

Concordia News – Large Print

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Volume 9

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

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Announcements and Assignments

"Wait for it..." "You will just have to wait."

When was the first time you heard those words or words similar and who spoke them to you? How did you feel after hearing that phrase?

When I was in little league it was the coach who corrected me for swinging too early at pitches.

Most memorably, it was as a young child seeing beautifully colored presents stacked up around the Christmas tree for what seemed like several months before Christmas. The torment got progressively worse as I wondered if the picture that I had cut out of Sears catalogue for my folks as a hint might have led them to buy that fearsome wire controlled dinosaur; for endless days I was left to wonder if it was trapped inside that largest box with my name on it way in the back of corner on the far side of the tree.

To be able to delay gratification is not instinctual/intuitive for humans any more than it is for our pets. Just now as I was writing the previous paragraph our dog came up to me wanting to be held; shortly thereafter she scratched to get down then stood by her dog



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dish waiting to get her "breakfast". Greta is three pounds of pure instinct; a furry bundle of needs/wants all of which are urgent and need to be met immediately. Humans are the same way. Look not only at little babies but also at small children. It is their nature to want to satisfy not only their needs (understandable) but also their wants immediately. A part of effective parenting is to help them get to the point of being able to resist the instinctual "need" to satiate all desires immediately. This is a big part of what many would call "character development."

Long term scientific studies indicate that the child who habitually over a number of years cannot delay gratification (for example they will take one piece of candy when offered by the researcher and eat it immediately instead of waiting for an hour and then receiving multiple pieces of candy) tend to have much lower levels of "success" in life not only according to outside measurements of success but even according to their own.

Advent is God's way of having us "wait for it." Unlike waiting for opening the Christmas present as a child this is not a passive process. Which one of us is not aware of what is occurring around us in nature? The days are getting shorter and colder. All but the most hardy birds have long since flown south. The color green is the

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exception not the rule. Perhaps it is not a bad thing for us to live without cheerful music, a beautiful green tree with bright colored lights until shortly before Christmas. As a child we would not go out in our woods to cut a Christmas tree until the end of Advent. We lived with the reality of encroaching darkness up till the time the days would start getting longer but rarely before. Might it not be a good spiritual discipline to attempt this some time in our lives? If not by forestalling the pursuit of Christmas cheer until at least the last days of Advent then by spending some time daily contemplating what life would be like should God have never come into the world?

Might it be good to mull over the implication of not only human history without Jesus ever having been born? Could you and I derive some benefit by spending a little extra time in the drear of physical darkness, living with what seems like the victory of darkness over light, this Advent? Do you and I have the power of imagination to even begin to experience Advent on its own terms where we live in the darkness only with hope of the in-breaking of the great Light of the World at the very end of the season?

It is next to impossible to isolate ourselves from the generic "Happy Holiday" cheerfulness that our commercial culture thrusts at us 24/7, but it is important to counter this by living with the cycles of

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nature as we approach the winter solstice; this when combined with trying to fathom what life would be like for you and me without anything other than an anonymous God who has little if anything to do with either human history or with our personal lives; this might be just what we need this Advent. It would set us up nicely as we gather with the gratitude of a child that has waited for what seems like an eternity for that long awaited Christmas present. Such an exercise might not only be good for our character (learning to delay gratification) but also for our faith. What a great day Christmas will be!

Pastor Bruce



Christmas Eve: 4 p.m.

Christmas Day: 10 a.m.



Concordia Ladies

To be announced



Coffee and Cookie Servers

December 7 Becky Jegtvig

January 4 Orpha Hoelstad

December 14 Orpha Hoelstad

January 11 Delores Hagene

December 21 Delores Hagene

January 18 Becky Jegtvig

December 28 Ella Swanson

January 25 Polly Hanson

If you know of someone who is in the hospital or would like a home visit please let me know. I can be reached at 218-329-2245.

Thank you! Pastor Bruce



Concordianews.org

“Minnesota, Martin Luther and the Christmas Tree” is the subject for Kids Corner in December. Kids Corner is located in the congregation section of the website.

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If anyone has information that they would to see in the weekly bulletin or be put on the prayer list, please e-mail by Wednesday of that week to the following address: mgrover1424@gmail.com. I will do my best to get the information in.



Thank You, *Barb Grover*

It's That Time of Year



If the weather or roads are bad, check WDAY Channel 6 television or WDAY radio 970. We will notify the stations and they will broadcast church cancellations.

Heating Season is again upon us, and the Farmer's Almanac is predicting another long cold winter. ☹️ Your donation to the general fund will help make sure the church stays warm and toasty for us all winter long!



A Special Christmas Gift Suggestion

The Cemetery Association's latest Memorial Tribute to Concordia's Veterans DVD could be a special gift for someone on your Christmas list. It is still available for \$10.00.



Please send your check made out to the Cemetery Association to:

Ray Johnson
7333 70th Street North
Glyndon MN 56547

Allow about two weeks for delivery.



The new floor in the basement has brought back a lot of memories about activities and

events that have been hosted in the basement over the years.

We'd like to share your recollections in the February issue of the *News*! Send them to Sylvia Teigen, 914 4th Avenue South Moorhead, 56560 or email them to news@concordianews.org. Deadline is January 15, 2015.

With Our Thanks

Donations

Basement Floor Fund

In Memory of Harold & Lucilla (Lola) Anderson

Keith Anderson

In Memory of Olaf & Karine Wik

Vern & Carol Wik

Donations

Bev Edenborg Gordon & Sue Kassenborg

Concordia Cemetery Fund

In Memory of Harold and Lucilla Anderson

Keith Anderson

In Memory of Lu Engelstad

Lloyd Gunderson

In Memory of David Swanson

Lloyd Gunderson Dalen & Diane Rasmussen

Bonita Lilly & Family

With Our Thanks

More Donations

Concordia Cemetery Fund *(cont'd)*

In Memory of Jeni (Mjolness) Mewissen

Russell & Char Oberg

Delores Hagene Gerald Hagene

Concordia News

In Memory of Harold & Lucilla (Lola) Anderson

Keith Anderson

In Memory of Virgil Jegtvig

Delores Hagene

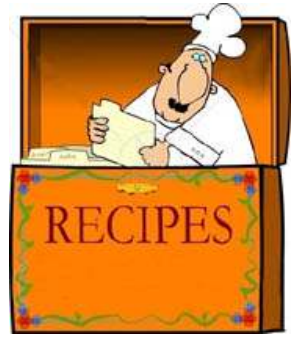
*From Calvin Coolidge's Christmas Message,
broadcast on radio December 25, 1927:*

Christmas is not a time or a season but a state of mind. To cherish peace and good will, to be plenteous in mercy, is to have the real spirit of Christmas. If we think on these things, there will be born *in* us a Savior and over us will shine a star sending its gleam of hope to the world.



Rosettes

Recipe from Pioneer Cook Book from Norwegian-American Museum; Decorah, Iowa, 1969



Ingredients

1/2 cup water 1/2 cup milk
1 tsp. sugar 1 egg slightly beaten
pinch of salt 2 drops vanilla
1/2 cup flour (enough to make a very thin batter.)

If rosettes seem too thick, thin batter with milk.

Directions

- Heat rosette iron in deep hot fat. To test heat of fat, it is right when a little batter dropped from tip of spoon rises quickly to the top.
- Dip into the batter just barely to the top of the iron. Tap off excess fat from iron before dipping into batter each time. Don't spend too much time doing this, as one secret is to keep the iron hot
- Cook in fat until slightly brown. Remove from iron, place upside down on paper to drain.
- Dip in granulated sugar when slightly cooled.
- Store in tight tins in cool place, but do not freeze.



From the
Moorhead Daily News
December 17, 1945

Mrs. Bergland Rites Wednesday

Pioneer Resident of Clay County Dies

Mrs. O. C. Bergland, who made her home with her daughter Miss Gena Bergland, 220 Tenth Street North, Fargo, died Sunday morning at her home.

She was born June 10, 1858 in Houston County, Minnesota. She came with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Kassenborg to Clay County in the early 1870's. Her husband died December 13, 1917. Mrs. Bergland was a charter member of the Concordia Lutheran Church and Ladies Aid.

Surviving besides Miss Gena are two daughters, Mrs. Judith Osmundson, Minneapolis, and Mrs. Elise Archer, Houston, Texas; six sons: Clarence, Tacoma, Washington; Alden Juve, 301 15th Street South, Fargo; Mayor R. B. Bergland, 915 5th Street South, Moorhead; A. S. Bergland, 419 7th Street South, Moorhead; and W. T. Bergland, Minneapolis; one brother, Ed Kassenborg, rural Glyndon; and two sisters, Mrs. L F Moe, Minneapolis; and Mrs. Eliza

Olness, Kragnes. There are nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. at the A J Wright and Sons chapel and at 2 p.m. at Concordia Lutheran Church six miles north of Watts Siding with Rev. R. B. Runsvold officiating at both services. Daniel Preston will be soloist and Mrs. Stanley Cowan will be the organist.

Burial will be in the Concordia Lutheran Cemetery. Pallbearers are Gordon Juve, Ernest Kassenborg, Henry Morken, Arthur Olness, Clarence Twedten, and Howard Osmundson. The body will lie in state at the Wright funeral home Tuesday afternoon and evening.



Our hearts grow tender with childhood memories and love of kindred, and we are better throughout the year for having, in spirit, become a child again at Christmas time.

~Laura Ingalls Wilder

The 2014 Capitol Christmas Tree



A national Christmas tree has been decorated in

Washington, D. C. every year since the early 1900s. Since 1970, the U.S. Forest Service has chosen one of our national forests to provide each year's tree for the West Lawn of the Capitol.

On December 2nd, Speaker of the House John Boehner will light this year's 88 foot white spruce from Chippewa National Forest in Minnesota.

The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe were major partners in this project. The Future Farmers of America in Blackduck, Minnesota, assisted the Forestry Service in selecting the tree last spring. The honor of felling the tree was given to Minnesota's Logger of the Year, Jack Scheff. On October 29th over 500 people attended the tree-cutting event, including Senator Amy Klobuchar and Representative Rick Nolan.

After making over 30 stops in communities along the way, the tree arrived in Washington on November 21st.

Bits and Pieces

People all over the state crafted over 10,000 ornaments (representing Minnesota's 10,000 lakes) to decorate the tree. There were ornament contests at most county fairs and the Minnesota State Fair.

The last time Minnesota provided the Capitol Christmas Tree was in 1992.

In the winter during the 1890s many Buffalo River farmers supplemented their income by working for Crookston Lumber Co. in the Chippewa forest area before it was protected in 1902.



A crane was used to hold the tree upright as it was cut. A second crane lifted the bottom of the tree for loading onto a specially-equipped truck.

To learn more about Minnesota's National Christmas Tree, visit

www.capitolchristmastree.com

Dates to Remember

Worship Services every Sunday

Coffee Hour: 9 a.m.

Worship: 10 a.m.

Communion 1st Sunday of the month

Christmas Eve Service: 4:00 p.m.

Christmas Day Service: 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School every Sunday

11:00 a.m. (follows worship)

Concordia Ladies

To Be Announced

Birthdays

December 2 Clinton Babolian

Gordon Kassenborg

December 16 Paul Decker

December 17 Delores Hagene

December 29 Kristine Lynde

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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

Write: Karolynn Teigen-Decker
915 4th Avenue South
Moorhead MN 56560

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