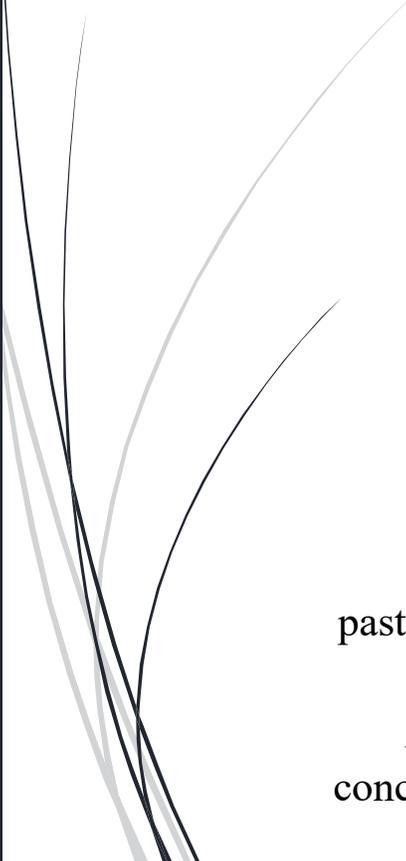




# *Concordia United Methodist Church*

*April 2020 Chimes*



*Pastor Rev. Claire Douglass*

*pastorclairedouglass@gmail.com Cell: 608-338-8084*

*Admin. Assistant- Laila Drescher*

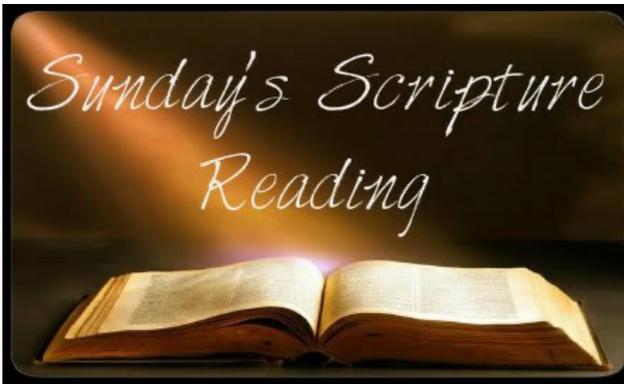
*concordiasaukprairie@gmail.com Cell: 608-963-3866*

## *Witness~Worship~Telling the Story*

### **Sunday, March 29**

Psalm 136:1-9, 23-36

Matthew 14:15-21



**GIVE+**  
YOUR CHURCH GIVING APP

Concordia UMC has committed to continuing to honor the salaries of all our employees during the “stay at home” for Coronavirus.

To help with the general fund, you can give using the Vanco App-Give Plus. You can give a one time gift or ongoing through this App.

You can also mail your offering to 585 5<sup>th</sup> St. Prairie du Sac, WI 53578  
The mail will be picked up and secured.

### **Worship with us this Sunday!**

#### **Sermon Title: “Gratitude”**

Concoria members will receive an email with a link to Sunday’s worship service. You will be able to click on the link and worship at a time that works for you. We have DVD copies of the service that we will be mailing to those without internet.

If you would like a DVD copy of the weekly worship, please contact Laila at [concordiasaukprairie@gmail.com](mailto:concordiasaukprairie@gmail.com) or by calling 608-963-3866.

The worship service will also be on our website and facebook.

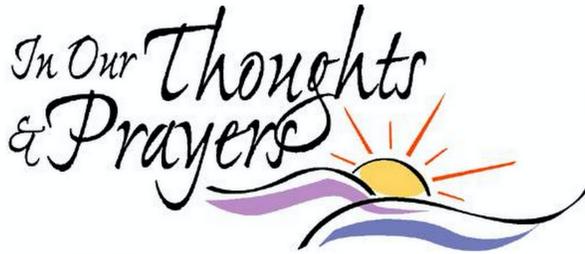


### **Children’s Worship on ZOOM**

Sunday, March 29 at 1:00pm

Concordia members will receive a link for a Children’s Worship Time through email. The Zoom time will be about 30 minutes and anyone is welcome to join in the fun! Simply click on the link that is emailed to you or call in with your phone using the number provided.

# By Our Prayers



## **For those with health concerns:**

Dean Gilding; Mike Scott; Dave Rogalla; Fred King (Judy Fowler's brother); Kathy Howe; Amy Willey; Virginia Moely; Gordon Davis; Matthew Wenzel; Lisa Alyea

## **For those with cancer:**

Susan Catton; Shirley Paul; Sara Piedre-Ausman

## **For those who are home confined:**

Fay Rolstad; Janet Alm; Marilyn Greimel; Marilyn Blackmon; Pat Ranzenberger

## **For God's presence and blessings:**

Family of Helen Wenzel (Don's mother); Family of Dave Frey (Gary Frey's brother/Laila's uncle); Procopia Arellano; Temba Nkomozepe (our Missionary); people serving in the military; all medical personnel



## **In Our Prayer...**

God of life, you are the One to whom we call: for you are the One who hears, and you are the One who acts, bringing us new life with your grace and love and power. Lead us into times of prayer this week, that we may be prepared to follow your lead in places where hope seems far away. Give us the strength we need to serve you and others.

In your name we pray, Amen.



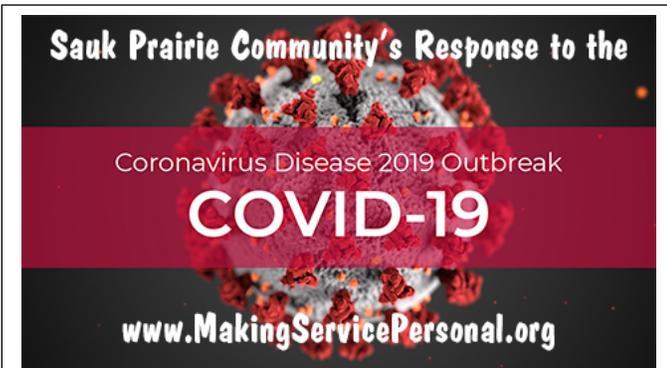
*If you would like to be added to our weekly prayer list, please contact Laila at [concordiasaukprairie@gmail.com](mailto:concordiasaukprairie@gmail.com)*

*If you are in need of Pastoral Care, please contact Pastor Claire*

*Cell Phone: 608-338-8084*

*Email: [pastorclairedouglass@gmail.com](mailto:pastorclairedouglass@gmail.com)*

## *Outreach~Mission~Mercy~Justice*



Do you need help or are you looking for ways to help our neighbors in the SP Area during Coronavirus? Please contact 6:8 if you need help or are willing to help. If you would like to make a financial donation to help cover the costs of any requested SP Covid-19 needs, please contact 6:8 at [makingservicepersonal.org](http://makingservicepersonal.org) or mail a check to

**6:8 Covid-19**  
**821 Industry Drive**  
**Sauk City, WI 53583**

### *Just a Remínder...*

There will be no Community Meal at Concordia on March 29.



### **Melodies of Compassion**

The loose coin offerings for the months of March & April will go to Hope House. If you would like to make a contribution to the MOC while worship services are suspended, please indicate that in your offering mailed to the church or by using the Vanco App. Thank you for supporting Hope House through MOC!



### **Sauk Prairie Schools Mobile Lunch**

The Sauk Prairie School District has a plan to provide food to students age 18 and younger during the school closure. The plan includes delivery grab & go locations in Merrimac, Tower Rock Area, Bluffview and Roxbury as well as drive-up grab & go at the high school. For more information visit 6:8 website or SP Schools.

## *Giving-Privacy or Secrecy*

*The love of money is the root of all evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains. (1 Timothy 6:10)*

Rev. Molly Baskette has written an interesting devotional ([www.ucc.org/daily\\_devotional\\_the\\_burden\\_of\\_money](http://www.ucc.org/daily_devotional_the_burden_of_money)) in which she states that, "Church people often tell me that money is a private matter, but what they really practice with money is secrecy, not privacy."

The problem, according to Pastor Baskette, is that fear, shame and secrecy about money do the work of evil just as much as our love of it. Yes, some things need to be secret: like the recipe for Coca Cola or the identities of spies. However, many of our institutional practices at church become distorted because we, the members, have unhealthy relationships with money.

We may think of the person who loves money as a monumental striver, always trying to get richer, never having enough. But those who love money also may long for more and then feel ashamed of that longing, or they may not balance their checkbook and live in fear of the debt collector (and feel ashamed), or may desire to be generous, but cannot let go (and feel ashamed). We want to keep these things secret.

But, shame is not a healthy relationship with money and secrecy is not a healthy relationship with God or our fellow Christians. The Lenten/ Easter season is a good time to recognize our shortcomings, confess them to God, ourselves, and maybe others, and to repent. That is, to try to do things differently in the future.

Many United Methodist churches provide courses on personal finance and getting out of debt. If yours does not, please contact us at the **Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation**.

*Jim Wells, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation*

### **Reflection By Barbara Certa-Werner**

"When I started Lent this year, I didn't realize how much I would be giving up." – Facebook post

I read this post last week and at first it made me chuckle, but then the reality struck me that few of us could have foreseen what our lives would be like a mid-way through this holy time of Lent. I then realized that all the things I thought I needed to do during the Lenten season have gone by the wayside and I have started anew. One of my new practices is reading a Psalm a day and taking time to reflect and/or pray the Psalm. For today, it is Psalm 4 (yes I just started on Sunday!):

Answer me when I cry out, my righteous God! Set me free from my troubles!  
 Have mercy on me! Listen to my prayer! How long, you people will my reputation be insulted?  
 How long will you continue to love what is worthless and go after lies?  
 Know this: the Lord takes personal care of the faithful.  
 The Lord will hear me when I cry out to God. So do not be afraid and do not sin!  
 Think hard about it in your bed and weep over it! Bring righteous offerings and trust the Lord!  
 May people say, "We can't find goodness anywhere. The light of Your face has left us, Lord."  
 But you have filled my heart with more joy than when their where and wine everywhere!  
 I will lie down and fall asleep in peace because you alone, Lord, let me live in safety.

This Psalm speaks to me in this time and in this place, and I believe that it will speak to you as well. The psalmist hits the nail on the head, we long for freedom from our troubles, we beg for mercy, we want to love what is worthy and we search for meaning. And then in the stillness and quiet of a sunrise, the laughter of a child, the smile of a friend, the words of a poet, the coolness of a winter breeze, we realize that our hearts are filled with joy and we may lie asleep in peace. My prayer for each of us is that we may recognize these connectional moments and be filled with joy and peace.

# Nurture~Spiritual Formation~Congregational Care

## 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.



*If you would like to talk to a Stephen Minister during this time of social distancing, please contact Pastor Claire at 608-338-8084 or [pastorclairedouglass@gmail.com](mailto:pastorclairedouglass@gmail.com)*

## Living Out Our Faith

The Nurture Team has been working to form small groups at Concordia. This small group meets on Saturday mornings at 8:00am. During social distancing, the group is meeting via ZOOM. Those interested in being part of the small discussion group, can email Laila at [concordiasaukprairie@gmail.com](mailto:concordiasaukprairie@gmail.com) and you will be sent the information to log into the virtual meeting.

Living Out Our Faith is a combination of scripture reading, prayer, discussion and sharing our faith journey together. Please feel free to join us if you'd like!



## Sunday School Classes

Concordia UMC has a ZOOM account, so your classes can meet during this time of social distancing. If your class would like to meet through Zoom, please contact Laila [concordiasaukprairie@gmail.com](mailto:concordiasaukprairie@gmail.com) and we will get your class a link and send an email to the members for a specific time through Zoom. It's super easy and a great way to stay connected and growing in faith!



## ZOOM Help Times

Do you want to be part of class or discussion on Zoom but aren't sure how to do it? Pastor Claire will be having the following times to try to log into Zoom and troubleshoot those of you that are having a hard time getting connected.

**Thursday, March 26 1:00-3:00pm**

**Friday, March 27 11:00-12:30pm**

You should have received an email with log-in information to join.

## Camp in the Community Needs You!

Concordia is VERY excited to welcome back Camp in the Community June 15-19 this summer! To make this happen, we are in need of the following:

- 3 volunteers to work with the groups to assist the leaders of each group.
- Volunteers to check campers in and be the home base during the week
- Provide/make meals and snacks for the campers

If you are able to help, please contact Sue Evans at [revans3991@charter.net](mailto:revans3991@charter.net)

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*Concordia UMC*  
*585 5<sup>th</sup> Street*  
*Prairie du Sac, WI 53578*