

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

The Official Announcements of Concordia Lutheran Church

Christmas Schedules

Office Closing

The church office will be closed December 24-27. We will work late on December 23rd to make sure everything is ready for our wonderful Christmas services. We pray that you have a wonderful and joyful Christmas.

Christmas Worship Schedule

Christmas Eve

- 4:30p - ChristMASS with Hand Bells & Brass
- 8:00pm - ChristMASS with Unifour Brass & Choir

Christmas Day

- 10:00a - Christmas Day Service in the Chapel.



Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes are on a table in the transept nearest the church office. Begin using your new envelopes in January 2025.

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Nursery Hours

8:45a - 12:15p

We are happy to have a church nursery available for your needs. It is located down the main hall off the sanctuary on the right-hand side, just a few doors past the office area. Look for the sign.

Connect with Staff

Michael Geml, Sr. Pastor 517-395-8422
 Kyle McClure, Music Minister 828-302-1236
 Kathy Unverfehrt, Christian Ed. Coordinator 828-464-3324

Dave Beringer, Principal 715-551-5740
 Leslie Brown, Business Admin. 828-234-0372

Church Office 828-464-3324

School Office 828-464-3011

Save the Date

“The Chosen” will start on Wednesday, January 8. Dinner will be served from 5:00p to 5:45p. The movie will start at 6:00p. Season 2 Episode 1 is “Thunder.” Tension builds among the disciples as they wrestle with the increasing fame of Jesus in Samaria. Jesus rebukes Big James and John for their prejudice and, after a near-violent encounter, gives them a new nickname.

Chili Cook-off

When: January 25, 2025

Time: 5:30p-7:00p

Place: Family Life Center

Winner will receive a trophy. There will be games and a Piñata for the children.

Pray for:

Members:

Sydney Karre
Peggy Travis
Steven Geml
Donna Hager
Denise Gilbert
Bernice Holler
Frances Kaylor
Ronald Kaylor
Debbie Da Rosa
Caleb Brown
Helen Ann Westfall
Harold Unger
Brad Furr

Friends:

Eli Ames
Daniel Meier
Sondra Phillips

Military:

Eric Galloway
Kendall Hamm
Tony Sherrill
Christopher Walker
Jaylen Joyner
Nathan Malin
Mack Isenhower
Amber Miller
Clay Weedman

Staff:

Stephanie Guelzow
Krystal Freeman
Tracie Henderson
Amy Coffey

Blessings to: Our December College Graduates: Paige Furr and Chloe Hedrick

Seminary Student: Lamar Stewart & family

Missionary family of the year: Rev. Jason & Emily Groth, Belize

With great thanks!

Pastor Paul and Barbara Nelson are extremely grateful for your continued prayers for our grandson, Eli Ames. It is a long, slow recovery time for him. He turned 18 this summer, about the time he started being able to eat (and now he eats almost everything on the table!). He still needs to take liquids through his feeding tube. He is starting to speak some words, sometimes even sentences. He is still wheel-chair bound, and his left side is still affected by the stroke he suffered during one of the surgeries almost five years ago. He has grown to about 6' tall, and maybe 190 pounds. And he is generally in good spirits when we visit. Your prayers and concerns for him are wonderful! We wish you a blessed Christmas and joy-filled new year.

Christian Education

Sunday Christian Education Classes are offered at 10:10a. Chose from below:

Pre-school 3 – K Classroom beside the nursery. – Led by Jerri Alice, Maggie Lou and Mary Elizabeth Carter.

1st – 3rd Grade – Led by Sharon White & Ron Bumgarner - Education wing of the church

4th - 6th Grade - Led by Kelly Roth - Education wing of the church

7th – 12th Youth – Led by Bill Unverfehrt - Youth Central

Adults – A#1 – Parents Leading Children in Faith - Kathy Unverfehrt

Adults - Chapel - A Longer Look at the Lessons - Led by Pastor Geml

Adults - Emmaus Room - “Person of Interest” - Led by Audra Kuchenbecker - Continues through January 2025

Weekday Bible Study Classes

Ladies Bible Study led by Kim Hauser – Wednesdays 7a – Emmaus Room

Men’s Bible Study led by David Isenhower – Thursdays 7a – Emmaus Room

Weekly Calendar



Pondering for Parents

“Speak to your children as if they are the wisest, kindest, most beautiful and magical humans on earth, for what THEY believe is what they will become.”

Brooke Hampton

Sunday, December 22

- 9a Sunday School Christmas Program
- 10a Children’s Christmas Program Reception - BLCFM
- 10:10a Christian Education
- 10:10a No Children’s Sunday School
- 11a Worship & Communion
- 4p Cub Scouts

Tuesday, December 24

- Church Office Closed**
- 4:30p ChristMASS with Handbells
- 8:30p ChristMASS with Unifour Brass

Wednesday, December 25

- Church Office Closed**
- 10:10a Christmas Day Worship

Thursday, December 26

- Church Office Closed**

Friday, December 27

- Church Office Closed**

Sunday, December 29

- 9a Worship and Communion
- 10:10a Christian Education
- 11a Worship, Communion and Baptism



The Church Office will be Closed on Wednesday, January 1st for the New Year’s Holiday.






Bible Verse For Reflection


But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

Galatians 4:4-5

 <p>CONCORDIA LUTHERAN YOUTH CONOVER, NC</p>	<h2 style="margin: 0;">National Youth Gathering Gift Wrapping!</h2> <p>We are excited to report that we have 11 people, 8 youth and 3 adults, going to the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans in July 2025. The National Youth Gathering is an amazing opportunity for these participants to grow in their faith in God. While the youth are contributing towards the cost of the trip, most of the expenses need to be covered by fundraisers and donations. We will be doing several fundraisers over the next six months to help cover the costs. Look for more information in the weekly highlights about how you can support our fundraisers. We thank all of you in advance for supporting our youth.</p>	 <p>CONCORDIA LUTHERAN YOUTH CONOVER, NC</p>
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	<h3 style="margin: 0;">Christmas Fellowship</h3> <p>Everyone is invited to a Christmas reception in the Brian Long Center following the Sunday School Children’s Christmas Program.</p>	
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	<p>The “ornaments” for the Children's program this morning were made by the 1st -6th grade Sunday School classes. Thank you children!</p>
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	<h3 style="margin: 0;">Faith Thought</h3> <p><i>“In faith, there is enough light for those who want to believe and enough shadows to blind those who don’t.”</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Blaise Pascal</p>
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<h3 style="margin: 0;">CHILDREN’S ACTIVITY BAGS</h3> <p>Our children’s church activity bags have been updated with Advent/Christmas items. You can find these activity bags located on the Welcome Center in both the narthex and transept areas of the church. When church is over, please return it, with all the items in the bag, so they can be available again next week for the children. Thank you!</p>

Don’t forget about Concordia’s Prayer Circle.
 If you would like to submit a request for prayer, please contact Dianne Lawing at 828-850-1460 or dlawing0912@yahoo.com; Cindy Sigmon at 828-302-2688 or thecrew@charter.net; Sharon White at 828-238-4869. The Circle will pray for you in strict confidence. Please call the church office if you would like to be added to the prayer list in the highlights.

OFFERINGS & TITHES
 All are invited to make an offering today as a worship expression of thanksgiving to God, and in support of the ministries of Concordia Lutheran Church. You may place your gift in the offering plates near the entrances as you enter or leave. May God bless our offerings and tithes, and bless the ministries which these gifts enable.

Just the Facts:

General Fund Offerings: \$ 20,651
Online Offerings: \$ 1,366

Budget Needs: \$ 18,541

Attendance: 232

Member of the week: Pat Deal – 2289 Mt. Olive Church Rd, Newton, NC 28658. Her birthday is December 26.

Find us on:

