

CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

24155 Griswold Road
South Lyon, MI 48178
(248) 437-8810

www.crossofchristlutheran.org

Email: crosslut@bignet.net

FEBRUARY, 2008

Dear Beloved Members and Friends,

During the month of February, we begin the church year season of *Lent*. Lent begins on *Ash Wednesday*, February 6. We will conduct midweek worship services on Wednesday evenings in Lent. Our services and sermons will focus on the theme, "*Lamb of God, Pure and Holy*." Please plan to attend these services as part of your Lenten discipleship journey.

The phrase "*spring cleaning*" sounds old-fashioned to twenty-first century ears. Even in these busy times, we find it necessary to do some major cleaning around our house or work place – for survival's sake, if not for the sake of cleanliness. Cleanliness may be next to godliness, but the busy lives we live leave little time for either one. It begins to show after a while.

You can live with a certain amount of clutter in your house, but messy souls are another matter. Lent comes around each year and encourages us to repent. You could call it a spring cleaning for the soul, even though Lent is in winter this year. For forty days we are led on an annual pilgrimage with Jesus to His cross, through His suffering and redeeming death, to His grace, and then on to His glorious resurrection.

We call Lent a penitential season and rightly so. It is a time of repentance because repentance involves both sorrow for sin and faith in Jesus that brings forgiveness and new life. Lent is also a time of cleansing and renewal – cleansing and renewal in Jesus, the Lamb of God. That's what we will be doing in our services: airing out our souls, clearing out the clutter of our sin-filled hearts, tossing out the trash of our sins, and finding refreshment and renewal in the blood of Jesus Christ, which cleanses us from all sin. We will receive forgiveness of sins from our Lord.

The focus of our meditation in all the services of Lent and Holy Week will be the great Lenten hymn "*Lamb of God, Pure and Holy*." Each time we gather before the cross we will contemplate another perspective of our Savior's redeeming love as it is highlighted in God's Word. As we begin our Lenten journey, the sinless Lamb of God comes clearly into focus in the words of the Apostle Peter who wrote that Jesus is "*a lamb without blemish or defect*." (1 Peter 1:19)

By Jesus' grace, you are His and He is yours. So cleanse your soul in Christ. Lay down your burdens. Put away your sorrow. Set aside your heartache and your pain. All this and more the pure

and holy Lamb of God has taken with Him to the cross. That by His death He might redeem you, make you pure and holy like Himself, and set you free to live under Him in His Kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness. You can be sure of that, even as Christ is now risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. Let us thank and praise our pure and holy Lamb of God during this Lenten season!

May God bless you and your family during this month of February and always!

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Pastor Terry Nelson

WORSHIP	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
<i>(traditional service)</i>	
CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP	9:15 a.m.
<i>(first Sunday of the month)</i>	
SUNDAY SCHOOL:	10:30 a.m.
ADULT BIBLE CLASS:	9:15 a.m.

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

A Contemporary Worship service is held the first Sunday of the month at 9:15 a.m. The next Contemporary service will be held on **Sunday, February 3**. Worship with modern music & piano in an informal setting, led by a Praise Team.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School classes are held Sunday mornings during the 10:30 a.m. worship service for children ages three years old through fifth grade. The children are dismissed to their classes after the opening hymn.

TEAM TRINITY YOUTH (grades 6 – 12) meet on Sunday mornings twice a month for Bible study and fellowship. They also meet for occasional fun fellowship activities.

February classes:

Sunday, February 3 – 10:15 a.m.

Sunday, February 17 – 9:15 a.m.

ADULT BIBLE CLASSES

Adult Bible Study is held Sundays at 9:15 a.m. (except for the first Sunday of the month). They are continuing the study of *The Quest for Spirituality*. Explore the relationship between science, technology, and faith – how this relationship affects our culture – and how you can biblically respond.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Interest has been shown in starting a Children's Choir at Cross of Christ. If your child (1st - 8th grade) is interested in participating in a CHILDREN'S CHOIR, please see or call Janelle Lach at 248-486-5644.

FEBRUARY MEETINGS AT A GLANCE

Mon., Feb. 4	7pm	Preschool Board
Tues., Feb. 5	7pm	Bd. of Evangelism
Mon., Feb. 11	7pm	Bd. of Trustees
Sat., Feb. 16	10am	Women's Outreach
Tues., Feb. 19	7pm	Church Council

OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH

The Out to Lunch Bunch will meet at *Applebee's* in New Hudson on Friday, **February 1**, at 11:30 a.m. All are welcome!

LENTEN MIDWEEK WORSHIP

Midweek Lenten worship services will be held on **Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.**, beginning *Ash Wednesday*, February 6, through March 12. The theme of the services will be *"Lamb of God, Pure and Holy."*

LENTEN DINNERS

Lenten dinners will be held on **Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.**, beginning *Ash Wednesday*, February 6, through March 12.

Ettie Ann Hirth will prepare the delicious meals, with various boards hosting. The boards will be responsible for set up, clean up, and will provide drinks, desserts, and make coffee.

Following are the hosting boards:

February 6	Women's Outreach Salad Buffet
February 13	Trustees
February 20	Church Council
February 27	Elders
March 5	Evangelism
March 12	Preschool Board & Sunday School Teachers

NEW MEMBER WELCOME

A new member welcome will be held on Sunday, February 17, during the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

CHURCH POTLUCK

A potluck dinner will be held on **Sunday, February 17**, following the 10:30 a.m. worship service. **SIGN UP** on the Information Center Board to bring a dish to pass. Join us for this fellowship activity!

2007 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS & 2008 OFFERING ENVELOPES

2007 Financial Statements for your Income Taxes will be mailed the 1st of February. A few member 2008 Offering Envelopes remain on the table in the Gathering Hall.

TEAM TRINITY YOUTH EVENT

"Casting Crowns"
The Altar & the Door Tour

TEAM TRINITY YOUTH (grades 6-12) are attending a Christian concert at Easter Michigan University on Friday, February 15. (Concert time is 7:30 pm.) Matt & Kindsey Nelson need to know by **Sunday, February 3**, who can attend the concert. Cost is \$18-25 per person, depending on seat availability. **SIGN UP TODAY** on the Information Center Board or call Matt or Kindsey Nelson at 248-943-2985.

COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE FEBRUARY – MAY, 2008 *First & Third Sundays*

FEBRUARY	Board of Evangelism
MARCH	Team Trinity
APRIL	Women's Outreach
MAY	Church Council

CROSS OF CHRIST CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL

The snowy month of January was fun for the children as they learned nursery rhymes – an old favorite. The theme wrapped up at the end of the month with a special visit from *Mother Goose*.

Our annual ***Morley Candy*** fund raiser will be available to our congregation on Sundays, February 3, 10, and 17. An order form and brochures will be available on the table in the Gathering Hall. *We appreciate your support of the Preschool.* About 40% of the sales go to the preschool. Other items, in addition to candy, will be available for purchase this year.

REGISTRATION DATES for fall classes have been set:

Church Family Registration:

Sunday, April 6

after the 10:30 a.m. service

Current Preschool Families:

Mon., April 7 – 9:30 a.m.

Past Preschool Families:

Wed., April 9 – 9:30 a.m.

Community Registration:

Sat., April 12, 9:00 a.m.

A \$50 registration fee is due at the time of registration.

If you are new to our congregation and would like more information, please call the church/school office. Classes are held for children who are three and four years old.

The Preschool Board will meet on Monday, February 4, at 7 p.m.

ALTAR FLOWER CHART

The 2008 ALTAR FLOWER CHART is up in the Fellowship Hall hallway (near the kitchen.) Sign up for those important dates in celebration of birthdays, anniversaries, etc. or in memory of loved ones. Vases are available for \$16 each and may be taken home after worship. Two vases are available each Sunday. (You do not need to sign up for both.) Checks are made out to “Cross of Christ” – designated “Altar Flowers.”

LILIES

A sign up sheet is located on the Information Center Board to purchase EASTER LILIES in memory of loved ones and/or to decorate the church sanctuary for Easter. Cost is **\$12.50** each. (Please make checks payable to Cross of Christ – designated “*Lilies*” – and place in the offering plate.) Sixteen plants have been ordered this year. Plants may be taken home after the Easter Sunday worship services.

WEB PAGE

Throughout the month, you can go online to check out our church’s web page:

www.crossofchristlutheran.org

The Calendar and Newsletter are available each month on this web site. Also, if you would prefer this newsletter be emailed to you, rather than mailed, email us:

crosslut@bignet.net

LOOKING AHEAD WOMEN'S OUTREACH

WOMEN'S OUTREACH is planning a few spring events. More information will be available in future newsletters and weekly bulletins.

Two events being considered:

..... *A Children's Etiquette Class*

..... *A Mother's Day Tea*

Join us for the next Women's Outreach meeting as we plan for upcoming events and consider other ideas you may have. Help will be needed. The next meeting is Saturday, **February 16, at 10 a.m.**

ACTIVE FAITH

We are collecting the following for Active Faith during the month of FEBRUARY:

Non-Perishable Food Items:

CEREALS
BOX MAC-N-CHEESE
PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY

ACTIVE FAITH is seeking a Case Manager. Qualifications: Compassion for people and belief in the mission of Active Faith; good time management skills and team work skills; and works well with the community. Send resume to Active Faith Community Service, P.O. Box 188, South Lyon, MI 48178 Attention: Maryann Mihalic.

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

10 Warner & Arlene Krause
14 Mike & Sherry Bugar
Charles & Rose Eldridge
22 Mark & Elizabeth Earl

MEMBERSHIP

BAPTISMS:

Isabella Grace Russell
Child of Jon & Angela Russell
January 13, 2008

Jacob Austin McFarlen
Child of John & Stacy McFarlen
January 13, 2008

TRANSFER IN:

Raymond & Suzanne Brown
From Trinity Lutheran,
Summerfield, Florida

TRANSFER OUT:

Robert & Darlene Leiendecker
To Faith, Grand Blanc, Michigan

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

1 Trenton Lach
2 Zachary Lanczki
Christopher Stevenson
3 Mike Conrad
4 Rosalynne Lockard
6 Charles Hamlet II
7 Marjorie Saner
Marie Smith
Marci Wasilko
10 Carter Brown
14 Betsy Cornellier
Cyrus Opfermann
15 Lauren Lanczki
17 Myra Prueter
Amanda Van Pelt
18 Michael Faust
20 Jane Hibbard
21 Dominick Eldridge
22 Patricia Wadkins
23 Denise Gerke
Tammy Wyman
26 William Reinwand
Andrew Schrom
28 Paige Conrad
Theodore Lockard
Dustin Wyman

**BLOOD DRIVE
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22,
2 – 8 p.m.**

Set your appointment today.

Call Amy Lockard at 248-446-9598 or email her at dratar@comcast.net

Dear Members and Friends,

People throughout southeastern Michigan are counting on us -- children who suffer from sickle cell anemia or leukemia; adults with cancer; patients receiving liver or heart transplants; newborns in neonatal intensive care units; auto accident victims. You can help save lives when you donate blood during our American Red Cross blood drive.

Our effort to collect blood is important every day of the year to the American Red Cross. The critical holiday period has come and gone, but the need continues every day for the patients in the southeastern Michigan area hospitals. When you donate during our drive, you have a wonderful opportunity to help so many who are in need. All you need to do is step forward, roll up your sleeve, and volunteer to help save the lives of people like Sherry.

Sherry suffered a stroke in the fourth month of pregnancy. She was diagnosed with a potentially fatal blood condition that causes blood clots to form in small blood vessels. During her 17-day hospital stay Sherry received 1,900 blood products. Three months later, she gave birth to a healthy son.

Without willing donors, the American Red Cross could not meet the blood needs at southeastern Michigan hospitals. Donating blood is easy; it costs you nothing – except a little of your time – and will give you a sense of pride and satisfaction that is beyond words.

The American Red Cross, and I, encourage you to “Be the One” to give the gift of life.

Sincerely,

Pastor Terry Nelson

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
+ Indicates Holy Communion					1 11:30am Out to Lunch Bunch – <i>Applebee's</i>	2
3 8:00am Worship 9:15am Contemporary Worship 10:15am Team Trinity Yth. 10:30am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 11:30am Coffee Hour	4 5:30 & 6:30pm Weight Watchers 7:00pm Preschool Board	5 7:00pm Bd. of Evangelism	6 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> 4:00-5:30pm Confirmation 6:00pm Lenten Dinner 7:00pm Lenten Worship +	7 6:30-8:30pm Girl Scouts	8	9
10 8:00am Worship + 9:15 am Adult Bible Class 10:30am Worship + 10:30am Sunday School 11:30am Choir	11 5:30 & 6:30pm Weight Watchers 7:00pm Trustees	12 6:30-8:30pm Cub Scouts	13 4:00-5:30pm Confirmation 6:00pm Lenten Dinner 7:00pm Lenten Worship	14 6:30-8:30pm Cub Scouts	15 7:30pm Youth Group Attends Concert	16 10:00am Women's Outreach
17 8:00am Worship 9:15 am Adult Bible Class 9:15am Team Trinity Yth 10:30am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 11:30am Potluck	18 5:30 & 6:30pm Weight Watchers	19 7:00pm Church Council	20 4:00-5:30pm Confirmation 6:00pm Lenten Dinner 7:00pm Lenten Worship	21 6:30-8:30pm Girl Scouts	22 2:00-8:00pm American Red Cross BLOOD DRIVE	23
24 8:00am Worship + 9:15 am Adult Bible Class 10:30am Worship + 10:30am Sunday School 11:30am Choir	25 5:30 & 6:30pm Weight Watchers	26 6:30-8:30pm Cub Scouts	27 4:00-5:30pm Confirmation 6:00pm Lenten Dinner 7:00pm Lenten Worship	28 6:30-8:30pm Cub Scouts	29	

