

Concordia News – Large Print

March 2018

Volume 13

A newsletter for members, families,
and friends of
Concordia Lutheran Church and Concordia
Cemetery Association

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. Dr. Karoline Lewis is a professor of preaching at Luther Seminary and has graciously produced a Lenten series on the I Am sayings of Jesus. I pass the following on to you for your edification. This is the series that will be the basis for our Lenten worship. May this be a blessing to you this season of

Lent.

Grace and peace, *Pastor Bruce*

The Lenten Series this year focuses on the “I AM” statements in the Gospel of John for the sake of intentional reflection on and proclamation of God becoming flesh.

Let me say that again -- God becoming flesh. The cross is many things; but first, it is the death of God. Let that sink in.

The “I AM” statements are more than just a novelty of the Fourth Gospel -- they reveal, in all fullness (John 1:16), the identity of Jesus. “Obviously,” you might be thinking.

But Lent is the season to remember one very important thing about what it means to be a Christian: that *when Jesus goes to the cross, there goes God.*

Jesus as this one-and-only God, this unique God (John 1:18) is the distinctive claim of Christianity. Yet in today's world what's said and believed about Jesus has the tendency to divide Jesus' humanity from Jesus' divinity. Our Christologies seem comfortable with choosing one or the other, depending on whom we need Jesus to be in a certain time or place -- or, for a certain purpose.

The Gospel of John reminds us -- which, during Lent, is an especially important thing to remember -- that to believe in Jesus is to hold the *fullness of Jesus' humanity and Jesus' divinity together*.

“What difference does this make ?” you might be asking. Well, when we collapse Jesus' humanity into Jesus' divinity, it gets harder to imagine the purpose and pathos of the cross. After all, if that was God nailed to a tree, to what extent was that true suffering? And when we minimize Jesus' divinity, it becomes easy to reduce Jesus to an above-average teacher, miracle worker, and advocate for the poor.

The challenge of Lent is to *negotiate these simultaneous truths* -- and how to admit our own truth regarding **which** Jesus we prefer. Otherwise, all too often, Jesus ends up being trotted out and used to justify moral claims as if God were not a part of the picture.

A word about grammar may be useful here. The “I AM” statements in John are of two varieties: the absolute “I AM” statements in which

there is no qualifier, and the “I AM” statements with a predicate nominative.¹ And yet the point of both is to hold both together. Each time Jesus says, “I AM,” the entirety of the “I AM” statements stands behind this revelation. And every time Jesus says, “I AM the bread of life, I AM the light of the world,” the fullness of the absolute “I AM” statements stands behind this claim. When we keep this in mind, we begin to see that if we try to separate God and the Word made flesh, we have likely missed the point of Christianity altogether.

Consider the following quotation, circulating on Pinterest boards and throughout social media: “I AM. Two of the most powerful words; for what you put after them shapes your reality.”

This Lenten series helps us imagine that what Jesus puts after “I AM” in the Gospel of John shapes **our** reality.

Week 1: I AM the Bread of Life (Feb. 21, 2018)

Text: John 6:35-40

When Jesus says, “I AM the bread of life,” it is easy to limit this promise to our practices surrounding the Lord’s Supper. Certainly, this communal act is central to our Christian identity. But Jesus reminds us that the offer

of himself is not just for us on a Sunday morning, but also so that we might provide life for others. Jesus as the bread of life is for the sake of eternal life for all, life that is both the assurance of life after

death, but also life while living, here and now. When we believe that Jesus is the bread of life, we actively look for the people who need to be fed. Those whom the world drives away. Whom the world allows to go hungry. For whom abundant life (John 10:10) is almost impossible to comprehend. Jesus as the bread of life shapes the reality we can help create for the world God loves so much.



Join us to Celebrate the Risen Christ!
Sunday, April 1st - 10 am

Coffee and Cookie Servers

March 4	Lloyd Gunderson	April 1	Clinton Babolian
March 11	Linda Koester	April 8	Germaine Gress
March 18	Sue Kassenborg	April 15	Mavis Wang
March 25	Carolyn Edwards	April 22	Lloyd Gunderson
		April 29	Doris Kassenborg



Bible
STUDY
Join us!

Bible Study

No Bible Study this month
(Lenten Service)

Concordia Ladies

Tuesday, March 13

1:30 pm

Fryn' Pan



Join The Romeos!

Retired Old Men Eating Out

7:30 a.m., Friday, March 23

Fryn' Pan



Announcements and Assignments

If you know of someone in the hospital or in need of a home visit, contact Pastor Bruce at 218-329-2245.

This month's story is "Jesus at the Mount of Olives."
Kids Corner is located in the congregation section of the website.



Veteran's Coffee Hour

Join your fellow veterans at the Fargo Air Museum from 10-noon Wednesday, March 14.

Lenten Services



March 7

March 14

March 21

Supper at 5 pm - Services follow

Holy Week Service

Maundy Thursday

March 29

Services at 5 pm



A Message from Bishop Wohlrabe

Dear Servants of Christ,

I am pleased to announce some wonderful news. A generous donor who belongs to one of our synod's congregations has stepped forward to offer an exciting *matching gift challenge* to all of us during 2018.

In gratitude for God's many blessings in his life, the donor wishes to offer *a dollar for dollar match* for all gifts given by congregations, organizations or individuals to

- the *Northwestern Minnesota Synod Fund for Leaders Endowment* (to provide scholarships for ELCA seminary students from our synod), and/or
- the *Northwestern Minnesota Synod Next Generation Fund* (to provide grants for educational debt relief to pastors and deacons serving their first calls in our synod).

This matching gift challenge will apply to all contributions to these two funds that are mailed to the synod office *between January 1, 2018 and December 31, 2018*.

Pastor Bruce reports a significant shortage of pastors in the NW Minnesota Synod. Your contribution to either the scholarship or grant program will help attract new seminarians and recent graduates to serve in our area.



The Cross is the answer to how God has responded to evil in the world. Sometimes it may seem as though God does not react to evil, as if he is silent. And yet, God has spoken, he has replied, and his answer is the Cross of Christ: a symbol of his love, mercy, forgiveness.

Thomas Blackburn



Due to the cold weather, the annual meeting was delayed by a week. It was held on February 11. The budget for the year was approved. No council terms expired, so the officers remain the same:

President: Gordon Kassenborg

Vice President: Walter Teigen

Secretary: Wescott Tommerdahl

Treasurers: Neil & Polly Hanson

I always believe the best in everybody, it saves so much trouble.

~Rudyard Kipling



Announcements and Assignments

The annual meeting of Concordia's Cemetery Association followed the congregational meeting on February 11.



After so many years of service, Harold Horpedahl declined to run for another term on the board. Wescott

Tommerdahl was re-elected, and Kirby Kassenborg was elected to replace Harold. There remain two vacancies on the board, and anyone interested can contact any of the current board members:

President: Aron Kassenborg

Secretary: Wescott Tommerdahl

Treasurer: Ray Johnson

Board Members: Gerald Hagene

Kirby Kassenborg

Compassion is the language the deaf can hear and the blind can see. *~ Mark Twain*

Today I bent the truth to be kind, and I have no regret, for I am far surer of what is kind than I am of what is true. *~Robert Brault*

Treat everyone with politeness, even those who are rude to you, not because they are nice but because you are. *~Unknown*

Never look down on anyone unless you are helping them up.

~Jesse Jackson

HAM DINNER



CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

6637 80th Avenue North

Glyndon, MN 56541

Palm Sunday

March 25, 2018

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

- From Hwy 10, 7 miles North on County Rd 11
- From Hwy 75, turn right onto County Rd 26 (90 Ave N). Go east 4 miles, turn right onto County Rd 11 (70 St) And go 1 mile south, turn right.

Free Will Offering

With Our Thanks

Donations

Concordia Cemetery Association

In memory of Donald Johnson

Lance & Marilyn Nelson

Our Heartfelt
Thank-you



Since long before the formal cemetery association was organized, Harold Horpedahl has taken a leadership role in maintaining and managing the cemetery. At the annual meeting, he declined to accept another term on the cemetery board. We thank him for his decades of faithful service!



Kindness is in our power even when fondness is not.

~ Henry James

Its nice to be important but its important to be nice.

~John Cassis

Spring Begins on March 20th!

No winter lasts forever, no spring skips its turn.

~Hal Borland



Fastelavnsboller

Lenten Buns with Vanilla Cream



Ingredients

- ¼ cup warm water
- 1 ½ ounces fresh yeast
- ¾ cup unsalted butter, softened
- ¼ cup sugar
- 2 eggs, plus 1 extra yolk
- ¾ cup milk
- ½ tsp salt
- 1 tsp ground cardamom
- 3 ½ cups unbleached bread flour

Filling

- 3 egg yolks
- 3 Tbsp superfine sugar
- 2 tsp vanilla sugar
- 1 Tbsp potato flour or cornstarch
- Pinch of salt
- 2 cups milk

Icing

Recipe of the Month

1 egg white

1 ¼ cups confectioners' sugar, sifted

¼ cup cocoa powder, sifted

Pinch of salt

1 tsp heavy cream

2 Tbsp pearl sugar, for decoration

Directions

- Pour the warm water into a bowl and stir in the yeast until dissolved. Cream the butter and sugar in a mixing bowl and beat until light and fluffy. Beat in one whole egg and the extra yolk.
- Briefly warm the milk in a saucepan over low heat, add the yeast mixture, and stir into the butter mixture. Add the salt and cardamom. Stir in the flour, a little at a time, and mix to a soft, smooth dough, adding more flour if necessary.
- Turn the dough out on to a lightly floured surface and knead for 5 – 7 minutes, until smooth. Lightly oil a large bowl. Place the dough in the bowl and leave in a warm place until doubled in size, about 1 hour.
- To make the filling, whisk together the egg yolks and sugar in a saucepan until well blended. Whisk in the vanilla sugar, potato

Recipe of the Month

flour or cornstarch, and milk. Stir in the salt. Cook over low heat, stirring for 6 minutes, until the mixture thickens. Remove from the heat and leave to cool.

- Grease two baking sheets. Turn the dough out onto a floured surface and divide into four equal parts. Cut each part into six equal pieces and shape into balls. Place on the prepared baking sheets. Make a 3/4-inch diameter well in the center of each roll, and fill with a spoonful of the cream filling. Cover the buns with clear film (plastic wrap) and leave in a warm place for 1 ½ – 2 hours, until doubled in size.
- Preheat the oven to 425°F. Beat the remaining egg. Brush it over the tops of the buns. Bake the buns for 12 – 15 minutes, until golden. Cool on a wire rack.
- To make the icing, beat the egg white until stiff. Stir in the confectioners' sugar, cocoa and salt, and beat until the mixture is soft. Stir in the cream and beat for 1 minute. Spread the icing over the tops of the cooled buns and sprinkle with pearl sugar.



from the *Moorhead Daily News*

March 2, 1931 - Page Three

Moland Township Farmer Is Dead at Home Today

Olaf Bjonfald, 38, Moland Township farmer, died from a stroke at his home on Sunday at 8:30 p.m.

He leaves his wife and twin sons, Gunder and Olaf, three years old. His mother, Mrs. Gunder Bjonfald, lives in Norway. There are no brothers and sisters.

Funeral arrangements have not been completed.

Note: Mrs. Bjonfald was Gina Thimrud Kragnes.

March 20, 1937 - Page One

Mrs. Morken Dies At Pioneer Home

Mrs. Mina Augusta Morken, 71, resident of Clay County since 1876, died at her home in Morken Township Friday. Death was due to old age. Born February 3, 1860, in Houston County, Minn., Mrs. Morken moved with her parents to Clay County in 1875. In 1878 she married T. O. Morken at the home of her parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Kassenborg in Morken Township. Mr. Morken died

October 7, 1908. Since then Mrs. Morken has resided at their farm home northeast of Kragnes. She was a member of Concordia Lutheran Church of which her father was one of the charter members.

Surviving are seven sons: Andrew, Grygla; Gilbert, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; Alex, Felton; Martin, Glyndon; John, New Orleans; and Obert and Henry at home. Three daughters, Tilda and Trina at home, and Mrs. Martin Swedeen, Minneapolis; three sisters: Mrs. O. C. Bergland, Fargo; Mrs. L F Moe, Glyndon; and Mrs. Olness, Kragnes; one brother, Edward Kassenborg, near Glyndon; and 11 grandchildren.

Funeral services have not yet been arranged, but the body is at Wright Brothers Funeral Home, Moorhead.

March 31, 1941 - Page Seven

Morken Draftees Guests of Honor

Norman Hanson, John Kragnes Enter Army

Norman Hanson, son of Mrs. Laura Hanson, and John Kragnes, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Kragnes of this vicinity were the only two men drawn for Selective Service from Morken Township.

On Wednesday evening John Kragnes was guest of honor at a farewell party in Averill. The evening was spent in playing cards.

On Thursday evening a large number of Morken young people gathered at the old Kassenborg school for a farewell dance for both boys.

On Friday evening, Norman Hanson was guest of honor at a farewell party at Riverside School by a group of people from Moland Township. The evening was spent in playing whist. Both boys left for Fort Snelling on Monday morning.

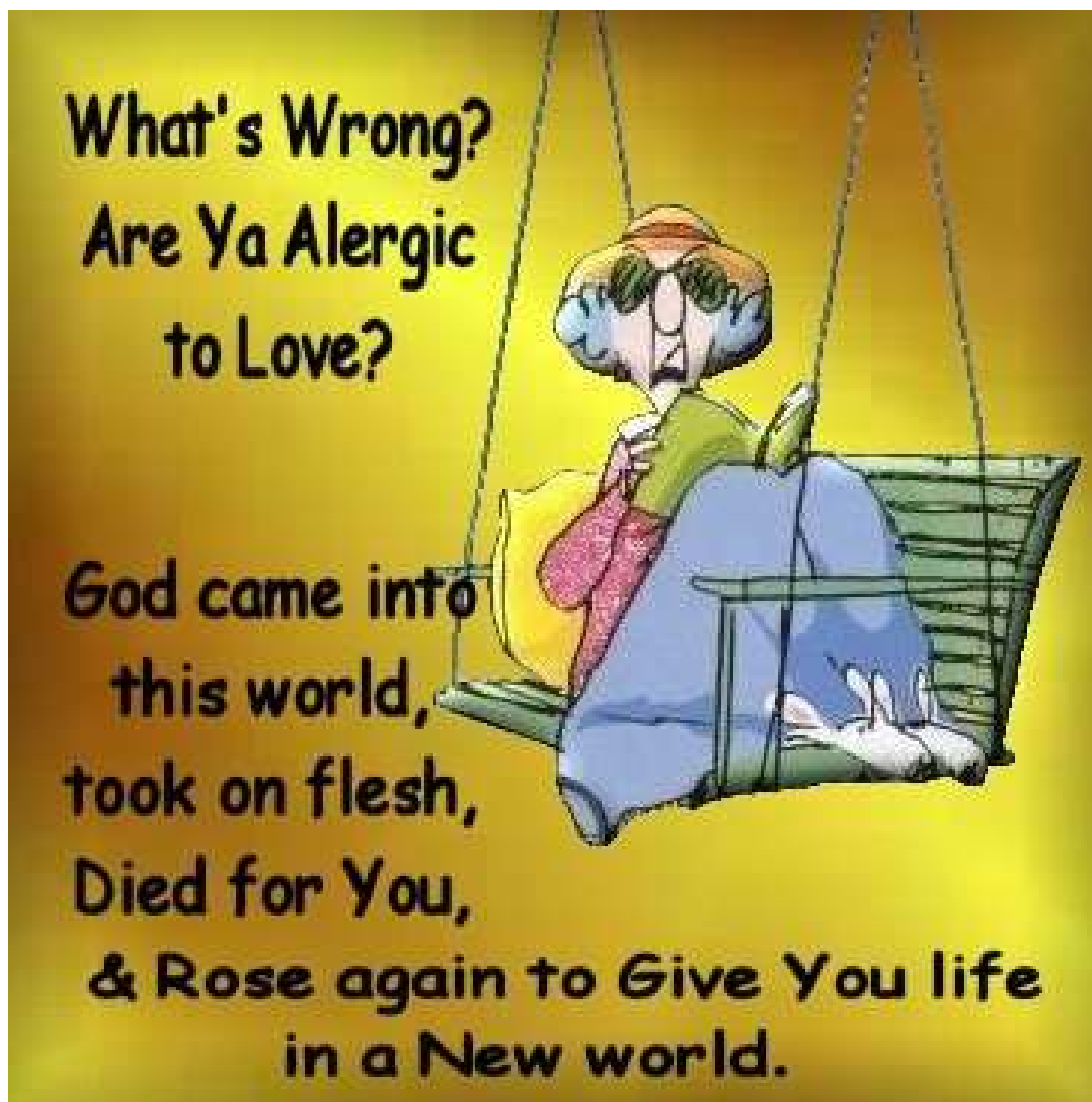
Where Did Lent Come From?

Lent probably originated with pre-Easter baptismal rituals in the early church. Prior to their baptisms, candidates were expected to fast and pray for a number of days to prepare themselves. Moses, Elijah, and Jesus all fasted for 40 days, and this is probably why Lent became a season of 40 days. To begin with, Lent began on a Monday, so that baptisms could take place and new members could celebrate with the whole church on Easter.

Eventually the West began Lent on Ash Wednesday. Soon all Christians - not just those seeking to be baptized - were expected to

observe the Lenten fast. Fasting is not a part of Lutheran tradition, but the season of Lent is still set aside for prayer and contemplation.

The Western liturgical color of Lent is purple, symbolizing royalty and penitence.



Dates to Remember

Worship Services every Sunday

Coffee Hour: 9 a.m. Worship: 10 a.m.

Communion 1st Sunday of the month

Concordia Women 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 13

Veteran Coffee Hour 10 a.m., Wednesday, March 14

Lenten Services Wednesdays – March 7, 14, 21

5:00 pm – Supper - Services following

Maundy Thursday – March 29

5:00 pm Service

ROMEOs 7:30 a.m., Friday, March 23

Birthdays

March 1 Peggy Kragnes March 13 Wes Tommerdahl

March 20 Karolynn Decker

Anniversaries

March 22 Jim & Linda Koester March 23 Ralph & Barb Grover

March 31 David & Peggy Kragnes

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To submit an item for the newsletter:

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