



PARISH PARTYLINE

Concordia Lutheran & First Lutheran

May 2021

Vicar

Vicar Deb Hammer
pastoratcandf@gmail.com
(402) 518-0423

Secretary

Bridgett Connell
secretaryatcf@gmail.com
(402) 841-3110

CLC Council Members

Carolyn Alt
Hart Vollers
Judy Martindale
Lee Johnson
Doug Krie
Brandi Settje

FLC Council Members

Rod Ketelsen
Vickie Sands
Katie Olesen
Chris Beach
Gloria Dowling
Greg Carr

Concordia Lutheran Church

584-2471
Website:
www.concordialutheranelca.com
Facebook:
Concordia Lutheran Church, ELCA

First Lutheran Church

635-2461
Website:
www.firstlutheranallen.com
Facebook:
First Lutheran Church,
ELCA~Allen, NE

Announcements

FLC WELCA is collecting supplies for Bridges to Hope. A full list of items can be found on bridgestohopene.org/donate.

Concordia is seeking volunteers with mowers to mow the church lawns this summer! Individuals or families should contact Hart Vollers if they can take on mowing for a month. Typically mowing is needed once a week....depending upon rainfall...May through September. Let Hart know which month works for you!!

Card Shower in honor of Ardyce Johnson's 90th Birthday on May 4th. Hosted by her children: Lynette, Brent, Bruce, & Carla. Please mail cards and memories to: Ardyce Johnson, PO Box 314, Laurel, NE 68745

Congratulations to Reed Hingst and Cole Monteith for receiving the Virginia Wheeler Scholarship at First Lutheran Church.

Allen VBS Helpers NEEDED! Please contact Vicar Deb or Bridgett if you can help with VBS. It will be May 24th – 28th from 9:00 a.m. – Noon.

CLC will hold outdoor services at 10:15 a.m. on the west lawn/parking lot this summer on the last Sunday of the month (weather cooperating!) May 30th, June 27th, and July 25th.

Joint outdoor worship service will be held at CLC on August 29th at 10:15 a.m. with guest speakers from Wayne State Campus Ministry (WSCM). Free will offering for community meal will follow the service. Offering will be provided to WSCM for their work with students at WSC.

Service men and women continue to need to hear from home, friends, and family. Please consider sending a "Thinking of You", "Thank You for Your Service", or just a short personal note to our current service members:

Sgt Christopher Wordekemper
53 Barclay Place Court, Apt. D
Charlottesville, VA 22901

Taylor Johnson
2610 Florida A1A
Jacksonville, FL 32233



*We remember in our prayers
those who are ill or
recovering.*

Ardyce Johnson
Clarice Johnson
Tom Osbahr
Frieda Bowman
Betty Carr
Fern Erickson
Faith Keil

*We remember those in care
facilities or homebound.*

Ardyce Johnson (Hillcrest)
Bonnie Kellogg (Homebound)
Frieda Bowman (Hillcrest)
Lyla Swanson (Kinship Pointe)
Marilyn Wallin (CountryView)
Fern Erickson (Homebound)

*We remember those serving
in the armed forces.*

Chris Wordekemper
Taylor Johnson

Concordia Members

Fern Erickson
Brad Erwin
Jason & Amanda Fischer;
Mitchell, Kolton, Lane
Rich & Leila Fischer
Jeff & Tricia Grone; Josh, Joe

First Lutheran Members

Henry & Clarice Johnson
Jay & Shelly Jones; Brogan
Barb Karmann
Faith Keil
Heidi Keil; Wyatt, Cheyenne

If you know of any person in
need of prayers, please call
the church office at 635-2461
and leave a message if no one
answers.



Thank You

Fern Erickson extends her thanks for the
Easter card from the Sunshine committee, the
gift of the "Hear My Prayer" chocolates, as well
as the hand crafted "Christ Is RISEN" easter
display made by the Concordia Sunday School
children.

1 Thessalonians 1:3 - "We (I) remember before
our God and Father your work produced by
faith, your labor prompted by love, and your
endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus
Christ."

Thank you to all for your prayers, words of concern, cards, phone
calls, and visits during and after my recent hospital stay. Special
thanks to Vicar Deb for her visits and bringing me communion – I
really appreciated your thoughtfulness. God Bless you all!
Clarice Johnson

Ministry Opportunities

CLC Mother Daughter Brunch May 1st at 9:30 a.m. at CLC

FLC VBS Planning Meeting May 1st at 1:00 p.m. at Methodist Church

FLC Graduation Reception May 2nd following worship

FLC Council Meeting May 3rd at 7:00 p.m. at FLC

Mutual Ministry Meeting May 4th at 7:00 p.m. at CLC

FLC Lyle & Jean's Reception May 9th following worship

CLC Graduation Reception May 9th at 9:30 a.m.

CLC Council Meeting May 10th at 7:00 p.m. at CLC

FLC WELCA will meet May 12th at 1:30 p.m.

GIGP Council Meeting May 12th at 6:00 p.m. at CLC

Confirmation Party May 12th at CLC 7:00-8:00 p.m.

CLC Special Congregation Meeting May 23rd following worship

Allen VBS May 24th – 28th from 9:00 a.m. - Noon

Allen VBS Dinner & Program May 28th at UMC starting at 6:00 p.m.

CLC Outdoor Worship May 30th at 10:15 a.m. on west parking lot at CLC

GIGP - Growing In God's Presence

In April we had pizza, a movie, and devotions.



In May we had a game night, good food, and devotions.





Worship Helpers & Celebrations

	First Helpers	Concordia Helpers
Ushers & Greeters	Henry & Clarice Johnson	Les Bohlken & Zach Harder
Acolytes	5/2 5/9 5/16 5/23 5/30	5/2 Kolton Fischer 5/9 Tate Holz 5/16 Taelynn Settje 5/23 Hunter Nolte 5/30 Noah Marc
Lay Readers	Clarice Johnson	Tammy Sterling
Communion Steward		Lynette Krie
Altar Guild	Denise Hingst	Alissa Thompson, Andrea Johnson, Brandi Settje, Trish Reifenrath
Altar Flowers		Lynette Krie
Coffee after Service	5/2 Council 5/9 Lyle & Jean Carlson 5/16 5/23 Vickie Sands 5/30 Barb Sands	

Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary First

5/1 Matt Hingst
5/6 Jerry Smith & Karen Claussen Smith
5/6 Brennan Beach
5/8 Wyatt Keil
5/15 Court Roberts
5/15 Kaitlyn Beach
5/16 Emma Beach
5/23 Lyle Carlson
5/29 Henry & Clarice Johnson



Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary Concordia

5/4 Ardyce Johnson
5/5 Grant Anderson
5/9 Gretchen Deitrich
5/26 Jason & Amanda Fischer
5/26 Zach Hauptmann
5/27 Steve Anderson
5/29 Taelynn Settje
5/29 Brandi Settje
5/30 Tammy Sterling

Vicar's Article

Make Joyful unto The
a joyful noise Lord!

*Psalm 98:4, "Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises."*

The month of May is a bridge or a gateway into the summer. May is the month that life seems to move pretty quickly. Spring has sprung and summer is around the corner. May is the time when schools have equipped students to leap into the next grade or chapter of life. May is when schools bring a close to this year and transition into summer vacation mode as they prepare for the next calendar year. In May, we celebrate Graduations, Mother's Day, National Day of Prayer and Memorial Day.

In the life of the church, May is the month that we conclude the 50 days of Easter celebrating Jesus Resurrection. The resurrection is a bridge to the Ascension of Jesus. Jesus transcends and sends us out to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth. After the Ascension, the Holy Spirit descends upon us which we celebrate on Pentecost Sunday on May 23. (Wear Red to worship this day!) Pentecost reveals the Holy Spirit in our lives so we know we are never alone. God's spirit is alive in us!! The following week, we celebrate Holy Trinity Sunday where we make a joyful noise to celebrate "God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit" as united as three in one.

Wow.....

That is a lot of bridge work happening from one season to the next. May we enjoy this month of goodness and remember to make a joyful noise to the Lord as we break forth into life together.

And, that's not all....

In May we also share our witness and love with one another with special upcoming events such as the Mothers and Daughters Recognition on May 1 at Concordia. New piano dedication and 90th Birthday Celebration for Ardyce Johnson on May 9 at Concordia. Reception for Lyle and Jean Carlson celebrating their new marriage and life together on May 9 at First. We celebrate with our Hillcrest members in worship on May 23. We come together for community Vacation Bible School at First from May 24 to May 28.

All these happenings in life, we celebrate!! We celebrate because we have a renewed hope of life together. We have renewed hope after being apart for so long during the pandemic. We begin to gather again with joy! These events bridge joyful celebrations to joyful witnesses of love for one another. Let us celebrate with a joyful noise to the Lord!!!

Blessings,

Vicar Deb Hammer

PRAYERS OF BLESSING FOR THE PLANTING SEASON



The Gift of Seed: God gives us the seed, and entrusts it to our care. May the miracle of life within the seed break forth and yield a bountiful harvest. Lord God, bless the seed, and all who plant it.



The Gift of Soil: God created and entrusted the soil to our care. The soil is a home for the seed, nourishing and sustaining it. Bless all who work the soil, and care for it.



The Gift of Water: God blesses us with water. Water gives sustenance and nourishment to the soil, the seed, and all life. Creator God, bless the water. May the rain come at the right time, so that the seed may flourish and grow.



The Gift of Machinery: God gives us tools and machines and entrusts them to our wisdom. Lord Jesus, who knew the feel of tools in His hands, bless the tractors and tools that we use on our farms. May we use them safely, and be kept safe in the seasons of planting and harvest.

Lord, we are thankful for all our blessings in our rural community, our farms and gardens. Bless us in this life with bold faith and work to care for this earth.

In Jesus name, we pray, AMEN!

First Lutheran Council Meeting Highlights

One unified body of Christ, called to be agents of love and service to all!

First Lutheran Council met on April 5, 2021. Present were Gloria Dowling, Katie Olesen, Vicar Deb Hammer, Rod Ketelsen, Vickie Sands, and Greg Carr.

Opening prayer by all.

Secretary's report for March was read and approved.

Treasurer's report was read, discussed, and approved.

Property items were discussed.

Old Business:

- The new sign for the church is up.
- A separate account for G.I.G.P. funds will be set up at the bank.

New Business:

- Council goals for 2021 completed.
- Masks will now be optional. We will revisit this each month.
- Applications for the Virginia Wheeler Scholarship have been sent to Rex Wheeler.
- Vacation Bible School will be held during the day. Final dates to be determined.
- We will restart the noisy offering twice a month.
- First will be having a bake sale on June 12, 2021.

Closing prayer by all.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie Sands, Secretary

Next meeting is May 3 at 7:00 P.M.

Concordia Lutheran Council Meeting Highlights

Reflecting God's love in service to all through our family of faith!

The April 12, 2021 Concordia Council meeting was opened by Vicar Deb Hammer with the Candle Litany Prayer. Present were Carolyn Alt, Judy Martindale, Brandi Settje, Lee Johnson and Doug Krie. Hart Vollers was absent.

- The pastor's report was given and approved as well as all other reports.
- LCC Industrial Tech class is willing to construct a garbage/recycling lean-to for us.
- The Kraft Grant application is completed and will be submitted by April 19th
- **Old Business:**
- Mutual Ministry team will set up a meeting time in May.
- The Memorial Funds suggestion list was reviewed and will be complete soon for use.
- Vicar and RIC committee members will update RIC bulletin statement.
- **New Business:**
- Some discussion was held concerning the need for a property manager for church property to keep on top of maintenance items for parsonage, Post Office and Church building.
- Discussion on COVID restrictions was held and it was decided that going forward mask wearing would be optional and communion will soon revert back to former ways of doing.
- Wayne State campus ministry will be leading a joint congregational outdoor worship at CLC on Aug 29th. Free will offering for a meal following service will be provided to the Wayne State Campus Ministry.
- Approval was made to have outdoor services on the last Sunday's of May, June, July, weather permitting.
- NLOM has asked for \$2500 for summer camps. A motion was made and approved to send \$500 now and maybe another \$500 later in the year.
- Some discussion was held on adding the option of online giving for Concordia through Vancopayments.com. Vicar will contact the company for possible presentation to council.
- There will be a special meeting after worship on May 23rd for the purpose of obtaining congregational approval to go ahead with ramp repair/replacement and replacement of parsonage driveway.

The meeting was closed with the Candle Litany Prayer and Lord's Prayer.

Judy Martindale
Secretary