

CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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MARCH, 2006

Dear Beloved Members and Friends,

Children, your parents love you. No circumstance in your life will separate you from your parent's love. Hardship, trouble, danger, persecution, present or the future, will not separate you from your parent's love. Nothing can separate you from your parent's love.

God loves you. You are God's child. God is your loving heavenly Father. God gave His Son up for you on the cross. God justifies you. Jesus is interceding for you at the right hand of God. You are more than a conqueror through God who loved you.

God is for you. God is on your side. God is on your team. The devil, demons, and unbelievers are against you. God can defeat those who are against you.

God loved you by giving His Son up for us all. God did not spare His own Son, but gave Him up for us all on Calvary. God sent His Son into the world as the atoning sacrifice for our sin and for the sin of the world. God gave up His Lamb to take away the sin of the world and our sin on the cross. God gave up His one and only Son so that, by believing in Him, you will not perish in hell but have eternal life in heaven. God demonstrated His love for you by Christ's death. God justified you by Jesus' blood. Christ made peace with God for you by shedding His blood on the cross. You were reconciled to God by the death of His Son. Jesus loved you by laying down His life for you on Golgatha. Jesus made you His friend by giving up His life for you.

Along with Christ, God will graciously give you all things. God will give you justification. He will hear and answer your

prayers and Jesus' intercessions. God will give you eternal life in heaven. God will help you to conquer circumstances in your life. People may say to you, "give my love to the family." God gives His love to you. You receive all these things by faith in God.

Nothing can separate you from your Lord's love for you. Satan, unbelievers, and your enemies cannot separate you from Jesus' love. Christ loves you through times of family, marital and physical trouble. Financial hardship cannot separate you from your Lord's love. Jesus loves you through times of persecution. Your Lord loves and provides for you during famine and nakedness. Physical or spiritual danger cannot separate you from Jesus' love. Christ loves you during war time. Your Lord loves you during the current war on terror.

In all these things, you are more than conquerors through Jesus who loved you. You not only lived through these things. You conquered them with the Lord's help. Thanks be to God. He gives you the victory through your Lord Jesus Christ.

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

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Pastor Terry Nelson

MARCH MEETINGS AT A GLANCE

| | | | |
|----|--------|-------------------|---------|
| 2 | Thurs. | Board of Elders | 7:00pm |
| 7 | Tues. | Bd. of Evangelism | 8:00pm |
| 13 | Mon. | Board of Trustees | 7:00pm |
| 18 | Sat. | Women's Outreach | 10:00am |
| 19 | Sun. | Congregation Mtg. | 11:30am |
| 21 | Tues. | Church Council | 7:00pm |

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A SPECIAL CONGREGATION MEETING will be held on Sunday, March 19, following the 10:30 a.m. service. All members are encouraged to attend this important congregation meeting.

MARCH LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES

ASH WEDNESDAY worship will be held at 7 p.m., March 1. Holy Communion will be served. Our midweek Lenten series begins, "Truly, This is the Son of God," and will focus on people in Jesus' passion, including Nicodemus, Judas Iscariot, Pilate, Simon of Cyrene, the penitent Thief, and the Centurion. Mid-week worship services will be held Wednesdays in March, beginning at 7 p.m. These midweek services are good opportunities for people who work on Sundays to worship our Lord!

OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH

Join the Out-to-Lunch Bunch on Friday, March 3, at 11:30 a.m. at *Fortuna Inn* in South Lyon. Invite a friend - - men and women welcome!

MARCH LENTEN DINNERS

ALL are invited to join us for home-cooked meals before Lenten worship on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. - (*free-will donation accepted*)

(*Groups are in charge of set-up and clean-up. Boards, please furnish salad, desserts, and beverages.*)

March 1 - Board of Trustees

Ham, potatoes, vegetable, salad, rolls, and dessert

March 8 - Evangelism & Stewardship

Roast beef, mashed potatoes & gravy, vegetable, salad, rolls, and dessert

March 15 - Council

Sauerkraut, spaetzle, mashed potatoes, vegetable, salad, rolls, and dessert

March 22 - Elders

Roast pork, stuffing, gravy, vegetable, salad, rolls, and dessert

March 29 - Education & Preschool

Goulash, vegetable, salad, rolls, and dessert

April 5 - Women's Outreach

Salad Buffet

- - *Delicious meals prepared by Ettie Ann*

**CROSS OF CHRIST
CHRISTIAN
PRESCHOOL**

*MORLEY CANDY
on sale Sundays
March 5 & 12*

An order form is available on the table in Gathering Hall. Our Preschool realizes just under 50% profit. Thanks for your support!

The Preschool children will be invited to sing at our 10:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday, March 19. Let's give them a warm welcome!

FALL REGISTRATION DATES:

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

Church Family Registration:

Sunday, March 12, after the 10:30 service

Current Preschool Families:

Mon. & Tues., March 20 & 21

Past Preschool Families:

Wed. & Thurs., March 22 & 23

Community Registration:

Sat., March 25 - 9:00 a.m.

*(Children must be 3 or 4 by December 1.)
Tell your friends and neighbors!*

The following **FEES** for the 2005-06 school year will stay the same as this past year:

TUITION: \$85 per month
ACTIVITY FEE: \$30 (one-time)

Gifts to our Preschool Scholarship Fund are welcome to give families with financial need the opportunity to attend our school.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Flower chart for the 2006 calendar year is displayed in the Fellowship Hall. Sign up for those special birthdays and anniversaries. ALTAR FLOWERS are available for **\$16** per vase. The price increased by \$1 per vase. Two vases are available each Sunday. (You do not need to sign up for both.) *Make checks payable to Cross of Christ - designated Altar Flowers - and place in the offering plate.* We thank Bakman Florist in South Lyon for providing our beautiful flowers each week.

**EASTER
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.) Fourteen plants have been ordered this year.

**ANNUAL
FLOWER
SALE**

Mark your calendars for the Annual Flower Sale, Saturday, May 27. Many of your favorite annuals and perennials will be available at a great price. *We need your support of this wonderful fund raiser!*

**TREASURER'S
NOTE**

Did you know
Our total monthly **operating expenses** for January, 2006 totaled more than \$25,700.00
Our giving was just under \$22,000.00
Something to think about.

COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE 2006

1st & 3rd Sundays

| | |
|-------|----------------------|
| MARCH | Youth Groups |
| APRIL | Board of Stewardship |
| MAY | Women's Outreach |

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

The date has been set for this summer's
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:

July 24 - July 28, 2006

Plan your summer vacations and camps around our VBS. Remember we will need lots of helpers to provide this outreach to our community!

NEW MEMBER WELCOME

We welcomed our new members on Sunday, February 19. May God richly bless them to be a blessing!

*Michael & Dana Faust and Lea
Chris & Heather Grieshaber
and Cailyn
John & Sheila Mueller
Marlene, John Paul, & Karl
Ruth Morofski
Kindsey Nelson*

MEIJER COMMUNITY REWARDS

For those of you who regularly shop at Meijer, consider applying for a "**Community Rewards Guest Card**" from Meijer. (It is not a credit card.) When applying, you must use the CODE NUMBER for the church in order for the church to receive any benefit. Our code number is **925537**. Applications are available in the church office or you can register online at Meijer.com/rewards.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Coming . . . MAY 1, 2, & 3!

Since it has been almost seven years since our last pictorial directory, we are excited about plans for another. Watch your bulletins and newsletters for updates. All members will be contacted to have their families photographed. We want full participation! HELP will also be needed to register families on Picture Days and to make calls and appointments before May 1. Let us know if you can help out in any way.

WEB PAGE NEWS

If you haven't already done so, check out the new web page for Cross of Christ:
www.crossofchristlutheran.org.

The Calendar, Newsletter, and Youth News will be available each month on this web site. We would like to begin e-mailing this Newsletter to those who would like to receive it via email to save on postage. FILL IN the slip located in the church office or email us at crosslut@bignet.net.

FUNERAL COMMITTEE

THANK YOU to all who donated passing dishes for funerals this past year and helped at the funeral luncheons. We appreciate your kind and thoughtful donations. Anyone wishing to help in the future can be added to Clara's List by calling 248-437-5760 (if you are not already on the list).

*You can help a family
during their time of need too!*

March

Birthdays

- 2 Alice Van Atta
5 Megan Eminger
Lindsay Bray
7 Terry Jones
John Mattison
James Wadkins
8 John Bugar
Kindsey Nelson
9 Paul Eminger
10 Earlene Reinwand
16 Vogal Emery
Peter Banchoff III
18 Jeff Marsh
19 Richard Hare
20 Kayla Evans
Aaron Nelson
21 Crystal Mielke
22 Carole Bedard
John Candela
23 Linda Bell
Tim Zabik
24 Dennis Evans
29 Gil Schroeder
30 Judy Tisher
31 Marlene Benson

March

Anniversaries

- 8 William & Stacy Bertera
11 Tim & Traci Zabik
16 Dwight & Marlene Miller

Let us know of any corrections or additions to the above birthday/anniversary list.

DEADLINE for information for the MARCH NEWSLETTER will be **Wednesday, March 22, 2006.**

MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP IN:

- + + Chris Grieshaber
From Webster Gardens Lutheran
Webster Groves, MO

AREA NEWS

KATRINA HELP

Lutheran High South of Greater New Orleans, adopted by the Michigan District to provide disaster relief assistance, is holding an annual Dinner AUCTION as a major fund raiser on April 8, 2006. Michigan District congregations are being asked to partner with the high school by gathering or purchasing gift items. Gift certificates to stores or restaurants and services are also accepted. All items should be new or of antique quality. Please send items to *Gryphon Gala, Lutheran High School South, 3864 Seventeenth Street, Metairie, LA 70002.* Call 504-454-0589 for more information.

GRAVE SITES AVAILABLE

A family is offering four grave sites at a reduced price at Glen Eden Memorial Park in Livonia. Cost is \$900 each (reg. price is \$1150 each). Contact Ted Johnson at 1-734-771-0124 or tedpainter2@comcastnet. Thomas Habitz, General Manager of Glen Eden, may be contacted at 1-248-477-4460.

CONCORDIA CHOIR TOUR

Concordia Choir, Ann Arbor, will be in concert at 4 p.m. on Sunday, March 12, 2006, at the Chapel of the Holy Trinity, Concordia University, Ann Arbor. A free-will offering will be received.

THE LA CORDA CHAMBER MUSIC

Christ our Savior, Livonia, presents The LaCorda Chamber Music Ensemble on March 19, 2006, at 4 p.m. Classical, sacred, secular, pop and Broadway selections will be presented. A free-will offering will be accepted.

VALPARAISO SPRING TOUR:

Valparaiso University Kantorei will perform at Lutheran High School, Westland, Monday, March 6, at 12:30 p.m. Call 734-422-8566.

WOMEN'S OUTREACH

MEETING:

Nine ladies enjoyed a continental breakfast at the Active Faith building on Saturday, February 18. Carol Erb, Director, shared fascinating information about this wonderful organization. Following our meeting, they all toured the building. I wish everyone in our church could hear Carol's presentation and tour Active Faith. Maybe we can do it again.

COOK BOOK:

We need 300+ recipes from members, friends, and families. We would like your favorite recipes to make this a special one of a kind cook book. Each recipe needs to be printed on a form. Forms are available on the table in the Gathering Hall or in the Church Office. We might be a small church, but we are going to have a big cook book! So get those forms and lets get started. Remember, this is your chance to have your name in a published book!!

BIBLE STUDY:

A Ladies' Bible Study is being planned and will begin after Easter. It will be in the evening with the topic, time, and date announced later. Give is some thought, and hopefully, we can have a few ladies spend some special time together.

BAKING CLASSES:

Everyone loves homemade yeast rolls and many hesitate to make yeast recipes. If you want to learn, I would love to give you a lesson. My plan would be a Saturday afternoon from 1-3 p.m. Well make them at church, and you can bake them at home (for dinner). You will need 5# flour, a large bowl, and two 9 x 13 pans. Watch the bulletin for a date. It will be a fun afternoon with a tasty outcome.

APPRAISAL FAIR:

Planning for an Appraisal Fair for antiques and collectibles is underway. Carla Geelhood presented a volunteer roster at our meeting, shared comments from a few appraisers, and was encouraged with their opinions. Our volunteers will be divided into teams. Give some thought to volunteering, as Carla needs our support and help! Be prepared to sign up when the volunteer roster sheet goes up. Don't miss your chance to help with this great event. It's going to be a huge success!

- - - Ettie Ann Hirth

ACTIVE FAITH

Active Faith provides a very needed ministry to those in need in our community by providing food, clothing, education, counseling, financial assistance, job training, and much more. Our congregation pledges \$250 per month to help Active Faith. Financial donations designated to "Active Faith," or just adding a few extras to your grocery cart and dropping them off in the box provided here at church, can make a big difference.

Special pantry needs:

Bottled Juice (64 oz) Peanut Butter
Cereal Soda Crackers
Spaghetti Sauce
(Nothing expired please.)

Active Faith is sponsoring a **NEW TOWEL DRIVE for the month of March**. New towels may be dropped off at Active Faith (every Wednesday from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.) or at church. Just the simple things often make a big difference in people's lives.

* * *

Seasonal clothing can be dropped off at Active Faith on Wednesdays, 10am-3pm.



Youth News!

MARCH

“Winter Blast!” Fundraiser! Thank you to all of you who attended our Team Trinity youth group event! It was a great success and so much fun spending this time in fellowship. A special thank you to Ettie Ann Hirth for making our chili, soup, and rolls. Also, thank you to the snowflake makers and especially to the Team Trinity youth who participated and made this special for those we served! We made \$192 for summer camp.

Valentine’s Day fundraiser! Thank you to everyone for participating in our annual fundraiser. We appreciate your support! We were almost sold out of cookies before church service started and the “love bugs” were a favorite with the kids! Team Trinity made \$191 for summer camp. Thanks again to Ettie Ann for baking our cookies.

Event: Team Trinity will make up the postponed Hang Out Night on Saturday, March 18th, from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm. Please sign up! It helps me to plan when I have an accurate count. We will watch the inspiring 30 – movie, After the Fall. A movie about a climber who fell 100 feet off a cliff at approximately 100 mph and how he depended on God to heal him. An excellent example of faith!

God Squad youth group enjoyed movie and hang out nights recently. Ten children participated on Movie Night, watching the Disney movie, “Racing Stripes”. Thank you to Mrs. Michalak for the popcorn! Twelve children had fun playing games and enjoyed fellowship together during Hang Out Night. This group knows how to have fun!

Check the youth bulletin boards for future events for both of our groups!

Sunday school: starts at 9:15am...bring a friend! Bring Mom and Dad for their Bible study, too! It’s a lot of fun with your friends and we get to learn all about Jesus!

Children’s church is averaging 15-18 children ages 3 years to 5th grades. We are now studying how to obey God and be a wise decision maker and not the fool. We learn that the Bible teaches us everything.

Don’t forget...our new website! You can find info on all our youth group activities and details by going to crossofchristlutheran.org. Any questions can be directed to me at TeamTrinity@crossofchristlutheran.org or call me at 248/446-3321.

In Christ,

Debra Blackwell
Youth Director