



# Cross Beams

NEWSLETTER OF THE HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH, E.L.C.A. May 2010

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

## ***The Pastor's Pulse***

My Dear People,

No matter how you look at it, the decision we will make on May 9th. can have a definite effect on the future of Holy Cross - and on the life of the student from Wartburg Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa.

No one of would ever have imagined that we, Holy Cross, would be asked by the seminary to serve as a "teaching congregation" for one of their students; that we would be asked to provide "an authentic ministry experience" - actually teach this person how to become a pastor.

The intern, if we accept the seminary invitation, would be with us from for the entire 2010-2011 academic year. During that time, we would be preparing her for pastoral ministry in the ELCA.

It would certainly be a 'different' kind of experience for our congregation. It would be a tremendous responsibility, of course; one not to be taken lightly. A Supervisory Committee, composed of eight members of the congregation, would have direct oversight, streamlining what the intern would do, how the intern would function, and how the intern would be integrated into the life and activity of the congregation.

Before we make this important decision on May 9th. you are encouraged to ask questions, offer suggestions, and - most of all- pray!, diligently and earnestly. So much is at stake here, both for the potential intern and for our congregation.

Rev. George Haynes  
*Pastor*

## **LECTIONARY AIDS FOR MAY**

### May 2, 2010-John 13:31-35

After washing the disciples' feet, predicting His betrayal, and then revealing His betrayer, Jesus speaks of His glorification on the cross. This deep complicated love of Jesus, even to death on the cross, will be the distinctive mark of Jesus' community.

### May 9, 2010-John 14:23-29

As Jesus talks of returning to the Father, He promises to send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, who will teach Jesus' followers and remind them of all that Jesus taught. Even more, those in whom God makes a home will experience a peace that overcomes fear.

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## Lectionary Helps Continued

### May 16, 2010-John 17:20-26

Jesus prays that the life of His followers will be characterized by an intimate unity of identity with God. To be so identified with God means also to share in God's mission: to proclaim the word that will bring others into this same unity.

### May 23, 2010-Day of Pentecost-John 14:8-17(25-27)

Though the disciples struggle with Jesus' nature and identity, they receive the promise that they too will be identified with God and God's mission. Though He must leave them now, Jesus promises the coming of the Advocate whom God will send to comfort and enlighten them.

### May 30, 2010-Holy Trinity-John 16:12-15

Jesus' ongoing presence with the disciples will be borne by the coming Spirit, who will guide them and communicate to them Jesus' will and glory.

## Treasurer's Report Highlights

- Operating Fund spending for March was \$14,987 against our budget of \$15,113.
- Operating Funding spending YTD was \$47,971 against our budget of \$45,339.
- Operating Fund giving for March was \$16,947 and \$52,176 YTD. Operating Fund giving for March 2009 YTD was \$52,758.
- We had a total month-end balance of \$56,680 for all funds.

## Good Samaritans

Please remember others in our Community who need our help through your support of Good Samaritans. You can help by donating canned goods and nonperishable foods or giving a monetary donation. More information is available in the Narthex.

God bless you for your generosity.

## Celebrate with Children

By Susan Schneider

God's creation is blooming all around us! Texas wildflowers are everywhere - even some beloved bluebonnets! Most children enjoy the beauty and fragrance of flowers. My child even delights in stopping to smell the flowers at HEB's floral center upon each and every trip!

It is wonderful for children to be so easily intrigued by the whole process of gardening. From planting a little seed to watching for the bloom can be an incredible journey for children. Teaching a child to tend the garden is as important as stopping to smell the blooms. They love playing with tools to create the garden and afterwards to tend the garden.

Imagine your spiritual life as a garden. What is growing there? What needs tending? God was a gardener (Genesis 2: 8-15). He created a splendid garden. He has planted His love deep within us. What is blooming in your garden?

Images of flowers blooming can offer us reminders that God's love is in bloom every day! A bluebonnet cam is available for viewing on the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center's website ([www.wildflower.org](http://www.wildflower.org)). To inspire His love to bloom in children, there are many gardening activities available for them on the web. Some other activities include browsing through flower/seed catalogs, taking a ride or walk to view the flowers, or even creating a rainbow garden such as the one in the book entitled "Planting A Rainbow" by Lois Ehlert.

In tending, here is a lovely prayer. "May the sunrise remind me to shine in your light. May the caress of a gentle breeze remind me of your compassion. May the fragrance of a flower remind me to blossom in your love. May the singing of birds bring a song of joy to my lips. In the closing of each day may I remember to quietly pray. Wherever I am, whatever I do, may my thoughts lovingly return to you."

# ***ALL IN THE FAMILY***

By Stan Post

Last month the Marr family ( Bill, Jodi, Cory, Cody, Quintin and Mia) was the featured church family.

So, have you learned a few new and interesting things about some of your fellow church family members? I hope so. We have a wonderful group of special folks with interesting backgrounds, interests and talents.

Do you know the person in our church family who is an author? Do you know the one who flew a fighter jet in the Air Force? How about the one who acted at the Alley Theatre in Houston? What about the one whose husband was a boxing champion in the military? The one who plays the guitar and the Button Box? The one who played football for Texas A&M under legendary coach Bear Bryant? The list could go on and on. There are as many interesting stories as there are people in the church family.

Take some time over the weeks and months ahead and engage different folks in the church family in conversation. Talk to some you haven't really met yet or at least don't know well. Share with them some of your life story and faith journey and get to know more about theirs.

Now ... go have a wonderful Summer and add to the interesting and meaningful things you've done in your life.

## **COUNCIL PERSON OF THE MONTH FOR APRIL**

Lloyd Jahnke

## **FLOWERS for APRIL**

APRIL 4 Earl & Pauline Genskow  
APRIL 11 Marsha Ingram  
APRIL 18 OPEN  
APRIL 25 OPEN

## **USHERS for APRIL**

APRIL 4 Hal & Bonnie Lutz  
APRIL 11 Linda Erwin & Monica Morris  
APRIL 18 Bob & Michele Scherzer  
APRIL 25 Tom & Lil Oseland

## **LECTORS for APRIL**

APRIL 4 Linda Erwin  
APRIL 11 Greg Hatch  
APRIL 18 Sterling Frank  
APRIL 25 OPEN

## **Psalters for May**

2-Lil Oseland

9-Rob Persons

16-Open

23-Toni Post

30-Keith Edman

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