

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH



THE MAY CHRONICLE 2024

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



*The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the word of our God will stand forever.*

Isaiah 40:8

Every spring we see the brown grass and seemingly lifeless trees coming back to life. We see our spring bulbs begin to push their way up out of the ground. And as we begin caring for the world around us we see it continue to grow. The gardens will start producing and our tables will be filled with that tastes of Summer. And we will continue to care for the garden making sure it does not wither and die. Before long we'll be talking about how hot it is and wishing that things would cool down.

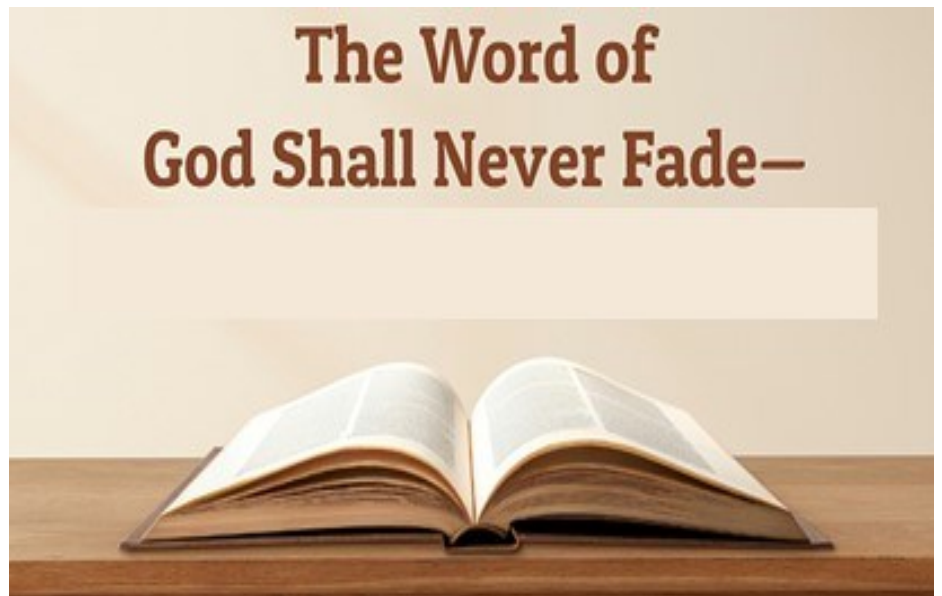
And then it will happen. All of the green will start to brown. We'll get the last tomato from the garden. We'll have to put back on the gloves and hats. And it will all be over. But that's a long time off and we have plenty of time before the things we love about Spring and Summer pass away.

But the verse above reminds us that the Word of God, spoken, written, and living in the person of Jesus, endures forever. It does not pass away. It does not brown and fade away. It never stops yielding the fruit which it was meant to yield.

As we reach the end of our "Academic Year" and enter into Summer, we are reminded that the church, while never withering and dying under God's care, still needs our care as well. We eat at the never empty table that is filled with the fruit of God's forgiveness and mercy for us and the truth of God's Word NEVER withers or fades. A blessed Summer to you all. We'll see you at church.

With Great Joy In Christ Jesus,

Pastor Brad A. Brown



What's Happening?

REMINDER—The church office will be closed on Monday, May 27th.

HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY!

H A P P Y
Mother's Day

TO ALL OF OUR CONCORDIA MOMS!

Reminder—May 19th will be the last
Adult Bible Class for the year.

Enjoy your summer and we will see you when we start
back in the fall.

STEPP Up- We wrapped up another great year of learning and growing with Christ on April 24th. A **BIG thank you** to our volunteers that help make this program a success: *Laura Furne, Shane Kriegermeier, Todd Armstrong, Sarah Hoffman, Stacy Roland, and Angie Cooling.* Thank you also to all the parents for bringing your children each week. We hope everyone has a wonderful summer. Look for information about the kick-off to next year's program in August.

UPCOMING EVENTS

YOUTH BOTTEL/CAN DRIVE

JUNE 1ST—8-9AM

REMINDER YOUTH—DURING THIS EVENT WE WILL ALSO HAVE A PARENT & YOUTH MEETING FOR PUERTO RICO. PARENTS, PLEASE MAKE SURE TO BRING ALL SUPPLIES FOR CHECKED LUGGAGE AT THIS TIME.

The Youth Ministry
ZONE

YOUTH GROUP

SUNDAY, MAY 5th Youth Group will be mini golfing. Please sign up on the bulletin board if attending.

****THIS IS THE LAST YOUTH GROUP UNTIL FALL****



Check out the Youth Mission Table in the narthex—find out a little about our mission trip to Puerto Rico this summer and help support us if you can!

FLAMINGO INSURANCE

Flamingos have been spotted in the area! They are expected to flock yards starting June 2nd. Please consider insurance to keep the pink flock off your lawns.

Insurance can be purchased through May 26th. The youth and Wesley thank you for any donation given during this time.



Women's Bible Study Survey—please return to the box on the Welcome Desk

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

1. Are you interested in being a part of a women's bible study?

Yes No Maybe

2. Would you prefer to meet at church **OR** rotate through our homes?

Church Rotate homes

3. If interested, what night?

Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday

**Monday is most likely out due to heavy church usage by various committees/groups.*

4. If we are unable to meet on your "preferred" night, would you still participate?

Yes No Maybe

5. And if you come on (whatever) night, would you be a regular attendee or part time? ** Part time is fine*

Regular Part time

6. Topics/books of the bible you are interested in:

7. Are you able to buy your own book **AND** would you prefer that the book be ordered in bulk **OR** on your own?

**Cost of book may be as high as \$20.*

Yes, I can buy No, I cannot buy **AND** Order in bulk Buy on my own

** Study would only be one hour with any visiting after. We will open and close with prayer.*

8. What other ideas are out there for involvement? What can we do to keep this congregation (family) alive!?

Check all that you are interested in:

- movie night
- game night
- Pilates
- shopping trips
- bake day—then take to Mercy Hospice House
- Retreat
- wedding dress/tea party
- tea party with hats and dress up
- theatre with dinner before
- progressive dinner

Other ideas/suggestions:

Thank you for taking the time to fill out this survey. If you have any questions/suggestions, please call Terri Liedtke at 319-651-4028 or Christina Johnson at 319-929-5433.



Our preschool day is over and we are going home.

Good-bye! Good-bye!

We love you!

Good-bye! Good-bye!

Jesus loves you, too!



What a year! I am sure you know this, but I LOVE teaching preschool and I LOVE doing it at Share and Care. When we started this year with an enrollment of 7, I truly thought this may be the last year for our sweet program. As we continued to welcome new learners into our classrooms, I was encouraged with the possibility of another year and when we ended with a classroom of 20 kiddos, I was so very thankful for the blessing of our time together.

This class has taught me so very much about what our job is in early childhood education. Together we have learned the value of loving our neighbors. We have noticed the power that is held within someone's name and we have used those beautiful names to learn more about our friends. We have learned the power of flexibility and understanding that we are all growing in different ways. We can figure out things that once were hard and also might have to put some extra work into things that once were easy. We have found our voice and we have learned to use it to advocate for ourselves and to solve problems. Most of all we have learned that we are better as a together than we are as an individual and that is the most important lesson that our kiddos can take with them when they leave our space.

Early childhood education is about a lot of things. We are working on early academics and we are working on developing our big and small muscles. We are reading and writing and using our imagination in our play, but most importantly we are learning the value of community. We are learning that we need to work with one another so that we all have the best days. We are seeing our friends' needs and we are helping them fill them. We are struggling on our own so we are asking our peers for help. We are understanding that we are amazing individuals, but we can do bigger things when we work with our friends. This understanding of community is what our kiddos will take to their next educational experience. Never again will this group of individuals be learning together like we have this year at Share and Care, but they all have discovered the power of learning within a classroom. New teachers, new friends, new buildings will all come and go throughout their educational journeys, but we know that Share and Care has been the place where they first felt safe and loved at "their" school. They will take that feeling of security and comfort into new environments and we hope that they feel a little braver when faced with new opportunities.

I am so thankful that I have had the opportunity to learn with this fantastic community of learners (big and small) and I can't wait to see what amazing things they do in their future communities.

'Everything in the world is about to be wrapped up, so take nothing for granted. Stay wide-awake in prayer. Most of all, love each other as if your life depended on it. Love makes up for practically anything. Be quick to give a meal to the hungry, a bed to the homeless—cheerfully. Be generous with the different things God gave you, passing them around so all get in on it: if words, let it be God's words; if help, let it be God's hearty help. That way, God's bright presence will be evident in everything through Jesus, and he'll get all the credit as the One mighty in everything—encores to the end of time. Oh, yes!'

1 Peter 4:7 (The Message)

Blessed to serve,
Sarah Hoffman

Celebrating birthdays in May...

3. Susan Denny, Diane Long, Alexa Terrington

4. Dean Frey

5. Lynn McCullough

6. Lisa Byerly

9. Gretchen Aquice

10. Makayla Pock

11. Rita Frey, Ryder Plein

13. Sabrina Pock

17. Todd Armstrong, Dorothy Pomeroy, Debbie Settlage

18. Lisa Schmelz

19. June Cabrnock

21. Gary Wendel

22. Ryan McCullough, Mary Schneekloth



Celebrating anniversaries in May...

4. Chris & Brenda Deimerly

8. Duane & Diane Schmelz

14. Kenn & Kathy Pettit, Mike & Susan Spellerberg

22. Bryan & Rosie Cutter

25. Mark & Diana Stauffer

28. David & Jan Pearson

