



# Concordia News

## September 2019



Volume 14

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

Number 9

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There is little debate about the increased divisiveness and lack of compassion towards others.



As with all

cultural trends, this swing towards self-centeredness, cuts across ethnic, religious and political lines.

However, not all dispute is based in human self-will. Some is based in deeply held beliefs, beliefs held by people of good will whose lives are dedicated to loving God and loving their neighbor as themselves. However, how do we relate to other people who also live by the Golden Rule who may hold beliefs that differ from our own?

Conflict can be salutary for a congregation as long as we remember to maintain our humility and continue to treat those with whom we differ as a fellow brother or sister in the faith even in the midst of heated debate. I am not aware that we have had such issues crop up recently at Concordia, but we need to be prepared so that when they do we engage in moral/theological deliberation without threatening the integrity of our brotherhood/sisterhood with other congregants.

I pass on the following piece from the former presiding bishop of the ELCA, Pastor Herbert Chillstrom for your consideration.

Grace and peace,  
*Pastor Bruce*

### IS THERE A "LUTHERAN" WAY TO LIVE TOGETHER?

We would be hopelessly naïve to think that there will come a time when our church will not be challenged by one issue or another. That is not the question. As we look to the future, these are legitimate questions: Can we be a less anxious church? A less contentious church? A less fractious church?

In my final report to the 1995 Churchwide Assembly, I spoke of my hope that we might "be the church with confidence." I long for a church that will not be hobbled by threats to withhold support whenever something happens that is contrary to our personal preference. I long for a church that is so single-mindedly focused on our mission of proclamation and our call for justice that we will have that kind of confidence, that kind of unity, that kind of love for the world and for one another.

Can it happen? I believe it can if we embrace as never before the pattern of the early church:

*They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers (Acts 2:42).*

Continued on page 3

## Announcements and Assignments

### Coffee and Cookie Servers

September 1 Barb Grover  
September 8 Myron Hagene  
September 15 Clinton Babolian  
September 22 JoLyn Johnson  
September 29 Delores Hagene  
October 6 Barb Grover  
October 13 Regina Hanson  
October 20 Sylvia Teigen  
October 27 Linda Koester



### Allard E Stevens 1920-2019

*Al Stevens was well known to many at Concordia. His great-grandfather Gulbrand Gilbertson was the brother of Andreas Kassenborg and Geline Grover. He cherished his visits to Concordia and his many cousin connections "on the Buffalo."*



Allard E. Stevens, 98, was born in 1920 to Edgar and Mabel Stevens on the farmstead in Hazel Run Township, Yellow Medicine County, where he lived until his passing. He graduated from Hanley Falls High School in 1938 and worked the farm with his father, Edgar.

Al married Judith Olson of Hazel Run in 1941. He enlisted in the Army Air Corps in Oct. 1942 training B-26 flight crews in Texas. He was discharged as an Airborne Radio Operator/Mechanic when the war ended in 1945. He returned home to his wife and twin daughters, Sandra and Sharon, who were then two-and-a-half years old. A third daughter, Marilynn, joined the family in 1949. He joined the Air Force Reserve in 1957 and was awarded Outstanding Air Force Reservist for the USA in 1970. He was discharged from the Minnesota Air Guard as Senior Master Sergeant in 1977.

Al retired from farming in 1960 and went to work for Rodgers Hydraulics. He left Rodgers in 1968 to begin a career teaching Fluid Power (Hydraulics) at the new Granite Falls Technical School. His wife Judy lost her battle with cancer in 1978, and he retired from teaching in 1980.

In 1981, Al married Ann (Norman) Hamre, adding daughter Susan and son Bob to his family. After he answered an ad for Air Force reservists to serve with FEMA, during the next 20 years he responded to 95 disasters in locations across America and in Puerto Rico. He retired from FEMA in 2002, and focused on genealogy research and collecting and restoring antique Twin City and Minneapolis-Moline tractors.

Al and Ann's later years were enriched with volunteer work, and they walked three days a week at the KCC, a practice he continued after Ann's death in 2013 until his  
*continued on page 4)*

### Bible Study

Wednesday, September 4  
5:30 – 7:00 pm



### Concordia Ladies

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

### Join The Romeos!

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



*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 September the subject in Kids Corner is "The Importance of Learning." 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, September 11.

What did one autumn leaf say to the other one? I'm falling for you!



# Donations

## Recipe of the Month *Easy Crockpot Chicken & Dumplings*



### Concordia Cemetery Association

*In Memory of Robert Burke  
Alvina Burke*

#### **From the Pastor** (cont'd. from page 1)

Martin Luther held that the key to our use of the Bible is that Jesus Christ be at the center. I believe it can happen if we have a broad and deep commitment to the principles that guided the early church. First, there is this word from the believers gathered at Jerusalem: *We believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus* (Acts 15:11).

Then there is this word from Paul to the Romans (a word I suggest every ELCA congregation include in every Sunday bulletin): *Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments ... are summed up in this word, 'Love your neighbor as yourself'* (Romans 13:8-9).

Martin Luther held that the key to our use of the Bible is that Jesus Christ be at the center. We can differ on many matters—and we do! But there is a core: the bedrock understanding that all are saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ.

Luther insisted that the church is the creation of the Spirit. Further, he held that the Spirit works primarily through the gospel that comes to us in word and sacrament. If we can grasp this, the core of our confession, then I have hope that we



can sail with greater confidence through whatever gales may lash at us in the years to come.

*Herbert Chilstrom was presiding bishop of the ELCA from 1987 to 1995.*

*He lives in Green Valley, Arizona.*

#### Ingredients

- 4 boneless skinless chicken breasts
- 1 can of chicken broth
- 2 cans cream of chicken
- Sliced carrots
- Sliced celery
- ½ can of peas
- ½ onion
- 3-4 slices of crispy, crumbled bacon
- Parsley
- Garlic powder
- Salt and pepper
- A can of flaky biscuits

#### Directions

- Pour broth & Cream of Chicken soup in crockpot.
- Add chicken breasts and mix with liquid to make sure the chicken is well covered.
- Mix in carrots, celery and onions and season with garlic powder, salt & pepper and parsley.
- Cook on high for 3 hours.
- Remove chicken and use a fork to pull it apart.
- Mix peas and bacon into the crock pot.
- Return chicken to crockpot and mix well.
- Break up the uncooked biscuits and mix into the crockpot.
- Cook for one hour on high.

You can use your discretion on the amounts of vegetables, bacon and seasonings that you use in this recipe.

#### Church Bulletin Bloopers



If you choose to heave during the postlude, please do so quietly.

The new loudspeaker was given by John Weiglestone in honor of his wife.

**Al Stevens Obituary** (cont'd from page 2)

own on Aug. 8, 2019.

Al is survived by his children: Sandra (Derrald) Meyer of Granite Falls; Sharon (John) Stamson of Longville; Marilyn (Mick) Mohrlant of Oakdale; Susan Hamre (Martin Keller) of Minneapolis, and Bob Hamre of Richfield; 14 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great-grandchildren; brother-in-law Richard Norman, sister-in law Kaye Norman, and several nieces and nephews.

His funeral was held on September 17 at Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church with burial in East Yellow Medicine Lutheran Cemetery.

Memorials are preferred to Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church, 101 Main Street, Hanley Falls MN 56245.

save lives and bring hope to those affected by suicide,” said Mary Weiler, AFSP ND Chapter Board Chair.

**The Fargo/Moorhead Area Out of the Darkness Community Walk** is one of more than 550 Out of the Darkness Overnight, Community and Campus Walks being held nationwide this year. The walks are expected to unite more than 300,000 walkers and raise millions for suicide prevention efforts. Last year, these walks raised over \$21 million for suicide prevention. Last year our local walk, raised over \$123,000 and had over 2,000 participants.

“These walks are about turning hope into action,” said AFSP CEO Robert Gebbia. “The research has shown us how to fight suicide, and if we keep up the fight, the science is only going to get better and our culture will get smarter about mental health. With the efforts of our courageous volunteers, and a real investment from our nation’s leaders, we hope to significantly reduce the suicide rate in the United States.”

*The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention is dedicated to saving lives and bringing hope to those affected by suicide. AFSP creates a culture that’s smart about mental health through education and community programs, develops suicide prevention through research and advocacy, and provides support for those affected by suicide. Led by CEO Robert Gebbia and headquartered in New York, and with a public policy office in Washington, D.C., AFSP has local chapters in all 50 states with programs and events nationwide. Learn more about AFSP in its latest Annual Report, and join the conversation on suicide prevention by following AFSP on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube.*



American Foundation for Suicide Prevention



**Volunteers Walk to Fight Suicide**

Join the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention for the Fargo/Moorhead Area Out of the Darkness Community Walk on Sunday, September 15th at the Scheels Arena. Registration begins at noon. Proceeds benefit local and national suicide prevention and awareness programs of the American Foundation for Suicide

Prevention. Learn more at [afsp.org/Fargo](http://afsp.org/Fargo)

**Fargo, North Dakota — July 31st, 2019**

Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the United States and the 8th in North Dakota, yet suicide can be prevented. Volunteers from the Fargo/Moorhead Area are joining the quarter of a million people who are walking in towns across the United States to draw attention to the fight for suicide prevention. The annual Fargo/Moorhead Area Out of the Darkness Community Walk, hosted by the **American Foundation for Suicide Prevention North Dakota Chapter**, will be held at **the** Scheels Arena on Sunday, September 15th. Registration will start at noon. This walk supports the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention’s education and support programs and its bold goal to reduce the annual U.S. rate of suicide 20 percent by the year 2025.

“Suicide touches one in five American families. We hope that by walking we will draw attention to this issue and keep other families from experiencing a suicide loss. Our ultimate goal is to



YWCA's 36<sup>th</sup>

annual *Chocolate Fantasy and Chili, too!* event is a special way to support the YWCA Emergency Shelter, which each year helps over 1,400 women and children in rebuilding their lives.








On **September 5** from 11am-7pm, some 1,200 attendees of all ages will come to the Delta by Marriott to enjoy local chocolate delicacies, bid on silent auction items, rub elbows with celebrity servers, and listen to live music.

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for children ages 6-12 (ages 5 and younger are free!).

*For tickets please visit:*

<https://www.ywcacassclay.org/events/chocolate-fantasy/>  
Or call 701-232-2547 or stop into any area Hornbacher’s location.

# SEPTEMBER 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 GREEN 9 am Coffee 10 am Worship 	2	3	4 Bible Study 5:30-7:00 PM 	5	6	7
8 GREEN 9 am Coffee 10 am Worship	9 NEIL & POLLY HANSON DORIS KASSENBERG 	10 Concordia Ladies 1:30 pm 	11 Veteran's Coffee 10 am—Noon Veterans Coffee Hour	12	13 	14
15 GREEN 9 am Coffee 10 am Worship	16	17	18 	19	20	21
22 GREEN 9 am Coffee 10 am Worship	23	24	25	26	27 ROMEOS 7:30 am 	28
29 GREEN 9 am Coffee 10 am Worship	30					

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**Concordia News**

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etc.**

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