December 14, 2025 Page 1

# **WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS**

Shaped By Christ... To Share His Love!

# Christmas Services



4:30p - Children's Sunday School Program

8:00p - CHRISTMass with special music from the Unifour Brass Ensemble, handbell choir and sanctuary choir.

## **Christmas Day**

10:00a - Worship Christ the Newborn King in the chapel.

The church and school offices will be closed on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and the day after Christmas.



## Bible Verse for Reflection



"Go and tell John what you hear and see: 5 the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. 6 And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."

#### in this issue

Prayers P2 Connect with Concordia, P2 Christmas Program, P2

Christian Education, P3 Weekly Calendar, P3 Servant Schedule, P3 5th Sunday Offering, P3

New webpage, P4 Children's Activity Bags, P4 Electronic Recycling, P4 Beware of Scammers, P4 Offering Statement, P4 Just the Facts, P4

# Nursery Hours 8:45a - 12:15p

We are happy to have a church nursery available for your needs. It is located down the main hall off the sanctuary on the right-hand side, just a few doors past the office area. Look for the sign.

## **Connect with Staff**

Michael Geml, Sr. Pastor 517-395-8422

Kyle McClure, Music Minister 828-302-1236

Nick Butcher, DCE, Director of Children and Youth Ministries 989-274-5953

Dave Beringer, Principal 715-551-5740

Leslie Brown, Business Admin. 828-234-0372

Susan Harman 828-464-3324

Kate Cullen 828-464-3011

December 14, 2025 Page 2

Members: Pray for:

Sydney Karre
Peggy Travis

Church & School Staff:

**Sandy Smith** 

Leslie Brown

**Greg Roseman** 

**Opie Williams** 

Paul Von Rentzell

**Steve Bost** 

Ann Holt

Steven Geml Kyle McClure Kate Cullen
Donna Hager Leslie Reed Briana Welch
Harold Unger

Seminary Student: Lamar Stewart & family

Missionary Family: Rev. Jason & Emily Goth, Belize

Blessings to: Jose & Maria Barrios upon the baptism of their boys, Mateo and Lucas. They were baptized as part of the CCDS Chapel service last Wednesday. <u>Friends:</u> Eli Ames Greg Sigmon Marsha Winkler

Military:
Eric Galloway
Kendall Hamm
Tony Sherrill
Christopher Walker
Jaylen Joyner
Nathan Malin
Amber Miller
Clay Weedman

# Children's Sunday School Christmas Program

The dates and times for the Sunday School Christmas program practices and dress rehearsal are: **TODAY** (practice) 2-4 pm; **12/21** (dress rehearsal) 3-5 pm (pizza dinner included following rehearsal)

# Connect With Concordia

## Advent Theme: "His Name Shall Be Called"

Advent mid-week services times are 11:30a and 6:30p. There will be a light lunch after the morning service and a meal at 5:30p before the evening service. This week's message will be "Prince of Peace" based on John 14:27-31.

# New Sunday Bible Studies Starting January 4th

*Pew Sisters:* A 12-session Bible study for women, 12 different women generously share the story of God's faithfulness in their lives for the consolation of their sisters in Christ. Each session begins with a Scripture reading followed by a narrative of an individual woman's real-life story. Eight study questions, designed for both personal and group study, help the reader apply the reading and narrative to her own life in Christ. A meditative hymn stanza and collect complete each session. Taught by Jen White. Meet in church library.

*The Story*: God goes to great lengths to rescue lost and hurting people. That is what The Story is all about: the story of the Bible, God's great love affair with humanity. Condensed into 31 accessible chapters, The Story sweeps you into the unfolding progression of Bible characters and events from Genesis to Revelation. Taught by Kevin Graudin & Dennis Quackenboss. Meets in Adult Room #2.

## Christian Education

#### Sunday Christian Education Classes are offered at 10:10a. Chose from below:

<u>Pre-school 3 – K</u> Classroom beside the nursery. – Led by Jerri Alice, Maggie Lou and Mary Elizabeth Carter.

1st - 3rd Grade - Led by Sharon White & Ron Bumgarner - Education wing of the church

4th - 5th Grade - Led by Debbie Roth - Education wing of the church

6th - 8th Grade Confirmation - Led by Kelly Roth - Education wing of the church

Adults - A#1 - Led by Kathy Unverfehrt - Parents Leading Children in Faith

Adults - Emmaus Room - Led by Pastor Geml - A Longer Look at the Lessons

#### **Weekday Bible Study Classes**

Men's Bible Study led by Kevin Graudin - 6:30p - BLCFM

Ladies Bible Study led by Kim Hauser – Wednesdays 7a – Emmaus Room

Men's Bible Study led by David Isenhower – Thursdays 7a – Emmaus Room

Pastor's Bible Study led by Pastor Geml - Thursdays 2p - Emmaus Room

Christian Book Club led by Martha Staley - Meets first and third Tuesdays at 10a

# **Weekly Calendar**

#### Sunday, December 14

9a Worship 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Sing

10:10a Christian Ed.

11a Worship 2nd & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Sing

2p Sunday School Christmas Program Practice

4:30p Scouts

#### Monday, December 15

1:30p Quilt Tacking

6:30p Scouts

#### Tuesday, December 16

8:30a Staff Devotion and Meeting

10a Christian Book Club - EM

6:30p Men's Bible Study - BLCFM

6:30p Stewardship - EM

#### Wednesday, December 17

7a Ladies Bible Study - EM

8:10a PS3-K Christmas Program

11:30a Mid-week Advent Worship

12:15p Advent Meal - EM

5:30p Advent Meal - EM

5:45p Handbells

6:30p Mid-week Advent Worship

7:05p Choir

#### Thursday, December 18

6:30a Men's Bible Study - EM

#### 12p Newsletter Deadline

2p Pastor's Bible Study - EM

#### Friday, December 19

2p Joyful Stitchers

#### Sunday, December 21

8a LLL

9a Worship & Communion

10:10a Christian Ed.

11a Worship & Communion

2p Christmas Program Practice

4:30p Scouts

# **Greeters Today:**

(9:00) Bill & Kathy Unverfehrt

(11:00) Opal Bolick & Monte York

Advent 6:30p Carla Hafer

#### **Greeters Next Week:**

(9:00) Paul & Sandy Von Rentzell

(11:00) Steve & Dorcas Dunker

#### **Christmas Eve:**

(4:30) J. R. & Nicole Morton

(8:00) David Isenhower

## **Christmas Day:**

Jimmy & Jane Martin

#### **Lectors Today:**

(9:00) Dave Beringer

(11:00) Gina Sigmon

#### **Christmas Eve:**

(4:30) Lesa Williams

(8:00) Cristal Rager

#### **Christmas Day:**

(10:00) Kathy Unverfehrt

#### **Lectors Next Week:**

(9:00) Susan Harman

(11:00) David Isenhower

#### **Children's Message Next Week:**

(9:00) Pastor Geml

(11:00) Pastor Geml

#### **Fellowship Today:**

Bd. of Assimilation

# **Fellowship Next Week:**

Mary Anne Wike

December 14, 2025 Page 4

# **Concordia's New Website is Live!**

Go to <u>www.concordianc.org</u> and look at our new website. Test it out on your smart phone too! There is also a secure members portal. Call the church office for a code so that you may sign up for the members portal.



The electronic recycling bin is back and located outside the entrance to the Emmaus Room. Bring your old computers, phones, hard drives and any other electronic device that needs to be recycled and place it in the bin.

As we enter the holiday season, please be alert for scam emails, texts, or social media messages pretending to be from church staff. No staff member will ever ask you to purchase gift cards, send money, or share personal information through unofficial channels.

All legitimate church communication will only come from an official **@concordianc.org** email address.

If you ever receive a message that feels suspicious, please contact the church office directly before responding. Stay safe this season!



## CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BAGS

You can find these activity bags located on the Welcome Centers in both the narthex and transept areas of the church. When church is over, please return it, with all the items in the bag, so they can be available again next week for the children.

## **OFFERINGS & TITHES**

All are invited to make an offering today as a worship expression of thanksgiving to God, and in support of the ministries of Concordia Lutheran Church. You may place your gift in the offering plate near the entrances as you enter or leave. May God bless our offerings and tithes and bless the ministries which these gifts enable.

# Just the Facts:

**General Fund Offerings:** \$ 19,603 **Budget Needs:** \$ 18,315 **Attendance**: 233

On-Line Giving: \$ 1,675

Advent: \$ 522 Attendance: 141

Member of the Week: Angelique Bost – 4435 S NC 127, Hickory, NC 28602-9301.

Find us on: Live Broadcast of services are at 11a on Sundays on Facebook and YouTube.





