



Concordia Chimes

CONCORDIA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

585 Fifth St.
Prairie du Sac, WI 53578
608-643-6356
www.concordiaumc.org

Rev. Doris Simpson, Pastor
Laila Drescher, Editor
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What's inside?

From the Pastor	Page 2
Sunday School and CYF	Page 3
Birthdays	Page 3
Concordia Cares	Page 3
Community Meals	Page 3
Red Bird Mission	Page 4
Volunteers In Mission	Page 4
Tamales for Sale	Page 4
Budget News	Page 5
Flowers for the Sanctuary	Page 5
Valentine's Extravaganza	Page 6
Melodies of Compassion	Page 6
Ecumenical Choir	Page 6
United Methodist Women	Page 7
Book Club at Concordia	Page 7
Stock the Schools	Page 7
Women's Retreat	Page 7
Who's Doing What, When	Page 8
Letter from the Bishop	Page 9
Thank you	Page 9
Helping Hands	Page 10
Nursery Leader	Page 10
Alzheimer Dementia Group	Page 10
Bulletin Sponsors	Page 10
Choir and Handbell Information	Page 10
Calendar	Page 11

Our Mission Statement

As a witness to Christ in our community, we are committed to spiritual growth and service.

PASTOR'S OFFICE

HOURS

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday

Rev. Doris Simpson, Pastor

I have set office hours so that you will know when you can be relatively sure I will be in the office if you want to stop in. That being said, there are times that I need to be gone for meetings, nursing home worship, scheduled pastoral visits or emergencies during those hours, but those times are infrequent. I am also often in the office until 5:00 pm or later, so you can stop in any time you see a blue Buick LeSabre parked in front of the church or in the parking lot.

Office Hours

Monday: 8:00am-1:00pm
Tuesday: Closed
Wednesday: 8:00am-1:00pm
Thursday: 8:00am-1:30pm
Friday: 9:00am-11:30am
Saturday and Sunday: Closed

Vision Statement of the Wisconsin Annual Conference:



Resident Bishop: Hee-Soo Jung
Asst. to the Bishop: Dan Dick



Rev. Doris Simpson, Pastor

pastor@concordiaumc.org | 608-643-8822—church
608-632-1825—cell | 608-643-8068—parsonage

Laila Drescher, Administrative Assistant

secr@concordiaumc.org | 608-643-6356—office



Greetings,

When the Church Council met in December, we began a stimulating conversation about what Concordia UMC is going to look like in 50 years. We talked about the Concordia members who had a vision of which you all are benefactors. They had a vision of their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren having a church home. Their picture of the future included the building and it was just as important to them that this be a place where the generations would be baptized, confirmed, married as well as celebrated into eternal life. They dreamed of a place where all who come through the doors would find a welcome; where all would have opportunities to be Jesus' disciples and to grow in their love of God; where all would find a community with whom they could share the joys and challenges with others the foundation which binds us together; and a place where all would discover the fruit of the spirit with which we live.

The Church Council made a decision to meet every month during 2018. Six of the meetings would focus on the vision that this generations of Jesus' disciples will use as guiding principles for our mission and ministries. Church Council meetings are always open to all who would like to have a voice. We will focus on our dream to fulfill God's mission for Concordia at the meetings held the odd months of the year. The meetings held on the even months will focus on our 2018 mission and ministries. All are welcome to attend all meetings—the 3rd Tuesday of each month.

As preparation for you to attend the meetings or you to have your voice heard, the Church Council invites you to complete the questions at the bottom of this page and leave them in the church office.

Blessings and thank you,

Pastor Dan Simpson

CONCORDIA UMC Seeing into the Future

What would you like to see in our church's ministries?

What are our core values? What are the beliefs that define what Concordia has been, is and will continue to be?

What is your vision for Concordia UMC? When you close your eyes and see a picture of what the church will be in 25 or 50 years, what does the picture look like?

February Birthdays

3rd– Amy Willey
3rd– Christina Atwell
4th– Verlyn Mueller
5th– Tracy Dickson
6th– Mary Clark
7th– Max Schroeder
9th– Nancy Hamilton
9th– Paula Reichert
10th– Melinda Rammer
12th– Marilyn Blackmon
15th– Travis Henn
16th– Carol Paul
17th– Roxanne Joyce
18th– Gordon Davis
18th– John Budd
18th– Kitty Henn
22nd– Eleanor Every
22nd– Rachel Ruhland
23rd– Dolores Bahr
24th– Fred McIntosh
25th– Janet Alm
25th– Ellen Marshall
26th– Tyler Evans

CONCORDIA CARES!

Please volunteer your time and show compassion to Concordia church families during times of joy (birth of a baby) and hardship (death in the family, ill family member etc.).

If you know of a family or a situation that would benefit from some TLC in the form of meals or transportation, please contact Pastor Doris (608-643-8822) or leave a message at the church (608-643-6356). We have a group of volunteers who are willing to offer assistance in those kinds of situations.

Community Meals in February

The Community Meals at Concordia for the month of January will be on:

Sunday, February 11: Team Koch
Sunday, February 25: Team Virchow

All are welcome to attend this free meal at Concordia for fellowship and food.

4:00-6:00pm

Join us and bring a friend!

Concordia Youth Fellowship (CYF) Building a Bridge of Faith

We are off to a great year on Wednesday nights. What a blessing to have many youth attending and growing in our faith together! During January and early February we are focusing our meetings on ways that we can shine the light of Christ into the lives of others. We have talked about hope, trust, being called and how to treat others. Through scripture reading, current articles, games and role playing, we are striving to find ways that we can build our own faith while spreading love and kindness in our daily lives. In February, we will begin attending the mid-week Lenten Services on Wednesday evenings. We are discussing ways that we can give to our community in the upcoming months through service projects and volunteering. Spread love and kindness in February!

Sunday School News

His Law is love and His Gospel is peace. I encourage all to sit with and meditate on this truth. Feel the strength and love of God through His protection as you put this truth into action in your daily life and as you parent and make it applicable for your children. When someone asks me about my faith and why I believe in God, it is my initial answer.

For the month of February, we explore Mark 4:41; 'And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"' For more context and understanding, a cross reference is Mark 4:40; "Why are you so afraid?" He asked. "Do you still have no faith?" As you pray for this ministry, be praying that God's power becomes more real for the kids.



RED BIRD - RED BIRD!

Did you know that the cardinal, aka red bird, is a symbol of hope! The cardinal is not a migratory bird, and so it stays with us throughout the year. You've been cheered by its vibrant color and energy on the coldest, snowiest of days, haven't you? Its endurance encourages us and lightens our spirits during the tough season of winter. All that from a little bird!

Red Bird Mission in Kentucky also serves up hope all year long. Purchases of hand crafted items from the Red Bird Mission Consignment Sale the Outreach Committee held in November amounted to \$396.70 worth of ornaments, wooden kitchen utensils, woven table runners, books, toys, jewelry, etc. That is over twice the amount we sold last year! And it is true: all the money from this sale goes back to the Red Bird Mission, who's goal is to improve the economy of southeastern Kentucky.

In addition, the November and December Melodies of Compassion were earmarked for the Red Bird Mission. Your loose coin offerings added up to \$366.18! And the Outreach Committee added another \$200 to that donation. **OUTSTANDING!**

Like the red bird, Concordia has encouraged hope and cheer to this mission and community. Thank you all for your purchase and loose coin offerings.



Tamales for Sale!

Homemade by the members of
Casa de Oración



Proceeds go to benefit the Reedsburg Hispanic Ministry! Order forms can be found at the back of the sanctuary and must be submitted by February 4th. The tamales will be delivered on February 11th^h after worship with a potluck lunch.

Upcoming Volunteers in Mission Trips:

February 24th-March 4th:
Marion, Alabama

March 17th-25th:
Hayesville, NC
Co-Leader-Bruce Koch



For Information Visit:
UMWIM.ORG

BUDGET REPORT

BUDGET NEWS

Budget Receipts for December 2017 \$33,569.47

Non-Budget receipts for December 2017

Webster Covenant Relationship	\$1,557.00
Red Bird Mission	\$240.85
Student Offering Day	\$110.00
Hurricane Relief (UMCOR)	\$1,257.90
Zambia Agricultural Project	\$383.00
Reedsburg Hispanic Ministry	\$199.08

General Checking Account Summary-Year to Date

Beginning Balance 1/1/17	\$34,272.53
Receipts	\$213,200.63
Disbursements	\$226,621.21
General Checking Account Balance 12/31/17	\$20,851.95
Capital Improvement Fund 12/31/17	\$130,960.05

Flowers for the Sanctuary

There is a sign-up on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall for Sunday morning flowers for the Sanctuary. Flowers may be donated in honor of someone, a special event or important day. Flowers can be donated in memory of a loved one. Thank you!



To all committee chairpersons:

Please submit your committee report for the next church council meeting to the church office by February 5, 2018. Please use the report form that was provided to you by email or request a copy of the form from the church office. Thank you!

Electronic Giving . . . Your annual pledge helps us forecast, with confidence, the level of financial support our congregation will receive in the year ahead. It is through the pledges and contributions of our members that we are able to live our mission here at **Concordia UMC**.

Concordia offers electronic giving as a way to automate your offerings. It is convenient for you and provides much-needed consistency for the church. Collection basket offerings can fluctuate significantly from week to week but when contributions are automated, the church receives funds on a steady, uninterrupted basis. Authorization forms are available in the church office.

SECOND SUNDAY DONATIONS

Second Sunday donations (food, cash, hygiene, household items) for February will go to Sauk Prairie Food Pantry.



FOURTH SUNDAY DONATIONS

Donations for Zelpha's Pantry will be accepted the fourth Sunday of the month. The Personal hygiene items are offered to guests at the Community Meal on the last Sunday of the month.

Valentine's Extravaganza

**Music....Movement...Memory Making
Cake Walk and fun for all ages!**

**Sunday, February 18
2:00pm-4:00pm**

Concordia United Methodist Church



**Activity Leaders:
Karen and Kendall Schlittler
Treats...Laughter...Fun**

Melodies of Compassion

Our Melodies of Compassion for
the month of January and February

Reedsburg Hispanic Ministry

*Please note: only loose coins are deposited to
Melodies of Compassion. Paper money is
deposited into the General Offering Fund
unless designated.*



Ecumenical Choir Cantata

The Ecumenical Choir will begin
rehearsing soon! Here is the schedule
of rehearsals:

February 10th: 9:00am-10:00am
March 3: 9:00am-10:00am
March 17: 9:00am-10:00am

Additionally, rehearsals will be offered
on the Wednesdays before each of the
Saturday dates from 2:00-3:00pm to
accommodate folks who cannot come
on Saturdays. These practices are:
Wednesday, February 7th
Wednesday, March 7th
Wednesday, March 14th

The choir will perform on Good Friday
during the 1:00pm and 6:30pm Good
Friday Services at St. Johns.



Upcoming Events with UMW:

- UMW Sunday is January 28th and will be celebrated during 10:30am Worship.
- Tuesday, February 13th at 10am we will be doing our annual “clean the kitchen”. Come when you can. If we have sufficient workers, we can easily have it all cleaned in a couple hours. Your help would be appreciated! The more help we have, the quicker the task is completed! We will have cleaning supplies available , bring your own gloves if you use them for cleaning. Thank you!
- **2018 Holiday Bazaar** plans are underway! Yes! We know it is 10 months away, but projects and ideas are flowing in our minds already! We are in need of some items that you may have around the house and are no longer using.
 1. Greeting cards; any occasion or holiday we will accept, but especially birthday and Christmas cards. So don't throw them away, let us re-purpose them for you!
 2. Canning jar rings, small or large sizes!
 You can leave these items in the kitchen on the counter between the refrigerators. If you have questions, contact Mary Peetz or Mary Clark.

Women's Retreat At Lake Lucerne Camp April 27-29

Theme: Come Walk in God's Light
Some of the workshops are Bible study, gardening, candlelight flower arrangement, stamping, cooking and watercolor painting.

See Emily Carncross for more registration information.



February- “Forged In Crisis”
By: Nancy Koehn

Join us for book club on
Tuesday, February 20th
at 12:00pm

STOCK THE SCHOOLS

Sauk Prairie Schools Students in Need

Specific items will be collected each month and distributed to students in need through the SP School District.

There is a bin located in Fellowship Hall to place your donated items.

The collection Items for February are:
Individual Fruit Cups and NEW brushes, combs, headbands, and barrettes



8

Who's doing what, when?

February 4th:

Ushers: Bruce and Leslie Koch
Darlene Coyle and Cathy Bochar
Greeter: Sue Evans
Acolytes: Griffin and Gillie Fritsch
Liturgist:
Tech Desk: Doug Hultberg
Nursery: Renee Grunewald
Communion: Leslie and Bruce Koch
Snow Removal: Koch's

February 11th:

Ushers: Gordon and Emily Carncross
Delorman Enge
Greeters: Tim and Renee Grunewald
Acolytes: Anna Drescher & Maddy Mauch
Liturgist:
Tech Desk: Pat Mings
Nursery: Irene DeVoe
Community Meal: Team Koch
Snow Removal: Virchow's

February 18th:

Ushers: Youth
Greeters: Youth
Acolytes: Carly Schroeder
Liturgist: Youth
Tech Desk: Bruce Koch
Nursery: Tatum Schroeder
Snow Removal: Emshoff's

February 25th:

Ushers: Larry Hinyup, Verlyn Mueller
Pam Dickson, Irene DeVoe
Greeters: Bruce and Leslie Koch
Acolytes: Evie Fritsch and Bella Enge
Liturgist:
Tech Desk: Irene DeVoe
Nursery: Beth McNulty
Snow Removal: Koch's

FEBRUARY READINGS:

February 4th:

1 Corinthians 7:29-31
Mark 1:14-20

February 11th:

2 Kings 2:1-12
Psalm 50:1-6
2 Corinthians 4:3-6
Mark 9:2-9

February 18th:

Genesis 9:8-17
Psalm 25:1-10
1 Peter 3:18-22
Mark 1:9-15

February 25th:

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16
Psalm 22:23-31
Romans 4:13-25
Mark 8:31-38 or Mark 9:2-9



BULLETIN PRINTING

Each week, the bulletins are printed on Thursday mornings. If you would like information or announcements added to the bulletin, please contact the church office before 11:00am on Thursdays.

Thank you!

Diversity is a Blessing

We are richly blessed in Wisconsin with the gift of diversity. We celebrate the diversity of faiths, cultures, races, lifestyles, and a rich tapestry of geographic diversity. Across our Conference, we find urban centers and rural towns offering God's presence to people whose lives are enriched and challenged by the dynamics of the society.

We gathered in Milwaukee on January 14th for the 6th annual celebration of the life of Martin Luther King, Jr. During this service, we examined today's world, and witnessed our stand for justice, mercy and truth. This year we were blessed with Bishop Melvin Talbert's prophetic witness. I was deeply inspired and moved by the stories he shared. In 1967, Bishop Talbert spent three days and nights in the same jail cell with Dr. King; and with nonviolent witness, he was impacted by King's legacy until today. Now is the time to embrace the legacy of Dr. King.

At this point in time, there may be no more important task, no more critical need, than to address racism and violent discrimination in all its forms. Without denying all the progress that has been made in race relations in our recent history, it is imperative that we honestly and accurately identify the forms of bias, bigotry and prejudice that lead to hostility, violence, and institutionalized injustice.

Our culture and world needs to understand "Black Lives Matter;" and our actions speak much more loudly than our words. We must make our neighborhoods, communities, and cities safe for black men and women, young and old. We must meet this challenge on many fronts. In our churches, we must pray; and we must educate; and we must get involved. I want to challenge all of the predominantly white churches in our Wisconsin Conference to study together such books as *Blindspot*, *Another Day in the Death of America*, *Fear of the Other*, or *Stamped from the Beginning* – or any of dozens of the studies of racism and the current trends of unjust violence against minorities, especially blacks, in our country and world.

I will continue to call us to pray for an end to racial discrimination and violence. I also challenge all of our clergy and laity leaders to build relationships with social and community agencies and causes fighting against racism and racial division. We need more opportunities to meet together, to talk together, and to work together to make a difference.

Grace and Peace,

Bishop Hee-Soo Jung

On behalf of the Salvation Army, I would like to thank you for your involvement in the 2017 holiday bell ringing. We greatly appreciate your gift of time. \$8,974.23 was the total collected the weekends during Advent with the Concordia bell ringers bringing in \$3,663.30 during their times of ringing. God's blessings to you in 2018!

~Pastor Bill Kapp

Thank you to the following people for your help with the Mobile Meal delivery in December and January: Charlene Tetiva, Doub Hultberg, Bruce Koch, Pam Dickson, Mary Clark and Jane Cordero. Your help is greatly appreciated and the people getting the meals appreciate a warm smile!

~Leslie Koch

Thanks to everyone for their prayers, support, cards, food, visits, phone calls, rides, filling in on my church duties and helping me with things around the house, during my recovery from ankle surgery. I am truly blessed to have a wonderful and caring church family.

~Irene DeVoe

Nursery Leader Wanted!

The Nurture Committee has been working on updating policies and procedures for the Nursery offered during Worship on Sunday mornings. We are looking for someone willing to share their gifts to this ministry by leading the changes we would like to see in the Nursery. Some of the responsibilities will include making sure the toys are clean and rotated for kids to play with, putting new books for kids to read, checking the craft supplies to make sure there are plenty available and being the contact for volunteers assigned to be there each week. The nursery leader would also work on structuring the time in the nursery for our volunteers with the use of children's bulletins and other strategies they may have and teaching the volunteers about the policies and structure of the nursery. Thank you for considering sharing your organizational talents and time to expand this important offering at Concordia.



HELPING HANDS!

The nurture committee is looking for ways to promote and expand the helping hands church family opportunities that are available. This is how you can get involved!

** We are currently compiling a list of people that are willing to drive other members of the church to appointments. If you are willing to be added to the list, please contact the church office.

** If you have "jobs" that you could use help with around your home, please call the church office. We have people willing to help each other out!

Contact the church office if you have time to give or if you need a helping hand!

Alzheimer Dementia Support Group

Whether you simply want a reference point to know what to expect when cognitive changes knock on your loved one's door or find comfort from others who are walking in your same shoes, the Alzheimer Dementia Support group welcomes you. Free meetings are hosted at Maplewood, every 4th Tuesday, 3:00-4:30. RSVP's are not necessary. If you have questions, contact Theresa Grimes at 632-3383.

Bulletin Sponsors

Please consider sponsoring a bulletin at \$10.00 per week. Proceeds will help defray the cost to print our weekly bulletins.



**Concordia Choir Rehearsals
are on Thursdays
at 6:30pm**

New members are welcome and needed! We usually sing on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month September through May. We'd love to see you there!

**The Handbell Practices during Lent will vary. Please check the church calendar for changes.
For more information or questions, please call
608-370-6210.**

February 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	2 7:00am UM Men at Eagle Inn	3
4 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Fellowship 10:30am Worship- Holy Communion	5	6 10:00am UMW Board Meeting 6:30pm Witness Meeting	7 9:30am SOFAS 2:00pm Ecumenical Choir 6:00pm Handbell Choir Practice 5:30pm CYF and Confirmation	8 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	9 7:00am UM Men	10 9:00am Ecumenical Choir Rehearsal
11 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Fellowship 10:30am Worship 4:00pm Community Meal	12	13 10:00am UMW Kitchen Cleaning 5:30pm Non-profit 7:00pm Church Council	14 1:00 Community Worship at St. John's 5:30 CYF at Food Pantry 7:00pm Community Worship at St. John's	15 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	16 7:00am UM Men 6:00pm Non-profit	17
18 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Fellowship 10:30am Worship 2:00pm Valentines Extravaganza	19	20 12:00pm Book Club	21 5:45pm CYF and Confirmation 6:30pm Community Worship at First United Church of Christ	22 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Handbell Choir Practice	23 7:00am UM Men	24
25 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Fellowship 10:30am Worship 4:00pm Community Meal	26	27 8:30am WCC at Leystra's 5:30pm Non-Profit	28 5:45pm CYF and Confirmation 6:30pm Community Worship at First Presbyterian			