

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH, LCMS

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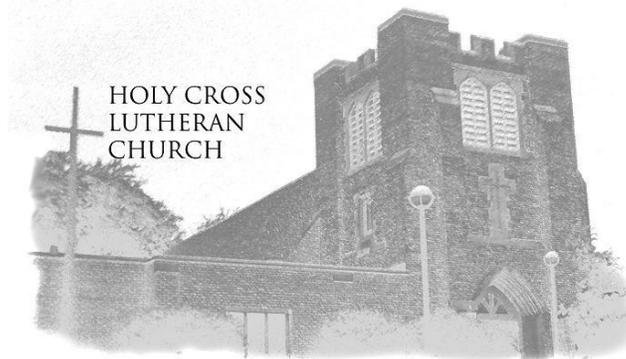
Keith Meyer, Pastor

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February 2018

FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR KEITH

LOOKING AHEAD

Saturday Worship Services at 5 pm

**Sunday Worship Services at 9:30 am, followed by Fellowship,
Intergenerational Bible Study and Sunday School at 10:45 am**

Wednesday Bible Class at 10:30 am

Wednesdays, February 14th - March 21st

5:45 pm Soup and Sandwich Suppers followed by

7 pm Lenten Services

March 29th 7 pm Maundy Thursday Service

March 30th 7 pm Good Friday Service

*No 5 pm Saturday service March 31

April 1st 7 am Easter Sunrise Service and 9:30 am Easter Celebration Service

Easter Breakfast between Worship Services

Bible Verse of the Month:

Matthew 6:5-13

“And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him. This then is how you should pray: ‘Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Your Kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.’”

Prayer of the Month: Say the Lord’s Prayer slowly and with meaning.

Prayers for our Choir and Musicians

Prayers for our Members: Jean Anderson, Ralph, Lynnae Skogerboe and Esther Asher, Joyce Baago, Deb Beiersdorf, Steve and Kimberly Blomberg, Carolyn Blomberg, Michael and Alicia Blomberg, James Blomberg, Dan and Jackie Bock, Paul, Julie, and Olivia Brammer, Becky Bredwell, Donna Bristol, Steve, Roberta, Elliott and Paul Brooks, Bill Christ, and Edward Copeland.

Thoughts for the Month

God has given each of you spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another. *1 Peter 4:10*
It is every man’s obligation to put back into the world as least the equivalent of what he takes out of it. *Albert Einstein*

Faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. *Hebrews 11:1*
Whatever your hands find to do, do it with all your might. *Ephesians 9:10*

I have found that among its other benefits, giving liberates the soul of the giver. *Maya Angelou*

All we need to know we can learn from Noah’s ark:

Plan ahead, it wasn’t raining when Noah built the ark.

Stay fit, when you’re 600 years old someone might ask you to do something really big.

Don’t listen to critics, do what has to be done.

Build on high ground.

If mosquitoes are important enough to be saved, you are too.

For safety’s sake, travel in pairs.

Speed is not always an advantage, the cheetahs were on board but so were the snails.

If you can’t fight or flee, float.

Be trusting and patient, the high waters always subside.

When the storms of life toss you about, let God do the steering.

Remember that the ark was built by amateurs and the Titanic was built by professionals.

If you have to start over, have your family by your side.

Learn some basic carpentry skills, you never know when they’ll come in handy.

Remember that the woodpeckers inside are often a bigger threat than the storm outside.
No matter how bleak the situation may appear, there's always a rainbow to follow.

Don't knock the weather, do you realize how many people couldn't start a conversation if it
didn't change once in a while?

Help prevent truth decay, brush up on your Bible!
A lot of kneeling will keep you in good standing.



Generosity Thoughts: Vocation,
Sanctification and Stewardship

1 Corinthians 9:25

“Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we, an imperishable.”

Self control is a fruit of the Spirit, for the desires of the flesh are at war with the desires of the Spirit. Having received the new life in Christ by his grace, he now calls us to follow him deliberately, with self-control and intention.

Mark 9:6

“For he did not know what to say, for they were terrified.”

Soon enough, the disciples' terror turned into joy, for when Jesus is with us, there is no need to fear. He loves us and cares for us and will never abandon us. That assurance is the basis of all generosity, for only those who are set free from worry can learn the joy of giving.

Matthew 6:21

“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Those are the ultimate words on stewardship. Your heart goes where you put the treasure which God has given you to manage.

Mark 1:13

“And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him.”

God cared for Jesus in the midst of his temptation in the wilds, and God cares for us in every situation as well. Jesus realized this and always acted from His trust in God's provision. This is the basis for our life lived in Christ. God cares for us, so we need not act out of fear or greed.

Mark 8:32

“And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.”
Anytime we sin we are acting like Peter, thinking we know better than the Lord. But as Jesus says, such acts stem from Satan. So let us repent and trust our Lord Jesus and follow Him, for certainly He has earned our trust with His gracious sacrifice for us.

“I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others. For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes

he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich”.

2 Corinthians 8:8-9

Without commands, St. Paul encourages, even challenges, the Church in Corinth to demonstrate the sincerity of their faith by their generosity in giving. He does this because giving generously is a gift of the Spirit given to us through the Gospel.

St. Paul wrote: “But just as you excel in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us, see that you also excel in this grace of giving.” *2 Corinthians 8:7* Just as we grow in faith, speech, and knowledge of eternal things by the Holy Spirit, so also do we grow in giving through the Word of God.

The problem is that the grace of generosity often grows cold in us. We don't stop giving, but we don't put it first, treating it like any bill to pay. It becomes a chore, one more thing to check off a list. That empties it of its spiritual power and robs us of the joy that Christ and the Scriptures assign to it.

Since this generosity is linked to faith and knowledge of divine things, giving as a chore is a sign that our faith and knowledge of God are under attack as well. St. Paul points to the foundation of generosity, that of Christ Himself. Even though He was rich, He became poor so that we might become rich. Thus, the incarnation, suffering, and death of our Lord is the reason for our generosity in giving to the church.

And since Christ became poor so that we might be rich in His grace, so we also who are rich in His grace can excel in pressing our riches into service toward the gracious work of the church.

Pay attention to what you give to the church so that you may excel at it. And if you find

that your heart has grown cold or indifferent, immerse yourself in God's Word. Read it at home, attend Bible Class and hear and listen to it preached in the Divine Service.

Be reminded of what Christ has done for you in His incarnation, suffering, and death, for this will strengthen your faith and knowledge. And where that excels, so will the grace of giving.

INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY

Holy Cross

Phillip Brandvold, DCE/DCO



Vision Statement:

Rooted in Christ, tangled together, branching out

Mission Statement:

To focus on multi-generational education, community, and service to others, as we collectively

deepen our roots in Christ.

Purpose:

To bring all ages together in education, community and service so we can learn from one another by serving as Christ's hands and feet.

Biblical education and study will be in lifespan education style. Lifespan education is about learning the same topics together, which encourages discussion across multiple generations.

This means that we will gather those from 6th grade through adult on Sundays to delve into God's word. We will learn from each other what God wants us to seek, and as he created us for relationship, what better way than to grow together in our learning?

Community, the people next to us, is a gift from God. Because we are created for relationships, we need community to support and encourage us in our life and faith walks. *Community will be built through activities and outings that encourage relationship across multiple generations.*

Service to others is our way of sharing God's love for His children. As Christ's followers, we are given the opportunity to be the deliverers of God's love through our actions, thoughts and words. As we focus on service to others through outreach opportunities, we look to Matthew 25:

'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

And here's why:

"I was hungry and you fed me,
I was thirsty and you gave me a drink,
I was homeless and you gave me a room,
I was shivering and you gave me clothes,
I was sick and you stopped to visit,
I was in prison and you came to me."

"Then those 'sheep' are going to say, 'Master, what are you talking about? When did we ever see you hungry and feed you, thirsty and give you a drink? And when did we ever see you sick or in prison and come to you?' Then the King will say, 'I'm telling the solemn truth: Whenever you did one of these things to someone overlooked or ignored, that was me - you did it to me.'"

Through education we become rooted in Christ, through community we become tangled together and through service to others we are branching out.

Scripture:

John 15:3-5

"Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing."

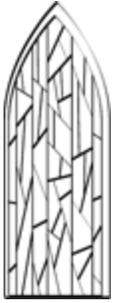
Christ is our source, apart from Him we can do nothing. As we focus on Intergenerational ministries, we know that we must remain in Him to seek his teachings through our studies, seek His love in our community, and see His face in the world. By remaining in him, we will become people who are rooted in Christ, tangled together, branching out.

THREE BRANCHES:

Intergenerational Bible Study

Intergenerational Community

Intergenerational Outreach



We are grateful to have received \$2000 from Marie Bristol. Marie is Matt Bristol's cousin, was baptized at Trinity First and confirmed there on March 20, 1932 by Reverend Carl J. Hoffman. She is 100 years old, born June 5, 1917, and had more than 100 people at her birth-day party last summer!

Reverend Hoffman became the first Pastor of Holy Cross in 1940 and served until 1957. The money from Marie is designated for repair of our stained glass windows, in Pastor Hoffman's memory. We so appreciate it, thank you, Marie.

Mite offering will be collected Sunday February 4.

Lenten Soup Suppers are right around the corner, and once again we ask our Holy Cross cooks and bakers to grace us with your creations! Please plan to sign up in the

narthex to indicate what days during Lent you will bring your soups and desserts.

We have a new AA Group using our Fellowship Hall. They are the Amigos, and were displaced when Pepito's Restaurant on Chicago closed. They are grateful and excited to meet here and will be downstairs Saturday mornings 8-10:30 am. Please make a note of it and respect their privacy if you are in the building at that time.

We put our arms around the family of former Holy Cross Pastor Gartner, who died in Michigan in May.

If inclement weather has you wondering if worship services will be held, Holy Cross will be listed on Fox 9 TV and KTIS 98.5 FM radio broadcasts. Pastor will also email

if he's canceling services, please check it if things look treacherous.

Our We Care fund is dedicated to help Holy Cross families who are in need. If God is calling you to support this mission do not hesitate, please donate. If your family needs financial assistance, please contact Pastor - all inquiries will remain confidential.



The Lenten Season

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and ends six weeks later before Easter Sunday. Lent is traditionally described as lasting for forty days in commemoration of the forty days Jesus spent fasting in the desert, according to the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, before beginning his public ministry, during which he endured temptation by Satan.

The purpose of Lent is to prepare the believer for Easter through prayer and repentance of sins. Lent is observed in the Anglican, Eastern Orthodox, Lutheran, Methodist, and Roman Catholic Churches. Its purpose is heightened in the commemoration of Holy Week, marking the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus, which recalls the tradition and events of the New Testament beginning on Palm Sunday, further climaxing on Jesus' crucifixion on Good Friday, which ultimately culminates in the joyful celebration on Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Many Christians add a Lenten spiritual discipline, such as reading a daily devotional or praying through a Lenten calendar, to draw themselves near to God. The Stations of the Cross, a commemoration of Christ's carrying the Cross and of his execution, are often observed. Many churches remove flowers from their altars, while crucifixes, religious statues, and other elaborate religious symbols are often veiled in fabrics in observance of the event. Some adherents, especially Roman Catholics, mark the season by not eating meat.

Holy Week and the season of Lent end with Easter Vigil at sundown on Holy Saturday or on the morning of Easter Sunday.

HOLY CROSS YELLOW PAGES

CUSTOM TRIP PLANNING for your next vacation in Britain. Customized small group tours of "Off-the-beaten-path" Britain. Please contact us to talk over any level of detail from general advice to detailed itineraries, transportation and accommodation bookings. Black Swan Explorations Andy Tatham 651 755-2577 or Info@BlackSwanExplorations.com.

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WEDDINGS

Jeanne and Tim Phelon 2/15

BIRTHDAYS

Bruce Grimm	2/1
Jon Kofoot	2/6
Emily Protzner	2/6
Gloria Noetzelman	2/7
James Blomberg	2/8
Harrison Riddle	2/15
Olivia Brammer	2/15
Steven Likely	2/18
Jackson McConley	2/22
Julie Shelstad	2/23
Madison Jacques	2/24
Makenzie Lustfield	2/28
Mary Lange	2/29

DEACONS

Peter Klatt and Jim Scanlon

COUNTERS

- 4 M Blomberg and Woodraska
- 11 A Horrmann and G Klatt
- 18 L Oolman and Woodraska
- 25 M and K Lange

USHERS

Keith Lange, Lyle Horrmann and Tim Phelon will usher for the Lenten and Holy Week services.

- 4 J and M Blomberg
- 11 L and A Horrmann
- 18 Oolman and Tatham
- 25 Phelon and Lange

ALTAR GUILD

Mary Lange



We look forward to Cru Winter Conference every single year. We serve on the Program Team, and help create what students see and participate in during the main sessions of the four day conference. Time and again students name this conference as the place they first surrendered their lives to the Lord, or the first time they shared their faith or experienced community with men and women from their campuses. We were blown away by the way our speakers taught God's Word and what He says about racism,

purity, culture, and how to bring the Gospel to the world. And as Courtney's been reviewing applications for Summer Mission, Cru Winter Conference has been named as the place these students first considered living their lives as missionaries for Christ.

In January, Erick went to the Destino Winter Conference in Dallas, bringing five students and two staff along. Our Destino student leader, Monique, is the only student who had been to the conference before so it was exciting to see the younger women in the movement join her. It was a dive into Latino-American culture, from the worship in Spanish and English to hearing about and discussing issues that more directly affect Latino college students. Each student had a unique experience to bring back to UWSP, with the themes of "familia" and "one-in-Christ". Join us in praying that God would use the experiences they had and multiply them in their lives.

Also in January, we had Leadership Gear Up weekend, to equip our current leaders and bring in new student leaders to the movement.

Rachel, Julie, Katie, and Mallory are four women we've known since they were freshmen. They've led, discipled and taught the men and women in our movement so well, and are applying to be interns either overseas or here next year! Please pray for them.

We are doing a lot out outreach with the start of the new semester. So many students come back after break looking to get plugged in. Pray for us as we are launching Bible studies and outreaches in the residence halls and helping build community on campus.

Please continue to pray for us as we plan for Jersey Shore Summer Mission. Courtney is reviewing applications, praise the Lord, twelve women have been accepted, we hope to bring eighteen with us this summer.

Please continue to pray for Courtney's brother Caleb who is deployed in the military overseas.

Serving with you in Christ,
Erick and Courtney Horrmann

FEBRUARY 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			10:30 am Bible Study 6:00 Confirm. here 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal	1 7:00 pm AA Meeting	2 7:00 pm AA Meeting	2 8-10:30 AA Meeting 3-5 GA Intergroup 5 pm Worship Service
4 Mite Offering 9:30 am Worship 10:45 Sunday School and Intergenerational Bible Study 7:00 pm GA	5 6:30 pm Craft Group	6 7 pm Deacon's Meeting 7pm Russian Soul	7 10:30 am Bible Study 6:00 Confirm. here 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal	8 2-4 Hands in Ministry 7 pm Trustees Meeting 7:00 pm AA Meeting	9 7:00 pm AA Meeting	10 8-10:30 AA Meeting 5 pm Worship Service w/Communion
11 9:30 am Worship w/Communion 10:45 Sunday School and IG Bible Study 7:00 pm GA	12 10:30 Prayer Group 6:30 ICAN	13 7pm Russian Soul	14 10:30 am Bible Study Ash Wednesday 5:45 pm Soup Supper Lenten Worship 7:00 8:15 pm Choir Rehearsal	15 7:00 pm AA Meeting	16 7:00 pm AA Meeting	17 8-10:30 AA Meeting 4-8 pm Holy Cross Game Night 5 pm Worship Service
18 9:30 am Worship 10:45 Sunday School and IG Bible Study 7:00 pm GA	19	20 7pm Russian Soul	21 10:30 am Bible Study <i>Lent 2</i> 5:45pm Soup Supper Lenten Worship 7:00 8:15 pm Choir Rehearsal	22 7:00 pm AA Meeting	23 7:00 pm AA Meeting	24 8-10:30 AA Meeting 5 pm Worship Service w/Communion
25 9:30 am Worship w/Communion 10:45 Sunday School and IG Bible Study 7:00 pm GA	26	27 7pm Russian Soul	28 10:30 am Bible Study <i>Lent 3</i> 5:45pm Soup Supper Lenten Worship 7:00 8:15 pm Choir Rehearsal			