



Salaries. Maintenance! Snow removal!! Insurance!!! Mortgage!!!! Oh, my!

It is the time of the year, once again, when you will hear an invitation to make a financial pledge to Concordia for the year ahead. Pledging is a helpful practice, assisting our church council in planning for the year ahead. As you know, there are always significant things to plan for! The above litany of expenses are part of our shared community costs, costs that, honestly, keep going up year after year.

One challenge in meeting these and the rest of our financial obligations is the reality that Concordia is not as young or as numerous as it was in previous years. While this is the case, it does not mean that we are on the verge of financial collapse. As a smaller congregation, we still have everything and everyone we need to fulfill the mission God has for us.

This is why we invite and challenge you to work toward a household contribution of \$3400 for the year. This is the average amount needed from each active member household to maintain our budget as it is. It is understood that some cannot approach that average. This is why we are community together! For those who are able, we invite you to increase your giving beyond that average to support those who cannot.

You are also encouraged to think creatively about short and long-term giving. Some have moved to having a regular check sent from their bank to Concordia. As attendance can be sporadic due to summer plans, winter conditions, and life circumstances, this method of giving ensures a sustainable, regular contribution even if you cannot be in worship. As some of us venture closer to the need for long-term care as we age, consider how Concordia fits in to your planning around nursing home and independent living decisions. End of life planning with gifts in mind for the congregation and the endowment fund is another way of seeking to keep Concordia financially viable into the future.

Budgeting is never easy! With your help, however, we are hopeful we can continue to maintain stability for the year ahead. Thanks for your generosity, work, and witness!

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SANDWICH AND SCRIPTURE

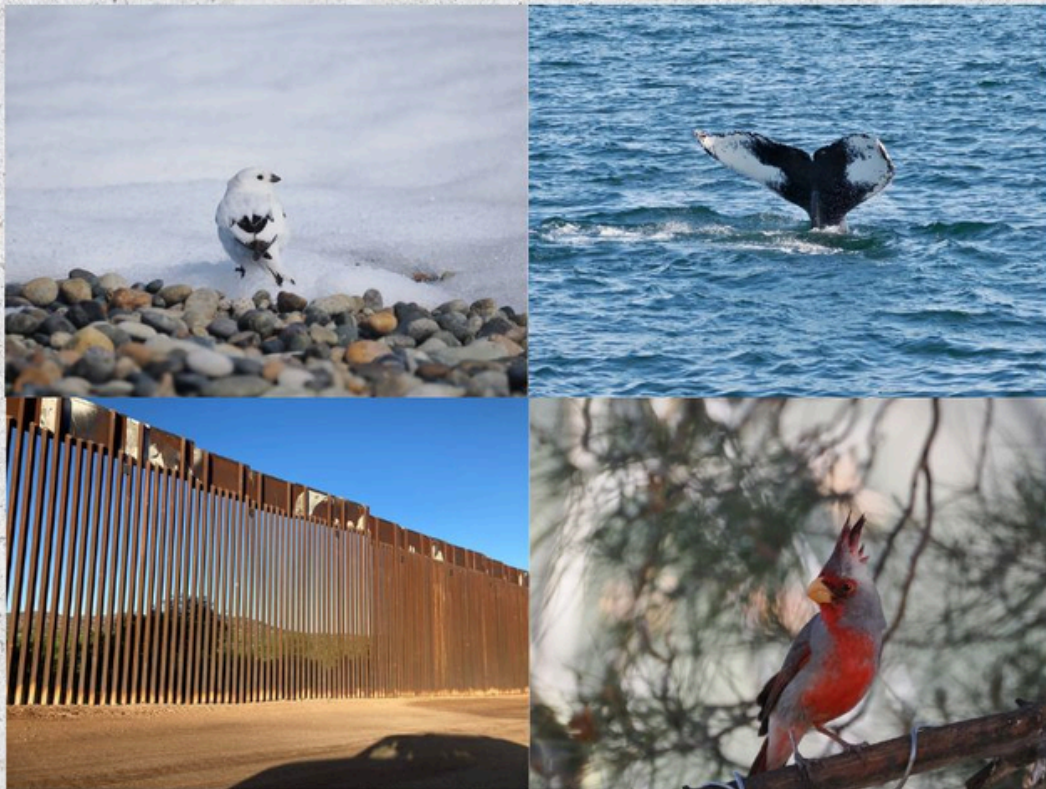
Concordia Narthex

11:30 am

Wednesday

November 13

Social Justice Potluck: November 3rd



Pastor Jeff's Sabbatical Presentation: Birding and Human Migration:
Adventures in Imagination

Worship Schedule

Sunday, November 3 All Saints Sunday

First Lesson: Isaiah 25:6-9

Psalm 24

Second Lesson: Revelation 21:1-6a

Holy Gospel: John 11:32-44

Sunday, November 10 Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: 1 Kings 17:8-16

Psalm 146

Second Lesson: Hebrews 9:24-28

Holy Gospel: Mark 12:38-44

Sunday, November 17 Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Daniel 12:1-3

Psalm 16

Second Lesson: Hebrews 10:11-25

Holy Gospel: Mark 13:1-8

Sunday, November 24 Christ the King

First Lesson: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

Psalm 93

Second Lesson: Revelation 1:4b-8

Holy Gospel: John 18:33-37



Joyful Voices Rehearsals:
Tuesday, November 12, and
Tuesday, November 26 @ 6:15 p.m.



Worship Matters:

November: Endings and Beginnings

This last month of the Church Year is a transitional time reminding us that as a Christian community we live simultaneously in the past, present, and future. There are visions of the last day and of life everlasting, themes of the dominion of God in Jesus Christ, and the church existing beyond time and space . . . all leading us into another Advent (December 1) of watching and waiting.

As we move toward a new year (liturgical/calendar/fiscal) our readings remind us that all we have comes from God and belongs to God. We begin with a demonstration of Jesus' power over death (the raising of Lazarus) and end with the vision of God's everlasting dominion. God promises to be there with us, and we learn to face endings confident in God's love and grace. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," God proclaims in Revelation 1. Our beginnings and endings are in God; and we prepare not for final death, but for another beginning.

On All Saints Sunday (November 3), we will light candles and remember the saints whose stories and lives have shaped our lives and the collective life of the church. We offer prayers and thanksgiving for this "great cloud of witnesses," a link of rich memory to a story that continues to shape us here and now . . .

On the Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost (November 10), two widows show us what it means to share what we have been given, and we are invited to see the way resources expand when they are given freely to God.

On the Sunday that follows (Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost - November 17) we will come 'full circle' in Mark's Gospel, reading from the same chapter that began the Church Year. The images of end times and the coming of God's Kingdom on this Sunday provide not so much a warning about the end of the world, but a commentary on living in it. We are encouraged to focus not on the 'signs of the times,' but the signs of our hearts and minds, allowing faith, hope, and love to shape our lives and our world.

The Church Year culminates with the celebration of Christ the King (November 24) and beautiful scriptural images invite us to renew our faith in a King whose mission is not to dominate humanity, but to save and serve it; a kingdom that does not belong to this world, but is meant to transform it.

November is about endings and beginnings, the cycle of life, and we gather to celebrate the joy we have now as we look forward to the time when we will all be one in the goodness of God . . .

SEPTEMBER, 2024 FINANCIAL REPORT

<u>SEPTEMBER, 2024</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGETED</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
INCOME	\$12, 684.80	\$13,433.33	\$102,686.16
EXPENSES	\$13,105.31	\$14,611.42	\$119,101.90
NET	(\$420.51)	(\$1,178.08)	(\$16,415.74)

Holiday Sale - Fair Trade Coffee, Chocolate Bars and Olive Oil (October 13 – November 3): Bridges to Christ is hosting a holiday fundraiser. We will be taking pre-orders for Equal Exchange coffee, chocolate bars and olive oil from October 13 through November 3 on Sundays after worship (in narthex) to pay and pick up items on November 17th and 24th. Payment due upon delivery.

Bridges To Christ is meeting on Monday, Nov 4th at 6:45 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Still accepting donations for CHUM Thanksgiving dinners until November 4th. Total to date is \$350. AWESOME!

Evening Tide Quilters is an opportunity to join Ann & Lynn on Thursday, Nov 7th at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Help with piecing, sewing & tying quilts, which are given away to various people & places.

The Quilters will meet on November 14th at 9:30. A large amount of fabric was donated to us, which we need to check out. Also, we need to make decisions about several quilts which we wish to donate. If you know of anyone who needs one, please contact us. Also, we have a quilter who loves to crochet and is always in need of 4 ply yarn, if you have any extra. We would love to have some new members. If you can tie a knot, iron fabric, or maybe run a sewing machine and you enjoy great conversations, you're in! We bring a bag lunch and enjoy a dessert which one of us brings each month. I hope you'll consider joining us.

Concordia Giving Tree- Concordia will once again host a Christmas Giving Tree for Stowe Elementary School. The Giving Tree supports the students and their families by providing holiday spirit and support to those who are unable to afford the extras during the holiday season. The Giving Tree, with the wishlist tags, will be available starting November 24th. You may deliver your wrapped or unwrapped gift to Concordia by Monday, December 16th. Other items we will be collecting are SuperOne gift cards, school supplies, hats, mittens, chap stick, and winter outdoor clothing (new and gently used). If you do not like to shop, we will gladly do it for you (cash or checks, made out to Lynn Carlson). If you have any questions, please contact us at (218) 341-7190. Thank you so much for your generous support! Bill and Lynn Carlson



ALTERNATIVE GIFT GIVING

Did you know that the average American plans to spend \$942 on Christmas gifts this year? Challenge yourself to rethink the tradition of gift-giving by purchasing from ELCA Good Gifts or LWR Fair Trade Fair. When you purchase fair trade handcrafts, chocolate, coffee and teas as gifts, you connect yourself to a larger cause and make a real difference in people's lives. Every item sold means a step away from poverty for the talented artisan or farmer who created it.

Earth friendly gifts options are:

Interfaith Fair Trade Coffee (<http://shop.equalexchange.coop/organization-orders>) Equal Exchange is a democratically organized worker-owned co-operative dedicated to building a new model of trade based on fairness, environmental sustainability and strong relationships between farmers and consumers.

SERRV International (<http://www.serrv.org>) Promotes social and economic justice for developing countries by purchasing international products at a fair wage. Concordia receives 10% net value of each individual order when you use our Concordia's Order #"FOOLWR PCL454".

ELCA Good Gifts (<https://goodgifts.elca.org/>), the giving catalog of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, lifts up more than 65 gift ideas filled with meaning and love. ELCA Good Gifts are a special way you can help make a significant impact on the mission and ministries of our church while giving a gift to a friend, pastor, teacher, neighbor or other loved one.



Prayer and Visitation Ministry

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: Those affected by Hurricanes Helene and Milton, Rory and Greg Raymond, Eileen Fish, Anne Holecek, the families of victims, the survivors, and communities where mass shootings have occurred. Patti Pearson, Those marginalized for their sexual or gender identity, race, or ability, Neil and Barb Parikh, Tom Nelson, Max, Wayne Kari, the people of Ukraine, Palestine, Lebanon, Iran, Israel, and Russia, Roger Erickson, Tim Bell, migrant families, Phillip Hedges, Carrie Birdseye-Erickson, and Jamie Desemone.



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!



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.

November Birthdays

- 2 Joan Emery
Ashley Hoppe
- 18 Sylvia Jamar
- 19 Cooper Meints
- 28 Robert Glibbery

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



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."





October 26, 2024

Thank you to the Endowment Committee and to Concordia's entire congregation for your support in sending fabrics & other sewing supplies to mountain villages in Mexico. The Ramala people who live there lead simple lives following their belief that too many possessions just weigh them down, making their lives heavy! They farm simply along the volcanic mountain slopes of Mexico's Copper Canyon. They live in large family communities sharing with other similar neighboring communities.

They sew distinctive, colorful bonnets for their babies & toddlers, and traditional, yet simple, attire for entire families. At the local markets, they sell some farm products as well as beautiful handicraft baskets, wood carvings, needle-works and other crafts. Dave and I were thrilled to be able to visit this area in March 2024.

In the past several months, a grant from the Endowment Committee, along with many of your generous contributions, has enabled us to send 4 packages to them, so far! These packages have contained more than 50 yards of various fabrics – from delicate calicos to muslins to some soft fleece. We've also included at least 8 pairs of sewing scissors, more than a dozen spools of thread, lots of ribbons and sewing notions. Our goal is to send 1 package each month with the hope of making a positive impact in these neighboring villages. We'll continue to keep you posted as our packages continue.

We've included a photo that we took showing some of the mountain-side homes near our Copper Canyon hotel. As the sun rose, we could hear their roosters crowing and their children giggling as they chased after the goats along the mountainside! What a beautiful alarm clock replacement!

Sincerely,
Dave & Jane Wedin





CHUM October

It's been a busy Autumn at the CHUM food shelf! We've said goodbye to our long-time leader Scott, and welcomed a familiar face, April, from a desk down the hall to that leadership role. April immediately took on the task of preparation to complete 300 boxes for a family's Thanksgiving dinner: Potatoes, stuffing, cranberry sauce, vegies, pie ingredients and the all-important turkey! And we're almost ready!!

TURKEYS: Last year, Concordia contributed funds toward the purchase of turkeys, and this year we've again ear-marked \$250 toward their purchase. Thank you for a great start! Dave and I will be joining other volunteers on October 30 and 31st in the task of box-building – we will assemble 300 cardboard boxes used for delivery. Then on November 6 & 7th, we will begin the task of filling the boxes with the non-perishable items. Turkeys will be added as part of the delivery process. **So there is still time to donate to help with the turkey dinner project!**

Daily Food Distribution: So far this Fall, Concordia has donated 12 lbs of various foods including macaroni & cheese, canned meals and soups. All at CHUM are truly grateful for your generosity, but the need continues. We remember when, in the 1970s, the "Emergency Food Shelf" was created by CHUM to address what was thought to be a short-term need. Here we are, 50 years later, and food insecurity is still great.

Cans of Non-Cream Soup: So we'd like to propose that Concordia take on the on-going project of supplying soup. Pop-top 10 oz cans of non-cream soups are always a great need. Please make this a continuing part of your grocery shopping. Just drop them in the CHUM box in the narthex; Dave & I will deliver them on our weekly Friday morning at the CHUM food shelf. These cans of nourishing soups can be a life-line for our hungry neighbors.

Always remember that your donations are so appreciated by everyone at CHUM. And along with actual foods, CHUM staff can use our cash donations to make our dollars go even further. Each dollar donated can easily be used to purchase up to \$7 worth of foods through sources only available to CHUM and similar charitable agencies.

Thank you so much for your on-going love and support of this important work!

Sincerely,
Dave & Jane Wedin



Wet Feet Are No Fun...

You may have seen us ask for socks in past newsletters or social media posts. We tend to get a nice influx for a while, and then it tapers off and our guests still need dry, dependable foot coverings. The fact of the matter is, we are giving away up to 50 pairs a day and with winter coming, this will only increase.

Some may ask, "How on earth are you going through so many socks?" Well, let us tell you. We average over 100 guests every day at our shelter. Our guests come from all walks of life, and no one story is the same. One thing that is more consistent across the board is lack of access to laundry, and rarely an extra change of clothes. We have a washer and dryer at Chum, but it can take up to two hours to get a whole load of laundry done. With so many people staying at our shelter, not many get a chance to use this service. Even if they can, people don't want to have to walk around barefoot while they wait for clean clothes.

So, many folks wear their socks until they are no longer, well, socks. Then they start off on a new pair. When temperatures start to dip, wet feet pose a risk of getting frostbite, and our guests are dealing with enough already.

Would you consider giving of the gift of socks? It seems so mundane and even unimportant when you are unfamiliar with the conditions people experiencing homelessness are facing. But, to our guests, and to our community facing homelessness, they are a priceless gift. Below is a link to our Amazon wishlist where you can purchase and send socks directly to us. Or you may bring sock donations to Concordia or to CHUM during the business week from 9 am-5 pm (102 W 2nd St). Thank you for your support.

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/YTY5KW3439G1?ref_=wl_share

Join Us for Give to the Max Day: Make a Difference this November!

As the holiday season approaches, the need for our local food shelf is growing. Many families in our community struggle to put food on the table, and your contributions can make a significant difference. Join us on November 21 for Give to the Max Day to help us stock our food shelf and provide nourishment to those in need.

With rising food costs, we are experiencing unprecedented demand. Your donations will enable us to purchase essential items, ensuring no one goes hungry this holiday season. Plus, we have potential matching funds available, doubling the impact of your generosity!

Mark your calendars for November 21 and help us spread the word. Together, we can make a meaningful difference in our community! Thank you for your support!

3 Years of St. Francis Apartments: Milestones, Celebrations, and Transformations!

We just marked the 3-year anniversary of St. Francis Apartments, a place where seniors who once faced homelessness now have found stability, community, and home. The celebration was unforgettable—complete with a delicious meal, a heartwarming "Blessing of the Pets," and even a gift card giveaway!

From residents who endured harsh winters living in their cars to now calling St. Francis home, the transformations here are inspiring. Plus, our staff and volunteers have been hard at work, refreshing the building with a vibrant new paint project! Click the button below to read more!



On view September 3 through December 20, 2024

***Dreaming Our Futures* features more than 100 works by 29 Indigenous artists.** The exhibition premiered at the Katherine E. Nash Gallery at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities (January 16 – March 16, 2024), and traveled to Rochester Art Center (April 24 – July 21, 2024) before coming to the Tweed Museum of Art.

The exhibition was curated by Brenda J. Child (Red Lake Ojibwe), Northrop Professor of American Studies, University of Minnesota, and Howard Oransky, Director of Katherine E. Nash Gallery, with Christopher Pexa (Bdewakantunwan Dakota, Spirit Lake Nation), Associate Professor of English, Harvard University.

A fully illustrated exhibition catalogue with critical essays by several prominent Native American scholars is distributed worldwide by University of Minnesota Press and available for purchase at the museum.

Dreaming Our Futures: Ojibwe and Očhéthi Šakówiŋ Artists and Knowledge Keepers is organized by the Katherine E. Nash Gallery at the University of Minnesota.

(1) Rabbett Before Horses Strickland, Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Ojibwe Ricing, 2022. Oil on canvas, 60 × 84 in. (152.4 × 213.4 cm) Courtesy of the artist. © Rabbett Before Horses Strickland

(2) Wanjbli Mayášleča (Francis J. Yellow, Jr.), Lakǰóta. Ikicize Nunpa (Two Fighters), 2011. Watercolor and ink on antique stock certificate, 6¾ × 10¼ in. (17.1 × 26 cm) Collection of the Plains Art Museum, Fargo, North Dakota, 2015.002.0080
© Wanjbli Mayášleča (Francis J. Yellow, Jr.)

(3) Joe Geshick, Bois Forte Band of Ojibwe. The Welcoming, 2004. Oil on canvas, 72 × 84 in. (182.9 × 213.4 cm) Collection of the Acreage at Osceola, WI. On loan from Kiran Stordalen Trust

(4) Leah H. Yellowbird, First Nations Algonquin-Metis, Anishinaabe. Waabig Wan (Flower), 2014. Acrylic on canvas, 18 × 48 in. (45.7 × 121.9 cm) Tweed Museum of Art, UMD, Sax Brothers Purchase Fund, D2015.32 © Leah Yellowbird

Pastor: Rev. Jeffery Davis
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: Lynne Erickson, Mary Johnson,
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

David and Jane Wedin
Delores Grunwald

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 December newsletter are due by Tuesday, November 19. Please email your items, corrections, questions, or comments to duluthconcordia@gmail.com

We reserve the right to edit your items.
This newsletter was produced using Canva.

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