



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. 5

May 2011

From Pastor Tom:

God's Reputation

God has a reputation. It is a reputation for bringing life out of death. The quintessential example is the resurrection of our Lord Jesus on Easter.



Because He is the resurrection and the life, Jesus ruined every funeral he ever attended. Every time Jesus encountered a dead person, the corpse returned to life, the crowds were amazed, and people were led to see who Jesus truly is. He's God with us, the one who brings life out of death.

Ernest Becker, in his Pulitzer Prize winning book "The Denial of Death," argues that most of us, most of the time, live in denial of the truth that one day we will die. From birth to death we are engaged in projects of denial. We seek fame and fortune. We hunger for recognition and accomplishment. We strive for and accumulate more than we need. In futility we seek to establish our immortality, shouting to the world, "Hey, look at me. See how great I am. There's no way I will ever die."

Becker says, "the idea of death, the fear of it, haunts the human animal like nothing else; it is the mainspring of human activity designed largely to avoid the fatality of death."

Are you a whiz at Microsoft Access?

The staff at Holy Cross is looking for someone to provide some coaching on the set-up and use of MS Office Access Database. Please give Jill in the office a call if you can help out. Thank you!



The church is also looking for a volunteer available on Fridays to help with bulletins and misc. office work.

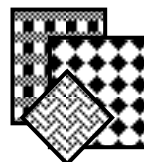
Faith and Fellowship Groups at Holy Cross:

Monday Morning Bible Study

The Morning Bible study group switched back to Mondays, and meets from 9:15-10:30 am each week. We welcome new people to come and join us. Call Shannon Vietmeier for more info: (763) 878-2761.



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 joining, contact Alice Schupp for more details: 963-3326.

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.

ENJOY THE CONVENIENCE OF ELECTRONIC GIVING

Holy Cross wants to remind you that we offer electronic giving as a way to automate your regular weekly offering. Electronic giving offers convenience for individual congregation members and provides much-needed donation consistency for our congregation. As you contemplate future contributions, please consider electronic giving. Authorization forms and additional information are available from the church office.

Monthly Book & Brunch Club

Monday, May 16th. We meet on the 3rd Monday of each month at 11:00 am at Madigan's. We'll have lunch while we discuss our book of the month. This month, we'll discuss the book "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo" by Stieg Larsson. June's book will be "Room" by Emma Donoghue. Hope to see some new faces! Any questions, call Judy at 963-3665.



Evening Quilting/Craft Fellowship Night

The group is enjoying new friendships and fellowship, and is expanding to include anyone who would like to come and bring something they are working on: knitting, crochet, or any other projects. You may even just come to learn a new craft... no experience necessary. The group will meet the fourth Tuesday of every month September-May from 7-9pm at church in the fellowship hall. The next gathering will be May 24th. Please come and be part of the fun! Questions? Call LoAnn at 274-6046 or Ella at (320) 558-9280.



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 joined within the last year.

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!



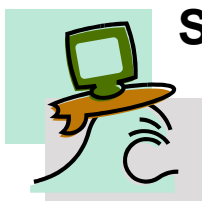
Surfing the Net?

Check out our website at:

www.holycrossmaplelake.com

and the WordAlone website at:

www.wordalone.org



Holy Cross Youth Connection

CONFIRMATION NEWS-

- Confirmation classes are completed for this year. Watch the mail for progress reports. Let Pastor Pete know if you'd like your recorded worship notes returned to you. If you did not meet with your sponsor on April 27th, your sponsor will contact you.
- **May 15th - 9th grade faith essay due to Pastor Pete.**
- **Friday, May 13th - Lock-In Survivor: Exodus part deux.** A sign-up sheet is on the table in the narthex, sign up by May 6th. Fee is \$10 for t-shirts and food, please indicate size when you sign up. We need donations of cardboard tubes (wrapping paper, paper towels, toilet paper). Please put in narthex. Thanks!
- Confirmation Sunday (for this year's 9th graders) is **September 18th** at the 10:30 service.

YOUTH NEWS-

* **Sunday, May 1:** opening sale of the Holy Cross/Faith Lutheran Mission Trip 2011 stock. These will be sold for \$10 per share and all funds will go to help pay for a trip to Norway, MI through TeenServe.org. Stocks can be purchased in any quantity.

* **May 15 - 28** - The Flamingos are migrating to Maple Lake! The Mission Trip team will be available to help wrangle these pesky birds out of your yard, should they appear, for a small fee of \$10. Or for only \$30, you can purchase Flamingo Insurance to guarantee a Flamingo-free yard! See Pastor Pete or Kim Kaiser to purchase insurance. The \$10 removal fee can be paid at the time the birds are collected, a Flamingo Catcher can be dispatched with a simple phone call. Contact information will come with the birds. All funds will go to supporting the youth in their Mission Trip.



* **June 26th - July 1** - Mission Trip to Norway, Michigan with Faith Lutheran in Silver Creek youth group. Visit www.teenserve.org for more information about the week.

* **Sunday, July 24 at noon**, 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.

May 2011 - Adult Forum & Saturday Sermon Series:

“Hope for Tough Times”

Saturdays at 5:00 pm, and Sundays at 9:15 am



“Blessed be the God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.” (1 Peter 1:3)

God’s promises to us through the resurrection of Jesus are not just for the hereafter. The power of God’s grace means strength, hope, joy and peace for us - right here and right now - in the midst of the turmoil of our lives.

Summer 2011 - Adult Bible Study Series

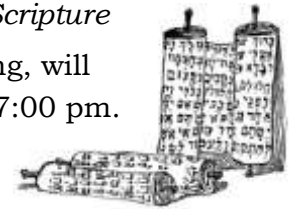
- Thursdays at 7:00 pm -

“WORD OF TRUTH”

A Bible Study on the Authority of Scripture

This bible study, led by Pastor King, will begin on **Thursday, June 9th** at 7:00 pm.

Watch for more details to come.



OUR SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

BEGINS MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND (MAY 28/29)

SATURDAY EVENING

5:00 PM - COUNTRY-GOSPEL SERVICE

SUNDAY MORNING

8:00 AM - TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE

9:30 AM - CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE


What's Happening in May?

Girl Scouts Church Clean-up Day

The local Girls Scout Troop 11454 will be doing a Service Project at Holy Cross on Saturday, **May 7th from 9am-noon**. The girls plan to clean up garbage around the property, rake leaves out around the landscaping of the church, trim bushes, pull weeds etc. This event is open to Girl Scouts and their parents. **Thanks to the Girl Scouts!** (ALTERNATE DATE: if needed due to weather/rain, etc: Saturday, May 14th- 9am - 12 noon.)



Holy Cross Church Spring Cleaning

 We will be having our annual Spring Cleaning Day at the church on **Saturday, May 21st at 10:00 am**. This is not only a time to get some good work done, it is also the opportunity for some fun and fellowship with others. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex. We will focus on the inside of the church this year.


Holy Cross School of Music - Recitals

Students of Wendy Clark and Becky King will be performing the music they have learned. There are so many musicians, we will be having *two* recitals! The congregation is invited to come.



- Becky King's Students - Sunday, **May 15th**, at 2:00 pm
- Wendy Clark's Students - Sunday, **May 22nd**, at 3:00 pm

Recognition of 2011 Graduating Seniors

 On Sunday, **May 22nd** at the 10:30 am service, we will be recognizing the class of 2011 during worship, as they prepare for graduation. Please come and congratulate our High School Seniors of Holy Cross.

Graduating Seniors: You are invited to worship service at 10:30 am that day. Please be sure to contact the church office if you will be in attendance. Thank you!

Last Day of Sunday School Party!



On the last day of our regular worship schedule (May 22nd), there will be special class activities for the kids, with games food, and more! Come and celebrate with your friends!

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First Fridays - Kid's Night for May is CANCELLED

* PROGRAM UNDER RECONSTRUCTION *

First Fridays is not only a fun night for the kids, it provides some free time for parents. We have three different age-groups, from preschool through the elementary grades. Members and non-members are welcome. Kids can bring their friends!



*** We hope you can come next season and join the fun every first Friday starting in October!**

Any adults and/or teens who would be able to help out regularly next season, please contact the church office at 320-963-3536.

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Looking Ahead - Vacation Bible School!



This summer's Vacation Bible School is tentatively scheduled for the week of **August 1st-5th**. Mark your calendars for this great week of fun for the kids! Again this year, we plan to co-sponsor VBS along with Bethlehem UCC, so there will be plenty of kids and fun!

ALSO - Fellowship Day at Baylor County Park

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. Watch for more info to come!