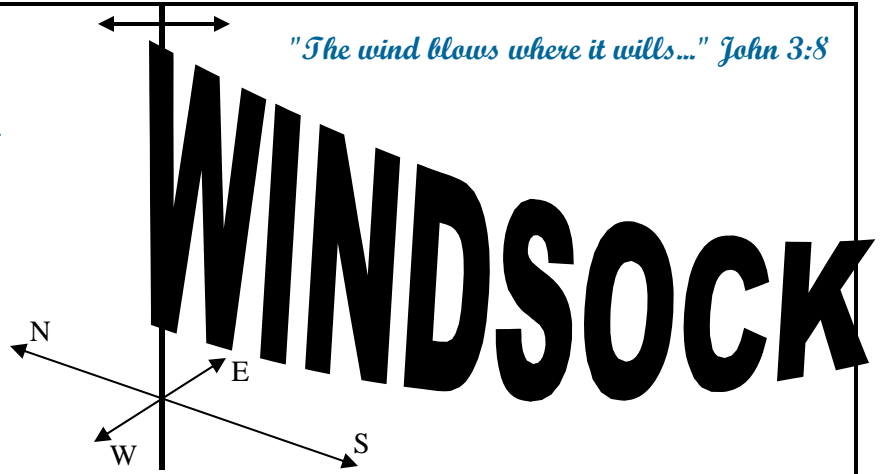


# Concordia Lutheran Church

*"The wind blows where it wills..." John 3:8*



APRIL 2008

3705 Harwood Road, Bedford, Texas 76021-4013  
Office Phone (817) 283-3560

Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.  
Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.

Pastor: Rev. Mark Lasch  
Email: [shepherd@concordialutheran.org](mailto:shepherd@concordialutheran.org)

## Tomorrow Today

As I pen these words, I ride the glow of the morrow of the Feast of the Resurrection... (fancy way of saying it's Monday and I'm still lovin' life)! As I review the day in my mind I'm thinking of all the faces that were there to celebrate with me the glorious news that Jesus trampled death underfoot and brought all of creation to a glorious new day.

One moment in particular that spoke to me on Easter Sunday was when one of my brothers in Christ called me over shortly before the start of the sunrise service and said, "Pastor, be quiet... listen. Look over there. In just a moment the sun will be up on the horizon and everything will come to life." Sure enough the much anticipated sun did rise to bring light and warmth to the world, and the world responded with a glorious burst of energy... the dawn of a new day. Life burst forth with the new song of creation... born again, born anew. It was glorious!

I wait all year to get to Holy Week. The elation of Palm Sunday... the betrayal... the terror of the cross... all trumped by an empty tomb! He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

The Son burst forth in our world to bring Light and immortality to life. How shall we respond?

Human beings have a wonderful ability to dream dreams, make plans, and set goals. We also have an incredible tendency to procrastinate. We set our goals, make our plans, and pursue our dreams. Sometimes we call them New Year's resolutions. Sometimes we say we'll do it when we get around to it. Sometimes they're something we plan to start in the unattainable tomorrow. But God has something planned for you today.

You experienced the same thing as I. You heard of the empty tomb. You heard of the Rising Son. One difference between The Son and the sun is that Jesus never sets. Still today he is active and alive in your heart, sitting at the right hand of the Father, bringing forth your needs and petitions to His throne of Grace. Every second of His being is intense and intentional. We who are a new creation, children of the Light of the Rising Son, also have a purpose.

God has intentionally caused you to be born and to live on this day at this time for His glory, and according to His purpose. The world would be incomplete without you.

I mentioned in the Easter Sunday sermon that it is no coincidence that the first book in the Bible after the Gospels is the "Acts of the Apostles." I happen to believe there should have been an ellipsis placed after the last word in the book of Acts rather than a period... for the story continues... in the Church... at Concordia... with you. It's Yesterday's tomorrow today. Let us burst forth with the new song of creation. Born again! Born anew! For such a time as this...

*In Christ! Pastor Mark*

# Sunday 6:01

*I will praise you,  
O Lord, with  
all my heart;  
I will tell of  
all your wonders.  
Psalm 9:1*

## Contemporary Worship

1st & 3rd Sundays at 6:01 p.m.

Beginning April 6

After several weeks of planning, praying, and preparing, the Contemporary Worship Committee is excited to announce bi-monthly evening services beginning at Concordia in April. These contemporary worship services will feature praise songs, scripture, drama, and a sermon by Pastor Mark. This will be an additional worship service at Concordia (not meant to replace the morning service) and we hope that all of our regular Sunday morning worshippers will attend as often as they can.

Please join us in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, April 6 at 6:01 p.m. as our praise band leads us in a lively service. Refreshments and fellowship will follow. Remember to invite your friends!

## Food for the Soul and the Body

At 11 am on the first Thursday of each month, the Bible Study and Lunch Bunch meets in the Fellowship Hall to read and discuss the Word of God with Pastor Mark as leader. After the week's study is finished, the members choose a local restaurant and go out to lunch.

Membership in this group is open to all, and is on a come when you can basis. Perhaps you could benefit from this opportunity to more fully nourish body and soul.

## April Anniversaries

Larry & Jeanice Gerlikovski

Paul & Carolyn Moeller

Robert & Katy Rosar

Ryan & Andrea Woollette

*"Now, this, at last—bone from my bones,  
flesh from my flesh!"*

## Time & Talent Survey Coming Soon!

In an effort to identify and learn more about Concordia's members, the Board of Parish Resources will be distributing a Time and Talent Survey in April. An invitation is extended to each member, young and old, to complete a survey.

No individual in the world is exactly the same as another; God has given each of us a unique set of gifts. As good first-fruit stewards, God trusts us to find the ways in which we can joyfully share our talents. When we fail to discover God's call, or when we fail to respond to it by using our gifts, the ministries God wants done on earth go undone. The joy comes in sharing our gifts to do God's work. There are many ways we can share our time and talent right here in our church family, through our social ministries, through the ministries that support our worship, through education and prayer and music. Please give prayerful consideration to using your particular talents to further the kingdom of God through the work of Concordia Lutheran Church.

We ask that you take a few minutes when you receive your survey, pray about it, look it over and carefully tell us your passions and how you can help Concordia. We have made it simple and easy for you to check the boxes; however, if you have more to say, we want to hear from you. Once the survey is complete you may return it to church and put in the basket on the table in the narthex or hand it to an usher.

The Board of Parish Resources wishes to thank you in advance for your participation.



## In Memoriam

On Tuesday, March 18, Concordia member Bill Lorenz passed away from complications from surgery. Bill joined Concordia on August 6, 2006, and has been a faithful attendee at worship. He served on the Board of Evangelism, entering attendance data weekly. Bill was a veteran of World War II, having served as a member of the Special Services. We rejoice in his faith and in the knowledge that Bill is now whole, walking with his Lord.



## Thank You

*"Ima Ruth and I thank all of you for your prayers, cards, flowers and especially the visits to Ruth while she was in the hospital and rehab center. We are blessed and continue to heal at home now. Members of Concordia are truly a fine group of Christians and we are proud to call this our church home."* Herb & Ima Ruth Jacoby

## New Lay Minister

Mase Masalosalalo has been chosen to serve as our newest Lay Minister. Mase was born forty-one years ago in Honolulu, Hawaii of Samoan descent, and grew up in South Central Los Angeles. After high school he joined the US Army for a four year stint and then found himself in Texas trying to get back to the West Coast, when he met Dawn, who he calls the "love of my life." Dawn and Mase are married with a son, Kalei, and a big extended family at Concordia. Mase says, "I am honored to receive my calling in service to our Lord in a great church."



## April Ushers

Ushers for the month of April are  
Beth Grover & Lea Young

## Lay Readers For April

April 6—Jim Dickinson  
April 13—Stella Hlad  
April 20—Paul Moeller  
April 27—Krista Polito

## Did You Know...

...that Eric Donald won the Chili Cookoff at Heritage Middle School? His prize was a Texas flag that has flown over the State Capitol in Austin.

...and that Grace Donald went on a nine day trip to Italy with the choir from Heritage High School? They sang in cathedrals in Sorrento and other Italian cities.

...that the Concordia Lutheran Church Healing Hands Scholarship winners will be announced at the end of this month? The scholarships, funded entirely by dedicated donations, is for graduating high school seniors who are entering a field of study related to health occupations. Interviews of eligible applicants will be held in April.

...that Evan Reid, son of Lawrence and Cynthia Reid, won second place in the Bedford Library Celebrate Seuss Festival costume contest? Evan was dressed as the main character from the Dr. Seuss book, Green Eggs & Ham.

...that Adam Holley has been accepted as a member of next year's Tennis Team at Nimitz HS in Irving ISD?

...that the Easter egg hunt for Concordia's children was a big success, with lots of goodies to be found? Thanks to all those who donated eggs and candy to make the event such fun.

...that on March 11, Pastor Lasch served as host for a meeting of the Dallas Area Metro Conference of LCMS pastors held in the Fellowship Hall at Concordia? Chef Bob Rosar provided breakfast and lunch for the attendees.

...that Renee Bierschenk continues to ride the tractor on the back church property, keeping everything under control? Renee spent extra effort the week of Palm Sunday in order that the altar area outside would be ready for services.

...that plans are under way for this year's VBS with the theme, "God's Big Backyard?" Pre-registration will take place in May and VBS will be held in late June. Watch for details.

...that Kourtney Garcia has been chosen to be a cheerleader next year at Heritage Middle School in GCISD?

## Youth News

All Concordia youth and their friends, grades 9 through 12, are encouraged to participate in the 30 Hour Famine on April 25 and 26. The famine will include thirty hours of fasting, from 12:30 pm on Friday, April 25 until 6:30 pm on Saturday, April 26, as well as a lock-in experience at Crown of Life Lutheran Church in Colleyville with other area youth. There is also a fund raising component to help feed the world's poorest children. Erin Rustan, Concordia Director of Youth, is a member of the planning committee for this event, which teaches about Christ's compassion, and about how each person can help change the world. Parents must fill out a Consent Form, after which Erin will give participants a collection packet so they can start collecting donations.

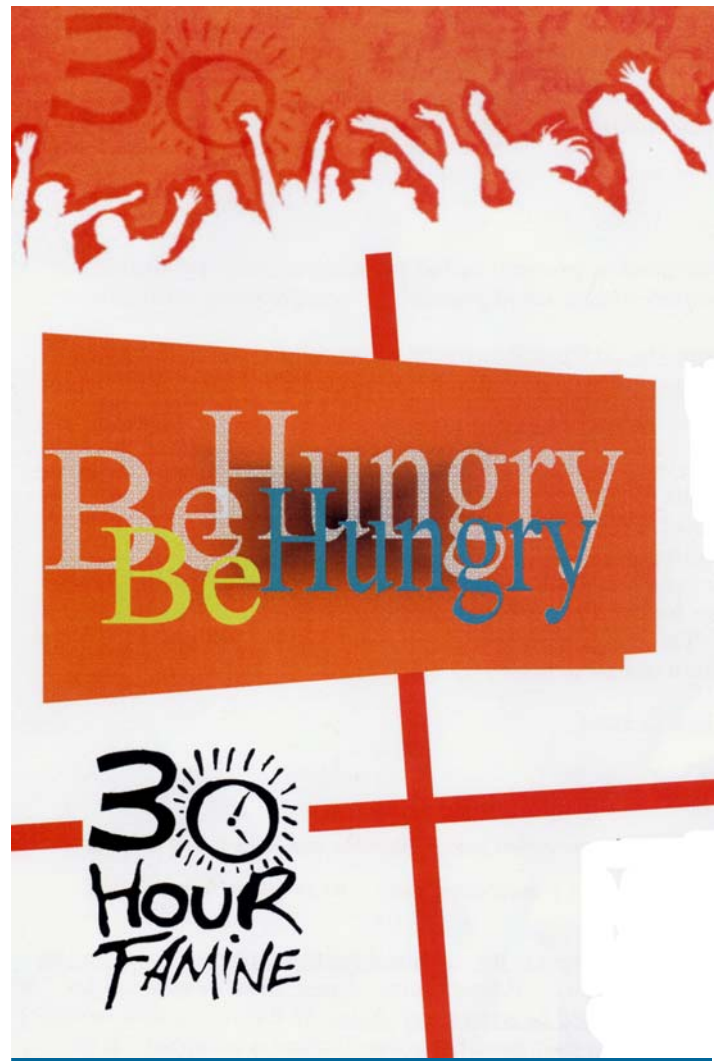
Fasting is the act of abstaining from food; the average, healthy person is able to go without food for 30 hours without any ill effects. There are many ways to fast, but the one that is part of the 30 Hour Famine is a juice fast.

There are many scriptural references to fasting, in both the Old and New Testaments, such as Matthew 6:16-17, Matthew 9:16-17, Daniel 9:3, and Isaiah 58. This experience is a way for participants to focus their thoughts, prayers, and efforts on things most important to God. It's a way to draw near to God. It also allows participants to feel what real hunger feels like—a hunger that is felt by many of the boys and girls who are being helped by the funds raised during the 30 Hour Famine.

While students will actually begin fasting at 12:30pm on Friday, the lock-in will begin at 6:30pm Friday, concluding at 7pm Saturday. A celebration of the Eucharist will be conducted at 6:30pm Saturday to break the fast, followed by a closing meal. See Erin for registration or information. Deadline for signup is April 6.

### April Birthdays

Eric Donald  
Craig Gravel  
Sue Greenwood  
Betsy Groulx  
Hank Henning  
Annette Johnson  
Stavana Strutz



### Got Junk?

The Board of Evangelism is sponsoring a community garage sale on Saturday, April 26th, beginning at 9 am. How can you help? Well, let us count the ways -

- 1) You can bring items to be donated on Sunday, April 20, or during the week following. We'll store them in the Fellowship Hall.
- 2) You can come early on Saturday the 26th (7 am) and help organize items for sale.
- 3) You can work a shift during the day on the 26th, helping sell items. Bring lawn chairs, as we plan to hold the sale on the grounds.
- 4) You can invite your friends and neighbors.

For more information, see Scott Western or any member of the Evangelism Board.

### Table for Eight

Don't forget *OUT & ABOUT* on April 25. Sign up with Beth Grover for a chance to dine out and visit with other Concordians at a local eatery.





# APRIL 2008

Concordia Lutheran Church ~ 3705 Harwood Rd. ~ Bedford, TX 76021 ~ (817) 283-3560

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b>  7 pm Board of Properties	<b>2</b>  7 pm Confirmation Class, Board of Fellowship	<b>3</b>  11 am Bible Study Lunch Bunch 7 pm Board of Lay Ministry	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 Worship 6:01 pm Contemporary Worship	<b>7</b>  7 pm Board of Parish Resources	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>  7 pm Confirmation Class, Board of Evangelism	<b>10</b>  7 pm Board of Youth	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> 9:15 am Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Worship <i>LCEF Sunday</i>	<b>14</b>  7 pm Board of Christian Education	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>  7 pm Confirmation Class  <i>Windsock Deadline</i>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 6:01 pm Contemporary Worship	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>  7 pm Confirmation Class	<b>24</b>  7 pm Church Council	<b>25</b>  12:30 pm <i>30 Hour Famine 7 pm Out &amp; About</i>	<b>26</b>  9 am <i>Garage Sale</i> 6:30 pm <i>30 Hour Famine Ends</i>
<b>27</b> 9:15 am Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Worship	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>  7 pm Confirmation Class			

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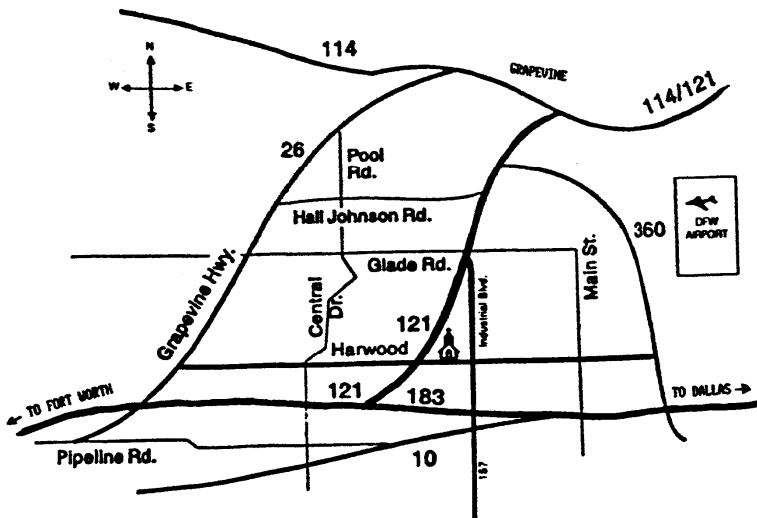
The *Windssock* is a monthly publication of Concordia Lutheran Church, 3705 Harwood Road, Bedford, Texas 76021-4013 entered as third class mail at the Bedford, Texas post office under permit number 37 as a non-profit organization.



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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  
*SHARING GOD'S LOVE & TOUCHING PEOPLE'S LIVES*