



Concordia Monthly Chimes

August 2019
Volume 40 Number 8



God of love and power,
We know that you are with us and
you are for us. You are the God
who breaks down every barrier. We
trust that your Spirit will break
through in us and your church.
Give us the courage to step through
the doors you open. Fill us with the
grace, mercy and power of Jesus.
Lead us where you would have us
go. Amen.



Pastor Rev. Claire Douglass

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Dear Concordia United Methodist Church Friends,

Did you know that Concordia is a Latin word meaning harmony? More precisely, it means “hearts together” since “con” is a prefix meaning together and “cor” comes from the word “cordis” meaning heart. We at Concordia United Methodist Church declare on our signs, on our website, in every bulletin and in every newsletter that our hearts are together. We share two goals in ministry, to glorify God through our mutual love of the God who created us and loves us and to love those around us as an expression of the love we first received from God.

It would be easy for us to confuse our “hearts being together” as everyone believing the exact same thing or everyone having the same heart and the same gifts. Yet as any musician knows, harmony does not express an absence of diversity, rather it expresses diverse notes working together to create beautiful music. Likewise I am confident that it is the diversity of gifts and opinions that make this church beautiful.

The apostle Paul wrote, “We have many parts in one body, but the parts don’t all have the same function. In the same way, though there are many of us, we are one body in Christ, and individually we belong to each other. We have different gifts that are consistent with God’s grace that has been given to us. If your gift is prophecy, you should prophesy in proportion to your faith. If your gift is service, devote yourself to serving. If your gift is teaching, devote yourself to teaching. If your gift is encouragement, devote yourself to encouraging. The one giving should do it with no strings attached. The leader should lead with passion. The one showing mercy should be cheerful. Love should be shown without pretending. Hate evil, and hold on to what is good. Love each other like the members of your family.”

I have only been with you here at Concordia United Methodist Church for a few weeks now, but I can tell you that this is a church that is working hard to serve in harmony with one another. That this is a church that recognizes the diversity in gifts of its members and invites everyone to serve alongside one another. From community meals, to VIM mission trips, from committee meetings to visitation, this is a church that is talented at identifying where people feel a passion to be in ministry and providing them with outlets to do so. I am confident that like a family, there will be days when we will disagree about how to go about showing our love for God and for those around us best. Yet, like a family, I hope that we can celebrate our diversity and continue to act with hearts together in order to strengthen this church and those around us.

Yours,
Pastor Claire

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August Birthdays

1st– Matthew Schneller
 3rd– Judi Rogalla
 3rd– Jennifer Carncross
 3rd– Taylor Haas
 4th– Chris Davis
 5th– Ella Drescher
 5th– Lydia Emshoff
 10th– Sandy Wenzel
 12th– Fay Rolstad
 13th– Sherryl Jones
 14th– Martin Accola
 15th– Addie Drescher
 16th– Suzanne Swafford
 17th– Claire Joyner
 17th– Roxanne Andres
 18th– Myles Mauch
 20th– Lyla Sprecher
 23rd– Gary Giegerich
 23rd– Beth McNulty
 23rd– Griffin Fritsch
 24th– Clair Munns
 24th– James Ind
 25th– Kathy Howe
 25th– Marty Virchow
 25th– Pat Yanke
 27th– Charlene Tetiva
 28th– Marylee Lyon



We're on the Web!

Don't forget that Concordia has a web page. You can find us online at www.concordiaumc.org. You'll see weekly updates with information about upcoming events. If you haven't already, you can also "Like" Concordia's Facebook page. Check it out!



Live Courageously

Devotional Booklet Writers Needed!

It is almost time for us to start writing for our congregations' yearly devotional booklet. This year our Stewardship emphasis is titled, "Live Courageously." We will start contact you around August 15th, with a printing deadline of September 18th. Please be in prayer about this very meaningful opportunity to share your thoughts and experience. Thank you.

Archer Prayer



Let's get more serious about prayer. In Floodgates', Susan Nilson Kibbey asks, if we really believe that prayer makes a difference then we will be more conscious of our need to pray to God in all situations. She suggests that people be active in Archer Prayer; prayer which has a target in mind. The Church Council invites us to pray for specific targets in our ministry:

- The target is for the Stewardship Program and spiritual and financial growth of Concordia UMC.
- The targets are Holly Neale and John Budd and those that are beginning training as Stephen Ministers at Concordia in August.
- The target is for prayers for guests that visit Concordia.
- The target is for children to share the good news.

Outreach

Mission...Mercy...Justice

Melodies of Compassion

Melodies of Compassion

(loose coin collection during Worship)

for the Months of July and August will go to

United Methodist Children's Services

United Methodist Children's Services is located in the Washington Park Neighborhood of Milwaukee. With an unemployment rate of over 15%, and almost 50% of the population living below the poverty line, families in this neighborhood struggle with finding a sense of stability and hope. Based upon our fundamental belief in God's love, UMCS values the dignity, potential, and worth of each individual, and creates a nurturing environment and sense of community in which miracles happen. UMCS addresses the interconnected nature of poverty through reducing barriers to basic needs in 4 focus areas: housing, childcare, resources and community engagement. For the months of July and August, all loose coins collected in the offering will go to UMCS to help support these focus areas. Thank you for supporting this ministry!

2019 Missionary Temba Nkomozepe

Temba Nkomozepe is a missionary with the United Methodist Board of Global Ministries serving as an agriculturalist at Mujila Falls Agricultural Center in Zambia. Temba takes part in a range of agricultural, education, and health projects, as well as church growth and development. Concordia will be supporting Temba in 2019! Concordia's contribution goal towards Temba is \$2,500.00 annually. Total collection to date is: \$2,499.00
Thank you for your contributions

SECOND SUNDAY DONATIONS

Second Sunday donations (food, cash, hygiene, household items) for August will go to

SP Food Pantry

Please place any donated items in the blue bin that is located in the Galena Street Entrance.



Summer Coffee Fellowship

Coffee fellowship will be held after 9:00am Worship during the Summer. All are invited for coffee and treats!

Stock the Schools

For the month of August:

Granola Bars

Tab Dividers, Index Cards

Ear Buds



Items donated to the Stock the Schools program are given to the SP School Social Worker to distribute to students in need.

Please place donated items in the red bin in Fellowship Hall.

Zelpha's Pantry

"Zelpha's Pantry" was an idea of Zelpha Hook's during the time that Concordia started serving the Community Meals. It is another way to provide for those that don't always have enough of the basics when it comes to personal hygiene items. Donations can be placed on the counter in the kitchen or put in the tub under the counter labeled "Zelpha's Pantry". Items that are popular are toilet paper, toothpaste, toothbrushes, razors, soap, deodorant.

Thank you for helping the Outreach Committee continue what Zelpha started!



United
Methodist
Women
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION



**UMW Potluck Picnic
and
Welcome for Pastor Claire and Kory**



**Monday, August 5 at 6:00pm
Tom and Mary Clark's Home— W14028 Selwood Drive, PDS
Please bring a dish to pass. Table service and
beverages (coffee, water, lemonade) will be provided.**

**Please RSVP to 608-370-6210 if you plan to attend so we can get an approx.
number of guests to plan for.**

Bazaar Planning and Projects Underway!

In less than 4 months we will be hosting our UMW Holiday Bazaar! It's that time of year when we start requesting supplies for our Holiday Bazaar projects. We are in need of several items that you may have on hand and would like to donate. Please put items on the table in the kitchen between the refrigerators.



Colored Bottles- unique shapes
unique colors— especially blue and green



Pinecones-
Different Sizes

**If Anyone has a source for some distressed
barnwood, please contact
Mary Peetz or Mary Clark!**



Recycled Greeting Cards
Any Occasion



Concordia Youth Group

As July comes to an end, our youth group is heading to UM Children's Services in Milwaukee next week with Volunteers in Mission. Some of our youth proclaim this is the highlight of their summer, possibly even the year. What makes hard work and sweaty hot conditions a highlight? Together we see students doing God's work and as their eyes open, so do their hearts. The experience renews us to serve God by serving others. Please keep our whole group in your prayers next week.

What's going on in August? Here is what the youth group will be doing!

Wednesday, August 14:
5:15-7:30 SP Food Pantry

Sunday, August 18:
9:00am Lead Worship

Our Youth Group kick-off will also be in August! Stay tuned for date and events!



Nurture Team Congregational Care Spiritual Formation



GET READY for SUNDAY SCHOOL!

Mark your calendars for Sept. 8 for our Sunday School Kickoff! Spread the word that we would love to see some new faces! We have classes for every age and stage!

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: Teacher Laila Drescher

Sunday School Music: Anni Mauch & Maria Andres

Adult Sunday School Classes:

ACTS Class: Leaders Jeff Virchow and Tom Andres

CAYR Class: Leaders John Budd and Bruce Koch

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



Vacation Bible School 2019

AUGUST 12th-16th

9:00-11:30 AM

**Music. Games. Crafts. Experiments. Cinema.
Bible Adventure. Snacks. Mission Project.**

Ages 4 years thru 6th Grade FREE!

BLACK HAWK-BETHLEHEM

United Methodist Church

S10173 Cty Rd C Sauk City, WI

Contact Karen Schlittler/Black Hawk UMC

Call to register: 544-3991 Email: office@bhbumc.org

Sue Evans will be assisting with VBS at Blackhawk. If there are children that want to attend, but need a ride, please contact Sue Evans as she is willing to help!



Christ caring for people through people

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Our Congregation offers Stephen Ministry to provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care to people who are going through a difficult time.

A Stephen Minister is a well-trained caregiver who listens, cares, prays, encourages and offers the love of Christ during a time of need.

To learn more about Stephen Ministry at Concordia, please contact a Stephen Leader- Holly Neale or John Budd at the church office- 608-643-6356

WCC

Women's Conversation and Connection

August 27, 2019
8:30am

Eagle Inn Restaurant
Prairie du Sac

All women of any age are invited to join the conversation. Come for coffee/breakfast as we share what's happening in our lives. Bring a friend!

WCC meets the 4th Tuesday of every month at Eagle Inn.

SOFAS

Seniors Out for Adventure

*Open to anyone 60 years young
and older*

August 7, 2019
9:30am

Coffee and Rolls
Fellowship and Fun
Come and bring a guest!

SOFAS meets the first Wednesday of every month in Fellowship Hall

Living Out Our Faith

All are invited to join this small Saturday morning group at 8:00am beginning again on July 27th and continuing through August. This group meets to share, listen, encourage and support as we are not on our journey alone.

Breakfast and Coffee are provided! Please join us!



Dear Friends,

Thank you! The dear people you just helped with your gift may never have the opportunity to meet you, but if they did, I am certain their response would be- Thank you! Through your financial support, you are serving within a vital web of interactive relationships, partnering to engage globally in direct ministry to people in need. Together, may we continue to reveal the love of God for men, women, and children of all ethnic, racial, cultural, and national backgrounds and to demonstrate the healing power of the gospel with those who suffer.

Grace and Peace,

Thomas G. Kemper, Mujila Falls Agriculture Center and Temba Nkomozepe



One New Humanity

“Thus, says the Lord of hosts: Render true judgments, show kindness and mercy to one another; do not oppress the widow, the orphan, the alien, or the poor; and do not devise evil in your hearts against one another.”

Zechariah 7:9-10 NRSV

I want to invite us all to do something very difficult. I want us to think about the current immigration issues from a spiritual and theological perspective rather than from a political perspective. The media and our governmental leaders exert great influence in shaping our thinking and feelings about immigrants, both documented and undocumented. The focus is often on concerns about strangers and fears about criminals and threats to security. Sometimes these are valid concerns, but more often than not, they are exceptions rather than what is normal.

But set aside the political debate and the media hype. Let us reflect on our Christian faith as people of God. Here we find a completely different approach to immigration. First, we must acknowledge the most famous and important immigrant of all, Jesus the Christ. Closely following, Abraham, Moses, Jeremiah, Miriam, Deborah – many prominent figures from our Hebrew ancestors fit our definitions of immigrant, in many cases undocumented.

Second, we have Jesus’ teachings. Who is our neighbor? Who are we responsible for? Where does our responsibility end? For widows, orphans, the alien, the stranger, the poor – we are instructed (through the words of the prophet Micah in 6:8) “He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?” Micah is speaking very clearly to an immigrant people.

Third, Paul echoes the teaching of Jesus in many places, none more powerful than his message to the church in Ephesus, that through Christ Jesus God is making one new humanity – destroying all the dividing walls and uniting all people. (Ephesians 2:15-16) Jesus and Paul preach diligently that the divisions of “us” and “them” are erased by faith, and that for Christians we are called to care for the least of these among us: “Then the righteous will answer him, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?” And the king will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” (Matthew 25:37-40)

Fourth, our United Methodist tradition, and the shared values of our antecedent denominations, clearly favor care for the stranger, the alien, the dispossessed, and the immigrant. The commitment to social justice, global missions, and relational evangelism make welcoming the stranger a cornerstone of our covenant community. John Wesley sought to help Methodist leaders envision our world at the kingdom/kin-dom of God. The realm of God and the risen Christ welcomes all who believe, regardless of class, race, culture, ethnicity, economic caste, education, or theological nuance. In Christ, we are made one. Through faith we are the incarnation of Christ, and we exist to offer Christ to everyone we meet.

Last, I would encourage all of us not to demonize immigrants. The vast majority are not villains or enemies. And even should we choose to view them as enemies, Jesus has very clear instructions for us: ‘You have heard that it was said, “You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.” But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous.

Continued on next page

For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax-collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.” (Matthew 5:43-48) So, I encourage all of us to be perfected in God’s holy love, by praying for our immigrant brothers and sisters and children as we do for our family at home.

This wonderful country of the United States is a nation of immigrants. Our diversity is our strength. Should we hold people accountable? Yes. Should we encourage all to be lawful observers of our customs and codes. Yes. But, should we be making it possible for all to receive adequate food, lodging, safety, opportunity, shelter, and protection? According to the prophets of old – from Zechariah and Micah and Jeremiah to Jesus and Paul – there is no room for debate. God is working through us by the Holy Spirit to make “one new humanity.” So, let us all remember, “Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.” (Hebrews 13:2)

Grace and Peace,

Bishop Hee-Soo Jung

August 4, 2019

Ushers:

Roger and Jan Cole
Mert VonWald,
Charlene Tetiva

Greeters:

Emshoff Family

Communion:

Jane Cordero, Jackie Counts

Liturgist:

Heidi Halling

Tech Desk:

Doug Hultberg

Lawn Care:

Dave Dickson

August 11, 2019

Ushers:

Bruce and Leslie Koch
Darlene Coyle/Kathy Bochar

Greeters:

Gordon Davis
Rose Hagie

Liturgist:

Suzanne Paskey

Tech Desk:

Pat Mings

Lawn Care:

Kevin Emshoff

August 18, 2019

Ushers:

Concordia Youth Group

Greeters:

Concordia Youth Group

Liturgist:

Concordia Youth Group

Tech Desk:

Bruce Koch and
Concordia Youth Group

Lawn Care:

Leslie Koch

August 25, 2019

Welcome

Susan Bauman-Duran
SP Schools Social Worker

Ushers:

Ted and Robin Henn
Karen Ladd & Tim Ladd

Greeters:

Lyla Sprecher
Charlene Tetiva

Liturgist:

Tech Desk:

Irene DeVoe

Lawn Care:

Bruce Koch



Men's Community: Fellowship~Resources~Growth

6:8 invites all men to gather on the first Sunday of the month. Doors open at 3:45 with snacks and fellowship, followed by Dinner at 4:30pm and a program and guest speaker at 5:30pm.

August 4 topic is Men's Health Issues.

For questions call 608-444-9590 or 608-561-8468

6:8 Community Meal

A free buffet style meal is served on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at the 6:8 building. All are welcome to attend between 5:00-7:00pm. 6:8 is located at 821 Industry Road.

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. Questions, contact Theresa Grimes at 632-3383.

Aging in God's Grace

A spiritual reflection and discussion program for seniors

All seniors are welcome to gather for friendship, reflection, learning and discussion around topics that might help us all to age with grace, wisdom, hope and joy. Join us at Pine Glen Senior Apartments— 630 Prairie Street in Prairie du Sac. Fresh baked treats and coffee are provided. Bring friends! For more information, contact Shirley Kelter at 608-370-3565 or sakelter@mac.com

There will be no Aging in God's Grace in August.

Please join us again in September!

6:8 Elementary Clothing Swap

6:8 will be hosting a Elementary School Age Clothing Swap. Come on over to share some clothes and take some clothes. Even if you don't have clothes to give, come grab some to bring home. Everything is FREE. Everything not taken home by the end of the day will be donated to Sauk Prairie nonprofits. ***All cash donations at this event will be going to 6:8 Circles to end poverty in the Sauk Prairie School District, so please consider giving a few dollars.*** Drop off only Times are July 30 & 31 9am-7pm and then Drop off and Shopping times are Aug 1 (4-7pm), Aug 2 (8am-4pm), & Aug 3 (8am-noon). To volunteer at the clothing swap, visit the 6:8 website!



6:8 Circles Sauk Prairie

Join us to learn about 6:8 Circles Sauk Prairie and how you can get involved by building community to end poverty!

Circles Intro Sessions:
Thur. Aug. 25— 5:30pm
(Schwarz Ins. Building)
Tues, Aug. 13— 6:00pm
Mon., Sept. 9— 6:00pm

Located at 6:8 Building
821 Industry Road, Sauk City

Come to one session!

For more information on
Circles, email
68circlesaukprairie@gmail.com
or call 608-561-8468

August Community Meal

Sunday, August 11

Team Koch

Sunday, August 25

Team Roelke

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

4:00-6:00pm

Join us and bring a friend!



August 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					2 7:00am UM Men	3 8:00am Living out our faith
4 9:00am Worship 10:00am Fellowship	5 6:00pm Potluck Picnic and Welcome for Pastor Claire and Kory	6 7:00pm Trustees Meeting	7 9:30am SOFAS	8	9 7:00am UM Men	10 8:00am Living out our faith
11 9:00am Worship 10:00am Fellowship 10:00am Stewardship 4:00pm Community Meal	12 7:00pm Nurture Meeting	13 7:00pm Church Council Meeting 7:00pm Finance Meeting	14 5:15pm CYF at Food Pantry	15	16 7:00am UM Men	17 8:00am Living out our faith
18 9:00am Worship 10:00am Fellowship	19	20	21	22	23 7:00am UM Men	24 8:00am Living out our faith
25 9:00am Worship 10:00am Fellowship 4:00pm Community Meal	26	27 8:30am WCC 7:00pm Witness Meeting	28	29	30 7:00am UM Men	31 8:00am Living out our faith