

# CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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## DECEMBER, 2009

Dear Beloved Members and Friends,

We celebrate the seasons of Advent and Christmas during December. During Advent we prepare to celebrate our Lord's first coming as a Baby and prepare for His second coming in glory. We will celebrate our Lord Jesus' birth in Bethlehem during the Christmas season.

One of the tasks of parents who are expecting a baby is to name their newborn child. The parents talk with each other about boys and girls names that they like. They may consult name books and explore names in their respective families. When the parents discover if they are having a boy or a girl, then they can focus their consideration on the boys or girls names. Some parents decide early in the pregnancy the names of their children. Others wait until their children are born to make the final decision and name their newborn child. Some of you went through the process of naming your newborn child this past year.

Mary and Joseph went through the process of naming their firstborn Son. They had help from God and an angel of the Lord. The betrothed virgin Mary was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. An angel of the Lord told Joseph to take Mary home as his wife because what was conceived in her was from the Holy Spirit. The angel told Joseph that Mary would give birth to a Son and that he was to give Him the name, "Jesus." Mary gave birth to a

Son, and Joseph gave Him the name "Jesus." I am glad to share the good news in this letter that Jesus Christ Immanuel is born.

Do not fear to do God's will in your life. Do not be afraid to do what is right and in agreement with God's Word. Most of us will not have an angel to tell us to not be afraid to do what is right. We have Holy Spirit-inspired apostles and prophets who encourage us to do what is right. We have Spirit-filled family members, friends, and fellow Christians who can encourage us to do righteous deeds and speak righteous words.

Jesus means "Savior." Jesus fulfilled His name by His birth, life, death, and resurrection. Jesus was born to save you from your sins. God sent His Son into the world to save you and the world. Jesus lived a sinless life. Jesus paid the full price for your sins and for your place in heaven by His bloodshed on the cross. Jesus took away your sin when He was crucified. Jesus went through hell for you on the cross and saved you from it. Jesus rose from death and the tomb and saved you from your sins and hell.

Jesus is with you today and every day. Christ is with you to help you and to strengthen you each day. Your Lord is with you to provide for all your physical and spiritual needs. Your Lord is with you in His Word, the Bible. Jesus is with you to heal you when you are sick or injured.

May God bless you and your family during this month of December and always. Rejoice this Advent and Christmas season. Give glory to God in the highest.

Chris, David, and I pray that you have a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

*Pastor Terry Nelson*

**Fall WORSHIP & CHRISTIAN EDUCATION** schedule:

8:00 a.m. Worship  
9:15 a.m. Contemporary Worship  
(1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month)  
9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Class –  
*Galatians*  
9:30 a.m. Youth Bible Study  
(grades 6-12)  
(2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays)  
10:30 a.m. Worship  
10:30 a.m. Sunday School

Holy Communion is celebrated on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month. The 8:00 a.m. worship service and Adult Bible Class are not held when a Contemporary worship service is celebrated.

SUNDAY SCHOOL classes are held at 10:30 a.m. for children three years old (by Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>) through fifth grade. Children are dismissed to their classes from the worship service after the opening hymn.

CONFIRMATION instruction, for young people in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades, is being held on Wednesdays from 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. If you are interested in having your child join the group, give Pastor Nelson a call.

YOUTH in grades 6-12 meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month at 9:30 a.m. for Bible Study. They will only meet on Sunday, December 13, this month.

A YOUTH ACTIVITY NIGHT is planned for 6th-12<sup>th</sup> graders on Wednesday, December 2, from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. (Games, ping-pong, Guitar Praise, pizza, cider & donuts!)

A CONTEMPORARY worship service will be held Sunday, December 6, at 9:15 a.m.

**THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP :**  
**November 25, 2009**  
**7:00 p.m.** – Holy Communion served.

**ADVENT  
MID-WEEK  
WORSHIP**

Wednesdays at 7 p.m.  
December 2  
December 9  
December 16

**THANKSGIVING  
DINNER**

We thank Sue & Jim Zimmerman and Ettie Ann Hirth for all of their time and preparation for the Annual THANKSGIVING DINNER. Thank you also to Steve Klamik, Bill Hirth, and Ray Brown for setting up the tables. The Thanksgiving Dinner is always a wonderful day of fellowship and giving thanks as a church family!

**CONGREGATION  
MEETING**

A Congregation meeting will be held on Sunday, December 13, at 11:45 a.m. to consider approval of the 2010 Budget.

## CHURCH DECORATING

*We need your help!*

Plan on joining us for CHURCH DECORATING for the Christmas season on Saturday, November 28, at 9 a.m. We need a few brave men willing to help assemble the very large Christmas tree. *Many hands make light work!*

## POINSETTIAS

*Help make our church beautiful for Christmas!*

Sign up on the Information Center Board to purchase POINSETTIA plants for the church sanctuary for the Christmas season. Plants will be available for \$14 each and may be taken home after the second Christmas Eve service. (Sixteen plants have been ordered.) Cash or checks made payable to "Cross of Christ" and designated "Poinsettias" may be placed in the offering plate.

***Many are still available!***

## ALTAR FLOWERS

*Look for the 2010 FLOWER CHART to be posted in December!* Flowers may be purchased for \$16 per vase, in celebration of special events or in memory of loved ones, and taken home after the worship services.

## OFFERING ENVELOPES

Members, please pick up your 2010 OFFERING ENVELOPES in the Gathering Hall.

## NOV. 2009 CHURCH DIRECTORY

Pick up a current Telephone & Address Directory in your church mail box. Extras are available on the Gathering Hall table.

## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Practices are being held Sunday mornings during Sunday School class time. Contact Amy Lockard, Sunday School Superintendent, at 248-446-9598 or email her at [dratar@comcast.net](mailto:dratar@comcast.net) if you have any questions.

Program Dress Rehearsal & Happy Birthday Jesus Party  
Sunday, Dec. 13, 11:45 a.m.

Christmas Program  
Friday, Dec. 18            7:00 p.m.  
   &  
Sunday, Dec. 20        10:30 a.m.

The children are invited to go Christmas Caroling at the South Lyon nursing home after the Christmas Program on Sunday, December 20.

There will not be Sunday School classes on Sundays, December 27 and January 3.

Sunday School is sponsoring a <i>Clothing Drive for Active Faith</i> through Dec. 6. Clothing, blankets, coats, shoes, etc. are welcome.
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## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Thank you to all who prepared a gift box for Operation Christmas Child. *"Operation Christmas Child is a great way to bring joy and the Good News of Jesus Christ to children in need of hope."* – Franklin Graham, President – Samaritan's Purse.

## COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

*Held after the 10:30 a.m. service*

<b>DECEMBER 13</b>	<b>Elders</b>
JANUARY	Trustees
FEBRUARY	Altar Guild
MARCH	Women's Outreach
APRIL	Stewardship & Evangelism
MAY	Church Council

## CROSS OF CHRIST CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL

December will be a busy month filled with Christmas songs, crafts, activities, and telling of the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

The Preschool families are participating in a TOY DRIVE (new or gently-used – with all of their parts and batteries) through Sunday, December 6, for needy families in our area and in Detroit, organized by *Families Building Faith* of South Lyon.

Cross of Christ Christian Preschool provides a play-based program for three and four year olds in a Christian environment. We have a few openings in the four year old program. Call for more information (248-437-8810).

## PEW END CANDLESTICKS

The pew end candlesticks have arrived. We look forward to using them at special services and wedding ceremonies, including the Christmas Eve candlelight worship services. Thank you to Women's Outreach for their fund raising efforts and to all who donated to the Pew Candle Fund.

## TWO OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE

*A Merry Christmas for a  
South Lyon  
Family  
with 7 children*

Take a gift tag from the board and return it with the gift.  
(Include a gift receipt, if able.)  
Do not wrap.

Monetary donations for a food basket and gifts may be given to Chris or left in the church office.

Return by Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>

We will meet on Monday, **Dec. 14, at 7 p.m.** to wrap and organize gifts for the gift baskets. ALL ARE WELCOME!

## BERRY HOME LADIES

For many years Women's Outreach has sponsored a gift collection to provide gift baskets for the ladies at Berry Foster Home in South Lyon. See the board for suggested items. Please send in **6 small** similar-type items and place in the box provided by Sunday, **December 13<sup>th</sup>**.

## NEEDED: LOVE CATS ?

A temporary home is needed for a couple of months for two cats, a two year old and a six year old. Please call Dawn Smutek at 810-360-8647 if you can help her.

*Christmas  
Caroling  
Sunday, December 13  
4:00 p.m.*

Join us as we sing Christmas carols to a few of our home-bound members.

FOOD & FELLOWSHIP will follow at the home of Bill & Ettie Ann Hirth

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**  
Adults & Children both!

Share the spirit of Christmas with those who are unable to worship with us during this special Christmas season.

Sign up on the Information Center Board so we can get an approximate count.

**WORSHIP & LUNCH**

*At*

*Historic Trinity Lutheran*

*Church - Detroit*

*Wed., December 16<sup>th</sup>*

*Service at 12 Noon*

*Tour before - Lunch after*

Free-will offering

Watch for a Sign-up sheet.

We will car pool.

**Christmas  
COOKIE SALE**

**Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup>**

Your donation of delicious Christmas cookies are needed for our Cookie Sale.

We will package the cookies Saturday morning, Dec. 19. Please send in your cookies on Thursday and Friday (Dec. 17 and 18).

**HELP NEEDED FOR A  
SISTER IN CHRIST**

A sister in Christ is in need of a family who might have a spare bedroom for about two months as she receives oxygen rich chamber treatments in South Lyon.

Laurie lives in Grand Haven, Michigan and has been afflicted with Lymes disease, which is non-contagious, for about 5 ½ years. Laurie's family is very hopeful that these treatments could be her cure.

Money has been raised for her treatments, ranging up to \$50,000, but funds are not available to cover lodging. Laurie is a quiet, non-assuming person, and a darling of a person to be around. She requires no care, will do her own light cooking, and has her own transportation.

Contact Pastor Nelson if you can help.

**ALL THRIVENT MEMBERS INVITED. .**

*Holiday Nights at Greenfield Village*

*Saturday, December 26<sup>th</sup>*

*6:30 – 10:00 p.m.*

Enjoy live entertainment, costumed presenters, ice skating, sleigh rides, and much more. Thrivent will provide the tickets FREE – first come, first serve. Call 248-896-0160. This family event is compliments of our Thrivent Chapter Board.

**CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY,  
ANN ARBOR**

The Concordia Music Department presents a CHRISTMAS CONCERT on Friday, December 11, at 7:30 p.m. Various musical ensembles join forces for a program of holiday music. This concert is free and open to the public.

## ALTAR GUILD HELP

We are looking for a few ladies to help with our Altar Guild. We recently had a couple members step down who had served for a number of years. Those who are on Altar Guild generally serve every four or five months on a team of two. Each team is scheduled for the month. They make sure the flowers and linens are on the altar for Sunday and clean the communion ware on communion Sundays. Speak with Pastor Nelson or Edda Albin 734-455-5166 if you would like more information about serving the Lord and our congregation in this capacity.

## 2010 CALENDARS

Pick up a *free* 2010 CALENDAR in the Gathering Hall. Thank you to *Casterline Funeral Home* of South Lyon for providing our calendars!

## CROSS OF CHRIST CONNECTIONS

### *"Let's Connect!"*

The list on the bulletin board is getting longer . . . . .

Realtors, Photographer, Certified Nurses Aide, Cake decorating, Small Engine repair, Landscaping, Custom shelving, Baker, Baby, Child & Adult sitting, Auto body repair.

If you need any of these services, check out the bulletin board. If you have something to offer, add your name to the list on the Information Board.

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Michael Bugar  
Joshua Petsch
- 3 James Morrison Jr.
- 4 Robert Martin
- 5 Rose Eldridge  
Deirdre Gerke  
Julius Saner
- 7 Jo Ann Nims
- 8 Shannon Duff  
Abigail Hackbardt
- 9 William Pratt
- 10 Austin Lanam  
Kenneth Miller
- 12 Asher Zoeller
- 13 Joann Stolz
- 16 Arlene Krause  
Adam Reichert
- 21 Robert Holman  
Matthew Nelson  
Linda Schroeder
- 23 Robert Hosbach
- 25 Robert Walrath
- 28 Patricia Hicks  
Esther Reinwand
- 31 Ruth Trosin

## DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Bill & Earlene Reinwand
- 5 Steven & Stephanie Petsch
- 27 Thomas & Kelli Hackbardt  
Robert & Karin Wolski
- 31 James & Carole Bedard

Please inform the church office of any missing dates or errors.
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## MEMORIAL

+ + In memory of Ruth Russell, sister of John Boyle, a gift has been given for *Pew Cushions* by John & Jean Boyle.

# DECEMBER 2009

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>+ Indicates Holy Communion</b>		<b>1</b> 6:30-8:30pm Cub Scouts	<b>2</b> 4:00-5:30pm Confirmation 5:30pm Youth Activity Night 7:00pm Advent Worship	<b>3</b> 6:30-8:30pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm Elders	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> <i>No 8:00 a.m. service</i> 9:15am Contemporary Worship 10:30am Traditional Worship 10:30am Sunday School	<b>7</b> 5:30 & 6:30pm Weight Watchers	<b>8</b> 6:30-8:30pm Cub Scouts	<b>9</b> 4:00-5:30pm Confirmation 7:00pm Advent Worship	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> 8:00am Worship + 9:15 am Adult Bible Class 9:30am Youth Bible Study 10:30am Worship + 10:30am Sunday School 11:45am Prog. Rehearsal & Happy Birthday Jesus 11:45am Cong. Mtg. 11:45am Coffee Hour 4:00pm Caroling to Shut Ins	<b>14</b> 5:30 & 6:30pm Weight Watchers 7:00pm Trustees 7:00pm Wrap Presents/ Women's Outreach	<b>15</b> 6:30-8:30pm Cub Scouts	<b>16</b> 4:00-5:30pm Confirmation 11:00am Worship & Lunch/Historic Trinity 7:00pm Advent Worship	<b>17</b> 6:30-8:30pm Girl Scouts	<b>18</b> 7:00pm Children's Christmas Program	<b>19</b> 10:00am Women's Outreach (Prepare for Cookie Sale)
<b>20</b> <i>No 8:00 a.m. service</i> 10:30am Children's Christmas Program 11:45am Children's Christmas Caroling COOKIE SALE	<b>21</b> 5:30 & 6:30pm Weight Watchers	<b>22</b> 6:30-8:30pm Cub Scouts	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <i>Christmas Eve</i> 5:00pm Candlelight Worship + 7:30pm Candlelight Worship +	<b>25</b> <i>Christmas Day</i>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> 8:00am Worship + 10:30am Worship + <i>No Sunday School or Adult &amp; Youth Bible Study</i>	<b>28</b> 5:30 & 6:30pm Weight Watchers	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> <i>New Years Eve</i>		

