



MAY, 2024

THE MESSENGER

*Claimed by Christ, Gathered for Worship,
Sent to Serve*

HERE WE GO!

I am off on imagination expanding adventure and renewal, exploring the intersections of bird migration and human immigration. You'll be doing the same thing, seeking renewal and revitalization through wondering where we, as Concordia, are at that intersection.

I can't highlight all that will be happening, since I do not know all of the plans in play, but I can say that if you are able, there will be a bird walk led by Clinton and Kristina Dexter-Nienhaus from 7:30-9:30 AM on May 19th before worship. This walk will depart from the parking lot and venture into Hartley Park.

Otherwise, if you have an emergency requiring pastoral attention during these months, refer to the announcements, newsletters, and church office for contact information for our coverage pastors. Our emergency pastors will be on call for funerals. As far as you are able, please do not die until I return... I am excited that you will get to hear from four pastors who will be leading worship while I am away. I get tired of my own voice so I think it is probably good for you to hear others!

As we begin to get into the summer months, a reminder that Concordia still needs your faithful participation and generosity. As a smaller congregation we need the presence and giving of each individual and family to make things happen. Also, expect to see some incentive laden boiler related benchmarks in the upcoming months. I hope that there aren't too many that involve me dyeing my hair purple!

God be with you all until we meet again!

This Issue:

Pastor's Ponderings

Worship & Music Schedule

Page 2

Worship Matters

Page 3

Spring Bird Walk

Page 4

**Concordia Financials and
Announcements**

Page 5-6

Prayers and Matters of Record

Page 7

Encourage

Page 8

VLM Announcements

Page 9

CHUM

Page 10

Community Events

Pages 11-13

Leadership & Staff

**Congregational Delegates &
Liaisons: Page 14**

Worship Schedule

Sunday, May 5 Sixth Sunday of Easter

First Lesson: Acts 10:44-48
Psalm 98

Second Lesson: 1 John 5:1-6
Holy Gospel: John 15:9-17

Sunday, May 12 Seventh Sunday of Easter

First Lesson: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26
Psalm 1

Second Lesson: 1 John 5:9-13
Holy Gospel: John 17:6-19

Sunday, May 19 Day of Pentecost

First Lesson: Ezekiel 37:1-14
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Second Lesson: Romans 8:22-27
Holy Gospel: John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

Sunday, May 26 First Sunday after Pentecost

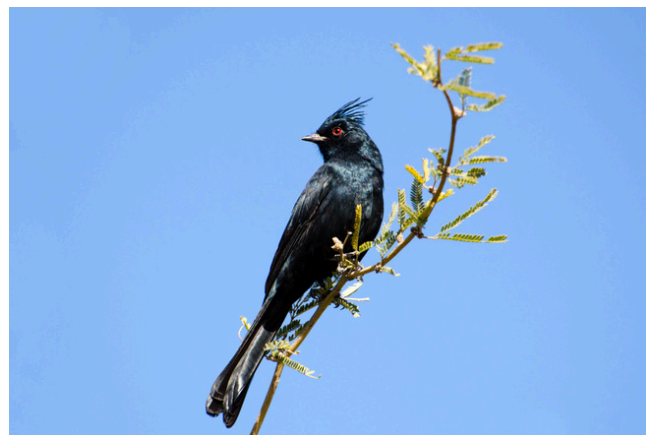
First Lesson: Isaiah 6:1-8
Psalm 29

Second Lesson: Romans 8:12-17
Holy Gospel: John 3:1-17



Joyful Voices Rehearsals:

Tuesday, April 2 (possibly),
Tuesday, April 9, and Tuesday,
April 23 @ 6:15 p.m.



Worship Matters: The Day of Pentecost

We are nearing the end of the Great Fifty Days, a week of weeks (7 x 7) celebrating the hope and promise of the Easter message. This joyful season that began with the **Resurrection of Our Lord** (March 31) is completed on **Pentecost** the 50th day (May 19).

Pentecost is one of the three principal festivals of the Church Year. It is the day we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles, marking the official ‘launch’ of the church. The Holy Spirit that we profess in the Nicene Creed as the “the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,” the Holy Spirit that fills our hearts and enlightens our minds.

In all three lectionary cycles Acts 2:1-21 is appointed for this day, and we remember how the first disciples, filled and empowered by the Spirit are sent forth, beyond Galilee, into the world, to share the Good News. This unifying Spirit crossed boundaries of language, race, and culture. People spoke and were understood; strangers heard one another – the Spirit breathed peace. And it is that same Spirit that is present in our lives and the church today, breathing us into being, bringing us together in common mission, and sending us forth into the world.

The Pentecost Sequence (*Veni Creator Spiritus*), a 9th century Latin hymn by Rabanus Maurus inviting the presence of the Holy Spirit, is sung or chanted on this day. *ELW* translates it as follows:

*Creator Spirit, heav'nly dove, descend upon us from above;
with graces manifold restore your creatures as they were before.*

*To you, the Comforter, we cry; to you, the gift of God most high,
true fount of life, the fire of love, the soul's anointing from above.*

*In you, with graces sevenfold, we God's almighty hand behold;
while you with tongues of fire proclaim to all the world God's holy name.*

*Your light to ev'ry sense impart, and shed your love in ev'ry heart;
your own unfailing might supply to strengthen our infirmity.*

*Keep far from us our cruel foe, and peace from your own hand bestow;
upheld by you, our strength and guide, no evil can our steps betide.*

*Teach us to know the Father, Son, and you, of both, to be but one;
that through the ages all along your praise may be our endless song.*

Praise to your eternal merit, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.



Spring

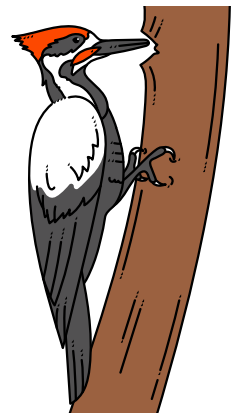
B I R D

W A L K

7:30-9:30 AM BEFORE
WORSHIP

SUNDAY MAY 19TH

Gather in Concordia parking
lot, hike into Hartley looking
for birds with naturalists
Kristina and Clinton Dexter-
Nienhaus!



CONCORDIA FINANCIALS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MARCH, 2024 FINANCIAL REPORT

<u>MARCH, 2024</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGETED</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
INCOME	\$14,072.30	\$13,433.33	\$33,898.36
EXPENSES	\$11,695.78	\$14,611.42	\$37,130.54
NET	\$2,376.52	(\$1,178.08)	(\$3,232.18)

Bridges to Christ: We will meet on May 6 at 6:45 pm.

Godspell: Ladies, please let Ann-Marie Edwards know, as soon as possible, if you would like to attend the performance of Godspell in Cloquet on Sunday, May 19 at 7 pm. Tickets are \$15 each, with a possible processing fee. There are beverages and dessert during intermission.

Quilters will meet on Thursday, May 9th at 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, May 19 (7:30-9:30am): Clinton and Kristina Dexter-Nienhaus will lead a bird hike starting and ending at Concordia parking lot. Bring your binoculars. A beverage and snack provided.

Save The Date: Friday June 14th (all day): Find out what critters and plants are found on our property. Join us for a BioBlitz will be all day for leaders Clinton and Christina Dexter-Nienhaus. Note: A BioBlitz is a communal citizen-science effort to record as many species within a designated location and during the day as possible.

SUMMER: Pollination Garden and Tree Planting

Northshore Natives have been contracted to install a 10x25 plot north of the parking lot for planting native plants to improve our habitat for our migrating butterflies and birds. Watch as our property transforms through the fall and next year.

Trees will be added to our property that includes native and fruit trees. Look for volunteer opportunities to help transport trees and help planting. Also, folks needed to paint and install birdhouses on our property.

Thank you to everyone who has purchased a cinnamon roll from our Youth! We were able to assemble 20 bags for our homeless community, which included a pair of socks, a granola bar, a toothbrush, toothpaste, a bar of soap, some vaseline, a package of wet wipes, and \$5! Cinnamon rolls will continue to be sold on May 12 & June 16 with this money helping some of our young people pay for VLM Camp this summer. Thank you!

In order to help pay off the loan for our new boiler system more quickly, Council has decided to put together & sell a Concordia Lutheran Church Cookbook! Please send any recipes to be included to Bridget Bohn at bridget.r.frauenshuh@gmail.com, or text to (218) 341-1447. All kinds of recipes welcome! Please have all recipes submitted by June 30. Thank you!

Concordia Endowment 2023 Year End Financials:

The Concordia Endowment year end 2023 financial statement was \$122,490 total investments with over \$72,000 available for distribution.

Ready for something new and different within Concordia or community/world outreach! Concordia members are invited to submit a funding request from the Concordia Endowment Fund. There is a new Grant Request Form (available on church website or Endowment mailbox). The form is preferred, but not required for submission. You may submit all email applications to celcendowmentfund@gmail.com or in the Endowment mailbox by April 30th for consideration in the semi-annual cycle. You will be notified if any additional information is needed to complete the evaluation process. Grants will be reviewed, and awards will be determined by the end of May. Note: Funds are not intended for current budget items nor capital improvements to Concordia facility.

Endowment Fund Scholarship: The Endowment Fund board is offering two \$1000 scholarships towards attendance of a post-secondary school in the fall. Application forms are available on the church website. Completed forms and recommendations are due April 30 and either dropped off in the Endowment mailbox at church or email to celcendowmentfund@gmail.com. **Interviews will follow in May and awards announced by June 4.**



Synod Reconciling in Christ Presentation

The Lake Superior Conference's third session in the Synod RIC process will gather at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Duluth, 4831 Grand Ave, at 5:30 PM on **Thursday, May 16th**. Participants will be introduced to the terms used in sexual orientation, gender identity, and expression. In short, we will explore what LGBTQIA+ means. Join us for a time of sharing and learning! Our Savior's RIC Team will be serving a simple supper.

Let the Prayer Chain members join with you in your prayers and supplications. They are just a phone call away. All prayers are confidential and names or details are not needed. God is aware of all circumstances and waits to hear from you.

Please contact Reba Almquist at 525-6968.

For hospital or other visitations, please contact the office at 728-4229.

Remember in Your Prayers

Please remember the following people who have been hospitalized, under a doctor's care, those recuperating, struggling, or those grieving since our last newsletter: Neil and Barb Parikh, Donna Stabs, Dan Norlien Tom Nelson, Max, Glen Broman, Wayne Kari, the people of Ukraine and the Holy Land, Roger Erickson, Tim Bell, migrant families, Phillip Hedges, Carrie Birdseye-Erickson, Jamie Desemone, Anne Holecek, the families of victims, survivors, and communities where mass shootings have occurred, Patti Pearson, and those marginalized for their sexual or gender identity, race, or ability.



Prayer and Visitation Ministry

Please remember those in our congregation who are in nursing homes or are homebound. Please pray for them and consider stopping by for a visit. Prayer and visitation is an important ministry of the congregation.

Heritage Haven: Warren Roberts

A reminder that, on account of privacy, hospitals and nursing homes will NOT contact the Church to share that you have been admitted unless you or a family member tell them or the hospital chaplains to do so. Protecting privacy is also a way we care for our friends who may or may not wish for others to know of their illness or condition. If you hear that someone is sick or hospitalized, do not tell others unless you have been given permission by them to do so. **If you wish to be visited by the Pastor or placed on the prayer list, contact the Church office.** If you have a conversation with someone who is ill, hospitalized, or has come to be in a short or long term care facility, ask them if they want the congregation and Pastor to know what is happening before you pass the word along. Do not assume that because you know, that the individual wants everyone else to, as well. Honoring the privacy of our neighbors, as well as expressing our own desire for the church or pastor to know of our condition, helps to prevent troublesome situations and helps us support one another!

May Birthdays

3 Delores Grunwald
Irja Pederson
Emilia Voltzke

5 Michaela Gaffey

10 Mark Morse

11 Jane Wedin

14 Lynsey Carlson

21 Adrianna Doughty-Rosas

31 Reba Almquist

If your birthday isn't listed or has the wrong date, please let the office know.



Flower and Sanctuary Candle Sign-up

A nice way to remember a loved one or celebrate a special occasion is to have altar flowers or the sanctuary candle on Sunday morning. The sign-up sheet is in the Narthex for both. Cost for flowers is \$22 and the candle is \$8. Contact the office with any questions.

Please note that when you have altar flowers for worship, you may take them home following worship. The glass vases must stay at church, however.



Equal Exchange Coffee Donations

Equal Exchange coffee donations needed for church coffee supply. Coffee funds are running low. Donation envelopes are available in the narthex information rack. Place an envelope with any donation amount in the offering plate with note "Equal Exchange coffee fund."





...In God's Great Northwoods!

UPCOMING EVENTS MORE INFORMATION (800) 331-5148 www.vlmcamps.org

REGISTER NOW FOR SUMMER CAMP

Registration for both Camp Hiawatha and Vermilion is open for Summer 2024! Register now to take advantage of our Early Bird Discount!

APPLY FOR SUMMER STAFF

A summer at camp can prove to be the hardest job you will ever have, but also one of the most rewarding experiences you will ever have. Apply today!

Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry (VLM)- Camp is coming! In a few short weeks Camp Vermilion and Camp Hiawatha will be welcoming campers into God's Great Northwoods, including at least one camper from Concordia! Concordia is in partnership with VLM as a member congregation . We support the equipment room for the Canoe Country program at Camp Vermilion. **Concordia's VLM giving tree will again be in the narthex during May with opportunities to contribute. Our donations will be used to purchase water filters.** They are essential and need to be replaced every year. The cost of one filter is approximately \$50.00.Camp needs multiple filters. Prayers and any financial support you are able to give to help make camp happen are greatly appreciated!

Please come for ice cream floats after worship on May 5. All donations for the hospitality will be given to VLM Canoe Country. Again, thanks for investing in this important ministry!



Our March FoodShare Fundraiser is one of the most important ones of the year. Historically, this is a very slow time of year for the food shelf. Donations slow down and we need to be as stocked as possible to prepare for summer. When school is out, and kids are home, families can no longer depend on school lunch. Because of this, we see a large influx during the summer months and need to work ahead. Thus, the March FoodShare Fundraiser!

We were amazed by the community's support this year and raised **\$115,000 and 54,000 lbs of food**, surpassing our goal! Not only that but because of the Duluth Cheerios Challenge, many organizations saw a big increase in donations and food.

Across all the organizations that received donations & cheerios, the community raised \$50,000 and over 800 boxes of Cheerios because of the Duluth Cheerios Challenge. We are so thankful to be a part of such a generous community.

This shows how much our community can accomplish when we put our minds to it. There are thousands of people just like you who are trying to make this community a better place for everyone.

We know that with your continued support of us and other organizations in town, the increasing number of people experiencing homelessness will stop and fall!

What food you CAN donate to Chum:

Chum accepts dry and canned food donations. What does that mean? Basically, any food that is “shelf-stable” or nonperishable – you can keep it in your pantry and it won’t go bad. And remember, only donate food that hasn’t reached its “sell-by” date yet. Specifically, Chum often need items like:

- Peanut butter (Small Jars-16oz)
- Canned soup (Non Cream)
- Canned fruit
- Canned vegetables
- Canned stew and Canned Pasta
- Canned fish
- Canned beans
- Pasta
- Rice
- Cereal

That’s not an exhaustive list, but it covers much of what Chum regularly needs. Additionally, Chum accepts NEW personal care and household items since many families struggle to afford them and aren’t covered by other food assistance programs like SNAP.

Look in your pantry if you’re still stumped about what to donate. Families struggling with hunger often can’t afford the staples that we normally have stocked at home. So, check your pantry out and go from there. Even specialty foods like olive oil, dressings, or marinades can be helpful if they don’t need to be refrigerated.

What not to donate to Chum:

The number one rule to remember is this: if your donation is perishable, i.e., it’s something with a limited shelf life if not refrigerated, Chum can’t accept it. But there are other categories of food that you can’t donate. We’ve broken it all down into this handy list:

- **Items needing refrigeration:** As we’ve already mentioned, this is the big one. Food like produce, dairy, and meat can spoil easily and we often times do not have the refrigerator or freezer space needed to keep these items fresh. While an individual can’t donate a bunch of bananas or a frozen turkey, Chum works directly with farmers, retailers, restaurants, and other companies to source these perishable foods for donation.
- **Expired food:** When considering what to donate, think about what you’d be comfortable serving your family. Chances are, you don’t eat food that’s past its “use-by” or “sell-by” date, so avoid donating anything past those dates as it could be unsafe to eat.
- **Leftovers:** While it may be tempting to want to share the bountiful food from big meals like Thanksgiving, it’s best to keep leftovers for the family. To ensure the people they serve are safe, Chum can’t accept leftovers or anything made in personal kitchens because they aren’t individually sealed and Chum can’t verify the ingredients or preparation process.
- **Food with packaging concerns:** This includes food with damaged packaging such as dented or bloated cans, packaging that is already open, or even items in glass containers, which can shatter and cause food safety concerns for any other food they’re stored near. A good rule of thumb is if you wouldn’t consider buying it new, don’t donate it.
- **Baked goods:** Similar to leftovers, since Chum can’t confirm how your baked goods were made or their ingredients, they can’t be donated. But, Chum has relationships with local restaurants and bakeries which will donate extra food that is properly labeled and handled to Chum.



EVERYONE CAN BIRD!

SPRING MIGRATION

SUNDAY, MAY 5, 9:30 - 11:30 A.M.

CHAMBERS GROVE PARK

HIGHWAY 23 & 137TH AVENUE WEST, DULUTH, MN

Join us for a free and accessible day of bird-focused fun at Chambers Grove!

Free transportation is available from Superior Public Library at 8:40 a.m., or at Menards in West Duluth (503 N 50th Ave W) at 9 a.m. Accessible parking, American Sign Language interpretation, and binoculars with a wheelchair mount are provided. A track chair - an all-terrain, electric powered chair that can be used on hiking trails - is also available for use, courtesy of Duluth Parks & Recreation!



Register here:

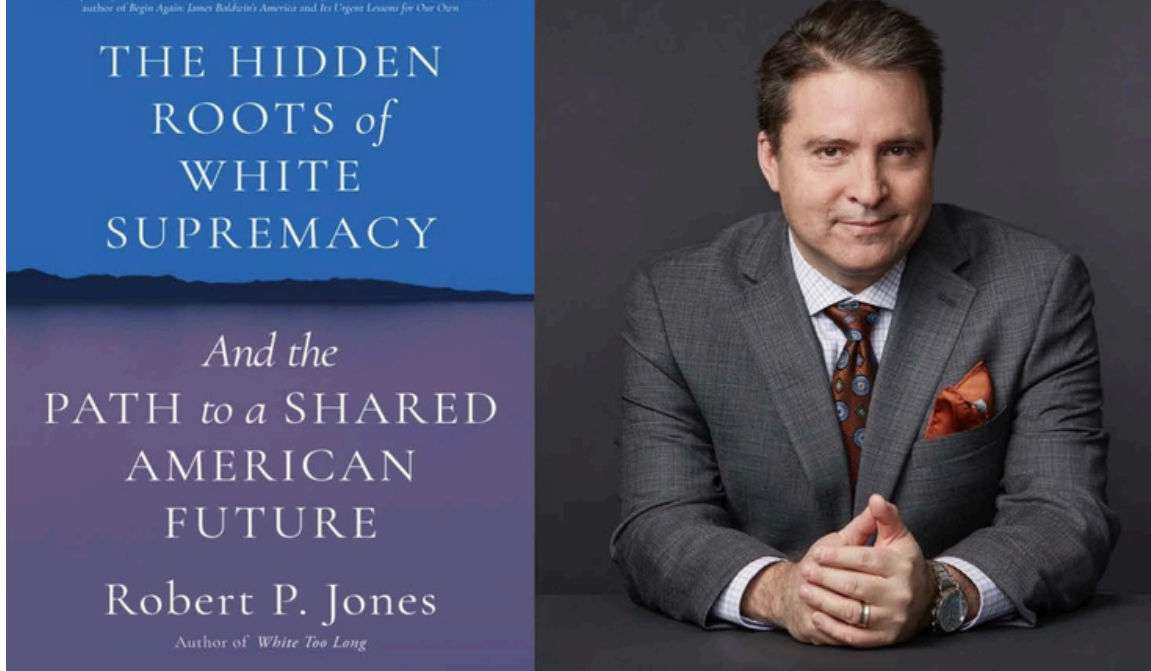


or see **FOLSR.org** for more information!



All activities are designed with access in mind, but please contact Luciana at Luciana.Ranelli@Wisc.edu or 715-399-4085 at least 10 days before the event for any additional accommodations.

DIALOGUE IN ACTION SERIES
WED, MAY 15, 5:30 PM TO 8:00 PM | FREE | FIRST
LUTHERAN CHURCH OF DULUTH



The First Lutheran Church of Duluth Foundation presents their Dialogue in Action Series with guest speaker, author of *The Hidden Roots of White Supremacy* and *the Path to a Shared American Future*, Robert P. Jones.

In this presentation, moderated by First Lutheran Church's Lead Pastor Dianne Loufman, Dr. Jones explains how the founders of the United States could build the philosophical framework for a democratic society on a foundation of mass racial violence — and why this paradox survives today in the form of white supremacy and Christian nationalism.

Schedule:

5 p.m. Sanctuary Doors open

5:30 p.m. Musical performance by Erin Aldridge on the violin and Alexander Sandor on piano.

6 p.m. Presentation by Robert P. Jones

7 p.m. Reception with a book signing and concurrent breakout session for further discussion.

Registration is required and can be done at the following link: www.bit.ly/dialogueinaction.

Text and Poster Credit: <https://www.perfectduluthday.com/the-event/dialogue-in-action-series/>

AICHO's
INDIGENOUS WRITER SERIES
 Celebrate & uplift local & regional Indigenous writers

Nov 2023 to Nov 2024
FREE ENTRY

Presentations, book readings, Q&A, book signings. Refreshments provided.

Virtual via Zoom at 6 p.m.
 Nov 8, 2023 Michael Sullivan, PhD

In-person at 212 W. 2nd St, Duluth, MN
 All in-person sessions happen 2-4 pm

Dec 16, 2023 Thomas Peacock & Betsy Albert-Peacock

Feb 10, 2024 Tashia Hart & Staci L. Drouillard

May 18, 2024 MN Poet Laureate Gwen Westerman & Linda LeGarde Grover

Aug 24, 2024 Marcie Rendon & Denise Sweet

Nov 9, 2024 Dennis Staples & Jesse Switters

Series co-sponsored by:
 UMD's Department of American Indian Studies
 Funded in part by the McKnight Foundation

The Indigenous Writer Series showcases local and regional Indigenous writers. Events include writer presentations, book readings, a Q&A session, book signings and refreshments. The McKnight Foundation and UMD Department of American Indian Studies sponsor the series.

On May 18 novelist, Linda LeGarde Grover, and Dakota educator and writer, Gwen Westerman, will showcase their work.

Poster and text credit:
<https://www.perfectduluthday.com/the-event/indigenous-writer-series-gwen-westerman-and-linda-legarde-grover/>

ZENITH BOOKSTORE
AUTHOR EVENT

TRAVIS ZIMMERMAN
 SAM ZIMMERMAN

TUESDAY, MAY 21 | 7 PM

Travis Zimmerman and Sam Zimmerman will present their new children’s book, *How The Birds Got Their Songs*.

The Great Spirit challenges all the birds to a contest and the gift of birdsong is born. This traditional story, told in both English and Ojibwe, explains bird behavior and where humans should go to hear the prettiest of birdsongs.

This story handed down through author Travis Zimmerman’s family, features traditional knowledge from the Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa. Grand Portage descendant Sam Zimmerman’s illustrations showcase his stylized artistry and appreciation for feathered creatures. Marcus Ammesmaki’s retelling in Ojibwemowin brings the story full circle, encouraging language learners to explore this age-old depiction of our natural world and inviting all readers to enjoy the gift of birdsong.

Books can be pre-ordered at zenithbookstore.com.

Pastor: Rev. Jeffery Davis
Organist: Unfilled at this time
Cantor: Jennifer Dums
Joyful Voices Pianist: Patti Martenson
Pianist: Anneliese Braaten
Sunday School Teachers: Rachelle Anderson, Bryan Anderson, Bridget Bohn, and Marcia DeMeo-Morse.
Office Duties: Carmen Norlien
Custodial Duties: David Haavik
Treasurer: Mark Morse

Church Council Members

Rachelle Anderson
Bridget Bohn, President
Trevor Christensen, Vice-President
Ashley Hoppe
Makenzie Morse
Mark Morse, Treasurer
Dan Norlien

Committees

Building & Grounds: Trevor Christensen
Social Justice: Pastor Jeff

Stewardship: Pastor Jeff
Worship & Music: Bryan Anderson, Lynne Erickson, and Patti Martenson

Ministries

Altar Guild: Reba Almquist
Bridges To Christ: Ann Edwards
Caring Ministry: Jane Wedin
Quilters: Karin Cummings

Contact information

Email: duluthconcordia@gmail.com
Phone Number: (218)728-4229
Website: www.duluthconcordia.org
Facebook: Concordia Lutheran Church of Duluth
Address: 2501 Woodland Avenue
Duluth, MN 55803

Office Hours: Please call first, as circumstances vary from week to week.

CHUM
Open
Conference and Synod Assemblies
Open
Lutheran Campus Ministry Duluth Board
Patti Martenson
NE Minnesota Synod Youth Board
Margaret Roeser
Union Gospel Mission
Lois Witchall
Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry
Bridget Bohn



The Messenger is a monthly publication of Concordia Lutheran Church. Items for the March newsletter are due by Tuesday, February 23. Please email your items, corrections, questions, or comments to duluthconcordia@gmail.com

We reserve the right to edit your items.
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