

Concordia News – Large Print

October 2020

Volume **A newsletter for members, family, and friends** Number
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Concordia Cemetery Association



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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." *Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the*

From Pastor Bruce

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

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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

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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.

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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,

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- 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,

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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 desparately 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.

Thanks be to God.

Pastor Bruce

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



October 4	Barb Grover	November 1	Polly Hanson
October 11	Regina Hanson	November 8	Becky Jegtvig
October 18	Delores Hagene	November 15	Kathy Krogstad
October 25	Linda Koester	November 22	Irene Olson
		November 29	Clinton Babolian



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.

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.

Donations

Concordia Cemetery Association

In memory of Sylvia Teigen

David & Gloria Lee

Dalan & Diane Rasmussen

Gordon & Sue Kassenborg

Verna Kragnes & Richard Hall

Donation

Mr. and Mrs. Allan Bergland

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

A black rectangular box with the words "Halloween Jokes" written in a stylized, orange, glowing font.

What do mummies listen to on Halloween?

Wrap music.

How do you make a skeleton laugh?

You tickle his funny bone!

Why did the Cyclops give up teaching?

He only had one pupil!

Why didn't the skeleton go to see a scary movie?

He didn't have the guts.

Why are ghosts terrible liars?

You can see right through them!

What do you call two spiders that just got married?

Newly-webbed

Recipe of the Month

Pumpkin-Oat Pancakes



Ingredients

2 eggs	1 ½ cup oat flour
1 ⅓ cup milk	¾ cup pumpkin
2 TB sugar	2 tsp baking powder
1 tsp cinnamon	½ tsp salt
½ tsp ginger	¼ tsp allspice
¼ tsp clove	1/8 tsp nutmeg

Directions

- In a large bowl, whisk together dry ingredients
- In a small bowl, whisk together eggs, milk and pumpkin
- Pour wet ingredients into dry ingredients and whisk/mix thoroughly
- Heat skillet over medium heat, brush with butter.
- Pour about ¼ cup of batter into pan.
- Cook each pancake until bubbles form on top and edges look cooked, 2-3 minutes and flip.
- Cook for about another minute. Other side should be golden brown.
- Serve with butter and syrup. Add berries if you like.

*from the***Moorhead Daily News****October 2, 1939****Page Three****“Homemakers Organize”**

The Moland Homemakers Group No. 1 was organized at a meeting at the home of Mrs. Clarence Jones on Wednesday. The first meeting of the group will be held at the home of Mrs. T J Skrei, near Moorhead, Friday at 10:30 a.m. The topic will be “Feeding the Family for Health.” Mrs. T J Skrei was chosen chairman of the club. Other officers are Mrs. Obert Skrei and Mrs. Lawrence Olson, leaders; Mrs. Albert Johnk and Mrs. Leon Hammett, alternates; Mrs. Delos Watson, secretary-treasurer, and Mrs. A L Kassenborg, reporter. Miss Signe Lee and Mrs. A L Kassenborg will be assisting hostesses.

October 16, 1937**Page Three****“Nels Espeland, 64, Former Local Man, Dies in Ontario”**

Lived in Moorhead in 1889, Had Made Home on St. Joseph Island Since 1916

Word has been received of the death of Nels Espeland, 64, former Moorhead man, at his home in St. Joseph's Island, Ontario, Canada. He had been in ill health for a year.

Born in Telemarken, Norway, May 12, 1872, Espeland came to Moorhead in 1889 and lived in or near Moorhead for about 30 years. He left for St. Joseph's Island in 1916 and made his home there every since. Surviving are two sisters, Mrs. Charles Tostrud, Park Rapids, and Mrs. Alex Morken, Felton and a brother, Ole Espeland, Felton. His wife died two years ago. There were no children.

October 22, 1937

Page Three

“Morken” *Township News*

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Tostrud and Arthur, Mrs. Alex Morken and Ole Espeland left for St. Joseph's Island, Ontario, Canada, to attend the funeral for their brother, Ole Espeland. Mr. Espeland lived in the vicinity over 30 years ago before he left for St. Joseph's Island to make his home.

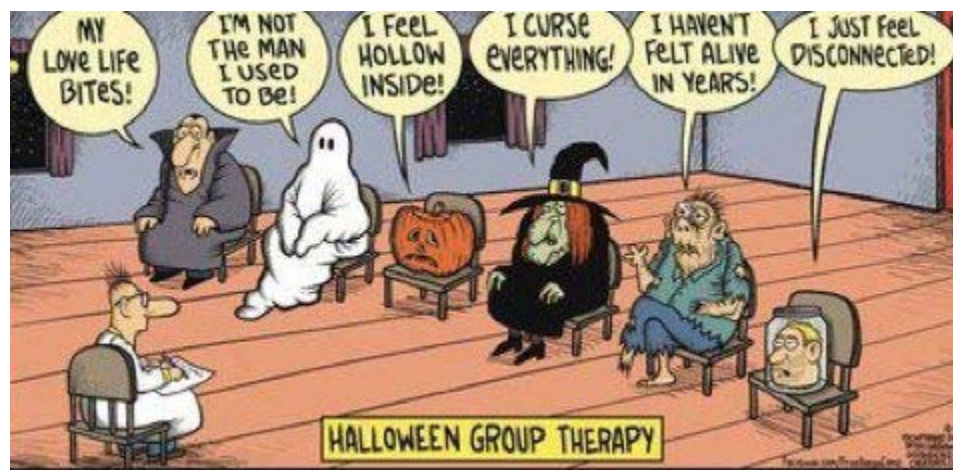
October 26, 1932

Page Five

“Kassenborg-Lee”

At the Lutheran parsonage, Glyndon, on Wednesday, October 19, at 5:00 p.m. Miss Florence Lillian Kassenborg, daughter of Mr.

and Mrs. Ed Kassenborg, Concordia Church district, became the bride of Fred Gordon Lee, son of Mrs. Gunder O. Lee, also Concordia Church District, near Kragnes. The attendants were Miss Louise Kassenborg, sister of the bride, and Eugene Grover. The young couple will make their home on the Lee farm.



Fall Word Search



ACORN
 APPLE
 AUTUMN
 CHESTNUTS
 CHILLY
 CIDER
 COBWEB
 FALL
 FOOTBALL
 GOURD

HALLOWEEN
 HARVEST
 HAY BALE
 HAYRIDE
 LEAVES
 MAIZE
 NOVEMBER
 NUTS
 OCTOBER
 PUMPKIN

QUILT
 RAKE
 SCARECROW
 SEPTEMBER
 SLEET
 THANKSGIVING



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

October 9 Diane Hatman

October 23 Lloyd Gunderson

Anniversary

October 18 Paul & Karolynn Decker

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