

THE Concordia Messenger



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

August 2024



2023–2025 MISSION GRANT #13
(MILWAUKEE CONVENTION)

Water and the Word – Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya — \$80,000

Students in schools and orphanages sponsored by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya (ELCK) lack clean water and regular access to pastoral care. Water and the Word, based in Thermopolis, Wyoming, works with the ELCK to improve water systems for the schools. After evaluating a school’s needs, water and the Word installs water harvesting equipment (rain gutters and tanks), locally sourced filters, hand wash stations, and clean water storage systems. Students and staff learn about personal hygiene, hand-washing, and the importance of drinking only clean water.

Our commitment to the schools and orphanages goes beyond installing water systems. An ELCK pastor, equipped with the necessary training in water equipment, visits the institutions every 3–4 months. This regular check ensures that the water system is functioning optimally, and more importantly, it provides an opportunity for the pastor to interact with the children, offering them much-needed pastoral care.

This grant will provide clean water and cover travel expenses for pastoral care to students in 12 additional schools and orphanages in Kenya.



A water tank is being put into place by hand.

2023–2025 MISSION GRANT #16
(MILWAUKEE CONVENTION)

Care for Street Children of Western Kenya – Capstone Ministries — \$50,000

Capstone Ministries enriches the lives of former street boys and girls who have been reconciled with their families. It works in Western Kenya, where over 800 boys live on the street and survive by begging or stealing. The boys are reconciled with God and their families.

This grant will provide educational scholarships for day and boarding schools and vocational training for 52 children. It will also offer 100 Bibles and catechisms, translated into Swahili, for 17 Bible study groups.

Plus, it will support Capstone Camp, which focuses on spiritual development and provides group counseling, scouting activities, and mentorship of primary school boys by secondary school boys. They invite 25 to 35 boys to participate in the one-week camp at a rural university during the school break.



These are the five full-time staff counselors of Capstone Ministries. These five along with Project Manager Pastor Isaiah Apiyo do all the work on the ground, led by missionaries Pastor Dan and Patty Schmelzer.

Volunteers Needed

The Indy Women's Half Marathon is scheduled for August 31. With a team of 8 or more volunteers to support a water stop, we'll receive \$150 designated for the Tuzla Mission. Please let Ruth Everson know that you'd like to help.

LWML Indiana District Convention Mite Grants

Delegates to the Indiana District Convention voted on fourteen grants asking for up to \$12,000 and approved ten. Five grants asking for less than \$5,000 were automatically approved. \$135,000 in mite offerings support these new grants.

So that you know what your mite gifts support, we'll highlight one grant each month. This month, we are profiling **Calvary India Mission**, which is receiving \$4,800. The Calvary India Mission is a community of Tamil Christians that evangelizes and disciples students and families living in Indianapolis with the love of Jesus Christ through worship, Bible study, and fellowship.

Can you help fill School Kits?

Children will return to school soon, and it's time for our annual drive to fill School Kits for Lutheran World Relief. Please check the LWCC bulletin board for the items we need, and take a tag or two with you when you shop. Over the years, we've learned that Meijer, Target, and Walmart have the best sale prices.

LWML Indiana District Convention

The 30th Biennial Convention of the LWML Indiana District was held June 21-23, 2024 at the Hendricks County 4-H Conference Center, Danville, Indiana. This time the Indianapolis East and West Zones were the hosts. Sue Ranbarger and Nancy Steele were the co-chairman. While the Executive Committee planned the events the zones were responsible for preparing for all the physical aspects. The co-chairmen did an excellent job of setting things up. Until one works "behind the scenes" they don't realize all the hard work involved. A big "Thank You" to Sue and Nancy for all the time and effort it took to get volunteers and make sure everything was ready.

Those attending from Concordia were the two delegates — Erica Stephenson and Miriam Neumann. The others were Sue Ranbarger, Cindy Boesenberg, Diane Conrad, Ruth Everson, Anne Guthrie, Becky Lanning, Edie Masters, Jill Scifres, Linda Snyder.

On Friday, many women participated in Servant Events which went to help various charities. Friday evening the opening service was held. It was a pleasure to hear the enthusiastic singing accompanied by the organist, one trombonist and

two trumpeters—one of which was our own Dick Brooks. The sermon set the theme of the convention.

The actual business of the convention took only a minimal time as the delegates voted for new officers, mission grants for the 2024-2026 biennium and changes to the bylaws. The rest of the time was spent hearing Bible Studies led by Pastor Mueller and Pastor Becker, the pastoral counselors and inspirational speakers. The keynote address was given by Jennie Williamson who interspersed her message with either group singing or solos by her.

Fellowship with other LWML Sisters is also a big part of attending a convention. On a personal note, I appreciated how many women approached me with concern about the loss of my husband. Caring for each other is a factor that unites us in our effort to "Serve the Lord with Gladness".

Written by Miriam Neumann

The Lord Jesus Is Faithful, and in Mercy He Raises You Up from Death to Life

The Lord is faithful. His steadfast love never ceases, and "*his mercies never come to an end*" (Lam. 3:22–23). To keep us in repentance and to make our faith grow, He causes grief for a while, but He does not cast off forever; in due time, "*he will have compassion*" (Lam. 3:31–33). Therefore, "*hope in him*," and "*wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord*," for "*the Lord is good to those who wait for him*" (Lam. 3:24–26). That is what the woman did who had "*a discharge of blood*," and also the ruler whose daughter was "*at the point of death*." Each waited on the mercy of the Lord Jesus, and each received His saving help (Mark 5:21–28). The woman had suffered much for 12 years, and the ruler's daughter had already died before Jesus arrived. Yet at the right time, the woman was immediately "*healed of her disease*," and the little girl "*got up and began walking*" (Mark 5:29, 42). Such is "*the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ*," who humbled Himself unto the extreme poverty of death "*so that you by his poverty might become rich*," even unto life everlasting (2 Cor. 8:9).

Lectionary summary © 2021 The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Used by permission. <http://lcms.org/worship>

Director of Christian Education

About a year ago, our Women's Tuesday Night Bible Study was going through Deb Burma's book *Chosen* which is about the book of Esther. In the book, she references the Apocrypha because there are extra parts of the book of Esther in the Apocrypha. Of course, that brought up a lot of questions about what the Apocrypha is and why we don't include it in our Bibles.

The past few months, we used the Lutheran Hour Ministries Bible Study *How We Got The Bible* to learn about where the Bible came from and how we received it today. Our next study we're doing is the *Lost Books* Bible Study from Lutheran Hour Ministries. It looks at why some ancient writings failed to make the cut for inclusion into the Bible and why others definitely didn't meet the standard. It looks at recent "gospels" and why they weren't included. It will also look at the cryptic world of the Apocrypha, pseudepigrapha, and the Nag Hammadi codices.

If any of these big words seem confusing or if this topic sounds interesting, women are invited to join us for Bible Study August 13 and 27 and September 10th from 7pm-8:30pm to learn about these topics.

If you can't join the study or are interested in studying these topics at home, email me at Sarah.Shadday@concordia-lcms.com and I can get you a copy of the study and the videos to go along with them.

Sarah Shadday
Director, Christian Education and Preschool

Congregation Game Night

Everyone is invited to join us Friday, August 9th from 5:30pm-8:30pm in Fellowship Hall. You are welcome to come and play games or just spend time talking with others. All are welcome to bring favorite snacks, drinks, or games. Church will provide a light dinner and devotion at 6pm. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Sarah Shadday.



Sunday School

August 4th God Cares for His People: Exodus 16

At home, families can take graham crackers and put honey on them. Talk about what manna was and how it fed God's people in the desert.

August 11th The Golden Calf: Exodus 31:18-32:35

Have everyone grab some of their favorite items from around the house. Why are these your favorite items. Talk about what an idol is and what it means to place things before God.

August 18th Tabernacle: Exodus 13:1-2, 40:1-8, 34-38

Make tent forts around your house and move it around. Talk about what the tabernacle was and how it was not a permanent house of God.

August 25th Twelve Spies: Numbers 13:1-2, 25-14:24

Make a fruit salad and talk about all the good things God gives us and all the things he gave to the Israelites.

September Rahab Believes: Joshua 2

Tie a rope to a basket and lower things up and down. Talk about Rahab's faith and how she lowered the spies out of her window in Jericho.

Jr. High and High School

The youth are continuing their Bible Study through the book of Judges.

Preschool

We start Preschool this month and we're excited to welcome all of our students this school year. We have a Back to School Night on Tuesday, August 6th before our start days of August 8th and 9th.

We will do our Book Blessing and Brunch on Sunday, August 25th. We love inviting all of our Preschoolers and their families to Concordia so they can see their Bibles and books in church and know that our Concordia family prayed for them. Please, pray for our Preschool staff this year as we share God's love with the students this school year. Also, continue to pray God sends us Preschool friends this school year.



Concordia
Lutheran
Preschool

Concordia - Aug 2024 Calendar

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
28 Tenth Sunday after ● 9:30am Worship ● 10:45am Sunday S	29	30	31	Aug 1	2	3 ● 10am O.A.
4 Eleventh Sunday aft ● 9:30am Worship ● 10:45am Special C	5 ● 6:30pm Properties ● 7pm Elders	6 ● 5:30pm Preschool ● 6:30pm Back to Sc	7	8 ● 9am PreK First Da	9 ● 9am 3's First Day ● 5:30pm Game Nig ● 5:30pm Game Nig	10 ● 10am O.A.
11 Twelfth Sunday afte ● 9:30am Worship ● 10:45am Sunday S	12 LWML Garage Sale - Setup	13	14	15	16 LWML Garage Sale - Sale ● 9am Rummage Sa	17
18 Thirteenth Sunday i ● 9:30am Worship ● 10:45am Sunday S	19 ● 7pm Church Coun	20 ● 7pm Women's Tue	21	22	23	24 [F] St. Bartholomew ● 10am O.A.
25 Fourteenth Sunday ● 9:30am Worship ● 10:45am Sunday S	26 ● 7pm Women's Tue	27	28	29 [F] The Martyrdom	30	31 ● 10am O.A.

Treasurers Report

June 2024

Income Descriptions	June 2023 4 Sundays	June 2024 4 Sundays	Total to Date
Unified Budget	19,712.57	14,530.93	154,250.60
Memorials (Non-Designated)		550.00	2,130.00
Memorials (Designated)			150.00
Designated Gifts	1,092.57	4,616.11	18,297.64
Reimbursements & Refunds	293.97	-	-
Rents & Wedding Fees	-	120.00	340.00
Miscellaneous	-	-	24,653.99
Total Income	21,099.11	19,817.04	199,822.23
Average per week Unified Budget	4,928.14	3,632.73	7,345.27
Amount needed per week for Unified Budget	6,476.00	6,728.85	6,728.85

Support is included in Unified Budget Expenses	Jun-24		Total to
Missions - District Synod	500.00	3,000.00	2,500.00
Lutheran High School	1,500.00	4,500.00	3,000.00
Lutheran Hispanic Ministry	187.50	1,125.00	937.50
Total Support	2,187.50	-	6,437.50
*Jan payments will be made in Feb			

Board Expenses	June 2024	Total To Date	Total Budget
Pastoral Care	934.23	43,581.80	125,400.00
Christian Education	8,950.81	52,507.47	81,800.00
Congregational Worship	25.00	1,639.61	7,200.00
Missions & Outreach	855.85	8,908.85	21,500.00
Office	1,657.71	6,345.32	32,500.00
Properties	11,547.57	64,802.45	81,500.00
Unified Budget Total	23,971.17	177,785.50	349,900.00

Church Checking Account Balance Jun 2024	
Beginning	145,828.48
Deposits	2,545.00
Payments	28,811.53
Ending Balance	119,561.95

Lutheran Church Extension Fund Steward Accounts	Balance 06-01-2024
Anniversaries & Birthday - 1073	4,604.15
Board of Youth - Trip - 5446	7,119.05
Building Fund - 2978	19,676.20
Capital Improvements	10,334.59
Church Sign	958.14
Church Landscaping	866.77
Heine Family Project	1,704.46
Total Capital Improvements - 9545	13,863.26
Concordia Cares - 6370	3,473.49
Inheritance Fund - 7423	123,529.02
Preschool Landscaping & Gardening - 2434	147.48
Total in LCEF Steward Accounts	171,976.28
Interest Earned	89.24

Our Spiritual Response in Worship, Bible Study and Giving to our Lord			
	SS	HS	ADULT
June 30, 2024	6	0	19
July 7, 2024	10	4	20
July 14, 2024	11	4	25
July 21, 2024	7	0	22

Worship	2023	2024	Tithes
June 30, 2024	96	84	\$12,445.00
July 7, 2024	107	82	\$4,065.00
July 14, 2024	110	97	\$2,655.00
July 21, 2024	94	86	\$4,448.25

INTERCESSION and PRAYER

Concordia Members

Testing / Recovery:

- Gene Waltz
- Jim Roemer
- Diane Smith
- Peter Economou
- Tommy Ragsdale



Friends of Concordia

- Ralph McGraw 1/2/24
- Alexandria Carrier 9/1/23
- Connie Henderson 5/14/23
- Rick Wildrick 3/30/23
- Family members and Konny Hanneman; Sandy Risner 11/13/22, Hazel, Levi, Joshua & Savannah Bragdon 11/13/22, Marianne & Charles Huckleberry 12/21/21 Sylvania, Steve & Nicole Perrish 12/21/21
- Terry & Diana Deamron 9/10/22
- Beverly Stephens 8/20/22
- Ed Stephens 2/18/24
- Terry Haskett 5/15/22
- Missy, Austin & Travis Golden 4/20/22
- Judy Heine 11/22/21
- Pat Brooks 9/23/21
- Tami Economou 8/17/21
- Rose Swenson 7/27/21
- Anne Perkinson 7/1/21
- Susan Soggs 1/7/21
- Rev. Howard Fabricius 1/2/21
- Minna Van Arsdale 8/7/19
- Brandon Frederking 5/2/19
- Steve Stephenson 4/28/19
- Thomas Taylor 1/20/19
- Thomas Clark 12/16/18
- Leeroy & Vernon Good 6/10/24

Battling Cancer / MS

- Mary Ann Bryant 1/9/24
- Kelsey Merena 10/25/22
- David Buuck 9/27/21
- Brandi Soggs 1/9/20
- Jackson Emkes 4/8/24
- Sandy Rodman 5/31/24

Homebound Concordia Members

- Sharon Bruhn, 1375 Nicole Dr. Unit 329, Franklin IN 46131-0028
- Konny Hannemann, 6818 Cadwell Circle, Indianapolis IN 46237

Military Servicemen & women.

- Erica Stephenson, Army, National Guard
- LTJG Chloe (Owen) Munoz, 8153 Village Gate Ct, Jacksonville, FL 32217
- Ivan Munoz, (USS Gravely)
- Zach Goins, 822 Timbervale Trail, Highlands Ranch, CO, 80129 (Navy Reserve)
- CPL Jadon Ranbarger (c/o 6565-A Kekahuna Pl., Kailua, HI 96734)

Sympathies

We pray the peace of Christ and the hope of the resurrection to:

- **Heidi Ford and family** at the passing of her mother, **Gertrud Weigard**, age 101, in Germany.
- **Edie Masters and family** at the passing of her brother in law, **David Cowhig**, age 82.

Rummage Sale

Mark your Calendar! Rummage Sale will be August 16th and 17th. Your donations can be brought to the church beginning August 12th. Please, No electronics. Furniture welcome, however owner must pickup if it does not sell.

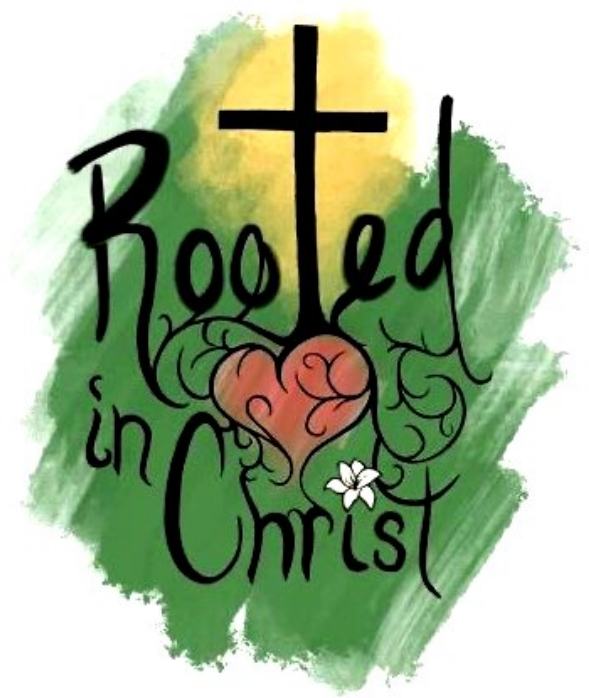
West Wing Renovation

Exciting News— LWML has designated the proceeds of our August Rummage sale to the West Wing Reno Project! Yay! Thank you to Diane Smith for running the Chicago Pizza fundraiser and thanks to all who purchased. I am so excited to see the red on our thermometer rise! Every little bit adds up! And although our target at some time may seem dauntingwho are we kidding? Nothing, absolutely nothing is impossible with our GOD! If the desire has been placed on your heart to further this project, just make your contribution on your giving envelope under the building fund. It doesn't make sense to me to go through the expense of redoing our giving envelopes! So for the time being anything on the Building Fund line will be designated for the West Wing Reno Fund by our Excellent recorder Don Bosenburg. To God be the Glory.

Adele Tinsley

THE *Concordia Messenger*

August 2024



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