

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH, LCMS

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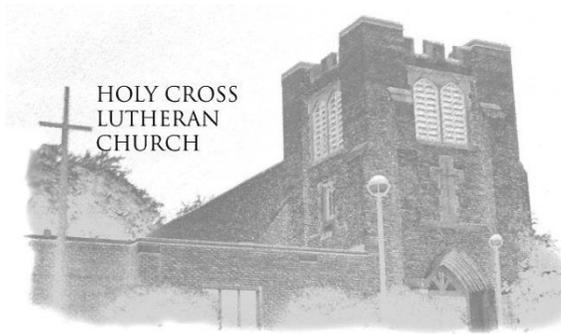
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May 2018

FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR KEITH

LOOKING AHEAD

May 12th Annual Cleanup Day

May 13th Confirmation Day

Memorial Weekend No Saturday Service May 26th

Bible Verse of the Month:

Isaiah 40:30-31

“Even youths grow tired and weary and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.”

Prayer of the Month:

O Lord, grant that we may always put our hope in You. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Prayers for our Trustees: Judy Sorenson, Dave and Tena Ubl, Steve Blomberg, James Blomberg, Edward Copeland, Mike Dennis.

Prayers for our Members

Mark and Angela Newfield, Gloria Noetzelman, Steve and Judy Nyman, Lynn Oolman, Ivah Pannkuk, Milly Phelon, Tim and Jeanne Phelon, Amelia Phelon, Sheila Platt, George and Sandra Price and Harrison Riddle, Sue, Emily, and John Protzner, Diane and Alex Reyes, Kathy Riley, Jack and Marilyn Risser, Jerry and Carol Rusk, June Russel.

Thoughts for the Month:

Mother's Day

When God would save the world from sin,
He chose with mothers to begin;
And through a virgin mother birth
to bring good will to men on earth.

When Jesus the way of life would tell,
a woman listened by a well;
When He was tired and needed rest,
two women honored Him as a guest;
He caused a maid to walk again and raised a widow's son at Nain.

When Jesus was hanging on a cross,
a mother's heart most felt the loss;
The resurrected Jesus was seen
first by Mary Magdalene.

A mother's love will stand by you
when other friends have proved untrue;
She'll round your bed her vigil keep
while other eyes are closed in sleep.
She'll cleave to you till life shall end and be your faithful, loving friend.

Our mothers steer the ship of state;
tis they who make the nation great.
Our nation will be bad or good,
according to its motherhood.

And back of all great men is seen,
the image of an unknown queen.

Remember in prayer the many who are sick in our community.
Smile at someone who is hard to love.
Say hello to someone who doesn't care much about you.
Prevent truth decay, brush up on your Bible.
Life has many choices, eternity has two. What's yours?
Don't wait for the hearse to take you to church.

To Those Who Bring Small Children to Church

You are sitting in worship or Bible study and your child is restless. You try to silence him, you try to pacify him with food or toys. Eventually, as a last resort, you pick him up and walk out of the room before a watching audience. You're a little embarrassed, maybe frustrated. You might think because you are distracted, that there's no point in coming to church.

But please know how encouraging you are to so many! An elderly woman who may often feel alone beams at the sight of you wrestling with your little one because she's been there. She knows how hard it can be, but she smiles because that brings back precious memories, to see young parents and their children brightens her day. She may have received bad news about her health, but seeing the vitality of young ones removes, if for a moment, her fears.

The older man who seems to be grouchy notices you too. He may talk about how children today have no respect or sense of good. But he sees you, a young family in church. Like clockwork, he can depend on you and your family. You give him hope that the church isn't doomed, there are still young parents who love God enough to bring their children to worship.

Some people might be frustrated by children in church, if they think that reverence means silence. It doesn't! When parents brought their children to Jesus, they might have squirmed or cried, or the disciples might have thought that the children were too young to understand the blessing Jesus pronounced over them, and they rebuked them (Matthew 19:13-15). But **Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven"**.

Bring your children to church - if you don't hear crying, the church is dying. As hard as it might be for you as a parent, keep on doing what you're doing. You are an encouragement, and you're raising your children as you should. You are doing something important, and it's not easy.

You may wonder, is this worth it? It is. When you are here, the church is filled with a joyful noise. When you are here, the Body of Christ is more fully present. When you are here, we are reminded that worship is about coming together as a community. Your children are learning to worship now, before it's too late. They are learning that worship is important.

What you're doing is hard, but *it matters*. It matters to the congregation to know that families care about faith, to see young people, and it matters to your children. It matters that they learn that worship is what we do as a community of faith, that everyone is welcome, that *their* worship matters. They don't need to wait until they believe, pray or worship a certain way to be welcome here. It matters that children learn that they are an integral part of this church, that their prayers, their songs, and even their cries are a joyful noise, because it means they are present. Thank you for what you do when you bring your children to church.

Please know that your family, with its noise, struggle, commotion, and joy, is a vital part of the community gathered in worship.



Here are some interesting facts about England in the 1500s:

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May. But brides carried a bouquet of flowers in case of body odor, hence the custom today of carrying a bouquet when getting married. The man of the house bathed first, then the sons, the women, and the children, last of all the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it. Hence the saying, "Don't throw the baby out with the bath water."

Houses had thatched roofs. Thatch was warm, so dogs, cats and other small animals lived in the roof. When it rained sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof, hence the saying "It's raining cats and dogs." There was no ceiling, so a bed with posts and a sheet over the top afforded some protection, and that's how canopy beds came into existence.

Only the wealthy had something other than dirt floors, hence the saying "dirt poor." The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery when wet, so they spread straw (thresh) on the floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they added more until when you opened the door it started falling outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entranceway, hence the "thresh hold."

They cooked in a big kettle hung over the fire. They did not get much meat and always ate it first, sometimes leaving vegetables in the pot for the next day. Hence the rhyme, "Peas porridge hot, peas porridge cold, peas porridge in the pot nine days old."

If they could get pork it was quite special, so they would hang up their bacon to show off when visitors came. It was a sign of wealth that a man "could bring home the bacon." They would cut off a little to share with guests and would "chew the fat."

Bread was divided according to status. Workers got the often burned bottom of the loaf, the family got the middle, and guests got the top, or "upper crust."

Those with money had plates made of pewter, which contained lead. Foods with high acid content sometimes caused the lead to leach onto the food, causing poisoning and death. It happened most often with tomatoes, so they were considered poisonous.

Lead cups were sometimes used, and the combination of lead and alcohol could knock folks out for a couple of days. They were taken for dead and prepared for burial, laid out on the kitchen table. The family gathered around to eat and drink, waiting to see if they would wake up, hence the custom of holding a wake.

England is old and small and they ran out of places for burial. They dug up coffins, took the bones to a "bone-house" and reused the grave. Many coffins were found to have scratch marks on the inside and they realized they had been burying people alive. So they tied a string on the wrist of the corpse, led it through the coffin and the ground and tied it to a bell. Someone would sit in the graveyard all night (the "graveyard shift") to listen for the bell; thus, someone could be "saved by the bell" or was considered a "dead ringer."

And that's the truth. Who ever said that history was boring!

Now that I'm older, here's what I've discovered:

I started out with nothing and I still have it.
I got my head together but now my body is falling apart.
If all is not lost, where is it?
I wish the buck stopped here, I could use it.
It's not hard to meet expenses, they're everywhere.
These days I spend a lot of time thinking about the hereafter. I go somewhere to get something and then I wonder what I'm here after.
It's hard to make a comeback when you haven't been anywhere.
When I'm holding all the cards why does everyone decide to play chess?
It's easier to get older than it is to get wiser.

A Riddle: If April showers bring May flowers, what does April snow bring?



Time, Talents, Treasures

“For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.” **1 John 5:3**

God's commandments are not burdensome, but that's true for Christians because we know that we are not saved by keeping the Law. We are saved by grace, so we are set free to walk in newness of life, to grow in faithfulness, and rejoice in the Law of the Lord. For the love of God is that we keep His commandments.

“Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Acts 1:11

Christ has died and is risen, Christ is ascended, and will come again. We live our lives in the sure confidence of the world to

come, as people who know our Lord Jesus, and who know that He is coming back. This affects how we approach stewardship and how we care for the things of this world.

“Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.” **1 John 5:12**

Jesus is the foundation and bedrock, the beginning and the end. To have Him is to have it all. In Him we have life, and we are called to live in Him, to live this new life He has given us, to grow up into His image. This is a struggle in our sinful world, but His grace is sufficient as He refreshes us through Word and Sacrament.

“When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place.” **Acts 2:1**

Pentecost was the Old Testament harvest festival, a time of thanksgiving, bounty, and

the giving of gifts. How appropriate that in the New Testament it takes on the meaning of a new harvest: the ripe fields of the nations, bringing every tribe and tongue to sing the Lord's praise. Every farmer knows that it is God who gives the increase and that the harvest calls for thanksgiving.

“That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.”

John 3:6

In Holy Baptism we receive a new birth, spirit from Spirit. With that rebirth we receive new desires, new lives, new purposes. To the fleshly world, Christian generosity makes no sense, the total minus a percentage is less than the original total. But Spirit-reborn Christians know that God's math works differently - a blessing received from God becomes more when it is used in generosity to bless others.

St. Paul teaches, “Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches”. *Galatians 6:6* And again, he says, “Do you not know that those who are employed in the temple service get their food from the temple, and those who serve at the altar share in the sacrificial offerings? In the same way, the Lord commanded that those who proclaim the gospel should get their living by the gospel”. *1 Corinthians 9:13–14*

Ministers of the gospel are supported by the offerings of those who are served by them, and this is standard practice. But this instructs us not *just* that we are to give but also *what* we are to give. And it does so with four words: “In the same way ...” St. Paul is building his case for supporting the preachers of the Gospel on the example of the people of the Old Testament who supported the Levites with their offerings and sacrifices. We're to support the Gospel ministry

in the same way. But how did the Old Testament people support the Levites?

Moses records this: “You shall tithe all the yield of your seed that comes from the field year by year. And before the Lord your God, in the place that he will choose, to make his name dwell there, you shall eat the tithe of your grain, of your wine, and of your oil, and the firstborn of your herd and flock, that you may learn to fear the Lord your God always”. *Deuteronomy 14:22–23*

The Levites were supported by the tithe, ten percent of that which was harvested. Does that seem like a lot? Does it surprise you that St. Paul instructs us that we are to support the New Testament Gospel ministry in the same way?

If it does, ask yourself, is the Church's job in the New Testament bigger or smaller than the Levites' job in the Old Testament? Then there was one Temple, and the ministry was almost exclusively located in one nation among the descendants of Abraham.

Jesus calls us to teach and baptize all nations in Matthew 28, and there are churches and ministries all around the world. How could we support this new Gospel ministry with less than the Israelites supported the Old Testament ministry?

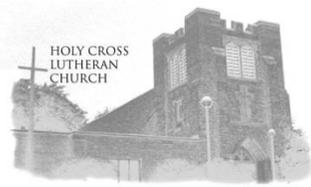
Of course, we are free to give more, for we have received more than those in the Old Testament. We have received the fullness of God's revelation, the fullness of His salvation, the fulfillment of everything that God promised to do. We have received Christ in the flesh, who took upon himself our sins and gave us his righteousness. The Father claimed us as his own in Holy Baptism.

He gathers us together in the place where his name dwells to feast on the fruits of the resurrection, the risen and living body and

blood of his Son. He reminds us that we are His, that all things are ours because we belong to Him. He blesses us with physical and spiritual gifts.

In the same way, and in response to his fatherly divine goodness and mercy, we gladly give to those who proclaim to us “the excellencies of him who called us out of darkness and into his marvelous light.”

For now we are God’s people; once we had not received mercy, but now we have indeed. *1 Peter 2:9–10*



We put our arms around the family of Jon Kofoot, whose mother Rosie Kofoot died on April 17.

We also grieve with the family of Sharlene Mitchell, who died April 27. Her funeral service will be here May 5, with visitation at 10 am and the service at 11 am followed by a light luncheon.

Mite offering was \$254.47, thank you.

Join us for the LWML Prayer Service Wednesday May 23, 12 noon at Faith Lutheran Church, 51st Street and 35th Avenue. Luncheon will follow the service.
Doris duBois

We appreciate the special music that enhanced our Lent and Easter services and thank those who shared their talents with us, and we thank all who supported our Lenten Soup Suppers by cooking, baking, working and with their offerings.

Thank you all so much for planning and organizing, setting up the tables, bringing

food and beverages, cooking, serving and cleaning up our delicious Easter Breakfast! The generosity of our volunteers is the heart and soul of Holy Cross.

If you ordered plants from Gertens, they will be available May 20. Thank you,”
Darcy Tatham

Our We Care fund is dedicated to help Holy Cross families who are in need. A donation box for the We Care fund is now located in the narthex. If God is calling you to support this mission please donate. If your family needs financial assistance, please contact Pastor - all inquiries will remain confidential.

Make it easy on yourself. Check with your bank to set up automatic payment for your Holy Cross offering; many members use this time-saving method.

Sparkle and Shine Salad Luncheon and Quilt Auction at Redemption Lutheran Church in Bloomington will be Saturday May 12th. This is a fundraiser for Trinity First Lutheran School in Minneapolis, join us for a great fellowship event that supports Christian education! Advance ticket sales in April, if you will donate a quilt, silent auction item or a salad please call Michelle Borchardt at 952 884-9719 before April 30th.

“Your donations of 478 lbs of food last month are greatly appreciated, you guys rock! Thank you for your faithfulness to our neighbors.” *Chris Nelson, CES*

**The Sorensons bring our food donations when they bring the baked goods from Cub to CES, thank you Errol and Judy!*

“My office hours are now M-F, 1:00 pm until 4:00 continuing until late November. Thanks for your flexibility,” *Shelley*

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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SOCK HOP *Come join the fun!*
Cruise In
Classic Rock & Roll from the 50's and early 60's
Drive your a classic car, weather permitting.

Where: *Holy Cross Lutheran church basement.*

When: *May 5th, 2018
5 pm to 8 pm*

Music starts at 6

Sponsored by The Minnesota MGT Register





HOLY CROSS SPRING CLEANUP

Saturday May 12, 2018



1. Pick up trash, sticks, leaves and stones from around the church and the parking lot.
2. Replace light bulbs inside and out of church as needed.
3. Trim bushes as needed around church and steps; clean up, and pull weeds, by fence of the main parking lot.
4. Clean all gutters, especially over windows in pastor's office.
5. Go through toys in nursery and throw out old, broken or extra ones.
6. Remove old gutters on parsonage side steps and paint there and the fascia boards and other trim around the parsonage. Pastor has the paint.
7. Remove and replace railing on parsonage garage.
8. Replace front porch light at parsonage. Two of four dusk- to- dawn sockets are broken.
9. Repair and paint window sill under stairs to loft in sanctuary, and the wall above stove in kitchen.
10. Re-attach threshold between tile and rug in office entrance.
11. Clean up the sandy soil from sidewalk on 18th Avenue.
12. We need to plan for the retaining wall outside of Pastor's office. Do you remember who worked on the wall behind the church, and how it was constructed?
13. Repaint lower window sills around church.
14. Fix lights to shine on exterior cross.
15. Paint railing on office steps.
16. Clean up furnace/work room.
17. Clean and tidy the attic, discarding unneeded items such as old robes.
18. Paint light pole in parking lot.
19. Paint delineating edge strips on the main steps to church.
20. Clean the kitchen carts.
21. Solder parsonage gate back together.

If there are tasks you plan to do, please note them on the Master List in the church narthex



WEDDINGS

Peter and Gail Klatt	5/7
Steve and Linda McConley	5/18
Keith and Mary Lange	5/19
Keith and Patricia Meyer	5/30

BIRTHDAYS

Tim Phelon	5/2
Peter Klatt	5/6
Esther Witt	5/12
Thomas Kulberg	5/13
Marilyn Risser	5/14
Ken Hoffmann	5/15
Steve McConley	5/16
Roger Holland	5/17
Gloria Groenke	5/19
Harold Sand	5/20
Clara Guenther	5/24
Jan Holland	5/29
James Likely	5/29
Leo Sorenson	5/31

USHERS

6	Phelon and Lange
13	Oolman and Tatham
20	M and J Blomberg
27	L and A Horrmann

COUNTERS

6	M and K Lange
13	L Oolman and G Klatt
20	M Blomberg and R Woodraska
27	A Horrmann and G Klatt

DEACONS

Klaus Guenther and Lyle Horrmann
(*Ralph Asher Lead 5/27*)

ALTAR GUILD

Mary Lange





Erick and I spoke last month about our interracial marriage, we were so grateful for the opportunity. It was a secular environment but enabled us to talk about race, culture, and ethnicity, and how we view those things in light of the Gospel. Racism in all of its forms is a Gospel issue and an issue that as Christians we don't have the luxury not to be involved with. We shared our personal stories, how racism has impacted our relationships with our family and ourselves, and how Jesus breathes deep hope and restoration into our lives. We're grateful for the new students we met, faculty we interacted with, and new relationships we were able to start.

For the past three years, the staff and student leaders of our ethnic-focused movements – Epic, Destino, and Impact – organized and led an event called "Culture Night". This year we had the opportunity to hear from student speakers about their quest for togetherness, well as from a student panel. One element that had a huge impact was singing a worship song in English, Hmong, Spanish and Chinese. Representing the diverse makeup of our movements and celebrating them together in worship was moving and encouraging.

The month of April has always been an impactful time for the men's community at UWSP. Instead of Bible studies in each hall, all the men come together for fun, teaching and discussion. They are going through a series called "Stepping Up: A Call to Courageous Manhood" by Dennis

Rainey. Pray for the staff and student leaders as they lead others!

Please pray for our team of 18 students spending a week in Houston helping with the relief efforts after the Hurricane. Hundreds of college students have spent spring break in Texas, pray for the community of our team to be strengthened and to have great opportunities to help Houston.

Please also pray for our team as we meet with the freshman and sophomore classes to challenge new leaders for the movement. We're raising up new Bible study leaders, team leaders, and movement leaders. Pray for discernment as we help place these students in positions, and that we are able to speak encouragement into their lives.

Erick and Courtney Horrmann

MAY 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 7 pm Deacons Meeting 7 pm Russian Soul	2 10:30 am Bible Study 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal	3 7:00 pm AA Meeting	4 7:00 pm AA Meeting	5 8:00 am AA Meeting 11 am Mitchell Funeral 3-5 GA Intergroup 5 pm Worship 6-8 pm MG Club Sock Hop, All Invited
6 9:30am Worship Service 10:45 Sunday School and Intergenerational Bible Study 7:00 pm GA	7 6:30 pm Craft Group	8 7 pm Russian Soul	9 10:30 am Bible Study 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal	10 2-4 pm Hands in Ministry 7 pm Board of Directors Mtg 7:00 pm AA Meeting	11 7:00 pm AA Meeting	12 8:00 am AA Meeting 5 pm Worship Service w/Communion
13 9:30 am Service and Confirmation w/Communion 10:45 Sunday School and Intergenerational Bible Study 7:00 pm GA	14 10:30 Prayer Group 6:30 ICAN	15 7 pm Russian Soul	16 10:30 am Bible Study 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal	17 7:00 pm AA Meeting	18 7:00 pm AA Meeting	19 8:00 am AA Meeting 11 am – 3:30 pm Jon Miller Memorial Svc and Luncheon Holy Cross Game Night 4-8 pm <i>Last 5 pm Worship Service</i>
20 9:30 am Service 10:45 Sunday School and Intergenerational Bible Study 7:00 pm GA	21	22 7 pm Russian Soul	23 10:30 am Bible Study 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal	24 7:00 pm AA Meeting	25 7:00 pm AA Meeting	26 8:00 am AA Meeting <i>No 5 pm Worship Service</i>
27 9:30 am Worship Service w/Communion 7:00 pm GA	28 Office Closed Memorial Day	29 7 pm Russian Soul	30 <i>No 10:30 am Bible Study</i> 7:00 Worship Service	31		