

Concordia Newsletter

June 2024



Concordia Lutheran Church and Christian Day School

216 5th Ave SE. Conover, NC 28613

Church 828.464.3324 | School 828.464.3011

Rev. Michael Geml, Sr. Pastor 828.464.3324 x303 | C 517.395.8422

Mr. David Beringer, Principal 828.464.3301 x202

Church website: <https://www.concordianc.org>

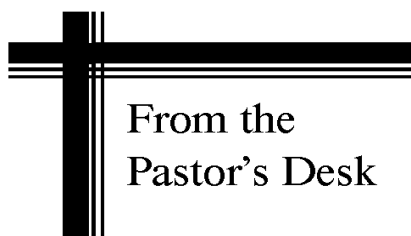
Church office email: sharman@concordianc.org

Worship Times

Sunday 9:00a Contemporary

Sunday 11:00a Traditional

Both services meet in the
sanctuary.



From the
Pastor's Desk

WELL, I NEVER!!!

How does one react when slighted, when insulted, when words or actions raised against us challenge how we perceive ourselves? We might experience what some have called, "righteous indignation." Sometimes we may feel absolutely justified in our righteous indignation. "Well, I never!!! How dare you say that about me!" Conversely, are there not times we may come to realize that we might have to examine ourselves and admit there are places in our lives where we can grow?

Consider those three words (well, I never) attached to a different meaning. So, instead of righteous indignation, relate them more toward personal condemnation. Consider these words as they relate to your life as a child of God. "Well, I never pray for my family, friends, neighbors, enemies." "Well, I never have invited someone to church." "Well, I never participate in any church sponsored events." "Well, I never have been to a Bible study since our pastor arrived over four years ago."

True righteous indignation is the sole possession of the Lord. For He is perfect in His judgements. When His people, who are called by His holy name, treat each other with deception and distrust, when His people speak falsely against each other, when His people intentionally remove themselves from worship and Bible study, God's righteous indignation is justified.

Now let us speak those three words with the best construction. “*Well, I never* knew just how much I am loved by God.” “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son...” In love for us, God gave Jesus over to death on the cross and His righteous indignation against our sin fell on His beloved Son.

There are times in life when circumstances may prevent us from participating in worship, Bible study and other Church events. What a blessing it would be upon us to truly say, “Well, I almost never miss coming to Church.” As the Summer months unfold, as we enjoy the beauty of God’s creation, let us never set worship and fellowship aside. God alone is worthy of our constant and consistent worship and praise.

To God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all glory honor and praise.

Pastor Geml

Announcement

Regular Voters Assembly Meeting

Sunday June 2, 2024 after the 11:00 Service

Sanctuary

This regularly scheduled meeting is for the election of officers and members of boards of the congregation. Also, any item of business may be brought before the membership at this meeting.

Main Items of business will be:

1. Approval of new members and first time voters.
2. Presentation of Board and Staff reports.
3. Presentation of Financial and Parochial reports through April 30, 2024.
4. Election of Officers and Boards.

Please add this date and time to your calendar. Fifty members must be in attendance to conduct business as required by our Constitution. Thank you for consideration and time in attending this meeting.

President Jimmy Martin

Vice President Rick Bare

Secretary Dorcas Dunker

The Gift of Contentment

As children grow up, they often feel cramped by their parents' restrictions. Dad says to be home by 11. But why can't I say out 'til midnight? Mom says to clean your room on Saturday morning. But I want to sleep in late, then roll out of bed, hop in the car and go to my friend's house without delay. I want to do what I decide is best.

The older we get, and especially when we have kids of our own, we begin to see the truth. Mom and Dad were not cramping our style or trying to crush our personal freedom — they were looking out for us, providing for us and teaching us a better way of life.

If that's how it is with fallible human parents, how much more so with our Heavenly Father! We sinners often feel cramped by the Law of God. Our sinful flesh wants to go its own way, do its own thing and be in charge. But in our heart of hearts, we know how foolish this is. We know that God loves us, and therefore all of His commands are for our benefit. Each one of His commandments is meant to bless us. Consider the last two commandments:

You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not scheme to get our neighbor's inheritance or house, or get it in a way which only appears right, but help and be of service to him in keeping it. (SC II)

You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not entice or force away our neighbor's wife, workers, or animals, or turn them against him, but urge them to stay and do their duty. (SC II)

The commandments against coveting are warning us against losing one of the greatest gifts we can possess: contentment. Being content and thankful with what God has provided for us is a necessary building block of living a happy life. Unthankful coveting of what we have not been given will only make us miserable, so God warns us against it.

God has proven His love for us in sending His only begotten Son to shed His blood for us, cleanse us of our sins and brings us back into His family. If He loves us this much, then when percentage of His commandments do you think are meant to harm us? Probably no more than one or two percent, right? Of course that's absurd. God means to bless us with everything He says to us. The Law of God simply describes what a truly happy life, lived in thankfulness to Christ, looks like: It's a generous, merciful, contented life that uses all of the resources God has given us for His purposes.

Board of Assimilation

Do you know why we worship as we do?

Recently in these pages we've considered Concordia's inception, growth, and traditions. Today let's look at how we worship.

Notice that each Sunday worship service follows a pattern? We begin with an "Invocation," calling on the name of the Triune God, followed by an "Introit," or entry song, as the clergyman approaches the altar. Then comes a praise song, then the pastor "collects" our group thanks and supplications. General confession and absolution come next, all to prepare us for the Scripture readings. Then the song of the day and the sermon relate to the lessons. Pay attention to when we sit and stand; why do we? Think about it -- when calling on God's name, during prayer, alleluia, Gospel, procession and recession (orienting with the Cross), and benediction. When else? Lutherans are "confessional," meaning we state our faith publicly in the words of one of the ancient Creeds (from "Credo," meaning "I believe.") The general "prayer of the church" contains Concordia's specific thanks and requests to the Almighty. The distribution of the Sacrament, Christ's body and blood at the altar, also follows a pattern, as does the end of worship. Right about the time the little ones get fidgety, the service winds down with a particular process. (Aren't you glad our services today aren't as long as in olden times? Ever worshiped in other traditions, where the service goes on and on?)

Why these formulae to worship? Because basically we follow the ancient Mass, formed during the early centuries of Christianity and still practiced today. In "Divine Service" are we "serving" God? -- No, God comes to us in worship, bringing His Word and Sacrament.

It's fun to attend worship in a foreign language: even if you don't understand the words, you can follow the service, whether the officiant and worshipers use the ancient Latin, our familiar American English, or as in some churches in our community, Spanish or Hmong. Missouri Synod Lutherans believe it is important to follow these ancient traditions. However the attendant trappings vary (Scripture translations, music, etc.), our worship essentials prevail.

Concordia typically follows a three-year "lectionary," meaning an ordered structure of Bible excerpts, pertaining to the "liturgical year." Those are fancy words meaning we systematically read through the Bible during the course of the seasons of three church years. (Remember? -- Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost.) Can you identify how our music, altar paraments, and behaviors change through those seasons, and some special days within them? Did you know that in Western societies major holidays follow the pattern of ancient church festival days? (Check out "Whitsuntide," "Michaelmas," etc. Why do we take "Spring" and "Winter" breaks, and an August holiday?) For more information, see the front section of our Lutheran Service Book, under the pew in front of you...or type some of these cool words into your search bar...

Some take-aways from today:

Did you know that even in recent memory, worship was required on some holidays? That Concordia used to expect individual confession before Communion? How has worship in other traditions evolved in Conover NC, and why? Are we comfortable joining them? How should we behave during worship? Let's save those topics for another day.

WE ARE IN CHRIST

Board of Mission & Ministry

Concordia will be joining with other local churches to support the "We Are One in Christ" event at the American Legion Fairgrounds on August 3rd, 2024.

This event is a community celebration and give away featuring games, activities and food. Organizers are hoping for 1000 people to attend.

Backpacks filled with school supplies will be handed out to the school students. Concordia will be hosting a cake walk and a face painting booth at the event. Concordia will also be responsible for providing two items to help fill the backpacks. These items are #2 pencils and glue sticks. Gift cards are needed for bingo game prizes.

The Board of Mission & Ministry is asking the congregation for donations of #2 pencils, glue sticks and gift cards. There are boxes in the narthex and transept for the pencils and glue sticks. Please bring gift cards to the church office. All items need to be donated by Friday, July 5th.

Thank you for helping to make this event a success!



Thanks to everyone who attended Thursday's cemetery flag placement in honor of Memorial Day. The rain held off long enough for us to place about ~900 flags at Conover City Cemetery and Eastview Cemetery in Newton. A special thanks to Drum Funeral Home for providing the flags. This was an excellent opportunity for the boys to support the local community and honor those who gave so much.

Bring your old tattered flags and place them in the blue bin in the lobby of the Emmaus Room/Church Offices. The troop will schedule a flag retirement ceremony in the near future.

May 28th thru June 2nd: Annual Troop BBQ Sale. Troop 383 will cook, chop, and package BBQ. It is their primary fundraiser of the year. It helps fund the outings they go on each year.

BBQ Pick up dates and times:

Sat, June 1, 9:00 am - 12:00 noon

Sun, June 2, 10:00am - 12:30 pm

Mon, June 3 6:30pm - 7:30 pm

June 7th – 9th: Lake James Float Trip

July 7th – 13th: Scout Camp

Cub Scouts - There will be once-a-month meetups in June, July and August to keep the kids engaged and having some fun.



Youth Ministry Program Update



On April 28, after a devotion about the need to pray for an increase in faith, we had seven youth participate in the first Youth Indoor Olympics. Competing in foosball, bumper pool, ping pong and shuffle board the team of Wade Cecil and John Mullinax claimed the championship with a record of 4-0. The teams of Max and Jack Huffman and Noah Hedrick and Penelope were 2-2. The team of Sam Huffman and Bill U. were 0-4, despite leading in many of the competitions. Jack Huffman and Bill U. did win the 2 on 2 basketball competition. It was a great time with lots of laughter.

On May 5 the youth went bowling. We had nine different youth participate from the week before. Our devotion was on the power of forgiveness. Sara Sain bowled a 199, far surpassing everyone else. Jena Sain had a 110 and Ellie Walker came in third with a 102. Everyone had a good time.

This summer we have two pool parties planned. These pool parties are for all members of Concordia. We hope that lots of families join the youth at the Elks pool from 6-8 pm on June 19 and July 17. Hot dogs and all the fixings will be served.

The youth have two hikes planned for this summer. They will meet at the school parking lot at 8:00 am on June 25 and July 10. We are looking forward to a great turnout for our youth and their friends as they enjoy a scenic mountain hike.

We have 21 youth connected to Concordia participating in the Camp Linn Haven Youth Servant Event in July. Fourteen of them are members of Concordia and seven either attended CCDS or were formally members of our church. What a blessing to have so many of our high school and college age youth willing to spend a week serving others.

Please pray for our youth and their families.

YOUTH CAN CHANGE THE WORLD



Hospital/Out Patient: Steve Bost, Denise Gilbert, Paul Von Rentzell, Emilia Mendoza

Blessings to: Dalton Bogert & Savannah Henline upon the birth of a daughter, Hazel Marie Bogert. Grandparents - Keith & Lisa Travis
Great-grandparents - Rick & Mary Anne Wike

Other Prayer Needs: Our church and school staff and students; the unchurched in our area and throughout the world; our church, school; church leadership; peace; our national and world leaders; People in Ukraine; World Hunger Crisis; Marriages; Sudan, War in Israel.



The Parent Block

Spiritual Building Blocks for Parents

Written by Kathy Unverfehrt



Scripture Verse

"I don't have a sense of needing anything personally. I've learned by now to be quite content whatever my circumstances. I'm just as happy with little as with much, with much as with little. I've found the recipe for being happy whether full or hungry, hands full or hands empty. Whatever I have, wherever I am, I can make it through anything in the One who makes me who I am." *Philippians 4:11-13 msg*

Reflection

We live in a world that promotes the thought and belief that the more we have, the happier we are. As a result, we accumulate more than we need and will probably ever use. Therefore, it is to our advantage to look back and identify how we arrived at this place of unnecessary surplus. Our circumstances dictate our moods and our moods direct our emotions. These emotions are the driving force of our contentment and happiness. It is in our moments of discontentment, dissatisfaction, and unhappiness that we give in to the concept that purchases of any sort provide peace and bliss. However, the reality is that, although our possessions and passions may bring us joy for a moment, they will not provide us with lasting pleasure. The same is true for our children, which is why we must model and teach them not only to be thankful for what they have, but to be grateful, as well. We can learn a priceless lesson, as well as teach a valuable lesson to our children, from the apostle Paul and his words to the Philippians. We, and our children, can learn to be content with whatever our circumstances. We can be happy with as little as with much, or with much as with little. We can find the recipe for being happy with whatever we have, or wherever we are. How? By trusting that only God can grant us true happiness, peace, and contentment. Will this be easy to do? No, but with spiritual maturity and the apostle Pau's teachings, we can make it through anything life gives us by believing in the One who makes us who we are!

Parent Commitment

*I will learn to trust God for my needs and the needs of my children.
I will model to my children contentedness in my blessings.*



Joyful Stitchers continues to meet on the first and third Fridays of the month. They meet in the Brian Long Center for Family Ministry (BLCFM) at 2p. It doesn't matter if you have a project to work on, come and share in the camaraderie of being with other Christian women.



Prime Timers will be meeting at the Golden Coral on Lenoir Rhyne Blvd. at 1:00PM on Tuesday, June 9th. Please plan to gather at the front entrance of the restaurant 5 minutes before entering so Renee will have a count of attendance.



Lutheran Women in Mission thank you!

Dorcas Society greatly appreciates Concordia's generous support of Mites. April collection was awesome. Just so you know, our collection has helped District blow through the current biennial goals in plenty of time for new mission grants to be determined at Convention in September. National goals are right on track also; mission grants for the next biennium will be determined at Convention next June. Keep those coins, dollars, and checks coming. Watch for another update later in the summer. Questions? See https://lwmlcarolinas.org/20222024_carolinas_district_mission_grants

Creative Haven

On June 2, from 3p to 5p, we will be learning "Verse Mapping" skills to unravel what Jesus is teaching us. Mark 2:23-28 is the Gospel lesson for that Sunday and we will dig deeper into how we can live out God's word. We will start with our Bibles, read different versions of the verses, look at the cross references and hopefully come out on the other side with a better understanding of what God teaches. All materials will be furnished, just bring your Bible. If you don't have a Bible, we have some you can use.

As always, well behaved children are welcome and we will have light refreshments available. Come and grow in God's word.

**MEET ME AT THE BALL PARK!
AN EVENT FOR ALL AGES!
HICKORY CRAWDADS V. BOWLING GREEN
SUNDAY, JUNE 23 AT 2P
WATCH YOUR EMAIL TO SIGN-UP!**



**Children's
ADVOCACY & PROTECTION CENTER
OF CATAWBA COUNTY**

The 5th Sunday offering in June will be used to support the Children's Advocacy and Protection Center of Catawba County. Their vision is to build a community dedicated to the prevention of and the coordinated response to child abuse and neglect. The CAPC works as an advocate on behalf of the children and youth in our community who suffer from abuse each year. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



SUNDAY MORNING FELLOWSHIP!

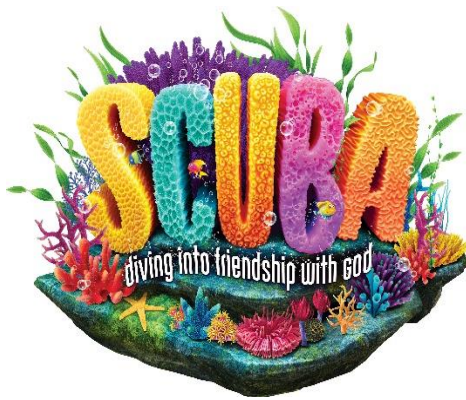
Fellowship is not possible without volunteers to make the coffee, set out the stocked items, and provide fresh fruit or a sweet or savory treat. You can volunteer by using the QR code or by calling the church office. It is very easy to manage, it just takes a little of your time on Sunday mornings to get things organized. Please consider being a part of this fellowship ministry.

What: Set up for fellowship by 9:50a

Where: Fellowship Room

Bring: Fresh fruit and snack to share

Many other items are stocked in the cabinets in the Fellowship Room.



Scuba VBS 2024 (Get ready to Splash into Fun)

The sign up for Vacation Bible School is now open.

When: June 17-20 from 9:00a-12:00p

Where: Youth Central (in the school)

Who: Rising Pre-K (age 3) through 5th grade.

Why: Scuba is filled with awesome Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear and touch!

How: Please sign up using the QR code



A paper registration form can be found on page 16 of this newsletter.

There are already 27 kids preregistered for VBS. Please preregister quickly so T-shirts can be ordered.

Crew leaders are needed. These are people young or old that lead a small group around to the different stations. Please sign up on the QR listed on this page.

Training for Crew Leaders will be between services on June 9, 2023 and after the 11:00a service. Please meet by the church offices.

We could use help moving furniture on June 10, 2023 at 6:30p. We will meet at the school. We will be decorating on Tuesday June 11, at 6:30p and Wednesday June 12 from 9:00a until finished.

If you wish to help, please contact Dorcas Dunker at ddunker@concordianc.com.

Attention Women of Concordia!

All women in the congregation are invite to attend this gathering. It is a great opportunity to worship with other Christian women and meet Deb Burma! Read her bio. below. You can read more about the Convention and find registration forms [here](#). There is also a weekend retreat planned at Camp Linn Haven. These are two opportunities that you don't want to miss!

SEPTEMBER 20-21, 2024

WHO? ALL Lutheran Women in Mission in the Carolinas District!

WHAT? The 2024 Carolinas District LWML Convention

FOCUS? Psalm 46:10 – “Be still and know that I am God.”

WHY SHOULD I ATTEND THE CAROLINAS DISTRICT LWML CONVENTION?

It's a gathering of other LWML sisters in Christ

To participate in Worship and Communion to honor our God

To hear and vote for the Mission Grants. (LWML stands for Lutheran Women in Mission, which was the initial purpose in organizing the Lutheran women.)

To enjoy fellowship and singing, always singing to honor our God

To participate in Bible Study with Deb Burma, a nationally well-known author of Bible studies

To bring offerings for Gifts of the Heart to help others in need

To “Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into His presence with singing!” Psalm 100:2

Please put **September 20 & 21st** on your calendar in **PURPLE**. It's an event you should not miss. ❤️

PLACE: Resurrection Lutheran Church – Cary, NC *We hope to see you there!*

More information forthcoming in the June issue of the Carolinas Cross Connection!

Hosted by the Central & Eastern Zones.

CAROLINAS DISTRICT LWML CONVENTION

Guest Speaker: Deb Burma

Resurrection Lutheran Church, Cary, NC.

September 20-21, 2024

Deb has spoken at national and regional conferences across the country, as well as retreats and ministry events. She has led workshops and sectionals for the Best Practices for Ministry (BPM) Conferences, the Women's Leadership Institute's National Conferences, and more. Her ministry travels have taken her to 27 states and Canada, aboard a Caribbean cruise ship, and continue to lead her down the street to her home church.



CAROLINAS DISTRICT LWML RETREAT REGISTRATION

CAMP RETREAT WEEKEND

DATE: August 16-18, 2024

LOCATION: Camp Linn Haven - Linville, N.C.

HOST ZONE: Catawba Valley Zone



Theme: "Christmas JOY"

The Catawba Zone invites you to join them at this year's Carolinas District LWML Retreat for fellowship, Bible study, great food and loads of fun!

Please register by **August 1, 2024** so we may plan accordingly.

Note: There are two separate forms which must be sent to two different places. The TOP portion goes to the registrar. The BOTTOM section goes to the camp.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Zone: _____ Church: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Please send the above information to: Kim Cater, Registrar, PO Box 124, Conover, NC 28613

Include your \$10 registration fee, make check payable to: Carolinas District LWML.

Mail to Kim



Mail to camp

Camp Registration Form: Reservation for room and meals at Camp Linn Haven; send form, no money now.

I will be attending the LWML Retreat at Camp Linn Haven August 16, 17, 18, 2024

Name _____ Phone _____

Email: _____

Church _____ Zone _____

_____ I need a handicapped accessible cabin.

_____ I have special dietary needs. _____ Allergies Please explain.

Camp fees are separate and payable by cash, check or credit card upon arrival at camp. You may attend for a day and pay for your meal(s), plus registration.

Mail form to: Teirsa Lane
Camp Linn Haven Registration
Box 385
Linville, NC 28646

Please mark what applies:
Full Weekend with Meals _____ \$110
Friday Dinner _____ \$8
Saturday Breakfast _____ \$6 Lunch _____ \$7 Dinner _____ \$8
Sunday Breakfast _____ \$6 Lunch _____ \$7

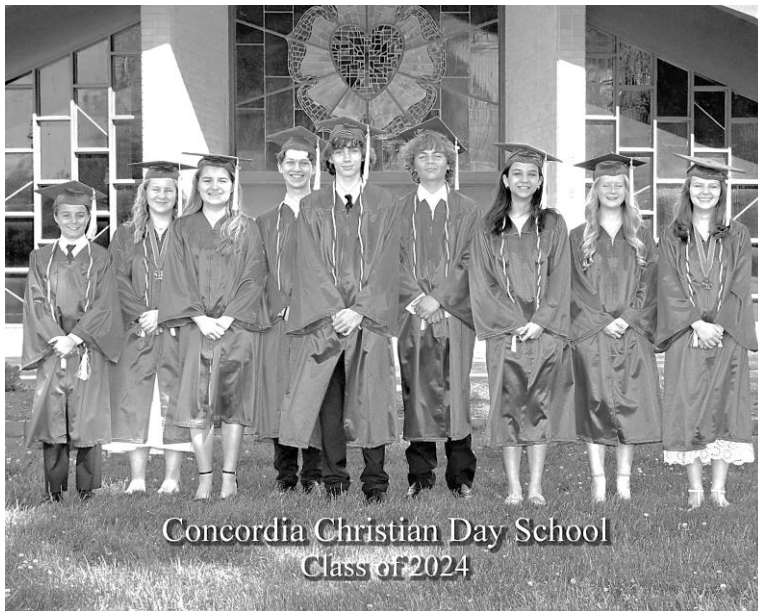


CONCORDIA
Christian Day School
A Tradition of *Excellence* in a Changing World

Mission Statement

Our Mission is to provide a comprehensive, excellence-driven education in which an integrated faith in Jesus Christ is fostered, celebrated, and shared throughout our community.

Congratulations, Class of 2024



Congratulations to all nine members of Concordia's 2024 graduating class. They just wrapped up a weekend of celebrations at the graduation banquet and graduation ceremony on May 18 and 19. This year, our Valedictorian is Lydia Walters, and our Salutatorian is Christabelle Carter. The winner of the Gilbert Pingel Christian Citizenship Award is Mason Hamrick. Three of our graduates will attend University Christian High School, where they will continue their Lutheran School education. Four graduates will attend Newton-Conover High School, one will attend Challenger Early College High School, and one will attend Bandys High School. Some of these students have been at Concordia since preschool. We are so proud of these graduates and can't wait to see what their futures hold!

Enrolling Now for 2024-2025

We are blessed to have nearly a full school for the 2024-2025 school year. Only seven spots remain in middle school! More and more children and families are learning about Jesus! We accept enrollment applications two years in advance. Please contact the school office at 828-464-3011 to receive an enrollment packet and application.

CONCORDIA GOLF TEAM WINS THE CHAMPIONSHIP!



Concordia Crusaders won the FAMA Golf Conference Championship at Rock Barn Country Club last month! As Coach Teague would say, "Must be butter, 'cause we're on a roll. Two years in a row!" This David and Goliath team always peaks at the end with fabulous scores, beating four other conference teams! Top scorers were Max Gilliam, 48, Jaxson Sharp, 46, and Jackson Hefner, 40. Jackson Hefner and Jaxson Sharp made "All-Conference." And our medalist again was Jack Phillips with a 35! Huge thanks to Coach Lori Teague for another outstanding season!

Moana Jr.- A Smash Hit!



Audiences were whisked away to the islands on April 26 and 27. A talented and enthusiastic group of students from 4th-8th grade brought Moana Jr. to life on the Concordia stage. Thank you to Ms. Stephanie Guelzow, Director; Mrs. Jessica Westby, Musical Director; and all the volunteers who worked tirelessly to make this production a huge success. Over 200 people were in attendance for Opening Night! What will the musical be next spring? Photo credit Jennifer Hamrick.

DINNER AUCTION RECAP

The Dinner Auction Committee would like to thank everyone who attended the event on April 20 at Catawba Country Club. We had over 150 people in attendance, and the night was a massive success with delicious food, fellowship, and fun! Thanks to you and our generous donors, we raised over **\$49,000** for the school! This year's committee members were Cameron Bixby, Kate Cullen, Kellie Phillips, Britney Lundy, Jessica Stewart, Vanessa Brown, and Meredith Keisler. We are deeply thankful to our friends at **CR Laine** for being our **Diamond Sponsor**. We thank our Gold Sponsors: Matthews Construction, Catawba Women's Center, and Conover Hardware. True Boutique treated us to a Chocolate Fountain this year! Thanks to Adam Keisler of Carolina Wealth Stewardship Group for sponsoring the "Crusader Cocktail." Catawba Insurance Agency generously sponsored a two-night stay at The Greenbrier for our Heads or Tails prize. Thanks also to our Crusader sponsors, Truist Bank and Miss Treva's School of Dance. Stewart Electric sponsored our "Spread the Love" bracelets, which encourage sharing Jesus!

Thank you to the Teachers and parents for the treasured Classroom Projects. Your time and talents are very much appreciated. A special shout out to the following teachers, who took the time and money to develop their own memorable experiences for families to bid on: Mrs. Krystal Freeman, Mrs. Lori Roseman, Mrs. Briana Welch, Mrs. Amy

Coffey, Mrs. Lisa Brittain, Ms. Mandy Walters, Mr. Brent Pearson, Mrs. Katrina Garrison, Mrs. Betsy Murray, and Mr. Dave Beringer. The Matthews were thrilled to win "Principal for the Day" and "Pull the Fire Alarm" at school!

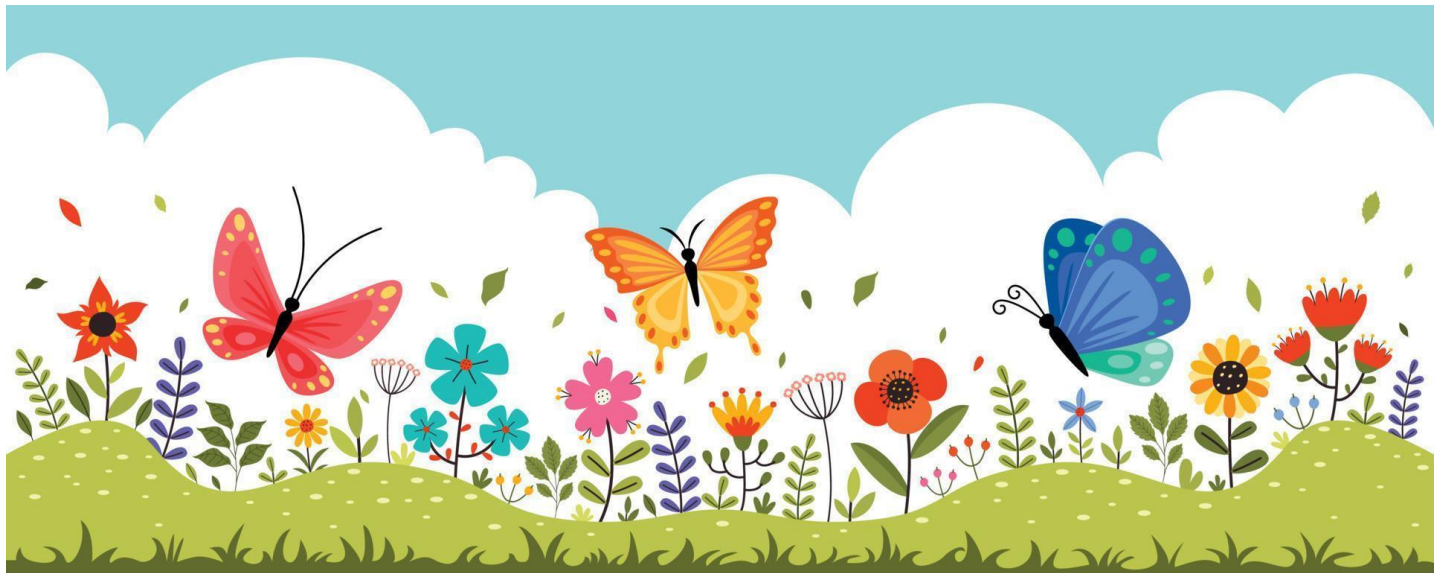
We couldn't have pulled off this event without the help of Chelsea Radke, Sharine Sample, Lamar Stewart, Brandalyn Connor, Thao Spencer, and many other parents who landed a hand where help was needed! Thank you to the Classroom Parents for the appealing Auction Baskets. They were outstanding this year! A round of applause to Cameron Lundy for taking on the role of emcee and auctioneer. He was a natural!



Jacob & Issac Matthews
Fire Drill Assistant & Principal for the Day

BUTTERFLY GARDEN GRANT

Mrs. Amy Coffey, our Technology teacher, is blessed with a green thumb! She is an accomplished flower gardener who shares her passion with the school. She was recently awarded a plant donation from Backyard Butterflies. The flowers consist of 18 Host, Keystone, and Nectar plants that all play their part in attracting butterflies. The freshly planted Butterfly Garden is on the school's side along 5th Avenue. What an amazing addition to our school grounds



News from...

UNIVERSITY CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL

Your Lutheran High School

June 2024

Catawba County Honors Student-Athletes Blair & Richardson

Seniors Ava Blair & Jack Ryan Richardson were honored as 2024 Scholar Athletes of Excellence at the Catawba County Sports Hall of Fame.

Golf Team Wins Foothills Athletic Conference Championship

The UCHS Golf Team won their 10th consecutive conference championship, beating Davidson Day 230 to 235. What an amazing accomplishment! Senior Will Choplin was the medalist for the day shooting a 73 in a one-hole playoff.

Sophomore Sam Parker & Senior Max Edwards followed just behind, shooting a 78 & 79 respectively. Congratulations to Coach David Reitzel and the UC Golf Team on all the hard work, dedication, and many hours of practice reflected in achieving this historic win.

Avery McMillan Signs Letter of Intent

Senior Avery McMillan signed a letter of intent to compete in Track & Field collegiately at Meredith College. Avery competed on the UCHS Track team for two years as a hurdler and jumper. She holds the school records for the 55m hurdles, indoor long jump, and 100m hurdles and is currently ranked in the top 5 in the state for the 100m hurdles. She also finished top 3 at the Indoor State Championships for the 55m hurdles. Meredith College competes in NCAA Division III and is a member of the USA South Athletic Conference.

All-Conference & All-State Athletes

We would like to recognize the following Spring Sports athletes for their accomplishments. All-State (Golf) Will Choplin; All-State (Track & Field) Conner Frizzell, Jack Ryan Richardson, Madison Sledge; All-Conference (Girls Soccer) Lillian Hedrick, Sarah Levinson, Anya McCourt; All-Conference (Boys Tennis) Miles Britton, Robert Winfield; All-Conference (Track & Field) Conner Frizzell, Ben Fullwood, Owen Liu, Kevin Tee Moreau, Jack Ryan Richardson, Madison Sledge, Kyndal Sloop.

UCHS High School Association Annual Meeting

The annual University Christian High School Association Meeting will be held on June 18th at 4:00 pm. This meeting is for the representatives of our Lutheran churches who are members of the association and any interested church members.

The meeting will include the State of the School Report and will be held at our North Campus at 602 7th Ave NE

Enrollment Open for 2024-2025

UCHS is still accepting applications for the 2024-2025 school year. The online application can be found at www.uchigh.com under Admissions. There are limited openings, so apply today!



registration form

(One Per Child)

Child's name: _____ Child's gender: _____

Child's age: _____ Date of birth: _____ Last school grade completed: _____

Name of parent(s): _____

Street address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Home telephone: (_____) _____

Parent/caregiver's cellphone: (_____) _____

Home email address: _____

Home church: _____

Allergies, medical conditions, or special needs: _____



In case of emergency, contact: _____

Phone: _____

Relationship to child: _____

Crew number or name (for church use only): _____

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A large red outline of a baseball diamond is centered on the page. At the top of the diamond is a baseball, and at the bottom are two crossed baseball bats. The text "Volunteer Appreciation Dinner" is written in a large, black, cursive font across the center of the diamond. Two black stars are positioned on either side of the baseball at the top. Below the diamond, the text "FOOD & ICE CREAM" is on the left and "FUN & AWARDS" is on the right, each preceded by four stars. At the bottom of the diamond, the text "SWING ON OVER" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

**FOOD
&
ICE CREAM**

**FUN
&
AWARDS**

SWING ON OVER

THURSDAY, JUNE 13

DOORS OPEN 5:30 PM - DINNER SERVED 6:00 PM

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
701 N MAIN AVE, NEWTON**

**TEAM APPARAL
WELCOME**

RSVP JUNE 7

**ALLEN SHERRILL
(828) 446-5418**



Ashure Ministry
Phone: 828-465-1702
P.O. Box 31
Newton, NC 28658
ashureministry.org

Highlights

Our monthly **Coffee and Conversation** sessions have resumed! Join us at our facility in Newton every month on the 3rd Wednesday from 8:30-9:30am. It's an opportunity to catch up on the latest updates, find ways to get involved, and take a behind-the-scenes tour. See firsthand how we're assisting those in need in Catawba County. Meet our dedicated staff and volunteers who are making a difference in the lives of others facing food or financial crises. To register for the next session, visit our website ashureministry.org/events, and click on the Coffee and Conversations button.

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

You are invited if you volunteer, have ever volunteered, or are interested in volunteering! On Thursday, June 13th, we will be having a "Ballpark" themed dinner honoring YOU! The dinner will be held at First Presbyterian in Newton; doors will open at 5:30 and we will eat at 6! Please RSVP to Allen by June 7th at 828-446-5418. We hope to see you there!

24th Annual Golf Tournament

Our tournament has wrapped up, and the winners are...**Church Division:** First Methodist Conover: Michael Cashion, Charlie Anderson, Johnny Moose, and Finley Cloninger. **Open Division:** David Reitzel, Will Choplin, Max Edwards, and Sam Parker. **Longest Drive: (Men's)** Sam Parker, and **(Women's)** Lacy Riley. **Closest to the Pin: (Men's)** Will Choplin, and **(Women's)** Sue Hardman. Congratulations to our winners! To say thank you to ALL who participated is just not enough...but THANK YOU and know that this ministry and our clients are blessed by your involvement!

Food Pantry

In May we are collecting pet food in honor of National Pet Day! Our item of the month for June is cereal. With gardens growing, we would love to have any extra produce for our clients. Want to volunteer? Join our church rotational calendar or come in as an individual! Please contact our Director of Volunteer Engagement, Allen Sherrill at a.sherrill@ashureministry.org, or by calling (828) 446-5418. Our food pantry and thrift store can always use gallon zipper bags, and medium and large recycled shopping and grocery bags. Thank you for supporting our ministry.

May 27th- Closed in observance of Memorial Day

Ashure Ministry and Thrifty Threads and Treasures are located at 245 East N Street, Newton, NC.

INTRODUCING SOME OF CONCORDIA'S GRADUATES!



Victoria Kathryn Yount

Victoria Yount graduated from Lenoir Rhyne University with her masters' degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling, May 2024. She will be employed in private practice as a Clinical Mental Health Counselor.

Victoria previously graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2020, University Christian High School in 2016, and Concordia Christian Day School in 2012.



Luke Charles Canrobert

Luke graduated December 16, 2023 from Western Carolina University with a Bachelor of Science in Education and a Bachelor of Arts in Music.

Luke lives in Myrtle Beach, SC and teaches music with the Horry County Schools.



Avery Lyra Beringer

Avery graduated from University Christian High School and will attend Western Carolina Nursing School.

- National Honor Society
- Catawba Valley Medical Center Internship
- Music Club
- Art Club
- Craft Club
- Multicultural Club
- Compost Club
- Concordia Lutheran Church Handbells
- Senior Youth Council Leader
- Camp Med
- Rising Hope Farms
- Vacation Bible School Leader
- Concordia Lutheran Church Sunday School Teacher



Peyton David Gerken

Peyton will be attending North Carolina State University to become a Software Engineer in Computer Science.

- Basketball
- National Honor Society
- Ambassadors
- Assistant Volleyball Coach
- Edible Arrangements (Job)
- Debate
- Ski & Snowboard Club
- FCA
- Game Club
- Envirothon
- AP Computer Science
- A Teacher Assistant
- Livestream operator at church



Drew Edwin Hass

Drew will be attending the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to study at the Hussman School of Media and Journalism.

- Student Council Publicist
- National Honors Society Publicist
- Intern at Women's Resource Center
- Multicultural Club Co-President
- Crafting Club President
- Yearbook Staff Co-Editor
- Speech and Debate
- Hass Family Orthodontics Lab Technician



Ella Ann Cecil

- Summa Cum Laude graduate of Newton-Conover High School
- She will be attending Appalachian State University and plans to major in Business
- While attending Newton-Conover High School
- Ella served as a Junior Marshall
- Internship Honors Student of the Year
- Spanish 2 Student of the Year
- CVAC All-Conference Tennis player
- Ella volunteered and held an internship at The Corner Table Community Kitchen
- Ella also held an internship at the Catawba County Government Center
- Member of Student Council & Beta Club
- National Technical Honor Society Leadership Team Member
- Co-Vice-President of the National Honor Society
- Treasurer of the Juniorettes
- Public Relations Officer for the Catawba County Youth Council
- Inaugural Jr. Baker Dozen Member for The Corner Table personally raising over \$14,000
- Varsity golf and tennis team member
- Served as a camp counselor and kitchen worker at Camp Linn Haven



Congratulations



**Dear Father God,
Surround those who are graduating with your grace. Bless them with hope so that they move into the future with eager and open hearts. Help them to put the knowledge, skills, and insights gained through their education for the good of all mankind. Inspire them to believe in the goodness of life even when faced with challenges and difficulties. As they commence with their lives, may they grow even more grateful and wise. Amen".**

FIND THE SHEEP

There are thirteen sheep hiding in the picture below. How many sheep can you find?



JESUS' WORDS

In John 10 Jesus tried to tell his friends what he was going to do. Change the numbers below to the corresponding letter to find out what Jesus said.

9	1	13	20	8	5	7	15	15	4		
19	8	5	16	8	5	18	4	20	8	5	
7	15	15	4	19	8	5	16	8	5	18	4
12	1	25	19	4	15	23	14	8	9	19	
12	9	6	5	6	15	18	20	8	5		
19	8	5	5	16							

- A 1
- B 2
- C 3
- D 4
- E 5
- F 6
- G 7
- H 8
- I 9
- J 10
- K 11
- L 12
- M 13
- N 14
- O 15
- P 16
- Q 17
- R 18
- S 19
- T 20
- U 21
- V 22
- W 23
- X 24
- Y 25
- Z 26

JUNE



This is a monthly prayer guide for your daily use. Each day as you pray, please feed your Mite Box in support of district and LWML Mission Grants. As you lift up the countries and mission grants listed, pray that the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ would be heard by those who live there or are served by our mite offerings.

Each country listed has been a recipient of a mission grant from Lutheran Women in Mission at some time since 1942. What a joy it is to bring these prayers to our Father's listening ears!

1. For all the blessings in your life.
2. For LWML Mission Grant #13.
3. For Japan, one of the 83 countries where LWML has supported a grant.
4. For the LWML Chesapeake District.
5. For graduates as they look for work and start new jobs.
6. For opportunities to help or pray for people today.
7. For the country of Jordan.
8. For farmers and the wonderful food they produce.
9. Gratitude for our earthly fathers and especially for our heavenly Father.
10. For our Lutheran in Mission Vice President of Special Focus Ministries.
11. For LWML Mission Grant #14.
12. For the LWML Carolinas District.
13. For the ability to go outside and praise God for the little and big things we see.
14. For our USA flag and our country that it represents. Wear red, white, and blue today.
15. For the country of Kazakhstan.
16. For the ability to rest in the Lord today.
17. For God's Word and being able to hide it in our hearts.
18. For the LWML Atlantic District.
19. For the country of Kenya.
20. For the safety of people traveling.
21. For the country of Germany.
22. For summer and friends.
23. For the country of Kyrgyzstan.
24. For all church workers.
25. For LWML Mission Grant #15.
26. For the ability to enjoy ice cream or other treats with a friend and pray for them.
27. For the country of Laos.
28. For our senses. Enjoy your senses of smell, taste, touch, and hearing.
29. For those workers who work overnight.
30. For the LWML New England District.

June Birthdays and Anniversaries



Lori Roseman	3-Jun
Gemma Cullen	3-Jun
Don Hauser	4-Jun
Michael Gerken	4-Jun
Robert Welch	4-Jun
Naomi Weaver	5-Jun
Esther Weaver	5-Jun
Victoria Charles	6-Jun
Rita Williams	6-Jun
Carolyn Kuchenbecker	8-Jun
Audra Kuchenbecker	8-Jun
Tom Cullen	8-Jun
Brooke Pope	8-Jun
Cecilia Mendoza	8-Jun
Britney Lundy	9-Jun
Roger Shull	9-Jun
Gianluca Palozzi	11-Jun
Rachael Hamm	13-Jun
Jamie Bell	13-Jun
Donald Brown	14-Jun
Brianna Miller	15-Jun
Rose Long	15-Jun
David Harris	16-Jun
Betsy Murray	16-Jun
David Hayes	16-Jun
Ruth Geml	16-Jun
Dick Hiler	17-Jun
Wanda Hefner	18-Jun
Lori Bedder	18-Jun
Allie Matthews	18-Jun
Alex Slotter	19-Jun
Courtney Raatz	20-Jun
Alex Furr	20-Jun




William Adair	20-Jun
Ronnie Kaylor	20-Jun
Trevor Beal	20-Jun
Douglas Brady	21-Jun
Greg Roseman	21-Jun
Julie Moser	22-Jun
William Whitener	22-Jun
Collin Matthews	23-Jun
Roger Heavner	23-Jun
Keith Travis	23-Jun
Opal Bolick	24-Jun
Carmen Isenhower	26-Jun
Harvey Travis	26-Jun
Steve Murray	26-Jun
Philip Lindler	26-Jun
Eric Isenhower	27-Jun
Jeanette Bowman	28-Jun
Ashley Huss	29-Jun
Hazel Braun	29-Jun
Teresa Graudin	29-Jun
Maggie Lou Carter	30-Jun
Gregory Murphy	30-Jun
Belinda Bost	30-Jun

5-Jun	Paul & Frances Hale
6-Jun	Eric & Angie Isenhower
6-Jun	Joe & Becky Rhyne
13-Jun	JR & Nicole Morton
14-Jun	Brandon & Delaina Bryan
17-Jun	Steve & Belinda Bost
18-Jun	Jimmy & Jane Martin
19-Jun	William & Buffy Smith
22-Jun	Shawn & Monica Hedrick
23-Jun	Ernest & Mary Herman
24-Jun	David & Mary Reitzel
24-Jun	Angelo & Katrina Palozzi
26-Jun	Bill & Kathy Unverfehrt
27-Jun	Doc & Shirley Canrobert
27-Jun	Steven & Debra Braun
28-Jun	Luke & Katrina Garrison

If your name is missing from one of these lists, please let the church office know.

828.464.3324

sharman@concordianc.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 9a-12p Boy Scout BBQ Sale 
2 9am Worship & Communion 10am – 12:30pm Pick up BBQ 10:10am Christian Education 11am Worship & Communion - Sanctuary 12pm Voters' Assembly - Election officers and board members 3pm Creative Haven	3 1:30pm Quilt Tacking Pick up BBQ – Scout Room 6:30-7:30pm 	4	5 7am Ladies Bible Study EM 6:15pm Praise Band	6 6:30am Men's Bible Study  8:30am Staff Devotion & Weekly Meeting - EM	7 2pm Joyful Stitchers - BLCFM 3pm Scouts - Lake James Float Trip 	8
9 9am Worship & Communion 10:10am Christian Education 11am Worship & Communion – Sanctuary 11am Scouts return from Lake James Float Trip	10	11 8:30am Staff Devotion & Weekly Meeting - EM 11:30am PrimeTimers – Golden Coral 6pm Assimilation - Library 6:30pm Day School Board - CCDS Library 6:30pm Elders - EM	12 7am Ladies Bible Study EM 6:15pm Praise Band	13 6:30am Men's Bible Study 6pm Trustees 6:30pm Board of Christian Education A#1	14	15
Father's Day 16 8am LLL 9am Worship & Communion 10:10am Christian Education 11am Worship & Communion - Sanctuary	17 <u>9am VBS</u>  1:30pm Quilt Tacking	18 8:30am Staff Devotion & Weekly Meeting - EM <u>9am VBS</u> 6:30pm Stewardship - EM	19 7am Ladies Bible Study EM <u>9am VBS</u> 6pm Church Pool Party – Elks Club Newton  6:15pm Praise Band	20 6:30am Men's Bible Study <u>9am VBS</u> 4:15pm M & M Library 	21 12pm Newsletter Deadline  2pm Joyful Stitchers - BLCFM	22
23 9am Worship & Communion - Installation of officers and board members 10:10am Christian Education 11am Worship & Communion - Sanctuary - Installation of officers and board members 2pm Family Baseball Game – Crawdads vs. Hotrods 	24 1pm LWML – EM 	25 8am Youth Hiking  8:30am Staff Devotion & Weekly Meeting - EM 6:30pm Church Council - EM	26 7am Ladies Bible Study EM 6:15pm Praise Band	27 6:30am Men's Bible Study 	28	29
30 9am Worship & Communion 10:10am Christian Education 11am Worship & Communion - Sanctuary						