

Concordia News – Large Print

December 2019

Volume 14

A newsletter for members,

Number 12

family, and friends of

Concordia Lutheran Church and

Concordia Cemetery Association



From Pastor Bruce	2
Announcements and Assignments.....	4
With Our Thanks	8
Recipe of the Month	10
Bits and Pieces	11
Dates to Remember	15



In a culture that increasingly is defined by instant gratification, the season of Advent stands as a bulwark. The sense of the season is anticipation. It is a season of waiting and watching for God's great work of the incarnation. Advent is not Christmas. It is a time to contemplate the significance of a life where the incarnation is a possibility and

to recognize that the message of Christmas is a profound intrusion into the hopelessness of a world without a present and indwelling God.

May you be blessed in this season of "already but not yet" as we look to the coming of the Christ Child. I pass the following portion of a Wikipedia article FYI:

Grace and peace,

Pastor Bruce

Advent is a season observed in many Christian churches as a time of expectant waiting and preparation for both the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas and the return of Jesus at the Second Coming. The term is a version of the Latin word meaning "coming".

The term "Advent" is also used in Eastern Orthodoxy for the 40-day Nativity Fast, which has practices different from those in the West.

The Latin word *adventus* is the translation of the Greek word *parousia*, commonly used to refer to the Second Coming of Christ. For Christians, the season of Advent anticipates the coming of Christ from three different perspectives. Philip H. Pfatteicher, formerly a professor at East Stroudsberg University, notes that "since the time of Bernard of Clairvaux (d.1153), Christians have spoken of the three comings of Christ: in the flesh in Bethlehem, in our hearts daily, and in glory at the end of time." The season offers the opportunity to share in the ancient longing for the coming of the Messiah, and to be alert for his Second Coming.

Advent is the beginning of the Western liturgical year. In the Roman Rite of the Catholic Church, the Western Rite of the Orthodox Church, and in the Anglican, Lutheran, Moravian, Presbyterian, and Methodist calendars, Advent commences on the fourth Sunday before Christmas—the Sunday nearest to St. Andrew's Day (30 November). It can fall on any date between 27 November and 3 December. When Christmas Day is a Monday, Advent Sunday will fall on its latest possible date. In the Ambrosian Rite and the Mozarabic Rite of the Catholic Church, Advent begins on the sixth Sunday before Christmas, the Sunday after St. Martin's Day (11 November).

Coffee and Cookie Servers



December 1	Sue Kassenborg	January 5	Germaine Gress
December 8	JoLyn Johnson	January 12	Clinton Babolian
December 15	Orpha Hoelstad	January 19	Carolyn Edwards
December 22	Lloyd Gunderson	January 26	Irene Olson
December 29	Carolyn Edwards		

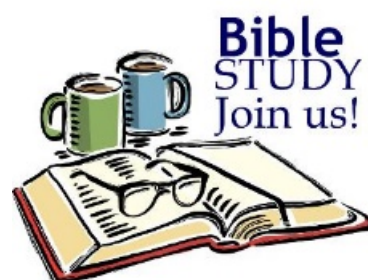
Bible Study

Wednesday, December 4

Wednesday, December 18

2:30 pm

Home of Kjell & Orpha Hoelstad



Concordia Ladies

Tuesday, December 10

1:30 p.m.

Fryn' Pan



Join The Romeos!

Retired Old Men Eating Out

7:30 a.m., December 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 December celebrate Christmas in Kids Corner. 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, December 11.

What do you call people who are afraid of Santa Claus? Claustrophobic!



Happy New Year!



Sunday

December 8

Join us for our annual Christmas Potluck following services on December 8.

Remember Homeless Kids

At Christmas

Don't forget to bring something for the Hat & Mitten Tree! The 'decorations' will be donated to benefit homeless kids in Fargo-Moorhead.



Christmas Eve Service

Tuesday, December 24

4:00 p.m.

Christmas Day

Wednesday, December 25

10:00 a.m.



Church Cancellations



It's the season of ice, snow, and cold weather again. Services will be cancelled when the wind chill exceeds minus 20 degrees or when NOAA (the National Weather Service) advises "No Travel." The congregation president and pastor will determine if other circumstances (low visibility, icy conditions) should result in cancellation. WDAY TV should broadcast the cancellation, but a few times they have not. When in doubt, do not hesitate to call Pastor Bruce the day of, at 218-329-2245. If you reach voice mail he may be talking to someone else, so please leave a message and he'll return your call as soon as he can.

Stay warm! Stay safe!

According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, both male and female reindeer grow antlers in the summer each year (the only female members of the deer family who do). Male reindeer drop their antlers at the beginning of winter, usually late November to mid December.



Female reindeer, however, retain their antlers until after they give birth in the spring. Therefore, according to every historical rendition depicting Santa's reindeer, every single one of them, from Rudolf to Blitzen.... had to be a female. We should have known – they never get lost!

Donations

Concordia General Fund

In Memory of Sally Horpedahl

Alice Horpedahl

Concordia Cemetery Association

In Memory of Donald & Evangeline Johnson

Don & Wendy Johnson

In Memory of Richard Skrei

R Paul Skrei

I want to thank everyone at my old church, Concordia, for your thoughts and prayers for me following my brain bleed. Thank you Pastor Bruce for your prayers and mom for placing my name on the prayer chain.

I am doing very well – What I have to work on is my balance; I want to go to the left. I have a walker and a cane nearby so I'll just be careful.

Thank you again, all of you, for your concerns and prayers.

Kari (Kassenborg) Kinley & family

Bill, Brett, Bernie & Cooper, Danny, Nichole & Dale

A Special Gift and Remembrance



Don Johnson loved his Concordia family and especially enjoyed seeing the church decorated at Christmas. A new Christmas tree was given to Concordia last year by his family in his honor. This beautiful tree will be a wonderful way to include this special community member in our Christmas celebrations for years to come. THANK YOU!

Murphy's Law: Bev Edenborg sent me a lovely note about this last November (2018). It was personally delivered to me by a neighbor in March. It seems the letter was delivered to my snowbird neighbors the day they left for Arizona (they had mistakenly started forwarding one day later) and it was patiently waiting in their mailbox when they returned. Rather than include it in the April newsletter, I thought it should be printed in a "holiday" newsletter when the tree was up and decorated.

Alene

Recipe of the Month

Norwegian Christmas Cabbage



Ingredients

8 slices of bacon One head of cabbage, cored & shredded
1/4 cup flour 1 tsp. caraway seed
Salt & Pepper to taste
1/2 cup vinegar, or to taste 1/2 cup white sugar, or to taste

Directions

Each Layer

- Place two slices of bacon across the bottom of a large pot.
- Cover with cabbage
- Sprinkle a light dusting of flour
- Add a pinch of caraway seed
- Season with a little salt & pepper

Add as many layers as the pot can hold

Fill with water about 3/4 up the side of the pot.

Bring to a boil, turn down to medium heat

Cook about 45 minutes, until cabbage is soft, stirring occasionally.

Take the pot off the stove and let it cool for about 15 minutes.

Stir in a little vinegar, then a little sugar until you have it the way you want it to taste.

Martin Luther Loved Christmas!



Martin Luther instituted many of the Christmas traditions we hold dear today.

He felt music was the perfect praise and Christmas music most of all. He wrote “From Heaven Above to Earth I Come” for Christmas. He is credited with introducing the Christmas tree, with candles (now lights) representing the stars that shone on the night of Jesus’ birth.

Gifts had been given to children on December 6, but Luther moved the gift-giving to Christmas Eve to remind us all of the gift from God that lay in a manger on that sacred night.

Martin Luther so loved Christmas because he knew that the Christmas story allows us to share in the pure joy of God’s eternal love for each of us.



Letters to Santa

From the Moorhead Daily News

December 23, 1930

Dear Santa,

I am a little girl. Please bring me a doll that goes to sleep. Mama says I'm a good little girl.

Adeline Kragnes

Georgetown

Dear Santa:

I am a little boy, only five years old, and I am a good little boy. Please bring me a doll that can walk.

Alvin Kragnes

Georgetown

Dear Santa:

This is my first year in school. I am a good little girl and I haven't missed a day of school. I help mama every evening. Please send me twin rubber dolls that can say ma-ma. Also a little Ford coupe that runs.

Your most loving friend,

Gladys Olson

Felton

Dear Santa:

I have read other letters that kiddies have written you so I am having my cousin write for me. I am four years old. I am going to start school next year.

I want a kiddy car for Christmas. Don't forget to come.

Robert Johnk

Glyndon

Dear Santa Claus:

I hope you are feeling better now. You better tell your wife to rub some salve on your chest.

What I want for Christmas is an all day sucker. I like candy best of anything, also send me a rocking horse.

My friend is writing for me. I am four years old.

Melvin Hatledal

Glyndon

December 13, 1930

Dear Santa:

I'm glad you are well again. I am 8 years old. I go to school. My teacher's name is Miss Scott. For Christmas I would like a plant with flowers on it, also a ball and a pencil box. Please don't forget what I would like.

Ann Olah Thortvedt, Glyndon

Viking Christmas Traditions

God Jul! (Happy Christmas!) When Christianity was introduced in Norway, the name “Christmas” just didn’t catch on. Throughout the Viking lands they continued to use the name for the pagan celebrations of the winter solstice, Jul (“Yule”) for the Christian holiday.



The All-Father, the great god Odin, was honored during the solstice. He was known as “Fadder Jul” – “Father Christmas.” During the season he would ride through the skies on his 8-legged horse *Sleipnir* and visit the homes of mortals. The Dutch adopted this tradition, giving Father Christmas the name St. Nicholas -- Santa Claus. Instead of an 8-legged horse, Santa Claus travels the skies in his magical sleigh drawn by 8 reindeer.



I’m a little snowman, short and fat.
 Here is my scarf and Here is my Hat.
 When I hear the snowfall, hear me shout:
 “All you children, come on out!”
Sing to tune of “I’m a Little Teapot”

Dates to Remember

Worship Services every Sunday

Coffee Hour: 9 a.m.

Worship: 10 a.m.

Communion first Sunday of the Month

Bible Study

2:30 p.m., Wednesday Dec. 4

2:30 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 18

Concordia Ladies

1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 10

Veteran Coffee Hour

10 a.m., Wednesday, December 11

Christmas Eve Service

4 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 24

Christmas Day Service

10 a.m., Wednesday, Dec. 25

ROMEOs

7:30 a.m., Friday, December 27

Birthdays

December 2 Clinton Babolian *and* Gordon Kassenborg

December 16 Paul Decker

December 17 Delores Hagene

December 28 Bev Edenborg

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To submit an item for the newsletter:

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