



Volume 15

# Concordia News

## July 2020



Number 6

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

**Contents**

**Page**

From Pastor Bruce .....	1
Announcements & Assignments .....	2
With Our Thanks .....	3
Bits and Pieces .....	4
Community Calendar .....	5

At the time of this writing it is the day before Independence Day.

Given that in the email message for this past Sunday I spoke about Freedom from a biblical



perspective it seemed appropriate that the voice of Martin Luther be heard on this matter as well. Luther wrote a treatise entitled "The Bondage of the Will" in which he elucidated the Apostle Paul's doctrine of justification. In it he repudiated "works righteousness" saying that not only is there nothing that humans can do to save themselves but even more so that "natural man", that is unredeemed person (non-Christian) can do nothing to save him or herself. Our salvation is not a collaborative effort between God and us but is wholly dependent on God. Luther looked at scripture and the history of Church and came to believe that we were saved by God's grace and only by that grace. In his work "The Bondage of the Will", he provides the biblical rationale for the thesis that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. This sounds like a negative title for book, but the concept is what secures our total dependency on Christ for our righteousness before a perfect God. Luther compares "self righteousness", where we take partial credit for our right relationship with God, to "alien righteousness", where we acknowledge that our right relationship with God has nothing to do with us but only with God. It is a righteousness that comes not from within but from without.

A later work of Luther's was entitled, "The Freedom of a Christian" (1520 AD). In it Luther states that now that God has done it all for us through Christ and now that we have nothing to do to secure our salvation, we have "everything to do". God has liberated us from Sin, death and the powers of darkness in order that we may pass that gift on to others both through word and deed. This is not done to earn God's favor or even to pay him back. We serve our neighbor not out of guilt, shame or a sense of indebtedness but out of gratitude for what God has done for us. We don't love our neighbor as we love ourselves for any other reason than we want to. Having experienced the most perfect love and self-sacrifice of what Jesus did for us on the cross and empty tomb, we spontaneously pay it forward to those that we encounter. The Apostle Paul stated that for freedom Christ has set us free. Luther rephrased that by saying, "A Christian is perfectly a free lord of all people, subject to no one (but God). A Christian is a perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject to all." ((The Freedom of a Christian)).

We have been blessed to be born into a country that while flawed, had great (and flawed) founders that crafted the Constitution and Bill of Rights that along with God's grace, created the rock solid foundation for the building of our republic. God has showered his favor on us through Christ and through being born into the United States of America. Let us live our lives so that all Americans would experience release from bondage not just of the will but any bondage that would prevent all our fellow citizens from fully experiencing the freedom that is inherent in the gospel and the freedom which is due to all who live in our great land. God bless America and God bless you and yours this Independence Day weekend.

*Pastor Bruce*

**ALL CHURCH ACTIVITIES SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

## Coffee and Cookie Servers

(when services resume)

August 2 Sue Kassenborg  
 August 9 Carolyn Edwards  
 August 16 Lloyd Gunderson  
 August 23 Orpha Hoelstad  
 August 30 Clinton Babolian



Weekly worship will continue to be suspended due to the Corona Virus. I am available for conversation and pastoral care 24/7. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 218-329-2245. Kathy and I will not be distributing Holy Communion on July 5 but on July 12. She took a tumble off a ladder incurring 10 cranial staples and some bruises. After a thorough check up, including Cat Scan, she was quickly released to begin the process of healing.

*Pastor Bruce*



## Sylvia Teigen

1949-2020

Sylvia Teigen, 70, of Moorhead, MN died Tuesday, June 30, 2020 at Bethany Nursing Home in the care of Hospice, Fargo, ND.

Sylvia Adeline Kragnes was born September 13, 1949, the daughter of Alvin O. and Adeline (Rosman) Kragnes. She was baptized and confirmed at Concordia Lutheran Church.

Sylvia attended school at Clay County Dist. #70, Georgetown, Moorhead High School, and Moorhead State where she received a bachelor's degree with a major in English and a minor in history. She then went on for an added fifth year.

Sylvia taught English in Underwood, MN for two years, then took time off to raise a family while continuing to take classes to complete her Library Science degree. She was a librarian in the Fargo Public Schools until she retired in 2013. She loved sharing books with her students, helping them to experience the excitement and joy of reading. The children always looked forward to coming to the library to see what excitement was in store for them each time.

Sylvia was an active member of Concordia, spending decades teaching Sunday School, holding WELCA and church offices and hosting community events. She became co-editor of *Concordia News* in 2010.

She loved gardening, crafts, crocheting, giving fun gifts and cards to others, playing the piano and accordion, baking, history, ancestry and most of all making people happy.

Sylvia met her husband, Walter, through mutual friends and they were married June 22, 1973.

She is survived by her husband, Walter Teigen, daughter, Karolynn (Paul) Decker of Moorhead, MN, sisters Lorna Rockstad of Ada, MN, Orpha (Kjell) Hoelstad, of Kragnes, MN, sister-in-law Doris Kragnes of Detroit Lakes, many nieces and nephews and grand nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, brothers Eugene "Gene" and Burton Kragnes,  
*(cont'd on left)*



## July Birthdays

July 4 Sue Kassenborg  
 July 15 Michael Edwards  
 July 20 Jim Koester  
 July 21 Linda Koester  
 July 22 Pastor Bruce  
 Sammy Hatman  
 July 25 Gerald Hagene  
 July 26 Myron Hagene  
 July 30 Phylis Nelson



## July Anniversary

July 18 Diane & Leo Murr

## Sylvia Teigen Obituary (cont'd)

and brother-in-law Burt Rockstad.

Visitation on Wednesday, July 8 from 5-7 p.m. at Wright Funeral Home in Moorhead. Service (family only) 10 a.m. Thursday, July 9 with public committal service in the cemetery at 10:45. Masks are strongly encouraged.

## We Need Your Support



With worship services and other activities suspended for over three 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.

If you wish, your donation can be made in honor or in memory of a loved one or event.

### 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

*Thank You*

Thank you for your prayers and support for Sylvia during her illness and for her husband Walter and daughter Karolynn Decker following Sylvia's passing.

May God bless the memory of Sylvia Teigen.



## Recipe of the Month Southwestern Pasta Salad

### Ingredients

- kosher salt
- 1 lb. dry bow tie pasta (or your choice)
- 1 15-oz. can corn kernels
- 1 15-oz. can black beans
- 1 c. shredded cheddar
- 1 c. halved cherry tomatoes
- 2 avocados, diced
- 1/3 c. chopped cilantro

### For the dressing

- 1 c. Greek yogurt
- 1/3 c. extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 tbsp. honey
- 1 tbsp. apple cider vinegar
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 limes, juiced
- 1/2 jalapeño, chopped
- 1 1/2 tbsp. taco seasoning
- kosher salt

### Directions

- In a large pot of salted boiling water, cook pasta according to package directions until al dente. Drain and cool, 5 minutes.
- Meanwhile, make dressing: Whisk all ingredients together. Taste and add salt as desired.
- Stir corn, black beans, cheese, tomatoes, avocados and cilantro in with pasta. Toss with dressing. Cover tightly and refrigerate 1 hour before serving.

---

America was not built on fear. America was built on courage, on imagination, and on unbeatable determination to do the job at hand.  
~President Harry S. Truman

May we think of freedom not as the right to do as we please, but the right to do what is right.  
~Peter Marshall, chaplain, United States Senate

In recognizing the humanity of our fellow beings, we pay the American dream the highest tribute.  
~Justice Thurgood Marshall

---



**Red River Girl**  
**A book from Norway about**  
**the Buffalo River Settlement**  
**as told by Orabel Thortvedt**



The West Telemark Museum in Norway is sponsoring an exhibit about the Buffalo River Settlement from June 15, 2020 – September 15, 2021. A group from West Telemark visited Moorhead a couple of years ago to gather information and review Orabel's scrapbooks to glean information for the exhibit. From their website:

The history of the *Buffalo River* settlement - all the way up north in Minnesota, not far from the double town of Fargo / Moorhead - is legendary since 1909, when Torkel Oftelie mentioned it in the first issue of *Telesoga*. Central to this story is the Geitestad (later Thortvedt) family from Fyresdal who emigrated to the Midwest in 1861. After nearly 10 years in Houston County, they began the legendary *Red River Trek* - a pioneering walk to the undeveloped plains between the Red River and Buffalo River, where they settled in 1870. History is documented by the artist Orabel Thortvedt (1896-1983) through numerous paintings, drawings and scrapbooks. It is this material the story is told through, both in the exhibition and as a magnificent book.

The book, "Red River Girl" has been published in Norway and tells the story both in Norwegian and in English. It will be available in the US through Telelaget, the organization of descendants of immigrants from Telemark. Filled with photos and Orabel's sketches, it offers the story of the journey to Clay County and the early years of the settlement on the Buffalo along with biographical information about Orabel herself.

A copy will be donated to Concordia Church for those of you who would like to take a look at it. It is indeed a "magnificent book" - hardcover, roughly 9" X 13", art silk paper, a true "coffee table book." It would be a great addition to your personal library, and would make a great gift for anyone interested in the history of the Buffalo River Settlement.

The book's arrival in the US is scheduled for August of this year. When it is available, ordering information will be included in *Concordia News*.



from the  
**Moorhead Daily News**  
**July 14, 1938**  
**Page Three**

**"Miss Preston in Honor Guest at Parties Today"**

Miss Ruth Jane Preston, whose marriage to Harold Bekkerus, son of Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Bekkerus, near Glyndon, will take place on July 20, will be guest of honor at parties today and Friday.

This afternoon Mrs. Bekkerus will entertain 50 relatives and friends at a miscellaneous shower at her home. Miss Betty Trace of Fargo is to host a miscellaneous shower this evening, the guests being members of the Presbyterian church choir in Fargo, to which Miss Preston belongs.

Friday evening Mrs. N. H. Hinkle and Mrs. R. P. Roberts will entertain at a towel shower at the Hinkle residence. Guests will be members of the Fargo-Moorhead Women's chorus. Miss Preston has sung in the chorus.

# July 4th word search



J O X U Z T Y Q V G X F Z J B V L J E J  
K G Q X H D A J Q L T Q X S A W L P C U  
D U I G N I D N U O F R W R Q G X S J W  
Y F N M E J E Y I A P K K I P R X L T A  
T L I I U A C A T A T F E M V N Y J G S  
Y P C R T M N H C T K J I U A N J D Z G  
J B M O D E E R F I U L J T O B J M U U  
I N A K Y R D Q I Y T G I S I Q Z L Y W  
U F R R S I N S F X C O B N H Y E K A S  
W J F H H C E N T E N N I A L V V S D P  
D E L G N A P S R A T S K R O W E R I F  
P A B S T N E F L X T K F E T L K N L H  
L G T S O P D A L I B E R T Y A B X O I  
Q P Q P I C N I C M F T S E P O P N H I  
K U U R L T I A J C U S M V H W O P O L  
O C T Q H Q W V X H Q K Z I I R E A Q D  
J S M E H F H S I C Q U Z T Y F W P V Q  
V Q M G U Z D C U C S F N S P G Y J J N  
X N W I N U H R B W B M N E S B K J U E  
B M E X H R J K Z D N P S F I C R G Z Q

words to find



AMERICAN  
FATHERS  
FOUNDING  
HONOR  
NATIONAL ANTHEM  
STARS  
UNITED STATES

CENTENNIAL  
FESTIVE  
FREEDOM  
INDEPENDENCE DAY  
PATRIOTIC  
STRIPES  
VETERANS

CIVIC  
FIREWORKS  
HOLIDAY  
LIBERTY  
PICNIC  
STAR SPANGLED

**Concordia Lutheran Church/Cemetery Association**  
**6637 80th Avenue North**  
**Glyndon, MN. 56547**  
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED  
[www.concordianews.org](http://www.concordianews.org)

NON-PROFIT  
ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
MOORHEAD, MN  
PERMIT 384

*You are always welcome at*  
*Concordia Lutheran Church*  
Handicap Accessible

Because of COVID-19, this issue of Concordia News is only being distributed digitally. Regular mail delivery will resume after this crisis has passed.



July 2020

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

**Concordia News**

Remove from mailing list    Add to mailing list    Change of address

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:** Alene Sladky, 6938 State 200 NW, Laporte MN 56461-2012

**To submit articles, recipes, announcements,  
etc.**

**Email:** [news@concordianews.org](mailto:news@concordianews.org)

**Mail:** Alene Sladky  
6938 State Highway 200 NW  
Laporte, Minnesota 56461

Submission deadline is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month

**Visit our website at:**

<http://www.concordianews.org>

Click on "Newsletter" to read the current or past issues of Concordia News in regular or large print, submit a change of address, sign up to receive the newsletter by mail, or request an email notification when each newsletter appears on the website.

**Newsletter Staff**

Editors: Karolynn Decker & Alene Sladky

Treasurer: Walter Teigen