

The Concordia Chimes



**Christ has died.
Christ has risen.**

Passion Sunday, April 13, 10 a.m.
Concordia Lutheran Church
Palm Procession
Congregational Reading of the Passion Story
Holy Communion

Maundy Thursday, April 17, 7 p.m.
Emanuel Lutheran Church, Manchester
Absolution by Laying on of Hands
Foot Washing
Holy Communion
Stripping the Altar

Stripping the Altar, April 17, 8:30 p.m. (approximately)
Concordia Lutheran Church
After worship at Emanuel, we will re-assemble at Concordia for Stripping the Altar in preparation for the solemnities of Good Friday

Good Friday, April 18
Community Way of the Cross, Downtown Manchester, 11 a.m.

Worship at 7 p.m.
Concordia Lutheran Church
The Passion According to John
Candlelight Prayer

Holy Saturday Easter Vigil, April 19, 8 p.m.
St. Mary's Episcopal Church
Lighting the New Fire
Biblical Story Telling
The Return of "Alleluia!"
Holy Communion

Festival of the Resurrection, April 20, 10 a.m.
Concordia Lutheran Church
Trumpet Choir and Choir Anthems
The Easter Gospel
Holy Communion
Easter breakfast will be served from 8:45 – 9:45 a.m.

April 2014

The Rev. JoAnn A. Post

Pastor

pastor@concordiamanchester.org

Home: 860.432.7473

Kate Bozzo

Parish Secretary

office@concordiamanchester.org

860.649.5311

Richard Hicks

Minister of Music

Cell: 203.314.8787

Heather Adams

Concordia Nursery School

Director

Office: 860.649.9349

The Rev. Joseph E. Bourret

Pastor *Emeritus*

Home: 860.633.6138

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday

9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Concordia Lutheran Church

40 Pitkin Street

Manchester, CT 06040

office@concordiamanchester.org

www.concordiamanchester.org

Phone: 860.649.5311

Fax: 860.432.9972

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

Dear Friends,

From the moment I flip on the kitchen light at the start of the day until I flip it off after the dinner dishes are done, I listen to the radio. In the house. In the car. In my office. Most of the time I don't pay close attention, but lately I find myself lifting my hands from the computer keyboard or lingering in the driveway or pausing in conversation when I hear the words "Malaysia," or "Crimea" or "Ukraine." The dramas unfolding in the air over the South Pacific and on the ground in Eastern Europe have held me spellbound for weeks.

- How can hundreds of people simply cease to be? How can an airplane long as a football field and weighing 330 tons disappear in thin air (or deep water)? Siegfried and Roy couldn't pull that off.
- How can one country simply march across the border of another country and say, "Mine now!" We wouldn't tolerate that kind of selfish grabbing from a toddler.

Sudden loss. Naked aggression. Sadly, not news.

Soon we will step out of the shadows of Lent into the deeper darkness of the Great Three Days and the brilliance of Easter morning. The questions of the season are the same as our questions of the news:

- How deep is the isolation of the Woman at the Well, the Man Born Blind, Lazarus in the Tomb?
- What happened to The Twelve when soldiers came to nab Jesus in the Garden?
- Where are the mobs of Jesus' fans when he stands alone before Pilate?
- Why does the King of Creation end up King of the Jews on a splintered cross?
- When will the true story be told, the true story of God's power over both life and death?

Here is news you'll never hear on the radio, a few tentative answers to those hard questions. There is no darkness so deep God cannot find us. There is no evil so powerful it can snatch us from God's hands. There is no sin so horrible it cannot be forgiven. There is no fear so dire it cannot be countered with faith. There is no death stronger than life. This is the Easter message: Light. Protection. Forgiveness. Confidence. Life.

I have been praying for the crew and passengers of Malaysia Airlines 370, that wherever they are they are in God's care and keeping. I have been praying for the people of Eastern Europe that peace will prevail. I have even prayed for Vladimir Putin, that God would soften his heart. Foolish prayers? (Moses prayed for Pharaoh and look at what happened!) Perhaps. But I have confidence in God's ability to wrestle victory from seeming defeat—in the air, on the ground, in our hearts and lives.

Please join us for the remaining weeks of Lent, for The Triduum and for the brilliance of Easter morn. We have news to share with one another and the world.

God's Peace, *Pastor JoAnn Post*

Writing Through Chemo

A year ago at this time, I was undergoing chemotherapy. Many of you followed my journey on my CaringBridge blog. As a gift to mark the end of treatment and my return to life, my sisters arranged to have my blog published privately. Copies of the book are available on-line, in both hard and soft cover. Click on the links below for ordering information. Copies of the book are available in the church office, if you'd like to see it before ordering. The church office will be happy to help with ordering if the link proves difficult. (I receive no financial gain from the sale of the book.)

Softbound

<http://www.blurb.com/bookstore/invited/4371444/14381c78a7c6457e7f24262e89ef3ea073b09fdf>

Treasurer Comments on the February Financial Report

Winter seems to just go on forever, and we see this in our CNG bill. We have to go back to 2010 to find a year opening the way 2014 has. The last three years have been milder than normal and now they appear to be colder than normal, at least if you go by the heating bill. And while not wishing to sound like a country song, the cold has brought on more than its share of frozen pipes and other pipes deciding they've had enough. We have a busy spring ahead of us, as we work to make things right at Concordia. And I conclude my song of woe by saying thank you all for your generous support of Concordia, its program, and its infrastructure.

Envelope offering was 123% (YTD 111%) of budget and the Stretch was 33% (YTD 30%) for a combined 96%. Thank you to everyone who contributed. You also contributed \$122.00 to World Hunger Relief. You also contributed \$10.00 to the MACC Food Pantry, and we closed Seasonal Sharing for this season, sending the remainder to MACC for \$486.

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

Respectfully submitted, Stephen Perkins, Treasurer

Headings and Account February 2014	MTD Actual	MTD Budget	MTD %	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD %
Revenues						
Budget Income						
Envelope Offering	\$20,289	\$19,046	107%	\$36,490	\$38,092	96%
Other Offering	\$120	\$365	33%	\$620	\$894	69%
Public Use of Building	\$100	\$217	46%	\$240	\$383	63%
Fuel Assistance	\$166	\$246	67%	\$287	\$295	97%
Total Revenues	\$20,675	\$19,874	104%	\$37,637	\$39,664	95%
Expenses						
Benevolence	\$2,364	\$2,384	99%	\$4,848	\$4,868	100%
Staff Salaries	\$9,610	\$9,845	98%	\$18,954	\$19,439	98%
Fringe Benefits	\$2,211	\$2,239	99%	\$4,504	\$4,477	101%
Program Expenses	-\$97	\$358	-27%	\$664	\$397	167%
Program Support Expenses	\$1,233	\$1,524	81%	\$1,697	\$2,581	66%
Facility Maintenance	\$2,483	\$2,227	111%	\$5,499	\$4,390	125%
Utilities	\$2,771	\$2,483	112%	\$5,612	\$5,210	108%
Insurance	\$0	\$0		\$2,515	\$2,188	115%
Total Budget Expenses	\$20,575	\$21,058	98%	\$44,293	\$43,550	102%
Special Fund Expenditures	-\$53	\$0		\$162	\$0	
Total Expenses	\$20,522	\$21,058	97%	\$44,455	\$43,550	102%



Unapproved minutes of 13 March Congregation Council meeting

- Received reports of secretary, treasurer, president, pastor, and committees
- Discussed naming the Concordian of the Year
- Approved the following resolutions from the Annie A. Weiss Fund Distribution Task Force:
 1. Approved investing the balance of the undesignated Weiss Fund and estate gift in the Legacy Fund for Ministry
 2. Approved using the Alan Kasputis funds to establish a Foundations for the Future Fund to meet unexpected capital needs
 3. Approved the Task Force’s request that it continue its work by developing proposed guidelines for the Foundations for the Future Fund
 4. Approved a plan to solicit the congregation for outreach projects to be funded by 10% of the Weiss estate designated for outreach ministry
- Approved a May 17 “Mulch Day” coordinated by the Worship and Memorial Garden Board
- Approved request to have narthex paneling and ceiling tile tested for asbestos
- Received an update on pastoral call process

The next meeting of the Congregation Council will be Thursday, April 10, 7:30 p.m.

Pastoral Acts

Funeral: Anna Litke, March 8

Preach It Again!

A manuscript of Pastor JoAnn Post’s Sunday sermon is available at www.concordiamanchester.org.

Happy April Birthday!



Paul Duesler 4/3	Carol Sutcliffe 4/3	Helen Wittkofske 4/3	Carol Bowen 4/7
Catherine Peacock 4/7	Janis Barber 4/8	Julie Cosmini 4/8	Claire Duesler 4/8
Dace Jansone 4/11	Steve Graefe 4/13	Susan Bourret 4/14	Benjamin Baranowski 4/20
Tommy Donagher 4/20	Jeanine Barber 4/28	Sean Stoneman 4/28	Sandra Brooks 4/29
Mark Winzler 4/29			

To send a greeting to any of our April birthdays or our homebound members, please contact the church office for mailing and/or telephone information.

Remembering the Homebound

Agnes Donahue
Lois Warrender

Karl Krach
Margarete Wasilieff

Lynn Knauff
Jean Weiss

Jane Nekiunas
Dorothy Krause

Feeding the Hungry

Concordia will be providing evening meal service at MACC on **June 19, September 18 and December 18**. Serving dinner at MACC is a wonderful way to engage our community, to meet others committed to community service, and, for teens, a great way to amass service hours for school. Please contact the church office to claim a date for you and family and friends to feed the hungry.

We're on the Web

Next time you log-on to www.wfsb.com, be sure to indicate that you want to see Manchester news. When you do that, you will be able to see our video ad, an ad that will be found in the right hand sidebar, in rotation with eleven other areas businesses. Concordia is the only church chosen to advertise with WFSB in this way. To find our ad, keep hitting 'refresh' until our ad pops up.

Save the Date!

Saturday May 17th – **Mulch Day!** We will be gathering at Concordia to spread mulch in the Worship and memorial Garden and around the church grounds.



The Meal in the Upper Room Thursday, April 10, 6:00 p.m. Center Congregational Church Pastor JoAnn Post, president

The Meal in the Upper Room may not be a familiar to you. We want every woman to feel welcome and interested in participating, so here's some explanation.

Every year since 1976, the women of Center Congregational Church have joined together in a unique way to prepare for Holy Week and Easter. We commemorate the events of Holy Thursday at a special meal and program. The event combines elements of the Jewish Seder meal (serving lamb), a Passover tradition, and the first celebration of Communion at the Last Supper. In this way, we honor the Hebrew roots of our religion and a central ritual of our Christian tradition, Communion.

It is a very special evening with music, a short message and a meal in silence.

This year The Reverend JoAnn Post of Concordia Lutheran Church will lead us. The women from Concordia Lutheran are invited to join us for this meaningful evening.

The Meal in the Upper Room is scheduled for Thursday, April 10, 2014. We gather in the sanctuary at 6:00 P.M. Dinner begins in Woodruff Hall at 6:30 P.M. We usually end around 7:30 P.M.

Tickets cost \$9 and must be reserved in advance. Reservations may be made by leaving a message with the Center Congregational Church office (860.647.9941) by Thursday, April 3, 2014. Tickets may be paid for at the door.



JoAnn A. Post • pastor
email: pastor@concordiamanchester.org
telephone 860.649.5311

Dear Friends,

In June 2013 our beloved sister Annie Weiss died, leaving Concordia an unexpected and significant financial gift. Most of that gift was undesignated, so the Congregation Council established a task force to explore the best way to multiply her gift for the sake of Concordia's ongoing ministries. You will hear more about their work at a later date.

However, a portion of her gift—a little over \$5,000—was specifically designated for outreach beyond the congregation's regular ministries. Rather than limiting our ideas for use of that gift to projects with which Concordia is already involved, we write to enlist your assistance in selecting an outreach project(s) that honor Annie's memory and multiply our ministries. It might be that we will elect to support agencies with which we already have a relationship. It might also be that we will use her gift for new ventures.

Please prayerfully consider uses for Annie's gift using the following guidelines:

1. The proposal must fit with our mission statement:
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 practices of prayer, study, reflection and worship
 - Selfless Disciples* who communicate and practice the faith through acts of faithful stewardship, service and forgiveness.
2. The proposed use cannot provide direct benefit to Concordia, its staff or members.
3. The proposal might involve dividing the gift among a variety of agencies/causes/missions or be used as a single lump sum.

Please fill out the enclosed form with your ideas about how best to multiply Annie's gift for the sake of Christ's mission in the world. All ideas will be considered by the task force and Congregation Council. We will report back to you about decisions with regard to Annie's gift.

Thank you for your partnership in ministry. We look forward to your ideas about expanding our ministry.

Peace,

Annie E. Weiss Fund Disposition Task Force
Mimi Boxwell Wendy Donagher
Jan McGarity Fred Winzler
Stephen Graefe, *ex officio* Pastor JoAnn Post, *ex officio*

Annie E. Weiss Fund Proposal

In gratitude for Annie's generous life and with hope for Concordia's future, we propose that Concordia invest some of the Annie's gift in the following outreach venture(s):

Please describe the venture you propose and the funding needed:

I/we believe this venture furthers Concordia's mission by:

I will be happy to talk with task force about this idea.

Name

Preferred contact

CONCORDIA'S ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT!

Saturday, April 19 @ 11:00 am

In the back of Church



FACE PAINTING
MAKE FRIENDS

EGG HUNTING
HAVE FUN!

Rain location in Kaiser Hall

Kids ages 1 ½ to 9 years of age are welcome to look for eggs; all are welcome to join us!

Remember to bring your Easter basket!

Candy and egg donations can be left in the back of the church prior to April 12.

Non Perishable food donations for MACC would also be appreciated.

Concordia's Annual Easter Breakfast

Please join us for pancakes, fruit salad, egg bakes other
goodies and conversation.

Mimi Boxwell and Madelene Nieman will coordinate Easter Breakfast
one last time and ask for your help with the following:

Contribute a dish or other supplies for the breakfast
Assist with set-up, serving breakfast or clean-up
Learn the ropes to be next year's coordinator

Please sign up during coffee hour
Or submit this form to the church office

I can contribute: *9x13 egg bake* *fruit salad*
 coffee cake or muffins *other*

I can assist : *Set up* *Serve Breakfast* *Clean up*

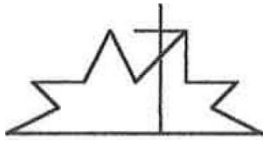
I would be willing to coordinate next year's Easter Breakfast _____

Phone number and/or Email _____

Name: _____ *Number Attending* _____

*We look forward to celebrating Easter Day
with you and your family.*





Resurrection Lutheran Church
Iglesia Luterana Resurreccion
158 Davenport Ave. New Haven, CT 06519 (203) 782-2255

Dear Members of Concordia, Manchester,

Our churches have been mission partners for many year--nevertheless, it seemed a brand-new and wonderful thing, to receive your contribution of \$5,000 in Advent!! I am sorry that it has taken me awhile to take the time to thank you--I suppose that, after *such* a long time of being behind on my salary and wondering, on behalf of all of the members, how long Resurrection Lutheran Church would still be present in their lives, it was, as the Bible says, "Such knowledge is too wonderful for me." It was hard to find the words.

My written words really can't begin to explain the peace and confidence for the future that your gift has engendered. I'm also so *very* aware that your support will enable us to touch sooo many lives. Most of those people will have little thought of the generosity of a group of God's faithful followers "up north" in Connecticut, sharing their generosity. For example, Julian can get baptized, Taylor can get a ride to visit another church, Duray can get supported in the college application process, and Juan and Marilee can know that they and their families are in the hands of God through the love that they experience at Resurrection Lutheran Church.

So I do hope that this letter conveys at least a small sense of how very special, and blessed, we at Resurrection feel, due to your generosity.

Sincerely,
Pr. Ruth Drews, for the people of Resurrection



To the Concordia Church Council,

On behalf of the Concordia Nursery School Board, IO would like to *thank-you* so much for the wonderful and generous check of \$684.92 from the proceeds of your annual vendor sale! The support the church (and Elaine Briggmann) shows for our school is amazing, and we are truly appreciative! Nursery School Director Heather Adams will spend the funds as needed in the classroom!

The Concordia Nursery School Board

It's a Necessity!



Concordia is privileged to host the only Necessities Bag chapter in Connecticut, providing material support to those undergoing a mastectomy, after the diagnosis of breast cancer. We will be hosting “Necessity Sunday” on May 8, and will tell you more about the ministry then. But for now, we are in need of supplies for the Necessity Bags.

Please consider purchasing these supplies (no substitutions!) and bringing them to church with you on Sunday morning. We’ll gladly receive them from you, and make sure they get to women and men in need of this unique support during a trying time.

Rolls of Life Savers (fruit flavors, no mint flavor)
Kleenex pocket tissues
Small emery boards
Chapstick (plain black tube, no menthol)
Pre-moistened adult size flushable wipes (42 count)
Men’s A style sleeveless cotton t-shirts (large)
Small memo pads
Blank note cards with envelopes
Grosgrain Ribbon (1 inch width)
1 inch paper tape (painless and removable)
9 x 12 pocket folders
Retractable pens
Gallon Ziploc plastic storage bags
First Class postage stamps

To learn more about Necessity Bags, go to www.necessitiesbag.org/.



FAITH IN ACTION



NARTHEX RENOVATION

During the informational meeting held last August members of the Congregational Council presented Faith in Action events and other activities for 2014. One of the Faith in Action events was the renovation of the narthex which was originally planned as part of the overall building project which began in 2008. Tasks required to complete the renovation include:

- *Demolition (removal of wood paneling, baptistry doors, current ceiling), painting to be performed by congregation volunteers; and*
- *Installation of drywall, new ceiling and lighting to be performed by a selected contractor*

But, prior to rolling up our sleeves, we are in need of individuals who would like to serve as part of the Narthex Renovation Team in the following capacities.

- *Contractor Bid Team: Serve on the team that will develop a Request for Bid for the contractor work and oversee the work performed by the selected contractor.*
- *Team Leads for the following:*
 - *Demolition/Reno Team (coordinate volunteers; arrange for needed equipment/tools)*
 - *Debris Removal Team (remove debris during demolition; coordinate volunteers)*
 - *Food/Refreshment Team (plan meal, snacks, etc. to be served during demolition event(s)).*

Please contact Carol Stoneman (860)649-7216 or John Gabbey (860)748-6697 if you are interested in serving in any of these opportunities for this Faith in Action event.

SIGN-UP BOARDS TO SERVE ON ONE OF TEAMS ARE IN BRANDT LOUNGE!

Pot Luck Supper & Games Night Saturday, April 26, 2014 6:00 pm

We are planning a Pot Luck Supper and Games Night on April 26 at 6:00pm. We always have such a good time at these events and usually end up laughing so hard we cry. Sounds like a wonderful way to spend a Saturday night! Won't you join us?



Name(s) _____



Adults _____

Children _____

I can bring:

_____ Main Dish (please specify) _____ Salad _____ Dessert

_____ Side Dish (please circle one) – vegetable, potato or pasta



Faith in action

“...serve the Lord with all your heart.”

--1 Samuel 12:19-21

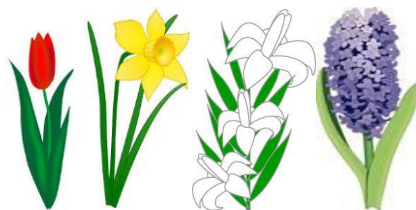
Volunteering with *Thrivent Builds homes* lets you put your faith into action. Help one family's dream of owning a home come true by framing a wall, shingling a roof or painting a room. No experience needed. Join us!

Construction will begin on March 15th at 17 Bernie Ave in Bristol , CT. Concordia has volunteered for two Saturdays, **April 26th** and **July 12th**. **Let us know if you would like to get involved.**

If you think it is time for a life-changing experience, contact the church office at (860) 649-5311 or by email at office@concordiamanchester.org



Flowers for Easter



Each Easter we invite members and friends of Concordia to purchase Easter flowers for our worship space. Please consider making a gift of flowers to Concordia this Easter. We are also happy to report that a Brass Quartet will provide special music for our service; gifts may be made to offset that expense as well. Financial gifts to support our ministries are also welcome.

Each plant cost \$10.00. Gifts for musicians and ministries are given at the givers discretion. Please attach payment with this form and return to the church office by Sunday April 13th. Thank you

I/We give _____ *Easter Flower(s)* to Concordia

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

I/We give \$_____ to Concordia for *Musicians*

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

I/We give \$_____ to support *Concordia's ministries*

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Name _____

Phone Number and/or E-mail _____

Please return this form in its entirety to the church office



Concordia's Calendar:

EVERY SUNDAY

"Getting Ready for the Gospel" 8:45 a.m.
Worship 10 a.m.
Coffee Hour 11 a.m.
New Horizon Church 12:30 p.m.

EVERY MONDAY

Counters – 9:30 a.m.
Lay School of Ministry Study Group – 6 p.m.
AA - 5:30 p.m.

EVERY TUESDAY

Clergy Text Study - 11 a.m.

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Choir Rehearsal - 7 p.m.

EVERY FRIDAY

AA - 7:30 p.m.

Upcoming Highlights

Thursday April 3

Executive Committee – 6:00 p.m.
Worship and Memorial Garden Board – 6:00 p.m.

Saturday April 5

Concordia Knitters – 9:00 a.m.
Seeds of the Parish – 9:00 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Monday April 7

Counters – 9:30 a.m.
Outreach Committee 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday April 8

Finance Committee – 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday April 9

Lent Vespers – 6:30 p.m.
Fellowship Committee – 7:00 p.m.
Mutual Ministry Committee – 7:00 p.m.

Thursday April 10

Member Care Committee – 1:00 p.m.
Congregation Council – 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday April 16

Legacy Committee – 6:00 p.m.

Thursday April 17

Maundy Thursday

Maundy Thursday Worship at Emanuel – 7:00 p.m.
Stripping the Alter at Concordia – 8:00 p.m.

Friday April 18

Good Friday

Good Friday Worship – 7:00p.m.

Saturday April 19

Holy Saturday.

Easter Egg Hunt – 10:00 a.m.
Easter Vigil, St Mary's Episcopal – 8:00 p.m.

Sunday April 20

Easter Sunday

Easter Breakfast – 8:45 a.m.

Monday April 21

Easter Monday – Office Closed

Tuesday April 22

Counters – 9:30

Saturday April 26

Thrivent/Habitat for Humanity Build - Bristol CT

Fellowship Potluck Supper and Game Night – 6:00 p.m.

Worship Volunteers:

April 6

Ministers of Hospitality: Fred Winzler, Irma Vincens
Gail Adams and Don Briggman
Deacons: Wendy Donagher, Al Williams and Linda Lange
Acolytes: Tommy Donagher
Bread Baker: Luanne Rehmer
Coffee Hour: Candace Wilson, Petey Goodrich and Sam Chang, Thrivent

April 13

Ministers of Hospitality: Jan Salvatore, John Haid,
Tina Ruggerio and Berry Wood
Deacons: Doug Larson, John Gabby and Al Williams
Acolytes: Madelene Nieman and Danielle Hemingway
Bread Baker: Mark Winzler
Coffee Hour: Property committee and Concordia's Men's Group

April 20

Ministers of Hospitality: Fred Winzler, Corl and Chiffer Families
Deacons: Linda Lange, Pastor Bourret and John Gabby
Acolytes: Madalynn Taylor and Rachel Adams
Bread Baker: Jeanne Williams
Coffee Hour: Easter Sunday Breakfast

April 27

Ministers of Hospitality: Jackie Britton,
Paul and Petey Goodrich and Ella Hube
Deacons: Linda Lange, Steve Graefe, Mimi Boxwell and Dace Jansone
Acolytes: Amanda Baranowski and Sarah McKay
Bread Baker: Linda Lange
Coffee Hour: Churchwide Pot Luck

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



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
40 Pitkin Street
Manchester, CT 06040

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED