

CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

www.crossofchristlutheran.org

Email: crosslut@bignet.net

MARCH, 2010

Dear Beloved Members and Friends,

Workers in rescue vehicles work to save people in fires, medical emergencies, and accidents. I often see and hear fire trucks, ambulances, and rescue vehicles drive down Griswold and Ten Mile Roads. They usually have their lights flashing and want to arrive at the scene as soon as possible so that they can help and save people. Fire fighters will rescue people from burning homes or vehicles and put out the fires. EMTs will check people's vital signs, give them emergency treatment and transport them to hospitals as quickly as possible. In the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, horses would pull fire and ambulance wagons. Usually presidents and kings were not personally involved in rescue efforts.

Jesus our King personally involved Himself in a rescue effort on the first Palm Sunday. Our Lord rode to Jerusalem on a donkey to save us and all people from our sins and from hell. A great crowd took palm branches and went out to meet Jesus. Our Lord fulfilled a prophecy of the prophet Zechariah. People spread the word about Christ. During the month of March we can spread the Word that Jesus our King has come to Jerusalem seated on a donkey.

Palm branches symbolize eternal life. On Palm Sunday we hold palm branches or crosses to praise Christ our Savior who accomplished eternal life in heaven for us on Good Friday and

Easter. We celebrate the victory our Lord won for us over death, the devil, hell and sin by His death and resurrection.

We sing some of the crowd's words in the Sanctus in our Service of the Sacrament. We sing, "*Hosanna, Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*" (LSB – p. 161) Jesus gives us salvation in Holy Communion. We praise Christ, who comes in the name of the Lord. Jesus comes to us in the bread and in the fruit of the vine. We praise our Lord in heaven who gives us salvation in His Supper.

What causes you to be afraid? When you say, "*I'm afraid that . . .*" what ends that sentence? I'm afraid that I or a loved one will die soon. I'm afraid that I will lose my job. I'm afraid that I will not be able to pay all my bills. I'm afraid that I will lose my house. I'm afraid that my health will get worse. I'm afraid that I will need to move into assisted living or into a nursing home. I'm afraid that my family members will get sick or injured.

Jesus your King is with you. Christ says to you, "*Peace I leave with you; My peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.*" (John 14:27) Our Lord's peaceful words can remove trouble and fear from your heart.

Christ your King gives you His peace and help in your circumstance. Jesus is preparing a place for you in Heaven. Our Lord will receive your spirit into heaven when you die. Christ will help and strengthen you to keep or find employment. Jesus will guide and help you to pay your bills. Your Lord will provide food, clothing, and shelter for you. Christ will give physical healing to you and family members in agreement with His will.

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

**MEETINGS
AT A GLANCE**

Board of Evangelism	Tues. March 2	7 p.m.
Board of Trustees	Mon. March 8	7 p.m.
Board of Stewardship	Tues. March 9	7 p.m.
Church Council	Tues. March 16	7 p.m.
Women's Outreach	Sat. March 20	10 a.m.
Board of Elders	Sun. March 21	11:30am

**LENTEN
MIDWEEK WORSHIP**

Midweek Lenten worship services will be held on **Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.**, through March 24. The theme for the services is *"The Words of Life from the Cross."*

LENTEN DINNERS

Lenten dinners will be held on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m, through March 24.

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 beverages and desserts, and make the coffee. Following are the hosting boards for the remaining dinners:

March 3	Board of Elders (Lasagna, salad, rolls and desserts)
March 10	Women's Outreach (Salad Buffet & Desserts)
March 17	Bd. of Evangelism (Corned beef & cabbage, potatoes, carrots, salad, rolls, and desserts)
March 24	Preschool Board & Sunday School Teachers (Hot dogs, chili, salad, and desserts)

Ladies, please sign up to provide a salad or dessert for the midweek Lenten DINNER SALAD BUFFET — scheduled for Wednesday, March 10, at 6 p.m.

**COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE
*Third Sunday of the Month***

MARCH 21	Women's Outreach
APRIL	Stewardship & Evangelism
MAY	Church Council

**WORSHIP & CHRISTIAN
EDUCATION**

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

Holy Communion is celebrated on the 2nd, 4th, and 5th 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. 1st) through fifth grade. Children are dismissed to their classes from the worship service after the opening hymn.

CONFIRMATION instruction, for young people in 7th and 8th grades, is being held on Wednesdays from 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY will be **Sunday, April 25th**.

A CONTEMPORARY worship service will be held on **Sunday, March 7**, at 9:15 a.m. *Invite family and friends!*

ADULT BIBLE CLASS is held in the Fellowship Hall Sundays at 9:15 a.m., except for the first Sunday of the month. Join us as we study *Jesus' Seven Words From the Cross*.

YOUTH ACTIVITY:

Taco Night

Thursday, March 11, from 6- 8 p.m.
All 6th-12th graders are welcome!
Watch for a sign up sheet to bring an item for tacos!

On Palm Sunday, **MARCH 28**, an Easter Egg Hunt will be held for the children after the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Donations of candy are requested.

**CROSS OF CHRIST
CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL**

REGISTRATION DATES for fall classes have been set:

Church Family Registration:

Sunday, March 21

after the 10:30 a.m. service

Current Preschool Families:

Mon., March 22 – 9:00 a.m.

Past Preschool Families:

Wed., March 24 – 9:00 a.m.

Community Registration:

Sat., March 27, - 9:00 a.m.

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

THANK YOU for purchasing Morley Candy. The orders will be delivered to the preschool the week of March 29, in time for Easter.

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 by Dec. 1 of the current school year.

LUNCH BUNCH

1ST Friday of the Month – 11:30 a.m.
*Sign up on the Information Board
or call the church office*

**Friday, March 5, 2010
11:30 a.m.**

*Call Ettie Ann (248-349-2545)
for more information*

March 5	Chinese – Northville
April 2	South Lyon Hotel
May 7	Lucas Coney Island South Lyon

*Men and women welcome for good food
and fellowship!*

2010 FLOWER CHART

ALTAR FLOWERS ARE NEEDED FOR MARCH. Vases are available for \$16 each and may be taken home after worship. Checks are made out to “Cross of Christ” – designated “Altar Flowers.” *Sign up on the Flower Chart in the Fellowship Hall.* Sign up for those important dates in celebration of birthdays, anniversaries, etc. or in memory of loved ones.

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.) Sixteen plants have been ordered. The lilies may be taken home after the Easter Sunday worship services.

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

Sun., March 28 - Palm Sunday
8:00 a.m.+ & 10:30+ a.m. Worship
Sunday School at 10:30 a.m.

Thursday, April 1, 7 p.m.+
Maundy Thursday Worship

Friday, April 2, 7 p.m.
Good Friday Worship

Sunday, April 4, EASTER Sunday
7:30 a.m.+ & 10:30 a.m. +
(Easter Breakfast 8:30-9:30 a.m.)
(No Sunday School)

+ Indicates Holy Communion

Vacation Bible School July 26-30, 2010 9am - Noon

For children going into Kindergarten
through
Going into 6th Grade

High Seas Expedition

Exploring the Mighty Love of God

Our children will learn that God's Word is true; God's Word is comforting; God's Word is surprising; God's Word is life-changing; and God's Word is for everyone!

As always, many volunteers will be needed to make VBS a successful outreach to our community!

HELP FOR HAITI

As the death toll in Haiti climbs toward 300,000 and with an estimated 1.2 million Haitians living on the streets, the Synod continues its collaborative efforts to reach out in mercy to its partner church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Haiti (ELCH).

As of Feb. 24, LCMS members, churches, and schools from across the nation raised almost \$4 million and donated semi-truckloads of material donations for the LCMS response in Haiti. Thrivent Financial for Lutherans matched gifts to LCMS World Relief and Human Care, raising \$215,000.

"I thank God for the generosity of the people of The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod in contributing over \$3 million for relief efforts in that stricken country," said Synod President Dr. Gerald B. Kieschnick. "I also thank God for the collaborative work of many individuals and agencies in our Synod who are working together to bring help and hope to people in Haiti, especially Lutheran pastors and people, particularly the pastors and people of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Haiti. All are motivated to give and to serve, constrained by the love of Christ, who gave His life that we might have life."

Financial gifts to LCMS World Relief and Human Care to help those in Haiti may be mailed to and checks written to:

LCMS World Relief and Human Care
P.O. Box 66861
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861
(designate "Haiti Earthquake Relief")
Or
Visit <http://givenowlcms.org>

For Thrivent matching funds go to:
www.thrivent.com/helpinghaiti

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

2	Alice Van Atta
4	Thomas Hamlet
5	Lindsay Bray Travis Miller
7	John Mattison James Wadkins
8	Kindsey Nelson
10	Earlene Reinwand
14	Blake Russell
18	Jeff Marsh Jack Petsch
19	Lynne Lach
20	Kayla Evans Aaron Nelson
21	Crystal Turbett Jason Petsch Robert Wolski
22	Carole Bedard John Candela
24	Richard Chambers Dennis Evans
29	Dana Hamlet
30	Paige Sterling

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

25 Ryan & Emily Schoenberg

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

MEMBERSHIP

BAPTISMS:

- + + Lucy Noelle Nelson
Child of Matthew & Kindsey Nelson
February 14, 2010
- + + Isabella Lynne Lentz
Child of Christopher & Erica Lentz
February 20, 2010

CALLED HOME:

- + + Albert August Massoll
February 6, 2010

ALTAR GUILD

We thank the Lord for Jeannine Hosbach, Elsie Huber, and Gloria Schrom and their years of service on our Altar Guild. May God continue to richly bless them and their families.

We welcome Carol Erb, Dawn Lanczki, and Dawn Smutek in service to our Lord on the Altar Guild!

NEEDED

We are in need of more *money counters*. Please see or call (248-349-4435) our Financial Secretary, Bruce Mach, if you can serve the Lord in this capacity.

FUNERAL LUNCHESES

We would like to thank all the volunteers who have helped with funeral lunches. If you would like to help, the categories needing volunteers are:

- Set up before the funeral
- Food donations
- Help at the funeral luncheon
- Clean up at the luncheon

We appreciate all who have volunteered in the past and look forward to others who might wish to help. If you can help in one of these areas, please call Annie Nichols at 248-437-9599 or Chris Nelson in the church office at 248-437-8810. Thanks again,
Annie Nichols & Louise Rucker
Co-Chairpersons

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION & CAMPBELL SOUP LABELS

Our preschool is participating in the above programs. Collect your corresponding box tops and proofs of purchase to provide educational items for the preschool. A box is available in the church kitchen.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Ettie Ann Hirth for preparing all of the delicious Lenten Dinners and for preparing the meal for the Pastors' Circuit Luncheon in February.

Thank you to Steve Klamik and Bill Hirth for keeping the sidewalks free of snow all winter!

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.

EMAIL ADDRESSES REQUESTED:

We would like to keep a list of our congregation's email addresses for communication purposes. It will be helpful for board members and youth activities. Send us an email. Be sure to indicate whether or not you wish to receive your newsletter via email.

MEMORIALS

+ + In memory of Albert Massoll, a gift has been given to *Debt Reduction* by Edna Schuur.

*Looking to donate to a special need?
Consider the following funds:*

Debt Fund, Garage Fund,
Cement Work Fund,
New Roof Fund, Carpet Fund,
Gutters and Heat Tape Fund
Improved Sound System

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

What Have I Done for Him?

Lent is a season in the church year during which we particularly focus on the sacrifice Jesus made for us to pay the debt we owed for our sin. We know there is no way we can pay the debt ourselves. Only the sinless Son of God could do that. We have access to Heaven only by grace through faith in Christ Jesus.

While we cannot repay Jesus for what He has done for us, His love does require a response. Paul, speaking of our ministry of reconciliation, *“For Christ’s love compels us . . .”* (2 Corinthians 5:14). We remain on earth to carry out the tasks which Christ left for us to do; to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, care for the sick, and visit the prisoner, (Matthew 25: 31-46). James admonished us that *“. . . faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead”* (James 2:17). We provide the funds that support our pastors, teachers, and missionaries. Again, we can quote Paul writing in I Corinthians 9: 11-12. *“If we have sown spiritual seed among you, is it too much if we reap a material harvest from you? If others have this right of support from you, shouldn’t we have it all the more?”* Certainly each of us is addressed by the Great Commission: *“Go and make disciples of all nations . . . ,”* (Matthew 28:19). The following words from Frances Ridley Havergal are a poignant reminder that Christ’s love and sacrifice for us require a response:

Thy life was given for me, Thy Blood, O Lord, was shed
That I might ransomed by, and quickened from the dead.
Thy life was given for me, What have I given for thee?

And Thou hast brought to me Down from Thy home above
Salvation full and free, Thy pardon and thy love.
Great gifts Thou broughtest me, What have I brought to Thee?

We are saved by grace through faith for works. Let us pray for the desire to be good stewards of the gifts of salvation, health and wealth, and time and opportunity which God has given us that we might have a part in the furthering of God’s kingdom.

THRIVENT FINANCIAL FOR LUTHERANS

Thrivent will sponsor a Suicide Prevention & Awareness Presentation, at 2 p.m., on Sunday, March 7, at St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Walled Lake. Warning Signs, facts, and myths of suicide will be discussed. This event is free of charge. Call Kellie at 248-568-6119 for more information.

THRIVENT BUILDS with *Habitat for Humanity*:

Attend a breakfast and get information on ministries for our church and community. The 5th Annual Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity Kickoff meeting, Saturday, March 20, from 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. at MSU Education Center, 811 W. Square Lake Road, Troy. Register on-line at <http://www.eventbrite.com/event/576506346> (password is thrivent). Or Call Greg Ulmer at 800-225-8558, ext. 117.

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
+ Indicates Holy Communion	1 5:30 & 6:30pm Weight Watchers	2 7:00pm Evangelism	3 4:00-5:30pm Confirmation 6:00pm Lenten Dinner 7:00pm Lenten Worship	4 6:30-8:30pm Girl Scouts	5 11:30am Lunch Bunch	6
7 <i>No 8:00 a.m. service</i> 9:15am Contemporary Worship 10:30am Traditional Worship 10:30am Sunday School	8 5:30 & 6:30pm Weight Watchers 7:00pm Board of Trustees	9 6:30-8:30pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm Board of Stewardship	10 4:00-5:30pm Confirmation 6:00pm Lenten Dinner 7:00pm Lenten Worship	11 6:00-8:00pm Youth Activity: Taco Night	12 9:00am-3:00pm Preschool Makeup Day	13
14 8:00am Worship + 9:15 am Adult Bible Class 9:30am Youth Bible St. 10:30am Worship + (Sylvia Hindley Baptism) 10:30am Sunday School	15 5:30 & 6:30pm Weight Watchers	16 7:00pm Church Council	17 4:00-5:30pm Confirmation 6:00pm Lenten Dinner 7:00pm Lenten Worship	18 6:30-8:30pm Girl Scouts	19	20 10:00am Women's Outreach meeting
21 8:00am Worship 9:15 am Adult Bible Class 10:30am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 11:30am Coffee Hour 11:30am Board of Elders 11:30am PS Registration	22 5:30 & 6:30pm Weight Watchers	23 6:30-8:30pm Cub Scouts	24 4:00-5:30pm Confirmation 6:00pm Lenten Dinner 7:00pm Worship	25	26 Floors cleaned and waxed	27 9:00am Preschool Community Registration
28 Palm Sunday 8:00am Worship + 9:15am Adult Bible Class 9:30am Youth Bible St. 10:30am Worship + 10:30am Sunday School 11:45am Egg Hunt 11:45am Choir Rehearsal	29 5:30 & 6:30pm Weight Watchers	30	31			

