



CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

Parish News & Notes

Loyalty Sunday

May 21, 2017

Bethlehem Campus

1240 East Fourth Street
Bethlehem, PA 18015

North Campus

3285 Pheasant Drive
Northampton, PA 18067

Office

610-262-8500
office@ConcordiaLV.org

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Regular Sunday Schedule

Bethlehem

9:30am SS & Bible Class 10:45am Worship

North Campus

9:00am Worship 10:30am SS & Bible Class

Sunday, May 21st - Loyalty Sunday - Both Campuses during morning service

Thursday, May 25th - Vision Path - Impact Event - North Campus - 6:00pm

Saturday, June 24th - Yard Sale - North Campus - 7:30am to 1:30pm

Sunday, June 25th Congregational Meeting 12:00 noon Bethlehem

Vision Path - Impact Event

Thursday, May 25th

6:00pm in the North Campus Fellowship Hall

We need you to be there!

Our Risen Lord calls each of us to be a part of the work of His Church. But we specifically are called to be members of Concordia to work together to carry out the work He gives our congregation to accomplish. We are at a crucial time in our congregation's life as we seek to discern the Lord's will for the direction and shape of Concordia's mission and ministry into the future. To help us discern the Lord's will we have embarked on a process called "**Vision Path.**" **Thank you** for helping with the first step of the process by filling out the Ministry Survey. This important material will help our facilitator, the Rev. Dr. Karl Galik to prepare to lead our **Impact Event this Thursday, May 25th.** The goal of this whole process is to seek the Lord's vision for ministry here at Concordia -and that ministry includes every one of us.

Please keep Concordia in your daily prayers as we together seek Christ's vision for His work through us at Concordia!

Refreshments will be served.

Church Council members who are able are invited to meet with our facilitator, Rev. Galik at 4:00pm.

Altar Flowers Today

The flowers on the altar today were placed by David & Sandy Flores in honor of their Grandson, Vasilis, celebrating his 18th birthday and graduation from Lehigh Valley Academy Charter School.

Loyalty Sunday

Today we will to make our annual financial Pledge to the Lord, through the ministry here at Concordia. Extra pledge forms are available if you need one. We will bring our Pledges forward to the altar during today's service.

Yard Sale

We are having our Yard Sale on June 24th. Please start accumulating items for this sale. You may start bringing your items to Fellowship Hall in the North Campus. Let's make this our best Yard Sale yet!!!



GOD EXPECTS HIS PEOPLE TO GIVE IN PROPORTION TO WHAT THEY RECEIVE.

“They shall not appear before the Lord empty-handed: Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessings of the Lord your God that He has given you”

” (Deuteronomy 16:16-17)

Stewardship Corner

Tithing Acknowledges God as the Source of All

Tithing is the practice of honoring God with one tenth of our incomes. Tithing is an indication that we recognize God's lordship of our lives and that we acknowledge His ownership of all that we have. By grace, we are enabled to believe that God is the creator and owner of everything. *"The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein..."* (Psalm 24:1). By grace, God gives us the ability to work and earn an income (Deuteronomy 8:18).



We give because God has first given to us. As we grow in our faith, our perspective changes from "How much should I give?" to "How much of God's money am I going to keep?" It is only by God's grace that we give and that we have money to give.

A tithe is giving to God our best, not our leftovers. Our giving may honor or dishonor Him. We can honor God and worship Him even if we give less than the tithe as we give willingly and cheerfully. However, we dishonor Him when we don't put Him first.

Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, You are the source of all good things. Grant me a willing heart to return to You a generous portion of what You have already entrusted to me. In Jesus name. Amen.

Blessings on your journey as a steward!

Altar Flowers - A Beautiful Gift

Week in and week out, beautiful flowers grace the altar of our church. These flowers are provided primarily through the goodness of members who buy and arrange them. Donating altar flowers is a way to glorify God, honor a loved one, and beautify the altar.

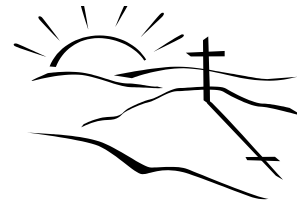
If you choose to donate to our fund, you can choose any Sunday or let the altar guild select an open Sunday for you. Flowers can be donated in honor of a living person or in memory of someone who has died, in celebration of an anniversary, birth, baptism, confirmation or other milestone, or in thanksgiving for friends or family. Or if you prefer simply give to the glory of God. The names of those being honored will appear in News and Notes on the Sunday you select.

A suggested donation of \$20 covers the usual cost of the flowers, but any donation to the flower fund is appreciated.

Readers at the North Campus

Today's reader is Lois Ketter

Next week's reader will be Bill Sturtevant



We Celebrate The Lord's Supper This Day

_____ In today's service we celebrate the Lord's Supper. Here Jesus offers His gifts of forgiveness and strengthening for our faith. He said, "Take, eat; this is my body. . . . Take, drink; this is my blood. . . . which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me." The Bible also teaches that those who partake of the Sacrament not believing these words of Christ do so to their spiritual judgement and do not receive its intended blessing. That you may receive the blessing Christ offers, we urge you to prepare your heart by meditating on these questions.

- + Do you believe in Jesus Christ as your Lord and that He is your Savior from sin?
- + Are you truly sorry for your sins and do you desire, by God's power, to turn away from those sins?
- + Do you believe Jesus' promise that in His Supper He gives His true body and blood together with the bread & wine for the forgiveness of your sins?
- + Do you receive this gift of Christ to be strengthened for a God-pleasing life of worship, witness and service?

All who share this biblical faith and are communing members of a Lutheran congregation are invited to commune with us. If you are not a member, please speak with the pastor prior to communing. Children who have not yet received their first communion and those not communing may come to the altar for a blessing.

The ushers will direct you to the altar at the appropriate time. Communicants may receive the blood of our Lord either from the common cup, (as instituted by Christ), or by intinction, (an early practice in the church of dipping the wafer of bread in the wine). If you wish to partake by intinction, please hold out your hands to receive the wafer of bread. You may dip the wafer into the chalice of wine.

Mission Offering

In today's bulletin you will find a special Mission Offering Envelope. The special Mission offerings are split between Pastor Gaugert's work in Togo and our other District and Synod missions. Also available in the Narthex is the latest publication from Pastor Gaugert. Feel free to take a copy. Please pray regularly for Pastor Gaugert and all the missionaries of our church! There are links on the Synod website (lcms.org) to the mission work we carry out together throughout the world. May the Lord of the Harvest bless these laborers in His vineyard! And may the Lord bless our participation in these missions through our prayers and monetary support!

In today's bulletin you will find a special Mission Offering Envelope. The special Mission offerings are split between Pastor Gaugert's work in Togo and Pastor St Onge's work in the Caribbean. Also available in the Narthex is the latest publication from Pastor Gaugert. Feel free to take a copy. Please pray regularly for Pastor Gaugert, Pastor St. Onge and all the missionaries of our church! There are links on the Synod website (lcms.org) to the mission work we carry out together throughout the world. May the Lord of the Harvest bless these laborers in His vineyard! And may the Lord bless our participation in these missions through our prayers and monetary support!

Favorite Hymns

Over the next six months we will again ask you to help us select hymns from our hymnal that are particularly meaningful and helpful to you. Please list a few of your favorites. Forms may be found in the narthex. We will try to use as many of these hymns, recommended by our members, as are appropriate to the worship themes of each Sunday.

