

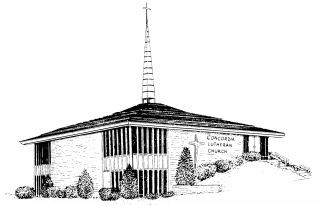


Talking Together

the weekly newsletter of

17906 Garden Lane Hagerstown, MD 21740
301-797-5955



Concordia Home Page address: <http://www.concordia-hagerstown.org>
E-mail address: concordia.hagerstown@gmail.com



January 15, 2017

Our Stewardship

Attendance for January 8, 20017	146
Budget Needs through December 2016	\$327,006.00
Our Operating Income Giving for December 2016	\$25,045.61
Total Annual Budget (<u>Operational Expenses Only</u>)	\$327,006.00

Serving in Worship	Date	Acolyte	Nursery	Lector	Greeters	Assisting Ministers
	Early Service 01/15	Sidney Hector	1 st No Nursery	Sylvia Shives	Garrison	Shives/Waldron
	Late Service	Chase Baker	2 nd Becky Brown	Bob Shives	Burker/Dawson	Gann/Tichnell
	Early Service 1/22	Erin Davidson	1 st No Nursery	Larry Hector	Kreymborg	Shives/Waldron
	Late Service	Adam Brown	2 nd Stephanie Gore	Jim Gann	Campbell	Meiron/Tichnell

TODAY -

Worship services:

8:00 am; 9:30 a.m.; and 11:00 a.m.

Monday MD Bible Study, @ Flicek home, 7:00 p.m

Wednesday LifeLight Class, 12-1:30 p.m.
Wednesday Confirmation Class, 7-8:30 p.m.
Thursday Sewing Group, 9 a.m.—12 p.m.
Thursday Planning Council Meeting 7 p.m.

PRAYER LIST:

Prayer Requests

- **Johnson Family** (Lost everything in a house fire) Aunt and cousins of Larry Hector
- **Christopher** (stage 4 brain cancer) neighbor of Pekaris
- **Wanda H.** (hospice care) mother of Mike Taylor
- **Karen M.** (hospitalized w/ foot infection)
- **Bill Burgett** (Shoulder replacement 1-9) Former Pastor of Concordia
- **Mary Lou G.** (Multiple health issues) Mother of Jim Gann
- **Kate W.** (In-utero surgery on unborn daughter) niece of Jean T.
- **Davis Family** ((22 year old son suffered

heart attack) son of younger Gann's pediatrician.
- **Pastor Joel** (Recovering at home)
- **Roxie Roeder** (Medical issues)
- **Sarah** (Medical healing)
- **John M.** (upcoming cataract surgery)
- **Kathy S.** (surgery 1/10/17)
- **Richard W.** (prostate cancer)
- **Laura G.** (chemo/radiation)
- **Phyllis M.** (Rehab at home)
- **Ruth P.** (rehab at home)

Ongoing

- **Pastor Joel** (Recovering at home)
- **Steve Updegrave** (Medical Issues)
- **Ed P.** (Medical Complications)
- **Baby Jocelyn** (slowly improving)
- **Evelyn J.** (Moved to Rehab)

- **Paula J.** (Lung cancer)
- **Daniel P.** (Cancer)
- ^M**Dot McA.** (medical issues)
- ^M**Linda McS.** (Parkinson's)
- ^M**Regina H** (Medical issues)
- ^M**Ginny D.** (Medical issues)
- **John B.** (Hospice Care)
- **Martin** (Personal healing)
- **Brittany Y.**
- **Don B.** (medical issues)
- **Karen D.** (Cancer)
- ^M**Judy K.** (medical concerns)
- **Nancy V.** Medical issues)
- **Assisted Living/Nursing Home**
- **Emmett A.**
- **Karen U.** (Moved Nursing Home)
- **Eileen D.**

- **Kim G,**
- ^M**Carl J.**
- **Judy R.**
- ^M**Bill H.**
- **Missionaries / Other**
- **People of Haiti, Florida,**
- **North and South Carolina**
- **Mt. Pisgah Congregation**
- **Rev. David Erber** (Africa)
- **Ed, Mary Fox** - (Guatemala)
- **All persecuted Christians College Students**
- **Military Members** Ben F, Kyle F, Trevor F, Nathan, Brent J. Patrick G, Matthew H, Philip Nicholas B., Ian H.

☩ - New entry ^M - Member ^U - Update

"Nurturing the Faith"

The following readings are provided for your preparation for worship, **January 22, Third S. a. the Epiphany; Isaiah 9:1-4; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18**

Christian Education

Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.
Adult Bible Study - 9:30 a.m.

ON PAGE 2 ♦ Announcements

- ♦ Birthday/Anniversaries ♦ LWML
- ♦ Church Mouse Report

Week of January 15, 2017

Families of the Week

Jody Gann
Bill and Judy Garrison

Mission of the month

Lutherans for Life

Here We Stand with a Word of Hope

The world would have you believe that abortion is normal—a mere medical procedure that helps women.

"For too many years, certainly for my generation, all issues about sex and sexuality were stigmatized. Abortion was, homosexuality was. And the exciting thing to me now is that young people are telling their stories and they are living out loud. More women are telling their abortion stories, and I told mine. I think once we get out of the shadows, and I think the LGBT movement has led the way in this, it normalizes what should be an open and honest conversation."

Cecile Richards, Planned Parenthood CEO

In our culture, truth has been suppressed and the reality of abortion transformed into "reproductive freedom" and even "women's health." But, as Christians, we know the

- **Here We Stand** – Abortion is not normal. It turns a mother against her own child.
- **Here We Stand** – Abortion is a tragedy that takes the life of an unborn baby and traumatizes a mother.
- **Here We Stand** – Abortion is bad for women and forces them to carry the weight of grief and guilt.
- **Here We Stand** – Abortion is a sin like any other sin for which Christ died.

Word of Hope is a ministry of Lutherans For Life that exists to help women and men heal from their abortion experience. **Word of Hope** counsels women and men, helping them understand the depth of God's love for them and the reality of forgiveness through

Birthdays and Anniversaries This Week

Birthdays

17 - Joel Njiomouo
 18 - Carroll Gatling
 19 - William Garrison
 20 - Joel Fridgen
 20 - Linda McSweyn
 20 - Laura Brown

Baptized Birthdays

20 - Donna Reiser
 21 - Jakob Lane
 22 - Donald Rudow

Anniversaries

None this week

You are invited to tune in next Sunday -

Tune in January 22nd

WNAV (Annapolis) 1430 AM 7:00 a.m. WZXH Hagerstown) 91.7 FM 4:00 p.m.
 WBAL (Baltimore) 1090 AM 10:30 a.m. WTRM (Winchester) 91.3 FM 7:01 p.m.

“The Word of the Cross - Power for Life” To the world, Jesus seemed to be a loser. He suffered what all would consider defeat in order to win new life for you. (1 Corinthians 1:10-18)

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz

WE STAND (Continued from page 1)

the sacrifice of God’s own Son, Jesus, for the sins of the entire world, including their sin of abortion. **Word of Hope** helps them deal with their grief and guilt and overcome behavioral symptoms triggered by the abortion. There are so many people in our neighborhoods, families, and churches that are dealing with the loss of a child or children through abortion—mothers, fathers, grandparents, friends. Statistically you can assume one in three people you meet on the street and one in four people in your congregation have been affected by an abortion decision.

What can you do to help these women and men?

- First, be compassionate and try to understand why women choose abortion. In my career, I have been blessed to work at a crisis pregnancy center. When I started working there I was a “good LFLer.” I could speak truth with the best of them. I knew what God’s Word said about life. I knew when life began. But at CareNet, I saw something new—real people trying to cope with the reality of an unplanned pregnancy. I saw women abandoned by their families and made homeless if they chose to carry that pregnancy. I saw women under enormous pressure from men in their lives who wanted out. I saw women who wanted to carry their pregnancy but were overwhelmed with financial problems and lack of support from their family and community. I talked to women who were so afraid of shaming their Christian parents that, somehow, abortion seemed their only choice.
- Second, promote **Word of Hope** in your congregation. You can help someone find healing. Establish a link on your church’s website for **Word of Hope** so people can find it easily (www.word-of-hope.org).

Place bulletin announcements in your church bulletin (especially on Sundays many find difficult, such as Mother’s Day or Life Sunday). Let’s do everything we can to help families who bought the lie that abortion is “normal.” Most of us may not have sinned by having an abortion, but all of us have sinned horrifically and are in need of the blood of Christ to cleanse us from our sins. *Lutherans for Life*

“[F]or all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23).

Burgett Address For those who would like to send a card Bill Burgett’s address is 2705 Buckstone Drive, Powhatan, VA 23139-5125. Please keep him and Judy in your prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

♦ **Church Library** Children Books about winter and snow are now on display on library table check them out. Also on table adult non fiction books about parenting from preschool thru teenage years, plus Grand parenting.

♦ **Open Arms** The Children are up to “Q” week. The classes worked on making quilt patches with a mix of paper and fabrics. Volunteer Jane O’Farrell put the quilt patches up on a bulletin board in the hallway, making a beautiful ‘quilt’. It is worth a trip down the hall to look at.

♦ **Micah’s Backpack: URGENT** need for 100% juice, individual fruit (no sugar added), and snacks: Individual popcorn, trail mix, granola bars. We’re set with pretzels. Everyone received a new flyer about Micah’s Backpack in mailboxes last Sunday.

♦ **LifeLight Bible Study** The new course on **Baptism** begins on Wednesday January 4, 2017 from 12-1:30 P.M. In the fellowship hall. The books are here and being distributed to current class members. Anyone new wishing to join the class is welcome. Please see Sylvia Shives for a copy of the first lesson until additional books can be ordered, if needed

Sunday School Regular classes resume today after a three Sunday break which included December 18th preparation for the Christmas program. We are well into the second quarter of the year which covers New Testament after studying Old Testament in the first quarter.

Thank You Notes

Thanks to all for the generous Christmas and for the beautiful cards. *Rosella Rogers*

Thank you so much for thinking of me at Christmas. It was a nice surprise. *Stephanie Gore*

Thank you so much for the wonderful gift this Christmas. I appreciate it more than you know. ...Thank you for everything you all do year-round to support the school. We are so very thankful for your donations of time, money, and supplies. God’s Blessings, *Karla Baker*

New email addresses The church switched to Antietam Cable for phone service, we now have new email addresses for both the church and the school. The church is concordia.hagerstown@gmail.com and the school is openarms.hagerstown1@gmail.com. Both are in effect immediately.

LWML At our last meeting we planned a variety of activities for the coming year. As soon as the schedule is firmed up all women will receive a copy. All women are invited to attend any of the meetings and special activities. Meetings are held in the fellowship hall on the first Thursday of the month at 10 a.m., unless otherwise announced. Some events, like ladies-night-out, are held in other locations.



CHURCH MOUSE

Congratulations to **Pete Kreymborg** who is now fully retired as of January 10 after spending several years in semi-retirement.