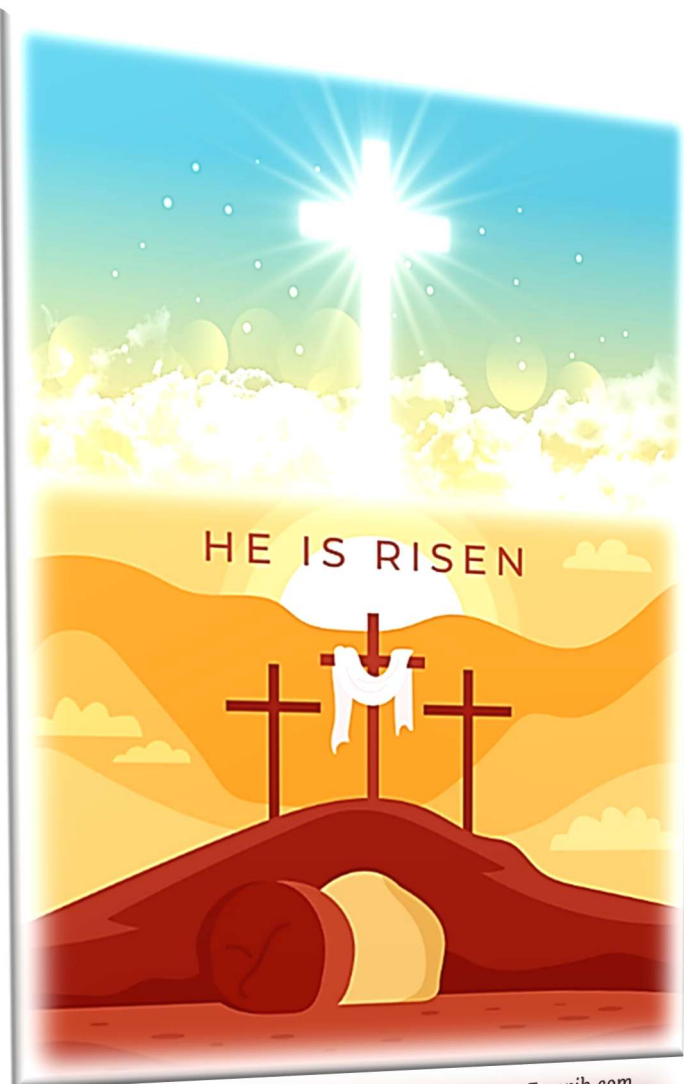


The Concordia Chimes



APRIL 2026



Images above are from Freepik.com

The Reverend Maria Hammons

Associate to the Bishop

Congregational Council Contact 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****

SUNDAY SERVICE | 10:00 A.M.

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.

March 15 | Lent 4 Sermon Pastor Sara Anderson

On Sunday, March 15, Pastor Sara Anderson presided and preached at our liturgy. Pastor Sara “walked” with Concordia during transition conversations a few years ago when she was Associate to the Bishop of the New England Synod. (She now serves as Associate Executive Director of Camp Calumet.)

It was particularly apropos to have her preach on March 15 as, after worship, we gathered to determine the non-profits to whom we would make legacy gifts once the property is sold and all our financial obligations have been met.

Her sermon which follows speaks to our journey and provides context and hope.

It is truly a gift to be with you today.

Many of you know that during my time serving in the Bishop’s office, I had the privilege of walking alongside Concordia during the early stages of your discernment. I stood in Kaiser Hall with some of you as you prayed difficult prayers, asked hard questions, and began to imagine what faithfulness might look like in a new season.

And so, I want to begin by saying something simple but important:

What you are doing is holy work.

It may not always feel that way.

Sometimes it feels like grief.

Sometimes it feels like uncertainty.

Sometimes it feels like letting go.

But faithfulness often looks exactly like this.

And today’s scriptures speak directly into moments like this one.

In our first reading, the prophet Samuel is grieving. King Saul has failed. The future of



Israel feels uncertain. The system that once seemed stable has fallen apart. And God asks Samuel a striking question: “How long will you grieve over Saul?”

Now notice something important. God does not say, “Stop grieving.” Grief is real. Grief is honored. But God also says something else: “Fill your horn with oil... I will send you.”

Even in the middle of loss, God is already at work

preparing something new.

Samuel goes to Bethlehem to anoint the next king. Jesse lines up his sons one by one—strong sons, impressive sons, sons who look like leaders. And each time Samuel thinks, “Surely this must be the one.” But God keeps saying no.

Finally Samuel asks, “Are these all your sons?” And Jesse says, almost as an afterthought:

“Well... there is the youngest. But he’s out keeping the sheep.”

David wasn't even invited to the lineup. But God says, "Rise and anoint him, for this is the one." And then comes this line:

"The Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart."

God sees differently than we do.

Where we see endings, God sees possibility.

Where we see certain failure,

God sees belovedness.

Where we see what seems insignificant,

God sees the place where grace will grow.

Psalms 23 reminds us what kind of God we have.

"The Lord is my shepherd."

Not my CEO.

Not my strategic planner.

My shepherd.

A shepherd who leads beside still waters.

A shepherd who restores souls.

A shepherd who walks with us through the darkest valleys.

And notice the image in the psalm that echoes our first reading:

"You anoint my head with oil."

Anointing in the Bible is about belonging.

It is a sign that says:

You are chosen.

You are claimed.

You are part of God's story.

And that anointing does not depend on size or strength or longevity. It depends on God. A God who loves us and claims us as beloved. In our gospel too- Jesus encounters a man who has been blind since birth. Immediately the disciples ask a question that people still might ask today: "Who sinned?"

In other words: Whose fault is this? But Jesus refuses the question entirely.

"Neither this man nor his parents sinned."

Instead Jesus says something remarkable:

"This happened so that God's works might be revealed."

And then Jesus does something wonderfully earthy. He spits on the ground, makes mud, and places it on the man's eyes. It's messy. It's ordinary. It's the dust of creation all over again. Ash Wednesday reflected back to us.

And the man goes, washes, and comes back able to see.

And here's the things about this gospel story. The miracle is the easy part.

What comes next is much harder.

The neighbors argue about it.

The religious leaders interrogate him.

People debate theology and rules and authority.

Meanwhile the man who was blind just keeps telling the truth as simply as he can:

"I do not know everything. But one thing I do know—though I was blind, now I see." And eventually the authorities drive him out.

This impossible gift, the miraculous cure without answers, without earning it, without striving for it, or deserving it.

They cast him out of the community instead of believing. And what does Jesus do? Jesus hears that the man has been driven out...

...and Jesus goes and finds him.

The one rejected by the community is sought out by Christ himself. And there, in that place of vulnerability, the man not only sees, he sees fully—not just with his eyes but with faith.

"Lord, I believe."

One might argue that these readings are about seeing. Samuel learning to see differently,

A blind man learning to see for the first time.

Even, The Pharisees refusing to see what God is doing right in front of them.

And yet, perhaps instead it's not about our sight but perspective...

to see as ones who are.....

Beloved. Claimed. Chased down. Healed.
Sought after. Worthy. Anointed.

Paul in Ephesians says to the church, says to us:
“Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord
you are light. Live as children of light.”

The church’s calling has never been about
preserving institutions forever. The church’s
calling has always been to bear the light of Christ
into the world. Sometimes that happens through
buildings and long histories. And sometimes that
light continues in new ways we cannot yet see.
And yet, from the perspective of God’s
promises, it can shine. .

Today, Concordia, you are doing something
courageous. You are not only telling the truth
about the season you are in. You are honoring
the generations who worshiped here, were
baptized here, married here, grieved and
celebrated here.

You are giving thanks for the ministry that has
happened in this place. And today you will
begin discerning how the resources entrusted
to you can continue to serve the gospel beyond
this moment. That is not failure. That is legacy.
Think again of David. No one expected the
youngest shepherd to be the one through
whom God would work.

But God often chooses the surprising path.
Seeds scattered in unexpected soil.
Light shining in unexpected places.
And the same is true for congregations.
The ministry of a church does not end when its
doors close. Sometimes it multiplies.
Sometimes it spreads. Sometimes it blesses
communities and ministries far beyond what
anyone imagined.

Not about sight, or our vision of the future, but
about perspective and God’s promise.
Because through all of this, the promise of

Psalm 23 remains:

“The Lord is my shepherd.”

Not just in times of growth.

Not just in times of certainty.

But also in valleys. Also in transitions.

Also in moments when we walk forward not
knowing exactly what lies ahead.

“Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life.”

Not just the successful days.

All the days. And we will dwell in the house of
the Lord forever.

Because ultimately the house of the Lord is
not just a building. It is the living body of
Christ. It is the community formed wherever
people gather in Jesus’ name. It is the
kingdom of God that no closure, no change,
no ending can ever undo.

So today, as you worship...

as you remember...

as you begin to discern your legacy...

hear again the words spoken over David,
spoken over every baptized child of God:

“The Spirit of the Lord came mightily.”

That Spirit is still moving.

Still creating.

Still surprising us.

Still opening eyes.

Still leading God’s people into light.

And so like the man in the gospel, perhaps the
most faithful thing we can say today is simply this:

We do not know everything about the future.

But one thing we do know—

The God who has led Concordia
all these years is still leading.

The Good Shepherd still walks with you.

And the light of Christ is still shining.

Thanks be to God.

Amen.

Concordia Lutheran Church, Manchester Connecticut

Legacy Workshop – March 15, 2026

The following list of churches and nonprofit organizations was brainstormed and then voted and approved (unanimously) by more than 30 of Concordia's parishioners who participated in the Legacy Workshop on Sunday, March 15. As a result, all of these organizations and churches will receive a financial gift from Concordia as part of your legacy upon closing. The amount of each financial gift will be decided at a later date after the building is sold and we have a better idea of what funds will be available after we have an idea of final expenses. At that time, the Council will make recommendations to the congregation for discussion and a final vote. (*Note: organizations must be 501C3 nonprofits,*)

Local Ministries and Churches

- Covenant to Care
- MACC
- MARC
- Center for Leadership & Justice (GHIAA)
- Cornerstone Ministry (Vernon)
- Meal packaging Ministry
- Building Health Families
- Habitat (local)
- Creative Living Community
- Manchester Schools designated for music programs
- Highland Park School Family Resource Center
- Manchester Schools Family Resource Center
- Scouts CT Rivers Council (boys)
- Girl Scouts of America
- Local Churches (not ELCA) *Concordia parishioners plan to attend
 - *St. John's Episcopal (Vernon)
 - *St. Peter's Episcopal (Hebron)
 - *St. James & St. Bridgett RC Manchester (both under St. Teresa of Calcutta)
 - New Horizon Baptist Church – Urban Alliance

Synodical Ministries and Churches

- Camp Calumet
- New England Synod Seminarian Fund
- New England School of Lay Ministry
- New England Synod - Benevolence
- Mosaic: intellectual & developmental disabilities, mental & behavioral health needs
- Ascentria Care Alliance
 - Luther Ridge at Middletown
 - Good News Garage

- Mission Development Fund
 - Continuing Action Network, Manchester NH
 - La Iglesia Evangélica Luterana, Providence RI
 - Ministerio Nueva Creación, Greater Hartford, CT
- Local ELCA Congregations (*Concordia parishioners plan to attend)
 - *Emanuel Manchester
 - *Trinity Vernon
 - St. Mark Glastonbury
 - *Emanuel Hartford

National and Global Ministries

Lutheran World Relief

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (now Global Refuge)

ELCA World Hunger

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan & the Holy Land

Lutheran Church of Ghana

ELCA Good Gifts (focus on animals)

ELCA Fund for Leaders

UNICEF USA (serves worldwide)

After the organizations were suggested, discussed and voted on, those attending were given three “sticky dots” each to use on those ministries that were most meaningful to them. This does not dictate the amount of the financial gift, rather it is a guide as we are allocating funds so we are clear on the congregation’s greatest passions.

The “sticky dots” tallied as follows:

Camp Calumet **(13)**

Manchester Schools Family Resource Center **(8)**

MACC **(7)**

Highland Park School Family Resource Center **(6)**

MARC **(5)**

ELCA World Hunger **(5)**

GHIAA Center for Leadership & Justice **(4)**

Manchester Schools Music programs **(4)**

NE Synod School of Lay Ministry **(4)**

Lutheran World Relief **(4)**

Ministerio Nueva Creación **(3)**

Ascentria - Luther Ridge/Good News Garage **(3)**

Habitat (local) **(3)**

NE Synod Seminarian Fund **(2)**

LIRS (Global Refuge) **(2)**

NE Synod Mission Development – CAN **(1)**

NE Synod Mission Development – La Iglesia **(1)**

Lutheran Church of Ghana **(1)**

ELC Jordan & the Holy Land **(1)**

Mosaic **(1)**

Creative Living Community **(1)**

Building Healthy Families **(1)**

Cornerstone **(1)**

New Horizon Baptist Urban Alliance **(1)**

St. John’s Episcopal Vernon **(1)**

St. Mark Lutheran Glastonbury **(1)**

Holy Closure Update

Real Estate

From the beginning, I shared that the process up to recommending a buyer to the congregation (who has the sole authority to approve the sale) would be private and that only generalities would be shared with the congregation in order to protect those who submitted offers and in order to secure the process. This has been the “norm” at other churches which have closed. In each instance considerations and negotiations were in private as each church was dealing with a private entity. All was confidential until the vote.

Of course, while this was the plan for us as well, it did not come to pass as Concordia not only had offers from private entities, but also from the Town of Manchester who expressed interest. As a public institution, the Town must, in the end, discuss and vote in public. And, as a public institution, newspapers and other media report on what they discuss and what they decide.

While the Council has known of its interest in the property as they visited etc, the Town of Manchester could not submit an offer for 40 Pitkin Street for the purpose of having it become its new Senior Center until the Board of Directors formally met.

That meeting of the Board of Directors took place on Thursday, March 12, at which they voted (8 in favor, 1 against) of authorizing the Town Manager to enter into negotiations with Concordia (submit an offer). Realtor Keith Kumnick and I were present at this meeting.

Waiting for this offer, the Council had not met to consider any of the offers (there were five in total including the Town). Before that meeting, Keith Kumnick and I had a face-to-face meeting with the Town Manager so we could share our respective processes with one another to see IF the processes would mesh given Concordia’s closing.

We were made aware that (should we mutually agree to negotiate), the main steps for the Town were to a) submit an offer, b) have inspections etc. completed, c) hold a public hearing for resident input, and d) final vote by Board of Directors to approve the purchase. No promises were made at this meeting! This was purely information sharing and gathering about timelines.

Meanwhile the media got ahold of this and published a front page story in the Journal Inquirer about that which took place at the March 12 meeting. (By the way, the reporter stated that Concordia was “closed” and in another place talked about the “former” Concordia Church. Carol Stoneman wrote a letter to him and the managing editor asking for a correction, but no response!) Of course, to the average reader, it would appear that this was a “done deal” not reaching out to learn that Concordia too has a process and we have not agreed to anything. (To say that it has been an impossible “juggling act” in getting information out to you in a timely fashion is an understatement!)

On March 19 the Council met in Executive Session at which time our Realtor presented us formally with the five (5) offers for our property. We discussed and considered them prayerfully.

I can share with you that Concordia is now in negotiations with the Town of Manchester. More than that I cannot share with you at this time. A reminder that the sale of the property rests in the hands of the congregation, not the Council and certainly not me! As has been the case all along, I will share information as I am able to do so. Stay tuned!

Property Team (Inventory)

Information and pictures from the March 21 Open House are included in this issue of the Chimes. The next one is April 18 with the Community Tag Sale on May 16.

Information about gifts we made to Emanuel-Manchester, Trinity-Vernon and St. Mark- Glastonbury is also included in this Chimes.

Easter Breakfast

Our next “event” is Easter Breakfast on Sunday, April 5. Please consider joining us for this time together. Information is contained in this issue of the Chimes.

Communication with Former Members

Invitations to come to our June 7 liturgy will be sent out this coming month. We are still in need of addresses for some former members. Please see Carol Stoneman.

Commemorative Booklet

Sandy Baranowski and Susan Bourret are putting together a Commemorative Booklet to be completed in time for our June 7 Celebration of Ministry. Additional information is included in this Chimes.

June 7- Celebration of Ministry Eucharist- 4:00 p.m.

Rebekka Almond has selected the choir anthems. Richard Hicks has finished composing/arranging brass/timpani accompaniments for hymns and choir anthems. Thanks to Lee Hilliard who identified, on our behalf, to a videographer who will be recording this liturgy for us. We are also seeking a photographer.

June 28- Liturgy of Leave-taking

This service is for present Concordia members only. Following this, we will have a final luncheon together at A Villa Louisa from 12 Noon -3:00 p.m.

NEW!!!!-----August 30 - Pool and Barbecue

Even though Concordia will be closed, there will be an opportunity for us to gather for this on **Sunday, August 30 from 3-7 p.m. at Mark’s house.** More to come!

Peace, Mark Winzler



Highlights of the February 2026 Treasurer's Report

Summary

Envelope and other funding was 61% above the monthly budgeted amount due to the receipt of several full year, or in our case, half-year, pledged dollars, also bringing our year-to-date giving 55% above the budgeted amount.

Additional revenue in February included \$700 transferred from the Holy Closure funds to pay for pictures of the organ. This was to facilitate the placement of the organ on an organ wholesale house website for its potential sale.

Our year-to-date snow removal expenses (\$12,377) are 55% over our year-to-date budget of \$8,000.

Special funds continued to experience monthly gains with the exception of the Scholarship Fund which experienced a small loss. Year-to-date, all funds have realized gains.

Thank you to everyone that directed their Thrivent Choice dollars to Concordia.

Report Details

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
February	\$20,931.42	\$12,999.99	161%	\$40,202.58	\$25,999.98	155%

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

Additional February Revenue

Open Offering:	\$187.00
Initial Offering:	\$80.00
Festival Offering:	\$486.00
Church Service:	\$400.00
Christian Indian Building Use:	\$200.00
Utilities Assistance:	\$450.00
Snow Removal Assistance:	\$460.00
Holy Closure Funds:	\$700.00 (Organ photos)
<u>Miscellaneous Income Non-Budgeted</u>	<u>\$1,095.00 (Fastnacht)</u>
Total:	\$4,058.00
TOTAL FEBRUARY OPERATING REVENUES:	\$24,989.42
Total February Non-Operating Revenues:	
World Hunger Gifts:	\$350.00
TOTAL FEBRUARY REVENUE:	\$25,339.42



Highlights of the February 2026 Treasurer's Report

Expenses

1. Utilities:

Vendor	FEBRUARY 2026	FEBRUARY 2025
CNG	\$1,744.53	\$3,254.08 (Feb & March)
Eversource/Earthlight	\$409.47(\$197.77/\$271.70)	\$350.90 (\$0.00/\$350.90)
Cox	\$480.26	\$468.99
Sewer & Water	\$156.52	\$132.86
TOTAL	\$2,850.78	\$4,206.83

Additional February Expenses:

Staff Salaries:	\$4,559.00
Fringe Benefits:	\$148.24
Program Expenses:	\$509.00
Program Support Expenses:	\$1,101.16
Facility Maintenance:	\$4,290.06 (\$2,814.50 – snow removal)
Worship & Memorial Garden:	\$1,200.00 (interment trust)
Holy Closure Expenses:	\$500.00 (Deposit)
Miscellaneous – Non-Budget:	\$235.61
TOTAL:	\$12,543.07
TOTAL FEBRUARY EXPENSES:	\$15,393.85

Bank Account as of 2/28/2026 (ACS)

Beginning Balance:	\$3,734.33
Total Revenue:	\$26,509.60 (Includes pass-through revenue from CNS Taxes)
Total Expenditures:	\$16,708.79 (Includes Tax expenditures)
Current Balance:	\$13,535.14
Monthly Cash Flow:	\$9,800.81 (Revenue less Expenditures)

Special Funds (as of February 28, 2026)

Fund	Previous Month Market Value (Dec. 2025)	Current Market Value	Current Month Gain/Loss (includes withdrawals)	YTD Gain/Loss (includes withdrawals)
Thrivent				
Scholarship	\$35,334.77	\$35,258.95	-\$75.82	\$367.33
Fidelity				
Community Cares	\$71,217.01	\$71,468.33	\$251.32	\$1,623.16
Legacy for Ministry	\$1,158,146.26	\$1,162,233.28	\$4,087.02	\$26,396.19
Total Fidelity	\$1,229,363.27	\$1,233,701.61	\$4,338.34	\$28,019.35



Highlights of the February 2026 Treasurer's Report

Memorial & Tributes Savings Account (as of February 28, 2026)

Previous Month's Balance (Jan. 2026)	Deposit	Withdrawals	Current Month Balance
\$18,451.09	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$18,451.09

Worship & Memorial Garden Funds (as of February 28, 2026)

(Note: Held in Memorial & Tributes Savings Account; not reflected in the above M&T table)

Previous Month's Balance (Jan. 2026)	Deposit	Withdrawals	Current Month Balance
\$0.00	\$22,969.35	\$0.00	\$22,969.35

Holy Closure Fund (as of February 28, 2026) (Note: Held in the Memorial & Tributes Savings Account; not reflected in the above M&T table)

Previous Month's Balance (Jan. 2026)	Month Deposits	Month Withdrawals	Comments	Current Balance
\$99,011.90	\$1.05	\$700.00	Deposits: \$1.05 - Interest Withdrawals: \$700.00 (organ photos)	\$98,312.95

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you.

Carol Stoneman, *Treasurer*

THANK YOU!!!!

We would like to send out a very heartfelt thank you to the following individuals for directing their Thrivent Choice dollars to Concordia. **You are all amazing!**

Jane Casserly	Robert Goodrich	Edward Krach	Dennis Stechholz
Andrew Eggen	Lois Hedberg	Linda Lange	Philip Stoneman
Marianne Eggen	Pr. Rolf Hedberg	Edna Nekiunas	Stephen Strand
Gail Feder	Harold Krach	Karen Schauster	Karin Turek
Irma Fenner	Jolanta Krach	Ruth Sprong Heyden	Mark Winzler

With Blessings and Gratitude,
The Finance Committee



**Approved Minutes of the Concordia Lutheran Church
Congregational Council Meeting
Monday, February 9, 2026, in person**

Present:

Mark Winzler – President	Rebekka Almond	Ruthie Lynch
David Smith – Vice President	Sandra Baranowski	Bobby McKinney
Carol Stoneman - Treasurer	Nancy Lynn Knauff	Randy Olson
Susan Bourret – Secretary	Ruth Sprong-Heyden	Tina Ruggerio (zoom)
		Pastor Maria Hammon (zoom)

Call to Order – Mark Winzler @ 7:03 PM

Devotions: Ruthie Lynch

Approval of Agenda The agenda was approved as written.

Holy Closure Items:

Additional transition team member attending: Jeanine Barber

Holy Closure:

- Nursery School Update- Sandy
- Date for “Tenants” to move out belongings: Scouts (both groups), Indian Christian Church, MNC, AA (by May 31st, notification will be made)
- March 15- Legacy Meeting with Pastor Maria
- Gifting of Special Items (i.e. Crèches/Main Chalice) to Emanuel/Trinity/St. Mark
- Gifting of Vestments (chasubles/stoles etc.) Discussion continues
- March 21- CT Lutheran Churches visit to “check out” items for their churches
- April 18- Area Churches and organizations visit to check out items
- May 16- Tag Sale for the Community. Help is needed for all three events.
- June 7- 4:00 p.m. Celebration of Ministry
 1. Liturgy
 2. Reception
 3. Communication
 4. Commemorative Booklet
 5. Committee for Communication and Commemorative Booklet Help is needed
 6. Video of Liturgy/Photographer
- June 28 Final Banquet- A Villa Louisa 12 Noon-3:00 p.m.

Motion for council to move to Executive Session was moved, seconded and passed.

Motion: To move into Executive Session to discuss real estate matters with realtor Keith Kumnick attending executive session.

Approval of Minutes The minutes from the January 12, 2026 meeting were approved as written. The motion approved by E-mail regarding housing allowance indication for Pastor Bourret's compensation was affirmed.

Information from Pastor Maria Hammons

Pastor Maria will be giving an overview of the legacy process at the March 15th meeting with the congregation. A handout will be distributed after the February 22nd congregational meeting. She also explained what is needed to provide transfer letters and letters of good standing in June when Concordia closes.

President's Report

Planning for lent and holy week continue. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday services will be at Emanuel, Maundy Thursday and the Easter Vigil will be at Concordia. Wednesday evenings Holden Evening Prayer will be held at Concordia.

Treasurer's Report

The January 2026 treasurer's report was presented and received. Ten thousand dollars was appropriated from savings to meet our obligations.

Old Business

The Financial Congregational meeting will be held on February 22, 2026. Annual reports, including the proposed budget have been distributed.

New Business

Memorial Garden Board will need to maintain the garden through June 2026. The bank accounts currently used by the Garden Board will be closed and the money transferred to the Concordia savings account to facilitate payments required.

A motion was passed to allocate funds to set up interment trust accounts for Concordia members who will be buried in Concordia's East Cemetery plots in the future. Letters will be sent to those ten people, explaining what is required to set up those trust accounts.

Motion: To allocate \$12,000 (10 people, \$1,200 each) from Memorial Garden funds for future interments in Concordia's plots at East Cemetery for those who previously planned to be interred in Concordia's Worship and Memorial Garden.

Adjournment: @ 9:11 PM

Approved Minutes of the Concordia Lutheran Church Annual Finance Report 2026 held February 22, 2026

Call to Order – Mark Winzler @ 11:36 AM

Devotions – Mark Winzler

Approval of Agenda – Agenda was approved as modified to include Office suite HVAC unit replacement issue discussion

Approval of the Minutes of the June 24, 2025 Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting – The minutes were approved as written.

Reports

Council President's Report – Mark Winzler reviewed the following report sections:

- Activities already completed, with reports from some committees being given at the end of the meeting
- Statistics on current membership and participation were highlighted.
- Activities still to come and the **need for people** to help with preparation and communication concerning these events.

Report received as written.

2025 Year End Treasurer's Report – Carol highlighted:

- Carol thanked the congregation for their continued financial support
- Thrivent Choice designations make up 77% of other giving, a real help with our obligations.
- Benevolence 2025: Synod met through offerings, Nursery School, MACC and GHIAA through Legacy Fund

Report received as written.

Legacy for Ministry Report – Legacy funds showed a balance of \$1,205,682.26 for 2025. Disbursement dollars calculated as available for 2025 equaled \$49,467.15 (calculation included in the report). The amount of \$14,100 in benevolence was distributed to MACC, Concordia Nursery School and GHIAA.

Report received as written.

Worship and Memorial Garden Report

Amended to update Balance as of December 2025 to \$20,108.06.

Report received as written.

Concordia Nursery School Finance Report – Sandra Baranowski added that the Nursery School has indicated a need for \$5,000 before the end of March, and another \$5,000 by June. Funding for this was approved by the congregation in 2025. They are having a legacy open house on April 25th, inviting former student families to attend.

Report received as written.

Report from the Stewardship Committee – David thanked everyone for their support. No one had questions. **Report received as written.**

Motion to Approval of 2026 Proposed Ministry Budget (7-month, through July 2026) – Carol identified a few expense items that have changed, and salary increase and retention for Margie. Other increases reflect adjustments for higher historic expenses.

The motion was moved, seconded, and passed to adopt the Proposed 2026 Budget.

Office Suite Heating and Air Conditioning unit replacement

Our office suite HVAC unit has failed and needs replacement; the old unit is not under warrantee. Joel Baranowski and our vendor have worked together to find a replacement unit for a cost of \$6,000.

The congregation agreed by common consent to use a portion of the remaining funds from the \$45,000 allocated for the steeple repair and asbestos removal. The balance of \$16,284.53, more than covers the expense.

Team Updates:

Inventory Team:

Pam Olson reported that the inventory has been completed. Next steps are March 21 open house for ELCA churches, April 18 Open house for area churches, Tag Sale for the congregation and public.

Help is needed for all of these events!!

Items are also being gifted to Emanuel, St. Mark, Trinity, Vernon and Pastor Barclay's church in California.

Archive Team:

Carol Burnett shared a list of items going to the Philadelphia ELCA archives, including, 7 years of financial reports, pastor pictures, confirmation class pictures, births/baptisms, confirmations, deaths/funerals.

Some items/pictures are being set out for people to take, please take a look and help yourself. The historical society will be taking the beechwood chalice that Stephen Perkins carved. We discussed the decommissioning of the Statue of Jesus that was moved from the church on winter and Garden streets to Pitkin St.

Finance Team will meet with Maria after the end of this meeting

MARCH 15 Meeting with Pastor Maria for Concordia Legacy gifting:

This will be an official meeting of the congregation with voting to determine which non-profit 501C3 organizations will be given donations upon closing.

Action Summary: The meeting agenda and June minutes were approved; reports were received. Motion was passed to approve the 2026 (7-month) budget. The congregation agreed by common consent to replace the HVAC unit in the office suite.

Adjournment – a motion to adjourn was seconded and passed at 1:04 PM

Respectfully submitted, Susan Bourret

Why 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.

Mission Statement

As Lutheran Christians, Concordia understands 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.

List of Voting Member Meeting Attendees

- | | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Rebekka Almond | 9. Jane Casserly | 17. Pam Olson | 25. Carol Stoneman |
| 2. Joel Baranowski | 10. John Corl | 18. Randy Olson | 26. Phil Stoneman |
| 3. Sandra Baranowski | 11. Kay Corl | 19. Karen Schauster | 27. Lanie Turner |
| 4. Jeanine Barber | 12. C. Paul Goodrich | 20. Donald Slater | 28. Candace Wilson |
| 5. Jan Bellino | 13. John Haid | 21. Marion Slater | 29. Mark Winzler |
| 6. Susan Bourret | 14. Bryan Jaworski | 22. David Smith | |
| 7. James Britton | 15. Nancy Lynn Knauff | 23. Tina Sollinger-Ruggerio | |
| 8. Carol Burnett | 16. Bobby McKinney | 24. Ruth Sprong Heyden | |

Also in attendance: Pastor Ann Lovejoy Johnson and Pastor Maria Hammons.

**Concordia's
Annual Easter Breakfast Returns!
Sunday | April 5, 2026 | 8:30 A.M**



You are cordially invited to join us for breakfast, delightful treats, and engaging conversation.

We eagerly anticipate celebrating Easter Morning with you and your family.

A free-will offering will be collected.

Contribution:

- I can bring: _____ Coffeecake or muffins

Assistance:

- I can help with:
 - _____ Set Up
 - _____ Serving
 - _____ Clean Up



Name(s): _____

Number of People Attending: _____

Phone Number *and/or* Email:

Please submit this form to the church office by Sunday, March 29, 2026.

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 **Atrium Brass Quintet** 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 \$12.00.

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, March 29th.

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(s): _____

Phone Number and/or E-mail: _____



Please return this form in its entirety to the church office by Sunday, March 29, 2026.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Concordia | Emanuel | Ministerio Nueva Creación

Maundy Thursday

April 2

At Concordia 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday

April 3

At Emanuel 7:00 p.m.

Easter Vigil

April 4

At Concordia 7:00 p.m.

Pre- Easter Cleaning

Once again this year, in preparation for Easter Sunday, we are asking for your help in cleaning the sanctuary, narthex, and chancel (altar area) on:

Friday, April 3

10:00 a.m. through 3:00 p.m.

Come anytime during that time period!

This includes, but is not limited to:

- Cleaning pews (in sanctuary/chancel/choir loft)
- 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/altar rail/side shelf
- Polishing communion vessels
- Polishing the brass candlesticks/torches by pulpit/paschal candle stand

Please join us!



Social Gathering

After Easter Vigil

Saturday, April 4, 2026

All are invited to a Social Gathering following the 7:00 p.m. Easter Vigil.


The Social will begin at approximately 9:00 p.m. at the home of Mark Winzler.

Come and celebrate Easter together!
There *will be* food and beverages!

Please come to share in this opportunity to be in the fellowship with one another.

ALL ARE WELCOME!


Sunday, April 5
Easter Day
The Resurrection of our Lord



8:30 a.m.
Easter Breakfast

9:45 a.m.
Brass Quintet Prelude

10:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist



The Rev. Rebecca J. Bourret
Presiding and Preaching

John Anderson- Organist

Rebekka Almond- Choir Director

The Concordia Choir

The Atrium Brass Quintet

**Request for pictures to include in our
*Concordia Commemorative Booklet***

**We are looking for photographs and historical clippings;
memories of Concordia for inclusion in our
commemorative booklet to be distributed in June.
We would like a few pictures from each decade of our
life together. **Space will be limited.****





If you have any photos you can share:

Please label them for return and give them to
Sandra Baranowski, Susan Bourret or Margie
at the church office by **APRIL 15th.**




Return to Receiving Communion at the Altar Rail

Beginning Sunday, April 12



Since we returned to in-person worship in June of 2021, communion has been continuously using wafers at first (*now bread*) and prefilled individual cups of wine and grape juice.

Some people have asked over time, “*Are we ever going back to receiving communion at the altar rail and will we be able to go back to the three options for receiving wine as we had pre-pandemic?*” **In short, the answer is “YES”!**

At its last meeting, the Congregation Council has agreed, by common consent, to return to our former practice (of many years) for communion distribution beginning on Sunday, April 12 (2nd Sunday of Easter) for our remainder of time in our church building.

In brief,

- a) As you come forward.....
 - If you wish to receive the wine in a glass, pick up an empty glass from the tray located on the table in front of the first pew (on each side).
 - If you wish to have grape juice, take one of the prefilled cups from the inner ring.
 - If you wish to drink out of the common cup or to intinct (dip) bread into wine, do not take a glass.
- b) Proceed to the altar rail. You can either stand or kneel.
- c) Pastor will distribute bread/gluten free wafer into a person’s hand.
- d) The first communion assistant will have the chalice. You can either drink out of the chalice or intinct (dip) the bread into the wine.
- e) The second worship assistance will have the pouring chalice and will fill the glasses of those who wish to receive in this manner.

Glasses will be placed in the baskets on the side tables (near side doors) on the way back to seats. This will be reviewed with everyone in April but wanted to let you know in advance that this will be taking place.

As the kneeling cushions were worn, stained and tattered, we had moved them out of the sanctuary as we knew that the building was being shown to potential buyers.

Knowing we were returning to communing at the altar rail, Ruth Sprong Heyden led the way by first trying to clean the six cushions, but, in the end, bought new upholstery.

Thanks, and special recognition to **Ruth** for being the “worker bee” (as she described herself). Thanks also to “color consultants” Carols Burnett and Stoneman, and Pam Olson (and provided some “grippy stuff” as Ruth described it) and to Ken Heyden who had the electric stapler.

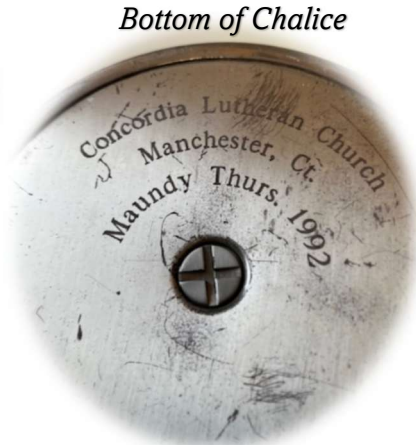


Gifts to: Emanuel-Manchester | Trinity-Vernon | St. Mark- Glastonbury

At the time of Concordia's closure in June, the majority of Concordia's members will join other churches. With that in mind, Concordia's Council decided to gift each of the three area Lutheran churches (Emanuel-Manchester, Trinity-Vernon and St. Mark-Glastonbury) an item which holds special significance or importance to members.

Therefore the Council has gifted our hand-carved crèche from Oberammergau Germany to Emanuel, our main chalice and paten to Trinity-Vernon and our Hummel crèche to St. Mark –Glastonbury. Seeing these, we know will be appreciated by former Concordia members in their new church homes.

The letters of acceptance of gifts from Emanuel and Trinity follow. Below are pictures of the items we are gifting. (**Note:** I explained in the letter to Trinity about the chalice that it was given in the memory of Lena Schubert, longtime chair of the Altar Guild and her role at Concordia over the years.)





March 6, 2026

Dear Mark

I would like to begin by expressing our heartfelt gratitude to the members of Concordia's congregation for considering Emanuel as the recipient of such a meaningful gift. The gesture of gifting your creche carries profound significance and we deeply appreciate the care and intention behind it.

Understanding Concordia will hold its congregational meeting on March 15th, our church council convened a special session to discuss accepting this generous gift. Recognizing the crèche's special place in the hearts of your members, our council approached our meeting with great respect and deliberation. Following a thorough discussion, the motion to accept the creche was put to vote and was approved unanimously.

Our decision reflects not only our appreciation for the gift itself, but also our recognition of the spirit of fellowship and shared faith it represents between our congregations. We are truly grateful for Concordia's exceptional gift, which will be cherished within Emanuel's community.

Thank you once again for your trust and kindness in sharing this treasured gift with us.

Peace,

Tom King
President, Church Council





TRINITY

Lutheran Church

"Welcoming You to God's Table"

March 6, 2026

Mark Winzler, President
Congregation Council of Concordia Lutheran Church
40 Pitkin Street
Manchester, Connecticut 06040

My Dear Friends in Christ,

On behalf of Trinity, I would like to offer you our prayers and support as you navigate this difficult time. I would be deeply honored to accept the gift of Concordia's main chalice and paten on behalf of Trinity. I hope that, as you say, it would be a comfort to those who may join us at Trinity in the future to see them in use. I will personally ensure that they are in regular rotation at Trinity, particularly on Maundy Thursdays.

I do have one small request. I would very much love to know the name of your Altar Guild member and know a little about them, if that's possible. It would help us to keep their memory and their dedication to Concordia preserved. The stories of the beautiful and sacred objects in our churches ought to be kept and shared. Our history is tied less to our buildings and far more to the people who make up our communities. It is the people who make up the Communion of Saints and knowing their stories matters.

Thank you for entrusting Trinity with this chalice and paten for our reverent use and good care.

Peace and blessings,

Pastor Christine Pelfrey

The Rev. Christine J. Pelfrey, Pastor
Trinity Lutheran Church
20 Meadowlark Rd
Vernon, CT 06066
860-875-2170
pastorchristine@tlcvernon.org

Trinity Lutheran Church - A Congregation of the ELCA
20 Meadowlark Road, Vernon, CT 06066 860-875-2170
EMAIL: tlcadmin@tlcvernon.org WEBSITE: tlcvernon.org

Concordia Nursery School

This month our curriculum focus was on space which was built upon the interests of the children in our class this year. We made pretend telescopes, fingerpainted a night sky, painted planets, played with slime and made rocket ship pictures. The next few weeks will focus on literacy skills such as, rhyming, and learn an appreciation for books. We will also study different authors, illustrators and genres of books. We are eagerly looking forward to spring weather which means flowers growing and more time to play outside!



TROOP 123 NEWS

I am excited to announce that **Autumn Kycia** has earned the rank of *Eagle Scout*! Her board of review was yesterday evening, and she was approved unanimously.

Her Eagle Court of Honor will be held later this spring, on a date to be determined. We will let you know the details as soon as arrangements have been made. All members of the public are invited, and past Eagles of Troops 123, 47, 6, and 8 are encouraged to attend.

Congratulations, **Autumn!**

Alex Pattacini | Scoutmaster, Boys' Program | Assistant Scoutmaster, Girls' Program | Manchester Troop 123 | 860.595.8686

Open House- March 21

Beginning last fall, all areas of the church building were inventoried from “head to toe”. This was no easy task. All of this was so we would have an accurate accounting of what we “owned” (IRS) and in preparation for us to offer these to other churches and non-profits (and what is remaining in a tag sale.) It also determined what is of little/no worth.

Under the leadership of Holy Closure Property Co-Chairs Ruthie Lynch and Pam Olson, the first Open House was held on Saturday, April 21. All Lutheran Churches in the State of Connecticut were invited. Each church was invited to send up to three representatives. There were representatives from 8 churches. As we believe that most Concordia parishioners will attend either Emanuel- Manchester, Trinity-Vernon or St. Mark-Glastonbury, those churches were invited to come first.

The accompanying pictures show the work involved in putting everything out for people to either “take” or “tag” (some things can’t be taken until we close). The set up began at 8:00 a.m.....the last people left at 4:00 p.m. This is not counting the preparatory work led by Ruthie and Pam. People were on site again on Saturday at 8:00 a.m. All was done and put away about 6 hours later.

Sincere thanks to the following people were worked on Friday or Saturday or both days:

Rebekka Almond, Jeanine Barber, Susan Bourret, Carol Burnett, John and Kay Corl, Ruth Sprong Heyden, Bryan Jaworski, Bobby McKinney, Nancy Lynn Knauff, Ruthie Lynch, Pam and Randy Olson, Carol and Phil Stoneman, Lanie Turner, and Mark Winzler.

The next Open House will be on **Saturday, April 18** for MACC Churches and Manchester Non-Profits. The Tag Sale for the community will be **on Saturday, May 16**.



Pictures from the Open House . . .



Solar Panels and “High Noon”

By: David Smith

The recent article in the JI about the town's interest in purchasing Concordia for the new Senior Center included a photo of Dan Burnett and Pastor Barclay standing in the sanctuary. It brought back a few memories. At the time, we were undertaking capital improvements that included installing HVAC units throughout the church to bring actual air conditioning to Kaiser Hall and the Sanctuary. With the increased electrical demand, it made sense to explore solar panels on the roof to help offset the added draw. The key question was: how many panels would we need?

I recall several meetings involving Dan Burnett, John Corl, Phil Stoneman, Steve Graefe, and Pastor Barclay. We agreed on the approach, and it was Dan who took on the task of consolidating the church's electrical bills and running the numbers to determine how many solar panels were needed — accounting for existing consumption as well as the anticipated load from the new HVAC units. I'm not sure this has ever been properly acknowledged, so I'd like to do so here: Dan did a fantastic job. After the first year, we had accrued credits that significantly offset what our electrical costs would otherwise have been. We even locked in a rate well below what current rates have become. All told, it was tremendously rewarding work as part of the Solar Panel Subcommittee of the "Holy House Committee" capital improvement campaign.

Dan and I also had another matter to attend to together.

It felt like a scene straight out of a classic western — high noon, two figures walking side by side across an open stretch to meet two figures in the distance. Those two figures crossing Concordia's back lawn were me and Dan Burnett. The two we approached were neighbors to our property. The meeting ended without a showdown, or any need to call in the sheriff. The dispute was resolved amicably, and I was glad to have Dan by my side for that conversation.

Palm Sunday Memory

I couldn't have been more than six or seven years old. It was Palm Sunday, and my Sunday School class had been invited into the sanctuary to take part in the service. The church was packed, and everyone held long, green palm leaves. We were to process around the outside of the pews, waving our palms and shouting — or perhaps singing, depending on the child — *"Hosanna in the Highest!"*

It was thrilling for a little kid.

Afterward, back in the classroom, we learned what the phrase actually meant. I had been convinced that "Hosanna" was someone's name — a person we were calling out to in the crowd, perhaps. Finding out otherwise was a small but memorable surprise.

Funny what sticks with you.

GHIAA 2026 INITIATIVES UPDATE

This year's short legislative session has been a whirlwind so far! GHIAA has been actively involved in advocating for the passage of 9 different bills. The session will end on May 6.

Housing Affordability: Bills Moving Forward

The YIGBY (Yes In God's Back Yard) bill, HB 5396, would simplify and streamline the process for religious organizations to build affordable housing on land they own. It received a favorable vote in the Planning and Development Committee and is now ready to move forward for consideration by the full House and Senate. GHIAA and our allies at CONECT (Congregations Organized for a New Connecticut) generated nearly 150 written testimonies in support of this legislation, with a dozen leaders also speaking at the public hearing.

Just Cause Eviction Protections, SB 257, received a favorable vote in the Housing Committee and is also ready to move forward in the full Senate and House. 32 GHIAA leaders submitted testimony in favor of this bill.

Civil Rights & Immigrant Protections: Awaiting Committee Votes

We supported three bills heard in the Judiciary Committee: establishing state sensitive location protections (SB 91), accountability for federal agents (SB 397), and limits on Automatic License Plate Reader surveillance technology (HB 5449). These bills are still awaiting action in the Judiciary Committee. 64 GHIAA leaders submitted written testimony in support of these bills and five spoke during the public hearing.

Health Coverage and Food Support for Vulnerable Persons (Immigrants & Others): Bills Moving Forward

We supported two bills heard in the Human Services Committee addressing the need for state action to provide health coverage and food support to people in CT whom the federal government is cutting from Medicaid and SNAP.

Both SB 3, which would provide short- and long-term help for CT residents to access affordable, quality health coverage, and SB 497, which would create bridge support for vulnerable persons who are impacted by federal cuts to SNAP eligibility, received favorable votes in committee and can now move forward for consideration by the full Senate and House. 32 GHIAA leaders have so far submitted written testimony in support of these bills.

GHIAA leader Rev. Mark Olsen, of Emanuel Hartford, spoke in support of SB 401, a study bill on the costs of creating bridge support for people losing federal support. This bill is awaiting action in the Appropriations Committee.

Fiscal Policy Reform: Awaiting Committee Votes

We supported HB 5187, An Act Adjusting the Fiscal Guardrails. This bill is still awaiting action in the Finance, Revenue, and Bonding Committee. 20 GHIAA leaders have submitted testimony in support of this bill.



Birthdays



April

Carol Bowen (7)
 Janis Barber (8)
 Julie Cosmini (8)
 Susan Bourret (15)
 Tommy Donagher (20)
 Jeanine Barber (28)
 Sean Stoneman (28)
 Mark Winzler (29)

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)



**Thank
 You
 note
 from
 Richard
 J.
 Hicks
 in
 gratitude
 for
 the
 Christmon
 Kay
 Corl
 sent
 him**



Richard J Hicks

Organist, Pianist, Music Consultant



Sunday, March 15, 2026

Kay Corl
 40 Pitkin Street
 Manchester CT 06040
 Dear Kay and All Friends at CLC,

I was delighted to receive the Christmon in the mail last week. I remember learning about the anchor cross as a symbol of hope in Sunday school over six decades ago at Mt. Hor Presbyterian Church, in Rochestere, NY where my dad was pastor. A quick refresher on Google reminds me of a biblical source of this iconic image, Hebrews 6:19, which calls hope "an anchor for the soul". This grounded belief is much more than wishful thinking; it is a virtue that relates to the coming Holy Closure of Concordia by looking to the future for good outcomes based on faith, hope, and love, which have nurtured the good works of the church during its existence.

The Christmon will hold a place of pride on our Christmas tree. The stories of support and love in the Concordia Church community will endure with my family for years to come.

With appreciation and warm regards,

Richard
rjh@richardhicks.org
<https://richardhicks.org/>

329 Shore Road
 Fayette ME 04349

203-314-8787
 207-293-3189



Prayers of the Community



For prayer requests, please contact the parish office or use the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.
Names will remain on the prayer list for one month **unless you request otherwise.**

<u>Date Requested</u>	<u>Praying For (Person/Family)</u>	<u>Prayers For</u>	<u>Requested By</u>
3/15/2026	Taso Dionisopolous	Comfort & healing	Jane Casserly
3/12/2026	Family of Todd Johnson <i>(Lanie's cousin)</i>	Comfort & healing as they grieve Ted's passing	Lanie Turner
2/25/2026	Family of Tim DeVanney, Sr.	Comfort as they grieve the passing of Tim DeVanney, Sr.	David Beauregard
2/3/2026	James Kennedy <i>(Mark's friend)</i>	Comfort & prayers following cancer surgery	Mark Winzler
1/28/2026	Miles Turner <i>(Carol's Brother-in-Law)</i>	Healing & strength	The Stonemans
12/17/2025	Joanne Murphy	Comfort & Healing	Mark Winzler
12/15/2025	Ed Adams	Comfort & Healing	Gail Adams
10/12/2025	Kimberly Morrill	Comfort & Healing from cancer	Elaine Briggmann
9/7/2026	Michael Jaworski	Comfor & Healing from cancer surgery	Sharon & John Jaworski
8/17/2025	Dan Burnett	Comfort & Healing	Tina Sollinger- Ruggerio
6/18/2025	Laura McKay	Comfort, strength & healing	Sandy Baranowski

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

The Reverend Maria Hammons | Associate to the Bishop Congregational Council Contact Pastor
Mrs. Margie Gallagher | Parish Administrator

✉ 40 Pitkin Street | Manchester | Connecticut | 06040

☎ (860)649-5311 | ✉ office@concordiamanchester.org | 🌐 www.concordiamanchester.org



The Vernon
chorale

vernonchorale.org | 860-375-0545



Presents

The Moment

SAT. MAR. 28, 2026 · 7:30PM

A Reunion Concert Featuring Vernon Chorale Alumni
Celebrating 45 Years



Ehren Brown
Artistic Director

Kathleen Bartowski
Collaborative Pianist

Matthew O'Callaghan
Conducting Fellow

First Congregational
Church of Vernon UCC
695 Hartford Turnpike, Vernon, CT

TICKETS

Adults \$20
Seniors & Students \$15
Under 18 FREE



Tickets available online and at the door.
For more information and to purchase tickets,
scan the QR code or visit vernonchorale.org.



MANCHESTER
SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA &
CHORALE



FELIX MENDELSSOHN'S

ELIJAH



4:30 PM

SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2026

WITH GUEST CHOIRS FROM THE HARTT SCHOOL
AND
THE CT STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE-MANCHESTER

BAILEY AUDITORIUM
MANCHESTER HIGH SCHOOL

CAROLINA FLORES - CHORALE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
JEFFREY A SPENNER - ORCHESTRA ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



MSOC receives funding from
Charitable Foundation

TICKETS \$20
STUDENTS &
VETERANS
ARE FREE