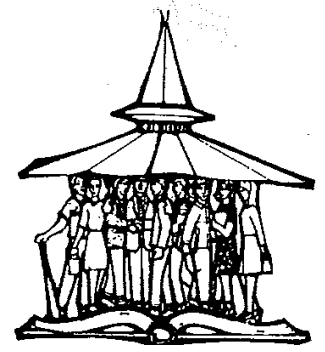


CROSS CURRENTS

Published by Cross Lutheran Church
Rev. Robert H. Preuss, Pastor and Rev. Amy Oslund, Pastor



Volume 53, Number 4

April 2015

March 13, 2015

From Pastor Preuss...

8 days and 7 weeks.

Since the beginning of God's work of creation, we have been taught that every week is seven days long. This year however, March 29 begins a week that is truly eight days in length.

March 29 is Palm Sunday. It is the day that marks Jesus' so-called "triumphal entry" into Jerusalem. That means it is also the beginning of the week of his Passion. That's because after he had ridden into Jerusalem Jesus went to the Temple to "drive out" the money changers and the merchants, the priests who ran the Temple and their supporters sought to have Jesus arrested, tried, and executed. They were supported by other Jews who were upset with him and determined to stop him because of what they believed were his violations of the Sabbath, and his repeated failures to confine his preaching, teaching, and healing to the godly rather than the ungodly.

With the help of one of his disciples, the Temple police arrested Jesus the Thursday night of that week, when after sharing a last supper with his disciples he went with them to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray. Two trials followed—one before the Jewish High Council, and the other before the Roman governor Pontius Pilate.

That Friday afternoon, Jesus was crucified outside the Holy City. When he died, Joseph of Arimathea asked for and received permission to bury his body. When he gave his permission, Pilate ordered the tomb sealed and a guard posted.

On the following Sunday, the eighth day of the week of Jesus' Passion, God raised his Son from the dead.

The reality of the Gospel is that we cannot even begin to understand any of those single events without understanding all eight days of that week as a whole.

Palm Sunday is only a parade unless seen in the context of Jesus' attempt to "cleanse" the Temple and his arrest that followed.

Seen apart from the other seven days, the last supper he shared with the Twelve is only a memorial and a "going away dinner" and not the revelation and giving of an eternal inheritance to those with whom he shares the meal with which he assures us of our place in his heart and his kingdom.

The brutal tragedy of Friday and his death has little meaning without our knowing why he died—and why he was willing to die.

Without his resurrection, we would not know that what Jesus taught and preached and did was truly God's will. If we are not confronted with his death, Easter is hollow and in no way a recognition of resurrection; because resurrection is not revival or resuscitation, but the giving of new life to one who was truly dead.

It is my prayer that each of us will recognize the theological and existential significance of the eight days of Holy Week, and that our recognition will be shaped by worship, contemplation, and prayer.

It is my further prayer that our "celebration of Easter" will recognize that for the church Easter is not one Sunday but seven weeks, so that we might know that the good news is not only that Jesus is risen, but that when he was raised from the dead he went to be with the disciples he'd chosen rather than rejecting them and starting over with a different bunch. Certainly that says as much as his death and resurrection does about his faithfulness in loving us; and that we whom he loves he also calls to follow him in loving each other and caring for God's world.

8 days and 7 weeks. I pray we'll each give it some thought.

Pastor Preuss

Holy Week Worship Service Schedule

March 29 Passion/Palm Sunday at 9:30am

April 2nd Maundy Thursday Worship Services at 10:30 a.m. and 6:45 p.m. Soup Luncheon at 11:30

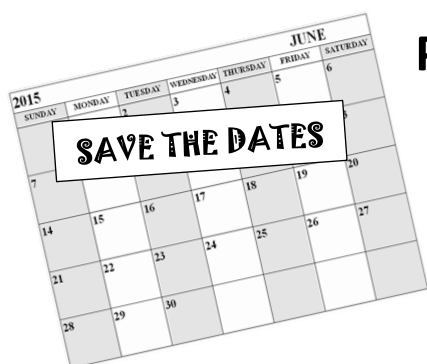
Hebrews 9:11-22 and Luke 22:14-34

April 3th Good Friday Tenebrae Service at 6:45 p.m.

Hebrews 9:11-22 and Mark 15:33-39

April 5th Easter Sunrise Worship at **7:00am**

Easter Festival Worship at 9:30 a.m.



God's Promises Day Camp "Miracles"

Tuesday June 9th through Thursday June 11th

8:00am – 4:00pm

Children 4 years old – 6th Grade

Come for music, crafts, Bible stories, drama, food and fellowship! Learn about miracles in the Bible and how they relate to our lives today!

WELCA NEWS

St. Paul Area Synodical Womens Convention

May 1-2

Trinity Lutheran Church

North Branch

You are invited to join women from around the synod for a weekend of Worship, Eucharist, Bible Study, learning sessions and business meetings. Further information is on the United Sisters bulletin board across from the kitchen.

MORE WELCA NEWS

Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Spring Meeting of the East Central Cluster

When: Thursday, April 23rd

Registration: (\$5)/Dessert 6:30

7:00 Business and Program

Where: St. Mark's Lutheran Church

2499 N. Helen St., North St. Paul

Program features an overview of the wide range of programs at Tubman Family Crisis Center, the largest provider of domestic violence care in Minnesota.

Material Offering: April Baby Basket Drive

The need is especially for **DIAPERS, DIAPERS, DIAPERS.**

If you wish to contribute there will be an ELCA blue box in the narthex to receive contributions.

Further information is on the United Sisters bulletin board across from the kitchen.

TIME CHANGES!!

Our Easter Sunrise Worship Service is at **7:00am** and our Easter Festival Worship Service of Holy Communion is at **9:30am.**

REMINDER our Sunday Worship Service is at **9:30am.** Our Sunday School Education begins at **10:45am** and Adult Education and Worship Services at **The Homestead** are at **11:00am.** All Education activities end at 11:50am.

We return to a **9:00 service** for the summer months **May 24th through September 9th.**

The Shores of Lake Phalen

Evening worship on Thursdays at 6:30pm except for Maundy Thursday April 2nd.

There is NO service on Maundy Thursday.

We will have a Good Friday Service on April 3rd at 3:30pm and we will have an Easter Worship Service at 11:30am on Easter April 5th.

Bible Study the 2nd Thursday at 3:30pm

All Cross Lutheran members are welcome to join us for worship and study!

SUNDAY SCHOOL NOTES

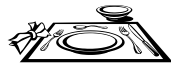
There will be no education classes on Easter Sunday, April 5. We invite everyone to attend one of the church services that morning as well as the Easter breakfast, served by the Youth of our congregation.

We invite all children, three years old through Sixth Grade, to join us on Sunday mornings. This includes your children, as well as the children of your friends and neighbors. In April, the children will continue their study of Jesus' teachings through parables. They'll be learning parables about a seed of faith, the Pharisee and the Tax Collector and vineyard workers. Be sure to ask the children what they're learning in Sunday School.

Mark your calendars today for Sunday morning, May 17. That's the date we'll be celebrating our year in education with our annual picnic, from 10:30-11:45 a.m. Everyone, including friends, family and neighbors, are invited to join us for food, games, fun and fellowship. Be sure to watch for further info on this year's picnic. We hope all of you will be able to join us Sunday morning, May 17.

Please let us know if you have any questions or comments. We're always interested in hearing from you.

EASTER BREAKFAST PREPARATION



SATURDAY APRIL 4TH
9:00am – 11:00am



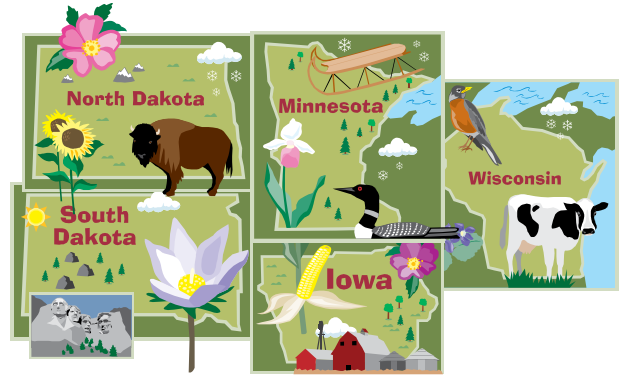
Calling ALL Youth we'd love to have you help make and serve our Easter Breakfast. All are invited and needed to make this a success! We need to set-up the Coffee Room for dining. There will also be some pre-preparation of our food for Sunday.

The more the merrier and the faster we will be finished! Sign up at cross@pro-ns.net, on the Youth Bulletin Board or on Facebook at Cross Lutheran Church – Maplewood, MN, for your work shift - either 7:15-8:45am or 8:15-9:45am during Easter Breakfast.

This is a **REQUIRED Confirmation Service Project.**



August 2 – 8,
2015
Current 6th –
12th Graders



Clue #1

The Mystery Trip will be by car
I guarantee we will travel far
With our Cross friends we go
Where there won't be any snow
And you won't have to pee in a jar

What will we do you all ask?
Will we find a hotel and relax?
No hotels or pools will we be
But trees and forests and lakes are for we
Setting up tents and hiking are our tasks

In your future there may be boats
Beaches and saunas and floats
Lions, tigers and bears
So no food in the tents or beware
I would also recommend bring a coat

Don't bring dress shoes that will bog you down
Don't bring fancy clothes or dressing gowns
Do bring a positive attitude and a smile
Shower everyday so your friends you don't rile
Be respectful to hosts and all those that are grown (up)

Our next Trip Meeting is
April 12th at 6:30pm.

OPPORTUNITIES



BOOK CLUB Tuesday April 28 at 6:30pm

High School through adults are welcome to join this book club! We are reading "The Piano Tuner" by Daniel Mason. In 1886 a shy, middle-aged piano tuner named Edgar Drake receives an unusual commission from the British War Office: to travel to the remote jungles of northeast Burma and there repair a rare piano belonging to an eccentric army surgeon who has proven mysteriously indispensable to the imperial design.

FAMILY SERVICE CENTER

We'll be serving dinner at the Family Service Center on Thursday April 9th, from 5:30-6:00pm. Please sign up in the narthex if you'd like to help out. Please talk to Roxy H. if you have any questions or comments.



Easter Breakfast Sunday April 5th

Served from 7:45 - 9:15am
by our Youth Group

Everyone is invited to join us -
Please bring your families and friends!

MENU

Biscuits & Gravy
Scrambled Eggs, Fresh Fruit, Cinnamon
Rolls,
Orange Juice, Coffee, Milk
A Freewill Offering will be taken.

Family Fun Night at John Glenn School April 21, 2015

As Tammy Erickson said in her announcement in February about our partnership with John Glenn School, "things are evolving."

We continue to do much to provide Jet Fuel Pack meals for about 40 John Glenn students and their families each week, and a number of us are still volunteering in classrooms and the library. The latest development is that Homework and Hotdish" has become "Family Fun Night." This is because John Glenn administrators and staff have concluded that at this point in the school year our befriending some of the students and playing games with them might be the most effective means for us to help them put to use some of the knowledge and skills they are learning in school.

Volunteers are needed to be at school on Tuesday, April 21 from 2:45-4:00 p.m. or 5:00-6:00 p.m. to help with meal preparation; and from 4:00-5:00 p.m. to play games like Uno, Bingo, Yahtzee, Pictionary, Scrabble, and others. Again, teachers and members of the school staff will also be on hand to work with us.

The schedule for the afternoon will be:

2:30-2:45 Snack	2:45-4:00 Meal Prep/Swimming/Gym Time	4:00-5:00 Games
5:00-5:30 Meal	5:30-6:00 Clean Up	

We realize that this schedule might not be as convenient for those who are not out of work early enough to volunteer; but it seems that this is what will work best for the students. So we have decided to give it a try.

If you are able and willing to help either with meal preparation and/or play games with John Glenn students, please call the church office (651-777-1329) or speak with Pastor Preuss or Michele Simon as soon as possible to let us know so that we make suitable plans.

Visit our **NEW** website at: www.crosslutheranchurch.org

STEWARDSHIP

FINANCES

	February <u>Actual</u>	February <u>Budget</u>	Year to Date <u>Actual</u>	Year to Date <u>Budget</u>	Annual <u>Budget</u>	Year to Date <u>Budget Bal.</u>
Income:						
Weekly Offerings	11,981.62	14,176.25	26,097.22	28,352.50	170,115.00	(2,255.28)
Holidays/Special	727.00	925.01	727.00	1,849.90	11,110.00	(1,122.90)
Other Income	2,529.11	3,417.10	3,575.69	6,834.00	61,005.00	(3,258.31)
Dedicated Funds Released	<u>250.00</u>	<u>530.42</u>	<u>500.00</u>	<u>1,060.80</u>	<u>6,365.00</u>	<u>(560.80)</u>
Total Income	15,487.73	19,048.78	30,899.91	19,048.42	248,585.00	(7,197.29)
Expense:						
Lay Ministry	14,646.32	16,343.91	30,524.13	32,687.90	196,127.00	2,163.77
Education	1,105.94	414.19	1,105.94	828.10	4,970.00	(277.84)
Youth Ministry	0	260.34	1,155.56	520.60	3,124.00	(634.96)*
Stewardship	440.78	187.50	440.78	375.00	2,250.00	(65.78)
Church Properties	<u>3,790.19</u>	<u>3,509.48</u>	<u>8,423.47</u>	<u>7,019.20</u>	<u>42,114.00</u>	<u>1,404.27</u>
Total Expense	<u>19,983.23</u>	<u>20,715.42</u>	<u>41,649.88</u>	<u>41,430.80</u>	<u>248,585.00</u>	<u>(219.08)</u>
Income - Expense	(4,495.50)	(1,666.64)	(10,749.97)	(3,333.60)	0	(7,416.37)

* Expenses for the Youth Events are divided out evenly through the year. Some months expenses will be realized and other months there will be no expenses for Youth Events. Youth pay a portion of the costs for their events, and Cross Lutheran Church utilizes budget dollars as well as donations to help defray the costs for our youth and to provide scholarships for all who need assistance to be able to participate in our Youth Events.

Through February Memorial Fund Balances: Altar Guild = \$791.15; Air Conditioning = \$2,100;
Portico Door Entrance/Stoop Roof = \$2,500; Artwork = \$(55.96); Education = \$390; Wireless Microphones = \$0

Confirmation Camp and Summer Youth Trip Special Offering Mother's Day May 10th

We will be holding a Special Offering before the service begins on Mother's Day May 10th. The Congregation commits to paying for a portion of the costs for our Confirmation students attending Confirmation Camp at Camp Emmaus in June. This year all 6 Confirmation students have signed up to attend Camp! This offering will help defray the costs of Camp. Any monies not needed for Confirmation will be used to help pay for the costs of the Summer Youth Trip in August. This year's trip is a Midwest Adventure Mystery Trip. Youth will travel the Midwest based on clues given out each day. Clue #1 is included in this Cross Currents! Can you find any hints to our travels? If all of the Youth that have indicated an interest in going on the Mystery Trip go there will be 14 Youth! Our Youth are always very thankful of the support given to them by our congregation.

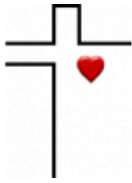
Thanks!

Cross Lutheran Church Mission Statement

Cross Lutheran Church is a community of believers united by our baptism into Christ Jesus. We are committed to proclaiming and teaching the Good News of God's love and sharing His love by serving our neighbors in all we do. We invite all to be a part of our fellowship as we grow in grace and follow Christ.

Visit our **NEW** website at: www.crosslutheranchurch.org

FRIENDS AND FAMILY



Our Condolences to:

Diana and Jim B. and family on the death of Diana's mom, Helen

April Birthday Blessings

DAY

- 3 Anjie B.
- 4 Andrew B.
- 4 Dan E.
- 6 Katie E.
- 7 Ray V.
- 9 Rachel G.
- 11 Michele S.
- 12 Allison H. M.
- 13 Signey O.
- 13 Becky P.
- 16 Emily B.
- 16 Marty M.
- 19 Simon O.
- 20 Shane W.
- 22 Zackery R.
- 28 Darrell A.
- 28 Patty V.
- 29 Allen S.
- 30 Sharon P.



If your birthday is ever missing from the Cross Currents, please contact the Church Office so that we can update our records!

Spring Work Day Take a Chance Breakfast Saturday April 25

We will have Breakfast at 8:00am before our Work Day. This will be a day for outside work projects – power raking, sweeping, trash cleanup, seeding, etc. Please sign up on the yellow sheet in the bulletin so we know how much food is needed.

Cross Lutheran Church prays for...Our prayers are requested for the following members:

Laura L.
Marya P.
Sharon O.
Sharon P.



Our prayers are requested for these non-members:

Ethel Wischer (Vi Amiot's sister)
Deb Nelson (Friend of Sharon Peterson)
Gabriel Friend (Dan and Tammy's nephew)
Diane (Friend of Kim Stack – Brain cancer returned)
Barbara Hoveland (Nola's daughter-in-law)
Chris Combs (Friend of Bob Brynildson – cancer)
Lynn Koop (Healing)
Marlene Havlik (Cancer – Valerie Addis' mother)
Don Abfalter (Dan and Jami Stack)
Jim Caruth (Chris Sletten's stepdad)
Greg Volkers (Ray & Clara's son, rare kidney disease)
Holly (breast cancer - friend of Lyndsay Long)
Jeff Dahn (Clay Duncan's grandson)
Tonya Brown (Nola's niece)
Eileen (kidney dialysis)
Taylor Boyles (Linda Kenny's granddaughter)

To have your name added to the list or removed, please speak with Pastor or Lay Minister or call the church office.

Prayers for Armed Forces

We pray for those who serve in our nation's armed forces during the Sunday morning Prayers of the Church. Your personal prayers are requested for these people currently serving:



Tim Hemquist (Member of CLC—USAF)
Matthew Preuss (Pastor's nephew—USMC)
Philip Kroll (husband of Angela Kroll)
Jonathan Carter (Quigley's son – USAF)

APRIL WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

MAUNDY THURSDAY, April 2 – 10:30am and 6:45pm

LAY MINISTERS: 10:30 Jim B. 6:45 Sherry B.
ACOLYTE: 6:45 Simon O.
USHERS: 10:30 Clara V.'s Team B 6:45 Dan E.'s Team
GREETERS: 10:30 Lenore R. and Michele S. 6:45 Dan and Tammy E.
LESSONS: Hebrews 9:11-22; Luke 22:14-34

GOOD FRIDAY, April 3 – 6:45pm

LAY MINISTERS: #1 Jamie G.
ACOLYTE: Lily P.
USHERS: Ray V. – Captain; Clara V., Judy A., Carrie K., Cory B.
GREETERS: Wayne and LuAnn L.
LESSONS: Hebrews 9:11-22; Mark 15:33-39

SUNDAY, April 5 – EASTER SUNDAY – 7:00am and 9:30am – EASTER BREAKFAST 7:45 – 9:15am

LAY MINISTERS: 7:00 Judy A. 9:30 #1 Allison H.M. #2 Jim B.
ANOINTING MINISTER: 9:30 Dan E.
ACOLYTE: Stephanie F. 9:30 Miranda H.
USHERS: 7:00 Matt W.'s Team 9:30 Wayne L.'s Team
GREETERS: 7:00 Jerry and Barb B. 9:30 Dorothy and Harry L.

SUNDAY, April 12

LAY MINISTERS: #1 Dean D. #2 Jamie G. #3 Allison H.M.
ANOINTING MINISTER: Judy A.
ACOLYTE: Amelia H. YOUTH READER: Andrew B.
USHERS: Jim B. – Captain; Diana B., Allen S., Duane G.
GREETERS: Jim and Diana B. NURSERY: Anne R.
COFFEE SERVERS: Jim and Jeannie H. and family
LESSONS: Acts 4:32-34; I John 1:1 – 2:2; John 20:19-31

SUNDAY, April 19

LAY MINISTERS: #1 Dan E. #2 Allison H.M. #3 Jamie G.
ANOINTING MINISTER: Sherry B.
ACOLYTE: Hailey W. YOUTH READER: Perri L.
USHERS: Arlo S. – Captain; Kay S., Dorothy and Harry L., Carrie K.
GREETERS: Nola H. and Marion L. NURSERY: Anne R.
COFFEE SERVERS: Jay and Chris S., Judy A.
LESSONS: Acts 3:12-19; I John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36b-48

SUNDAY, April 26

LAY MINISTERS: #1 Sherry B. #2 Dean D.
ANOINTING MINISTER: Jim B.
ACOLYTE: Isabel D. YOUTH READER: Nora O.
USHERS: Roxy H. – Captain; Rich and Mugs N., Jamie G., Rose M., Carolyn B.
GREETERS: Dave and Kay O. NURSERY: Anne R.
COFFEE SERVERS: Marya P. and family
LESSONS: Acts 4:5-12; I John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18

Cross Lutheran Church
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Easter Sunrise Worship Service 7:00am

Easter Breakfast 7:45am – 9:15am

Easter Festival Worship Service of Holy Communion 9:30am

In this April Issue:

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- ◆ *Education and Youth*
- ◆ *Opportunities*
- ◆ *Stewardship*
- ◆ *Friends and Family*

April 2015

Pastors: Rev. Robert H. Preuss & Rev. Amy Oslund

Director of Music: Leah Bergman

Organist: Dan Woolley

Secretary: Carol Hastings

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