

# THE Concordia Messenger



“How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity!” Psalm 133:1

October 2016

## Christian Living

**Wedding Anniversaries** Allen & Albi Distler (62) Dave & Lorna Warren (37) Kevin & Becky Horn (40) Corey & Denee Lecher (2) Dean & Tammy Owen (18) Chris & Beth Forster (13) Mike & Jeri Pardieck (42) Philip & Sharon Caruana (44) Dave & Vicki Wilson (39) Jim & Sally Stover (46) Hank & Christie Rassel III (25) David & Elizabeth Fulkman (5) Jim & Julia Yeater (24) Hank & Sherryl Wegener (19)

**October Birthdays:** Abigail Brooks, Kaylee Brooks, Blake Evans, Amanda Mayo, Luke Guinn, Janet Larson, Bob Betten, Phil Cravens, Carol Monroe, Matt Ranbarger, Caroline Turner, Linda Barkes, Julia Yeater, Jim Adams, Ray Everson, Rose Mihi, Carson Eastling, James Mayo, Anne Finger, Chloe Crockett, Margaret Tinsley, Jenna Liechty, Jill (Liechty) Roth, Khalia Mihi, Caroline Marot, Adriana Olmos.



**Yes we know it is only October!** The pumpkins haven't even arrived yet. But we want to let everyone know that we are planning ahead and to be on the look out for the Giving Tree on November 20th (the church's Anniversary dinner date). We would like to have all of the gifts returned before December 11th so that we can get the packages to the children's families before school break. More information to follow!



## Sunday School

Our Sunday school class of the month is our pre-school class. They love to color, dance, and be busy all the time! They are joyful, fun to be around, and best of all, they love coming to Sunday school! Their favorite Sunday school songs are “I Am a C” and any song with motions! They sent letters out to our prayer partners and made a beautiful banner for our church. It has lots of happy faces on it. Be sure to look for it when you come to church! Remember to keep serving God gladly.



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### From the Pastor

## How Can I, a Sinner, Find a Gracious God?

Twenty five years after Columbus discovered America, a Catholic monk by the name of Martin Luther posted Ninety-five Theses for debate on the issue of indulgences. Indulgences as you may know, were documents purchased from the Church that would take away the punishments for sin that people thought they would have to suffer in an imaginary place called Purgatory (which is a false, non-Biblical doctrine taught by the Roman Church). This Roman Catholic monk by the name of Martin Luther saw these indulgences for what they really were – a moneymaking scheme for a bankrupt papacy.

October 31, 1517, was the day that this lowly German monk and university professor began to attack publicly the way the Church had been doing business for years. He criticized what was unbiblical, but at the time he had no intentions of splitting the Church. His goal was to *reform* the Church, to correct the abuses, and make straight what had gone crooked over the past few centuries.

But in the following years, Luther saw that the problems ran much deeper than just indulgences. There were problems with the liturgy, problems with leadership in the Church, and, even more central, problems with the certainty of Salvation and the loss of the Biblical doctrine of justification by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. All of these problems boiled down to two questions for Luther: “*Who rules the Church?*” and “*How can I, a sinner, find a gracious God?*” These questions were really about the centrality of the Word of God in the Church and God’s grace for salvation. Luther’s goal was to return authority in the Church to the Word of God rather than in institutions and in human traditions that can and do err. His goal was to return people to the Word of God so that they might find the pure Gospel of God’s grace and mercy to sinners through faith in Jesus Christ alone for salvation. A whole list of prescribed human works that were said by Rome to assist in human salvation, were abandoned by Luther. Such human works were: pilgrimages, indulgences, prayers to saints, monastic orders, purgatory and the false doctrine that said faith plus good works would equal salvation.

Instead of human works, Luther preached and taught the true Biblical doctrine that Jesus Christ has put a New Testament into effect by his own blood and that only by Christ’s sacrifice for sins on the cross was the whole of humanity redeemed. Luther’s theology can indeed be accurately summed up: **Grace Alone, Faith Alone, Scripture Alone**. Luther wanted to insure that the message that the cross of Christ, his sacrifice for all sinners, is the only thing that purges us from sin and makes us acceptable to God the Father. Luther lifted “high” the cross of Christ and urged people to despair of their own goodness and to cling in faith to Christ and his cross of redemption.

God now connects us to the cross of Christ through the Gospel Word. That Gospel comes to us and creates faith in our heart through preaching and the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord’s Supper. Through that Spirit-created faith in Christ, our sins are now forgiven, we are right with God and have the blessed promise of life everlasting in heaven. We are now called to live our daily lives to the praise of our Savior’s glory.



In the end, Luther wanted nothing new but simply to return the Church to its ancient faith and practice. Of course there are still many problems in Christianity today. But with Luther we will continue to stand squarely on Scripture, we will hold up the Gospel and we will confess the truth of God's Word in Law and Gospel for the salvation of all people. May God keep us steadfast in His Word of grace, a Word that Luther loved and cherished! Have a happy and blessed Reformation Day my Lutheran friend!

*Pastor John Flammie*

## Director Christian Education

Members of Concordia,

Can you believe it's already October! Reformation Day is coming soon along with Pack Away Hunger and Concordia's 60th Anniversary! Pack Away Hunger is always one of my favorite church events.



We get to serve the local communities and the world by packing meals for those who are malnourished. Those who pass out the meals also have an opportunity to

share Christ with them. There's also something special about seeing the people of God from all generations, and multiple congregations working together to serve others.

Our goal is to donate \$1,000 to Pack Away Hunger for the event. That's roughly 3,571 meals that can be packed. Thankfully, our friends from Barnyard Round Up (Vacation Bible School) this year gave us a nice kick start with about \$300 that was collected. That means we have \$700 to still raise. Starting the first week of October until the Anniversary Dinner we will be collecting donations for Pack Away Hunger. As a thank you for donating, we will have candy to give you. We will also have tickets to give you which can be used to try and win

baskets put together by the church boards and office staff. Feel free to ask family and friends for donations; we'll give them candy and tickets as well. Winners will be chosen at the 60th Anniversary Dinner. You do not need to be present to win.

Also, on October 2nd, we have the opportunity to participate in a Dine to Donate at **City BBQ** located on Hwy. 31 by Burlington Coat Factory. Twenty-five percent of purchases made that day will go to Pack Away Hunger. To participate you need a flyer. Feel free to give flyers to others you know who would be willing to participate.

I hope and pray everyone is able to enjoy their October and their school breaks. Enjoy time with your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, and others who have such long breaks this month. Think of other ways you can show Christ's love to others during these long breaks.

*In Christ, Sarah Shadday, DCE  
(Director of Christian Education)*



Concordia  
Lutheran  
Preschool

### The Preschool Scoop

Greetings from the preschool! Most of you know that we are located at the back of the church parking lot in the former parsonage. We are so blessed to have use of this wonderful facility, and we are thankful to the congregation for all the help coming our way, particularly over the summer with the

playground and landscaping improvements. We also appreciate your prayers for our ministry.

This year we are off to a great start with our eleven enthusiastic students. Our class meets on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. So far we have been busy making friends, and learning about school rules, feelings, manners, apples and our healthy bodies. We are learning to recognize alphabet letters and the sounds they make, and we are practicing cutting with scissors and writing our names. We have also made many wonderful art creations, and will soon be going on a fun-filled fall field trip.

At our school, we love teaching the children about God's love and all the wonderful things He has done for us. Our Bible stories thus far have included the creation, the fall into sin, Noah and the flood, and the stories of Abraham, Jacob and Joseph. Particularly fun are the days when Pastor John or Miss Sarah visit and takes over Jesus time duties.

We do have one opening in our class, so please spread the word to families you know with young children. We offer a quality program that prepares children for kindergarten, while teaching them about God and His wonderful plan of salvation through faith in Jesus.

*Jill Scifres & Susan Bass,  
Co-Directors*



### **\$100,000 Grant Supports Opportunities in Uganda**

The Lutheran Church Mission in Uganda (LCMU) was started in 1993 and officially registered in Uganda in April 1995.

Since that time the LCMU has helped to plant over 110 Lutheran congregations with over 25,000 members. All of this work has been done with less than 20 ordained pastors.

In conjunction with the LCMU, Women of the Pearl (WOTP) began in 2014. Women make up 50% of Lutheran congregations in Uganda. WOTP provides education in literacy, nutrition, personal hygiene, business and agriculture to women so they may be equipped to serve God and help support pastors, congregations and communities through the teachings of the Scripture.

Currently seminarians in Uganda need to travel to Ghana, Kenya or South Africa to receive training. In 2014 the LCMU, in partnership with Our Savior Lutheran Church, McKinney, Texas, broke ground for a seminary in Magamaga, Uganda. Phase one of construction is almost complete. The seminary will feature lecture halls, faculty offices, library, computer lab, 48 residential rooms, chapel, kitchen and dining hall. The LCMU seminary in Uganda is vital to support the call to full time ministry. The need for pastors is great, as the Lutheran church in Uganda is expected to grow to 50,000 members by 2018.

Women of the Pearl focuses on working with women so they fully identify with the work of the church. Lynn Corker, Director of WOTP, said, "While educating them about feminine hygiene, the topic of taking communion arose. We learned the women are not taking the Lord's Supper while they are menstruating because they are 'too dirty to receive it.' This catapulted us into a discussion about God's grace and how none of us are ever 'clean enough.' This was a culture changing moment for the women leaders in the church. There was laughing and jumping and shouts of joy when they understood God's love for them, even in their natural, God-given state of menstruation."

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League grant has so far given \$50,000 to

help fund the LCMU seminary construction completion, and provided \$20,000 toward funding for 100 women to attend Women of the Pearl conferences for the next two years.

### **Indiana District LWML approved this small grant last June**

A \$4,800 grant approved at the 2016 Indiana District Convention will supplement the income of Lewis A. King as he studies at the seminary in Fort Wayne. Mr. King would like to continue ministering to the poor in the inner city of Fort Wayne and ultimately support himself as a barber and worker priest.

#### **Local News**

### **Quilting -**

October 15, 2016 is our next meeting for working on quilts, see you there!



### **SonRise Camp**

Recently notice was received that SonRise Camp in Anderson, IN will be sold and that there will no longer be a camp in Indiana for those who are challenged with disabilities. Those of us who annually traveled to the camp to prepare meals for the campers are sorry to hear this. Apparently, providing a camp of this nature has become too costly, and Bethesda, which now controls the camp, has decided that it can no longer afford to continue this ministry. We thank God for all the years that someone made this camping experience possible. I'm sure many were blessed by the experience.

### **Save the Date**

December 4 the LWCC/LWML will once again host Advent Glow. Mark this date on your calendar. Watch the bulletin for more details. Plans are still in the making.

### **Blankets of Blessing**

LWML Indiana District is planning a

Servant Event for the month of October entitled Blankets of Blessings. Each society is asked to tie fleece blankets. These will be dedicated at the Fall rally which will be held at Cornerstone Lutheran Church in Carmel (formerly called Carmel Lutheran Church) Then the zones will decide which local charity they will be donated to. Watch the bulletin to find out when we will have a get together to tie them. It is an easy task, so people of all ages can come and help.

### **Fall Zone Rally**

The combined Fall Rally of the East and West Zones of the LWML will be held at Cornerstone Lutheran Church in Carmel (formerly called Carmel Lutheran Church) on October 22. Registration and breakfast begin at 8:30. The meeting will begin at 9:15. The featured speaker will be Rev. Kou Seyling. He is a professor of Cross-Cultural Ministry at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. He is an energetic speaker who has a connection to Indianapolis. He came here as a refugee and attended Lutheran High School. A free will offering will be taken to either support his ministry or the St. Louis Seminary Food Bank. Look for the sign-up sheet on the LWCC bulletin board.

### **We're overachievers!**

Our goal was to fill 25-30 school kits, but we are pleased to report that we have 46 school kits ready for shipment! With the seed money provided by the Thrivent Action Team, we purchased the cloth backpacks and some school supplies to complete several kits missing a few items. Also, a special thank you to Phil and Sharon Caruana for volunteering to deliver the school kits and quilts to the Lutheran World Relief ingathering site in Fort Wayne in October.



Ruth Everson, Organizer

## CHURCH PICNIC

Thank you to everyone who came to and helped out in every way at the picnic last Sunday. The weather was beautiful, food was great, games were right on (nothing like a frozen t-shirt to cool you off). See you next year at noon on September 17, 2017. Congratulations! - winning recipes -

### Crunchy Chocolate-Peanut Stix

Line a 13 x 9 baking pan with nonstick foil, leaving a few extra inches on each end. Line bottom with rectangular buttery crackers (such as Keebler Club). In a medium saucepan, melt 1/2 cup unsalted butter over medium-high heat. Add 1/2 cup milk, 1 1/4 cups light brown sugar and 1/4 cup granulated sugar. Bring to a simmer and gradually stir in 2 cups finely crushed honey graham crackers. Simmer, stirring frequently, for 5 minutes. Pour 1 cup of the mixture over crackers and spread evenly. Place another layer of crackers in pan and spread remaining cup of sugar mixture over crackers; top with another layer of crackers.

Place 1 1/4 cups milk chocolate chips and 1 cup peanut butter chips in a medium bowl over a small amount of simmering water in a medium saucepan over low heat. Stir until smooth. Spread evenly over top layer of crackers. Refrigerate for at least 1 hour until set. Carefully lift out of pan and place on a cutting board. Cut into 1 x 4-inch bars with a serrated knife. *Gail Brooks winning dessert.*

### Cookie-Stuffed Brownies

Heat oven to 350 degrees. Grease a 9 x 13-inch baking pan with a strip of parchment, allowing edges to hang over opposite sides.

Press homemade or store-bought chocolate chip cookie dough into bottom of the pan. Top with a single layer of Oreos. Prepare your favorite brownie recipe and pour batter over Oreos in the pan. Top brownie layer with extra crumbled Oreos, if you wish. Bake until a toothpick inserted

into the center comes out almost clean, 45-55 minutes. Allow to cool, then run a spatula around edges to loosen from pan. Use the parchment overhang to lift brownies out of the pan; slice and serve.

Try a Nutter Butter-peanut butter cookie version or Milano cookie-Andes mint cookie version of these bars, too!

*Gary Brooks winning dessert.*

## I'm Clean!

Church reformer Martin Luther once had a nightmare about being judged by the devil. From a scroll, Satan was reading all the sins Luther had ever committed. "What hope of heaven do you have as a miserable sinner?" The devil accused.

Feeling despondent, Luther remembered the cross. "There's one entry which thou hast not made, Satan," he said. When the devil inquired about it, Luther responded confidently:

*"The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin" (1 John 1:7 KJV).*

Praise God that he sent Jesus to be our Deliverer (Psalm 18:2) so we are no longer held hostage by Satan's accusations!



## Daily tasks

When I awoke this morning, I asked, "How shall I live this day? The answers were all around me:

- The fan said, "Keep your cool."
- The ceiling said, "Aim High."
- The window said, "Look outside yourself."
- The clock said, "Every minute is precious."
- The calendar said, "Stay up to date"
- The door said, "Take advantage of opportunity."
- The floor said, "kneel down and pray."

*unknown (adapted)*

# Treasurer's Report

August 2016

Income Description	Aug 2015 4 Sundays	Aug 2016 4 Sundays
Unified Budget	25,418.72	18,377.58
Memorials (Non-designated)	795.00	25.00
Memorials (Designated)	-0-	-0-
Mortgage Reduction	1,268.00	955.00
Designated Gifts *	918.56	359.16
Reimbursements & Refunds **	302.58	56.78
Rents & Wedding Fees	120.00	60.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>28,822.86</b>	<b>19,833.52</b>
<i>Average per/week Unified Budget</i>	<i>\$ 5,083.74</i>	<i>\$ 4,600.65</i>
<i>Amount needed per/week for Unified Budget</i>	<i>\$ 6,630.00</i>	<i>\$ 6,583.00</i>

\* Altar Flowers \$100, Concordia Cares \$46, Confirmation \$40, Daily Journal \$50, Fellowship \$24.65, LWCC \$10, Paper Recycling (for preschool) \$4.51, Pennies from Heaven \$4, Pre School \$60, Wheat Ridge Ministries \$10, Youth \$10.

\*\* Pre-school taxes for State & Federal tax received from pre-school \$39.20, Purchase of books \$17.58.

Worship	2015	2016	Tithes
8/28	161	108	4,638.07
9/4	158	119	8,147.50
9/11	155	116	5,686.43
9/18	126	120	4,099.54
9/25	165	115	3,881.62

### Our Spiritual Response in Worship, Bible Study and Giving to our Lord

	SS	HS	ADULT
8/28	10	4	31
9/4	11	1	38
9/11	13	4	41
9/18	15	3	15
9/25	13	3	19

Church checking account balance Aug 2016	
Beginning	7,543.28
Deposits	19,833.52
Payments	25,940.65
Ending balance	1,436.15

Expenses Boards	Aug 2015	Aug 2016
Pastoral Care	10,560.72	8,547.65
Congregational Worship	1,170.30	913.23
Missions and Outreach	38.00	732.50
Christian Education	5,832.38	5,515.48
Stewardship	-0-	-0-
Operations	11,380.99	7,934.43
Small Group Ministries	-0-	102.13
Christian Living	-0-	-0-
<b>Unified Budget Total</b>	<b>28,982.39</b>	<b>23,745.42</b>
<b>Non-boards</b>		
Non budget payments *	1,246.92	2,156.03
Reimbursement Expenses **	578.54	39.20
<b>Total Non-Budget Payments</b>	<b>1,825.46</b>	<b>2,195.23</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>30,807.85</b>	<b>25,940.65</b>

\* National Youth Gathering \$2,156.03.

\*\* Reimbursement Expenses: Pre-school Federal Taxes \$30.60, Pre-school Indiana Taxes \$8.60.

Support is included in Unified Budget Expenses	Aug 2015	Aug 2016
Missions— District Synod	-0-	500.00
Lutheran High School	750.00	750.00
Lutheran Multicultural Mission	-0-	187.50
<b>Total Support</b>	<b>750.00</b>	<b>1,437.50</b>


As of August 31 the balance on our Mortgage was \$ 63,059.31.

Lutheran Church Extension Fund Steward Accounts	LCEF Balance Aug, 2016
Anniversaries & Birthday	3,996.77
Board of Youth— (Trip)	9,009.22
Building Fund	16,953.11
Capital Improvements	1,882.66
Concordia Cares	22.88
Pre-School Landscaping & Gardening	6,037.70
<b>Total in LCEF Steward Accounts</b>	<b>37,902.34</b>
<b>Interest earned</b>	<b>21.34</b>



2016

Sunday Worship—8 & 10:30 AM  
 Sunday School & Bible Classes—9:15 AM  
 Holy Communion every Sunday  
**Altar Care for October:** Ken & Darlene Jensen  
**Nursery Coordinator:** Janet Knobloch (885.8511)  
**Prayer Coordinator:** Judy Heine (888-9588)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 8 a Work Day 10 a O.A. 6:30 p 50 Plus Game Night
2 LWML & Mite box Sunday 9:15 a AIC Class Youth Team meeting 4 - 5:30 p Confirmation 5:30-7:30 p Youth night All Day - Dine to Donate for Pack Away Hunger @	3 6 p Congregational Worship 7 p Pastoral Care Women's Bible Study Operation	4 Donation Day at Seminary in Fort Wayne	5 1 p Staff meeting 7:00 p.m. - Read- ings in the Lutheran Confessions (RLC) Class	6 6 a The Early Bird Bible Study 7:30 p Choir	7  LWCC Camp Lakeview retreat	8 10 a O. A.
9 Staff Appreciation Sunday 9:15 a AIC Class NO confirmation	10 7 p Stewardship 7 p Women's Bible Study	11  Preschool Fall break: No school Oct 8 - 17	12 1 p Weds Bible Study	13 6 a The Early Bird Bible Study  6:30 p Christian Living 7:30 p Choir	14 <b>Board Reports                      due in the                      office for                      printing</b>	15 10 a O. A. 9-12 quilting
16 9:15 a AIC Class NO confirmation	17 7 p Women's Bible Study	18 6 p Christian Ed	19 7:00 p.m. - RLC	20 6 a The Early Bird Bible Study 7:30 p Choir	21  	22 8a LWML Mission Breakfast at CLC  10 a O. A.
23 9:15 a AIC Class Blood Pressure Check 4 - 5:30 p Confirmation classes 5:30-7:30 p Youth night	24 7 p Directorate 7 p Women's Bible Study  Pastor John at IN	25 1 p Kitchen Table Bible study  Dist Fall Conf - Indianapolis Oct 24-26	26 1 p Weds Bible Study  Sarah at DCE conf -	27 6 a The Early Bird Bible Study 7:30 p choir	28  	29 10 a O.A.
30 9:15 a AIC Class 4 - 5:30 p Confirmation classes 5:30-7:30 p Youth night   REFORMATION SUNDAY	31 7 p Women's Bible Study					

September 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

November 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		



Articles for the Messenger are due by the 15th of the month and will be edited for content and space limitations. Artwork is used by permission through a subscription to *Newsletter Newsletter*, Communication Resources, Box 2625, N. Canton, OH 44720. If sending submissions to the newsletter via email, please be sure to include *NEWSLETTER* in the subject line.

## Lutheran Hour Ministries Radio Schedule

### The Lutheran Hour—Sundays

WIRE (91.1 FM) 7:30 AM      WCBK (102.3 FM) 7:00 AM  
WMCB (1540 AM) 8:00 AM      WLW (700 AM) 7:00 AM

- 10/2      The Only Way to Live: by Faith!**  
**10/9      Lord, Give Me What I Need --Give Me Faith**  
**10/16     Know This Word --Your Life Depends on it.**  
**10/23     Running the Race of Faith**  
**10/30     The Best Bequest**

**Lutheran Hour is now broadcast on American Forces  
Network (AFN).**

**Worship for Shut-Ins—Sundays**  
WHMB (TV 40) 10:00 AM

## Said three ways

In scripture, the number three is thought to symbolize completeness --above all, in the Holy Trinity. Dating back centuries, Thursday, Friday and Saturday of Holy week are, in some Christian practices, called Triduum, or the three Days.

How appropriate, then, to allow three Christ-followers from different time periods to remind us of the wonder God enacted during those three days:

"God put the wrong on [Christ] who never did anything wrong, so we could be put right with God."

St. Paul, 2 Corinthians 5:21, The Message

"Through this blessed exchange, in which Christ changes places with us (something the heart can grasp only in faith), and through nothing else, are we freed from sin and death and given his righteousness and life as our own." Martin Luther

"Nails didn't hold God to a cross. Love did. The sinless one took on the face of a sinner so that we sinners could take on the face of a saint!" Max Lucado

## The Concordia Messenger

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**Web Servant:** James Mayo



### Sunday Worship Services

8:00 A.M. and 10:30 A.M.

### Sunday School & Adult Bible Classes

9:15 A.M.



### Pastor

**Rev. John A. Flamme** (887.9580)

### Staff

**Sarah Shadday**—*Director Christian Education*

**Erica Stephenson** - *Deaconess*

**Jill Scifres, Susan Bass**—*Preschool Co-Directors*

**Becky Lanning**— *Office Manager*

**Carol Monroe**— *Administrative Assistant*

### President

Dick Brooks

### President-Elect

John Bontrager

### Vice President

Mike Finger

### Recording Secretary

Beverly Stephens

### Treasurer

John Bertsch

### Board for Christian Education

Tammy Owen

### Board for Christian Living

Genny Hartley

### Board for Congregational Worship

Sue Ranbarger

### Board for Missions & Outreach

open

### Board for Operations

Herb Hoeltke

### Board for Pastoral Care

Mike Emkes

### Board for Small Group Ministries

Deb Brooks & Lynda Martin

### Board for Stewardship

Phil Caruana

Rose Mihū, Financial Secretary

# THE Concordia Messenger

October 2016

# Sola Gratia

Grace Alone

# Sola Fide

Faith Alone

# Sola Scriptura

Scripture Alone



Concordia Lutheran Church  
& Preschool  
305 N Howard Road, Greenwood, IN 46142