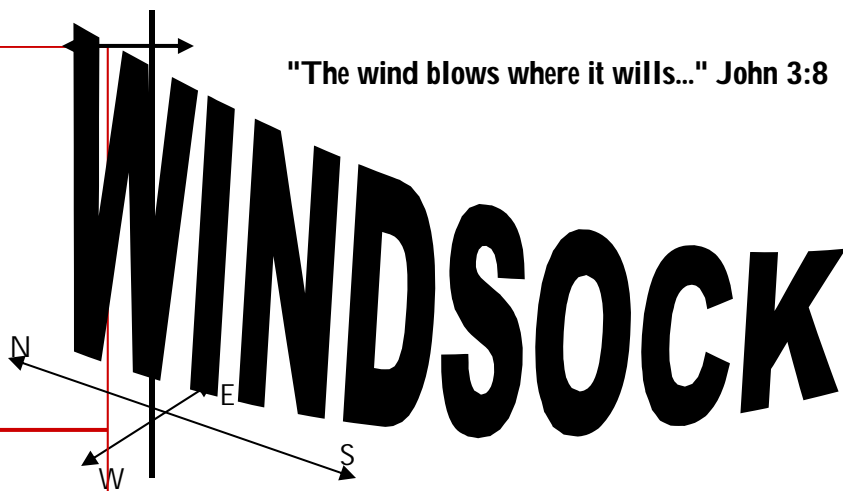


Concordia Lutheran Church

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



February 2012

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
Windsock@concordialutheran.org

HILLS AND VALLEYS

The last time we saw them, we waved them in the breeze of a beautiful spring day, chanting "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord." It was Palm Sunday, a day when we celebrated that Jesus had arrived in Jerusalem and was ready to complete His mission by taking His rightful place on His throne.

Little did we know that the people who first chanted the words, "Blessed is He" would, only a few days later, collectively demand "Crucify Him." Little did we know, that His rightful throne was the cross of Golgotha.

...such are the hills and valleys of life. The palms we once raised, almost a year ago, are now before us once again. Only now, they are ashes. Though they will once again be used in worship, the message they proclaim is different. Today, they declare, "Dust you are, and to dust you shall return."

The Christian Faith is a journey of hills and valleys. Sometimes we stand at the top of the hill, our life in perspective, knowing that Jesus is Lord, that His Father has become our Father and will continue to provide for our every need as only He can. Other times, we are in the valley looking up, trying to gain some perspective with mountains of fear and loneliness with despair on every side. There we wonder where God has gone. We're looking for blessings, but feeling only curses.

Lent is a time for us to gain some perspective. It is a time when we reflect upon the goodness of God and rejoice in his plan of salvation. Yet, it is also a time when we reflect upon ourselves and see exactly why we need a Savior.

Ash Wednesday services will be on February 22nd at 7:00 pm. Lenten services will continue on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm through March 28th.

I invite you to join me, as we join Jesus in the desert for his 40 days of Temptation.

"Blessed is He" who has raised up the valleys of life. "Blessed is He" who has made every mountain and hill made low. "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord" for you.

In Christ! Pastor Mark

YOU'RE IN GOOD HANDS

The GEICO lizard, Flo and even State Farm's Mr. Mayhem, can't offer this coverage package.

If an insurance agent knocked on your door, sat at your table and offered you a policy that would guarantee that your children would be healthy, happy and avoid many of the pitfalls that today's kids face when they get to junior high and beyond, not only would you be very interested, but I'm guessing as loving parents you would be willing to pay a large premium for that policy. Now, what if I told you that this coverage is cost free.

Say what? Free? You're kidding me, right?

Nope, not kidding. Here's the deal—having your children in GOD'S WORD from early on will make them spiritually healthy and happy. Knowing their Savior's love for them and how He wants them to live sanctified lives, can do nothing but help them when the Devil, the world and our sinful flesh throw temptations at them. As parents, we can't stand next to our children 24/7 to protect them, but our omnipotent, loving Savior can and does stand that watch. Let's make sure our kids know that.

How do we let them know that? The easiest and cost free way is to bring your children to Sunday School each Sunday. There, they will be strengthened and better prepared for what lies ahead.

Operators are standing by each Sunday, so call now and we'll even throw in free shipping and handling. But, this is a limited offer. Everyday that our children are not in the WORD, is a preparation day lost for the battles ahead.

Oh, and we are currently looking for new agents (i.e. Sunday School teachers). We offer great pay, not in a monetary sense, but with short hours and tons of hugs. See Pastor, Ulana, Katie, or myself. You'll be glad you did.

Dennis Murawski, Director
Board of Christian Education

FEBRUARY USHERS
Russell & Caitlin Andrews



GODtoberfest

Yes, we know, GODtoberfest is not until October and that's eight months away. But a lot of preparation is needed for the success of this event, so it's not too early to start planning.

This is Concordia's big community outreach and it requires help from each of us. We would be pleased if you would join the GODtoberfest committee and share any new thoughts and/or new ideas you might have.

There are expenses involved in this endeavor, therefore, we will be having various fund-raisers from now until October. The first of these is a CHICKEN DINNER to be held after worship on Sunday February 19th. The menu includes Rotisserie chicken, Bubba's world famous baked potatoes and other scrumptious goodies. There will be a free will offering. Please plan to join us.

N.E.E.D. Needs

February 5—Rice & Beans
February 12—Cornbread mix/Cake mix
February; 19—Peanut Butter/Jelly
February 26—Macaroni & Cheese/
Spaghetti (Pasta)



20th ANNUAL LAY MINISTER'S CHILI COOK-OFF WINNERS

Mike McWithey presents the Lay Minister's Chili Cook-off Trophy to Bruce Nelson. This is the 11th time Bruce has won. His winning recipe is found on page 4.

Mike McWithey presents Robert Holley with the certificate for the best non-lay minister's Chili. Robert has also won three other times when he was a Lay Minister.

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

February 11—Joel & Barbara Lozzi
 February 14—Arturo & Lucinda Garcia
 February 16—Del & Nancy Sperry

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

February 2—Hilda Graham
 February 4—Carolyn McCommis
 February 5—Robert Western
 February 7—Debra Basler
 February 8—Stephen Randermann
 February 16—Seth Sjogren
 February 19—Isabella Hoffmann
 February 21—David Lasch
 February 24—Frank Reaves
 February 26—Diana Edwards
 February 28—Lucinda Garcia

“Before you were born, I set you apart.”
 Jeremiah 1:5

Concordia Men's Network

Concordia Men's Network is a program designed for the men of Concordia. The next meeting will be **February 16**. All men of the church are invited to attend at **6:00 pm**.



The evening will start with fellowship centered around the grilling of meat (each man brings his own steak, or chicken or whatever) Cold drinks, Bubba's famous baked potatoes, and Blue Bell ice cream are provided.

After dinner, Pastor Mark provides spiritual nourishment as attendees discuss and pray together. This event, sponsored by the Board of Lay Ministry, is planned as a recurring program for the third Thursday of each month.

FEBRUARY LAY MINISTERS

Mike McWithey
 Bruce Nelson

BRUCE "BUBBA" J. NELSON'S TEXAS CHILI RECIPE

3 pounds Angus beef (trimmed and diced small)
2 teaspoons sugar
2 teaspoons paprika
1 teaspoon ground oregano
]1 teaspoon minced dried garlic
1 tablespoons minced dried onion
1/ 2 teaspoon ground red pepper (I use Cayenne)
2 Tablespoons chili powder
16 ounces Ragu spaghetti sauce (plain)
16 ounces water
2 heaping tablespoons corn starch

Season the meat to your taste. I use sea salt, black pepper and garlic powder. Sear meat in large skillet or saucepan. Do not drain. Add Ragu and water. Stir in all ingredients except cornstarch. Cover skillet and simmer 30 minutes. Stir occasionally. Stir cornstarch into 1/2 cup warm water and add cornstarch mixture to chili. Simmer another 30 minutes. Stirring occasionally. Do not allow the chili to stick to the bottom of skillet. This recipe feeds four Texans, but serves more if ya ain't Texan. Enjoy!

February 2012

Concordia Lutheran Church—1705 Harwood Road—Bedford, TX. 76021—817-283-3560

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 5:30 pm Board of Fellowship 6:00 pm Confirmation	2 11:00 am Bible Study Lunch Bunch 7:00 pm Board of Lay Ministry	3	4
5 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship SUPER BOWL	6  6:00 pm Girl Scouts	7  7:00 pm Board of Properties	8  6:00 pm Confirmation	9 7:00 pm Board of Youth 7:00 pm Girl Scout Service Unit	10	11
12 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship VOTER'S ASSEMBLY	13  6:00 pm Girl Scouts	14  7:00 pm Board of Parish Resources	15  6:00 pm Confirmation	16  6:00 pm Men's Network	17	18
19 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship CHICKEN DINNER	20  6:00 pm Girl Scouts	21	22  6:00 pm Confirmation 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday	23  7:00 pm Church Council	24	25
26 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	27  6:00 pm Girl Scouts	28  7:00 pm Board of Christian Education	29  6:00 pm Confirmation 7:00 pm Lenten Service			

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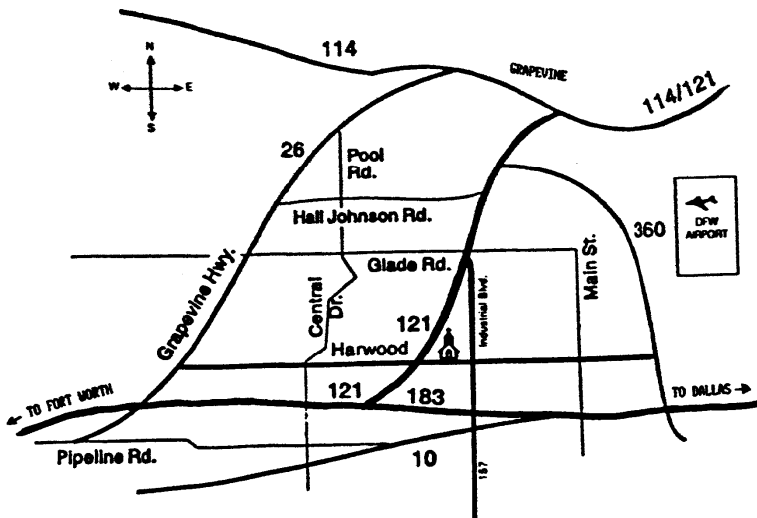
Staff

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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 Bedford, Texas 76021-4013



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 Fax: (817) 283-2877
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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