

CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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MARCH, 2007

Dear Beloved Members and Friends,

Perhaps you have set a goal for yourself to reach by the end of March. At the beginning of the month, you identify tasks you want to accomplish at home, at work, at church, or at school. You identify places you need to be. You plan to complete the tasks you need to accomplish this month. You plan to arrive at the places you need to be by the end of March. With God's help and blessing, you can reach your goal.

In Luke 13:31-35, Jesus said that He had good works He wanted to do over a few days. Christ answered Pharisees who wanted Him to leave that place (Perea) and go somewhere else. Jesus drove out demons and healed people as He walked toward His goal. Christ had to keep going so that He could die and rise again in Jerusalem. Our Lord Jesus rode into Jerusalem where some people said, "*Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord.*" Jesus reached His goal.

Christ has had mercy on you by healing your physical afflictions. You were sick or injured. You prayed to the Lord to heal you. Christ gave you His grace, mercy, and strength. Jesus healed you of your illness or injury. Your Lord reached his goal to heal you.

We needed Jesus to accomplish spiritual healing for us in Jerusalem because of our sin. We have been afflicted with the spiritual disease of sin since our conception and birth. Like the psalmist David, we can say, "*Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.*"

Jesus journeyed to Jerusalem to die for you. Christ accomplished spiritual healing and salvation for you by His crucifixion. By the nail wounds in Jesus' hands and feet and by the spear wound in His side. You are spiritually healed. Your sins are forgiven. Christ saved you from your sins by taking them away on the cross. Jesus paid the price in full for your sins by shedding His precious blood. Christ saved you from hell by going through it for you.

Your Lord reached His goal in Jerusalem by rising from the tomb. Jesus rose from the dead on the third day. Christ rose victoriously from death and the tomb on Easter Sunday. Your risen Lord saved you from sin and hell. Jesus conquered death for you. Your risen Lord is preparing a place for you in heaven.

Jesus will reach His goals in your life. Christ will help you to hear and believe that He died and rose again for you in Jerusalem. Your Lord will enable you to trust that He is preparing a place for you in heaven. Jesus will help you to have the hope of the resurrection of your body. Christ will enable you to grow in grace, knowledge, faith, and love as His disciple. Your Lord will help you to be His witness where He has placed you. Jesus will enable you to make disciples for Him. Christ will strengthen and help you to keep going today and every day in the vocations in which He has placed you. Your Lord will empower and enable you to keep going as a child, spouse, parent, grandparent, worker, student, citizen, neighbor, church member, and disciple.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,
Pastor Terry Nelson

MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES

Wednesdays in March at 7 p.m.

Our midweek Lenten series, *Our Suffering Savior*, provides an overview of the Book of Isaiah and focuses in particular on the Fourth Suffering Servant Song – a key Bible lesson for reflection on the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ as the Savior of the world.

LENTEN DINNERS

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

(Groups are in charge of set-up and clean-up. Board members, please furnish desserts and beverages.)

February 21 – *Board of Trustees*
Ham, potatoes, vegetables, salad rolls, and desserts

February 28 - *Sunday School & Preschool*
Roast beef, mashed potatoes & gravy, vegetable, salad, rolls, and desserts

March 7 – *Women's Outreach*
Salad Buffet & Desserts

March 14 – *Church Council*
Sauerkraut, spaetzle, mashed potatoes, salad, rolls, and desserts

March 21 – *Board of Evangelism*
Roast pork, mashed potatoes & gravy, vegetable, salad, rolls, and desserts

March 28 – *Board of Elders*
Homemade vegetable and ham & potato soups, salad, rolls, and desserts

-- Meals prepared by Ettie Ann Hirth

WORSHIP & EDUCATION

Our WORSHIP services are held at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class is held at 9:15 a.m. (except for the first Sunday of the month). A Contemporary Worship Service is held the first Sunday of the month at 9:15 a.m. Our next service is Sunday, March 4th. Invite family and friends to join us.

Sunday School is held at 10:30 a.m. in the classroom building for children ages 3 years through 5th grade. (Sign in on the table in the Gathering Hall.) Team Trinity Youth (grades 6-12) meet the first and third Sundays of the month from 5:30 -7:00pm for Bible study, fellowship, or an activity.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Join us on Sunday mornings at 9:15 as we start a new topic in Adult BIBLE STUDY called "*Science and the Savior.*" Explore the relationship between science, technology, and faith – how these relationships affect our culture – and how you can biblically respond.

TIME & TALENT INVENTORY

Members, please take a few minutes to fill in the Inventory, which was included with the January and February newsletters, and return in the box provided in the Gathering Hall or to the church office. Extra copies are available on the table. We appreciate your participation.

LUTHERAN HYMNAL (LSB)

Donations of the new LSB hymnals (\$18.50 each) are welcome. Purchases can be made as memorials or honorariums, if desired.

Copies of the Red Lutheran Hymnal (TLH) are available for \$5 each. Profit from the sale of TLH will be used to purchase new LSB hymnals.

MEETINGS AT A GLANCE

1	Thurs.	Board of Elders	7:00pm
12	Mon.	Board of Trustees	7:00pm
17	Sat.	Women's Outreach	10:00am
20	Tues.	Church Council	7:00pm
31	Sat.	Preschool Board	10:00am

CROSS OF CHRIST CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL

"Preschool With a Plus"

Cross of Christ Preschool provides a Christian play-based preschool program for three and four year olds. We will be registering for fall classes according to the following schedule. If you have any questions, call the preschool office at 248-437-0871.

REGISTRATION DATES

Church Family Registration:

Sunday, March 25,

After the 10:30 service

Current Preschool Families:

Mon. & Tues., March 26 & 27

Past Preschool Families:

Wed. & Thurs., March 28 & 29

Community Registration:

Sat., March 31 - 9:00 a.m.

Tell your friends and neighbors!

*(Children must be three or four by
December 1.)*

Following are the fees for the 2007-08 school year:

Registration: \$50 (one time fee)

Tuition: \$85 per month

Activity Fee: \$30 (one time fee)

THANK YOU to those who purchased Morley candy. Delivery will be the week of March 19. Our Preschool realizes just under 50% profit.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Flower Chart for the 2007 calendar year is displayed in the Fellowship Hall. Sign up for those special birthdays and anniversaries. ALTAR FLOWERS are available for **\$16** 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. Dates are available in March and April.

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 this year.

ANNUAL FLOWER SALE

Cross of Christ's annual Flower Sale will be held earlier in May this year - Saturday, May 12. *Mark your calendars and plan on purchasing your annuals and perennials at a great price at Cross of Christ!*

COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE 2007

1st & 3rd Sundays

MARCH Team Trinity Youth (March 4th only)
APRIL Women's Outreach
MAY Board of Stewardship

NEW MEMBER WELCOME

We welcomed our new members on Sunday, February 18. May God richly bless them to be a blessing!

Charles & Dana Hamlet

Chaz & Tom

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

*Group's Avalanche Ranch -
A Wild Ride Through
God's Word*

July 23-27, 2007

Plan your summer vacations and camps around our VBS. Remember, we will need many helpers to provide this outreach to our community! Fill in the *Help* sheet included with this newsletter and mail or drop off at church. REGISTRATION forms will be available in April.

ACTIVE FAITH TOWEL DRIVE

While at Active Faith I asked if there was any one item they could use, and paper towels was the answer. I thought it would be nice to make March the paper towel month. I will keep a count of all rolls donated and take them each week to Active Faith. I have donated 2 packages of 8, so our beginning count is 16 rolls. My goal is 200 rolls. Less would be good and more would be great! Active Faith serves many families in the area that desperately need help with bills, food and clothing. It is a very well run organization with many dedicated volunteers. - - - *Ettie Ann*

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

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

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

8	William & Stacy Bertera
11	Tim & Traci Zabik

DEADLINE for information for the APRIL Newsletter will be Sunday, March 18, 2007.
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MEMBERSHIP

WEDDING:

+ + Warner Krause & Arlene Balko
February 10, 2007

WOMEN'S OUTREACH

BABY SHOWER

*For Lisa Sterling & Kindsey Nelson
Sunday, March 18, Noon*

All ladies are invited to join us to "shower these excited "Mothers-to-Be." This is your invitation, and we ask that you RSVP on the bulletin board in the Gathering Hall by Sunday, March 11. For fun bring in your baby picture, and we will play "Who's Who." Please put your names on the back and you can take them home after the shower. Our lunch menu is Chicken Salad, Croissants, Fruit Salad, and Cake. The girls are registered at "*Babies Are Us*" and "*Target*."

LENTEN DINNER – MARCH 7

This is the Salad and Dessert Buffet and always a big hit. We need ladies to make salads and desserts, as well as to set up, clean up, and in between. Please sign up on the Information board if you can make a salad, dessert and help.

FLEA MARKET – SAT., APRIL 28, 9am – 1pm

We would appreciate your "never been and gently used" items for our tables that will be set up in the Gathering Hall. We need your home-baked goodies for our "bake sale tables." We also need workers at the sale. PLEASE NO CLOTHING.

"Tables for rent" will be set up in the Fellowship Hall. They are \$10 per table for members, family, and friends. Each rental will be responsible for its own set up and clean up after the sale. There is a sign up sheet if you want a table.

NEXT MEETING

Our next Women's Outreach meeting will be March 17, at 10 a.m. Please join us to discuss the Flea Market. Also, we will be setting up for the Baby Shower.

OUT TO LUNCHBUNCH

Join the Out-to-Lunch Bunch on Friday, March 2, at 11:30 a.m. at *Cassell's in Northville*. (located on Seven Mile in the Highland Lakes Shopping Mall.) Take Seven Mile to Northville Road and turn right. At the light turn left, and after crossing the railroad track, turn into the 2nd, 3rd, or 4th drive into the parking lot. Thank you to all who came to the January Lunch Bunch Brunch, bringing food for Active Faith. An appreciated thank you note stated that we donated 69 items.

"A NIGHT TO REMEMBER" SATURDAY, MARCH 31

Everyone needs a fun night out with friends, and we have one planned for you! SWING CITY – BIG BAND ERA OF THE 1940'S. Deanna Abrash is the pianist and Myra Prueter plays the sax, along with 16 men. The band takes up half the stage, and people are encouraged to dance on the other half. The night we went, many couples were swinging with the big band music. We didn't swing, but we enjoyed watching and listening and know you will too. The Canton Village Theater is on Cherry Hill, west of Beck Road. The band begins at 8:00 p.m, and the tickets are \$12 each. Claudia Abrash will purchase the tickets in advance so we can sit together. Please write checks to Claudia and give them to her or to Chris. She will need your money by March 18. If you prefer, you may purchase tickets at the door that evening.

DINNER: 5:30 p.m.

WHERE: The Hirth Home

MENU: Lasagna, Salad, rolls, and
dessert

PRICE: \$5.00 (I will order the lasagna
and salad from Genitti's.)

Please sign up for the dinner before Wed., March 21. You can include the dinner with the check to Claudia or you can pay for the dinner that night. Just be sure to sign up! Any questions, don't hesitate to call me.

- - - - Ettie Ann

Vacation Bible School
July 23 - 27, 2007
9 a.m. - Noon

Group's "Avalanche Ranch" -

A wild ride through God's Word

- I can help prepare crafts at home before VBS.
- I can be a Class Assistant the week of VBS.
- I can help at the Registration table on Monday, July 23.
- I can help pass out Snacks to the children.
- I can help lead Songs at Music time.
- I can help with Bible Story telling.
- I can help the children with Crafts the week of VBS.
- I can help with Recreation.

It may be early, but we need commitments to plan for VBS! We anticipate 200 children will participate in this year's VBS.

Mail to the church office or return in the box provided in the Gathering Hall.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

God's Draft Choices

Two of the most highly watched sporting events on television are not when teams or athletes are competing against each other; rather they involve the drafting of players for the National Football League (NFL) and National Basketball Association (NBA) teams. For many hours, fans of professional sports will watch intently to see whom their favorite teams will draft.

Most of us won't be drafted by professional football or basketball teams, but, as Christians, we receive a greater calling. We, in essence, are God's draft choices. *"You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit"* (John 15:16). God has made us a part of His team. We are not chosen by God because we are successful in our careers, great athletes, or wealthy. God chooses ordinary people to do extra-ordinary things. *"But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. He chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things – and the things that are not – to mollify the things that are"* (1 Corinthians 1:27-28).

Through faith, we understand that we are among the foolish and weak through whom God carries on his life-saving work. *"But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us"* (2 Corinthians 4:7). God entrusts us – clay jars – with this treasure – the Gospel. Even though we are frail and unworthy of our tasks, God has chosen us to carry His message of love to the world. As humble people of faith, we are empowered by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. He transforms and molds us. *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"* (2 Corin. 5:17) *It is God Who does the drafting and the changing. Through faith, we will stay on God's team, and we will bear the fruit that He calls us to bear.*

MARCH 2007

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
+ Indicates Holy Communion				1 6:30-8:30pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm Elders	2 11:30am Out to Lunch Bunch	3
4 8:00am Worship 9:15am Contemporary Worship 10:30am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 11:30am Coffee Hour 5:30-7:00pm Youth Bible	5 5:30 & 6:30pm Weight Watchers	6	7 4-5:30pm Confirmation 6:00pm Dinner 7:00pm WORSHIP 8:00pm Choir	8 6:30-8:30pm Cub Scouts	9	10
11 8:00am Worship + 9:15am Adult Bible Class 10:30am Worship + 10:30am Sunday School	12 5:30 & 6:30pm Weight Watchers 7:00pm Trustees	13	14 4-5:30pm Confirmation 6:00pm Dinner 7:00pm WORSHIP 8:00pm Choir	15	16	17 10:00am Women's Outreach
18 8:00am Worship 9:30am Adult Bible Class 10:30am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 12:00noon Baby Shower 5:30-7:00pm Youth Bible	19 5:30 & 6:30pm Weight Watchers	20 7:00pm Church Council	21 4-5:30pm Confirmation 6:00pm Dinner 7:00pm WORSHIP 8:00pm Choir	22	23	24
25 8:00am Worship + 9:15am Adult Bible Class 10:30am Worship + 10:30am Sunday School 11:30am PS Registration	26 5:30 & 6:30pm Weight Watchers	27	28 4-5:30pm Confirmation 6:00pm Dinner 7:00pm WORSHIP 8:00pm Choir	29	30	31 9:00am Community Preschool Registration 5:30pm Dinner-Hirths 8:00pm Swing Band

