



The CONCORDIA TRUMPET February/March 2024

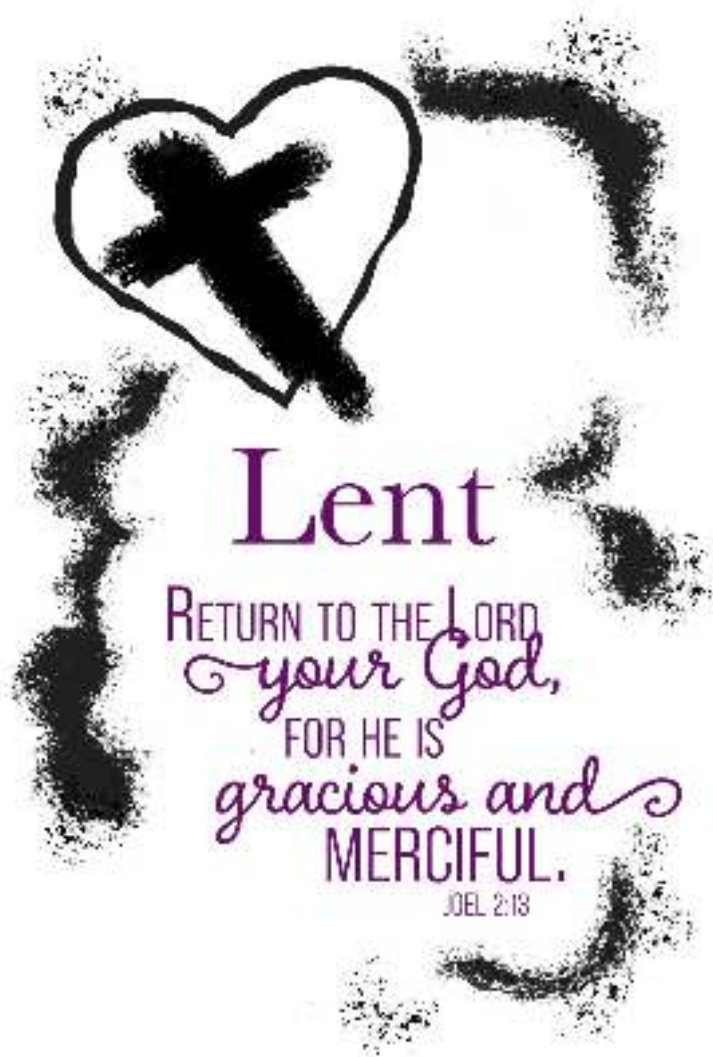


Concordia Lutheran Church
818 Arsenal Street, Watertown, NY 13601
315-777-8880 & leave a message

www.concordialutheranwatertown.com
concordialutheranwatertown@gmail.com
For emergencies, call Ginny 315-493-0948 or 315-405-2106

This year the season of Lent begins on February 14 with Ash Wednesday and lasts through March 30, Holy Saturday. It is a solemn time in which we have an opportunity to grow closer to God, to remember Jesus' life and death, and to focus more on him and less on ourselves and our busy schedules. During Lent we focus on prayer, repentance and renewal as we prepare for the celebration of Easter Sunday and the resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Lord. We strive to deepen our connection with God and contemplate on the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. As we journey through Lent, we might consider adding or increasing some of the following activities in our daily lives:

- * Praying often
- * Reading the Bible
- * Loving and serving others
- * Praising God for the gift of His Son



February/ March Schedule for Concordia
~ Sunday Worship Service at 10 a.m.

- Feb. 4** Church Council meeting at 9:00 a.m.
Worship with Father John Crosswaite
11 Worship with the Rev. Barb Schmitz
Chili Cook-Off after worship
14 Ash Wednesday Worship at 6:00 p.m.
with Deacon Donna Dutton
18 Worship with the Rev. Barb Schmitz
Annual Meeting after worship
25 Worship with the Rev. Jennifer Kenna



- March 3** Church Council meeting at 9:00 a.m.
Worship with Deacon Donna Dutton
10 Worship with the Rev. Jennifer Kenna
Daylight Saving Time Begins.
17 Worship with the Rev. Barb Schmitz
24 Palm Sunday Worship with the Rev. Jennifer Kenna
29 Good Friday Worship at 6:00 p.m. with Deacon Donna Dutton
31 Easter Sunday Worship with Father John Crosswaite
April 7 Church Council meeting at 9:00 a.m.



Join us to celebrate the
**Resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ
on Easter Sunday, March 31 at 10 a.m.**

Father John Crosswaite will be presiding at
this joyful Holy Communion service.

Following the Easter worship service you are invited to
gather in the fellowship hall for an

Easter Potluck Brunch.

Later in March, you may tell what dish you plan to share by
signing up on the sheet which will be posted
on a bulletin board in the fellowship hall .

If you would like to provide any **flowers for Easter**, you are
welcome to purchase a plant, bring it to beautify our church, and
then take it home again after the worship service.



Church Council Members
meet on the first Sunday of the month.

We will meet at 9:00 a.m.
on Sunday, **February 4**
and
Sunday, **March 3**
and
Sunday, **April 7**.



EASTER SUNDAY **Potluck Brunch**

Join us on
Sunday, March 31
for an
Easter Potluck Brunch.

Bring a dish to share and enjoy some
camaraderie with our
Concordia Family of Faith.



If Concordia should cancel
worship services due to bad weather,
the announcement will be aired on the
WWNY TV channel and webpage,
and posted on Concordia's Facebook page.



Lent begins on February 14
with Ash Wednesday.

Start your Lenten journey to the cross
by attending the
6 p.m. Ash Wednesday worship service
led by Deacon Donna Dutton
at Concordia on February 14.





Lent ends at the close of Holy Saturday, March 30.

When the end of your Lenten journey to the cross draws near, plan to attend the **6 p.m. Good Friday worship service** led by Deacon Donna Dutton at Concordia on March 29.



Concordia's Annual Meeting will be **Sunday, February 18** following the 10 a.m. worship service.

We will be electing two people to serve on the church council. Please attend and cast your vote for those who will represent you on this decision-making church body.

Ringers Needed!!

Jason Comet, our music director, has been working and restoring our 3-octave set of Schulmerich handbells. Their age of 33 years had caused many of the internal springs to become brittle and crack. Now, with the internals restored, and the bells to soon be polished, we are looking forward to gathering as a handbell choir.

This will require rehearsals and a regular group of ringers. Each ringer will be assigned two bells for all pieces, and a total of five or

more individuals is needed to be able to ring musical pieces.

Jason is working to have a local handbell clinician come and do a "starter" class for us. The ability to read music is helpful, but is not required to be a ringer. If you would like to join, but don't read music, come and join! Jason will teach you what to do.

If you would like to join the Handbell choir and learn how to be a Ringer, or if you have questions about it, speak with Jason after Sunday worship.



**HANDBELL
CHOIR**



Thank You
to
Angie McCabe
for the personalized
engraved cutting board
she donated for use in
Concordia's kitchen.

"Concordia Lutheran
Church-
Taste and See that the
Lord is good.
Psalm 34: 8"



From Irene Lunderman

Irene sends a big Thank You to her
friends and faith family at
Concordia for the cards and good
wishes she received for her 90th
birthday in January.

News and Notes

* Thank You to all who helped decorate and un-decorate our church for Christmas. You added to the festivity of the season and increased the warm and welcome spirit at Concordia.

* Daylight Saving Time begins on March 10. Turn clocks one hour ahead.

* In mid- January a check for the amount which had been contributed by worshipers for the Food Pantry was sent to the Urban Mission. Thank You to those who gave to make a combined total of \$980.00.

* Our sympathy, condolences and prayers are given to Carol and Brian Stacey on the sudden death of Carol's brother, David Kahrs, of Redwood on December 4, 2023. His funeral was held at Frederick Brothers Funeral Home in Theresa with the Rev. Rachel Roberts officiating.



Support the Fight Against Hunger on Sunday, February 11 at Concordia's Chili Cook-Off!

All funds raised will go to the Urban Mission Food Pantry.

How can you participate? You can.....

1. Bring a crockpot of chili for others to sample.
2. Vote (with your money) for your favorite chili. There is a prize for the winning chili!
3. If you don't want to bring chili, you could bring foods that go with chili such as cornbread, rolls/bread, butter, chips, or a dessert.

Donations of non-perishable food or personal care items are also welcomed. If you'd like to write a check to donate to the Food Pantry, please make it out to Concordia and put Food Pantry on the memo line. Thanks in advance for your support of this worthy cause!



A God - Shaped Hole

Have you ever neared the completion of a jigsaw puzzle, only to discover that a piece or two is missing? That's an apt visual for what it's like to live without God.

Blaise Pascal, a 17th-century philosopher, observed: "There is a God-shaped vacuum in the heart of each man which cannot be satisfied by any created thing but only by God the Creator, made known through Jesus Christ."

Centuries earlier, St. Augustine proclaimed "Thou hast made us for thyself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in thee." And in the Old Testament, the writer of Ecclesiastes expounded on the meaninglessness of earthly striving and material pursuits. Only God's Spirit can fill our emptiness and satisfy our eternal longings.

"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full," says Jesus in John 10:10 (NIV). He alone provides the solution for emptiness. What comfort to be filled with — and to find our fulfillment in — our Savior!

Take time to "examen"

I'm grateful to live in an area with distinct seasons. Each time of year has unique characteristics that give way to the next. "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven," says Ecclesiastes 3:1 (ESV).

Each change of season also lends itself to *examen*, a spiritual practice that involves reflection. Typically done daily, examen invites people to recall past events (highlights, struggles, even mundane activities) and consider when they especially sensed God's presence or when he seemed distant.

Try a deeper examen four times a year as the seasons change. As a starting point, use your answers to these questions:

- Looking back at the past season, when did I see God at work? What was life-giving to me?
- In what areas did I need God to work? What was life-draining?
- As I enter this next season, how is God inviting me to engage more with his presence?



~ Janna Firestone

Did You Know?

We know that Concordia is in transition and looking for a pastor, but did you know that other churches in our Central Crossroads Conference (Utica, Syracuse and northern NY areas) are also searching?

CHURCHES IN TRANSITION

- ~ **Zion Church, New Hartford** (Pr. Janet Griffiths, transition pastor)
- ~ **Trinity Church, Herkimer** (Pr. Gail Wolling, pastor of record)
- ~ **Concordia Church, Watertown** (Dean Allan Ferguson, pastor of record)
- ~ **St. Paul's Church, Liverpool** (Pr. Tonya Eza, transition pastor)
- ~ **St. Stephen's Church, Syracuse** (Pr. Paul Dreher-Wiberg)
- ~ **Prince of Peace Church, Fulton**: (Pr. Chuck Copps, transition pastor)
- ~ **Lutheran Campus Ministry at SU** (Pr. Jeff Kane, "Interim Pastor," title per SU campus custom)

Concordia Lutheran Church Council Members and Other Personnel

Ginny Hasseler, President (315-493-0948)
 Carol Stacey, Vice -President
 Katherine Robertson, Council Secretary, Treasurer,
 Worship & Music

Barbara Delosh
 Eric Holloway, Property Co-Chair
 Sid Wheeler, Property Co-Chair
 Debby Whelpley, Fellowship

Eric Holloway, Facebook
 Carol Stacey, Financial Secretary
 Ginny Hasseler, Newsletter & Bulletin
 Jason Comet, Music Director & Bulletin

If you are on Facebook, check out and "Like" our page.

Birthdays



4 Carol Stacey
 15 Laura Young
 27 Kathy Robertson

February 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		



5 Marty Wheeler
 6 Kristina Wheeler
 14 Sarah McCormick

March 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

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818 Arsenal Street
Watertown, New York 13601

The Concordia Trumpet
February/March 2024



CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH
818 Arsenal St.
Watertown, New York 13601
315-777-8880

- ~ Sunday Worship Service: 10:00 am
- ~ Ash Wednesday Service: Feb. 14 at 6 pm
- ~ Good Friday Service: March 29 at 6 pm
- ~ Easter Service: March 31 at 10 am

Website: www.concordialutheranwatertown.com

Find us on Facebook.

**Our Mission Statement: See, Grow, and Serve in the
Ways of the Christian Faith.**