



Cross Beams

NEWSLETTER OF THE HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH, E.L.C.A. March 2011

*The purpose of
Holy Cross
Evangelical Lutheran
Church
is to know, and
joyfully share, the love
of God
in Christ.*

The Pastor's Pulse

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 9th. Yes, that is much later than usual, and puts Easter way at the close of April.

Our special observance of the Lenten season will include a full service of Holy Communion at 7:00 p.m. on Ash Wednesday. Each succeeding Wednesday we'll come together for supper at 6:00 p.m. with a devotional service at 7:00 p.m. The devotional service will be the very simple- but beautiful Hold Evening Prayer., with a short meditation/information piece.

The meditation/information segment will focus on The Communion Liturgy. Several have asked for a better understanding and appreciation of that liturgy, and I believe these short mid-week meditations will provide that. Worship will have a much deeper and rich meaning for us after this series.

My personal view of Lent is not so much in the "self-sacrifice-giving up" category, as it is in the "Opportunity - adding on", and drawing nearer to our Lord and God.

To that end, there will be a table in the narthex with Lenten devotional booklets and books for reading. Please help yourself while they last. If either the booklet or the book appeals to you, please keep it.

The Lenten journey begins. Through participation in the journey, our hearts and minds will be set for a joy-filled celebration of our Lord's resurrection.

LECTIONARY AIDS FOR MARCH

March 6, 2011-Matthew 17:1-9

Shortly before He enters Jerusalem, where He will be crucified, Jesus is revealed to His disciples in a mountaintop experience of divine glory called the transfiguration.

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Rev. George Haynes
Pastor

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Celebrate with Children

By Susan Schneider

Ephesians 6:18 says “And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.

In our Sunday school class, we are focusing on the importance of prayers in our daily lives. The children will be concentrating on memorizing a morning prayer, an evening prayer, two table prayers, and The Lord’s Prayer.

As adults, we realize that prayers are an important part of our relationships with God.

Prayer is not only a powerful way to express our



needs. It is a great way to express our thankful hearts for all of our blessings.

Ephesians 5:20 says, “And give thanks for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

There are many prayer books written especially for children. Little Golden Books offers a classic book called, “Prayers for Children.” It has many easy to read prayers for children to enjoy along with beautiful pictures. Sophie Piper is the author of the children’s book “Goodnight Prayers” which gently sends kids off to dreamland with the knowledge of God’s care.

Children are often taught only how to pray silently, but there are other ways children can be taught to express themselves through prayer to the Lord. For example, we can teach them group prayer or expressive prayer. Expressive prayer uses creativity through the arts. For example, painting, writing, singing, or dancing. This use of prayer can create a new delightful way to show appreciation to the Lord for all the blessings in our lives.

To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing,” Martin Luther King, Jr.

Pray, pray, pray...every single day!

LECTIONARY AIDS FOR MARCH continued

March 13, 2011-Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus experiences anew the temptations that Israel faced in the wilderness. As the Son of God, He endures the testing of the evil one.

March 20, 2011-John 3:1-17

A curious Pharisee visits Jesus by night to learn from the teacher his friends reject. Jesus speaks to him about life in the Spirit and the kingdom of God.

March 27, 2011-John 4:5-42

Jesus defies convention to engage a Samaritan woman in conversation. Her testimony, in turn, leads many others to faith.

Psalters for March

6-Jane Remmert

13-Lil Oseland

20-Toni Post

27-Choir

Treasurer's Report Highlights

- Operating Fund spending for January and YTD was \$15,116 against our budget of \$15,300.
- Operating Fund giving for January and YTD was \$16,038.
- Operating Fund giving for January 2010 was \$18,182.
- We had a total month-end balance of \$47,592 for all Funds.

A Minute with Marilyn –

Well, February was a busy month! We planned our very first Women of the ELCA Thankoffering service for February 27, when the church celebrated Bold Women’s Day. On that day, we honored four Bold Women of the Bible – Ruth, Martha and Mary, and Dorcas – and gave thanks for the gospel witness of all bold women, yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

The Brown Bag Lectionary Lunch Bunch began meeting, to study the gospel readings for those Sundays when I will be preaching. If you are interested in joining our group, just bring a lunch and your Bible. No advance preparation is needed. We meet at noon in the fellowship area on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month, for about an hour.

Catechism classes are progressing nicely. We’ve begun studying the two sacraments – baptism and the Lord’s Supper. The sacramental meaning of the bread, the wine, and the bath is of vital importance in our communal, liturgical worship. The water of baptism is not just plain water. Baptismal water is *aqua vitae* (Latin for water of life), for when words are added: in the name of the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit, “all of heaven is present” (Luther, “Sermon on the Baptism of Jesus,” in *Word and World*, 3). The water does not do it, but the Word of God with, in, and among the water. God’s Word was added to the water when Christ was baptized for us in the Jordan, as Luther said in the 1526 baptismal rite (God “through the baptism of thy dear Child, our Lord Jesus Christ, hast consecrated and set apart that Jordan and all water as a salutary

flood and a rich and full washing away of sins” (*LW* 53:107).

Just as baptism is not mere water, the bread and wine at the Lord’s Table are not mere bread and wine. “Rather, it is bread and wine set within God’s Word and bound to it” (*Large Catechism* 5.9, in *Book of Concord*, 467). It is the Word that sets it apart from ordinary bread and wine, and makes it Christ’s body and blood.

The concrete things of the liturgy at the Lord’s Table and at the font reveal, communicate, and express God present within the objects and therefore present with us. Christians are born anew through baptism, and in the Lord’s Supper, we receive the body and blood of Jesus Christ and are refreshed, strengthened, and comforted (*Large Catechism* 5.23, in *Book of Concord*, 469). Forgiveness of sin, life and salvation are given to us in the sacrament through the words of Christ “given for you” and “shed for you” (*Small Catechism* 4.5-6, in *Book of Concord*, 362). As Luther said, this is received “in no other way than by [the] faith of a discerning heart that desires this treasure” (*Large Catechism* 5.36 in *Book of Concord*, 470).

Peace,
Intern Marilyn

Church Directory

Need to change your address, phone number or need a new photo? Please see Lil Oseland to update your Holy Cross Lutheran Church Directory Information. Thank you



MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICES TO BE HELD

Ash Wednesday is March 9th this year, and we will have a mid-week service to begin our Lenten journey that evening at 7:00. Ashes will be offered to those who wish them, and communion will be celebrated.

Each Wednesday evening after that, beginning on March 16th, we will observe Lent with Choir Rehearsal at 5:30PM, a supper for the congregation at 6:00PM, and a Mid-Week Lenten Service at 7:00PM. The service itself will be the "Holden Evening Prayer," and the short meditations will be centered on the parts of the liturgy from the *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* hymnal and what they mean to us. Please join us as we travel through these 40 days prior to Christ's resurrection.

Good Samaritans

Remember to bring your nonperishable items to help our families in need.



MUSIC "NOTES"

Beginning on March 9th, choir rehearsals will be held on Wednesday evening at 5:30PM. Lenten meals are planned for 6:00PM, so that will give us time to rehearse and then adjourn to the Parish Hall for a prepared meal before each Lenten mid-week service. So, no need to cook on Wednesday nights!

Our friend, Mary Allen, will be playing for us on March 13 and 20 while Mihee takes some time off to be with her family. Please make Mary welcome!

Our preludes this spring will often be used for the hearing (and hopefully, learning) of beautiful new hymns which are prolific in our *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* service book. When that occurs, the choir will sing the first verses to get the congregation familiar with the melody, and then the congregation will be invited to sing along on the last verse in order to try it out!

You may have noticed that the time for the choir anthem has moved up a bit in the service these days. That has been a change that we have made in order to facilitate the participation of some of our choir members who are graciously serving in the first service of the day as well. With the earlier singing of the anthem, those who have been at church since 8:00 AM can sing for the second service and quietly slip out after that.

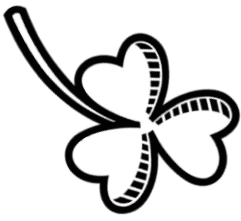
During the season of Lent, we will be singing Hymn #336 in place of the Kyrie. It is entitled "Lamb of God."

Daylight Savings Time begins on March 13th! Remember to "Spring Forward" so that you are at church on time!

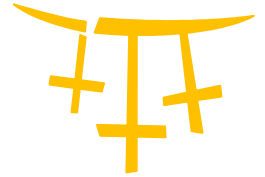


MARCH 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 9:00 am Bible Study	3 8:00 am Men's Breakfast	4	5
6 8:00 Worship with Communion 9:15 Sunday School 9:15 Bible Study – 10:30 Worship with Communion	7 4:00 pm Choir Practice 6:30 pm Intern Committee Mtg	8	9 9:00 am Bible Study 5:30 am Choir practice 6:00 pm Lenten supper 7:00 Ash Wednesday worship / communion	10 8:00 am Men's Breakfast	11	12
13 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 9:15 Bible Study – 10:30 Worship	14 7:00 pm Council Mtg	15 11:00 am Health & Healing Service	16 9:00 am Bible Study 5:30 am Choir practice 6:00 pm Lenten supper 7:00 pm Service	17 8:00 am Men's Breakfast 9:00 am Women's Bible Study	18	19
20 8:00 Worship with Communion 9:15 Sunday School 9:15 Bible Study 10:30 Worship with Communion	21 6:30 Altar Guild	22	23 9:00 am Bible Study 5:30 am Choir practice 6:00 pm Lenten supper 7:00 pm Service	24 8:00 am Men's Breakfast	25	26
27 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 9:15 Bible Study 10:30 Worship	28	29	30 9:00 am Bible Study 5:30 am Choir practice 6:00 pm Lenten supper 7:00 pm Service			



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MARCH MINISTRIES

Council Person of the Month: MARSHA INGRAM

	Usher	Lector	Psalter	Cookies	
6	8:00 Michele Scherzer 10:30 Bob & Michele Scherzer	8:00 Michele Scherzer 10:30 OPEN	10:30 Jane Remmert	8:00 OPEN 10:30 Lyndal & Jane Remmett	
13	8:00 Sterling Frank 10:30 OPEN	8:00 OPEN 10:30 Jo Ann Hees	10:30 Lil Oseland	8:00 Sterling Frank 10:30 JoAnn Hees	
20	8:00 Linda Erwin 10:30 OPEN	8:00 Linda Erwin 10:30 Stan Post	10:30 Toni Post	8:00 OPEN 10:30 OPEN	
27	8:00 Michele Scherzer 10:30 OPEN	8:00 OPEN 10:30 OPEN	10:30 CHOIR	8:00 OPEN 10:30 OPEN	