

Salt and Light

Concordia Lutheran Church ♦ Bedford, TX

Erin Rustan ♦ Director of Family Ministry ♦ erustan@concordialutheran.org ♦ cell# 214.502.9825

After the Rain Comes the Flowers

The clouds gather. They look dark and menacing. The air becomes humid and the smell of rain is in the air. Wait for it...wait for it...

BOOM!!!!

The bottom of the clouds fall out and rain pours down. The world becomes dark and all of creation looks for cover.

Sometimes we get stuck in the rain. Sometimes there is nothing we can do to keep from getting wet. The rain can cause our plans get changed or cancelled. We can sometimes lose sight of the meaning behind it.

But, the rain will eventually stop. Creation will dry out. Cancelled plans will be fulfilled. For, after the darkness comes the sunshine. After the rain comes the flowers.

Our God loves us so much that he sent His Son to live and die in our place. The rain surely fell on Him. After three days the ground dried up and He was resurrected. The flowers definitely bloomed on that day.

We thank God for both the rain and the flowers. No matter what kind of rain falls in lives our God always promises that the flowers will come.

Shalom,
Erin



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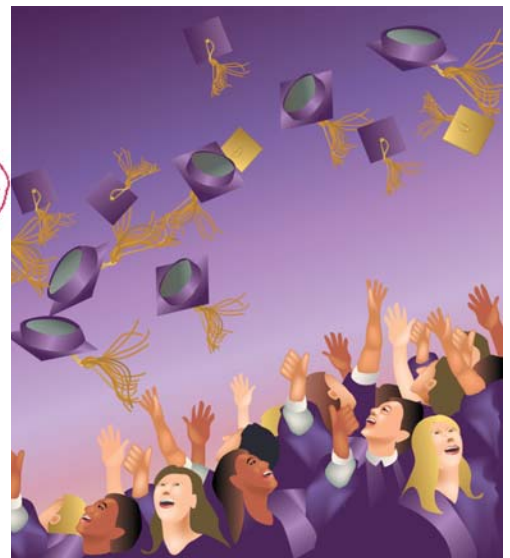
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MAY 2010

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1  Christ's Kids 10-1pm  Kickball 4pm
2 	3	4	5  Confirmation 6pm	6	7  Softball 9 & 10pm	8  BREAKFAST CLUB 9-10am
9  Happy Mother's Day	10	11	12  Confirmation 6pm	13 BoY Mtg. 7 pm	14  Softball 9 & 10pm	15  BREAKFAST CLUB 9-10am
16 	17	18  Happy Birthday	19  Confirmation 6pm Council 7pm	20	21  Softball 7 & 10pm	22  SONIC America's Drive-In Fundraiser 10-4pm
23  Confirmation	24	25	26	27	28	29  Trinity High Graduation 2pm FWCC
30 Youth Service/Grad Recognition  Potluck/Reception	31  MEMORIAL DAY					



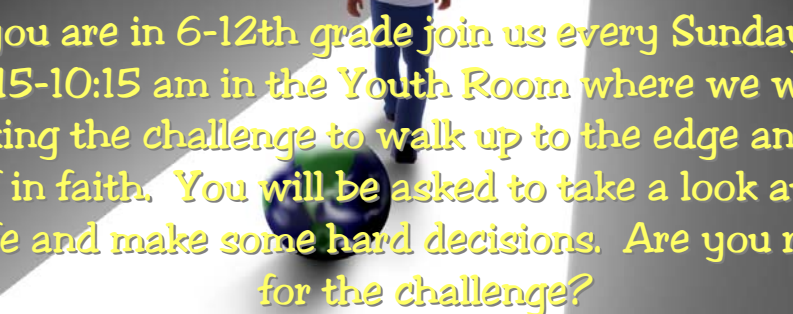
Christ's Kids

Christ's Kids is a program for elementary aged children (K-5). It will be every first Saturday of the month from 10am-12:30pm. The events will usually include play time (free play and organized), a craft, chapel time, lunch, and a short video. Some dates will be set aside for family events and outings. We will let you know when these events are going to happen as we will need help with transportation. If you would like to be involved in this ministry please speak with Erin Rustan, Eileen Busbice, or Vanessa Wilson.



**The next event will be:
Saturday, May 1st!**

STEP OFF



If you are in 6-12th grade join us every Sunday from 9:15-10:15 am in the Youth Room where we will be taking the challenge to walk up to the edge and step off in faith. You will be asked to take a look at your life and make some hard decisions. Are you ready for the challenge?



On May 22nd
from 10am-4pm
@
**200 N. CENTRAL DRIVE
BEDFORD, TX 76021**

the Youth will be serving up food as a fundraiser for events! Come out and support our kids and enjoy some good food in the process!



kourtney Garcia will be confirmed on Pentecost Sunday, May 23rd! Congratulations Kourtney!

WE WILL HONOR OUR FOUR GRADUATES AT THE YOUTH SERVICE ON MAY 30TH WITH A POTLUCK AND RECEPTION TO FOLLOW! JOIN US IN CELEBRATING!

- ✎ JOHNATHAN LUCKENBILL ✎
- ✎ TUMI MANALA ✎
- ✎ KALEI MASALOSALO ✎
- ✎ KALEB SCHELLHORN ✎



Summer Vacation



Teens-N-Thursdays:

T-N-T is a weekly event during the summer for 6-12th graders. Each week we will be involved in a service project and fellowship. Look out for dates and times!



Mark it on your calendar, bring your kids, and tell your neighbors and friends!

You can find volunteer and participant information and online registration at:
<http://www.vbspro.com/vbs/ez/concordiabedford>

Paper registration will also be available. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Erin Rustan (214) 502-9825

This summer, come aboard our High Seas Expedition. Be a part of the Vacation Bible School! We're praying this awesome VBS program will touch children's hearts and lives with God's love. Help kids in our community discover that:

- God's Word is true,
- God's Word is comforting,
- God's Word is surprising,
- God's Word is life-changing, and
- God's Word is for everyone.

Who: Children ages 4-10 years old
When: June 28-July 2, 2010
Time: 9am-12pm each day





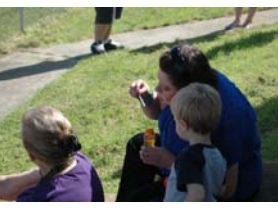
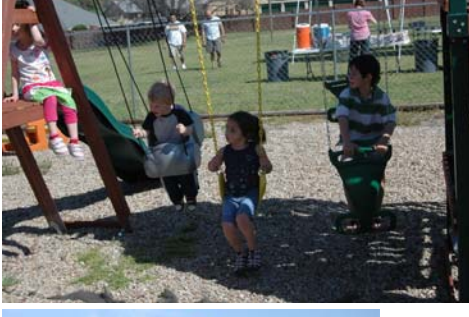
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May Day Morning Surprise

Make the first morning in May a special one for a friend, a neighbor, or a teacher. Start by crafting a May Day basket or use a basket you already have. Pick a bouquet of spring flowers—daffodils, tulips, whatever is blooming in your garden! Put the bouquet in a basket and hang it on the doorknob of someone you want to surprise. A basket can also be delivered with a smile to a teacher or secretary or coworker.

Garden Gathering

It's time to get dirt under those fingernails! Make planting a new garden a springtime family project!

- ☼ What do you want to plant?
- ☼ Where will you plant what?
- ☼ Will there be vegetables (no lima beans!!!) in one corner of the yard and flowers all around?
- ☼ What kind of special care do the bulbs need?

Buy the seeds, prepare the soil, plant the seeds, and plan for their care and feeding. Who will water and weed—and when? Now enjoy for months to come the fruit—and flowers and vegetables—of your labor!

Turn “Outings” into Traditions

- ☼ Gather the family and go on an annual spring picnic at your favorite outdoor spot—even if it's your backyard!
- ☼ Each spring, adopt a family or neighbor that needs help with a home or yard repair. Make it a family project with tasks for each family member to work on. And bring a plate of cookies when you go so you can visit a while, too!
- ☼ Buy a lily during each Easter celebration. When the season has passed, plant the lily in a flower bed in your yard or in the yard of a shut-n. Watch your lily patch grow bigger and more beautiful each year!
- ☼ Go for a spring drive in the country. Look for as many new “babies” as you can find, like calves, foals, puppies, kittens, and lambs. Celebrate the new life that accompanies the season.

Gaither, Gloria and Shirley Dobson. Creating Family Traditions. Oregon: Multnomah Gifts, 2004. pg. 28,31, and 32.

Family Devotion:

Go and Tell Others

John 20:19-21; Matthew 28:18-19

After He came out of the grave, Jesus went to the disciples. They were in a room together. Even though the door of the room was closed, Jesus came into the room. The disciples were afraid when they saw Him. They didn't think it was Jesus; they thought He was dead.

Jesus told them not to be afraid. He showed them His scarred hands and side, so they would know it was Him. He had really come to life again.

Later, Jesus told the disciples, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you." He wanted everyone to know how much He loved them and that He had been punished in their place by dying on the cross for them. Jesus wanted the disciples to go all over the world to tell every person about Him.



- ☞ How did the disciples feel when they saw Jesus?
- ☞ Why were they afraid?
- ☞ What did Jesus show them so they would know He had really come to life again?
- ☞ What did He tell the disciples to do?
- ☞ What does He want you and me to do?

Memory Verse:

"We wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ." -Titus 2:13

Graham, Ruth. Step into the Bible. Michigan: Zondervan, 2007. pg. 72-73

Other Resources:

- www.soulthirst4youth.net
- dailydevos.org (free devotions for youth)
- www.happymeal.com
- www.lifekids.tv
- tuitionfundingsources.com



Ways You Can Serve:

Activity:

Making May baskets is still a tradition for many European families. Every May 1 children make colorful baskets and fill them with treats for neighbors and friends. The children deliver the baskets to the door, knock or ring the doorbell, then run away and hide. They leave an anonymous note that says, "Happy May Day and Welcome to Spring." Or they leave a note of love.

Sit down with your family and make a list of elderly people in your neighborhood or from your church who might be in need of a special note of love. Then make a May basket for them and fill each basket with things like fruit, muffins, flowers, Gospel-centered notes, candy and popcorn.

Read:

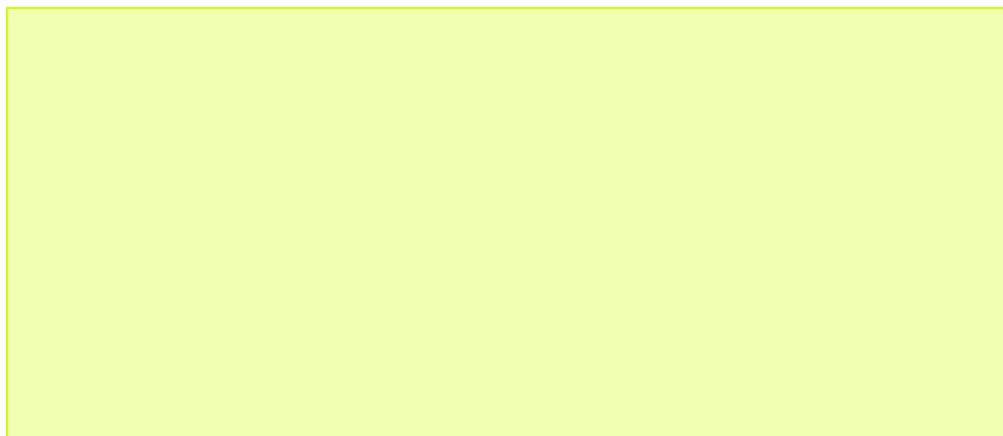
Romans 5:6-8.

- ▶ Have you ever been given a gift for no reason? Maybe at a time when you did n't deserve it, or didn't expect it? Was it exciting?
- ▶ Have you ever made a card or given a gift to someone and they didn't expect it? How did it make you feel when you gave this gift to them?
- ▶ Have you ever given a gift or a card anonymously (without someone knowing it was from you)? If mom or dad have done this, they could share when and why. Why did mom or dad decide to keep it a secret?
- ▶ When you delivered the May baskets today, how did it make you feel? Did you want to go tell them it was from you? Did you see the faces of the people whom you gave to? How did they react to your giving?
- ▶ In Romans 5: 6-8, God tells us that Jesus died for us even though we didn't deserve it. We were sinners and yet He loved us so much that He went to the cross for us. What a great gift God gave to us that day...the gift of Salvation.
- ▶ Say a prayer of thanks for the gift of Jesus.

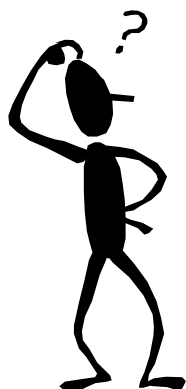
Duensing, Audrey. SOS: Service Over Self. St. Louis, MO: The Department of Child Ministry, Board for Congregational Services, The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, 1998.



Concordia Lutheran Church
3705 Harwood Rd.
Bedford, TX 76021



What's this?



I'm glad you asked!

This is your way of knowing what in the world is going on with the Youth and Children's Ministry at Concordia Lutheran Church.

If you have any of your own announcements or comments that you would like to see in this newsletter please let me know!