Concordia Lutheran Church

The March Chronicle 2026

Empowered by Christ's forgiveness,

We worship Him, praise Him, and study His Word.

We nurture community members, and serve mission fields.

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Pastor's Corner

There is something missing. It's not a coin. It's not a sheep. It is certainly not snow. What's missing? Well… two important parts of our Sunday worship are missing at least for Lent.

The season of Lent began on Ash Wednesday, February 18th this year. During Lent, the Church's worship takes on a more penitential character. The paraments and vestments are changed to purple, which is associated with penitence. Also those two important parts of our worship services, the Hymn of Praise and the word "Alleluia", an expression that means "praise the Lord" go "missing" for approximately 40 days and then make their return on Easter Sunday.

Why do they leave for 40 days? Their departure marks a clear difference in this time of the church year from any other time. It also helps serve as a powerful contrast with the festival celebration that takes place on Easter Sunday, the day we celebrate Jesus' resurrection from the dead. On that day you can clearly hear again the alleluias ring out in the celebration of His victory over sin and death.

Does that mean that we will not be praising God and worshiping Him on Sunday mornings? Of course we will be praising and worshiping Him. That is why we come together at Concordia each Sunday morning as well as Wednesday evenings during Lent. We celebrate the gift of life and salvation that we have in Christ through whom we also have forgiveness of our sins.

During this season of Lent, I invite you to again reflect on the wonderful and amazing gifts God has provided you through His Son, Jesus, the Christ. May you have a blessed Lenten Season.

With Great Joy In Christ Jesus,

Pastor Brad A. Brown

Please join us for our midweek Lenten series, *"Promised Treasures"* each Wednesday evening during Lent at 7:00 pm.

Midweek 2 of Lent – March 4 – "Water Gives You Life"

Midweek 3 of Lent – March 11 – "Light Shining in Darkness"

Midweek 4 of Lent – March 18 – "Bread of Life"

Midweek 5 of Lent – March 25 – "Palms and Victory"

What's Happening?

Mark your calendars!
Saturday, March 7th

6:00-8:00 pm

Family Game Night: Invite your family and friends for this fun filled night of board and card games. Snacks will be available to enjoy! Free will donation to support the youth going on the Peru Mission Trip.

We are taking orders for Easter Lilies to help decorate the church for Easter Sunday. After Sunday service, you may take your lily home to enjoy. Lilies are $11 and orders are due by Sunday, March 8th.

Sunday, April 5—following worship service

Please join us for a delicious breakfast hosted by the Youth

There is a signup sheet on the white board to donate supplies for the Easter breakfast. Donations can be dropped off on Friday, April 3 OR Saturday, April 4— 8:30-9:00 am

REMINDER YOUTH—EASTER PREP WILL BE 9AM-11AM ON SATURDAY APRIL 4TH

- **Youth Can Drive—Saturday, April 4th 8:30-9:30am**

Albert Einstein is attributed to the quotation, "If you want your children to be intelligent, read them fairy tales. If you want them to be more intelligent, read them more fairy tales." He understood that the power of imagination was the key to creative thinking which, in fact, leads to scientific discovery. As Christians, we also know that Jesus believed in the true power of a story as many of the lessons that he taught were taught in the form of a parable, or in other words, a story. In early childhood education we know the huge impact of a well chosen story to teach our littles a myriad of things.

In the months of February and March, we have chosen to read a series of stories called "The Fairytale Friends." Each story is a retelling of a familiar fairy tale but twists the story to focus on a social emotional skill. When we read the story of Snow White, we discovered that while she loved soccer and was very good at soccer, she did not play well with others. Through her trials and tribulations, we discovered the power of teamwork. We then met Jack who promised his mom that he would not climb the beanstalks. When Jack lied, and consequently felt terrible, we learned the power of honesty.

Share and Care is always full of opportunities for imagination and discovery, but we are loving our two month unit that is focusing on fairy tales. Castle Share and Care of February will soon transform to the Share and Care Fairy Tale Construction Company. Our collection of princesses and magical ponies will transition to castles with ogres, dragons and knights. Check out our website www.shareandcarepreschool.com to see pictures of what our classrooms look like and all the imaginative play our friends are enjoying.

We continue to welcome registrations for the 2026-2027 school year. Our state-funded program is currently full with a waitlist, but we are willing to add names in case of any changes. We also have spots available in all of our tuition programs (for 3-5 year olds), although not many in the 4 day program. If you know of anyone who may be interested in our program, please encourage them to check out our website for more information, to schedule a tour or to fill out an enrollment application. While we are still fully immersed in the wonder of our current classrooms, we know that the year is quickly coming to an end and we look forward to starting a new year with classrooms full of eager learners.

Blessed,

Sarah Hoffman

Celebrating birthdays in March...

2. Charlene Parks
4. Tessa Timmerman
5. Todd Minor
9. Reegan Cutter
10. Amanda Sir, Sherry Sir, Chris Scheck
13. Bart Seltrecht
14. Berkley Bramsen
16. Mackenzie Blaha, Lily Worden
17. Austin Snyder
18. Ryland Cooling
20. Michele Lavin, Nicholas Schmitz
25. Rachel Plein
26. Gary Crow
27. Lori Blaha

Celebrating anniversaries in March...

18. Dwight & Krista Oehlerich
25. Grant & Nicole Schultz