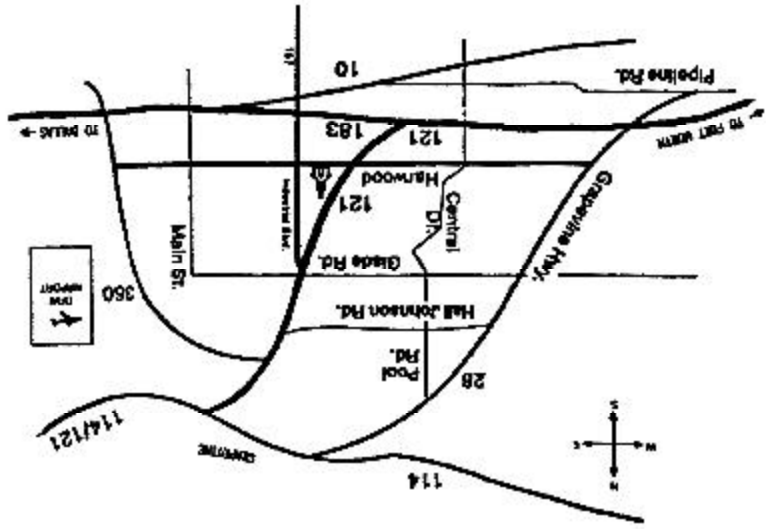


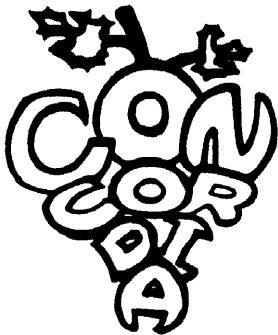
OUR MISSION AT CONCORDIA
 Living joyfully in friendship, love and ministry
 Openly reaching out with the Gospel
 Visibly sharing the life of Christ through Word & Sacrament
 Encouraging spiritual growth and development
WHERE GOD'S LOVE TOUCHES PEOPLE'S LIVES



Concordia Lutheran Church
 3705 Harwood Road
 Bedford, Texas 76021-4013
 Phone: (817) 283-3560
 Fax: (817) 283-2877
 Sunday School - 9:15 a.m.
 Worship - 10:30 a.m.

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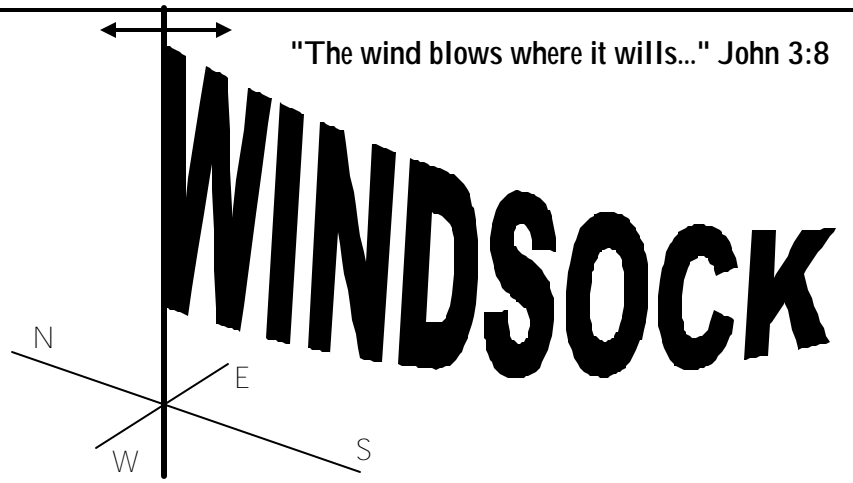
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Concordia Lutheran Church

JULY 2006



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Email: shepherd@concordialutheran.org
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Gi'me A Break Cause Life's da pits

It is one of the true joys of a Sunday afternoon...sitting back in my chair, beating the heat, watching cars go round and round desperately trying to be the first one across the finish line. Could you imagine living your life at the pace that racecar drivers drive? The unfortunate reality is that these days all too often we do.

Think about it, our lives are so busy. We go full speed ahead from the time we wake up, until the time we go back to bed, only to do it again the next day. What is it that enables our engines to run at that pace 24/7? For all too many the answer is unclear. Yet ask a stock car driver and he'll quickly tell you its all about carefully planned pit stops. For a racing team, exact calculations need to be made to determine tire wear, fuel capacity, and in some races driver fatigue. Not uncommonly, additional pit stops are required to help recover from a crash. Then repairs are complete, supplies are replenished and once again, its off to the races.

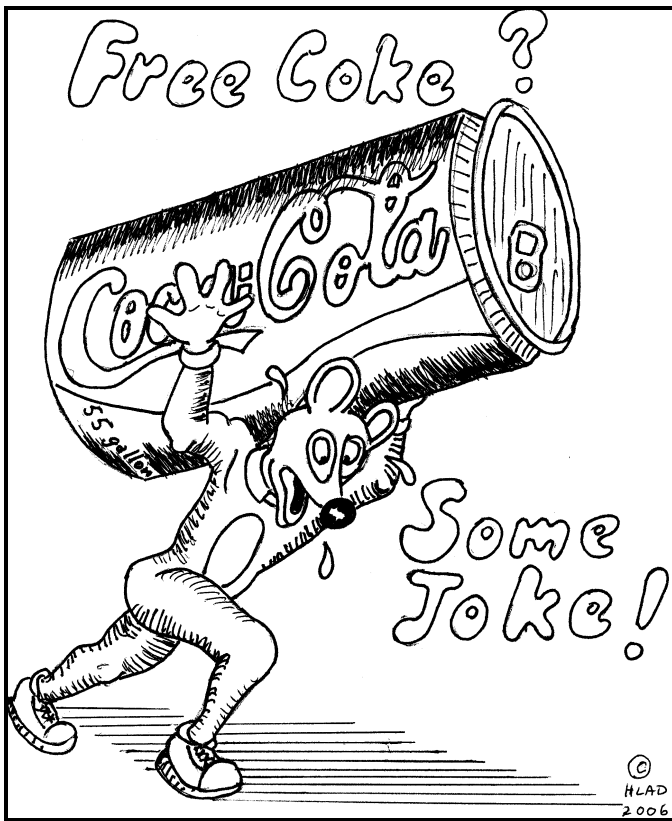
We need pit stops too. To ask us to continue running this race we call life without frequent pit stops under the watchful eye of the Great Pit Crew Chief would be neither safe, nor wise. We should not, and indeed cannot, continue going full speed ahead without regular refreshment from the Lord our God.

Summer is often a time when church attendance declines significantly. Yet as long as we continue in this race called life our need for regular carefully planned pit stops remains, especially when the heat gets turned up a notch. God is still with us in the summer time...he still wants us to come to those places he has promised to be. Even on summer vacation he wants to talk to us through his Word. Even on summer vacation he wants us to receive the Sacraments. And, should you have a crash, he still invites you to call upon him in your day of trouble.

My encouragement to you is to find a way to make God's pit stops a part of your summer, whether that be at home or away.

In Christ,
Pastor Mark

"Creating a tangible experience of God's love as others encounter the life of Christ in me."



Asher Westphal, son of Kelly and Tammy Westphal, was baptized Sunday, June 18.

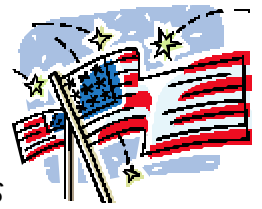
Mustang Grapevines

This year Concordia's wild Mustang grapevines, the ones growing at the far north area of the property, are abundantly producing grapes. Bruce Nelson, Elder and Director of Property, has harvested about 15 pounds as of this writing. He plans to do his first grape jelly canning using these grapes. Bruce says that working with Mustang grapes is much like working with battery acid because they are so acidic. He also says that Mustang grape jelly has a rather unique taste. Hmmm. Is that a good thing or a bad thing? Good luck Bruce with the wild Mustang grape jelly canning project.



Patriotic Picnic

Under the Great Oaks
Sunday, July 2
After Worship



*Flags~Bandanas~Hats
Brats~Burgers~Dogs*

Free Coke, No Joke

Wal-Mart at Bedford Road and Central Drive
Noon-1:00 p.m. every Saturday during July

Come help us distribute ice cold Coca Cola! The Board of Evangelism challenges every person in the pews of Concordia to participate in this outreach opportunity. A sign up sheet is in the foyer at church or call Lisa Fondren at 817-685-7369.

We need to know by the Thursday BEFORE the event, as to who will participate, otherwise Lisa will be calling people looking for volunteers. Those helping will need to show up at the church at 11:30 a.m. on that Saturday and we will have a quick briefing, load up and carpool to the store. We only need 3-4 people each week.

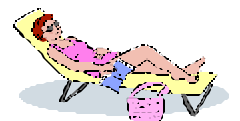
Coca Cola is also needed! Therefore, if you find yourself at the grocery store and you see a deal on a twelve pack (12 oz. cans), please pick some up and bring it to the church. A goal was set to give away 1000 cans of Coke in the months in June and July, but we can't give it if we don't have it!



Please put your contributions of Coke in the entry display area or in Pastor Mark's office.

Thank You,
Board of Evangelism

Happy Summer!



New Congregational Officers

Congregational elections are held every year at Concordia. The election took place immediately following the worship service on Sunday, June 18, 2006. Below is the slate of Officers and Board Directors to serve Concordia for the 2006-2007 year.

Board of Administration

Executive Director: Paul Moeller
Asst. Executive Director: Katy Roy-Rosar
Treasurer: Rose Reaves
Financial Secretary: Kathy Nelson
Secretary: (to be appointed by Exec. Dir.)

Board of Lay Ministry

Richard Hlad—Director
Mark Fondren
Robert Holley
Herbert Jacoby
Paul Moeller
Bruce Nelson
Kelly Westphal

Board of Christian Education

Ruth Donald—Director

Board of Evangelism

Lisa Fondren—Director

Board of Properties

Bruce Nelson—Director

Board of Stewardship

Ruth Farr—Director

Board of Youth

Karen Bravo—Director

CEF Representative

Lisa Fondren

Concordia's Ushers

Ushers for the month of June are **Hank & Shawn Henning**.

Future Needs Committee

The Future Needs Committee has been meeting and defining first and foremost, who Concordia is and where do we want to go?

Based on internal surveys, we have begun defining our Vision and our Mission. This will allow us to establish our goals and our target values.

We will soon work on an external demographic survey with the help of the Texas District and that will allow us to finalize the first phase of the task the Congregation has given us. With that complete we will begin to define what we have, and also what we need to achieve by our goals and objectives.

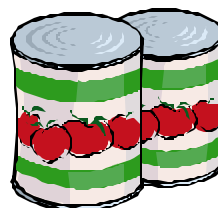
We anticipate completing our tasks by the end of September and will then take our findings to the Council. With their approvals and recommendations we will then make our presentation to the entire congregation. So by the end of October we all should know who we are, where to we want to go, and how will we get there.

Please feel free to contact any committee member for more information or your thoughts. We are Melissa Scott, Mark Fondren and Hank Henning.

Hank Henning,
Future Needs Committee Leader

Food for NEED

In an effort to help keep food in the pantry of North East Emergency Distribution, we are involved in an ongoing drive of non-perishable food items. There is a large basket on the table in the entry for the placement of the food items. At the end of each month, Herb and Ima Ruth Jacoby will be responsible for getting the food to NEED.



Many thanks to those of you that have already brought food items.



Chelsea Bravo completed the Rite of Confirmation on Pentecost Sunday to become our newest communicant member. She is pictured above with her parents, Lou & Karen Bravo, and Pastor Lasch. Congratulations Chelsea!

Bun Bun

A few weeks ago I noticed a small fluff of fur on the church lawn. On closer examination I found it to be the tail of a cottontail rabbit. Hmmmm. The church



rabbit must have found its end and this is all that's left, I thought. I showed the rabbit tail to Pastor Lasch and shared my thinking that the rabbit had met its

end. Pastor was deeply sorrowed for he had seen the rabbit when he first arrived at Concordia and had named the bunny *Bun Bun*. This would be a sad story if it ended here, but it doesn't. Recently I have seen a rabbit on the church lawn. The rabbit has no tail. Perhaps Pastor Lasch should rename the bunny *Lucky!*

Bruce Nelson, Groundskeeper

Lay Reader Schedule

July 2—Tammy Westphal

July 9—Judy Polito

July 16—Sharon Brock

July 23—Tamara Luckenbill

July 30—Ruth Donald

Bible Study & Lunch Bunch

Come study the Bible with us on Thursday, July 13 at 11:00 a.m. in the church fellowship hall. We will continue the series called, "That the World May Know".

After the Bible study, the group will have lunch at a local restaurant. We hope you will join us!

Healing Hands Scholarships Awarded

Thanks to generous contributions of designated funds this year, Concordia Lutheran Church was able to award three "Healing Hands" scholarships to high school graduates who will pursue college studies in health occupations.

The scholarship committee was established as an ad hoc committee of the Board of Evangelism, with the goal of providing a needed service while promoting the name of Concordia Lutheran as an active Christian community in the local neighborhood. Members are Lisa Fondren, Stella Hlad, Richard Knowles, and Kathy Nelson.

Applications were delivered to high school in the Birdville, HEB, and Grapevine-Colleyville school districts, as well as to private schools in the area. Fourteen applicants were interviewed by the full committee and were judged based on community activities, need, interview, essay, and academics.

The first place award of \$1000 was presented to Kristin Do of L.D. Bell High School. Awards of \$500 each were presented to Lydia McIntosh of Richland High School and Sarah Watson of Colleyville Heritage High School.

Members of the committee attended award ceremonies at the three high schools to publicly present the scholarships and to further witness to the community this outreach effort on behalf of Concordia.