



Sunday Service | 10:00 A.M.

The Reverend Dr. Rolf Hedberg
Transitional Pastor

☎ (860) 649-5311

Margie Gallagher
Parish Administrator

✉ office@concordiamanchester.org

☎ (860) 649-5311

Ashley Salerno
Concordia Nursery School Director

✉ concordianurseryschool@gmail.com

☎ (860) 649-9349

Richard Hicks
Minister of Music Emeritus

Concordia Lutheran Church

40 Pitkin Street, Manchester, CT 06040

Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

****closed on all Federal Holidays****

office@concordiamanchester.org

www.concordiamanchester.org

Phone: (860) 649-5311

Fax: (860) 432-9972

The **deadline** for submitting articles or contents for *The Chimes* is the **25th of each month**, or **as communicated**.

Concordia's WHY/Purpose Statement

To be a welcoming and inviting community empowered by the Word of God;
So that we may work for social justice and exhibit compassion for all.

Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton's Easter Message.....

Mary anointed Jesus' feet with pure nard, this incredibly costly, precious substance. Then she dried his feet with her hair.

In the Gospel story in the last Sunday in Lent, we hear about Jesus visiting with his dear friends, Martha, Mary and Lazarus. This happened just after Jesus had raised Lazarus from the dead. And Mary was anointing Jesus' feet with pure nard, this incredibly costly, precious substance. And then she dried his feet with her hair. Nard is a very powerful, pungent substance, and the Gospel says the room was filled with the fragrance.

Now I did a little research on nard, and some people would describe the smell as being pungent or earthy, or musty, or musky or like feet. So it was an interesting choice that people had in those days. And they did two things with nard. One, they would use nard to anoint the bodies of the dead in order to offset the stench of death, which Jesus had only encountered with his friend Lazarus a few days before. And it was also used for kings as a sign of royalty because of the luxury of this whole thing.

Well, Jesus was himself, like us, like the first Adam, an earth creature — pungent and full of life, dense in this sense. And this earth creature was obedient to death, reversing the work of the first Adam, who disobeyed and brought sin into the world. And we've suffered the consequences. The chief consequence is death, separation from God.

And now Jesus, the new Adam, the new earth creature, he's anointed, he says to Mary, for his burial and so that he will be using this incredibly pungent substance, while at the same time being very clear that he is, in fact, part of this incarnation, this earth creature. But instead of it being oil put on him to remove the stench of death, it became the anointing of a royal king. Through the death and resurrection of Jesus, the usual cycle of life and death has been disrupted forever. Jesus' death and resurrection promises new life and brings us new life.

Happy Easter, dear church.



Elizabeth A. Eaton, Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

So far, it has been a strange Easter season. On Easter Sunday, we shared a magnificent celebration, accented by the wonderful music of a full choir, a brass quintet, a flute, and a much fuller congregation. It was a beautiful Easter Sunday in every way—rich and full—and the spirit of the risen Christ was palpable.

Then came the meeting on April 27th after church, in which those present voted to explore Holy Closure. Pastor Maria Hammons from the Bishop's staff guided us through what the process entailed, while Mark Winzler, President of Concordia's Church Council, reminded us of the benchmarks we had already adopted for ourselves and the realities these entail. Questions were asked and answered. There were periods of silence for both personal and corporate prayer. Then came the vote, and no matter how one voted on the matter of exploring Holy Closure, there were no true "winners" or "losers." It was difficult and sad for all.

Now, as a matter of faith—and not an effort to pull the "proverbial rabbit out of the hat"—it is more important than ever to remember that we are still in the Easter season according to the liturgical calendar. But more importantly, and more to the point, we as the community of Concordia Lutheran Church are always an Easter people—not simply because of the calendar, but because of faith. It is who we are and what we are, by Baptism and by faith in our risen Lord and Savior. This is the faith that gives us purpose in the present and hope for the future. And let us also remember: we have each other.

With Easter Peace, Joy, and Promise,
Pastor Rolf Hedberg



Transition Update from Mark Winzler



40 Pitkin Street, Manchester, Connecticut 06040

email: office@concordiamanchester.org

telephone: 860-649-5311

A Congregation of the New England Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

April 28, 2025

Dear Fellow Members of Concordia,

Yesterday, April 27, 2025, a Special Congregational Meeting was held whose purpose was to consider a motion for Concordia to explore the Holy Closure Process.

Before voting on the motion, Pastor Maria Hammons (*Associate to the Bishop*) reviewed with us that which had taken place at the last meeting: we could not come to consensus (*basically split down the middle*) on a Lutheran Church with which to explore merger. Having exhausted all other possibilities prompted the meeting yesterday to consider Holy Closure.

Realities about our **benchmarks** were shared:

- Worship Attendance: If it goes below 35 on a rolling monthly basis, we go immediately to holy closure (as merger was already eliminated). There were two times in the last 6 weeks when the average was exactly only 35.
- Finances: As of March 31, 2025, \$3,100 which had been pledged, had not been received. Additionally, those who do not pledge, but do contribute, have given \$1,000 less in the first quarter of 2025 than in the first quarter of 2024. This means that the \$4,100 we were anticipating has not been received. If this continues, we would hit another benchmark: If at any point, we are behind \$15,000 in income, we move to holy closure (as merger was already eliminated).

Pastor Maria then explained that the vote yesterday was to “explore” meaning starting the work which leads to closing (takes majority to pass). There will be other congregation meetings in the future (which require a 2/3 vote to pass), for example, one of which will authorize the building to be put on the real estate market.

The vote was then taken (by paper ballot) on the following motion:

Concordia's Congregation Council recommends to the congregation of Concordia Lutheran Church in Manchester CT, to vote to explore the Holy Closure process, which will include discussion about Concordia's legacy, the sale of the church building and property, and final dissolution of Concordia.

Results of the Voting:
YES- 34 NO- 10 ABSTAIN- 2
The motion passed.

As the congregation, at the February 23, 2025 semi-annual meeting, made a commitment for the Nursery School to be in operation for one more school year (September 2025- May 2026), as of now, the closing of Concordia will not take place for another year. **Therefore, until such time as we close (no specific date has yet been set), Concordia remains open and ministry continues.**

With that as reality.....

- For those who pledged, you are urged and encouraged to continue to honor your 2025 pledges.
- For those who do not pledge but still contribute, you are urged and encouraged to continue to do so.

Pastor Maria will now come to meet with the Council and Transition Team to talk more concretely about next steps.

As has been the case throughout the transition process over the past 3 ½ years, you will be kept fully informed about all that lies before us.

Feel free to reach out at any time with questions to any member of the Council (C) or Transition Team (T):

**Sandy Baranowski (T), Jeanine Barber (T), Susan Bourret (C and T),
John Corl (T), Pastor Hedberg (C and T) Ruth Sprong Heyden (C),
Nancy Lynn Knauff (C), Ruthie Lynch (C), Jan McGarity (C), Bobby McKinney (C), Tina Ruggerio (C),
David Smith (T), Carol Stoneman (C and T),
Mark Winzler (C and T).**

God has been and continues to remain with us and will continue to guide us on the road ahead of us!

Peace,



Mark Winzler

Message from Concordia's Minister of Music Emeritus, Richard Hicks:

**Originally shared via email with Mark,
who later requested permission to feature it in the 'Chimes.'**

Dear Mark,

I follow all of the emails from CLC as events unfold, and my heart is with you, personally, and with the CLC congregation. I have a good idea of what Concordia means to you and others who have been carrying the flame.

It's hard to believe that I started at CLC twenty years ago. I saw a news story today that was recollecting the onset of the pandemic, and that reminded me of the farewell party you hosted just before the Bishop's visit had to be cancelled. After that, I was thankful to be included in the farewell ceremony for Douglas.

I know that CLC members need time to process the decisions that need to be made, and I want you and everyone at Concordia to know that I am with you in heart, mind, and spirit. It was a joy for me to serve you.

I am nursing a sprained wrist, the first time in 65 years that I haven't played for weeks. I am scheduled for physical therapy... fingers crossed.

Rich

**Richard Hicks
329 Shore Road
Fayette ME 04349
207-293-3189
203-314-8787
<https://richardhicks.org>**

Highlights of the March 2025 Treasurer's Report



Summary

Envelope and other funding was 90% of the monthly budget. Our year to date was 30% over the year-to-date budget due to full and half year pledges being paid in January. Due to an extremely volatile market in March, the Legacy for Ministry and Community Cares lost all and then some of the gains realized in January. The Scholarship Fund also experienced losses in March. An additional bequest from the estate of Carol Sutcliffe was received in March and is included in the Memorial & Tributes savings account information.

Report Details

The below information represents the envelope and stretch giving for the month of March as well as the percentage against the monthly and yearly budget amounts.

Additional March Operating Revenue

Open Offering: \$114.00

Month	Actual Recd. (Envelope & Other Funding (Stretch)	Monthly Budget	Percent Received Against Monthly Budget	Received Year to Date	Year to Date Budget	Percent Received Against Year- to-Date Budget
March	\$12,124.77	\$13,416.67	90%	\$52,382.55	\$40,250.01	130%

Festival Offering: \$595.00

Church Service: \$932.00

General Building Use: \$750.00

Christian Indian Building Use: \$100.00

Miscellaneous Gifts: \$229.70

Utilities Assistance: \$120.00

Miscellaneous Income Non-Budgeted: \$612.00 (Fastnacht)

Total: \$3,452.70

TOTAL MARCH OPERATING REVENUES: \$15,577.47

March Non-Operating Revenue

World Hunger Gifts: \$50.00

Total: \$50.00

Expenses

1. Utilities:

Vendor	MARCH 2025	MARCH 2024
CNG	\$0.00 (Paid bill due in March in Feb.)	\$2,692.53 (Includes Feb & March)
Eversource/Earthlight	\$418.00 (\$0.00/\$418.00)	\$553.62 (\$0.00/\$553.62)
Cox	\$468.99	\$0.00 (March bill paid in Feb.)
TOTAL	\$886.99	\$3,246.15



Highlights of the March 2025 Treasurer's Report

Additional March Expenses:

Synod Benevolence:	\$3,116.67 (Jan & Feb)
GHIAA:	\$3,500.00
Staff Salaries:	\$7,697.20
Fringe Benefits:	\$458.88
Program Expenses:	\$238.61
Program Support Expenses:	\$446.99
Facility Maintenance:	\$4,540.11 (\$1,177 – New garbage disposal and refrigerator)
Miscellaneous Non-Budgeted:	\$556.20 (Fastnacht expenses)
TOTAL:	\$20,554.66

TOTAL MARCH EXPENSES: \$21,441.65

Bank Account as of 3/31/2025 (ACS)

Beginning Balance:	\$29,787.15
Total Revenue:	\$19,957.24 (Includes pass-through revenue from Synod (MNC) & CNS Taxes)
Total Expenditures:	\$23,995.13 (Includes MNC & Tax expenditures)
Current Balance:	\$25,749.26
Monthly Cash Flow:	-\$4,037.89 (Revenue less Expenditures)

Special Funds (as of March 31, 2025)

Fund	Previous Month Market Value (Feb. 2025)	Current Market Value	Current Month Gain/Loss	YTD Gain/Loss
Thrivent				
Scholarship	\$49,518.94	\$48,984.30	-\$534.64	-\$534.64
Fidelity				
Community Cares	\$69,478.35	\$66,199.69	-\$3,278.66	-\$1,883.30
Legacy for Ministry	\$985,942.39	\$939,416.07	-\$46,526.32	-\$26,725.29
Total Fidelity	\$1,055,420.74	\$1005,615.76	-\$49,804.98	-\$28,608.59

Memorial & Tributes Savings Account (as of March 31, 2025)

Previous Month's Balance (Feb. 2025)	Deposit	Withdrawals	Current Month Balance
\$85,886.72	\$2,301.95	\$0.00	\$88,189.34

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.
Thank you. Carol Stoneman, Treasurer

***Approved Minutes of the Concordia Lutheran Church
Congregational Council Meeting
Sunday, March 9, 2025, in person***

Present:

Mark Winzler – President
Jan McGarity – Vice President
Carol Stoneman - Treasurer
Susan Bourret – Secretary
Pastor Hedberg
Tina Ruggerio
Ruthie Lynch
Nancy Lynn Knauff
Ruth Sprong-Heyden
Bobby McKinney

Visitor:

Rebekka Almond

Call to Order – Mark Winzler @ 11:34 AM

Devotions – Nancy Knauff

Approval of Agenda as written.

Approval of Minutes of the January 12 meeting as written. No February 2025 meeting was held.

Pastor's Report

Pastor Hedberg continues to support us during our transition with Sunday Services, office hours, communion visits, conversations and contacts with parishioners.

Planning for lent and holy week continues with MNC and Emanuel.

ICE Protocol – The need for an ICE protocol was discussed. Pastor Hedberg brought the Springfield Prep example for discussion. Mark will contact Attorney Ryan Barry, Pastor Joanna at Emanuel, Manchester and Emanuel Hartford and MACC to see if they have any policies in place or suggestions for us.

We will be adding protocols for keeping doors locked at additional times and Mark will contact other groups using the church to post phone numbers or people at locked doors as needed.

President's Report

Transition work continues with transition team discussion and communication with the congregation. The March 23rd meeting was discussed. Pastor Maria is working with us to answer our questions.

A letter from a commercial realtor was received with interest in representing Concordia for the sale of the building.

Treasurer's Report

The February 2025 treasurer's report was distributed, reviewed and received.

Old Business

none

New Business

A motion was made and passed to extend the Parish Administrator to June 30, 2026.

A motion was made and passed to appoint Jan McGarity, Nancy Knauff, Bobby McKinney and Rebekka Almond to the nominating committee.

A motion was made and passed to appoint Jeanine Barber as a voting member to the May 2025 Synod Assembly.

Property

The organ repair will be scheduled now that the leak in the steeple has been repaired.

Three Motions were Submitted / Passed by Council this meeting

- 1. A motion to extend the Parish Administrator through June 30, 2026.*
- 2. A motion to appoint Jeanine Barber as a voting member to the May 2025 Synod Assembly.*
- 3. A motion to appoint Jan McGarity, Nancy Knauff, Bobby McKinney and Rebekka Almond to the nominating committee.*

Adjournment: Adjourned at 1:16PM.

Information:

- March 12, 19 and 26 Holden Evening Prayer Zoom, Thursdays at Emanuel Manchester in person
- March 23 – Meeting with Pastor Maria Hammonds
- April 6 – Executive Committee
- April 13-Council meeting

Approved, and passed: Agenda as written, minutes of January 2025 Council meeting, and three motions passed.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Susan Bourret**

My Thoughts About Concordia's Future

After the March 23rd meeting, I am sure that we all have minds that are reeling and hearts that are heavy. We all have stories about how our life with Concordia began many years ago.

My journey with Concordia began in 1966, the first morning that I attended Eddie Kehl's youth group with my new boyfriend. I became a member of the church, eventually married that boyfriend, and had three children that were baptized here.

My time here pales in comparison to those of you who watched the church being built, and did the walk from Winter Street, or who began your Concordant life as small children. I can't begin to share your grief, but in a small way, I do understand.

In the late seventies, my family moved to Tolland. Soon afterward, Pastor Strand called and said that there was a new minister hoping to start a new Lutheran Church in Tolland and we might want to check it out.

So, on a cold snowy day I think in Spring, my family and I attended the first service of Peace Lutheran Church, presided by Pastor Joseph Ekerberg, in the cafeteria of Parker Elementary School. Over the altar was a figure of a large owl, the school team symbol. The church grew and eventually moved to an office building and then a bank.

In the beginning, the church was full of excitement, hope and joy in the promise of a bright future. Unfortunately, the church had been full of beautiful vision collapsed into bankruptcy and closed. I had been there from that first joyful service to the last very painful one twenty years later. Even after that relatively short time, the church had become a huge part of my life.

Peace Lutheran closed in the fall, and for the first time since the 60's, I could not attend a Christmas Eve service. I felt lost. So, I have been through a church closing, though on a smaller scale.

All of us at Concordia know that we have been part of something special. We have a love, a fire, a strong belief in our mission as followers of God. Our years of being part of the Concordia family are a gift that cannot be taken from us.

We will all take those gifts with us to our future church home. We are seeds looking for a new soil. "*Bloom where you are planted.*" Our light will come through to shine for others because we know what it is like to be a part of a giving, unified church family. We all have gifts to share. Pray, sing, believe. God will be with you wherever you go, because he is in your hearts. Please know, that my heart is with you also.

Although our Christian journey is uncertain at this time, there is a part of me that remembers the spirit and hope of that church that was just beginning. I pray that God will help us find our way to a new church home.

I also pray that a new group of people full of faith, energy, love will breathe new life into our church building that now lies mostly empty on weekdays. The songs and the prayers will be different, but there will also be children's laughter. My hope is that there will be an excitement for belief in God that will travel beyond the brick walls of the church, and that more lives will be touched with God's love and mercy.

Again, I pray that God will guide us and give us hope and courage for our journey.

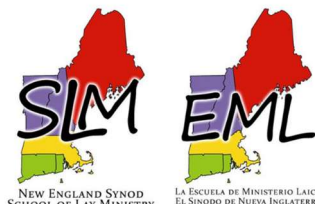
*Sincerely,
Jan Bellino*

Announcement from David Smith

Applications now open for School of Lay Ministry

The School of Lay Ministry (SLM) is now accepting applications for the Fall 2025 entry cohort - information about the program and [the application form may be found here](#). The SLM consists of a two year program - one year devoted to bible study and the other to theology and church history. This rotating curriculum allows new participants to join each fall. It is designed to educate and equip lay people for enhanced participation in congregational and synodical life through personal spiritual development, biblical enhancement, and life-long learning. Each year begins and ends with a retreat at Calumet (the Synod's outdoor ministry site in Freedom, New Hampshire) in September and May. Studies during the year take place in small study groups organized geographically. All registrations are due by July 31 and require a signature from your pastor and initial deposit toward tuition.

Please contact **David Smith** with any questions, or scan the QR code below for more information!



Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion



4/19/2025

Thank
You

Dear Concordia Family,

I want to thank all of you for making my 90th birthday celebration very special. It was delightful to catch up with everyone over coffee hour.

I especially wish to express my gratitude to **Mark Winzler** for arranging the use of the hall, **Rebekka Almond** for tuning the piano so we could all listen to the wonderful pianist, **Joe Greico**, and for her help in the kitchen along with numerous additional kitchen helpers including **Jeanine Barber, Susan Bourret, Carol Stoneman** and the **Baranowski family**.

All of you are so dear to me and very much appreciated.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Irene K. Schack



Sitting From left to right: Carol, Irene, and Kay.
Standing From Left to Right: Gail, Rebekka, Phil, Jeanine, Jan, David, Lanie, Susan, and John.



Ben with the Balloons!



From Left to Right: Sarah, Karen & Tyler



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From Left to Right: Gail, Jeanine, Susan & Rebekka



From left to right: Jan Bellino, Kay Corl, Randy Olson, Lanie Turner, John Corl, Phil and Carol Stoneman



Diggin' in! Joel, Carol and Randy.





Easter Preparation Recognition

Sincere thanks to the following people.....

- **Rebekka Almond, Jeanine Barber, Susan Bourret, Ruthie and Peter Lynch, Pam and Randy Olson, Bobby McKinney, Karen Schauster, Ruth Sprong Heyden, Carol and Phil Stoneman, Lanie Turner and Mark Winzler** who cleaned every nook and cranny of the sanctuary, the chancel (altar area), Narthex, Garden Room and Brandt Lounge in preparation for Easter. This included, but was not limited to: Cleaning pews, Sweeping and washing the floors under all the pews, Cleaning choir loft, Cleaning window sills, Cleaning all wooden areas in chancel: pulpit/altar/kneelers/paneling, Cleaning flower stands/tables, Washing white marble behind the high altar, Washing high altar/marble steps/altar rail/side shelf, Polishing communion vessels, and Polishing the brass candlesticks/torches by pulpit/ paschal candle stand.
 - **Susan Bourret, Carol Stoneman and Mark Winzler** for preparing the chancel and sanctuary for Easter
 - **Randy Olson and John Corl** for preparing the fire pit in the Memorial Garden for the Easter Vigil
 - **Carol Stoneman** for taking the lead on Easter Breakfast with assistance from **Rebekka Almond, Susan Bourret, Pam and Randy Olson, Karen Schauster, Phil Stoneman and Lisa Taylor**. Thanks to those who supplied baked goods.
 - **Those who donated** toward Easter Plants, Music and Concordia.
 - **Margie Gallagher** for all of the extras associated with preparation for Holy Week and Easter.
- Pastor Hedberg** for his presence and leadership at the Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday liturgies.

Easter Sunday Worship

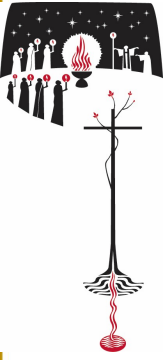
It was a magnificent liturgy on Easter Sunday not only in terms of Pastor Hedberg's sermon, but also because of the music! Sincere thanks to:

- **John Anderson** (organist)..... Special thanks for the Widor Toccata for the Postlude!!!!
- **Linda Hilliard** (choir director)
- **The Concordia Choir**
- **Nancy Lynn Knauff** (solo from the Messiah)
- **Maria Hedberg** (flute)
- **Atrium Brass Quintet**

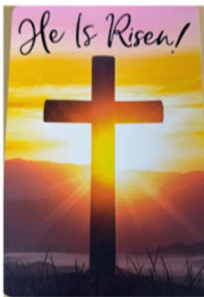
If you were unable to attend worship on Easter Day, John Haid audio-recorded the liturgy (thank you, John!). If you would like to listen to it, please contact Margie in the office and she will send you the access to the recording.



EASTER VIGIL



To My Friends AT CONCORDIA



Wishing you joy
at this beautiful season
of rebirth and renewal...
Rejoicing with you in God's
marvelous gift of life!

Happy Easter

THINKING OF YOU AND
PRAYING FOR YOU...
THE MEMORIES AND ROOTS
IN FAITH I HAVE FROM
CONCORDIA ARE QUITE STRONG
LOVE,
ERIC HEINRICH

Easter
Greetings



We Give Thanks for Easter Gifts of Flowers, Music, and Ministries ...



THANK YOU!

Paschal Candle

The Paschal Candle is given by Mark Winzler in loving memory of all the past Saints of Concordia (*members and pastors*) whose earthly pilgrimage has ended and now who rest in the warm embrace of God's loving arms.



Easter Flowers

Given in Memory of:

By:



<i>Our Daughter, Kimberly Adams Fournier</i>	<i>Ed & Gail Adams</i>
<i>William & Marilyn Baranowski, Anthony & Betty Baranowski,</i>	
<i>Karen Grant, Ronald D. Schack</i>	<i>Sandra & Joel Baranowski</i>
<i>Karen Beauregard</i>	<i>David Beauregard</i>
<i>Ernie & Millie Scott</i>	<i>Steven & Susan Bourret</i>
<i>Shirley McElroy</i>	<i>Donald & Elaine Briggman</i>
<i>Jim Casserly</i>	<i>Jane Casserly</i>
<i>Edward & Anne Comber, Anna Bensche,</i>	
<i>Don & Arlene Davis and Maria Cante.....</i>	<i>Joyce Davis, Tricia & Fabio Cante</i>
<i>Michael & Clara Sibrinsz</i>	<i>Karen Schauster</i>
<i>Bing Bowen, Tom Donagher, Sr.</i>	<i>Wendy Donagher</i>
<i>Loved Ones</i>	<i>Rolf & Lois Hedberg</i>
<i>Lillian & Bob Shaw</i>	<i>Bobby McKinney</i>
<i>Marie Roy</i>	<i>Patsy Sheehan</i>
<i>Harold & Florence Slater and Eva Roman</i>	<i>Don & Marian Slater</i>
<i>All My Loved Ones</i>	<i>Lisa Taylor</i>
<i>Russell Turner, George & Louisa Johnson, Ray & Mary LeFrancias</i>	<i>Lanie Turner</i>
<i>Our Parents, Ben & Angela Prasser & Frank Wilson</i>	<i>Mark & Candace Wilson</i>
<i>My parents, Katherine & Fred Winzler. My grandparents, John,</i>	
<i>Katherine and my uncle John. My brother and</i>	
<i>sister-in-law, Fred & Martha. My aunts Mary, Kate, Dorothy,</i>	
<i>Betty & Anne. My dear friend, Tessie Kehl.....</i>	<i>Mark Winzler</i>



Given in Honor of:

Our children, Grandchildren & Great Grandchildren.....
Irene Schack, Laura McKay, Ronald W. Schack, Amy Schack.....
Mark Winzler
My family, both inside and outside of Concordia
Daniel Burnett
Laura McKay, Amy E. Schack
Linda Lange & Jan Salvatore
Our Grandson, Tiernan
Pastor Rolf & Lois Hedberg; Pastors Rebecca Bourret and
Ann Lovejoy Johnson; Fellow Assistants; Sandy Baranowski,
Jeanine Barber, Wendy Donagher, Bea Santiago,
David Smith, and Candace Wilson.....

By:

Ed & Gail Adams
Sandra & Joel Baranowski
John & Kay Corl
Wendy Donagher
John & Sharon Jaworski
Irene Schack
Don & Marian Slater
Carol & Phil Stoneman

Mark Winzler



Easter Music



Given In Memory of:

Barbara E. Baker
Pastor Joseph Bourret
Karen Beauregard
Ella & Art Hube
Karen Miller
John Brown, Elsie Lewis, Joan Lane
Loved Ones
Ronald O. Schack, Xander Schack, Viola K. Stenger
Anna & Robert Sprong/ Ben & Bertha Benoit
Gertrude & George Stoneman, Paul C. Stoneman, & Bill Mansfield..
Russell Turner
Our friend, Cicile Farley
My brother Fred and my mother Katherine; Pastor Burt,
Beverly and Luke Strand; Pastor Joe Bourret; Barbara E. Baker;
Eddie & Tessie Kehl; Marlene Blake; Gert Waters.....

By:

Sandra & Joel Baranowski
Steven & Susan Bourret
David Beauregard
Donald & Elaine Briggman
Jane Casserly
Nancy Lynn Knauff
Jan Salvatore
Irene Schack
Ruth Sprong Heyden
Carol & Phil Stoneman
Lanie Turner
Mark & Candace Wilson

Mark Winzler



Given In Honor of:

Rebekka Almond
Mark Winzler
Patricia Bourret
The Stoneman's
The tireless volunteers for the Pop Up Shop
John Anderson & Linda Hilliard
John Anderson & Linda Hilliard; My Fellow Congregation Council
and Transition Team Members.....

By:

Kathi & David Almond
Sandra & Joel Baranowski
Steven & Susan Bourret
John & Kay Corl
Nancy Lynn Knauff
Carol & Phil Stoneman
Mark Winzler

Gift toward Music Given By: Robert Copeland





Financial Support for Concordia Ministries

Given in Memory of:

Rev. Burt Stand, Paul Kaiser
Our Parents

By:

Sandra & Joel Baranowski
Randy & Pam Olson

Given in Honor of:

Jeanine Barber, Mark Winzler, Susan Bourret,

Carol Stoneman, Ruth Sprong Heyden Sandra & Joel Baranowski

My mother, Irene Schack Laura McKay

Sandra & Joel Baranowski; Lisa & Ronald W. Schack Irene Schack

Council & Transition Team Carol & Phil Stoneman

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

— 1 Thessalonians 5:18



The staff of Concordia Lutheran Church give thanks to those who lend their hands, voices, time, expertise, and kindness to make Holy Week and Easter special for us all!



Easter Breakfast



Bright and early, choir members Rebekka Almond and Nancy Lynn Knauff, and Linda Hilliard, the Choir Director fuel up with breakfast before preparing their voices for the 10 a.m. service. Adding to the cheerful morning atmosphere: Karen Schauster, John Anderson, Maria (Pastor Rolf's daughter), and Carol, keeping the orange juice flowing!



Easter Breakfast



Joel & Zach



*The Hedberg's:
Lois, Maria & Rolf*

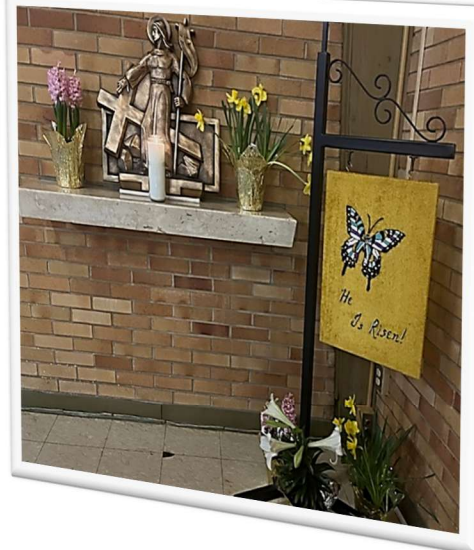


*From Left to Right: Kay, John,
Phil, Randy, Pam, and Margie.*

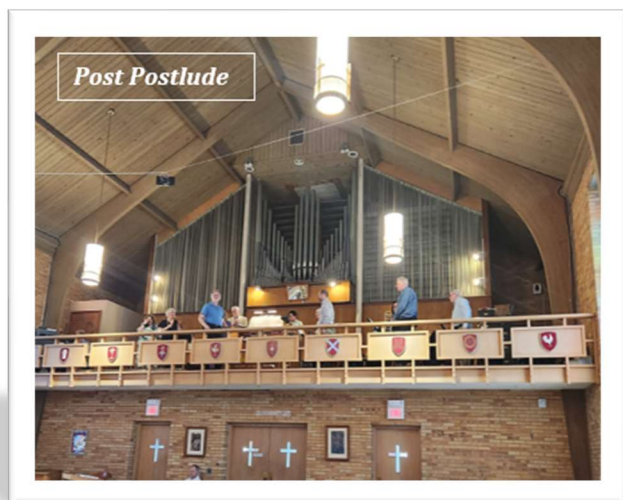


*From Left to Right:
Steve, Randy, and Pam*

Easter Sunday



Easter Sunday



John Anderson, Organist



Brass Quintet
 Trumpets -Doug Nemeth
 -Corinne Zanetti
 French Horn -Beth Pratt
 Trombone -Fred Bagnall
 Tuba -Jim Lendvay

New Bible Study Session Announcement

We are beginning a new Bible Study session called, *I Want to Trust You, but I Don't*, by Lysa TerKeurst.

New York Times bestselling author Lysa TerKeurst shows you what to do with your skepticism and distrust so you can heal from past betrayals and move forward with strength and resilience.

Trust is the oxygen of all human relationships. But it's also what trips you up after you've been burned. Maybe a friend constantly lets you down. A leader or organization you respect turns out to be different than they portray themselves to be. A spouse cheats on you. A family member betrays you. You're exhausted by other people's choices and starting to question your own discernment. And you're wondering, If God let this happen, can he even be trusted?

How can you live well and step into the future when you keep stumbling over trust issues? Lysa TerKeurst says it's not simply about finding better people to walk with. It's about developing the stability you long for within yourself and with God, so you don't become cynical and carry a broken belief system into every new relationship. In *I Want to Trust You, But I Don't*, Lysa shows you how to:

- Identify which of the eleven relational red flags are stirring up distrust, so you can pinpoint why you're feeling uneasy;
- Stop having more faith in your fears coming true than God coming through for you by asking crucial "what if" questions to better process your doubts;
- Recognize when a fractured relationship can be repaired by considering a reasonable list of characteristics necessary for rebuilding trust; and
- Understand the physical, emotional, and neurological impact of the betrayals you've experienced and start healing from the inside out.

In a world where so many things feel alarming, this book will give you a peace that isn't dependent on unpredictable people, circumstances, and experiences. Instead, it offers practical and biblical ways to make real progress toward healthier perspectives, relationships, and a future you can authentically look forward to.

The picture of the bible study book is to the right.
The cost is \$13.00 . Email. Text or Call Pastor Bea for more information:

 203.361.0551

 MNCnuevacreacion@gmail.com



GHIAA 2025 INITIATIVES UPDATE

Immigrant Rights & Protections

- 70 GHIAA leaders submitted written testimony in support of House Bill 7212, which strengthens the existing Trust Act, placing legal limits on the extent to which CT resources can be used to collaborate with ICE. The bill received a favorable vote in the Judiciary Committee on April 8, and the version passed included many of the amendments we supported to strengthen this legislation. It will now move forward for consideration by the full legislature.
- Over 100 GHIAA leaders participated in an ICE preparedness training held on April 10. This training provided guidance on how our congregations and the other institutions with which we are in relationship can be prepared if and when ICE should show up in our facilities.

Fiscal Policy Reform

- Particularly in light of the devastating ongoing cuts to federal funding, it is essential that our state leaders create a budget that invests in community needs and is both humanly and financially responsible. Adjusting the fiscal roadblocks is a crucial step in this process.
- A community forum on fiscal policy reform was held at the Universalist Church of West Hartford on March 30 with Rep. Kate Farrar and GHIAA Executive Director Cori Mackey.
- GHIAA and CT For All teamed up to pack the house with over 500 people at Immanuel Congregational Church in Hartford on April 8 for “A Conversation on CT’s Fiscal Roadblocks” with House Speaker Matt

Ritter. Our conversation was deeply impactful and helped to illuminate a path forward toward a moral budget for our state.

Just Cause Eviction Protections

- Now that House Bill 6889, which would expand Just Cause eviction protection to tenants of all ages and disability statuses, has passed through the Housing Committee, it can move on to the full House and Senate. GHIAA voices are strongly represented in the bill’s [Joint Favorable Report](#). Our next task is to make sure it is called for a vote by the full House and can move on to the Senate.
- We participated in a press conference with allied organizations at the Capitol on April 9.
- We are seeking support and co-sponsorship for this bill in ongoing constituent meetings with legislators.

Municipal Housing Action Teams (HAT)

- HAT teams are active in several towns, building relationships, engaging in training, and exercising power on a local level to achieve more affordable housing in our communities.

Combating Racial & Religious Hate

- 45 GHIAA leaders gathered on April 1 for session 2 of our “Broadening Understanding, Deepening Solidarity” (BUDS) spring series.
- Additional trainings will be scheduled around these themes in the summer and fall.

As always, please feel free to reach out to **Rebekka Almond**, rebekkakate@yahoo.com, if you would like more information or to find out how to get more involved.

Concordia Nursery School



We are so excited that spring is finally here! The weather has warmed, and flowers are in bloom! One of our favorite springtime activities is gathering the dandelions from the hill. Our school year is winding down and we have had a wonderful year of loving, learning and growing together!



Thank You Note to Concordia, from Ashley Salerno:

Good Evening Mark,

I wanted to send you a quick update about our enrollment status.

I am happy to share that as of today, we have enrolled 13 children and I have 2 prospective PK3 families touring this upcoming week! Of the 13 children enrolled, 7 are PK4 and 6 are PK3.

In addition, I wanted to share that our recent fundraiser raised \$962.84. It was a huge success and exceeded our expectations! I did want to take a moment to thank Ruth Sprong for sharing it with the other church members and to personally thank the following people for their generous contributions:

*Susan Bourret
Carol Burnett
Ruth Sprong
Carol Stoneman
Pam Olson
Margie Gallagher
Sandra Baranowski
Irene Schack*

I feel incredibly blessed to have the continued support of the church and am so thankful to be able to provide our amazing program to the community for another year.

Many Thanks,

*Ashley Salerno, Director, Concordia Nursery School
40 Pitkin Street, Manchester, CT 06040
860-649-9349*



May | June | July

BIRTHDAYS



MAY

Heather Adams (2)
Kathy Noyes (3)
Zachary Baranowski (4)
David Smith (14)
Karin Turek (16)
EJ Chiffer (17)
David Beauregard (18)
Mark Wilson (18)
Donald Briggmann (20)
Lisa Taylor (21)

JUNE

Karen Schauster (2)
Julie Chiffer (4)
John Jaworski (5)
Chelsea Wilson (10)
Sharon Jaworski (13)
Wendy Donagher (15)
Jane Casserly (18)
Lois Hedberg (24)

JULY

Douglas Kehl (1)
Thomas Donagher (3)
Elaine Briggmann (9)
Ruth Sprong Heyden (10)
Bobby McKinney (12)
Liana Estrella (19)
James Britton (28)
Marian Slater (29)

A **special thank you** to the member care committee for the calls, cards, visits and goodies you have given me. Your attention, sure made me feel special and cheered me up during this long recovery. I would also like to thank my fellow Concordians for their prayers, calls, and cards. Many bad days became good days when I heard from you. It is said, some good comes of bad and it is true. Through all the pain, depression and misery, as well as the good days, I have found a very kind, caring, new friend. Thanks for always being there, **Jan B.**

In peace,
Joanne Murphy

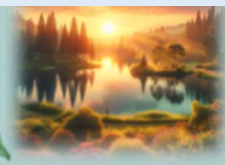


**Memorial Donations
Received**



**In Loving Memory of
Helen Wittkofske**

David Sibrinsz





Save the Date!

Pool Party and Barbeque



Sunday, August 10, 2025

Mark's Home from 3:00-7:00 pm

Highland Park School is still in session and are still in need of Healthy Snacks – kindly bring some with you next time you attend service.

Thank You!!! 😊

EVENT DETAILS:

GAME TIME: 1:10 PM—GATES OPEN: 11:30 AM
BINGHAMTON RUMBLE PONIES (NY Mets AA-affiliates)
vs HARTFORD YARD GOATS (Colorado Rockies AA-affiliates)

If you would like to attend, please **contact Carol Stoneman** at
(860)559-2208 or ctconnection@cox.net.

A S S O O N A S P O S S I B L E .

Feel free to invite family and friends.

SUNDAY, MAY 18th 2025



EMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Join Emanuel Lutheran Church on
Sunday, May 18th
for a day at Dunkin' Park!

Ticket Order Deadline: Sunday, May 4th
(Limited # of Tickets Available)

We will carpool from Concordia to the park.

YardGoatsBaseball.com



860-246-GOAT (4628)



Emanuel Lutheran Church

TICKET TYPE	PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
Left Field Grandstand	\$14.00	X _____	= _____



Tickets come with \$2 loaded on barcode and can be spent on concession or merch in the park.

Children 3 and under get free admission if sitting on a parent's lap. Please note any handicap accessible seating if needed.

FIRST + LAST NAME: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS (REQUIRED): _____

PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO CHURCH OFFICE WITH PAYMENT VIA CASH OR
CHECK. CHECKS PAYABLE TO EMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH (MEMO: YARD GOATS)

ALL TICKETS WILL BE SENT ELECTRONICALLY TO THE EMAIL PROVIDED WITHIN A WEEK OF GAME DATE.

Brilliant Pentecost



Each Pentecost we invite members and friends of Concordia to purchase brilliant red geraniums for our worship space. Please consider making a gift of flowers to Concordia this Pentecost. Financial gifts to support our ministries are also welcome.

Each plant (6-inch pot) costs \$10. Gifts for ministries are given at the giver's discretion. Please attach payment with this form and return to the church office by **Sunday, June 1st**. Thank you.

I/We give _____ Geraniums to Concordia

- In Memory of: _____
- In Honor of: _____

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

- In Memory of: _____
- In Honor of: _____

Name(s)

Phone Number and/or E-mail

Please return this for in its entirety to the church office by June 1, 2025.



PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

Contact parish office for Prayer Requests.
Names will be held in prayer for one month,
unless otherwise requested.



Date Requested	Praying For (Person/Family)	Prayers For	Requested By
3/23/2025	Jan Salvatore	Undergoing treatment for a medical condition.	Mark Winzler
3/11/2025	David	Comfort and strength	Family of David
10/20/2024	Robert Feder	Comfort & Healing amidst profound health challenges since March 2023.	Gail Feder
10/27/2024	Dan Burnett	Strength, comfort, and healing during this significant health challenge.	Carol Burnett

For Concordia's ongoing transition process.

The Intentions of this Community:

- † Concordia Nursery School Students and their families
- † The work of Manchester Area Conference of Churches (MACC)
- † The work of the Greater Hartford Interfaith Action Alliance (GHIAA)
- † For our Cub Scout Pack and Scout Troop
- † For Licensed Lay Minister Beatrice Luciano and Ministerio Nueva Creacion
- † For our Friends at Emanuel Lutheran and former members of St. Mary's now merged with St. John's Episcopal Church (Vernon)

Concordia Lutheran Church
40 Pitkin Street | Manchester | CT | 06040

 860.649.5311

 office@concordiamanchester.org

 <https://www.concordiamanchester.org>

Reverend **Rolf Hedberg** | Transition Pastor
Mrs. **Margie Gallagher** | Parish Administrator

Church Office Hours:
Monday – Thursday | 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
~Closed on Fridays, and all Federal Holidays~