

Concordia Newsletter

December 2018



Oh Holy Night

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH AND CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL

*Christ shaping us into community here...
Empowering us to impact community there.*

Rev. D. Paul Nelson
Vacancy Pastor

J. Alex Sloter
Vicar

Mr. Kyle McClure
Minister of Music

DCE Chris Henze
Youth Minister

Mr. David Beringer
CCDS Principal

Mr. John Holland
Praise Service Leader

Mrs. Leslie Brown
Business Administration

Pastor Craig Schultz
Vacancy Visitation Pastor

Mrs. Betsy Murray
*Assistant Principal
Early Childhood Director*

Mrs. Belinda Bost
*Children's Ministry
Part-time*

Ms. Susan Harman
Administrative Assistant

Mr. Phil Heath
*Praise Worship Leader
Part-time*

From the Pastor's Pen

Our God is not far away. Our God is a down-to-earth God, a God with two feet on the ground, a God who has experienced what it is to be human, what it is to work, to rejoice, to enjoy friendships, and also to suffer, to die, and to rise again. Our God's love is so overwhelming that he has moved in among us, to be close to us, to forgive, to comfort, to support us. There's an old saying, "if you don't feel close to God, guess who moved?" God, in the person of Jesus, promised to be with you forever; He's not the one moving far away. Even death could not separate Him from you, or you from Him.

This is what we celebrate when Christmas comes around. In Advent we anticipate his special coming. At Christmas we see the Savior-God lying in a manger, waiting to be taken into human arms, to be received into human hearts. St. John wrote: "The Word became flesh and has made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." (Jn. 1:14) "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him." (Jn. 3:16-17)

This is what Christmas is all about. Behind the trees, decorations, gifts, special foods, family get-togethers, we celebrate Jesus, who brings God close. We do not see him in the flesh any more, but we hear him speak through His Word, and receive his Body and Blood regularly, experiencing his forgiveness and goodness, whenever we receive Holy Communion. It's Christmas all over again!

Blessed Christmas to you!

Pastor Paul Nelson



ADVENT Worship

Each of the four Wednesdays before Christmas we come together to worship, and to fellowship. At 11:15 a.m. there is a service in the chapel, followed by fellowship over a lunch of soup, etc. in the Emmaus Room. At 5:30, a supper hosted by the various Boards of the Church will provide a pre-service fellowship time. The worship follows at 6:30 p.m. Come, bring friends!" Prepare for the "real" meaning of "Xmas."

The theme for our Advent worship is

"Where is Christ this Xmas?"

Wednesday, November 28: **"On the Christmas Tree"** (Jeremiah 33:14-16)

Wednesday, December 5: **"Just Around the Corner"** (Malachi 3:1-7b)

Wednesday, December 12: **"In the Songs of the Season"** (Zephaniah 3:14-20)

Wednesday December 19: **"In the Womb"** (Micah 5:2-5a)



"The Longest Night" Christmas Service-December 21st

Sometimes it's hard to experience the joy of Christmas, as we sing, "Joy to the World, the Lord is come." When we have suffered losses, sadness and grief, it takes the "Merry" out of "Merry Christmas." This time of year, when we have the shortest day and the longest night, memories of past experiences and the pain of present reality can become overwhelming. Recognizing that this is not a season of joy for everyone, a special service will be held on December 21, at 6:30 p.m. You will be invited to reflect on the pain, the loneliness, and the sorrow we may feel because of losses in our life. Maybe you're dealing with the loss of a loved one, the loss of a relationship (maybe through divorce), the loss of a job, of a future, of health, of friends, whatever loss you feel and grieve. In this service of readings, prayers and songs, we will offer it all to the Christ child. He was born to bear our infirmities and carry our sorrows (Isaiah 53:4).

Please pass the word to the community for we will welcome all who feel a loss, to bring it to Jesus and pray for his mercy to heal our lives.

F. I. S. H. - January 9 - February 27

Families, Individuals Study Hour (FISH) starts up after the Advent-Christmas season. This is a great time for everyone to come to the church for a light supper followed by various classes you can choose to attend. Here's what is scheduled for the new year.

5:30 A light supper, food, fellowship and fun for all ages. Thanks to the many volunteers who cook, serve, and clean up.

6:00 – 7:00 Choose from among these offerings

Children, Kindergarten – 4th graders, will enjoy a VBS-type of gathering using music, crafts and devotions. Kids Dig In continues our journey through the Bible.

“Will the Real Jesus Please Stand Up” led by Vicar Alex. Do you know who Jesus is? Are you sure? Today, there are many false portraits of Jesus on display. In this video study, Rev. Matthew Richard walks through his book, Will The Real Jesus Please Stand Up? He dissects 12 false Christs we often encounter these days. Join us as we examine each “Jesus” and learn to know the real Jesus more deeply.

“The Power of WE: God’s gift to families” led by Pastor Dave and Kathy Ludwig. Marriage (and family) relationships are wonderful. You can kid around and have fun together . . . when you can disagree without the mood shifting . . . when you feel understood and valuable. This is the POWER of WE. Come to this video-based series to see how you can make this happen in your marriage and family. Please note: This two-hour class will be on January 9, 16, 23, 30, from 6 – 8 p.m.

“Sharing/Teaching the Faith” led by Katrina Garrison (one of our school teachers). This class for parents with small children will concentrate on developing faith in our children, with special emphasis on preschool through elementary age children. Katrina will be a helpful resource for conversations on beginning Faith Walk steps, including what happens after baptism, devotional time at home, choosing a Bible for your child, and other helps for faith in the family growth.

7 – 8 p.m. These are the options for this second hour

Principal David Beringer will lead a discussion, topic to be determined.

“The POWER of WE” continues into the second hour on January 9, 16, 23, 30.

“Preparing for Worship” led by Pastor Paul, gives a look at each Sunday’s lessons (Old Testament, Psalm, Epistle, Gospel) to get a head start for Sunday worship.



Join in Celebrating the Birth of Our Savior!

Christmas Eve Services:

- ❖ Live Nativity Service at 4:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary
- ❖ Christmas Candlelight Service at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary
- ❖ ChristMass at 10:30 p.m., in the Sanctuary

Christmas Morning Service:

- ❖ Christmas Morning Service at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel

Children's Ministry News- Belinda Bost, Children's Minister



Advent calendars and devotionals are available for your families at the Welcome Centers.

Come and join us each Wednesday in Advent as we gather after the 5:30 pm meal and before the 6:30 pm worship service for Advent card creations. Each week families will create a card for Pastor Nelson, Pastor Schultz and Vicar Alex to share with the sick, homebound, and those in assisted living.



Christmas Eve 4:30 Live Nativity. This year the preschool, Kindergarten – 4th grades and youth are invited to be part of the traditional live nativity service. We need readers and leaders, animal handlers, shepherds, kings and angels. Contact Belinda Bost or Vicar Alex for more information.



We welcome two more children to our Cradle Roll **Melody Hager** infant daughter of Roger and Velet Mennen Hager born October 28.
Lorelei "Rory" Dolan Reid infant daughter of Cliff and Elisa Reid born November 16th.



Family Ministry Activity...December 11th

Join us as we travel to Charlotte to serve at the Operation Christmas Child processing center. Meet at 7:00 am in the horseshoe drive to board the mini-bus. We will serve from 9:00am-1:00pm and stop for lunch on our way home. We should return around 4:00pm.



Sunday Bible Studies:

9:30am – The Gospel of John - Adult Bible Study – Led by Corey Christians - Emmaus Room

11:00am – “Colossians” by Louie Giglio - Led by Cindy Sigmon – Adult Room #1.

11:00am – BLCFM Small Group – “Romans” - Led by Trey Watson – BLCFM

11:00am – “1, 2, 3 John”– Led by Youth Ministry Team – Youth Central

Weekday Small Group Bible Studies:

Mondays: Small Group – Led by Steve Bost - BLCFM.

Wednesdays: 7am Ladies’ Bible Study – Led by Kim Hauser. Adult Room #1

9:30am Ladies Bible Study – Led by Carla Hafer-Adult Room #1

10:00am Bible Study – First & Third Wednesdays – Led by Vicki Shull. EM

Thursdays: 7am Men’s Breakfast & Bible Study – Luther’s Small Catechism - Led by David Isenhower. CVMC - AHEC 105.

TCAC Update

The Transition Call and Arrangements Committee's journey has come to an end. The information needed to call a Senior Pastor is now in our hands, and we have handed this over to the Call Committee who will begin to work on the next phase of identifying the person that will lead Concordia Lutheran Church. The TCAC Team cannot express how much we appreciated all the input you offered to us through the survey process, cottage meetings, one-on-one discussions, etc. You have made the task of identifying the priorities, personal character requirements, core responsibilities, and expectations much easier by opening your hearts and minds, and sharing your thoughts to help us compile the information. Your prayers were also appreciated as we knew that God was with us every step of the way.

In November the Forums were held at two different times on November 4th, in which we were able to share with those attending the list of expectations and leaderships characteristics needed in our next Senior Pastor. We received valuable input at these meetings, and incorporated the feedback in the document. The Congregational Profile was also completed and submitted to the President of the Congregation. Also, the first meeting of the Call Committee was held with Circuit Visitor Pastor Anton Lagoutine who shared with the team the call process and everyone's role. Pastor Lagoutine's role is to serve as the call process supervisor. He is under the supervision of the District President, and will guide and direct the process to ensure that all matters are dealt with evangelically, constitutionally, and according to established church forms (LCMS Circuit Visitor Manual). Thus, there is still much more to be completed, but we have made great strides and are on schedule as shared in prior communications with Concordia members.

Again, the Transition Call and Arrangements Committee (TCAC) consisting of Cory Christians, Dale Lawing, Pat Moser, Peggy Travis, Smitty Bolick, Steve Bost, Lori Bedder, Kelly Burgess, Cindy Sigmon, Kyle Hayman, David Isenhower, David Hartsoe, Pastor Paul Nelson, and Pastor Craig Schultz, thank each of you for supporting the process to this point. We ask that you continue to pray for the Call Committee as they begin the final phase of this journey, and always remember to give the glory to God for all of his goodness!

National Youth Gathering/144 Envelopes

Thousands of youth, including Concordia's, will be gathering in Minneapolis in July of 2019, to learn about Jesus Christ, the Christian faith, and their Lutheran identity. Please help send our youth group by visiting the banner hanging in the narthex. Let's reveal the hidden message on the banner, by picking a numbered envelope and placing the corresponding dollar amount (cash or check made payable to Concordia Lutheran Church) in it. Your envelope may be turned in to Kate Cullen at the school office or Chris Henze, Youth Minister. Thank you for your support and prayers. God Bless.

Mission & Ministry Volunteer Opportunities



† Highways & Hedges: Needs help the 1st & 3rd Mondays from 4-7pm. Concordia is scheduled to serve on December 3rd and 17th at 4pm. Call Smitty Bolick at 828-310-9589 if you are interested in helping with this ministry.

† The Corner Table Serving Groups: Souper Stars and Sonshiners. More people are needed to serve on these team. If you are interested in helping with this ministry, contact the church office at 828-464-3324. Serving dates for December are as follows:

Wednesday, December 5th - Souper Stars
Thursday, December 13th - The Sonshiners

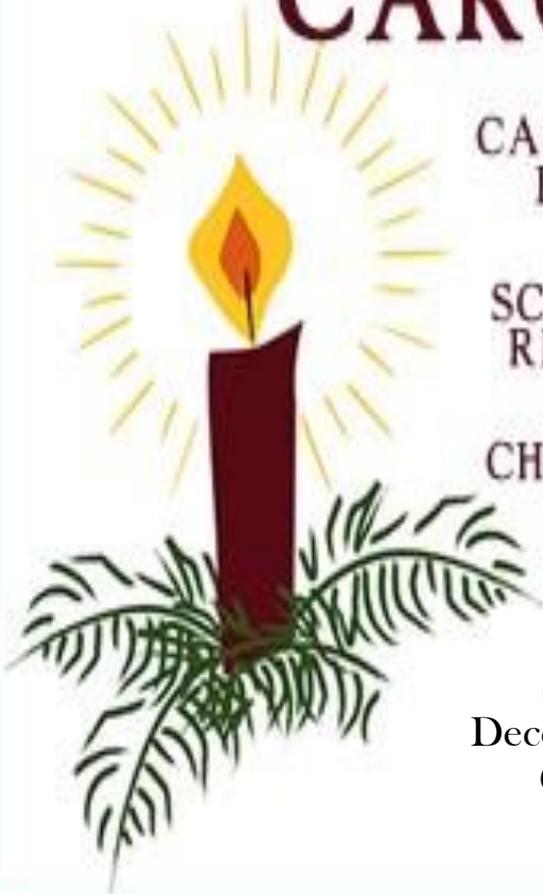


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LESSONS AND CAROLS

A
CANDLELIT
EVENING
OF
SCRIPTURE
READINGS
AND
CHRISTMAS
CAROLS



Sunday
December 16th
6:30 PM



ALL IN THE FAMILY

*(This is an update of the happenings in the
Life of Concordia since the last Newsletter)*

Hospital/Out Patient

Glenn Hunsucker, Vivian Knight

Sympathy To

Brooke Pope and family upon the death of her father, Richard Pope

Charles Bolick and family upon the death of his brother, Kenneth Bolick

Mark Byrne and family upon the death of his father, Robert Byrne

The family of Cody Harrelson

Debbie Ramseur and family upon the death of her brother, Vernon Crawford

Births

Lorelei "Rory" Dolan Reid, daughter of Elisa & Cliff Reid

Baptism

Alexander Paul Slotter in Boone IA

Marriage

Judith Bolick and Cody Munday

Other Prayer Needs

Our church and school staff and students

The unchurched in our area and throughout the world

Our church, school, and leadership

Our national and world leaders



The Lutheran Hour

SUNDAY BROADCASTS

WAIZ 630AM – 10:30am

WNNC 1230AM – 8:00am

WXRC 95.7 – 6:30am

December 2018

December 2-"**Reality Therapy**"-(Ruth 1-2)

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

The book of Ruth deals with unimportant people and unimportant matters, but deals with them in such a way as to show that God is active in ordinary lives-like yours and mine. Ruth's story became an important part of the story of Jesus. Listening to God's work in her life can rescue us from dead end delusions and bring us into what is most real-a Jesus-centered reality.

December 9-"**Redeemer with a Capital R**"-(Ruth 3-4)

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

When people use the word "redeem" outside of religious context, they tend to use it in a commercial sense-redeeming points from purchases or casino tokens for cash. In the Bible, the word "redeem" is used in a family setting. In the story of Ruth, Boaz is a "kinsman redeemer," who points to Jesus, our capital-r-Redeemer. Jesus has done more than pay our points. He redeems by bringing us into his clan, his people, his household, that we might be with him forever.

December 16-"**In Anxious Times - Rejoice!**"-(Philippians 4:4-7)

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Anthony (Tony) Cook

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. With anxiety on the rise, the Apostle Paul's call to "rejoice always" seems all but unobtainable. While there are many helpful ways to cope with society's increasing anxiety, Paul points us to a frequently overlooked source of joy and peace, God's grace in Christ.

December 23-"**The King's Strength**"-(Luke 1:26-56)

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

A true king's strength is seen, not in vaults and arsenals, but in the loyalty of his people. We celebrate the birth of the King who won the victory, not by taxing his subjects and killing his enemies, but by serving, loving and dying for them. By his resurrection, He destroyed the power of sin and lends us strength to become His loyal subjects.

December 30

"**A Long Good-Bye**"- Guest Speaker: Dr. Dean Nadasdy-(Luke 2:27-32)

As the year comes to a close, we likely have regrets and guilt. We can beat ourselves up over work left undone, but Jesus Christ has assured us that He is your hope. His grace is more than sufficient to take us into another year and give us peace.



LWML and Pregnancy Care Center team up for the annual shower in honor of Baby Jesus and benefitting this local ministry to women and girls in unplanned pregnancies. The Pregnancy Care Center provides free sonograms and prenatal care to the mothers. Information, loving support, and opportunity to “earn” baby things offer alternatives to abortion; post-abortion counseling is also available.

Monday, December 17, from 3:00 to 5:00 in the Emmaus Room. Suggested gifts include anything you would take to a baby shower plus gently-used clothing, strollers, etc. Light refreshments will be served, and a very brief information session about next thing on LWML horizon. All are welcome.



Children Lead Christmas Celebrations

There is something about children sharing the Good News of Jesus from their hearts! You will be encouraged in your own faith and joy of the season by attending any of the following:

- Thursday, December 6th - Concordia Christian Day School
1st – 4th Graders @ 6:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center
- Wednesday, December 12th - Concordia Christian Day School
Preschool – Kindergarten @ 8:20 a.m. in the Main Sanctuary
- Thursday, December 13th - Concordia Christian Day School
5th – 8th Graders @ 6:30 p.m. in the Main Sanctuary

Sr. Youth Christmas Family Project

Help us share with those in need this Christmas!



- **WHEN:** Sunday, December 9th, from 12:00pm to 3:00pm
- **WHAT:** Sr. Youth, bring a friend and join us for lunch, shopping, wrapping and delivering presents to a needy family!
 - **WHERE:** Meet in Youth Central
- **COST: FREE** {Thrivent Action Team \$ has been approved}
 - We are also asking for a \$10.00 (or more) donation to buy extra gifts for this family!



Concordia Christian Day School

A Tradition of Excellence in a Changing World

SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS

As we prepare for the Advent/Christmas season, we invite you to join us for our three children's Christmas programs this year on the following dates and times:

1st -4th Grade	Thursday, Dec. 6	6:30 pm-school gym
PS3 – Kindergarten	Wednesday, Dec. 12	8:20 am- Sanctuary
5th – 8th Grade	Thursday, Dec. 13	6:30 pm - Sanctuary

GOLF TOURNAMENT THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who sponsored or played in this year's Annual Swinging for Educational Excellence Golf Tournament that was held last month, at Rock Barn Country Club and Spa. Thank you to everyone who supported the Swinging for Education Excellence Golf Tournament. We had a great turnout but unfortunately got rained out after 3 holes. We enjoyed great fellowship and a wonderful lunch despite the weather and raised over \$13,000! A special thank you to our **Crusader Sponsor, CR Laine and our Platinum Sponsors, Conover Chiropractic and Thrivent/Michael Gerkin.**

A big thanks to Jenny Eckard for chairing this event.

City of Conover Art Contest – “What in Conover Are You Thankful For”

Winners Announced

Congratulations CCDS 4th Graders:

Hank Dyson – 1st Place

Bella Coletti – Best of Show

Annual Gift Appeal

A mailing will soon be sent to Alumni, Alumni Parents, Church Members, and School Parents asking for their support. School tuition and church support cannot pay for all of the school needs. Look for the mailing from the school marked "Concordia School News" and pray about how you can help our school.

SHOEBOXES PACKED

On November 15, Concordia's students packed over 200 shoeboxes for Samaritan's Purse. Thanks to all our students and parents for supporting this project. What a blessing to reach out and touch children's lives somewhere in the world with school supplies and the message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

1ST QUARTER

PRINCIPAL'S LIST & HONOR ROLL

The Principal's List includes students in 4th - 8th grades who have earned A's in every subject on their report card. Congratulations to the following students who have made the Principal's List:

4th Grade: Bella Coletti, Hank Dyson, Levi Grant, Sawyer Hudson, Jenna Sain

5th Grade: Miles Britton, Phoebe Carver, Braxton Eckard, Ben Ellwanger, Larkyn Gerken, Noah Hedrick, Ethan Johnson, Jude Lopina, David Robison

6th Grade: Ellie Adams, Alice Christian, Addison Ellinger, Jack Hoffman, Ava Grace Noell, Sara Sain

7th Grade: Avery Beringer, Peyton Gerken

8th Grade: John Moore, Lizzie Sain, Isabella Tupman

The Honor Roll List is for students in 4th - 8th grades who have earned A's and B's in every subject on their report card. Congratulations to the following students who made the Honor Roll:

4th Grade: Camden Averett, Isabella Casanova, Addyson Edwards, Gabriel Johnson, Andrew Lamb, Peyton Laney, Helen Elizabeth Murray, Whitney Spleet, Emily Williams, Kobe Windsor

5th Grade: Abby DeHart, Michael Freeman, Samuel Hoffman, Cayman Lewis, Bryce Mitchell, John Mullinax, Sadie Schmuker, David Tupman

6th Grade: Olivia Foster, Ada Jones, Brianna Miller, Hailey Okuboye-Born, Sean Roth, Piper Travis

7th Grade: Will Choplin, Alex Furr, Drew Hass, Saylem Hudson, Fernando Mendoza-Flores, Jacob Moore, Payton Roseman, Smith Swanson, Bennett Tepper, Charlie Tomlinson

8th Grade: Shea Beringer, Katie Grace DeHart, Jake Lopina, Jenna Munday, Ameera Raja, Will Sigmon, Ella Smith, Olivia Tate

2018-2019 YEARBOOK BUSINESS ADS

Business Ads are available for purchase if your business, or that of someone you know, would like to be displayed in the yearbook. Forms are available in the school office and will be due to the office no later than January 11, 2019.

Ads for our 8th Grade students will be available for purchase soon.

Thank you for your continued support!

Grandparents' Thanksgiving Lunch

On November 16, we held our 2nd annual Grandparents' Thanksgiving Lunch in the school cafeteria and gym. We had over 150 grandparents in attendance, the food was delicious, and thanks to a very talented parent volunteer we offered family photos. Thank you to all who volunteered and for all of the grandparents who shared this time with their grandkids. We are very blessed and thankful!

UCHS News...December 2018

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Congratulations to junior, **Hayden Patel**. Hayden has been chosen to be UCHS's nominee for Governor's School this year. Governor's School is a 6-week summer program for rising seniors. Students spend their time totally immersed in their area of study. Hayden has chosen Social Science as his area of interest. Nominees will need to wait until Spring to learn if they have been accepted into the program.

We are proud to announce that **Anna Grace Patel & Hayden Patel** have been selected to serve on the 2018-2019 Catawba County Youth Council.

Congratulations to **Tommy Little** on his YMCA Teen Character Award nomination!

UCHS ANNUAL FUND DRIVE

Please support UCHS, your Lutheran High School, by donating to our first Annual Fund Drive. We need your help as tuition will not cover all our costs. Every donation will help. We are also very excited to share the amazing news that the first \$20,000 in donations to the UCHS Annual Fund Drive will be matched. These matching funds will make your donation count twice as much! You can give on-line at uchigh.com or mail a tax deductible check to the school office. Please call 828-855-2995 for more information. Thank you!

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

Congratulations to the following students on their college acceptances: **Tommy Little** and **Ellie Chiles** to Radford University (VA), **Turner Ham** and **David Cabral** to Lenoir-Rhyne University, **Anna Catherine Pritchard** to Western Carolina and East Carolina, **Ellie Chiles** and **Mackenzie Turner** also to East Carolina University.

BARRACUDA REPORT

- The UCHS men's cross country team won the 2018 SPAA Conference Championship. This is the first UCHS men's cross country conference championship.
- The UCHS Woman's Tennis team lost in the semi-finals of the State Tournament. That was their first loss of the season.
- The UCHS soccer team finished the season 7-7 and qualified for the NCISAA State Playoffs for the first year in the 2A division. They lost to Davidson Day in the first round of the playoffs.
- The UCHS volleyball team finished the season 10-7 and qualified for the NCISAA State Playoffs for the first year in the 2A division. They beat Northside Christian 3-0 and Carolina Friends 3-1 before losing in the quarter-finals.

For more news about UCHS or information about applying, check out our website at www.uchigh.com or call us at 828-855-2995.



Youth Ministry INFO for December 2018

Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world." – John 8:12

Youth Ministry Christmas Caroling & Dinner:

Our youth ministry is going Christmas Caroling on Sunday, December 2nd. Meet at Youth Central at 3:00pm. Bring your smiles, voices, and friends! We will sing Christmas Carols and give big hugs to our "older and wiser" homebound members.

After Caroling we will return to Youth Central for our Christmas Covered Dish Dinner. Bring 1 meat dish (chicken, ham, meatballs) & 1 side dish (veggie, fruit, casserole) to share. We will be taking 2 church buses! The entire congregation is invited to go with us & share in this Christmas joy!

Free Gift Wrapping on December 2nd:

Our National Youth Gathering Troupe will wrap your presents for free after all 3 worship services on Sunday, December 2nd.

Sr. Youth - Christmas Family Project:

Our Sr. Youth are assisting a needy family this year for Christmas. We will meet on Sunday, December 9th from 12:00-3:00pm in Youth Central. The suggested donation is \$10.00 per person for the family's gifts. We will eat lunch, shop, wrap and deliver the presents on this same day. Come be a part of this wonderful Servant Event!

People have offered to financially help with this Servant Event. Your donations can be turned in at the church's main office or placed in the offering plate. Please do so by *Sunday, December 2nd*. Mark your check for: **"Sr. Youth Christmas Family"

THANK YOU to the Christian Education Board for delegating the 4th quarter Sunday School offerings to support this very worthwhile outreach event!

Parent's Night Out is Saturday, December 8th from 5-11pm:

Our National Youth Gathering Troupe is babysitting in Youth Central on Saturday, December 8th. Parents can bring their children for activities and food while you guys go out to shop, date, relax or whatever. See Lindy Kuchenbecker for more details!

*Merry Christmas!
May God Bless!*



Youth Ministry INFO for December 2018

Youth Skating on December 12th after Advent Dinner & Worship:

Join us for dinner and worship on December 12th. After worship we are going Roller Skating. **YOU MUST ATTEND WORSHIP** to attend the after-event. We will walk out of the sanctuary, get onto the bus and drive to Skateland. We will return to Youth Central by 9:00pm.

Young Adults to Winterfest on Friday, December 28th:

This is for our post high school (college-age) youth. We are going to Charlotte and attend Carowinds' Winterfest. Meet in Youth Central at 4:00pm. We return at 1:00am. The cost is only \$10.00. See Laura Miller or Natalie Williams for details!

Have you checked out the "144 Envelopes Banner"?

Let's see what the hidden message is under the envelopes.

Welcome to the new (2018-2019) Sr. Youth Council:

9th grade: Jaden Burgess.....Fiona Finch

10th grade: Gemma Cullen

11th grade: Oliver Grigg

12th grade: Colbie Dwiggin.....Caleb Henze

Thank you for leading by serving!

SYC/YMT Christmas Lunch on December 16th:

Our Sr. Youth Council & Youth Ministry Team will meet at Panera Bread on Sunday, December 16th at 12:00pm. This is our annual Christmas lunch/meeting!



Join us for Concordia's Christmas Eve Services:

4:30pm Live Nativity

6:30pm Candlelight

10:30pm Christ Mass

DCE Chris L. Henze -- Youth Minister

What would the “perfect” youth ministry volunteer look like?

Youth Pastor, Chris Dortch, in North Carolina recently posted on his church's blog looking for volunteers. Here's what he's looking for — sounds pretty good to us.

What would the “perfect” youth ministry volunteer look like? I think I have an answer, but first let's address some of the myths.

Myth #1 “You’ve got to be cool.”

Let's face it, we probably weren't that cool in high school and we're certainly not cool as adults. Students don't need someone to be cool, they need authenticity. If you are willing to be yourself around teenagers, you're a great candidate for volunteering in the youth ministry.

Myth #2 “You’ve got to be young.”

Sometimes we think that the 20-somethings “relate better” to teenagers because of their age. Most teenagers have a hard time telling the difference between a 25 year-old who is married and a 37 year-old who is married (they are both “old”). Research shows that teenagers are actually drawn to the oldest person in the room who will listen to them and take them seriously. If you are willing to listen to teenagers and take their problems seriously, you're a great candidate for volunteering in the youth ministry.

Myth #3 “You’ve got to act like a teenager.”

There is a difference between being child-like and being childish. One of my youth ministry heroes, Duffy Robbins says, “Teenagers don't need adults who act like teenagers. They need adults who don't freak out when teenagers act like teenagers.” If you can act like an adult and not “freak out” when teenagers act like teenagers, then you're a great candidate for volunteering in the youth ministry.

Myth #4 “You’ve got to be a Bible scholar.”

Sure, we want you to know something about the Bible, but we don't expect you to have all of the answers. In John 9, the man born blind gives us a great example of how to respond to questions we don't know the answers to, “Whether Jesus was a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know, I once was blind but now I can see!” If you are willing to help students discover answers to their questions, you're a great candidate for volunteering in the youth ministry.

Myth #5 “You’ve got to know everything in teen culture.”

It's okay if you don't listen to Justin Bieber and you still listen to Abba on vinyl. Students want you to be you. Many of them would even love to hear stories about the time you were in a KISS cover band! If you don't know who Justin Bieber is, you're the perfect candidate for volunteering in the youth ministry.

If these aren't the things that teenagers are looking for, what do they need in an adult volunteer?

What would the “perfect” youth ministry volunteer look like?

Reality #1 “Students need adults who will live a life honoring to God.”

Students are searching for adults who are authentic in their walk with Christ. If there is one thing that teenagers have a keen ability to spot, it is fake people.

Reality #2 “Students need adults who are interested enough to learn their name.”

Students want to know if adults care enough to remember their names. When I first came to Christ Community Church over ten years ago, I had a middle school girl ask, “Do you know my name?” To my embarrassment, I had no clue. I told her that if she reminded me of her name one last time, I would make sure that I knew it the next week. I will never forget Alice.

Reality #3 “Students need adults who are interested in their life.”

Students need adults who will spend time with them, pray for them, say an encouraging word, believe in them, and simply laugh with them. Students want to know if you are willing to come into “their world” and discover who they are.

Reality #4 “Students need adults who are consistent with their attendance.”

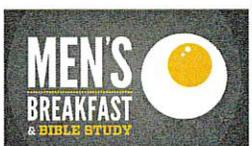
Students are familiar with adults who come in and out of their lives like a revolving door. Teachers change from semester to semester. Parents change from alternating weekends. Teenagers need to know which adults are going to be consistent in their life. This is one of the reasons that I have committed to youth ministry for nearly twenty years.

Students may ask it this way, “Do you care about me? Do you know my name? Will you be here next week?” If you are willing to show teenagers you care about them, willing to learn some names, and be consistent with your attendance... YOU are the perfect youth ministry volunteer.

We believe that every teenager needs five godly adults who are investing in their lives. When a student in our church's youth group is asked, “Who are the most influential adults in your life?” We want their parents and adults from our student ministry to be in their top five!

Originally posted on [CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH'S BLOG](#). **Chris Dortch has been in ministry since 1993 and has been the Lead Youth Pastor of Christ Community Church since January of 2002.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
December 2018						1 4pm LLL Steak Supper
2 First Sunday of Advent 8am Worship & Communion 9am Gift Wrapping - NYG 9:30am Bible Study - EM 9:30am Praise Service/Children's Church 11am Bible Study - A#1 11am Children's Ministry & Youth Sunday School 11am Worship & Communion 3pm Youth Christmas Caroling & Dinner	3 10am Concordia's day to serve at ECCCM 1:30pm Quilt Tacking 4pm Highways and Hedges 6:30pm B/C Scouts 6:30pm Steve Bost - BLCFM	4 8:35am Staff Devotion & Weekly Meeting - EM	5 7am Ladies Bible Study - A#1 8:20am CCDS Chapel - Sanctuary 9:30am Ladies Bible Study - A#1 10am Bible Study - EM 10am Souper Stars serve Corner Table 11:15am Advent Service 12pm Advent Meal 5:30pm Bells 5:30pm Meal - BOE & BOCDS 6:30pm Advent - Worship 7pm Choir 8pm Praise Group	6 7am Men's Breakfast Bible Study - AHEC 105 6:30pm Christmas Program 1st - 4th Grades 	7 	8 5pm Parent's Night Out - babysitting 
9 Second Sunday of Advent 8am Worship & Communion 9:30am Bible Study - EM 9:30am Praise/Communion/Children's Church 11am Bible Study - A#1 11am Children's Ministry & Youth Sunday School 11am Worship 12pm Sr. Youth Christmas Family Project	10 6:30pm B/C Scouts 6:30pm Steve Bost - BLCFM 	11 7am Field Trip to OCC 8:35am Staff Devotion & Weekly Meeting - EM	12 7am Ladies Bible Study - A#1 8:20am Chapel - PS3-K Christmas Program 9:30am Ladies Bible Study - A#1 10am Inmate Mailing Team 11:15am Advent Service 12pm Advent Meal - PrimeTimers 5:30pm Advent Meal - BOS 5:30pm Bells 6:30pm Advent Worship 7:15pm Choir 7:15pm Youth Roller Skating 8pm Praise Group	13 7am Men's Breakfast Bible Study - AHEC 105 10am Sonshiners at Corner Table 6:30pm 5th-8th Grade Christmas Music Program	14 12pm January Newsletter Deadline 	15
16 Third Sunday of Advent 8am Worship & Communion 8am LLL 9:30am Bible Study - EM 9:30am Praise Service/Children's Church 11am Bible Study - A#1 11am Children's Ministry & Youth Sunday School 11am Worship & Communion 12pm SYC/YMT Christmas Lunch 6:30pm Lessons & Carols	17 1:30pm Quilt Tacking 3pm Baby shower for Baby Jesus 4pm Highways & Hedges 6:30pm B/C Scouts 6:30pm Boy Scout Court of Honor 6:30pm Steve Bost - BLCFM	18 8:35am Staff Devotion & Weekly Meeting - EM	19 7:00am Ladies Bible Study - A#1 8:20am CCDS Chapel - Sanctuary 9:30am Ladies Bible Study - A#1 10:00am Bible Study - EM 11:15am Advent Service 12:00pm Advent Meal 5:30pm Advent Meal - M&M/BOA/Officers 5:30pm Bells 6:30pm Advent Worship 7:15pm Choir 8:00pm Praise Group	20 7am Men's Breakfast Bible Study - AHEC 105 	21 6:30pm Longest Night Service 	22
23 Fourth Sunday of Advent 8am Worship & Communion 9:30am Bible Study - EM 9:30am Praise Service/Communion/Children's Church 11am Bible Study - A#1 11am Children's Ministry & Youth Sunday School 11am Traditional Worship	24 Christmas Eve Church & School Office Closed 4:30pm Live Nativity Service 6:30pm Candlelight Service 10:30pm CHRISTmass Service	25 Christmas Day Church & School Offices Closed 10am Worship 	26 Church & School Offices closed 8pm Praise Group	27 7am Men's Breakfast Bible Study - AHEC 105 3pm Blood Drive Family Life Center	28 	29
30 8am Worship & Communion 9:30am Praise/Communion/Children's Church 9:30am Bible Study - EM 11am Worship & Communion 11am Bible Study - A#1 11am Children's Ministry & Youth Sunday School	31 					

December Birthdays and Anniversaries



McKayla Coletti	12/2
Brittany Connor	12/2
Lisa Jackson	12/2
Christy Byrd	12/3
Layla Davis	12/3
Pat Setzer	12/3
Rebecca Smith	12/3
Charles Urtel	12/3
Ryen Reid	12/5
Dwight Brooks	12/6
David Hafer	12/6
Layla Herman	12/6
Jonathan Nelson	12/7
Nancy Kelley	12/8
Kathryne Smith	12/8
Roger Hager	12/9
Bobby Matthews	12/9
Carol Preston	12/9
A.J. Baker Jr.	12/10
Bob Malin III	12/10
Lauren Dillard	12/11
Diana Long	12/11
Ethan Parris	12/11
Priscilla Sigmon	12/11
Kristin Baker	12/12
Steve Hamm	12/12
Kyle McClure	12/12
Jeff Starnes	12/12
Gail Hunsucker	12/13
Ryan Rudisill	12/13
William Smith	12/13
Jams Ballbach	12/15

Kate McClure	12/15
Jennifer Montgomery	12/15
Anna Patel	12/15
Margie Bowman	12/16
Fiona Finch	12/16
Mary Herman	12/16
Lexie Welch	12/16
Smitty Bolick Jr.	12/17
Mark Canrobert	12/17
Matthew Hafer Jr.	12/17
Melissa Hayes	12/17
Avery Hill	12/17
Joel Quackenboss	12/17
Mark Schudde	12/17
Bob Carosi	12/19
Stephanie Moore	12/19
Sandy Smith	12/19
Addie Jo Welch	12/19
Anderson Welch	12/19
Chadwick Bolick	12/20
Zachary Henson	12/20
Andy Matthews	12/20
Dwayne Welch	12/20
Angela Watts	12/21
C. Randy Isenhower	12/22
Andrew Matthews	12/23
Zachary Perry	12/25
Pat Deal	12/26
Adam Campbell	12/27
Carolyn Ellis	12/27
Amanda Munday	12/27
Jasmine Galloway	12/28
Seth Quackenboss	12/28
Jack Tomlinson Jr.	12/28
Anna-Kathryn Hass	12/29
Shauna Kent	12/29
Jack Power	12/29
Peggy Travis	12/29
Lucretia Wallace	12/30
Rick Bare	12/31
Bruce Roffey	12/31

Happy Anniversary



Tim & Rebecca Smith	12/5
Conrad & Evelyn Yount	12/5
J. Weidner & Tracy Abernethy	12/14
Harvey & Peggy Travis	12/14
Darrin & Joni Reid	12/15
Kate & Tom Cullen	12/18
David & Shelly Hayes	12/18
Kelly & Jennifer Keever	12/19
Lester & Priscilla Sigmon	12/19
William & Janice Whitener	12/20
Brian & Corie Harris	12/21
Clarence & Joyce Pugh	12/23
Jordan & Nathan Tabor	12/27
Tom & Beverly Considine	12/29
Dustin & Mary Edwards	12/30
Jerome & Linda Bolick	12/31

		<u>Dec 2</u>	<u>Dec 9</u>	<u>Dec 16</u>	<u>Dec 23</u>	<u>Dec 30</u>
<u>ACOLYTES:</u>	(8:00)	Drew Hass	Jacob Moore	Payton Roseman	Jordan Henze	Jake Lamb
	(9:30)	Alice Christian	Sophie Hayes	Jordan Henze	Drew Hass	Jackson Bryan
	(11:00)	Avery Beringer Jordan Henze	Abby DeHart Jordan Henze	Avery Beringer Katie Grace DeHart	Jackson Bryan	Open

SPECIAL SERVICES:

12/05	6:30pm	Acolytes: Drew Hass & Jordan Henze	
12/12	6:30pm	Acolytes: Avery Beringer & John Moore	
12/19	6:30pm	Acolytes: Peyton Gerken & Jacob Moore	
12/24	4:30pm	Acolyte: Anna Grace Noell	
	6:30pm	Acolyte: Payton Roseman	Elder: Steve Bost
	10:30pm	Acolyte: Jordan Henze	Elder: Roy Sigmon
12/25	10:00am	Acolyte: Ellie Adams	Elder: Ron Kaylor

<u>GREETERS:</u>	(8:00)	Cory & Joleen Christians	Carla Hafer & Cindy Spears	Carl & Pat Welch	Fred Farmer & Susan Harman	Pat Moser & David Isenhower
	(9:30)	Jill Graff & Ana	Dwayne Welch Family	Delaina & Brandon Bryan	David & Mary Hartsoe	George & Pat Deal
	(11:00)	Harvey & Peggy Travis	Clarence & Joyce Pugh	Kaye Deal & Charles Bolick	Ken Elliott Family	Gary & Marigene Matthews

<u>8:45 FELLOWSHIP:</u>		Leslie Brown	Carmen Isenhower	Jeri Alice Carter	Mary Anne Wike	Lois Hintzmann
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<u>READERS:</u>	(8:00)	Bret Graff	Paul Karre	Kathy Unverfehrt	Ann Marie Blackmon	Michelle Montgomery
	(9:30)	Forrest Christian	Lisa Christian	Brian Hefner	Susan Harman	Audra Kuchenbecker
	(11:00)	Clarence Pugh	Charlie Canrobert	David Isenhower	Jill Adair	Vicki Shull

<u>ELDERS:</u>	(8:00)	Jimmy Martin Fred Farmer Corey Christians	Fred Farmer Corey Christians	Fred Farmer	Fred Farmer	Fred Farmer
	(9:30)		Steve Bost Roy Sigmon		Roy Sigmon	
	(11:00)	Steve Bost		Ron Kaylor		Steve Bost

TRUSTEES: Steve Brewer, Brandon Elrod and Greg Roseman

ALTAR GUILD: Opal Bolick and Ann Marie Blackmon

USHERS:
(8:00) Ted and Paul Karre

(11:00) Fred Farmer, Captain, David Hayes, Alan Hefner, Harvey Travis, Charlie Canrobert and Mark Canrobert