



Concordia Chimes

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

Rev. Doris Simpson, Pastor
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Vision Statement of the Wisconsin Annual Conference:

Resident Bishop: Hee-Soo Jung
Asst. to the Bishop: Dan Dick
SW District Supt: Scott Carlson



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.

Fall Office Hours:

Monday: 9:00am- 1:00pm
Wednesday: 8:00am-1:00pm
Thursday: 8:00am-4:00pm

****In October, the weeks of October 8 and 15, I will be in the office on Tuesday instead of Wednesday.**



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I remember a time that the slogan, “*Today is the first day of the rest of your life.*” was commonly heard in the circles of people among whom I travelled. I wore a tee shirt with the slogan. I had a 36X48 inch poster taped to the wall in my living room. I think I was in my late teens and twenties because I haven’t taped posters to walls for many, many years. The sight of the slogan encouraged me to think about the present and future rather than the past. I don’t think I had the maturity to fully live each day. At that time in my life, I would have been involved in activities which were contrary to my moral values. The statement gave me hope in that I realized that each day was like a ‘do-over’. I didn’t have to live with the mistakes of my past, even if the past was yesterday.

At some point I transitioned to the phrase and song, “*One day at a time, sweet Jesus. That’s all I’m asking of you.*” which helped me make it through times that were overwhelming—seminary, early marriage, premie babies, juggling ministry and children’s schedules, cancer and divorce. The song was a constant reminder that God is with me; I am never alone and God provides what I need each moment of every day—a hope-filled way to go into each day.

It was also during those years that *Romans 8:28* began to speak to my soul. “*And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to God’s purpose.*” This is hope! This tells me that whatever happens, I will be okay—even better than okay! God is working good! Trusting this word reminds me that I don’t have to be anxious or worry. My mistakes are not fatal.

We get do-overs every day! This frees us from focusing on the everyday issues which tend to jump out at us. I do not have to worry. I do not have to have mistakes which I made yesterday, or last month, or six years ago on replay. I do what I can to repair injury when I know that I have caused injury. God in Jesus frees us to celebrate each day and to have lives of gratitude. When the worst thing that happens today is that a child forgot to take his lunch with him to school, we are indeed blessed! When the worst thing that happens today is a rock hitting our windshield, we are indeed blessed! When the worst thing that happens today is a stiff knee, we are indeed blessed! When the worst thing that happens today is needing to wear a jacket to stay warm, we are indeed blessed! The love of God, the grace of Jesus Christ, the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit is our blessing.

I am so blessed! This is why I sing. This is why I smile. This is why I have joy. This is why I am content whatever may happen. I want to share my blessing. This is why I want to be generous in my life. This is why I support Concordia United Methodist Church with my prayers, my presence, my gifts, my service and my witness. This is why we live generously.

I hope you will want to be part of our small group gatherings as we celebrate the ministries of this congregation which is possible through the generosity of the people called United Methodist at Concordia.

Pastor Doris Simpson

Live Generously

Small Group Gatherings

October 7th– 11:30am
Fellowship Hall– Host: Pat Yanke

October 10th– 11:30am
Fellowship Hall–Host: Pat Yanke

October 13th– 7:00pm
Gordon & Emily Carncross’s home

October 17th– 2:00pm
Doug & Barb Hultberg’s home

October 17th– 6:30pm
Aaron & Maria Andres’s home

October 22nd– 7:00pm
Parsonage– Host: Pastor Doris

October Birthdays

1st– Michael Bolton
2nd– Sarah Koenig
3rd– Greg Mauch
5th– Virginia Moely
8th– Cari Coker-Fritsch
11th– Kari Marshall
13th– Bruce Koch
13th– Matthew Wenzel
17th– Shirley Bartnick
17th– Anna Drescher
18th– Maria Andres
20th– Nyla Luetscher
20th– Barb Hultberg
20th– Andrea Mauch
22nd– Ashley Mickelson
24th– Pat Wolter
25th– Jack Coyle
28th– Scott Alyea



HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Saturday, Nov. 3rd, 2018
8:00am-2:00pm

Concordia United Methodist Church
585 5th Street
Prairie du Sac, WI



Featuring:

Beautifully handcrafted gift items and Gift baskets
Delicious bakery items including lefsa & fruitcakes

Enjoy coffee, homemade cinnamon rolls, soup and
apple pie at our Coffee Time Cafe

Bazaar proceeds will be shared with selected local community charities.

Trustees Report

Here are the highlights from the Trustees:

- **Exterior LED Lights**– Waiting for the company that replaced all interior bulbs and fixtures to come install the exterior lights.
- **Parsonage Committee**– Would like several people to address maintenance needs for the parsonage.
- **Exterior building sealing**– The work is done and the concrete repairs are finished.
- **Parsonage**– The tree has been removed. It was a huge old locust tree with some issues.
- **Office air conditioning unit**– The unit died and needed to be replaced. The work has been completed.
- **Furnace/broiler system**– The large project to replace the system is largely completed and we should begin seeing a reduction in utility costs this winter.
- **Kitchen remodel project**– The project is complete and all looks wonderful!

Community Meals in October

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

**Sunday, October 14th:
Team Roelke**

**Sunday, October 28th:
Team ACTS**

**All are welcome to attend this
free meal at Concordia for fel-
lowship and food.**

4:00-6:00pm

Join us and bring a friend!



Concordia Youth Fellowship (CYF) and Confirmation

October Dates:

Sunday, October 7th:

9:00am-10:00am Groove Class

Wednesday, October 10th:

5:00pm-8:00pm Food Pantry

Sunday, October 14th:

9:00am-10:00am Groove Class

6:00pm-7:30pm Youth Group

Wednesday, October 17th:

6:00pm-8:00pm Confirmation

Sunday, October 21st:

9:00am-10:00am Confirmation

9:00am-10:00am Groove Class

10:00am-10:30am Fellowship

10:30am Youth Worship

Thursday, October 25th:

1:00pm-3:00pm Food Pack

Sunday, October 28th:

9:00am-10:00am Groove Class



On Sunday mornings, our groove class meets with the purpose of connecting with each other and God. This past Sunday, a confirmed High School student attended our class. Her delightful personality and smile, and conversation with our younger students, was a much welcomed ray of light. She shared that one of the reasons she came was to see her Confirmation sponsor. On the VIM trip this summer, a member of our congregation invited one of the young men on the trip to read a bible verse for devotions. His invitation to the youth is still talked about and how that made him feel. We don't always see the youth every week, but when we do see them, connecting is of utmost importance. Thank you for allowing us to lead Worship on youth Sunday and helping connect with the youth in so many ways. Thank you to those that have supported our t-shirt fundraiser. Our youth are special.

“Church Merchandise” CYF Fundraiser



On the back of the short and long sleeve adult t-shirts it says:
“What God opens no one can shut, and what God shuts no one can open...See, I have placed before you an open door.”
Revelation 3:7-8

Concordia Youth Group will be doing an ongoing T-shirt fundraiser. If you would like to purchase a shirt, contact Laila in the office.



Concordia Sunday School for all ages!

Children's Sunday School Classes:

Pre-kindergarten– 1st grade: Teacher Irene DeVoe

2nd grade-3rd grade: Teacher Lisa Wenzel

4th grade-5th grade: Teacher Sue Evans

6th grade-8th grade: Teachers Court and Laila Drescher

Sunday School Music: Anni Mauch and Maria Andres



Adult Sunday School Classes:

ACTS Class: Leaders Jeff Virchow and Tom Andres

CARES Class: Leaders John Budd and Bruce Koch

Doubting Thomas Class: Leaders Roger and Jan Cole
Doug and Barb Hultberg

All are welcome to join a class on Sunday mornings at Concordia!

BUDGET REPORT



BUDGET NEWS

Budget Receipts for August 2018 \$12,662.80

Non-Budget receipts for August 2018

Hope House \$93.56
Paul Webster, Zambia \$170.00

General Checking Account Summary-Year to Date

Beginning Balance 1/1/18 \$20,852.94
Receipts \$176,422.61
Disbursements \$186,418.32
General Checking Account Balance 8/31/18 \$10,857.23
Capital Improvement Fund 8/31/18 \$77,373.25

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.

Coats and Winter Clothing Collection

- Collected by the Outreach Committee
- Distributed to kids in SP Schools
- Please put clean coats and winter clothing in the box by the kitchen
- Collection will end November 11th
- Questions? Contact De Enge at 643-8372



SECOND SUNDAY DONATIONS

Second Sunday donations (food, cash, hygiene, household items) for October 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.

Thursdays!
6:30-7:30
In the
Sanctuary!



Chancel Choir
begins August 30
6:30-7:30pm
at church

New Choir members Needed
and Welcome!

Questions?? Call Robin- 608-643-6317



Community Christmas
Cantata 2018

We invite any “singers” to join us for the 2018 Community Christmas Cantata. The performance is on Sunday, November 25th at 4:00pm at First United Church of Christ. The concert will be free and open to the public with a free-will offering collected to lend aid to those in need in our community. The Cantata is “Appalachian Winter”. Rehearsals are on Saturday mornings beginning October 13th at First UCC at 9:00am. Attendance at every rehearsal is not essential.

Music Makes Everything Better!

New research says singing daily reduces stress, clears sinuses, and helps you live longer! It can relieve pain, reduces stress, makes you work harder, and helps you relax. Music is one of life’s most beautiful gifts. One of the best ways to capture the benefits of music is through singing. It allows you to truly feel the song with your mind, body and soul. Research has shown singing can improve your health, increase happiness and even extend your life! Singing is even good for your brain..It releases endorphins, hormones that produce pleasure, simultaneous to oxytocin, hormones that diminish stress and anxiety. Oxytocin also decreases feelings of depression and loneliness, making us feel more connected with the world, which is precisely why singing with other people feels even better! A study done by scientists at the University of Gothenburg in Sweden found people who sing together become so connected they exhibit synchronized heartbeats. Anyone who has ever been in choir can attest to this. When the magical sound of several people singing together is created, there is an unexplained unity between those singing. Singing also requires deep concentration on breathing, which works major muscle groups in the upper body and is great for both lung and cardiovascular health. Bjorn Vickhoff, the leader of the study, stated: “Song is a form of regular, controlled breathing, since breathing out occurs on the song phrases and inhaling takes place between these. It gives you pretty much the same effect as yoga breathing. It helps you relax, and there are indications that it does provide a heart benefit.” Therefore, one could make the argument that singing is better for you than doing yoga! (Robin adds-Choir is free of charge, too. You don’t have to pay for joining!). Research has also proven that singing produces lower levels of cortisol, reducing stress while improving our immune system. Lastly, a joint study from Harvard and Yale Universities in 2008 found singing increases life expectancy. If you want to feel less stressed, become happier, and live longer: Start singing!



We NEED your baked goods for the Bazaar!

Aluminum pans, both loaf and 8x8 size, are available in the church kitchen for anyone wanting to bake quick breads or bars. They are located between the refrigerators and can be picked up any time this month.



For anyone planning on donating any baked goods for the bazaar, please bring them to the church kitchen on Friday morning, November 2nd for packaging and pricing. All items would be most welcome and appreciated. Thank you!



Bazaar Workday
Please join us for a bazaar workshop on Tuesday, October 16th at 10:30am in Fellowship Hall. We have a variety of small tasks that we could use your help with, relating to the 2018 Church Bazaar. Thank you!



October UMW Board Meeting will be on Tuesday, October 9th at 10:00am in Fellowship Hall

Harvest Produce Table Calling all Gardeners!!!

If you have any extra produce that you would like to donate such as; squash, gourds, indian corn, garlic, dried flowers, etc...please bring them to the church the week before the Bazaar; Tuesday, October 30th through Friday, November 3rd.

Thank you!



UMW Bazaar Gift Baskets



- Traditionally, UMW members have put together a gift card basket for the bazaar. We would welcome your donation of a gift card or cash to put toward this basket. These donations can be placed in the collection plate or dropped off at the church office marked "UMW card basket."
- If anyone has donations or ideas for other bazaar gift baskets, please contact Sandy Sandridge at 370-6014.

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Who's doing what, when?

October 7th:

Ushers: John and Joanne Budd
Don Wenzel
Greeters: Carol Janney
Liturgist:
Acolytes: Max Schroder and Myles Mauch
Tech Desk: Doug Hultberg
Lawn Care: Hunter Lang
Communion: Roger and Jan Cole

October 14th:

Ushers: Gordon and Emily Carncross
Delorman Enge
Greeters: Rosalie Hagie
Liturgist: Suzanne Paskey
Acolytes: Eric Emshoff and Gavin Carncross
Tech Desk: Pat Mings
Lawn Care: Abe Rothmann
Community Meal: Team Roelke

October 21st:

Ushers: Concordia Youth Group
Greeter: Concordia Youth Group
Liturgist: Concordia Youth Group
Acolytes: Gillie and Evie Fritsch
Tech Desk: Bruce Koch
Lawn Care: Kevin Emshoff

October 28th:

Ushers: Tim and Kari Marshall
Pat Yanke and Renee Grunewald
Greeters: Tom and Roxanne Andres
Liturgist:
Acolytes:
Tech Desk: Irene DeVoe
Lawn Care: Leslie Koch
Community Meal: Team ACTS

October Readings:

October 7th: Faith and Reason

Genesis 41
Matthew 6:19-21

October 14th: The Gift of Christ

Philippians 2:1-11
Mark 1:16-20

October 21st: Finding Balance

Matthew 6:24-33
Romans 12:1-8

October 28th: Total Commitment

1 Kings 17:8-16
Matthew 19:16-30



Stewardship Stew

All are welcome to share this meal on Sunday, October 28th following worship. The meal is in celebration of all that God has given us!

The menu includes:

Salad, Stewardship Stew, Homemade Biscuits, and Pumpkin Bars/Apple Cake. Beverages are also provide.

Come, Share in God's bounty!



Live Generously

TAKE HOLD OF THE LIFE THAT REALLY IS LIFE
1 TIMOTHY 6:18-19

Bigger and Better Things

Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.” (John 14:11-14)

What will it take for the laity and clergy, congregations, and conference leadership of the Wisconsin Annual Conference to do “greater works” than Jesus? It seems preposterous on one level, but on another? It is what Jesus calls us to do — and by the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit, it is our new reality.

There is some concern in our conference that we might not be in a good place financially. To be completely honest, we have spent down our reserves and we are experiencing a “cash flow” shortage in the immediate future. But that is only part of the story. Our Conference Council on Finance and Administration, with the support of the cabinet and Connectional Table, has developed a plan to reestablish a solid financial base upon which we will continue to do our ministry. We will move through this time of budgetary correction quickly and well. Our Conference Boards and Agencies hold more than \$12 million dollars in funds invested with our Wisconsin Conference Foundation for the on going, long-term ministries. This is our current reality. The Wisconsin Conference is in excellent financial condition beyond the current day-to-day challenges.

This is why we are so confident that it is time to Launch Out! in faith, in new directions, to do “greater things” than we have ever done before. Launch Out! is not a way to “pay our bills,” but a way to take a giant leap of faith forward to fulfill our mission of making disciples for the transformation of the world.

Wisconsin — both the state and the Conference — is experiencing a massive paradigm shift. Our population is changing. We are moving from a predominantly “white” culture to a gloriously diverse multi-cultural reality. New opportunities for new faith contexts with new people are all around us. We need to invest — today — in the communities that will lead us into our future.

We have existing congregations that are poised for high-potential, community-changing/world-changing ministries across the conference. The revisioning, revitalization, and resourcing of existing ministries to “turn around” our decline and struggle is essential. We need to invest — today — in empowering our existing churches to do transformational ministry.

The needs to serve, support, and engage individuals, families, communities, cities, and towns are greater than ever, and as social structures are able to do less and less, it is imperative that the church do more and more. Mercy and justice ministries have never been more challenging, but there has never been a greater opportunity to make a difference. We need to invest — today — in Christian service and mission that gives hope, light, and life to the most needy and vulnerable in our world.

Launch Out! is about faith-raising, not just fund-raising. Money is not the point; ministry is. We have a beautiful opportunity to make a commitment to say, collectively, that we walk by faith, not by sight. Our future will be determined by what we have, not by what we lack. What can we do together to do “greater things”? We are envisioning bigger and better things than we have ever been able to do before.

We are a Conference of many gifts, many assets, many resources, and many opportunities. We are a Conference of life-giving, world-transforming faith. We are a Conference that worships God, that serves a risen Savior, and that is empowered by an incredible, awesome, and miraculous Holy Spirit. Let us rejoice in the great blessings we have been given, and let us Launch Out! together in faith. Thanks be to God!

Hee-Soo Jung, Bishop



Melodies of Compassion

Our Melodies of Compassion for the months of September and October will go to

Madison Hospital Chaplaincy

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

Fall Coffee Fellowship

Sign up (in Fellowship Hall) to bake and serve treats and coffee on Sunday mornings before 10:30am Worship



Thank you!

It's a beautiful way to start the day!

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.

Stock the Schools!!!

Sauk Prairie School Students in Need
October Donation Items



Granola Bars

**Must be waterproof- winter
mittens, gloves, snowpants,
and winter boots**



**Donated items can be placed
in the bin in Fellowship Hall.**



Upcoming VIM Trips

- **Sunday, Sept.30-Friday, October 5: Lake Lucerne UMC Camp**

Join us for a week of fellowship, fun, and hard work! Tasks range from cleaning out cabins to bringing in the pier on the lake to cutting down trees and brush to roof repairs and laying new sidewalk! Cost- \$150.00 includes meals and lodging and donation to the camp. To register contact Gail Burgess at hb53104@aol.com or 262-945-8578

- **October 21-26: Poverty/Homeless Assistance- Detroit, MI**

Join us, in cooperation with Cass Community Social Services, to assist in areas of poverty. CCSS would like us to help repair their buildings and get them ready for inspection. We will be painting, patching, cleaning, etc...in 10 of their buildings. Cost-\$175.00. Co-leader of the trip is Tom Andres and can be contacted at tomroxandres@merr.com.



October 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Fellowship 10:30am Worship 11:30am Stewardship 4:00 Community Meal 5:00pm Nurture Mgt.	1 7:00pm Trustees Meeting	2 6:30pm Finance Meeting	3 9:30am SOFAS at Concordia 6:15pm Handbell Practice	4 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	5 7:00am UM Men	6 7:00pm Live Generously Group
7 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Fellowship 10:30 Worship—Holy Communion 11:30am Live Generously Group	8 6:30pm Nurture Committee Meeting	9 10:00am UMW Board Meeting 7:00pm Church Council Meeting	10 11:30am Live Generously Group 1:30pm Memorial Committee Meeting 5:00pm CYF at the Food Pantry 6:30pm Outreach Mgt	11 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	12 7:00am UM Men	13 7:00pm Live Generously Group
14 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Fellowship 10:30am Worship 4pm Community Meal— Team Roelke 6:00pm CYF	15	16 10:30am UMW Bazaar Workshop 12:00pm Book Club 6:30pm SPRC Meeting	17 2:00pm Live Generously Group 6:00pm Confirmation 6:15pm Handbell Choir 6:30pm Live Generously Group	18 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	19 7:00am UM Men	20
21 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Fellowship 10:30am Worship— Youth Sunday 3:00pm Charge Conference	22 7:00pm Live Generously Group	23 8:30am WCC at Eagle Inn	24 6:15pm Handbell Choir Practice	25 1:00pm Food Pack with FMSC at Grand Ave. 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	26 7:00am UM Men	27
28 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Fellowship 10:30am Worship 11:30am Live Generously Meal	29	30	31 6:15pm Handbell Choir Practice			