



# THE PITTSBURGH LUTHERAN

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## PALM DEVOTION

by The Reverend Dr. Douglas H. Spittel, President, Pittsburgh Area Lutheran Ministries

### “With One Accord”

This month of May brings us to the great feasts of the Ascension of our Lord and Pentecost. Equal in honor to Christmas, Epiphany, and Easter, these feasts point us to the Lordship of Jesus and His continuing work on Earth through His Church. Something that Saint Luke emphasizes in the first chapters of the Acts of the Apostles is the togetherness of the Apostles and other disciples in the formative days of the Holy Church. Several words are used but often translated into English with the phrase, “they were of one accord.”



In the fifty days of Eastertide, the disciples (and by the Word of God, we) witness the Resurrection of Jesus, His Ascension to the right hand of the Father, and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost manifest in wind, flames, the proclamation of the mighty works of God in the various languages of the people, and the powerful preaching of Saint Peter. Throughout this period and these events, the small but quickly growing young Church gathered regularly.

In a context where being a disciple of Jesus was neither approved of by the powers that be nor necessarily safe for the same reason, the followers of Jesus remained together. This was neither a social gathering of friends nor a conspiracy of political insurgents. They were not bound together by personal loyalty or revolutionary purpose. Simply, joyfully, and resolutely, they “*all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication.*” (Acts 1:14) Even though political and social circumstances dictated that they scatter in fear, “*they were all with one accord in one place.*” (Acts 2:1) “*So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.*” (Acts 2:46-47)

Saint Luke is describing the life of every Christian and what the Church looks like. We gather, we pray, we praise Jesus for our salvation, we receive His gift of forgiveness “*in the apostles’ doctrine and the fellowship, in the breaking of bread and the prayers.*” (Acts 2:42) The Church is the body of Christ. She is physically manifest in the gathering of the saints around the Word and Sacraments of our Lord. It is these things that bind us together in one accord and cause us to pray and sing with one voice. It is in this gathering that every fear is wiped away. We never pander to the world and its false teachings. It is in faithfulness to the apostle’s doctrine and merciful outreach to our neighbors that God engenders the favor of the people around us, causing them to join us, to hear the Word of Christ, and to be saved.

This joyful Eastertide, enjoy the gathering of the saints. Be of one accord with your congregation. Hear the voice of the Good Shepherd as His Gospel is preached by your pastor. Take heart and find hope in Jesus as you enjoy the unity of the Church that comes only from Christ’s Word and Sacraments. Come together every Sunday and Feast Day, *with gladness and simplicity of heart*, trusting that the Lord will provide everything else needful. Christ is risen!

## History with a Future

by Justin D. Spittel, Treasurer

The treasures of the Church are not simply monetary. The Word and Sacraments of our Lord, the people for whom our Lord died and rose again, and the churches within which Christians gather for worship and the sacred items that are used for that purpose are all a part of the true treasures of the Church. Our Lord was specifically detailed about the construction and furnishing of the Tabernacle and Temple in the Old Testament. Likewise, the Church has been careful and reverent in her construction and furnishing of the churches and cathedrals in which the Lord promises His presence through the preaching of the Gospel and the celebration of the Sacraments.



Vicar Silas Hasselbrook (foreground) and Rev. Dr. Douglas Spittel (background) wrap and load historic items for preservation.

When Trinity Lutheran Church in Monroeville, PA closed in April, historic items that carried over from her former church building in Pitcairn, PA were donated to PALM to await use in a future mission church. One item in particular is Trinity's altar, which was built in 1893 for the church on Second Street and moved with her congregation to their new building on Haymaker Road in 1966, where it remained for another fifty-five years. It was restored and refinished in 2018 for the congregation's quasiquintennial celebration.

For now, First Trinity Evangelical-Lutheran Church in Pittsburgh, PA, will serve as caretaker for many of these items. The altar will be used in her vestry by the pastors for their preparation before the Divine Services. The Missal stand, on which is kept the pastor's Service Book, will be used in First Trinity's Chapel of the Resurrection (upon the altar from the former First Lutheran Church in Sharpsburg, PA) where it will be regularly used for Divine Services and Prayer Offices.

*The restored Trinity, Pitcairn altar in its current home in the vestry at First Trinity, Pittsburgh.*

As mentioned, this placement is meant to be temporary. PALM is developing several new mission prospects throughout the region. Once any of those new missions has a location for its own chapel, the Pitcairn altar will be relocated there for use once again in the regular celebration of the Church's Divine Service.

PALM would like to thank the members of Trinity for their generous contribution. These sacred items - but a small example of the vast treasures of the church - will be cared for and used in glory and reverence for many years to come.



**PALM Joins Alliance Defending Freedom**

*by The Reverend Dr. Douglas H. Spittel, PALM President*

In March, by action of the PALM Board of Directors, Pittsburgh Area Lutheran Ministries became a Ministry Alliance member of the Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF). Membership in ADF gives PALM legal resources for defense of our Christian confession and practice and makes us a partner with other Christian organizations for the advocacy of religious liberty. “For more than 25 years, ADF has been advocating for religious liberty, the sanctity of human life, freedom of speech, and marriage and family.” PALM joined ADF after much study and deliberation. The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod recommends that congregations join as Church Alliance members. Their website has more information: <https://www.adfchurchalliance.org/>.

“The Church Alliance provides legal help to churches so they can freely live and preach the Gospel in their communities.” With an ADF membership, congregations have access to review of their charter documents (Articles of Incorporation, Constitution, By-laws, Policies and Procedures Manual, etc.) as well as legal help with regard to religious liberty, clergy confidentiality, government mandates and regulations, and the like. The costs are very reasonable for congregations based upon size and congregations that are members of PALM receive an additional 20% discount. Just contact us at [pittarealuth-min@gmail.com](mailto:pittarealuth-min@gmail.com) for the discount code.

In a society that is no longer always in concert with the core beliefs and practices of Christianity and may, at times, be hostile to them, it serves PALM and our congregations well to have the legal and advocacy team at ADF at our disposal. It is our desire to continue to live and work in our society peacefully and without undue conflict, reaching out to our neighbors in mercy and witness. Our membership in the ADF can help PALM and our congregations continue to do so as we have for so many years.



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**Memorial Day at Minersville**

The annual Memorial Day service will be held at Minersville Cemetery on Memorial Day, Monday, May 31, 2021, at 11:00 a.m. Minersville is located in the Hill District at the corner of Shawnee & Ossippe Streets, near the intersection of Herron & Centre Aves.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

May

1. Open House, Concordia Haven Apartments, Cabot, 2:00p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
2. Open House, Concordia of the South Hills, Mt. Lebanon, 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
3. Open House, Concordia of the South Hills, Mt Lebanon, 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
9. Mother's Day
22. CLM Fishing Derby, Saxony Farm Lake, Sax-onburg, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
31. Memorial Day service at Minersville Ceme-tery at 11a.m.

July

12. CLM Golf Classic, Treesdale Golf & Country Club Times TBA
- 12 to 15. Mystery Island Vacation Bible School (VBS) at Ascension Lutheran Church, McCandless, 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.



**CALENDAR NOTE: DUE TO THE COVID-19 PAN-  
DEMIC PLEASE KEEP IN MIND THAT ANY OF THE  
SCHEDULED EVENTS MAY BE CANCELLED OR  
POSTPONED. PLEASE CONTACT YOUR LOCAL  
CHURCH FOR UPDATES.WE PRAY THAT ALL OF  
YOU ARE SAFE AND HEALTHY.**



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## CAMPUS MINISTRY

### SRU CAMPUS MINISTRY

by Augusta R. Mennell, Campus Ministry Director

#### Is getting an A in religion class enough?

Fourteen years ago a sixteen-year-old Chinese student from Surinam in South America came to Slippery Rock University to study to become a medical doctor. It seemed like this was an impossible dream because she was so young; had limited money; spoke only a moderate amount of English; and was so far from home.

Shen (not her real name) did not have time from her studies to attend the Korean student meals except occasionally. However, she did stop in at All Saints campus ministry office once in a while to say a quick hello. She wanted us to know that she really wished she had more time to attend the meals, and time for leisurely conversations. Whenever she did make time for a meal, her mother, who is a doctor, chided her, reminding her to make studies her first and only priority.

During our brief conversations while she was an undergrad, she would tell me about her goal to get into a good medical school. She would mention that she was a Christian. Yet she did not have time to talk much about what Christians believe. She never did have time to come for Bible study or for worship. Nevertheless, she felt that I was a friend. She asked me more than once to help her move from one dorm to another because she didn't have a car. I'll never forget the first time because when I arrived at her dorm room she had not even begun to pack.

I really did not realize how much our friendship meant to her until a few years later. After she graduated and went away to medical school, she came back to All Saints to show her parents and much younger brother the "special place" where she felt so cared for. She described All Saints campus ministry to her family as "being her light." It was touching to meet her parents, who were so grateful for our support for their daughter.

Recently, I called Shen as I have done through the years. As always, she was very happy to hear from me. Even though she was busy at work in the ICU, she was able to get someone to take her place so that she could talk. She was excited to say that she was completing a residency in New York and would be going to her next one in Kentucky, where she will study for three intensive years to become a cardiologist. What surprised me is that she did not want to focus on her medical achievements. Instead she wanted to ask me about baptism. It amazed me that after all these years she wanted to know what baptism means, how to become baptized, and how to find someone to guide her. What an incredible opportunity to help this former SRU student.



Pictured: Alisha and Abigail Richmond are baptized by Pastor Loree



## CAMPUS MINISTRY

Shen told me she had attended a Christian school in Surinam for grades 3 – 12. She had learned basic Bible stories and memorized many Bible verses. What troubles her now is that she was never taught what baptism means and she was not baptized. School records show her attendance, but do not show that she was ever baptized.

Not being baptized concerns her now, because her young brother is attending a Christian school where he is earning A's in religion, but has not been instructed in baptism and has not been baptized. Shen remembers that during our conversations the importance of baptism was shared with her and now it was a concern that again there was no baptism for her young brother. Since this young man is very important to her, she wants to get him baptized.

I never would have believed that after all these years campus ministry at All Saints could be such a help. Because she and her brother and mother will be moving soon to another state for her next residency, we have set up telephone time to discuss what Luther's Small Catechism teaches about baptism. I immediately sent her a copy. We will read it together. I urged her to meet with the spiritual head of her brother's school to see what should be done concerning baptism. I encouraged her to make time for her brother to attend catechism class and that she and her mother, who goes to church twice a week, should attend also. Her mother wants to be baptized, too, because Shen has told her about All Saints' beliefs on baptism.

All this is being done with a sense of urgency. I want God's gift of baptism for her brother, her mother and for Shen.

Shen did say she wasn't certain she'd have time to worship and learn about baptism because her next three years of residency in cardiology will be so demanding. We shared with her that her dream of becoming a doctor was coming true because she had made it a high priority. Now was the time to ask God to help her make it a very high priority for getting baptized.

Shen shared wonderful news during our most recent telephone conversation. She said she has called the Christian school in Kentucky and has made preparations for her brother to be instructed so that he can become baptized. She will take classes, too, and so will her mother, even though she struggles with English.

All Saints has no greater joy than seeing students, family, friends, and church members becoming God's children through baptism. Our dream is to have Shen and her family baptized. It's a long time in coming, but we are thankful for the opportunity to help her and her family become children of God.

Pictured: Sophia and Abigail Klonowski make their First Communion.



## LOCAL MISSION

### Mileposters News

April showers usually cause muddy trails, but for 2021, snow was on the ground when this article was begun and had been flying the day before also. We narrowly missed having a white Easter. But work has continued to brush away the winter cobwebs and get the bikes back on the road.

The first kick bike ride was March 23, to the feral cat colony at Western Penitentiary (pictured, with cat). April 5 was a 14-mile round trip from Douglas Run to the Cedar Creek Gorge on the Youghiogheny River Trail. The carbon fiber single and the Tsunami tandem performed well. That trip had to work around trail construction--heavy resurfacing is taking place between Milepost 18, Dead Man's Hollow, and Milepost 29, Douglas Run.

A games event on March 21 featured Jenga and chess (two brothers pictured), plus cake. Contacts with unchurched families continue, using carefully chosen words of encouragement.





## HOUSES OF WORSHIP SERIES

### Our Houses of Worship

By Shirley Freyer

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Rev. Bob McCanless, Pastor

In 2024 Concordia will celebrate its 100th anniversary. Its rich history has always had as its focus this mission – to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ as that people will come to faith and grow in Christian discipleship, a statement that appears in every weekly bulletin. And as with many other parishes recording that number of years, the members are “a family within a family.”

Carl Ott who has a penchant for statistics, said “Of the 128 original members, 111 were related.” He and his cousin Ed Roth are the longest continuous members and he reported that “Concordia is one of the older LCMS congregations in the area still functioning.” According to Rev. Bob McCanless, Brownsville Road is church row with nine churches located within just the few miles of Brentwood.

The 75th Anniversary booklet records that “on a cold, windy and snowy February 24, 1924, 120 members and friends gathered for the first worship service. Members of First St. Paul in Southside and Trinity, Mt. Oliver formed the nucleus of the group and for three years the group met in the German Bund (later called Benefit) Union Hall in Carrick. During that time, they gathered funds (some even offered their homes as collateral) with help from Eastern District Church Extension Society to purchase the present site. Rev. George Thomas was installed, and German Services were held every other Sunday ... until 1950.

Lifelong member, Linda Stolte Flores is a descendant of Jacob Greene, one of those who mortgaged his home to fund the building of Concordia. He and his wife Louise nee Stolte lived on Brentwood Avenue and had six daughters including a set of twins (Emma Louise Ritchey and Louise Emma Sweitzer) and one son. Originally from St. Paul in Southside, he was instrumental in establishing the mission which eventually became Concordia and was named president. A progressive thinker, according to his granddaughter Audrey Fogarty Johnson, he believed strongly in education and all of his daughters took music lessons and five went to secretarial school in Pittsburgh. Audrey was one of five sisters, whose family was a charter member of Concordia and mother of the late Stephen Johnson who served as chairman of the Concordia Lutheran Ministries (CLM) board for several decades. Audrey and several other relatives made their final earthly home at CLM locations.

A tireless church worker, Linda serves as church secretary, flower chairman and has handled housekeeping duties for Concordia for the last 37 years. “I am here for all events,” she noted. Her father, Frederick was one of 12 children and his great grandfather was Louise Stolte Green’s brother.





## HOUSES OF WORSHIP SERIES

In 1925, the Property Committee purchased the Johnson property, a building committee was established and on May 1, 1925 members voted to join the Missouri Synod. Candidate F. Roeck served the vacancy when Pastor Thomas was forced to resign due to health. Rev. Julius Gockel became pastor and \$25,000 was raised toward a new building plus \$25,000 more from a bank note endorsed by nine officers of the church. George Grossman and Sons, members of Concordia, were engaged to erect the church which was dedicated on December 18, 1927. Pastor Gockel was later called to Prince of Peace in Freedom in 1929.

When the Great Depression hit, they welcomed Rev. Walter Heintze who served the longest tenure in the church history from 1929 until 1954. Leadership solicited the congregants for personal loans at 6% interest to pay off the church debt and kicked off a fund-raiser they titled "Penny-a-meal-banks." Each family received a bank, and each member donated a penny at mealtime as a reminder that all things come from God. In July of 1934 Concordia was self-supporting.

Still today, Carl Ott, financial secretary since he returned from his military service in Korea in 1955 (except for one year each when he held positions as president and vice president) emphasized the strong stewardship the congregation demonstrates.

"About 35 years ago we did receive a bequest that we invested and now use only for special projects," he explained. "Ten percent of annual growth is given to outside missions."

Actually, there was no stewardship committee until 1954. The Board for Christian Education was established in 1940 and the following year Concordia provided the first Vacation Bible School in the area. The first parsonage on nearby Elroy Avenue became the home of the Heintze family in 1944 just before their oldest son was lost in the explosion of the US Navy Destroyer Turner in New York Harbor. He was the first resident of Brentwood to lose his life in WWII. Monthly prayer services were begun following this tragedy on behalf of men in the Armed Forces.

In 1954, a new parsonage was built on church property. The following year the church undercroft was partitioned into individual classrooms to accommodate the growing Sunday School population. An intercom system was installed, and the sermons were taped and sent to shut ins.

It was during the brief tenure of Pastor Normal Brauer that two worship services were held, and an educational wing was planned.

"The '60s were the most active," remembered Carl. Under Rev. James Uhrinak, who was a hometown boy from Immanuel in Braddock, "the Educational Building was erected, and Concordia's softball team won the league championship."

In 1961, the church was deeded the Brooks Estate, one acre of property next door, that included a house, a two-car garage and a greenhouse. The house and garage were used for Sunday School classes during the church renovation. The renovation and Ed Building were dedicated on May 13, 1962. That same year, the green house was expanded, and the church adopted a Cuban refugee family.

After two years of vacancy. Rev. Robert Krueger arrived in 1965 and instituted an Every Member Visitation Program. A Teen School accompanied VBS, The Listening Ear Program was developed and a son of the congregation, Vicar Robert Lee Fitzpatrick was installed. The parking lot was enlarged. A memorial bell was presented by the Segner family and the bell tower was presented by the Schuster family.



Pastor Henry G.M. Wolter was installed in 1970 and women were granted voting rights the next year. An after-school program (CLASP) was organized under the pastorate of Rev. Robert C. Steinke in 1983 when it was learned that 50 percent of public-school children were going to homes that were unsupervised, as were 35 percent of those in the Brentwood School District. The renovated Narthex was dedicated, and a memorial stain glass window was donated by the DeMart family.

Concordia's first call to the seminary occurred in 1998 and Vicar Zirl E. Yek was assigned, installed and called to his heavenly home after a brief battle with stomach cancer.

Rev. Scott E. Stiegemeier was installed in June of 1999 and served until 2006. Well-known in the district, he has been on the faculty at Concordia University Irvine since 2015 and his wife Julie has authored more than 20 children's books and works for Pepperdine University.

Current pastor, Rev. Bob McCanless is nicknamed "the Visitation Pastor," said lifelong member and president, John Toperzer, Jr. Pastor explained that during his vicarage he called on 68 shut-ins regularly, so it became a way of life.

He was serving Hope in Upper St. Clair from 2002 to 2006; that congregation and Our Savior in Mt. Lebanon merged to form Peace in McMurray. Growing up in Rowan County, North Carolina, the home of 10 generations of family since 1811 and the headquarters for the ELCA, he graduated from Western Carolina University with a major in radio and television. He earned his Master of Divinity at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in 1998. He chose not to be ordained by ELCA, going to work for the Boy Scout Council in Huntington, West Virginia, joining St. Paul Lutheran Church in Ashland, Kentucky, an LCMS congregation. He was certified for pastoral ministry as a colloquy at Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne in 2002. He and his wife, Sheryl will be married 25 years on May 18. Sheryl is from Nebraska although she traveled around the world while her dad was in the U.S. Navy. They met at church when she was a nanny for a doctor and his wife in North Carolina and have four children including a set of twins (Christopher and Tommy) which makes them feel right at home since Concordia lays claim to five other sets of twins.

In addition to the Green sisters, Joan and Judy Smith have been members for 53 years, baptized and confirmed along with their two brothers. They remember Gertrude and Elizabeth Salzman who dressed alike until the day they died.

Herb and Harold Roth, Harold moved to Colorado many years ago, but Herb was a member for 72 years until he joined the Church Triumphant. Anna Majewski and Helen McCue (the Tarker twins) are still members along with the Smith twins.

In addition to the organizations already mentioned, Concordia established many groups over the years including the altar guild, CCC (Concordia Comfort Committee) which served funeral luncheons for families, Concordians Men's Club, DF2 Caller evangelism, Dorcas Society, Generation J (a Bible study group for people in their 20s - 40s), Greenhouse Committee, Ladies Guild, Messenger newsletter, Quilters, SIS (an in-home working women's Bible study), and Stephen Ministry.



## HOUSES OF WORSHIP SERIES

In 2017, Concordia revived a Live Nativity scene originally organized by Nancy Jones, an event that garnered a spot on KDKA-TV. She also chaired the evangelism committee for many years before her passing in 2019.

Members Larry and Karen Rohrex, as well as the Smith sisters launched a Living Water Tent for Brentwood's annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Firecracker run and parade. As runners pass by, church volunteers' hand thirsty race participants cold bottles of water. Concordia gave away more than 1400 water bottles in 2019 as parade watchers are also welcome to quench their thirst!

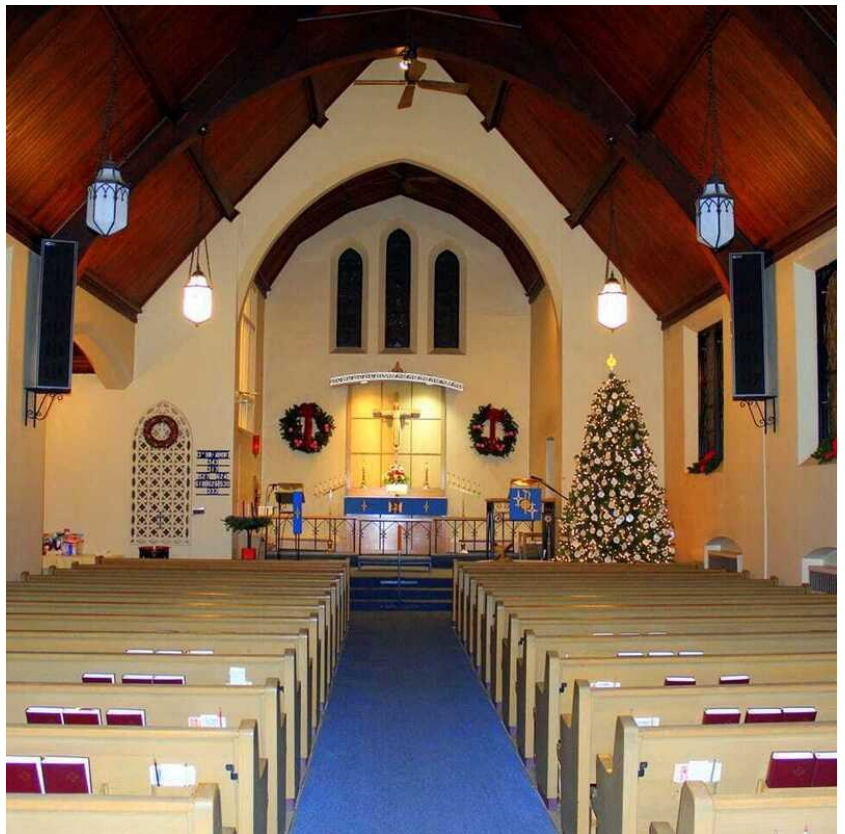
Last year was difficult for Concordia's membership having lost George Schuster, a lifelong member and president for the last two decades. "Church was everything," said his wife, Marilyn. A carpenter and contractor, George's father Karl built the parsonage and George built the bell tower.

Organist and choir director Olivia Schmidt led a dedicated and spirited choir for the last 20 years. Carl and John along with Larry, Olivia's husband and Laura and Linda Mainarich were faithful singers for decades, according to John.

Joy Toperzer, older sister of John, also joined the Church Triumphant was the first female acolyte and an artist who worked diligently for the church. Their grandparents were the first couple to be married at Trinity in Swissvale and John honors that distinction by traveling there to bring a former member, Evelyn Nickel to worship services at Concordia. "Friends came here after Trinity closed," said Evelyn. Her blindness would have prevented her from getting to church, but she explained, "The people here are so good to me. They make a special bulletin and I have a large-print hymnal, so I am able to participate," she said

The longest continuous member who is now homebound, Ed Roth is Carl's cousin. Ed and his wife Elsie were married at Concordia. A long-term trustee, Ed and his son began restoration of the Minersville Cemetery and planted many of the trees on the church property. "Church was part of our life," Elsie said.

Not all who attend Concordia are legacy members. Diane Gedman and her late husband moved to Pittsburgh from Wisconsin and living in the neighborhood, joined Concordia in 1975. Pastor calls her "the most efficient" as she coordinated fundraisers with the adeptness of a professional. A cookbook, and rummage sales helped to purchase new carpeting. Dianne has been chairman of the Altar Guild for many years and works with many dedicated women of the congregation. Her job as a records analyst for the Veterans Administration Hospital in Aspinwall laid the groundwork for her organizational skills and her newest project is a painting fund in preparation for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.



## HOUSES OF WORSHIP SERIES

One outreach that Pastor McCanless has been especially devoted to is the ever-growing Nepali Bhutanese population in the South Hills. “We’ve been able to distribute Nepali-language Lutheran catechisms & devotional materials in the local public libraries, Nepali Bhutanese shops and restaurants, during the 4th of July Parade in Brentwood, and even through Good Shepherd of the South Hills preschool.”

The congregation has also worked with the Bhutanese Community Association of Pittsburgh hosting Squirrel Hill Mobile testing unit to help with Corona Virus testing. “Many African immigrants have moved into the area who are Lutheran from their home country, and worship with us,” said Pastor. “We’re working with our seminary in St. Louis, to find more effective ways to reach out to them as well.”

An old church directory has inscribed on the back cover the lyrics of a familiar hymn, “Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love” – appropriate words for this church family ... along with the sage advice of Pastor McCanless, “If you are a parish pastor, take the history of the people seriously.”

Concordia was founded by a number of large and close-knit families, and that sense of “family” remains even 97 years later. Pastor has a saying – “Anywhere there are Lutherans, is a good place to be!”- but Concordia is still family today, and the best home we could be in, this side of the eschaton,” he said.

“I never sat down with a map in my younger life and thought – ‘Oh! I *gotta* get to Pittsburgh someday!’ but after almost 19 years here, I can’t imagine being anywhere *else*. I am proud and humbled to call Concordia home.



## SCHOOL NEWS

### ZION LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL

*Bridgeville*

During Chapel the week prior to Easter, I taught the children all about the Easter story. To help me tell the story I created a visual tool — “Resurrection Eggs” — to help explain each part of the story.

I used 10 brightly colored “eggs” on the felt board, with a picture underneath each egg. The children were asked to remove the egg and see what was underneath. Each picture they uncovered helped to tell a part of the story. They loved it! I also explained that this story can get “a little scary in the middle, but not to be afraid.... It has the best ending ever!!”

To help the children re-tell the story at home, we gave each student a set of “Resurrection Eggs”. The set also included a description sheet of each picture and how to help them remember what it represents. Information on Zion’s upcoming Holy Week service schedule was also included.

Here are a few comments from our parents about the “Resurrection Eggs” take-home kit:

“I just wanted to thank you for taking the time and effort to send home a set of Resurrection Eggs with each student. I think it’s a very clever way to share this important story with my boys and I really appreciate the learning tool.”

“This was adorable and so special. Rhea loved bringing her eggs home and sharing the story with all of us!”

“Thank you for sending home the resurrection kit. Carmelita recited it to us and was so happy and proud. That was a beautiful idea.”

“I just wanted to drop you a quick message to let you know how nice and helpful this is! It’s the little extra touches like this that make us just love Zion so much. Thank you for going above and beyond. Your hard work doesn’t go unnoticed and is very much appreciated. Happy Easter!”

(Pictured below: Example of resurrection eggs kit.)



## SCHOOL NEWS

### REDEEMER LUTHERAN SCHOOL

*Oakmont / Penn Hills*

Mild weather has arrived, and along with it comes a new spring athletic season! As of this writing, the Redeemer track and field team has participated in several meets, posting impressive numbers and personal records for race times. While we're talking about impressive records, we want to be certain to congratulate senior Kalee Thornton on being selected to the NCSAA Northeast Super Region Volleyball team!



Redeemer's theme this year is "Sent to Serve," and our students have had opportunities to live out this mission this spring! Our middle school Junior National Honor Society members delivered Easter gift bags to doorsteps in our neighborhood. Gifts in the bags included Easter devotionals, items for the families and information about our school. Our high school upper classmen participated in another work day at Hosanna House in Wilkinsburg with Cutting Relief Ministries, clearing and rehabilitating the property.

AriSon Records visited Redeemer in March for a special concert! Thanks to the gracious gift of beautiful weather from the Lord, the entire student body was able to take part in the outdoor concert of praise and worship music. (Pictured below.)

Redeemer Preschool once again celebrated Preschool Sunday. While the children were unable to participate in person, they provided special recordings of praise songs that were shared during the service. Preschoolers also created special thank-you gifts for their Little Lamb pen pals. We are so thankful for the support and encouragement of Redeemer Lutheran Church!



Redeemer will once again be holding summer camp! Sessions are available from June 21<sup>st</sup>-August 2<sup>nd</sup> for K-8<sup>th</sup> grade students, with different themes every week. Children may register to attend by the week or by the day. For more information, visit us online at [rlspittsburgh.org](http://rlspittsburgh.org) and click on the Summer Camps button.

(Pictured Right: RLHS Hosanna House Work Day.)

RLS is open for tours and enrollment! For more information, please contact Alison Jackson at [admissions@redeemer-oakmont.org](mailto:admissions@redeemer-oakmont.org) or 412-793-5884.





**ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*McCandless*

Join the fun in the sun with [Mystery Island Vacation Bible School \(VBS\) at Ascension Lutheran Church](#) (8225 Peebles Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237)! Is there just one God? . . . Who is God? . . . What is God like? . . . Does God love me? . . . Can I know God? Our kids grapple with questions like these every day. At Mystery Island, we'll uncover the truth about our Creator God! There's a sea of confusion about who God is and what He's like, so we'll track down the one true God and learn how amazing He is through the pages of Scripture. Grab your sunscreen and get ready for a taste of paradise as you track down the one true God at Mystery Island on July 12-15 from 6:00-7:30 PM! For more information, please contact [vbs@ascensionpgh.com](mailto:vbs@ascensionpgh.com).



**CONCORDIA LUTHERAN**

*Brentwood*

Improvements continue to be made to our facilities, as the upstairs women's bathroom now has new vanities and sinks. Plans are now being made to repaint the sanctuary & chancellery for the first time in decades, as part of our preparations for our 100th Anniversary in less than 3 years!

Concordia has resumed our monthly Men's Breakfast (first Saturday of each month), but now we're starting to expand a bit. We recently went, as a group, to see "Godzilla vs. Kong!" A DIFFERENT sort of activity to be sure, but it is another way to reach out especially to some of our younger men, and to draw them into the life of the church!

Congratulations to Pastor & Sheryl McCanless as they celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary on May 18th!

**MT. CALVARY LUTHERAN**

*West View*



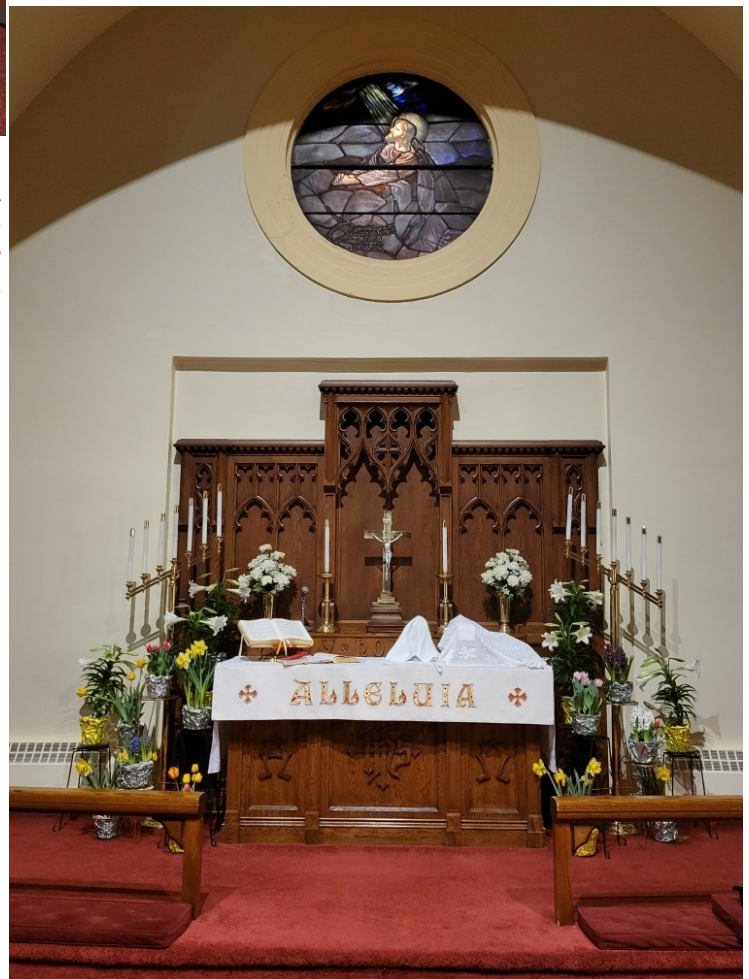
Easter was a beautiful event at Mt. Calvary in West View. To complement the traditional service, both the bell and voice choirs, which had been practicing for a few weeks, performed musical numbers; and members of the congregation purchased flowers to decorate the altar. The lilies, daffodils, tulips, and hyacinths added stunning color and fragrance that could be appreciated as soon as one stepped inside the door.

Some of those who purchased flowers donated them to the church, and members of Girl Scout Daisy Troop 52841, which has been meeting at the church, offered to plant them outside to beautify the front of the building.

Members who continue to prefer to watch the service online via Zoom had the opportunity to either pick up a communion packet or have it delivered to their homes.

In addition, Pastor Kuntz and Nikkie provided a large plate of Sarris chocolates for those in attendance who didn't have a chance to look for their Easter baskets before they came to the service.

But at the heart of everything was the message that Christ has risen, and because of His sacrifice on the cross, we can receive eternal life. Hallelujah!





**TRI\_PARISH**

*Bethel, Zion and St. John's, Millvale*

**STATIONS OF THE RESURRECTION PRESENTATION ON APRIL 11**

The Tri-Parish Easter and Handbell Joyful Noise Choirs presented the Stations of the Resurrection at Bethel, Glenshaw on Sunday afternoon, April 11. Most of us are familiar with the Stations of the Cross, the traditional Roman Catholic devotion that encourages meditation on the Passion of Christ. In that devotional, the fourteenth and final station is the burial of Jesus. While this is certainly a fitting conclusion to the account of the Savior's suffering and death, it is incomplete without the resurrection of Jesus (1 Corinthians 15:14; 17-19). In the summer of 1988 Father Sabino Palumbieri, professor of anthropology at Slesian University in Rome, proposed a new set of stations centered on the resurrection and the events following it.



The first major celebration of this devotion was in 1990. The Stations of the Resurrection focuses on the various appearances of Jesus during the forty-day period between His resurrection from the dead and His ascension into heaven. "He presented Himself alive to [His disciples] after His suffering by many proofs, appearing to them for forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God" (Acts 1:3 ESV). All the Stations of the Resurrection are based on Scripturally recorded incidents contained in the four Gospels and the book of Acts. This service is an adaptation of these stations in word and music.



Ruth Molkenhain Miller, organist at Zion, Lawrenceville directed the choir. Vicar Donn Woolweber, serving the Tri-parish (Bethel, Zion and St. John's, Millvale) directed the Handbell Choir.

The presentation was live-streamed and available on Bethel's Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/183323405082870/videos/1413344388850908/>

**Listen to "God with Us"**  
WORD-FM 101.5 Sundays @ 10:30 a.m. "God with Us" featuring Rev. Dr. Daniel A. Hahn Jr., Pastor, Tri-Parish. Also available <https://stjohnsmillvale.org/god-with-us.html> and updated weekly.

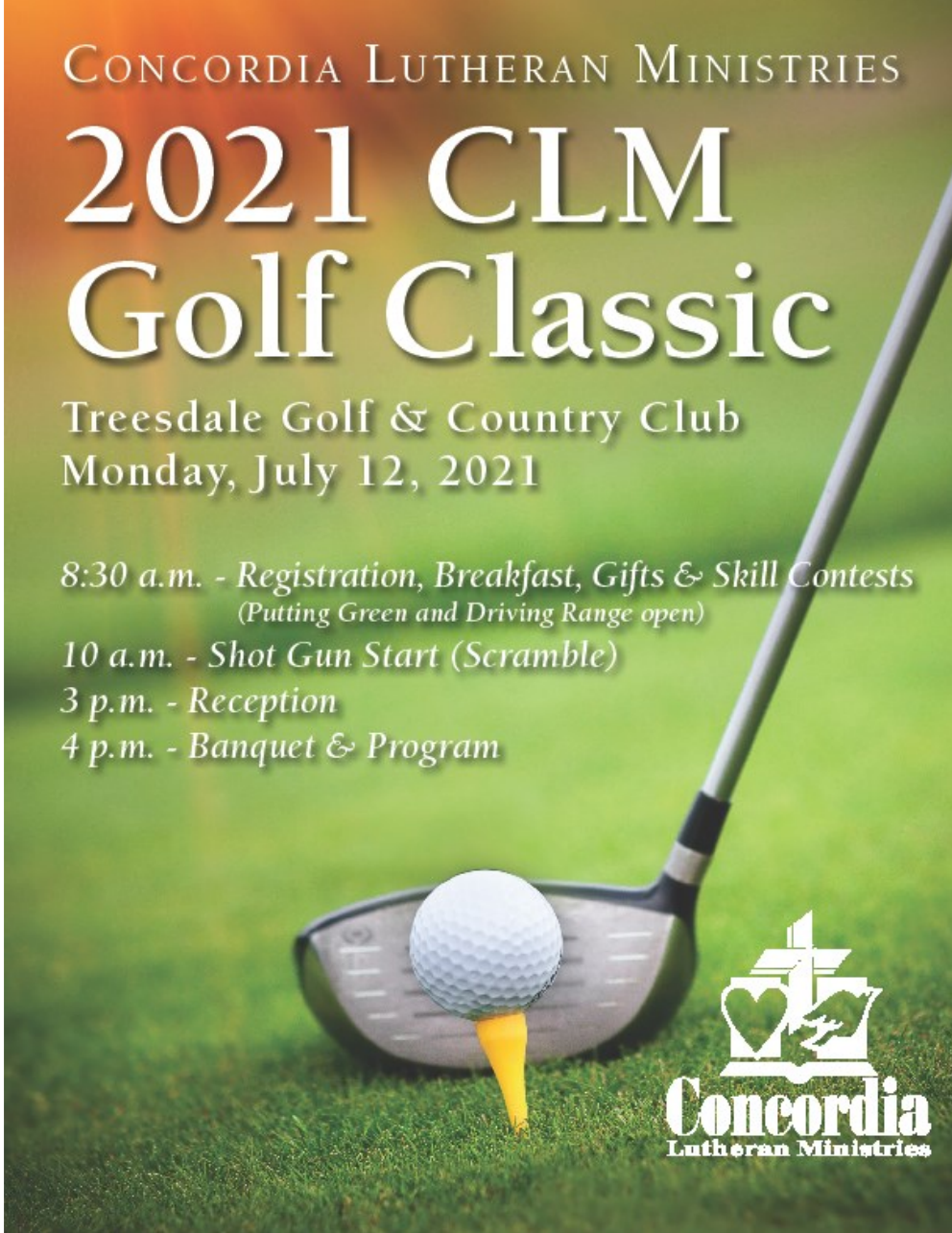
## CLM Golf Classic

At Concordia Lutheran Ministries, we truly do put our *Faith in Caring*. For 140 years, Concordia has faithfully served and trusted God so that it may best serve others. This year is no different, even after an endless year of turmoil due to the global pandemic, we continue to look toward a hopeful future.

With that sentiment in mind, it is still full steam ahead with our biggest fundraising event of the year – our **Annual CLM Golf Classic**. This event supports our Good Samaritan Endowment Fund, Concordia's benevolent care fund which ensures our quality, Christian care won't stop even after a patient's ability to pay does. In our 2020 fiscal year, Concordia provided more than \$12 million in charitable care to over 550 residents and patients.

We are excited to return to Treesdale Golf & Country Club on Monday, July 12, and we have got something for every interest and budget level. We will, of course, be following all mandates from national, state and local legislature and operating in compliance with the Centers for Disease Control and the PA Department of Health.

Please contact the CLM Foundation, at (724) 352-1571 ext. 8363 or [giving@concordialm.org](mailto:giving@concordialm.org) if you have questions or need assistance. We look forward to partnering with you on another great day for our mission.



CONCORDIA LUTHERAN MINISTRIES

# 2021 CLM Golf Classic


Treesdale Golf & Country Club  
Monday, July 12, 2021

8:30 a.m. - Registration, Breakfast, Gifts & Skill Contests  
(Putting Green and Driving Range open)

10 a.m. - Shot Gun Start (Scramble)

3 p.m. - Reception

4 p.m. - Banquet & Program

  
Concordia  
Lutheran Ministries



# 17<sup>th</sup> Annual CLM Golf Classic

## Sponsorship & Participation Form

Monday, July 12, 2021 – Treesdale Golf & Country Club – 10:00 a.m. Start

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Organization Name\*: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*as you would like it to appear on promotional materials, website, program, etc.*

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### CHOOSE YOUR PARTICIPATION LEVEL:

\_\_\_\_\_ Platinum Sponsor (\$7,500)

\_\_\_\_\_ Gift Sponsor (\$5,500)

\_\_\_\_\_ Gold Sponsor (\$5,000)

\_\_\_\_\_ Golf Cart Sponsor (\$3,500)

\_\_\_\_\_ Banquet Sponsor (\$3,500)

\_\_\_\_\_ Shirt Sponsor (\$3,000)

\_\_\_\_\_ Social Hour Sponsor (\$2,500)

\_\_\_\_\_ Refreshments Sponsor (\$2,500)

\_\_\_\_\_ Breakfast Sponsor (\$2,000)

\_\_\_\_\_ Practice Range Sponsor (\$2,000)

\_\_\_\_\_ Contest Hole Sponsor (\$1,500)

\_\_\_\_\_ Silent Auction Sponsor (\$1,000)

\_\_\_\_\_ Green & Pin Sponsor (\$800)

\_\_\_\_\_ Teebox Sponsor (\$450)

\_\_\_\_\_ Golfer Package at \$225 each = enclosed amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### IDENTIFY YOUR GOLFER(S) AND SHIRT SIZE\*

**(\*for ONLY CERTAIN sponsor levels as outlined on full-page flyer)**

Golfer 1/Cart 1 (Captain) \_\_\_\_\_ Shirt Size \_\_\_\_\_

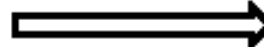
Golfer 2/Cart 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Shirt Size \_\_\_\_\_

Golfer 3/Cart 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Shirt Size \_\_\_\_\_

Golfer 4/Cart 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Shirt Size \_\_\_\_\_

**SUBMIT YOUR LOGO AND/OR ADVERTISEMENT BY JUNE 11, 2021**

*More on reverse side*





# Kids Fishing Derby

Saturday, May 22, 2021

8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Saxony Farm Lake

Addy Boy Lane, Saxonburg



No entry fee

Open to all kids 14 and under

Free refreshments

Bait provided by Concordia

Prizes all day

Participants must have an adult chaperone

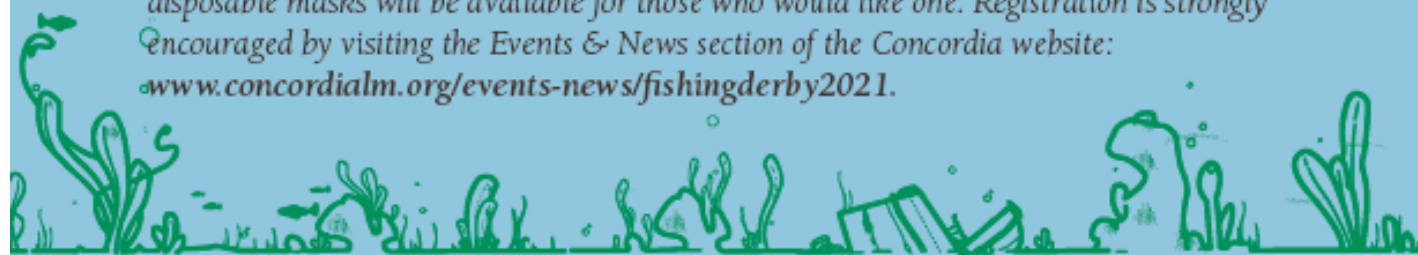


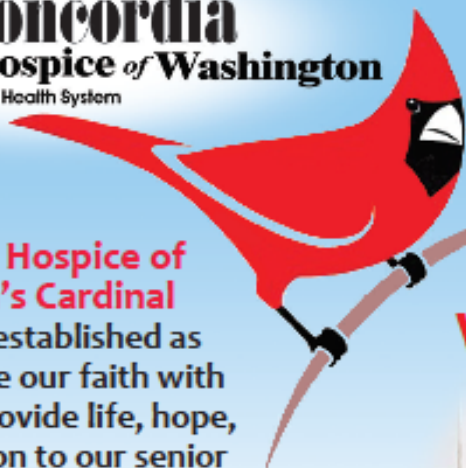
Call Concordia Public Relations for more information at 724-352-1571, ext. 8268.

Social distancing will be encouraged, enhanced cleaning procedures will be in place and disposable masks will be available for those who would like one. Registration is strongly

encouraged by visiting the Events & News section of the Concordia website:

[www.concordialm.org/events-news/fishingderby2021](http://www.concordialm.org/events-news/fishingderby2021).





# Cardinal Project

**Concordia Hospice of Washington's Cardinal Project** was established as a way to share our faith with others and provide life, hope, and restoration to our senior friends living in long-term care facilities by gifting them bird feeders.

Would you please help?



Many of our friends who are living in local long-term care facilities have not been able to see their families for quite some time due to the pandemic, which unfortunately has taken a toll on their emotional health and well-being. It has long been said that bird watching can positively impact an individual's physical, mental and emotional health, and the sport is also a great cognitive stimulant.

Please join us in helping our senior friends enjoy the beautiful sights and sweet melodies of bird watching by considering a donation of a bird feeder of \$25 and under.

The Concordia Hospice of Washington team will collect all donations, supply the feeders with seed and deliver to local long-term care facilities. Each donation will include a gift tag noting that the gift is from a special friend – you can choose to include your name or donate anonymously.

### How to Donate:

We have made this donation process simple and we will walk you through each step of the way!

Visit [www.ConcordiaCardinalProject.org](http://www.ConcordiaCardinalProject.org) to learn more about the project and pick the donation method that works best for you OR call our Marketing Liaison, Shilynn Renner, at 724-250-4500 Ext. 2118 for more information!



10 Leet Street • Washington, PA 15301  
Local: 724-250-4500  
[www.concordiahw.org](http://www.concordiahw.org)

If you're taking care of someone who is seriously ill, please visit: [www.seriousillness.org/washington](http://www.seriousillness.org/washington)