



The CONCORDIA TRUMPET October/November 2026



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

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Psalm 107: 1



October/November Schedule for Concordia

~ Sunday Worship Service at 10 am

A Nursery room with speakers to hear the service is available for young children, if needed.

October 4 Church Council meeting at 9 am

Worship with Deacon Donna Dutton

11 Worship with Fr. John Crosswaite

18 Worship with Deacon Donna Dutton

25 Reformation Sunday

Worship with Deacon Donna Dutton

31 Reformation Day

November 1 All Saints Day

Church Council meeting at 9 am

Worship with Fr. John Crosswaite

7 Holiday Bazaar & German Lunch

8 Worship with Fr. John Crosswaite

11 Veterans Day

15 Worship with Deacon Donna Dutton

Annual Budget Meeting

22 Christ the King Sunday

Worship with Deacon Donna Dutton

26 Thanksgiving Day

29 1st Sunday of Advent

Worship with Fr. John Crosswaite



Visitors Welcomed to Concordia



On August 26 our worship service was attended by visitors from Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Schenectady, NY. We were treated to a heartfelt solo sung by one of the ladies during the offering collection. The group had been visiting some of the tourist attractions in the 1000 Islands

and visited Concordia also. One person in the group had previously been in our area and had attended Concordia for a while. We enjoyed seeing her, and we all posed together after the service.



Church Council Meeting

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

We will meet at 9:00 am
in the church library on

Sunday, **October 4**
Sunday, **November 1**
and Sunday, **December 6.**



After the worship service on
Sunday, November 15,
there will be a short congregational
Budget Meeting
as the proposed budget for 2027
is presented to the congregation
for approval.



A Prayer for Reformation Sunday
October 25, 2026

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in your word; protect and comfort us in times of trial; defend us against all enemies of the gospel; and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



Veterans Day

November 11, 2026

We thank you for your service to our
country to protect our freedoms.

May God bless you.

Memories of the Old Church at 118 North Massey St., Watertown

On September 6, we celebrated the 120th birthday of Concordia Ev. Lutheran church. The old church building is now owned by a local accounting firm. The congregation moved to its current location on Arsenal St. in 1971. In the 1990's we were given an opportunity to purchase some of the original stained glass windows and bring them back to our Arsenal St. building where they are displayed in the sanctuary. There aren't many people left in our congregation who were around when Concordia was based at the Massey St. church, and we thank Rosina Allen, Wanda Minkler and Helga Toper for sharing their memories of when they were there.

Thank you also to Kathy Robertson for organizing and compiling those memories as written below.



Rosina Allen arrived in this country at the age of 12 years. The family came over on the Queen Elizabeth and entered the United States through Ellis Island. They took a bus to Watertown and stayed with Michael and Maria Schneider. Maria was the organist at Concordia at that time. The family went to Church every Sunday. Rosina did not speak English, but that was not a problem because Concordia had two services- one in English and one in German, which was stopped in about 1954. At the age of 15, Rosina was confirmed in English, with the confirmation class being comprised of youth from both services.

In the old church, the sanctuary, bathrooms, and choir room were on the top floor and the kitchen, fellowship hall, and Sunday School rooms were in the basement. The floors were connected by a "terrifying staircase"- terrifying particularly if you were carrying something. Rosina liked the togetherness of Sunday School, and Martin Toper was her Sunday School teacher. There was no fellowship time after church, since Sunday was always a day to visit family. Monthly dinners, open to the public, were held in the fellowship hall in the basement. Rosina served as one of the waitresses. Eight tables, each seating about 6 people, were set up. People would come in the main door, sit and wait in the sanctuary for their turn to eat, and as people left the church after eating, that number of people were sent downstairs to be served. About two hundred people were fed at these dinners. Monthly potlucks were held for the congregation with each family bringing a dish to share and bringing their own table settings which they took home again to wash.

Christmas Eve, not Christmas Day, was the time when people of German heritage celebrated with each other. Family dinners were held and everybody visited everybody. At each get-together, people ate "pigs-in-a-blanket" (cabbage rolls) and had celebratory drinks, so that by the time church service started at 10:45 pm, many of the adults were ready to sing heartily and

(Continued on next page)

Memories.... Continued

the hymns shook the rafters. Christmas Day was when individual families celebrated. On New Year's Day, you weren't supposed to eat anything (meat) that scratched backwards - like chickens/poultry, or chewed side-to-side - like cows/beef. With the symbolism of moving forward into the new year, meat from an animal that pushed its food forward -like pigs/pork, was preferred.

There were two choirs at the old church, a Junior choir and a Senior choir. They sang at every service. A favorite memory of Wanda's concerning the Junior choir, of which she was a member, is that every time she had to stand up to sing, she hit her head on the pulpit which was right by her seat. A general memory of Rosina's is that there was a closeness in the congregation- "it was more like a family than a church." In fact, many of the members were related to each other.



Holiday Bazaar
9 am to 3 pm
&
German Hot Dog Lunch
served 11 am to 1 pm

Saturday, November 7

- ~ Christmas Corner
- ~ Bake Sale
- ~ White Elephant
- ~ Crafts

Supporting Neighbors Near and Far



Urban Mission

Thank you to all who contributed funds and/or food or hygiene items during the months of July and August. A check for \$695.00 was sent to the Mission and Kathy Robertson personally delivered the food and other items. Thank you letters from the Mission are posted on the bulletin board in the narthex, by the Arsenal St. doors.



Lutheran Disaster Response

Following the catastrophic flooding in Nepal in late August, Concordia collected funds to send to Lutheran Disaster Response to help those affected by the disaster. Thank you to all who donated. A check for \$1336.00 was sent to the organization.

Celebration of Life for Pat Gleason

On August 22, Father John Crosswaite officiated at the Celebration of Life service for **Pat Gleason** who passed away on April 4, 2026. We miss Pat at our Sunday worship services.

A Memorial has been given in memory of Pat by Ginny & Larry Hasseler.



Library News

~ by Kathy Robertson

Picture this. A Lutheran Church. The choir is rehearsing their anthem for the following Sunday (*A Mighty Fortress*- what else?) and a gunman comes in spraying bullets in every direction. Two choir members fall. The Pastor, Stephen Grant, in his office adjacent to the sanctuary, flips open the top of his coffee table, grabs one of his handguns located therein, runs into the sanctuary and shoots the gunman (who has now taken a hostage) square in the middle of her forehead. This is no ordinary Pastor. This is an ex-Navy Seal, ex-CID agent who, yes, has an arsenal in the parsonage which he uses in his many adventures solving and/or preventing crimes. He also preaches every Sunday, goes to Council Meetings, leads Vespers, protects the Pope, and eats out a lot. There is violence in the books, but they are so fantastical that it didn't bother me. What might bother you is that the author does freely share his theology with which you may not agree. He also gives you a short sermon in every book. This is a nine book series by author Ray Keating who is definitely a Lutheran. The Library has the first three (*Warrior Monk*, *Root of Evil?*, and *An Advent for Religious Liberty*) and I would suggest reading them in order. If someone likes them, I will get the rest, just please let me know if you want to read them!

Theo of Golden by Allen Levi: If you are feeling down by the current state of affairs in this country; if you need a break, then dive into **Theo of Golden**. It is a lovely book with a rather surprising twist, which I am not going to tell you about. Theo is an elderly man who moves from New York City to a small southern river town. He starts to frequent a neighborhood coffee shop and admires the portraits of local people that line the walls. He likes them so much that he starts to buy and present them to the individuals who are pictured therein. That is all I am going to say. It is a well-written, lovely book.



Coming Saturday, December 5.....

Christmas Cookie and Candy Sale

Starting at 9 am
at
Concordia



Advent begins
Sunday, November 29.

Join us at Sunday
worship services, 10 am,
on our Advent journey
to the birth
of our Lord and Savior,
Jesus Christ.

Concordia Lutheran Church Council Members and Other Personnel

Ginny Hasseler, President (315-493-0948)

Donna Dutton, Vice-President

Katherine Robertson, Council Secretary,
Worship & Music

Barbara Delosh, Finance

Eric Holloway, Property Co-Chair

Sid Wheeler, Property Co-Chair

Debby Whelpley, Fellowship

Donna Dutton, Deacon

Eric Holloway, Facebook

Barbara Delosh, Financial Secretary

Ginny Hasseler, Newsletter & Bulletin

Jason Comet, Music Director, Organist & Bulletin

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

Birthdays



4 Cora McCabe
23 Harley Wheeler
31 Mary Jane Fulton



8 Sid Wheeler
10 Martin Toper
17 Jason Comet
28 Larry Hasseler

Concordia Ev. Lutheran Church
818 Arsenal Street
Watertown, NY 13601

The Concordia Trumpet
October/November 2026



YET I WILL REJOICE IN THE LORD.
I will be joyful
IN GOD MY SAVIOR.

HABAKKUK 3:18, NIV

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

Sunday Worship Service: 10:00 am

Website:
www.concordialutheranwatertown.com

Find us on Facebook.

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