

The Concordia Chimes

April 2016



From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Concordians,

What a month!

From the ashes of blessed palms on Ash Wednesday through to the kindling of the new fire of Easter, it has been a season of contrasts. The joy and celebration of the busy month can't be adequately expressed in words, so, a feast for the eyes awaits you in this edition. Concordia is a lively and intense place during this most holy of seasons, and you'll see that reflected here.

I was constantly amazed at how many people were involved in the many worship services and events throughout Lent and Holy Week. Most amazing was the dedication of the Altar Guild, deacons, office staff, choir, and so many more to making the celebrations beautiful.

I took tons of pictures of people scrubbing marble altar steps and polishing brass. I was asked however, or, rather, threatened, that inclusion of these pictures would mean my certain demise. So, to represent this silent army of busy cleaners and polishers and ironers, I include a simple picture of the ironing board to give you a sense of all that it takes to make Concordia shine and be a hospitable place to celebrate the great mysteries of our faith.



One picture among many to represent the hard work that went in to polishing, ironing and preparing Concordia for the Easter Celebrations.

The Rev. Douglas Barclay

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The Rev. Joseph E. Bourret

Pastor *Emeritus*

Home: 860.633.6138

Bible Study on Sundays 8:30 am

Worship on Sundays at 10:00 am

Office Hours

Monday-Friday

9:00 am – 2:00 pm

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The deadline for submitting articles or items for The Chimes is the 20th of each month.

Two high points stick out in my mind out of many from the month:



Pastor Barclay and Pastora Rivera-Mendez delighted at the big turnout for the first joint worship between Concordia and our Spanish-speaking ministry.

new friends and to share stories in Spanish and English based around the parable of the Prodigal Son. We could each express, in our own way, our worship in both languages and experience that God goes beyond language, but is beautifully worshipped in and through our cultures and traditions, especially when they include others.

Jim Britton and members of Ministerio Nueva Creación engage in bible study at the Lenten Soup Supper



1) Our joint worship with Ministerio Nueva Creación at our Lenten Soup and Bread supper. What an incredible night! We had the chance to meet

Pastor Barclay blesses the new fire of Easter and Deacon Winzler carries the Paschal Candle to be lit.



2) An incredible Easter Vigil celebration with 5 other churches, 8 clergy members, and over 70 people! The evening was filled with good food, laughter, creative readings, a tidal wave of baptismal water, and an elegant joint celebration of the Eucharist around our festal altar. The new altar paraments crafted by Susan Bourret lent a simple elegance to our celebration. Most of all, praying together as Lutherans, Episcopalians, and Congregationalists, and many others is an experience that shows the potential and power of our unity in Christ.

Eucharist at the Easter Vigil Worship with Pastors Barclay, Cady, Nelson, Grifo, Rivera-Mendez, Deacons Fedorchak, Roccobertan with Mark Winzler, Al Williams, Steve Graefe and Linda Lange.



Music has been consistently excellent with musicians John Anderson and Richard Hicks doing the heavy lifting while we await our new Director of Music, Mary Douglas, who will begin on April 19. We look forward to the new gifts that she will bring to Concordia. A word of congratulations to Richard Hicks who has been named our Minister of Music Emeritus. He will continue to be a resource and support to Concordia in this honored role, much as Pr. Joe Bourret has been and continues to be.

*Edna Nekiunas congratulates
Richard Hicks at his Emeritus celebration.*



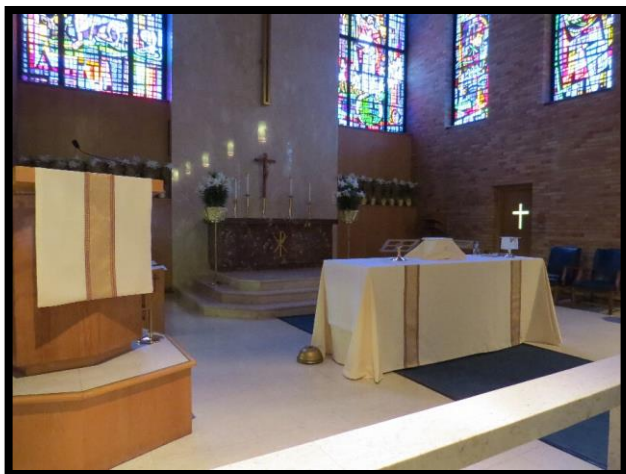
Finally, I want to express my thanks to this congregation who has been incredibly supportive and loving to us at the death of my grandmother, Florence, in December, and, most recently at the death of my mother, Linda. The cards and memorial tributes are a great sign of your love and express deep affection and trust that extend well beyond the brevity of our time as pastor and people. I will be away again for some more bereavement leave in the next week or so to help my family to clean my mother's house and to prepare to be sold. Thank you for continuing to walk with me and my family in grief and in the promise of the resurrection.

With Easter joy,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Douglas D. Barclay".

The Rev. Douglas D. Barclay,
Pastor

*Easter chancel paraments crafted and constructed by
Susan Bourret.*



Concordia Council Highlights

Unapproved minutes of the March 10th meeting

- Accepted the reports of the secretary, treasurer and president.
- President Carol Stoneman reported that Families in Crisis will be increasing the hours for their Monday meetings. Donation to the church will be increased accordingly. She also reported that there is a search for an assistant treasurer to assist Stephen Perkins with weekly and monthly tasks.
- Petey Goodrich reported that the annual financial review/audit was completed.
- Al Williams reported that the new contract with Cox for phone and internet will save Concordia approximately \$30 per month.
- David Smith shared highlights of the “3G: Generating Generous Giving” New England Synod event held at Concordia on February 27th. This all day event was attended by 100 individuals from throughout the New England Synod. Speakers included Bishop Jim Hazelwood and Rev. Renée Liabraaten, Associate to the Bishop for Generosity.
- Steve Graefe reported that the boiler replacement and organ are at the top of the Capital Project Team priorities.
- The Fund Raising Task Force is reviewing the ELCA Guidelines for Congregational Fundraising.

- **Information**

*The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be **Sunday, April 10th, 11:45 a.m.***

*The next meeting of the Congregation Council will be **Thursday, April 14, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.***

Happy April Birthday!



Paul Duesler	4/3	Aaron Lukas	4/3	Carol Sutcliffe	4/3	Helen Wittkofske	4/3
Carol Bowen	4/7	Catherine Peacock	4/7	Janice Barber	4/8	Julie Cosmini	4/8
Claire Duesler	4/8	Steve Graefe	4/13	Susan Bourret	4/15		
Benjamin Baranowski	4/20	Tommy Donagher	4/20	Jeanine Barber	4/28		
Sean Stoneman	4/28	Sandra Brook	4/29	Mark Winzler	4/29		

A message from David Smith, Council Vice President:

Sharing Seasonal Thank You's!

I want to say Thank you to all the members of the congregation that donated to Seasonal Sharing last year. Concordia contributed wonderful meals and gifts for those in need and we've received reports on how thankfully they were received. Did you know we raised over and above the amount needed? Stephen Perkins recently sent a check for nearly \$750 to MACC as a result.

Many thanks go to all those who gave donations to Seasonal Sharing, brought in food and/or purchased gifts for this wonderful outreach to our community. This truly is a generous church. A special thanks also goes to those who support the outreach efforts at Concordia in general and those who organize and help make Seasonal Sharing a success in particular. An enormous amount of work goes into all these efforts.

3G - Generating Generous Giving



As part of the Stewardship Committee, Nancy Lynn Knauff and I recently attended the 3G Stewardship Event held on Saturday, February 27th here at Concordia. Nearly 100 people from all over the New England Synod, some from as far away as Vermont, attended this event. I can't tell you how many people came up to us to say what a wonderful and beautiful church we have, and how thankful they were to come to place like this to interact with others of the faith.

We attended a workshop held by Bishop Hazelwood on a year-round stewardship program called "Ask, Thank, Tell." It has given us many common sense approaches to receive better results. In the coming weeks and months, you'll read more about these things as our small, but mighty committee begins doing this work. Another workshop was for more advanced planning and this was given by Pastor Renee LiaBraaten. Some of you will remember her coming to our church as part of *Rebuilding God's House* and *Open the Doors* campaigns. To close the event, she gave an interesting presentation on the differences between the generations starting with The Greatest Generation, The Baby Boomers, Generation X, and Generation Y. Each has their own preferred ways of interacting with the church, distinctive giving patterns, and preferred ways of communication. It's no longer "one size fits all" and as such we must do some things in addition to how we've always done them to reach everyone to achieve the best results.

It was a wonderful day and there were many who were here to help support the event. I'd like to thank Pastor Barclay, Carol Stoneman, Mark Winzler, Kate Bozzo and others for all the work they did to ensure the event was a success. The food was awesome and there was plenty of room for everyone. A special thanks goes to Al and Jean Williams for their recent donation of the Wi Fi equipment, which enabled everyone with smart phones and laptops alike to connect to the internet. For a time, the place looked like a convention center. I'm sure other, similar events will be planned accordingly. This is a wonderful place and we have much to be thankful for.

Treasurer Comments on the February Financial Report

January has provided a fast start to the year, and February continues. As of February 23, envelope is 125% of budget for the year, and total giving is 103%. Thank you for making it possible.

As a congregation, you have responded magnificently to the January semi-annual meeting. And you can't see it below, but your March response is just as good. All I can say is thank you for your concern for Concordia.

Both January and February have shown a strong Envelope offering. While Building Use has started weakly, the Non-Envelope offering has exceeded budget. So, that becomes a wash for the revenues. Total income is above budget, and total expenditures is below budget.

All winter long, I have been thanking El Nino for our mild winter. What really happened was El Nino pushed our weather into Europe and they had a horrible winter. However, our snow removal expenses were down. At the end of the last season, we had no budget left for the beginning of the current winter season. This year we have budget left over in case it snows in November and December. This is good because I have it on good authority that aside from after effects, El Nino is now history and we can expect a more normal weather pattern this next season.

Envelope offering for Februarys 144% (YTD 131%) of budget and the Stretch is 28% (1,009.00) (YTD 15%) for a combined YTD of 108%. Thank you to everyone who contributed. You also contributed \$117.00 to World Hunger.

If you have questions about the February statement, please ask or email at treasurer@concordiamanchester.org.

Respectfully submitted, Stephen Perkins, Treasurer

February 2016 Headings and Account	MTD Actual	MTD Budget	MTD Percent	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Percent
Revenues						
Budget Income						
Envelope Offering	\$22,860	\$18,877	121%	\$40,793	\$37,754	108%
Other Offering	\$664	\$27	2423%	\$970	\$312	311%
Public Use of Building	\$500	\$348	144%	\$650	\$840	77%
Fuel Assistance for Concordia	\$200	\$118	169%	\$301	\$190	159%
Total Other Budget Income	\$1,364	\$494	276%	\$1,921	\$1,341	143%
Total Budget Income	\$24,224	\$19,371	125%	\$42,714	\$39,095	109%
Expenses						
Benevolence	\$2,384	\$2,384	100%	\$4,868	\$4,868	100%
Staff Salaries	\$7,696	\$8,638	89%	\$15,317	\$17,451	88%
Fringe Benefits	\$2,330	\$2,001	116%	\$4,152	\$4,003	104%
Program Expenses	\$159	\$208	76%	\$586	\$417	141%
Program Support Expenses	\$1,469	\$1,175	125%	\$2,159	\$1,924	112%
Facility Maintenance	\$3,706	\$3,533	105%	\$5,740	\$5,767	100%
Utilities	\$2,367	\$3,095	76%	\$4,383	\$5,790	76%
Insurance	\$0	\$0		\$1,913	\$2,624	73%
Total Budget Expenses	\$20,111	\$21,035	96%	\$39,118	\$42,843	91%
Expenditures from Funds						
Total Expenses Not Budgeted	\$754	\$0		\$0	\$0	
Total Expenses	\$20,865	\$21,035	99%	\$39,118	\$42,843	91%



Concordia Nursery School Happenings!!

During the month of April, we will be running a fundraiser by selling beautiful annuals and vegetables from Botticello Farms here in Manchester. Your purchase of vouchers flats of veggies and annuals, or hanging baskets entitles you to visit Botticello's and make your own selection. You pay regular retail price for the items and Concordia Nursery School keeps a portion of each sale. We will also be selling plants and vouchers here at church after the May 1 service. Please contact Laura Hart for more information - (860) 649-9349 or concordianurseryschool@gmail.com. Thanks in advance for your support!

Botticello Farms, LLC Spring Flower Order Form Orders Due by May 6th 2016

*Please return your order form to the school
Make checks payable to: Concordia Nursery School*

<i>Type</i>	<i>Price</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>(quantity x price)= Total</i>
<i>Flower Flats (8 packs with 6 plants in each pack) Assorted annual and vegetable plants</i>	<i>\$15.00ea</i>		\$
<i>10" Hanging Baskets Assorted annual flowers</i>	<i>\$19.99 each</i>		\$
<i>Total due</i>			\$

Total Enclosed: _____

Name and phone

number/email _____

Mix and match all of our flat six packs!!



March's Photo Wrap Up!



Lenten Soup is served to Lucy Tavernas of Ministerio Nueva Creación



Pastora Rivera-Mendez enjoys discussion during Lenten bible study. Bread.



Susan Morris and Elaine Briggmann enjoy refreshments at Richard Hick's reception.

Ella Hube joins at the reception for Richard Hicks.



Brass and Pilgrims leaving Emanuel Lutheran at the Good Friday Way of the Cross.

Pastor Barclay, Carol Stoneman and community members carry the cross in procession to the Vietnam Memorial to commemorate Good Friday.



The final station for the pilgrims at Center Congregational Church.





Jane Casserly prepares Spring flowers for delivery to the homebound.



Irma Vincens and Jackie Britton organize the Spring Member Care project.

Joel Baranowski is serving as a pack leader for Concordia's Cub Scout Pack.



Nursery School Director Laura Hart tell a *Godly Play* story to the nursery school children.



The altar is made ready for Eucharist in Lent.



Waters from the Easter Vigil to mark the renewal of Baptismal Promises.



Pastor Barclay and Interim Rector Grifo in St. Mary's Sacristy following Good Friday worship.



Deacon Winzler with Deacons Fedorchak and Roccoburtan from St. Mary's Following Good Friday worship.



Pastor Scott Cady and the Baranowskis enjoy Easter Vigil Potluck.



Pastora Riveria-Mendez and Elvira eat with Mark Brendel and Jane Casserly at the Easter Vigil Potluck.

Kay Corl, Ella, Susan Elaine, and Jane join with members of Ministerio Nueva Creación at the Easter Vigil Potluck.





The Baranowski's return for Easter Sunday breakfast.

The Burnetts enjoy Easter Sunday's breakfast.



Pastor Barclay sprinkles the congregation with Baptismal Waters on Easter Sunday morning. Ed Chiffer valiantly carries the heavy bowl of water in procession.



Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Saturday Morning.



At the starting line for the Easter Egg Hunt.





Dorothy Krause, would like to extend her thanks to the members of Concordia for all their support and sympathy on the death of her husband George Krause.

March 4, 2016



Dear Family of Concordia Lutheran Church,

Thank you so much for your generous gift of **\$442.00** to MACC Charities. I believe in blessings not luck. It is a choice to help others and your decision to help makes it possible for MACC to meet the basic needs of our neighbors during times of emergencies.

May you be blessed to the degree you bless others,



Beth Stafford
Executive Director/CEO



SUNDAY DINNER OUT

APRIL 17TH

The Manchester Grill

316 Green Road

Come and join the fun, fellowship and great food!!

Leaving church at 12 noon

Dinner reservation for 12:15

Carpooling available

I would like to carpool _____

Name: _____

Number attending: _____

We'll be ordering from the menu with separate checks.

Scout Sunday and Spring Cleanup

On Sunday, April 17, we will welcome members of our Cub Scout Pack and their families to participate in the 10 am worship at Concordia. Following worship, the scouts will participate in a one hour long Spring cleanup to help give back to Concordia. Please consider helping that day on a variety of projects around the church.

Thank You Coffee Hour for Organist John Anderson

Organist John Anderson has been helping out in the interim as our Director of Music Search continued. We will thank him for his superb work and leadership with a coffee hour on Sunday, April 10. Please come to share your thanks.

Prayers of the Community

Prayer requests may be made to the parish office. The names will be held in prayer for one month, unless otherwise requested. (*Member of Concordia) (*Request by Member of Concordia*) (*New Intention*)

Those who are sick or in any need,

*The Homebound	*Ella Hube	<i>Deborah Chase</i>	<i>Linda C.</i>
*Art Hube	*Jean Weiss	<i>Dorothy Carlson</i>	<i>Jessica</i>
*Marion Pallein	*Irene Schack	<i>Kristin Ortolani</i>	<i>Bernice</i>
*John Ramondetta	*Linda Lange	<i>Machi</i>	<i>Eric Schultz</i>
*Carol Bowen	*Jim Noyes	<i>Desmond</i>	<i>Tucker</i>
	<i>Jennifer</i>	<i>Haroldeen</i>	<i>Cumpstone</i>
	<i>Geraldine</i>	<i>Tammy</i>	

Those who have died and those who mourn:

- ***The famiy and friends of longtime parishioner *Frances K. Smith.***
- *Pastor Barclay at the death of his mother, Linda Barclay
- Former pastor Kim Erik Williams at the death of his mother Marjorie Williams.
- The family and friends of Anne Marie Roy, by *Wendy Donagher.

The Intentions of this Community:

- Concordia Nursery School Students and their families.
- The work of MACC
- For our Cub Scout Pack
- For Pra. Mendez and Ministerio Nueva Creacion
- For Pr. Simpson and the people of New Horizons.
- For the AA groups who meet here.
- For Families in Crisis.
- For the churches of the New England Synod.
- For our bishop, James.
- For all seminaries in transition, especially Philadelphia and Gettysburg seminaries.

Concordia's Calendar:

EVERY SUNDAY

Bible Study – 8:30 a.m.
Worship 10 a.m.
Counters 10 a.m.
New Horizon Church 12:30 p.m.
New Creation Ministry 3:30 p.m.

EVERY MONDAY

Families in Crisis – 10 a.m.
AA - 5:30 p.m.

EVERY TUESDAY

Clergy Text Study - 11 a.m.

EVERY Wednesday

Choir – 7:00p.m.

EVERY FRIDAY

AA - 7:30 p.m.

Upcoming Highlights

Saturday April 9

National Kidney Foundation Fundraiser 6:00 p.m.

Sunday April 10

Coffee Hour to Honor Organist John Anderson
Executive Committee 11:45 a.m.

Monday April 11

Finance Committee: 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday April 12

Nursery School Board 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday April 13

Fellowship Committee – 6:30 p.m.

Thursday April 14

Congregation Council – 7:00 p.m.

Sunday April 17

Scout Sunday

Spring Cleanup- 11:15 a.m.
Sunday Dinner Out 12:00 p.m.

Monday April 25

Confirmation 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday April 19

Mutual Ministry 6:30 p.m.

Worship Volunteers:

April 3

Ministers of Hospitality: Bob&Jan McGarity,
Fred Winzler,Don Briggman
Deacons: Mark Winzler, Wendy Donagher, Erich Stoneman
Coffee Hour: Wendy Donagher and Nancy Knauff

April 10

Ministers of Hospitality: Paul&Petey Goodrich,
Irma Vincens,Tina Ruggerio
Deacons: Mark Winzler, Al Williams, Doug Larson
Acolyte: Amanda Baranowski
Coffee Hour: Mowing Committee

April 17

Ministers of Hospitality: Fred&Martha Winzler,
Don Briggman Gail Adams
Deacons: Linda Lange, Steve Graefe, Mimi Boxwell
Acolyte: EJ Chiffer
Coffee Hour: Candace Wilson and Jane Casserly

April 24

Ministers of Hospitality: Ella Hube,Jan Salvatore
,Jackie Britton,,John Haid
Deacons: Linda Lange, Al Williams, Mimi Boxwell
Acolyte: Zach Baranowski
Church Wide Pot Luck

The Weather Outside Will Soon Be Frightful

All weather related and cancellations at Concordia will be posted on WFSB-TV Channel 3, or on their website: www.wfsb.com. Sign up for text alerts from WFSB so you receive the news as soon as it happens.

The full calendar can be viewed by clicking on Google *Calendar* on the congregation's website

Let Us Know You Are Coming

Please make sure to consult the church office before scheduling any meetings or events—small or large—in our facility. We want to make sure the space is available, and the building open when you arrive. Thank you.



As Lutheran Christians, Concordia understands that God is calling us to be:

- A Christian community with responsibility to support each other, our neighborhood, and the larger community
- A Gathered Assembly marked by the practices of prayer, study, reflection and worship
- Selfless Disciples who communicate and practice the faith through acts of faithful stewardship, service and forgiveness

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED