



Cross Lines

The Monthly Newsletter of
Holy Cross Lutheran Church

*A Member of Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC),
Lutheran CORE and WordAlone Ministries*

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Volume XXVI, No. 8

August 2011

From Pastor Pete: KINGDOM SIGHTINGS

*"The kingdom of God is among you."
(- Luke 17:21)*



Much of Jesus' preaching and teaching were about the kingdom of God. As we listen to Him, we begin to understand that God's "kingdom" exists wherever Christ rules and reigns in the hearts and lives of people. Wherever God is at work, that is where the kingdom of God is. Here are some of the ways in which I have seen the kingdom of God happening in the last few weeks:

- Adults spend a week with youth on a mission trip, and youth tell how their lives have been changed by that experience;
- Grieving family members look to the Lord for guidance and strength as they try to move ahead after their loss;
- Someone asks a group of friends to pray for her husband's medical needs, and individuals offer words of support and promise to pray;
- Christian persons generously give time and money to support the work of their church and other ministries;
- A family moves to another continent and another culture in order to share the news of Christ;
- A couple takes time to pray for their family, neighbors, church, pastors and nation;

- A business person makes an ethical decision, even though it may cost more money;
- As an individual walks through a park, he thanks God for His amazing creation;
- A church member apologizes to another member so they can be reconciled;
- An older person responds to disturbing world news by remembering words of Scripture.

Where do you see God at work around you? In what ways is Christ extending His gracious reign in your life? Read Jesus' words about the kingdom of God; see your life and world through new eyes; continue to pray, "thy kingdom come."

~Pastor Pete



2011 Vacation Bible School!

This summer's Vacation Bible School is scheduled for the week of **August 1st-5th from 9am-noon. (Monday-Friday)** Both members and non-members are welcome. Bring your friends for the fun! **THEME: "The Adventures of Paul."** Register upon arrival. Cost is \$6/child, \$12 family max. Every day attendance is not required.

*VBS Sunday will be August 7th. During worship at 9:30 am, the kids will share what they learned during the week.



Holy Cross Fellowship Day! August 13th

We are planning a day of fellowship for **Saturday, August 13th** at Baylor County Park, in Norwood, MN. Mark your calendars! We will reserve the picnic shelter and have a pot luck. There is camping available for those interested. At night there will be star gazing at the park's observatory. Any questions can be directed to Jean Wagner, Mark Job, Kim Kaiser, or Connie Klemz. Sign up in the narthex.



Lutheran Night with The MN Twins!

Don't forget to watch the Twins vs. Orioles game on Monday, **August 22nd at 7:10 pm**. Look for the forty members of Holy Cross that will attend the game!



— Church Council Highlights

From the July meeting:

- Treasurer John Gerold reports Holy Cross is "in the yellow" financially. We would have been in the red but we have borrowed against other savings to pay bills.
- Pastor Wright reported the single service over 4th of July went very well. We may want to study the possibility of having just one weekly Sunday service during summer 2012 instead of two.
- All three pastors are attending the LCMC Annual Gathering in Iowa this October.
- Pastor Wright is now 50% at Abounding Joy, so he is receiving 100% compensation between Abounding Joy and Holy Cross.
- Sola has several conventions coming up and Pastor Steve has several Bible study deadlines approaching as well. Sunday School B1 is completed and ready for use by Holy Cross this fall. The Ten Commandments Confirmation book is near completion. The VBS Paul book being use by Holy Cross is also complete.
- WordAlone has decided to change their focus to be directly on Sola. The positive is that the donations will be a great aid to Sola; the down side is the WordAlone debt is put onto Sola's books.
- Dianna Lidberg has been coming in to learn part of the WordAlone job Jill has been doing in order to take some burden off of Jill. Dianna will be moving in to support Shannon at Sola soon.
- Pastor Pete has officiated a large amount of non-member funerals recently. Overall funerals are 30-40% non-member.
- The flood recovery support announced at previous services raised a decent amount of money for Minot, ND - where Pastor Pete used to serve.
- The first furnace is installed and paid for! Council Member Nathan Miller will provide an update on the furnace situation in the fall. Two-thirds of the furnace budget has been raised, but we still have more funds to raise.
- A copy of the full council minutes is always available for your viewing on the congregational bulletin board in the church's main hallway.
- The next council meeting will be on Tuesday, August 16, 2011 at 6:30pm.

Vital Statistics: (July 31st offering not included. 5 Sundays in July)	
July Offerings: \$14,454	Needed Per Month: \$ 22,161
Percentage of Offerings Received vs. Budgeted Amount: 65.2%	
Average Weekly Attendance: This Year = 192, Last Year = 211	

Holy Cross Youth Connection

CONFIRMATION NEWS

- **Confirmation Make-up day is Wednesday, August 10th from noon to 3pm.** *Lunch will be included. This is for the students who have not yet completed your requirements for the 2010-11 school year. Progress reports were mailed to you in July. Please let Pastor Pete know if you will be attending.
- **9th Grade Families: Confirmation Sunday is September 18th, 2011 at the 10:30 service.**
- CONFIRMATION FAMILIES: Watch for communication by letters, newsletter and bulletins about the beginning of Confirmation classes for next year's 7th, 8th and 9th graders in September.

YOUTH NEWS

- **FREE CONCERT EVENT: On Saturday, August 6th,** Seventh Day Slumber and Lightswitch will be performing at Barker Island in Superior, Wisconsin from 12-8 pm (bands start at 4:30 pm). Call Kim Kaiser with any questions: 763-257-4321.
- **The Youth Ministry Team will meet Tuesday, August 9th at 5:30 pm.** to do further planning for youth ministry events. Adults who want to help make things happen are most welcome!
- **Junior & Senior High Parents and Youth Info Meeting!** You are invited and encouraged to attend an information meeting on Wednesday evening, **September 14th at 7:00 pm.** We will share plans for Confirmation classes and youth ministry events for both junior and senior high for the coming year.
- **Annual "Amazing gRace" event for 7th grade and up will be Sunday, October 16th.** Watch for details. There is a new twist to this year's event; you won't want to miss this!



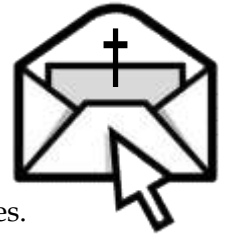
Thank You for the Country Music Festival!



A BIG thanks goes out to all who helped prepare, organize, set up, take down, run, perform, or otherwise contribute to this year's Country Music Festival. In particular, a special thanks to Becky King for heading up the band, Roger Golby, Pete, Jean & Jayce Wagner for acting in the skit, and Connie Klemz & Kris Meissner for all their hard work in taking over-all leadership of the event. Thanks also to Dave & Jody Sehlin and their relative L.J. Javes for grilling great Pork Chops! We would also like to thank all musicians: Steve & Becky King, Tami Blahut, George Meissner, Tony Klein, Becky Unger, Joe Beckman, Richard Eckman, Craig Kittelson, and Tom Gerold for their great performances!

Church Email Connection

Want to keep up-to-date on church happenings? Get your name added to the Holy Cross email list. We have been sending out email notifications of church events and requests, and we are getting great responses. Email Jill and keep her updated on your email address: jillrenstrom@holycrossmaplelake.com.



Holy Cross is Online

Check out our NEW website at: www.holycrossmaplelake.com



*Please let the church office know of any suggestions for the new website.

For those interested in learning more about LCMC, feel free to check out their website at:

www.lcmc.net



You will not only find news, info, and policy statements, you can also find a list of the dozens of congregations like ours who have recently joined.



BRINGING GOD'S LOVE TO THE INNER CITY

In September, the Mission Team at Holy Cross will be collecting items needed for ministry at the Marie Sandvik Center on Franklin Avenue in Minneapolis.

This ministry was started in 1940 by Marie Sandvik, a determined Norwegian immigrant, who realized the needs of inner city people to know that they are valuable because God values them. This ministry ministers to families and children in a variety of ways. They have Kid's Club, Women's Programs, Bible studies, and Praise and Worship services at various times throughout the week. They offer hot meals each evening, collect Bibles, clothing, house wares and food for giving away, give gifts at Christmastime to children, teens and adults and truly live out their mission statement: "Bringing God's Love to the Inner City."

* Please pray for the Marie Sandvik Center as they minister in Jesus' name in the inner city with all of its challenges.

* Please watch next month's newsletter for items that you can bring that will assist in this ministry.

Thank you in advance for what the Lord will lead you to give to this ministry!

Fall Adult Forum/Saturday Sermon Series:



Beginning Sept. 10th & 11th, Pastor King will be leading a ten week study on The Lord's Prayer. Please join us for the Saturday 5 pm service and the Sunday Morning Education Hour: 9:15-10:15 am.

Rally Sunday is September 11th. This marks the start of the Sunday School season and is the day we switch back to our regular Sunday worship schedule (9:15 Ed hour & 8:00 and 10:30 Worship). We will continue our Saturday worship services each week at 5:00 pm.



Preparing for the Start of the School Year:

Sunday School

First Day Of Sunday School Sept. 11

The beginning of the Sunday School year will soon be upon us. This year, Rally Sunday is **September 11th** (as always, the week after Labor Day). Classes will be held for children 3 years old through High School; nursery is available for infants and toddlers. Invite your neighbors to bring their kids too! We will be using Sola Publishing's materials, created by Pastor King.

S.S. Teachers' Meeting Aug. 24



A Sunday School Teacher's meeting has been scheduled for **Wednesday, August 17th at 6:30 pm.**

**There is still the need of a volunteer Sunday School Superintendent, more Sunday School teachers, and classroom helpers. Anyone interested is asked to contact the church office at 320-963-3536. Thank you!*

Confirmation

Junior & Senior High Parents and Youth Information Meeting Sept. 14

Confirmation Instruction will be starting soon for the 7th, 8th and 9th graders of our congregation. In order for new students to be informed of the specifics of this year's Confirmation Program, there will be an introductory meeting for students and parents on: **Wednesday, September 14th at 7:00 pm** in the Fellowship Hall. Contact Pastor Pete with any questions.



All 7th grade students and their parents are requested to attend.