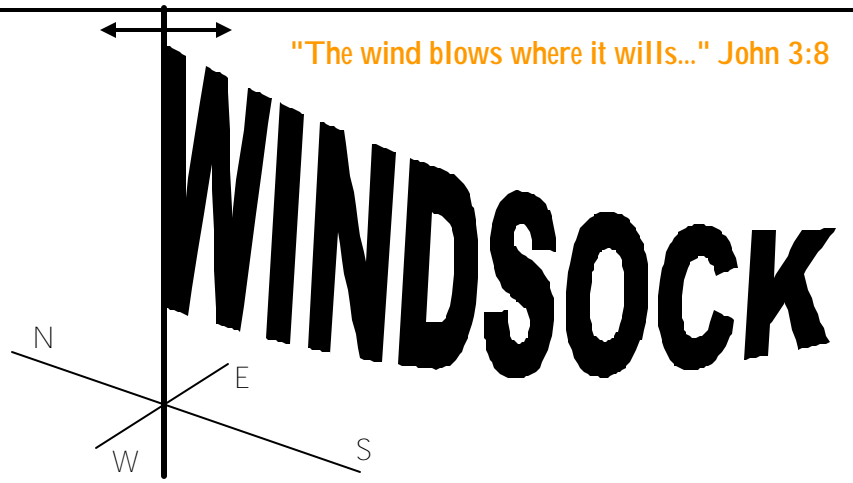


Concordia Lutheran Church

APRIL 2007



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

Pastor: Rev. Mark Lasch
Email: shepherd@concordialutheran.org
Web Site: www.concordialutheran.org

Spring Has Sprung

Spring has sprung in North Texas. What was captive to a cold, cruel climate is now springing to life as if by design.

I remember Christmas Eve a couple of years ago in Houston...snow began to fall and blanketed the ground in the most brilliant white! My wife and I stayed up until 2 o'clock in the morning throwing snowballs and making snow angels as if we were children seeing snow for the first time. The snow didn't last long, but its bitter sting left its mark on our tender trees in the back yard. What had been green all winter turned yellow, then brown, then died.

Sin seems to have a similar effect. That which might seem to be fun and innocent initially could have long term effects. It didn't seem to be that big of a deal for Adam and Eve to taste of the fruit, yet the result of such a simple little thing was a long cold winter of sin that still reigns today. Sin coats our world. The result of which was that what was beautiful and right, and created by God for his purposes, was now changed. I imagine that many things in the world went from green, to yellow, to brown, then died.

The scriptures tell us, "the wages of sin is death," and we can see that in this world of tears. But isn't our God bigger than death? Isn't our God bigger than the wages of sin and the power of the devil? Yes He is, for HE IS RISEN! The empty tomb tells us that everything is okay. The empty tomb tells us that God is faithful in keeping his promise.

When I mowed the lawn for the first time following the snowfall that Christmas I was saddened to see the cold lifeless little twigs that protruded from the stem of the lemon and lime trees in our back yard. As I trimmed them off I noticed, on a few of them, a little green shoot had started to form. It wasn't long before those trees were budding and flowering, and had green leaves all over them. Spring brought about new life! Soon they produced good fruit.

The empty tomb brings about new life for all who are baptized into the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. You are a new creation today, created by God for His purposes. He has given you new life and salvation. Easter has sprung up in you as if by design. The cold bitterness of the winter of sin is over for you. You have been set free from sin and death and the power of the devil.

So what's next? It's time to produce good fruit! Producing good fruit is the goal of the Strategic Ministry Planning process. By going to God with open hands, carefully studying His Word, and listening to one another, I am confident we will produce fruit that is pleasing unto the Lord our God. Yet every voice is important. Every person is important. You are important. This month the Month of Preparation concludes and the first of three essential SMP Congregational Planning Meetings will take place. Please make plans to attend all three SMP Congregational events. The first is Friday, April 20, 7:00-9:00 p.m. and Saturday, April 21, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Additional events will be Friday, May 4, 7:00-9:00 p.m. and Saturday, May 5, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.; the final planning event will be Friday, May 18, 7:00-9:00 p.m. and Saturday, May 19, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

I know it seems like a lot for me to ask every person from confirmation age up to attend these events... Yet I believe the investment we make of our time today will have dividends that will pay off for eternity. As the saying goes, "The size of the shadow we cast into the future depends upon how tall we stand right now."

Please join me in producing the good fruit of the Resurrection by engaging in the SMP Process. Your voice is necessary and needed, for God has called you into the Concordia community, "For such a time as this."

Pastor Mark

Seder Supper April 5 at 6:30 p.m.

Maundy Thursday is April 5. Please mark this on your calendar and watch the weekly bulletin inserts for more information regarding a Seder Supper at church in the Fellowship Hall. The Stewardship Board will be sponsoring the event. For questions, or if you are interested in helping, please contact Katy Roy-Rosar at 817 545-6224 or shadow444@tx.rr.com.



Good Friday Service

Friday, April 6 at 7:30 p.m.

Easter Services

Sunday, April 8

Sunrise Service at 7:00 a.m.

Easter Breakfast at 8:00 a.m.

The Feast of the Resurrection at 10:30 a.m.



Bible Study & Lunch Bunch

The Bible Study/Lunch Bunch now meets on the first Thursday of the month (April 5). The Bible Study takes place in the Fellowship Hall at 11:00 a.m. Immediately following the study, the group will go to lunch.



It is up to the individual as to whether they want to go to lunch or not. Come join us in this study and fellowship with Christian brothers and sisters. For more information, please contact Katy Roy-Rosar at 817 545-6224 or shadow444@tx.rr.com.

Happy Anniversary!

Larry & Jeanice Gerlikovski—1966

Bob & Katy Rosar—2004

Lay Reader Schedule

April 1—Ruth Donald

April 8—Kathy Nelson

April 15—Carolyn Nelson

April 22—Ulana Ratley

April 29—Jeanice Gerlikovski



Men and Meat (aka Guys and Grills)

Concordia's men's fellowship group *Men and Meat* (also known as *Guys and Grills*) will meet Thursday, April 26, at 7:00 pm to grill meat, eat a manly meal, and to enjoy male fellowship. Afterwards some manly fix-up is planned... perhaps install an improved speaker system for the nursery and install a new speaker system for the kitchen. Guys, grab some meat to grill and bring a friend or neighbor for an evening out with Concordia's Men and Meat (aka, Guys and Grills). Beverages and side dishes are provided. Contact lay minister Mark Fondren for details.



Happy Birthday!



Macy Westphal
Adam Holley
Grace Donald
Stavana Strutz
Craig Gravel
Betsy Groulx
Hank Henning
Annette Johnson
Sue Greenwood

Tom Thumb Reward Card

The next time you're at Tom Thumb, pick up a Reward Card application at the courtesy booth to fill out and link your card to our account. Tom Thumb will pay us a percentage of our account total, so be sure to use your card every time you shop. By using your card, you will also be eligible for exclusive discounts, giveaways, enter-to-wins, direct mail rewards and air miles.

Clip out the card below and take it with you to the store as your reminder of our organization's Good Neighbor Program account number to fill in on your Reward card application.



God's House, Your House

Homeowners are acutely aware of the cost and constant attention that is necessary to maintain a home. The same is true of our church facility. Recently the church roof was patched to seal leaks. The cost was \$1200.

The cost to repair the water damaged ceiling tiles is \$1440.

These expenses, like those for a homeowner, are not budgeted but they aren't exactly unexpected either.

Your unspecified gifts and offerings are needed for many things at Concordia. They are also needed to assure that we are comfortable and dry in the worship of the Holy Trinity. Give from the heart, give generously.

Bruce Nelson, director
Board of Property

40th Anniversary Celebration

Concordia's 40th anniversary will take place in October. If you wish to be involved in the planning of this special occasion, please contact Katy Roy-Rosar at 817 545-6224 or shadow444@tx.rr.com.

SMP Event Agenda

Event 1	Friday Night & Saturday Morning April 20 & 21 Fundamentals Characteristics of calling Vital signs Our mission field Values Goal Vision Mission	Event 2	Friday Night & Saturday Morning May 4 & 5 Fundamentals Review The calling Strategic Foundation Context Strategy Issues Changes Demographics Tactics
	Event 3	Friday Night & Saturday Morning May 18 & 19 Fundamentals Implementation Plan Resources What Happens Now Team Focus Team Motivation Team Mobilization	

Extreme Clean Carpet Care



Concordia from time to time encounters businesses that warrant recommendation. One of these is Extreme Clean Carpet Care in Colleyville at 302 Glade

Road. Doug has cleaned the carpets at Pastor Mark and Cathy Lasch's home. He has cleaned the carpets at Concordia. His work is good and affordable. He comes highly recommended. Call him at 817-360-0046. Please inform Doug that you are a member of Concordia.

Bruce Nelson, Director
Board of Property

When You Feel Like God Can't Use You, Remember...

- Noah was a drunk
- Abraham was too old
- Isaac was a daydreamer
 - Jacob was a liar
 - Leah was ugly
 - Joseph was abused
- Moses had a stuttering problem
 - Gideon was afraid
- Samson had long hair and was a womanizer
 - Rahab was a prostitute
- Jeremiah and Timothy were too young
- David had an affair and was a murderer
 - Elijah was suicidal
 - Isaiah preached naked
 - Jonah ran from God
 - Naomi was a widow
 - Job went bankrupt
 - Peter denied Christ
- The Disciples fell asleep while praying
 - Martha worried about everything
- The Samaritan woman was divorced, more than once
 - Zaccheus was too small
 - Paul was too religious
- Timothy had an ulcer ... AND
- Lazarus was dead!



Kroger's Free Money!

Do you grocery shop at Kroger's? If you do, then please use the Kroger Share Card assigned to Concordia. One percent of your Kroger purchases will be given to Concordia. That's free money! Kroger Share Cards are available at Concordia's entrance table.

Kroger Share Card front and back:



Bruce Nelson's Hobby

Bruce Nelson refurbishes discarded personal computers (PCs) as a hobby. He currently has around 20 PCs, complete with monitors, keyboards, and mice. Concordia benefits from Bruce's hobby. You will find several of his refurbished PCs at Concordia.

Bruce wants his computers to benefit both Concordia and our community. Do you have a PC related need? Do you know a family in need of a modest computer system? Some in our congregation may need lessons in PC literacy, word processing, spreadsheets, or Internet surfing. Concordia youth might want to host a LAN gaming weekend. Bruce's computer equipment is available to do all of this.



Please contact Bruce Nelson with needs and/or ideas.

Concordia's Ushers

Ushers for the month of April are **Ruth & Herbert Jacoby**.

APRIL 2007

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:15 a.m. Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Worship 6:00 p.m. Confirmation	2	3	4	5 11:00 a.m. Bible Study and Lunch Bunch 6:30 p.m. Seder Supper	6 7:30 p.m. Good Friday Service	7
8 EASTER 9:15 a.m. Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Worship 6:00 p.m. Confirmation	9	10 7:00 p.m. Properties Board	11 7:00 p.m. Evangelism Board	12	13	14
15 9:15 a.m. Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Worship 6:00 p.m. Confirmation	16 7:00 p.m. Education Board	17 7:30 p.m. Stewardship Board	18	19	20 7:00-9:00 p.m. SMP Meeting	21 9:00-2:00 p.m. SMP Meeting
22 9:15 a.m. Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Worship 6:00 p.m. Confirmation	23	24 Windsock Deadline	25	26 7:00 p.m. Men & Meat 7:30 p.m. Church Council	27	28
29 9:15 a.m. Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Worship	30					

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 Publication Manager: Lisa Holley
 Director of Distribution: Katy Roy
 Internet Webmaster: Bruce Nelson
 Cartoonist: Richard Hlad

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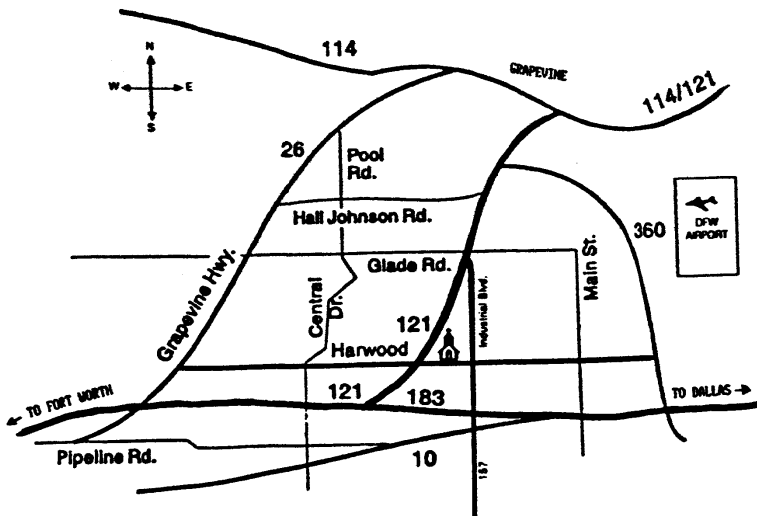
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OUR MISSION AT CONCORDIA

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

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