



# 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. 7**

**July 2011**

*From Pastor Tom:*

**“A Gift to Change Your Life!”**



Have you ever noticed how adept we human beings are at taking the wonderful gifts of God and turning them into burdens in our lives?

We do this with food and drink, work, family, marriage, sexuality, time, nature, money, possessions - with just about everything. We take what's intended to be a blessing and we pervert it so that it becomes a curse in our lives.

A prime example of this is God's gift of sabbath. For many people the mere mention of sabbath stirs up feelings of guilt and uneasiness. Some were raised to believe that if they missed worship they would go to hell. Others equate sabbath and worship as a boring, non-productive, waste of time. Nothing could be further from the truth.

In fact, sabbath is number three on God's top ten list, and one of His greatest blessings for us. In what follows I would like to share **the five R's** of the sabbath. They are five ways that God intends to bless you as you remember the sabbath and keep it holy.

**The first "R" is rest.** The word sabbath means to cease. Our Creator tells us that we have a fundamental need to rest each week. We need to retreat from the stresses and challenges of our busy lives. Do you take time to truly rest each week or do you, like many people, in actuality practically "recreate yourself to death?"

**The second "R" is remember.** One of the most important things we can do on the Lord's Day (Sunday) is remember. Remember that you are



Summer 2011 – Adult Bible Study Series  
 - Thursdays at 7:00 pm -

# “WORD OF TRUTH”

A Bible Study on the Authority of Scripture

All are welcome to this in-depth study, led by Pastor King.



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## \$ “Adopt-A-Bill” from Holy Cross \$

The Adopt-A-Bill Program at Holy Cross is a special way you can help out. On a bulletin board in the narthex are cards with descriptions of several of the church’s current bills awaiting payment. You are invited to “adopt” these bills on behalf of the church. All gifts are appreciated and welcomed. Thank you for helping to support the day-to-day operation of the congregation!

## Holy Cross Endowment Fund

The Holy Cross Endowment Fund is for those who would like to make a contribution that will generate interest income for years into the future! The purpose of the Endowment Fund is to enhance the ministry in specific areas, including: Music, Education, Youth, Outreach, Seminary support. For more info, contact Dave Sehlin at 763-682-6336.



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## Surfing the Net?

Check out our NEW website at:  
**[www.holycrossmaplelake.com](http://www.holycrossmaplelake.com)**

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

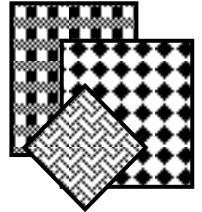
## Faith and Fellowship Groups at Holy Cross:

**\*The Monday Morning Bible Study group will not meet during the summer months.**

**\*\*The Evening Quilt-A-Thon will also not meet during the summer months.**

## Quilter’s Group

The Quilters Group meets every Monday at 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We have a Bible Study on the first Monday of the month, and dedicate the rest of our time to quilting. If you are interested in participating, contact Alice Schupp for more details: 963-3326.



## Monthly Book & Brunch Club

**Monday, July 18th.** We meet on the 3rd Monday of each month at 11:00 am at Irish Blessings in Maple Lake. We’ll have coffee while we discuss our book of the month. This month, we’ll discuss the book “Room” by Emma Donoghue. August’s book will be “Between Shades of Gray” by Ruta Sepetys. Hope to see some new faces! Any questions, call Judy at 963-3665.

## Wednesday Whittlers

The Wednesday Whittlers is a small group of men doing odd jobs around church on the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays at 9am. If interested, contact Dave Sehlin at 763-682-6336. We could use your talents!



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## Holy Cross Fellowship Day! August 13th



We are planning a day of fellowship for 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.

# Holy Cross Youth Connection

## CONFIRMATION NEWS

• 9th Grade Families: Mark your calendars: Confirmation Sunday is September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at the 10:30 service.

## YOUTH NEWS

\* Remember to pray for the youth and adults from Faith-Silver Creek and Holy Cross who are going on a week-long mission trip to Norway, Michigan late in June. The "HOLY FAITH" group will return the first days of July.

\* **Sunday, July 24 at \*11:30am (\*note time change)**, A Shareholders lunch will be provided by the youth of Holy Cross and Faith Lutheran at Holy Cross. They will share pictures and stories of their trip and the families they helped out over their week of service. Mark your calendars.

## HELP WANTED

**Youth - upper elementary, junior and senior high - are needed to help serve the pork chop supper on Sunday, July 31st as part of the Country Music Festival. Contact Pastor Pete or Jill in the office if you can help. Thank you!**

## 2011 Vacation Bible School!

This summer's Vacation Bible School is scheduled for the week of **August 1st-5th from 9am-noon**. Mark your calendars for this great week of fun for the kids! Both members and non-members are welcome. Bring your friends for the fun! **THEME THIS YEAR: "The Adventures of Paul."** Register upon arrival. *VBS Sunday will be August 7th. The kids will perform what they learned during the week.*



**\*The church is looking for volunteers to help during VBS week. Please contact the church office if you are interested. We need you!**

Don't Miss Our Annual Down-Home

# Country Music Festival



**Sunday, July 31st**

*Two Morning*

*Worship Services:*

**8:00 am & 9:30 am**

Don't miss our rousing Country celebration coming on the last Sunday in July – it is our biggest community event all year. Come early for a good seat!

## Country Quilt and Bake Sale

On the day of the Country Service, the ladies of the church will be sponsoring a special Country Quilt and Bake Sale. (Donations of baked goods are appreciated and can be dropped off at the church the day before or the morning of the sale.) *Proceeds will go toward camp scholarships for our youth.*

## Pork Chop Feed (5-7 pm) & Concerts (5 and 7 pm)

That same evening, from 5 to 7 pm, we will host a pork chop supper at the church (\*sign up to help in the narthex), and two indoor concerts at 5 and 7 pm, with more live music in between shows. Come and be a part of this fun day, and bring you friends and neighbors!

**\*There is a sign-up for volunteers in the narthex to help with the day's festivities. We need your help!**

## Walking the Neighborhood

We are looking for volunteers to walk the neighborhoods of Maple Lake, dropping off fliers inviting people to our Country Music Festival and Vacation Bible School. If you are available, call the church office.



Come and Be a Part of Our  
**Saturday Evening Services**

Every Saturday Evening at 5:00 pm



“Kingdom Living” is the theme of our Saturday night worship services this summer. Each week we’ll look at a different text from Matthew’s gospel and wrestle with questions such as: “What is the Kingdom of God? How are we brought into the Kingdom? What does life in the Kingdom look like? Who exactly is this king named Jesus?”

**OUR SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

*MEMORIAL DAY THROUGH LABOR DAY WEEKENDS*

**SATURDAY EVENINGS**

5:00 PM - COUNTRY-GOSPEL SERVICE

**SUNDAY MORNINGS**

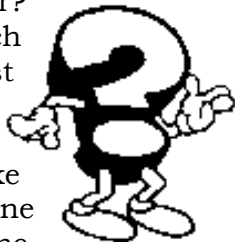
8:00 AM - TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE

9:00 AM - REFRESHMENT TIME

9:30 AM - CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE

**GUESS WHO’S COMING TO DINNER?**

There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex for a fun dinner event themed “Guess who’s coming to dinner?” on Saturday, **July 23rd at 6:30pm.** Each dinner group will have four couples: A host family will provide the main dish and beverages, and three other mystery families will come to their house with dishes to make the meal complete! You will receive a phone call the day before as to where you will dine. Deadline to sign up is July 16th.



**“GET THE ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE”**

**WHY WE DO MISSIONS**

- WHY DO WE SHARE THE GOOD NEWS OF CHRIST?
- WHY DO WE SERVE OTHERS?
- WHY DO WE REACH OUT BOTH LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY?

\* WE DO THESE THINGS, NOT BECAUSE WE SHOULD, OR EVEN BECAUSE OTHER PEOPLE HAVE NEEDS.

\* WE “DO MISSIONS” BECAUSE WE ARE SO THANKFUL TO GOD FOR ALL HE HAS DONE FOR US. BECAUSE OF CHRIST, WE ARE FORGIVEN. BECAUSE OF CHRIST WE HAVE A MEANINGFUL LIFE HERE AND NOW.

**OUT OF GRATITUDE TO GOD, THESE MISSIONS PROJECTS ARE PLANNED FOR THE COMING YEAR AT HOLY CROSS:**

- WORK DAY AT FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN (SUMMER AND WINTER)
- ASSEMBLE HYGIENE KITS FOR THE MARIE SANDVIK CENTER IN MINNEAPOLIS (AUG-SEPT)
- MISSIONARY SPEAKERS FOR WORSHIP SERVICES AND ADULT FORUMS (SEPT AND MARCH)
- OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD (OCT-NOV)
- PRAYER FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH (NOV 13)
- ASSEMBLE FOOD BASKETS AT UNION GOSPEL MISSION, ST. PAUL (NOV)
- SEND BIRTHDAY CARDS TO MISSIONARIES (THROUGHOUT THE YEAR)
- PRAY FOR MISSIONARIES AND CHRISTIANS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD (ALWAYS).



**MEMBERS OF FAITH LUTHERAN IN SILVER CREEK AND ABOUNDING JOY IN ST. CLOUD ARE INVITED TO BE PART OF THESE JOINT PROJECTS.**

“GET THE ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE,” AND PARTICIPATE IN THESE PROJECTS. WATCH FOR DETAILS IN NEWSLETTERS AND BULLETINS. SERVE ON THE MISSIONS TEAM – THE SMALL GROUP THAT MEETS QUARTERLY TO PLAN THESE ACTIVITIES; CONTACT PASTOR PETE OR LOANN MARTINSON, SUE KLASSEN, BRIAN WARNER, NAOMI OR TAYLOR JURGENS IF YOU ARE INTERESTED.

## THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

God has been good to us. We have so much to celebrate at Holy Cross. We have hundreds of members of all ages. We have inspiring worship services with many gifted musicians. Our youth and children's ministries are growing. We have solid and creative biblical educational ministries for all ages. We reach out to our community and world with the Good News of Jesus and with gifts to help, heal, feed and care for those less fortunate. We are the home base for Sola Publishing which produces educational and worship materials for churches around our country and in other nations. Yes, the Lord has been, and is, very good to us. We are blessed, indeed!



None of these good things would be true without the support of you our friends and members. Thank you for your involvement and for your gifts of time and money. Your generous offerings are making it possible for the outreach of Holy Cross to extend further and further in Jesus' name. Thank you!

## COUNCIL UPDATE ON SUPPORT FOR OUR PASTORAL MINISTRIES



In January we adopted a balanced budget which included an across-the-board 20% cut in pastoral compensation. While all three of our pastors continue to work full-time, for the first half of 2011 they were compensated at 80%. In January it

was stated that Holy Cross would endeavor to bring our pastors up to 100% as soon as possible.

Abounding Joy in St. Cloud recently voted to bring Pastor Tom from 30% to 50% effective July 1. (He has

been at 50% with Holy Cross since his arrival last January.) At the June meeting our Church Council decided to move both Pastor Pete and Pastor Steve from 80% to 90%, effective July 1. It is hoped that we can bring them back to 100% this fall.

To make this happen we are all invited to:

- (1) continue our strong giving through the summer and to the end of 2011,
- (2) fulfill the pledges we've made to Holy Cross for 2011, and
- (3) increase our offerings by an average of just \$2 per week per household.(July-December)

Together, in faith, and with joy and thanksgiving this is well within our reach. You are invited to prayerfully consider growing in your giving to Holy Cross so that we can get back to fully supporting our strong and faithful pastoral ministries as soon as possible.

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## The **Simply Giving**® Program endorsed by Thrivent Financial Bank

Since Holy Cross began offering an automated giving program called The **Simply Giving** Program endorsed by Thrivent Financial Bank, many of our members have chosen to participate.

Several members have told us how much they like the program because of its convenience. They also mentioned that they appreciate that their financial gifts to Holy Cross continue even if they are out of town and aren't able to be at a worship service.

The **Simply Giving**® Program endorsed by Thrivent Financial Bank is a way to help you achieve your stewardship plan for Holy Cross. You can enroll at any time by completing the **Simply Giving** enrollment form located in the church office.