

CROSS of CHRIST

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Crossties

February 2012



Our Vision Statement

We see ourselves as a loving, joy-filled family of believers gathered in celebration and praise around our Lord Jesus Christ. As Bible-based Christians, we seek to share God's word of salvation and to live daily in His healing, hope and guidance. We are committed to reaching out to the whole community, as we embrace and nurture new brothers and sisters with our Savior's own forgiveness and love.



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In Contemplation of Lent

Pastor Barry Hildebrandt

Again this year we resolve under God's direction and blessing to approach Lent with hallowed purpose. The symbol of this significant season is the cross. It speaks to us of Jerusalem and Calvary, of ugly mobs and fleeing disciples, of betrayal and denial, of mockery and hatred. The Christ who hung upon the cross on that sad Friday was the victim of these forces, which conspired to bring Him to that end.

Yet in return our Savior offered only love: love that suffered and endured, love that died and triumphed, love that forgave and promised redemption. Jesus' cross still stands – its shadow projected across the world as an enduring sign of hope. So the Lenten Season comes on February 22nd, offering us time to fortify our souls and to find new strength for our spirits through the power and love of the cross.

This season is once more a great opportunity for discovering the hidden treasure of silence, and I challenge each of you to find it for yourself. Each of us (if we will only do it) can use the coming six weeks to take time out of busy schedules on a daily basis for quiet and private contemplation of such love that moved our Heavenly Father to give up "His only begotten Son." Through personal meditation and our LAMP devotional readings we can gather at the foot of our Redeemer's cross for "that one thing needful."

Lent also gives us a chance to develop a deeper appreciation for God's daily blessings and the ministry opportunities of our Lord's Church. Will regular and consistent public worship and Bible study be the mark of our Lenten observance? Are we doing all we can to meet the financial commitments of our congregation's ministry? Do not we who have found hope and life in the shadow of the cross have a responsibility toward those who do not know Christ's redeeming love? Specifically, who do you know that you can bring with you on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings?

Acknowledging both the appeal and opportunities of this special season, let us pray for the Holy Spirit to empower us to consecrate our lives anew. Remember, we worship not a Savior who died and remains entombed in the past, but One who is alive and wants us to follow Him now!

Partners in Ministry - Tanzania

It is with great joy that I am able to share with you greetings from Pastor Samson Madata; pastor to the Gambosi congregation. I also have been sent pictures of the girls in the congregation wearing the dresses that we sent. The pictures have been scanned so are not clear but it IS clear that they have been received and are being used.

“MANY THANKS AND GREETINGS FROM GAMBOSI. WE ARE JUST DOING WELL IN GAMBOSI, I WOULD LIKE TO INFORM YOU THAT I HAVE RECEIVED THE MONEY YOU SEND ABOUT 5000 FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND US DOLLARS. GAMBOSI CONGREGANTS GIVES THANKS TO YOU ALL FOR THE FUNDS ROOFING THE CHURCH. I WAS THERE LAST WEEK I PROMISE YOU THAT EARLY MARCH 2012 THE WORK WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED. DURING YOUR VISITATION IN MAY WE WELCOME YOU TO SEE THE WORK DONE

THANKS A LOT AND GOD BLESS YOU.
YOURS IN JESUS NAME
REV. SAMSON MADATA”



At this time there are no definite plans for our next project with Gambosi. I do encourage you to keep this congregation in your prayers. I will continue to pass news on as I receive it.

In His service, Nancy Allen

Letter from Derek

Many thanks to everyone at Cross of Christ for the support you have all given me with regards to my studies at seminary! I also appreciate immensely all your words of encouragement and prayers on my behalf, as I look forward to being able to serve the Church and the LCMS as a pastor.

Things are going well in St Louis; always busy, but very rewarding. Having finished Elementary Hebrew last quarter, I am now taking classes such as Pastoral Ministry 101, Introduction to Historical Theology, Theology of Missions, and Lutheran Mind, a base-level doctrine class. Also this quarter, in addition to all the usual classes and congregational field work, I'm involved with a prison ministry at a youth detention center.

May God continue to bless you richly, as He has blessed me! I look forward to being back at Cross of Christ during school breaks. In the meantime, please feel free to contact me if you'd like to know more about seminary and the way the Missouri Synod trains pastors.

Thanks again, Derek Waffel

Love is not affectionate feeling, but a steady wish for the loved person's ultimate good as far as it can be obtained.
C.S. Lewis

Need to contact an Elder?

Scott Brewster has offered his contact information for anyone who needs it:

Scott Brewster
Account Manager
Desk-648-1583
Cell-704-1583
Email Brewsterks@epb.net

Crossties

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 1 2

Thrivent

Applebee's Pancake Breakfast

We had another successful pancake breakfast fundraiser at Applebee's yesterday. Thanks to all the volunteers, mostly from Good Shepherd this weekend. We made a profit of \$800 at the breakfast on January 14th. All that money will go directly toward the building of the house with Habitat for Humanity this summer. The 13 churches in our Thrivent chapter area have made the commitment to fund the \$11,904 needed for the chapter contribution of 10%, so the more money that we can raise through fundraising activities such as these, then the less money that the churches will need to donate.

Chattanooga "Enjoy the City" Coupon Book, also featuring Cleveland, Dalton & North Georgia

The Thrivent Chapter is selling the "Enjoy the City" coupon book to raise funds for a Thrivent Build with Habitat for Humanity home that will be built in Chattanooga in 2012. Habitat for Humanity of Greater Chattanooga will be working with the local Chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and the area Lutheran congregations to build the home. The coupon book offers over \$1000 in savings on restaurants, entertainment, recreation, services and retail featuring more than 50 popular local merchants. Most coupons are buy one, get one free and expire in December 2012. The cost of the book is **\$20** and can be purchased from your Thrivent Advocate. Contact Elaine Burns at [\(423\) 236-4660](tel:4232364660) or eburnsrph@gmail.com for additional information. To date, we have already raised \$900 through coupon book sales. So if you haven't got one yet, please consider buying one. You would benefit from \$1000 worth of coupons and Thrivent benefits from the sales completely used toward the Habitat Build this summer.

Ruby Tuesday "Give Back" Dinner

You are invited to participate in Ruby Tuesday's Community "Give Back" Program. Here's how it works: Grab your family and friends and join us at 5595 Highway 153 in Hixson for lunch or dinner on February 10th, 11th or 12th. Present the printed flyer that you can get from your Thrivent Rep, to your server, and they will give back 20% of the meal purchase price to Habitat for Humanity for the Thrivent Build in East Chattanooga this summer. Since this is the weekend before Valentine's Day, you have the chance to take your sweetheart out to dinner also. To make a reservation, simply call [\(423\) 875-2480](tel:4238752480) or visit them online at www.rubytuesday.com. The Athens restaurant is also participating for those folks living further out. Their address is 1830 Holiday Drive, Athens, TN and reservation line is [\(423\) 746-1775](tel:4237461775). Contact Elaine Burns at [\(423\) 236-4660](tel:4232364660) or eburnsrph@gmail.com for additional information.



This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers. If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth. 1 John 3:16-18

If you are not receiving Crossties by email and would like to, please send me your email address to daniellethor@gmail.com and I will add you to the list!

Crossties

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 1 2

LWML

Day of Prayer Service will be February 12, beginning at 3:00p.m. It will be at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, N Hwy 27, Evensville, TN. Join us for P.R.A.Y.E.R. Call Eunice Timm to share a ride, 624-2588.

Brainstorming/Workday will be February 18 beginning at 10a.m. We will be brainstorming ideas to assist with ministry here at Cross of Christ. What are the tasks, large and small, that you see that need to be done here at Cross of Christ? Come with your ideas and suggestions and a brown bag lunch (if your time permits). We will work on some clean-up projects as well. Hope to see you there.

Lenten Soup Supper – LWML will sponsor the first Lenten supper of 2012 on February 29. We will set up and prepare at 5:15, serve 6:00-6:45 with the service at 7:00. See Eunice Timm to sign up.

Mid-South District Convention will be June 8-10 in Knoxville, TN. We are looking especially for young women (ages 18 – 35) who would be interested in attending. There are applications available from Irma Pinkerton (842-4777) to apply for the YWR (Young Women Representative) for the Chattanooga Zone. If you are selected, the Zone would pay your expenses to attend. Cross of Christ is encouraging any young women to attend by offering to pay your registration fee (first 4 to apply). More information about the convention is available on line at www.midsouthlwml.org

Faith, like light, should ever be simple and unbending; while love, like warmth, should beam forth on every side, and bend to every necessity of our brethren.

Martin Luther



COC Youth – February

There will be 8 of our youth group members attending the Mid-Winter Gathering in Pigeon Forge the last weekend in February, along with 2 chaperones. The group is looking forward to this exciting time and hope that you will keep them in your prayers for safe travel and fun while they are there.

We are planning a few events, including a Trivia Night and a Rummage Sale, that will be coming soon to Cross of Christ. Keep your eyes and ears open for these, and more events and dates to come!

Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: "Love your neighbor as yourself." ... "

Matthew 22: 37-39

Vacation Bible School

If you are interested in helping out with Vacation Bible School this summer, we will be having an informational and organizing meeting on Monday, February 13th at 6 pm. If you will not be able to make it, but would still like to help out, please contact Erin McCall at erin_mccall@hotmail.com. Thank you.

Do you have information that you want put into the next edition of Crossties? You can submit any information or articles to Danielle Thorsen in the following ways:

- Submit online by clicking the  on the church website:
- Email to daniellethor@gmail.com or newsletter@cocluth.com
- Call Danielle at (256) 694 – 1286

Crossties

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 1 2

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																												
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> <p style="text-align: center;">January</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </table> </div>			S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					<p style="text-align: center; color: red; font-size: 24px;">1</p> <p>5:00 PM Jr. Confirm.w/meal 6:00 PM "Wed. Nite Live" 7:30 PM Adult Choir</p>	<p style="text-align: center; color: red; font-size: 24px;">2</p> <p>8:00 PM "Bible & Brews"</p>	<p style="text-align: center; color: red; font-size: 24px;">3</p>	<p style="text-align: center; color: red; font-size: 24px;">4</p>		
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F E B R U A R Y 2 0 1 2

Those Who Serve in February

	5	12	19	26
Elders	8:30 Larry Zehnder & Mike Witherby 11:00 Scott Brewster & Mark Burns			
Readers 8:30	Gordan & Judy Vanloon	Mike & Monica Witherby	Philip McCall	Marc Flippin
Readers 11:00	Ann Hunt	Jim Walpert	Dave & Cara Welsh	Jeremy Clifton
Ushers	8:30 Dick Allen, Ed Stevens, Bill Porter 11:00 Scott Brewster & Jim Walpert			
Greeters 8:30	Don Burrow	Bob & Irma Pinkerton	Jo Parham	Elaine Jones
Greeters 11:00	Ray & Pat Veldman	Scott & Allison Brewster	Jim & Sandi Reisenbuechler	Scott & Allison Brewster
Altar Guild	Julia Edmundson & Eloise Bartlett			
Acolytes	Jacob & Jared Clemmons	Jacob & Jared Clemmons	Jacob & Jared Clemmons	Jacob & Jared Clemmons



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Return service requested