

CROSSROADS

Holy Cross Lutheran Church– ELCA



Pray Without Ceasing

LENT and PRAYER

Certainly Lent is about God's relationship with us. It is the intimate story of how God intervenes to save – by sending His Son to die for our sins. The gathered community of faith uses any number of themes during the season of Lent (Nails of the Cross; Words from the Cross; Beatitudes; Drama; I Am Sayings) to drive home that how God consistently works to strengthen and affirm the relationship within our lives.

Doesn't it seem that a natural connection for any Lenten experience would be prayer? My hunch is that we know it to be important, even if we don't practice it. Let this Lent be one in which we do not contrive something to give up, but rather take on the practice of prayer!

The most common reason for not praying --- not knowing what to pray. Try one of these:

- Practice it in the morning when you rise or at night as you recline.
- Practice it by praying the Psalms or the hymns of the church.
- Acquire a monthly meditation booklet and use the devotion as prayer. Spend 5 minutes in quiet and yield to the Spirit's prompting.

If one thinks about it, any relationship is founded in communication. It is no less so for our relationship with God. Prayer is a vital component of our relationship with our God. Not only does prayer become the means for us to communicate with God, it is one of God's ways to communicate with us. Don't we believe that God, not only communicates through creation; His Word; liturgies & traditions – but also as Spirit that speaks to our heart and soul? Don't we believe that our prayers, praise, petitions that make requests, intercessions for others, and pleas are the means we communicate with our God?

While there are times when prayer will wait on God, there are other times when our petitions are a means for the Holy Spirit to make us aware of what God desires and longs for us...and, maybe from us. In those times communication happens and enlivens faith.

There is not one set style, form or format for prayer. The idea is to stop delaying and to start. Oh, parts of prayer can be learned, but other parts are learned best by simply yielding to the mystery of God's moment and the power of His working.

Let Lenten's journey this year be prayer, communication, and a deepened relationship with your God!

May it be true for you this day & each day.

Pastor David

Feb 23, 2010
Volume MMX No. 4

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Life at Holy Cross

Upcoming Events

- Save March 21 for a trip with the Empty Nesters to the museum to see the Dead Sea Scrolls Exhibition. We will follow with dinner at a local restaurant (TBD). Details and a sign up sheet are on the bulletin board at church. The group rate is \$22.00 for seniors, Please sign up and pay Faith Buck by March 7. We have room for 20 people.
- Elizabeth Circle will meet on Tuesday, March 2 at 9:00 am in the Gathering Place. Sharon Ushold will serve. Pastor Meredith will lead the March study on "The Renewing of our Minds". Everyone is welcome.

Memorials

A memorial was received by Marie Schacht in memory of her husband Walter's birthday on Feb. 14.

A memorial was received by Mary Ann Holt in memory of Judi Somerville.

A memorial was received by George & Donita Bruder in memory of Donita's brother Robert.

A memorial was received by Dick Zache in memory of his wife Maggie.

Military Honor Roll

Please keep the following Holy Cross members and families in your prayers: Shannon Brusseau, Aaron Ferguson, Eric Hemming, Nick Gilson, Julie Lange, Jonathan Lange, Eric Nordseth, Patrick Remfrey, Joshua Braaten, Loren Braaten and Dustin Peche.

Prayer Connection

- *Hospitalized*
Mac Pinnow, Joyce Oldenburg, Tom Gelhar at CMH



General Contributions

Our 2010 budget calls for average weekly contributions of \$20,199 to avoid an operating deficit.

Week of February 7, 2010:

Offerings = \$20,482.10 (\$1,129 Simply Giving, \$19,353.10 plate offerings)

Week of February 14, 2010:

Offerings = \$23,957.56 (\$14,064 Simply Giving, \$9,893.56 plate offerings)

Attendance

Week of February 7, 2010:

Saturday 145; Sunday 456.

Week of February 14, 2010:

Saturday 97; Sunday 464.

The Lutheran Magazine

Just a reminder that we are in the process of updating our annual Lutheran magazine subscription and any member of Holy Cross can take advantage of our group subscription rate of \$7.95 per year. If you are interested in a personal subscription, contact Beth Dorsey in the church office 251-2740 or drop off a check for \$7.95 marked "The Lutheran". For more information about the magazine, you can visit their website at www.thelutheran.org.

Seedlings from Earthkeepers



Wow, you can recycle that?

From paint and batteries to wine corks and hair (really!), a little patience (and a search on Earth911.com) can make recycling these items a little easier. The list of qualified recycling candidates is long, but here are a few: blue jeans, wallet waste (gift cards, hotel key cards, etc), cooking oil, six pack beverage rings, cooking oils, makeup containers and more!

Holy Cross Mission Endowment Board News

'MY LEGACY MATTERS'

A presentation by a Thrivent representative will be given in the Trinity Center at 10:00 AM on Sunday, April 25th.

Join us for coffee and the presentation.

The conversation is meant to help people live their legacy now and plan what to leave for future generations

**What
Does
Your
Faith
Look
Like?**

Introducing Our New Greater Milwaukee Synod Bishop

The Rev. Jeff Barrow was elected as bishop of the Greater Milwaukee Synod Dec. 5, 2009 to a six-year term. His first day as bishop was Feb. 1, 2010, succeeding Interim Bishop David Olson. Rev. Barrow was the senior pastor at Holy Communion Lutheran Church in Racine since 1991 and served the synod office as assistant to the bishop since 2007.

Raised in Billings, Montana, Bishop Barrow was a 1973 graduate of Augustana College, Sioux Falls, S.D. and earned his master of divinity degree from Luther Northwestern Seminary -- now Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minn. in 1979.

He was first called to Zion Lutheran in Cuero, Texas before taking a call to Ascension Lutheran, an urban and multicultural congregation in downtown Milwaukee in 1981. Jeff served on the synod's candidacy committee since 1996 before working with candidacy as an assistant to the bishop.

Previous Pastors

Here is an update on the health and status of Holy Cross' previous pastors.

Former member Rev. Robert Wilch, 86, died on January 29 of complications related to heart surgery. He was a member here while serving as Bishop of the ELCA in the Milwaukee area.

Rev. Paul Peterson continues to fight the good fight. Some Holy Cross members recently had a Norwegian dinner out with the Pastor. It is reported that Paul devoured his lutefisk!

Rev. Ed Paape has been in contact via email. He reports that he is doing better. He's been spending too much time at the Dialysis Center but blood levels are back to normal.

Rev. Frank Maxwell sends greetings from Washington Island, where he serves at Trinity Lutheran Church. Pr. Meredith & Paul visited his church recently when Pr. Meredith served as guest preacher.

Rev. Woody Knutson has a new church home. He is now Pastor at United Evangelical Lutheran in Rockford, IL.

Youth & Family Ministry

Something's Stirring...

As the cold dark days of winter give way to the brighter days of spring, all of God's creation awakens to new life. As Christians, we celebrate our awakening to new life in Jesus as this season of Lent prepares us for his glorious Easter dawn. The whole world comes alive in celebration of Christ's resurrection. Let us take time to join in the celebration as all creation sings our Lord's praise.

Join us as we begin a Lenten experience for children called *Let All Creation Sing*. Each week will focus on a specific animal from the season: The donkey, the honeybee, the rooster and chicks, the lamb, and the bunny. This five-session event will be offered from 6:00 to 6:45 pm on Wednesdays beginning February 24 thru March 24. Lenten dinners will begin at 5:30 pm and worship services will be held at 5:00 and 7:00 pm.

We will be doing a plethora of fun activities to learn about Lent. Our time will include skits, crafts, songs, prayers and recipes to fulfill and inspire you this Lent. There is no need to sign up ahead of time, just come to the Garden View Room. Kids can be dropped off or parents are welcome to stay. Let's all have a fun, fulfilling and faithful experience. If you have any question, please call Sue Christiaansen in the church office at 251-2740.

Preschool Update

February has been an exciting month for the preschool. The students began by learning about Valentine's Day and ways to show kindness and goodness with others. They made friendship chains, hugs and kisses graphs and even decorated valentines for friends and loved ones. Next, the students focused on community helpers, such as postal workers, dentists and veterinarians. Several guests from the community visited the classrooms to discuss their jobs and responsibilities with the students.

Please remember that preschool registration for the 2010-2011 school year is open now for all church members and the general public. Let your friends and neighbors know about our wonderful preschool! For further information, please contact Pam Kraus in the preschool office at 262-502-4104. Additionally, there will be an open house for current and prospective families on Monday, March 29 from 6- 7:00 pm.

Flip Flops for Lent

The newly formed DAYLE GROUP, which meets the 2nd Saturday of the month after the 5:00 pm worship, invites you in conjunction with the Church in Society Board, to contribute new FLIP FLOPS through the [Giving Wreath basket](#).

More children die each year from diseases and infections related to poor sanitation than any other disease. Very often, bare feet are a factor in their death. Consider giving a pair of flip flops and \$1.00 as a donation for transportation.

More Than A Movie Night

It's that time again to come to Holy Cross and enjoy a great movie, and the best part is it's free! 2nd to 6th graders are invited to come on Friday, March 5 from 6:30-8:30 pm. Our movie for the month will be Meet the Robinson's. So put down your Wii remotes, get off the computer and come for some fun. You can bring a friend or two and we will supply the snacks.

Reminiscing Ministry...

Would you like to be involved in a new, innovative ministry? Going, once a month, to one of the local senior facilities to host a group that reminisces about the good old days. Armed with a list of topics (and prefab questions) you might lead a discussion on the State Fair; school days; food; where you were raised; or travels. Each topic is meant to draw forth images of joyful and innocent times or memories. It will involve listening and enjoying stories. It's about caring and compassion. Interested? Contact Pastor David at the church office: #262-251-2740 x 232.

Get the Spring Back in your Step!

The Holy Cross Women's Retreat will take place on April 17-18 at the Green Lake Conference Center. There are hotel style accommodations with two double beds and a bath. The cost covers lodging plus 4 meals...single room - \$ 120; Double Room - \$ 75; Triple Room - \$ 60 (only 4 of these rooms are still available). Plans include a variety of opportunities including: worship, devotions, crafts, reading, games (bring your own materials to catch up on ~ scrapbooking, stamping, reading or a deck of cards). Pastor Meredith will lead a discussion on the popular book *The Shack*. HCLC member Cindi Schickert will lead some Yoga sessions as well as a conversation on health, nutrition and wellness. Hopefully, we'll have great spring weather and you can enjoy a walk along the lake!

REGISTRATION FORMS AVAILABLE online at www.holycrosslutheran.org. Go to the Resources tab and choose Forms from the drop down menu. Forms may also be picked up in the church office.

King David– A Man After God's own Heart

Join a 6-week study of King David. Learn more about how open and vulnerable he was and how he recorded his weaknesses and struggles for the world to read. An interesting character to say the least, he was a man with a passionate heart for God. Join us as we explore his life through the scriptures.

Beginning Monday evening March 1, from 7-8:30 pm, we will be using the study guide [David: Developing a Heart for God](#) by Jack Kuhatschek. Call Gwen Downing to register for the class and to order a study guide. 414-531-7924

Young Adults Group

Are you a young member of Holy Cross looking to meet others? Are you a family, a couple or single? Why don't you join us the 1st Saturday of the month at 6:00 pm for a pot luck, conversation, and kids playtime. We get together monthly, but there is no obligation to come every time. We would love to get to know you.

This gathering is very informal and lasts about 1 1/2 hours. Stay the whole time or leave when you need to. In the future, we are looking to add activities and outings. Contact Todd & Bobbi Fochs for more details. Our next gathering is March 6th. E-mail: tfochs1023@yahoo.com Cell phone: 414-881-0235 E-mail: blandvat@yahoo.com Cell phone: 414-840-8078

Fellowship at Holy Cross

Prayer...Prayer

We all say we appreciate it & we all intend to do it. Why not join the Holy Cross Prayer Chain by submitting your email address to prayerchain@holycrosslutheran.org. You'll receive a weekly listing of prayer needs & joys to hold in prayer. You'll have access to share your immediate needs & concerns.



Join Us for Holy Cross Family Art Night!

Monday, March 22 6-7:00 pm

Located in the Garden View Room at Holy Cross

The Holy Cross Preschool is pairing up with Original Works art program. Your child does not have to attend the preschool to participate! During the evening, the children will be creating one of a kind pieces of art. Then, your child's artwork can be reproduced onto a variety of products. The final projects will arrive in time for Mother's Day! (and Father's Day!)

**Come for fun - Come for gift making
Come for fellowship - Come for snacks**

Any questions, feel free to contact Carrie Booher at:
262-250-1090 or carriebooher@att.net

Please complete the RSVP on the bottom and return it to the church office or preschool by March 19.



YES! We will be attending the Family Art Night at Holy Cross.

Number of children attending _____

Number of adults attending _____

Adult's name and phone _____

Address _____

****Children must be accompanied by at least one adult****

Dead Sea Scrolls

As many of you know, the Milwaukee Public Museum presently has a phenomenal exhibit entitled: *Dead Sea Scrolls and the Bible: Ancient Artifacts - Timeless Treasures*. Several Holy Cross members have said that the exhibit is fantastic and really helps to understand the Bible more fully. The exhibit will run until June 16, 2010. To assist people in understanding the importance of these texts, there will be two public lectures given by Rev. Alexander (Sandy) Jacobs.

Lecture I: The Importance of the Dead Sea Scrolls in our Understanding of the Hebrew Scriptures.
Sunday, February 28 at 7:00 pm at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 1044 Silverbrook, West Bend.
Sunday, March 14 at 6:00 pm at Lake Park Lutheran Church, Stowell and Park Place, Milwaukee.

Lecture II: The Importance of the Dead Sea Scrolls in our Understanding of the New Testament
Sunday, March 7 at 7:00 pm at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 1044 Silverbrook, West Bend. Sun-
day, March 21, at 6:00 pm at Lake Park Lutheran Church, Stowell and Park Place, Milwaukee.

Pastor Jacobs is the Interim Pastor at Our Savior's in West Bend and the Pastor-in-Residence at Lake Park Lutheran. He is a long time student of Biblical studies and the Dead Sea Scrolls. These lectures are free and open to the public.

The Readers' Corner

By Lois Heider

This compelling second novel by the author of *What Happened To Henry*, can be found in the NEW ARRIVALS section of our church library. It examines political and moral issues within the framework of family.

Everything After by Sharon Pywell (2006) (Fiction)

Nineteen-year-old Iris Sunnaret and her three older siblings live happily in a family that adopted them after their mother's accidental death.

Then, her two brothers are drawn into the Vietnam War, and both, according to the official records, die bravely in combat on the same day.

Months later, a soldier who served in their platoon appears on the family's doorstep, offering a different version of what happened. Iris's brother Perry saved the men in his platoon countless times, the man says, and *the last time he saved us, he did it by killing his brother*.

Determined to find out what really happened—and to keep her family from being ripped apart—Iris plunges into a desperate search for the truth and winds up uncovering something shocking about her siblings, her supposedly idyllic family, and herself.

Kirkus Reviews calls this book "a powerful novel about the inescapable consequences of war and lies. Pywell has a gift for capturing the complexity of sibling relationships."



Mark your Calendar!

ON MARCH 14, HOLY CROSS WILL BE HOSTING THE INSTALLATION OF REVERAND JEFF BARROW, BISHOP OF THE GREATER MILWAUKEE SYNOD.

There will be special music beginning at 2:30 PM,
the installation starts at 3:00 PM.

We are expecting a very large crowd, so if you would like to attend,
plan to come early.
Reception to follow.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

HOLY CROSS
LUTHERAN CHURCH
ELCA



W156 N8131 Pilgrim Road
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051

Worship Schedule: Saturday-5:00 pm,
Sunday-7:45, 9:00 am & 10:30 am

Phone: 262-251-2740
Fax: 262-251-2224
Preschool Phone: 262-502-4104

E-mail: holycross1@holycrosslutheran.org
Web Site: www.holycrosslutheran.org

Web Site ELCA: www.elca.org
Web Site Synod: www.milwaukeeesynod.org

*A place where we worship weekly, pray
daily, give joyfully, study the Bible and
serve the Lord in our community and
throughout the world!*