

# CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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**O C T O B E R, 2 0 0 8**

Dear Beloved Members,

Greetings in the name of our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus!

On Sunday, October 5, we begin our stewardship program **“Stewards Living a God-Pleasing Life.”** For three Sundays, we will look into the basis of Christian stewardship and its application in our lives. As we spend time in God’s Word during our worship services, we will better understand how God wants us to use our lives and resources for His purposes.

God has given all of us the task of being His stewards. We are God’s stewards because He is the source and owner of all that we are and have. To be God-pleasing stewards, we need God’s help. The Holy Spirit working in and through His Word changes us into new people who become God-centered rather than self-centered people. Because of what God has given to us and done for us through Christ, we live with new perspectives and priorities. God-pleasing stewards are devoted to pleasing and praising Him.

During our three-week program, we will be discussing many ways that we please God through our faithful stewardship. God-pleasing stewards will . . .

- . . . live with the Word of the Lord as their authority and claim God’s promises.
- . . . live God-directed, rather than self-directed, lives.
- . . . seek the presence and strength of the Lord.
- . . . follow the ways of the Lord.
- . . . see others as people loved by God.
- . . . serve faithfully in church, family and community.
- . . . give generously.
- . . . develop their gifts and talents.
- . . . see the hand of the Lord as their support.
- . . . see the grace of the Lord as their supply.
- . . . handle their resources wisely and prudently.
- . . . help those in need.

It is my hope and prayer that you will make every effort to attend worship services during this uplifting and enriching program **“Stewards Living a God-Pleasing Life.”**

Serving together in Christ,

*Pastor Terry Nelson*

## **Stewards Living a God-Pleasing Life**

Be sure to join your brothers and sisters in Christ as we study God's Word to find how we can be STEWARDS LIVING A GOD-PLEASING LIFE. Our worship will focus on the following themes:

Sunday, October 5

FAITH IS THE FOUNDATION

Sunday, October 12

DISCIPLESHIP IS THE PATH

Sunday, October 19

GENEROSITY IS THE HALLMARK

Commitment Sunday is Sunday, October 19, which will be a day of joyful response to that grace of God. Please make every effort to attend worship services during this program and prayerfully consider your privileges and responsibilities as God's stewards.

### **FALL WORSHIP & CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SCHEDULE:**

8:00 a.m.	Worship
9:15 a.m.	Contemporary Worship
	<i>(1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month)</i>
9:15 a.m.	Adult Bible Class – <i>Revelation</i>
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 a.m. worship service and Adult Bible Class are not held the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month when the Contemporary service is celebrated.

SUNDAY SCHOOL classes are held for children three years old (3 by Dec. 1) through fifth grade at the same time as the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Children are dismissed after the opening hymn.

Thank you to all who are teaching SUNDAY SCHOOL classes! If you would like to help with an activity, program, or be a Substitute teacher, call Amy Lockard at 248-446-9598. (Regular teachers teach once every 3-4 weeks, and the materials are easy to follow.) Mark your calendars that Christmas Program practices begin on Sunday, October 19!

ADULT BIBLE STUDY is studying the book of *REVELATION* Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m. God's revelation to John encourages Christians at every age. Key thoughts include the ultimate defeat of Satan and all the forces of evil; the confident hope believers have in their reigning Savior; and the final, glorious destiny of all those who trust in Jesus for salvation.

The YOUTH BIBLE GROUP meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month. All young people grades 6-12 are invited to meet for Bible Study and fellowship. Following is the October schedule.

October 5 <sup>th</sup>	10:15 a.m.
	<i>(following the Contemporary service)</i>
October 19	9:15 a.m.

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.

### **ADULT CHOIR**

CHOIR rehearsals will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays after the 10:30 a.m. worship service. In October they will meet on October 12 and 26. People of all voices are needed. If you enjoy singing praises to God, please prayerfully consider singing in the Choir.

**MEETINGS  
AT A GLANCE . . . . .**

Board of Elders  
Thurs. Oct. 2 7 p.m.  
Board of Evangelism  
Tues. Oct. 7 7 p.m.  
Board of Stewardship  
Tues., Oct. 14 7 p.m.  
Board of Trustees  
Tues., Oct. 14 7 p.m.  
Church Council  
Tues., Oct. 21 7 p.m.  
Preschool Board  
Mon. Oct. 27 7 p.m.

**PANCAKE BRUNCH**  
**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2008**  
**11:30 a.m.**  
**All are welcome!**

**CROSS OF CHRIST  
CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL**  
*"Preschool With a Plus"*

The Lord has blessed us with 75 children this new school year. We have a waiting list for our four year old classes, but we have a few openings in our afternoon three year old class, which meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:30 – 2:30 p.m. Pass the word on to friends and family.

Consider a gift to the *Preschool Scholarship Fund* to provide tuition help for families with need.

The next Preschool Board meeting will be held on Monday, October 27, 2008, at 7 p.m.

**ACTIVE FAITH**

We are collecting CEREAL for the month of *October* for ACTIVE FAITH. Items can be placed in the box provided as you enter church.

**OUT TO LUNCH  
BUNCH**

*1<sup>ST</sup> Friday of the Month – 11:30 a.m.*  
*Sign up on the Information Board*  
*Or Call Ettie Ann: 248-349-2545*

**Oct. 3**      **Karls Cabin – Plymouth**  
Nov. 7      Big Boy – South Lyon  
Dec. 5      Alexanders – South Lyon  
Jan. 2      Hirths – New Year's Brunch  
Feb. 6      Deadwood – Northville  
March 6     Chinese – Novi  
April 3      Genittis – Northville  
May 1      Riverbank – South Lyon

**MEMBERSHIP**

CALLED HOME:

++ Thelma N. Chaklosh  
September 21, 2008

BAPTISM:

++ Ethan Gregory Aho  
Child of Derek & Michelle Aho  
September 14, 2008

TRANSFER IN:

++ Russell & Karleen Duff,  
Shannon & Scott  
From Shepherd of the Lakes,  
Brighton, MI

TRANSFER OUT

++ Jean Banner  
To St. Matthew, Walled Lake, MI

**MEMBERS WELCOMED**

We welcomed our new members on Sunday, September 7:

Grant & Karen Neiswinter  
from Trinity Lutheran, Oscoda, MI  
&

Ryan & Emily Schoenberg and Ella  
from Grace, Redford, MI

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Our congregation is again reaching out to needy children in desperate situations around the world through *Operation Christmas Child*. Please fill your own box (plastic or shoe box). BROCHURES will be available soon with suggestions. If able, please include a \$7 donation in the envelope for shipping and place on top inside your box. FILLED BOXES ARE DUE BACK ON **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16.**

### Hurricane Ike

The Texas District is gearing up for long term responses to the needs following Hurricane Ike. Congregations continue to report damage of their facilities and homes of members.

Volunteer Clean Up Help:

[www.Txdistlcms.org](http://www.Txdistlcms.org)

Send Contributions:

Texas District, LCMS;  
7900 E. Highway 290; Austin, TX  
78724.

## OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Richard & Viola Chambers  
Jeff & Nancy Marsh  
Jim & Patty Wadkins
- 5 George & Hazel Richardson
- 7 Robert & Jeannine Hosbach
- 8 Robert & Dawn Petz
- 9 Jeffery & Karen Hantz
- 10 Charles & Dana Hamlet  
Grant & Karen Neiswinter
- 12 John & Jean Boyle
- 17 David & Denise Gerke
- 25 Robert & Colleen Martin  
Richard & Dawn Miller  
James & Barbara Morrison

*Let the church office know of any dates missing or incorrect.*

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Rose Hall  
Eric Hantz
- 3 Ettie Ann Hirth  
Drake Lockard
- 9 Clarice French  
Jerry Geelhood  
Ernest Johnston
- 10 Ray Brown
- 11 Carol Mielke
- 12 Keith Pixley  
Pam Sieting
- 15 Alexander Geelhood  
Neil Nichols
- 16 Adam & Eric Walrath
- 18 Ed Baughman
- 19 Bonnie Tura
- 20 Jessica Evans  
Janelle Rapson-Lach
- 21 Warner Krause
- 22 Tammy Lanam  
Adam Marsh
- 23 Austin Gerke
- 24 David Mielke
- 25 Alan Lach
- 26 Donna Evans  
Florence Hall
- 27 Angela Baker  
Mary Pogarch
- 28 Sherry Bugar
- 29 Edda Albin  
Charles Deeds  
Tricia Evans
- 31 Deanna Abrash  
William Baker

## SPECIAL FUNDS

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

Carpent Fund (Narthex)  
Copier Fund  
Debt Reduction  
Garage Fund

## WOMEN'S OUTREACH

On Saturday, September 20, eleven ladies met for our first Outreach meeting. Wow! What a productive meeting we had!

Claudia Abrash did a wonderful devotion, "A Bad Cup of Coffee." Several years ago most of us remember black coffee or coffee with cream and sugar. Today, there are many coffee shops serving coffee in different ways with many flavors. To some coffee drinkers, they are yummy, but not everyone has the same taste. To some, a bad cup of coffee can be weak, bitter, stale, cold, or soured by milk. As Christians, what kind of coffee would we be? Would we be weak Christians, bitter Christians, stale Christians, cold Christians, or sour Christians? In order to avoid being weak, bitter, stale, cold or sour as Christians, we have to learn to be in the presence of God more. Claudia closed her devotion with a prayer leading us into an uplifting meeting. Thanks Claudia!

Our agenda for discussion was meetings, social events, profitable ideas and service projects.

There will be three meetings a year. We will meet in August to plan for September, October, and November. The second meeting will be in November to plan events in December, January, February, and March. We have set Saturday, NOVEMBER 29, at NOON for our second meeting. Mark your calendars and plan to attend. The third meeting will be in March to plan April, May, and June.

There will be a social event each month. Following is our plan:

Sun., October 19	Noon	Pancake Brunch (hosted by Bd. of Evangelism)
Sun., November 23	Noon	Annual Thanksgiving Dinner
Sat., December 6	2pm	Advent for Ladies – <i>an afternoon affair</i>
Sun., January	Noon	Super "Bowl" Lunch
Sat., February 14		Valentine's Day – "A Chocolate Extravaganza"

That's a good ending for this newsletter article. Do come to the NOV 29<sup>th</sup> meeting at Noon to help finalize the above events.

This year Sunday, November 30, is the first Sunday of Advent, and we would like to have the church decorated for Advent. That means we need to decorate on Saturday, November 29. We need lots of help and with "young" help (to climb the ladders), the church becomes beautiful in a short time. Remember ladies . . . its' NOV. 29<sup>th</sup>, we'll meet at NOON in the conference room.

Next on our agenda was profitable ideas. A few years ago, the ladies had several money making projects with the profits being matched by AAL, now *Thrivent*. The monies were used for special purchases. The beautiful grand piano was purchased from the ladies' fund raisers. Without fund raisers, we cannot get matching funds from Thrivent. So we have decided we are going to get matching funds (free money!) We ARE going to start purchasing new chairs. (orange is out!) Pew cushions and pew candles (used for special occasions) were among several suggestions. Some suggestions were a Pie Sale (Sunday a.m.) in November, Christmas Cookie Sale in December, monthly Bake Sale (Sunday a.m.), and a Used Book Sale during Coffee Hour. A Rummage Sale or Flea Market may be held next year. For now, we have lots of CROSS OF CHRIST COOK BOOKS (\$7 each) – and all of that is profit. Keep them in mind for little Christmas gifts or hostess gifts.

The final discussion was about service projects. Again this year we will participate in Operation Christmas Child. Last Christmas we selected a South Lyon family through Active Faith and all of their Christmas gifts were donated by our members. We would like to do it again this year. If there is a family in our church who needs a little help at Christmas, we would like to help them. If you know of anyone, tell Pastor Nelson. He could pass the information on to us without names.

## **WOMEN'S OUTREACH**

*Continued . . . . .*

We all agreed that we should support Active Faith with nonperishable food items. They welcome all foods, but we are asking for donations of CEREAL for the month of October.

Glance back over this news item and what date is capitalized 3 times - - NOVEMBER 29<sup>TH</sup> at NOON. That's the date of our next meeting!!!! If you have any questions, please give me a call at 248-349-2545 or talk to Chris.

*Ettie Ann Hirth*

## **STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM IS HERE!**

**Stewards living a God-pleasing life** are managers of all of God's creation. As owner, God has called us to be responsible as we fulfill the role for which we have been created, to do His will as long as we remain on earth. *"For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do"* (Ephesians 2:10).

We are not given these responsibilities because of our great talents and abilities. On the contrary, we often feel inadequate and unprepared for the tasks God places before us. Our strength is in the Lord. The Apostle Paul made that point very clear as He gave praise to God for His power within us: *"Now to Him Who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen"* (Ephesians 3:20-21). As **stewards living a God-pleasing life**, we welcome our opportunities for stewardship and give all the glory to God.

This month we will be studying the topic of **"Stewards Living a God-Pleasing Life"** in our worship services. We will discuss **faith** as the foundation for stewardship, for it is only through faith that we can please God. We will delve into the important role that **discipleship** holds in our lives as obedient stewards. We will study the Scriptures to learn how **generosity** is the hallmark of grateful stewards responding to the love and generosity of God. Our stewardship program emphasizes the grace of God Who has called us to faith and continues to sustain us. Let the words of the writer to the Hebrews be our prayer: *"May the God of peace . . . equip you with everything good for doing His will, and may He work in us what is pleasing to Him, through Jesus Christ, to Whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen"* (Hebrews 13:20, 21).

May God give you the grace to continue the faithful stewardship of the many blessings that He has entrusted to your care.

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### **COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE**

OCTOBER	Evangelism
NOVEMBER	Preschool Board
DECEMBER	Elders
JANUARY	Trustees
FEBRUARY	Altar Guild
MARCH	Women's Outreach
APRIL	Stewardship
MAY	Church Council

### **AREA NEWS**

#### **HALLOWEEN FUN NIGHT:**

*Concordia College, Ann Arbor*

*All are invited to a family fun night on  
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31, from 5 – 7 p.m.*

This is an opportunity for grade-school children to get away from the secular traditions, but still have an opportunity to have a fun time, receive a few treats, and receive the message of the Reformation in the process. Student volunteers from campus are going to issue candy from the dorms, as well as from the central part of campus.

# OCTOBER 2008

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>+ Indicates Holy Communion</b>			<b>1</b> 4:00-5:30pm Confirmation	<b>2</b> 6:30-8:30pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm Elders	<b>3</b> 11:30am Out to Lunch Bunch – Karls, Plymouth	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> <i>Stewardship Program</i> <b>No 8:00 a.m. service</b> 9:15am Contemporary Worship 10:15am Team Trinity Yth. 10:30am Worship 10:30am Sunday School	<b>6</b> 5:30 & 6:30pm Weight Watchers	<b>7</b> 6:30-8:30pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm Evangelism	<b>8</b> 4:00-5:30pm Confirmation	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> <i>Stewardship Program</i> 8:00am Worship + 9:15 am Adult Bible Class 10:30am Worship + 10:30am Sunday School 11:45am Adult Choir	<b>13</b> 5:30 & 6:30pm Weight Watchers	<b>14</b> 6:30-8:30pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm Trustees 7:00pm Stewardship	<b>15</b> 4:00-5:30pm Confirmation	<b>16</b> 6:30-8:30pm Girl Scouts	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> <i>Commitment Sunday</i> 8:00am Worship 9:15 am Adult Bible Class 9:15am Team Trinity Yth 10:30am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 11:30am Pancake Brunch	<b>20</b> 5:30 & 6:30pm Weight Watchers	<b>21</b> 7:00pm Church Council	<b>22</b> 4:00-5:30pm Confirmation	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 8:00am Worship + 9:15am Adult Bible Class 10:30am Worship + 10:30am Sunday School 11:45am Adult Choir	<b>27</b> 5:30 & 6:30pm Weight Watchers 7:00pm Preschool Bd.	<b>28</b> 6:30-8:30pm Cub Scouts	<b>29</b> 4:00-5:30pm Confirmation	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	

