

Concordia Newsletter
April 2024



CONCORDIA U.C.C
7600 State Route 163
Belleville, IL 62223
(618) 476-3377
concordiaucc.weebly.com

OUR STAFF

Pastor: Email: pastor.concordiaucc@gmail.com Cell # 219-805-6022	Joan Mier
Secretary: Email: secretary.concordia@gmail.com	Natalie Huck
Director of Christian Ed:	Becky Avara
Custodian:	Angela Noble
Organist:	Jennifer Hoog

CHURCH COUNCIL OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

President

Becky Avara	618-806-9644	avara4231@gmail.com
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Vice-President

Darla Klaus	618-977-5727	darla_k@aol.com
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Secretary

Rachel Gomric	618-980-5208	scarlett0770@aol.com
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Treasurer

David Spreen	314-540-9497	spreen52@charter.net
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Financial Secretary

Sara Allen	314-922-3348	saraallen777@gmail.com
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Congregational Care

Lisa Stallmann	618-538-7603	Lisa.stallmann1@gmail.com
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Member-at-Large

Karen Boyd	314-807-9454	karenboyd6486@gmail.com
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If you require Pastoral Care, please call the church, email Pastor Joan: pastor.concordiaucc@gmail.com or email secretary.concordia@gmail.com. If it is an emergency call Pastor Joan at 219-805-6022.

MONTHLY SCHEDULE

Every Sunday:

Worship Service - 9:00 A.M.

Sunday School – 9:15 A.M.

Quilting – Tuesday Mornings at 9:00 A.M.

Bible Study – Wednesday Afternoons at 2:45 P.M.

Book Club – 1st Monday of month at 1:00 P.M.

Communion – First Sunday

Food Pantry - First Sunday

Council Meeting - Second Sunday

Bread & Blessing Dinner – Second Thursday

Men’s Meeting – Third Wednesday at 6:30 P.M.

Women’s Guild – Fourth Sunday

MARCH MONTHLY SCHEDULE

3rd— Bible Study, 2:45 P.M, Men’s meeting 6:30 P.M.

7th—Service of Holy Communion & Food Pantry Sunday

10th—Bible Study, 2:45 P.M

11th—Bread & Blessing Meal, 5:00 P.M.

14th—Council Meeting, 10:15 a.m.

15th— “Mimi’s” Book Club, 1:00 P.M.

16th—Pastor Boundary Training 8:30-12 p.m., Zoom

17th—Bible Study, 2:45 P.M, Men’s meeting, 6:30 P.M.

19th—Food prep day for the BBQ.

20th—Drive-thru BBQ, 11:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

24th—Bible Study, 2:45 P.M.

The Church office is closed every Friday & Saturday

April Lectionary Scripture Readings

April 7, 2024

Acts 4:32-35 • Psalm 133 • 1 John 1:1-2:2 • John 20:19-31

April 14, 2024

Acts 3:12-19 • Psalm 4 • 1 John 3:1-7 • Luke 24:36b-48

April 21, 2024

Acts 4:5-12 • Psalm 23 • 1 John 3:16-24 • John 10:11-18

April 28, 2024

Acts 8:26-40 • Psalm 22:25-31 • 1 John 4:7-21 • John 15:1-8

PASTOR'S MESSAGE "SEEKING PEACE"

The month of March, with all of its activities at Concordia Church, was an extremely busy month. Fully into the season of Lent, we had our special midweek dinners and services, with character presentations by a number of our church members. However, within this month, we also had the passing of one of our most beloved church members, Sharon Stallmann. Her passing deeply hit the hearts of the church members and of this pastor. Every time that I walk into our church kitchen, I just feel Sharon's presence. I remember sitting at the tables with her making Peanut Squares together, both of us with icing practically up to our elbows, such good memories. Also, I had another friend, Sherree Schneider, pass away the same week as Sharon and I officiated both services on the same day, March 9th. My heart feels weary from such loss, but I know for their families, the grief feels unbearable at times. When we are feeling down and weary, when tears want to fall, we need to seek the "peace that passeth all understanding." That sense of peace comes from one source for me, my Lord Jesus Christ.

I found this prayer written by Canon E. B. Pusey (1800-1882) that spoke to me about seeking peace:

"Let us not seek out of thee what we can find only in thee, O Lord: peace and rest and joy and bliss, which abide in thee alone.

Lift up our souls above the weary round of harassing thoughts to thy eternal presence. Lift up our minds to the pure, bright, serene light of thy presence, that there we may repose in thy love and be at rest from ourselves and all things that weary us; and thence return, arrayed in thy peace, to do and to bear whatsoever shall best please thee, O blessed Lord."

Let us seek out the One who says, *"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."*

Pastor Joan

LENTEN “THANK YOU”

Our Lenten season was especially busy this year, many opportunities for worship and fellowship. Thank you to everyone who provided food for our midweek Lenten meals and a special thank you to our six church members who did character presentations for our midweek Lenten services. Thank you to Greg Seaman, “*Simon Peter,*” to Evelyn Fritz, “*Marah, the Woman Who Washed Jesus’ Feet,*” to Barb Bynum, “*Dora, the Woman at the Well,*” to Mike Gomric, “*Nicodemus,*” to John Klaus, “*Stephanus, the Rich Young Ruler,*” and to Becky Avara, “*Judith, the Servant Girl at Caiaphas’ House.*” We will have a reprise of these characters on Easter morning. We plan for celebratory worship on Easter Sunday at 9 a.m., March 31st, and to hear the final words of these people whose lives were changed by meeting Jesus.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL COMMUNITY-WIDE YARD SALE

The Millstadt Historical Society annual yard sale is scheduled for Saturday, May 4th, 8 a.m. – 1 p.m. This year, Kathy and Rick Weygandt will be participating in this yard sale event at their home. They have offered Concordia Church the opportunity to bring items to their home to sell, to financially benefit the church. Therefore, we are asking for church members to start rummaging through their items and make donations that we can sell at this yard sale event. If you have items that need to be picked up, please let Pastor Joan or Becky Avara know that you need assistance. Thank you for any help that you can give.

BREAD AND BLESSING MEAL

Our next Bread and Blessing meal is scheduled for April 11th, 5-6:30 p.m. “Think Spring,” Springtime salads and sandwiches, lighter fare after so much of the heavy foods we eat at Easter. R.S.V.P by Tuesday, April 9th. And let Pastor Joan know if you can bring a dish to share.

COUNCIL NOTES

- Thanks to all who participated in Lenten activities, Holy Week events and Easter Sunday worship! What a busy time!
- Material for the safety bollards has been purchased and plans are being made for installation around the propane tank.
- Tickets to our annual Chicken Dinner were donated to the Millstadt Chamber of Commerce's Pub Crawl.
- Thanks goes out to Lenny Sedlak, John Mier and Michael Avara for spending their Saturday morning recently planting Red Cedar trees that had been donated, along the north side of the parking lot. These trees should help to slow down erosion as well as that wild north wind.
- We are looking into several fundraisers at area restaurants and have had a suggestion to resurrect the Wall of Money.
- It is time for spring cleaning, and we are hoping to participate in the Millstadt Village wide Yard Sale to be held Saturday, May 4. Kathy Wiegand has graciously agreed to let us use her yard. We would appreciate anything you would be willing to donate.

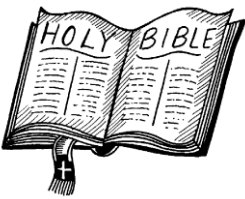
SUNDAY SCHOOL SCOOP

VBS Material has arrived!!! We will be doing a 2-day VBS this summer. Any help would be greatly appreciated. Be watching for dates and more info!

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

The worship committee has been busy preparing for 5th Sunday Worship to be held on Easter, March 31. Be looking for some special surprises! The next Worship Committee meeting is April 10 at 6:00 pm. And we are looking ahead to next 5th Sunday on June 30.

BIBLE STUDY



Join us on Wednesday afternoons at 2:45 p.m. to continue our study of "Ten Women of the Bible." We finished the story of "Mary of Bethany" during the season of Lent and now have moved on to the story of "Sapphira." Find out how her and her husband thought they could hide things from God. If interested, speak to Pastor Joan

"MIMI'S" BOOK CLUB

Current read is the American Duchess by Karen Harper. We will meet on April 15 to discuss and review. Here is the list of the next books to be read: And Then There Was Me by Sadeqa Johnson - We will meet on May 13 to review. Bread Upon the Water by Irwin Shaw - June...?



QUILTING CIRCLE

We are quilting every Tuesday morning from 9:00 to 11:30 am and there is plenty of room for anyone who would like to join us. One Tuesday each month, we order lunch and extend our quilting hours to about 2:00. Quilt Raffle tickets are available - only 200 will be sold!

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

We will be meeting on April 3rd & April 17th to finalize plans for the BBQ on April 20th.

WOMEN'S GUILD

We will be preparing the sides for the BBQ on Friday April 19th, watch the weekly updates & bulletins for more information on time. There will be a sign-up sheet for supplies needed.



April Birthday's

- | | |
|------|-------------------|
| 1st | Natalie Huck |
| 1st | Barbara Bynum |
| 5th | Kevin Juhas |
| 8th | John Klaus |
| 13th | Rick Weygandt |
| 14th | Marianne Schaefer |
| 17th | Isabell Noble |
| 27th | Kristen Haimann |
| 29th | Brenda Waelti |



April Anniversaries

- | | |
|------|-------------------------|
| 12th | Bob & Marilyn Vielweber |
| 21st | Josh & Mandy Wuebbels |

PRAYER CONCERNS

Judy Quirk, Willis Steiger, Jamie Lee, Marty Mueller, Len Peak, Edgar Stallmann, Brenda Waelti, Debbie Gain, Breeze Hankammer, Gloria Ellermeyer, Jim Lercher, Jim Kostelac, Pam Groom, Bill Mueller, Shawn Malone, Randee Rittmeyer, Karen Dayton, Alan & Becky Hand, Cheryl Partee, Charlie Dayton, Nancy Kelly, Gail Dayton, Chris Howell, Ralph Martenez, Sandy Monroe, Charlotte Mehrstens, Becky & Wes Taylor, Rebecca Taylor, Glynn Garcia, Mike Toenjes, Stephanie Poletti, Dorothy Powers, Ray Holht, Mark Klaus, Tom Cahnovsky, Katie Strickland, Connie Foster, Tom Kaiser, Dan Sampson, Charolette Lyday, Gary Detert, Landon Simmons, Jones/Burley family, JoAnn Schilling, Ed Glenn

Sympathies to the family & friends of Sharon Stallmann who passed away in March.

Additional Prayer Requests

Kathy Burgard, Mary Douglas, Gerry Freiderich, Joshua Gamm, LeeAnn Heaton, Joe Knepper, Bill Koeln, Bob Miller, Angela Pearson, Lorene Rice, Teri Robertson, Kathryn Sick, Bob & Wanda Wheat, Kevin Wicks

If you do not see your birthday or anniversary listed or need a name added or removed from the prayer list, please notify the church by emailing the secretary or calling the church and leaving a message.



At

Concordia United Church of Christ
7600 State Route 163
Belleville, IL 62223
(Corner of Rt. 163 & Concordia Church Road)

Saturday, April 20, 2024

11:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

Pork Steak Plate - \$13.00 (w/3 sides)
Bratwurst Plate (2 brats) - \$13.00 (w/3 sides)
Slab of ribs - \$25.00 (no sides)
Sides: Potato Salad, Slaw, Baked Beans

Drive-Thru/Carry outs only

For more information call 476-3377



Easter Lily's

In Memory Of:

Maelynn Schwab
Todd Vielweber & Cody Schanuel
Donald, Michael & Scott Schwab
Our Parents
Ernest & Patricia Mier
Our Parents
Earl & Ruth Steffen

Given By:

Randy & Natalie Huck
Bob & Marilyn Vielweber
Darlene Schwab
Marianne Schaefer
Rev. Joan & John Mier
Willis & Doris Steiger
Karen Boyd

In Honor Of:

Nick & Jack Roeseler
Our Granddaughters –
Lorelie, Aurora & Josie

Given By:

Karen Boyd

Mike & Rachel Gomric
Mick & Renee (2)

Monetary Donation in Memory Of:

Len Fritz

Evelyn Fritz

PANCAKE & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST





NEW MEMBERS

Elizabeth Benavidez,
Vic Gemmingen &
David & Debbie Scharf,

Presentation of the check to the Sr. Center from the Chili Challenge



PHOTO'S FROM SOME OF THE WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICES



FROM YOUR EDITOR:

Please send any articles for the next newsletter by **Monday, April 22nd**, to secretary.concordia@gmail.com.

Please call the church office or email secretary.concordia@gmail.com...

- If you move, change your telephone number or email address. Our records need to be current
- If you or a member of your family is admitted to the hospital. The pastor needs to know so hospital visits can be scheduled.
- When you have a new addition to your family.
- When a member of your family leaves home for college.
- When your committee or group plans a meeting or an activity, so the church calendar can be updated.
- When you feel the church can assist you.

Suggested items for the Millstadt Food Pantry

- Cleaning products
- Toilet Paper, paper towels
- Shampoo, conditioner, soap, etc.
- Cereal, complete pancake mix & syrup
- Soup

PLEASE CHECK THE EXPIRATION DATE



April 2024



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 9AM Quilting	3 2:45 PM Bible Study 6:30 PM Men's meeting	4	5	6
7 Food Pantry 9:00-Worship Service 9:15-Sunday School	8	9 9AM Quilting	10 2:45 PM Bible Study	11 5-6:30PM Bread & Blessing dinner	12	13
14 9AM Worship 9:15-Sunday School Council Meeting	15 1PM Book Club	16 9AM Quilting	17 2:45 PM Bible Study 6:30 PM Men's Meeting	18	19 Food Prep for BBQ	20 11am-2pm 
21 9AM Worship 9:15 Sunday School	22	23 9AM Quilting	24 2:45 PM Bible Study	25	26	27
28 9:00-Worship Service 9:15-Sunday School	29	30 9AM Quilting				