bruce

*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).*

From Pastor Bruce

*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

From Pastor Bruce

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. Thanks be to God.

God bless,

*Pastor Bruce*



Announcements and Assignments  
**Coffee and Cookie Servers**  
*(when services resume)*



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

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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.

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Because of COVID-19, worship services have been suspended until further notice. This is done out of concern for our members' health and well-being, with consideration given to the median age of the congregation.

**September Birthdays**

September 9 Doris Kassenborg  
September 18 Ernest Edwards

**September Anniversary**

September 9 Neil & Polly Hanson

# Donations

## Concordia Cemetery Association

*In memory of Sylvia Teigen*

Lloyd Gunderson

*In memory of Edgar Wright*

Lloyd Gunderson

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## We Need Your Support



With worship services and other activities suspended for over two months, 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.

### **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

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**First Day of Fall – Tuesday, September 22**

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**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 our sincerest 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 <u>cooked</u> rice
1 can Rotel (diced tomato w/seasonings)	
2 cups shredded cheddar cheese	2 TB chopped 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



# Dates to Remember

***Worship Services and all other congregation activities have been suspended until further notice.*** A decision about resuming Sunday worship and activities will be made at the appropriate time.

## ***Birthdays***

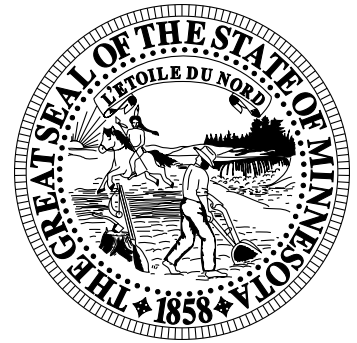
August 4	Diane Murr
August 10	Bill Farabee
August 11	Sue Sip
	Ron Horpedahl
August 17	Carolyn Edwards



# 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](http://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](http://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](http://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	<b>Both</b> 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
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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	<b>MN</b>	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.

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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?

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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?

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### 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

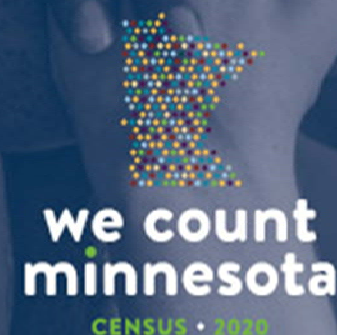
Learn more about the census online  
[mn.gov/2020census](http://mn.gov/2020census) or [2020census.gov](http://2020census.gov)



# Census 2020

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YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE  
2020 CENSUS IS IMPORTANT TO  
ALL MINNESOTANS



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

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### 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?

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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](https://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](https://2020census.gov/languages).

**September 2020**

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The large print edition of Concordia News is only available on-line.

*To submit an item for the newsletter:*

**E-mail** [news@concordianews.org](mailto:news@concordianews.org)

**Write:** Alene Sladky

6938 State Hwy 200 NW

Laporte MN 56461



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

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