



CROSS of CHRIST

LUTHERAN CHURCH

CROSSTIES

May 2009

THE CHURCH FOR THE WORLD



Pastor's Report

At the very end of this month, we will join congregations throughout the world in celebrating a very special birthday: the birthday of the Christian Church, which we know as Pentecost. 50 days after Jesus' resurrection, on this third and final major holiday of the Church year, we will be remembering the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, which empowered the Apostles to proclaim God's Word to all those present in Jerusalem. As members of Christ's Church today, we still have the task of proclaiming that same Word to the people of our day.

This year the day of Pentecost will have added significance for us as a congregation since it is the day chosen for our junior catechumens to be confirmed in their faith as they become communicant members in Christ's Church ... that most precious gift to all those called into Christ's Kingdom. And although the Church has been misunderstood, abused, and rejected by many, that does not make it any less a wonderful gift from God, one which Cross of Christ needs to lift up during this time of revitalization and into the future. Usually when we humans receive a gift, we can't wait to use it, or show it off, or share it. But regrettably, that is not always the case with this marvelous gift—all too often this particular one is neglected or squandered!

At a time like this when so many people find themselves alone, hurting, and vulnerable, the blessings of the Church meet all kinds of needs. It is within the context of this "communion of saints" that we are able to offer the fellowship and sense of belonging which comes from a family of faith brought together through the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper. It is here that we find the assurance of God's love and forgiveness in the preaching and teaching of the Bible. It is here that we experience the mutual love and support of our Christian sisters and brothers. God has called us into His Kingdom and as "a holy nation" has provided us the means to grow in knowledge of our Savior and in response to His love.

So join us for this month's fellowship event ("Parking Lot Frolic" on May 16) and for worship these next five Sundays, but particularly on Pentecost Sunday and do everything possible to bring a friend with you. Let us look beyond ourselves as we strive to be like the Early Church who were reminded by Jesus to be "witnesses ... to the uttermost part of the earth." God bless us for that purpose and to that end!

Pastor Hildebrandt

Cross of Christ
Lutheran Church

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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.

Vicar's Venue

There are very few things which I wrote in my undergraduate career that I would let out into the sunlight - but I came across one that has haunted me ever since I wrote it. So this month, I've got a little story for you instead of the usual rambling. Please enjoy. - *Vicar George*

April 14, 2004

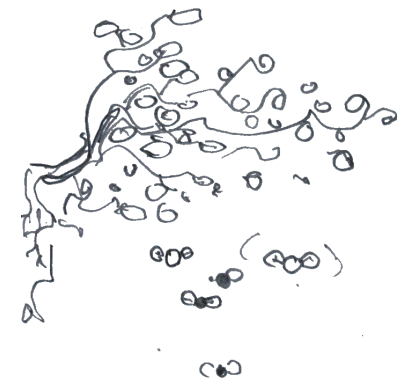
Fireflies & Compline

CreEeEek. "Hmph. Should really oil that." Eli utters as he firmly closes the worn wooden screen door exiting his house. He smirks. "Must have said that a hundred times." Standing tall with his hands on his hips, he inhales deeply and exhales with a slight chuckle. As Eli inspects his yard, he sees an average lawn - mostly green but with an abundance of brown semi-dry blades, dulling what would be a lush green. "Kinda reminds me of something." as he runs his fingers through his trim graying head of hair before sliding on his cap. After slowly stooping down to tighten the knots on his worn leather shoes, he starts to slowly make his way down the short driveway to the sidewalk. Turning right, Eli passes a neatly trimmed row of arborvitae trees that divide his property and his neighbors. His neighbor is standing leisurely out in his yard spraying water on his lawn by pressing his thumb against the metal mouth of the long garden hose. Eli gestures an outward motion with his hand from his forehead which is returned with a slight wave and a grin. "How's the goin' Dick?" "It's goin' Eli, it's goin'." "Good, Good." Eli responds as he strolls further down the street.

The golden color of the sky and the canopy of elms covering the road distracts Eli from the now laborious work of walking. As Eli carefully crosses the quiet street after the first block, he continues straight ahead, noticing only the sound of his footsteps and the clicking and hissing of sprinklers, with an occasional warm damp breeze carrying the vaporous spray past his nose. A smirk grows on his face as he sees a little boy about 5 years of age busily guiding water from a puddle through different channels in the sand. As Eli approaches - the little boy sees him and quickly stands up letting the plastic shovel fall out of his hands. A look of glee covers the boy's face as he jumps out of the wooden frame of his sandbox and runs toward Eli while half-trying to wipe the dampened sand off from knees. Eli kneels on the dry cool grass with arms open wide and accepts the running embrace of the elated young boy. After a good squeeze, he glances up to the white ranch style home and sees the boy's mother in the window as she grins, shakes her head and waves. Eli winks at her, releases the boy from his embrace and remains kneeling in front of him - "Have you been good for your mom?" "Yea Eli, I helped her dry the dishes after supper." "Oh..." Eli replies while half glancing at the house again noticing the mother with a dish towel drying off a dinner plate still smiling "...good for you!" Eli raises his eyebrows and gives an obvious downward glance into his left shirt pocket - expecting the boy to notice. The boy's eyes widened and his mouth drew inward - then after a split second his eyebrows shot up and a large smile covered his face as he reached his little hand into Eli's shirt pocket to pull out a piece of cellophane-wrapped candy. "Thanks Eli!" "You be good for your mom- ok?" "Yea!" After one more quick embrace, Eli rose to his feet gestured the same forehead-out wave to the mom in the window - who replied with another wave. The boy galloped off back to his sandbox and Eli resumed his relaxed pace down the street - returning one more wave from the boy again busy in his sandbox.

The sky is now ablaze with vivid orange magenta and red with clouds billowing across the horizon. The street below the elm canopy is growing darker, and cooler. Eli, not really watching the path in front of him, lifts the cuff to see his watch. "A quarter to 9 already!" After deciding to walk one more block, Eli quickens his pace slightly. When he reaches the crosswalk, he looks to his left, then to his right, pauses for a squeaky bicycle to pass, then crosses the street. With another left, Eli is now facing the palette of reds, blues and oranges blurring together in the sky in front of him, Eli's face is aglow with the reddish hue. A smile covers his face as he quietly hums to himself the tune of a familiar liturgy. Now about a block away from his home, Eli removes his cap, lifts his head a bit higher and opens his mouth. "O Lord, support me all the day long of this troubled life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed, the fever is over, and my work is done. Then, Lord, in your mercy grant me a safe lodging and a holy rest and peace at the last; In the name of Jesus, Amen." As the 'amen' rings through his mind, the first star of the evening is now visible ahead slightly to the left through the silhouetted elm boughs- twinkling with the deep purple remains of the sunset in it's background.

Eli, now in-front of his house, replaces his cap, steps over the patch of grass - down the curb - crosses the blacktop paved street and walks up his driveway - feet starting to tire. Eli approaches the side of his house, grasps the handle of the old wooden screen door and pulls it ajar - CreEeEek. Before stepping in, he removes cap, turns the knob on the unlocked door, glances at the sky, smirks, and pulls the screen door shut behind him. "Really should oil that." he mutters as he gently closes the interior 4 pane door. The chatter of sprinklers continues - now contested by crickets - and more stars start to appear with an occasional firefly blinking in the dark corners of the yard. A yellow light flips on in the large picture-window in front of Eli's house and he glances outside one last time before drawing the curtains.



*"I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep:
for thou, LORD, only makest me dwell in safety."*

- Psalm 4:8 -

CONFIRMATION CLASS 2009

Cross of Christ will celebrate with eight young people on May 31st. There will be one service on that day at 10:00A.M. You are invited to be a part of the celebration as these young people renew their baptismal vows and speak of their faith. The families will honor their children with a reception in the fellowship hall.



Meet the confirmands:

Sam Burrow—Sam has been a member of Cross of Christ for 5 years. He is an 8th grader at Red Bank Middle School—favorite part of school is lunch. His sport is baseball and his ambition is to be a police officer.

William Patrick Cooper—Patrick is a student at Loftis Middle School. His main interest is dirt biking and his ambition is to be a mechanic.

Chad Grosskreutz—Chad has been at Cross of Christ all his life (13 years). He is home schooled and his favorite subject is biology. His favorite sport is soccer. He lives with his Mom, Dad and three sisters—Emily, Erica and Zoe. His future goal is to be a civil engineer.

Jordan Halabrin—Jordan has been at Cross of Christ for two years. He is home schooled and he likes Math and History. He is interested in all sports and likes camping and other outdoor activities. He is not sure what his goals are for the future.

Madeline MacLean— Madeline was baptized as a infant at Cross of Christ. She is a student at GPS and enjoys spending time with friends and being challenged through her classes. Her interests include soccer, volleyball, track and art. Her family has always supported her through everything she does. Her plans for the future—become a more devoted Christian and a successful adult.

Nicholas Miller—Nick has been a member of Cross of Christ since the age of 1. He is a student at McCallie and favorite subject is Physics—he especially enjoyed the Bottle Rocket Project. His interests include acting and singing. He is not sure what goals he has for the future.

Hannah Peiffer—Hannah has been a member of Cross of Christ since she was a baby. She is a student at Baylor School and her favorite subject is Math. Her main interest is swimming. She is an only child and has not yet decided her future goals.

Elizabeth Sosna— Elizabeth has been attending Cross of Christ confirmation class since 2007. She is a student at Baylor School and her favorite subject is Science. Her interests are swimming and softball. She lives on Signal Mountain with her family that includes two bothers. Her goal for the future is to be a physical therapist.

We WELCOME all of you to adult membership at Cross of Christ—we are GLAD you are here!

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS !

THERE WILL BE A POT – LUCK LUNCHEON
ON SUNDAY, MAY 17 AT 12:30 pm FOLLOWED BY
A VOTERS' MEETING AT 1:30 pm.



Parking Lot Frolic

Saturday, May 16,

11:30 a.m.— 2 p.m.

in the church parking lot

This Event will be another Community Outreach for our Church.

We'll have free hotdogs, drinks, and chips and music and entertainment. This is certainly going to be fun and we are asking that all of our members invite and tell your friends to join us.

You are invited to bring your lawn chairs and enjoy the food and entertainment to the fullest. We're planning to see you all there.

If you have questions, please call Lily Thorsen, 892-3734.

Journey to the Cross

We thank Sandy Eschler, Beth Savor and all others (adults and children) who helped to plan and provide this wonderful Easter Experience.

We especially thank the Sunday school children who took part in this meaningful activity.



Perhaps this will become an annual event for Cross of Christ.

CARE and CONCERN

We share with you congregational members, family members and friends who need our prayers:

KATHRYN ARNOLD—our nursery caregiver, safe travel to and from California

BRANDAN BEADLE— grandson of Ray & LaDonna Brief, safekeeping while in Iraq

AUSTIN BRANSON—safe travel to and from South Korea on a mission trip

MATTHEW BREWSTER—safekeeping while in Iraq

BILL BROWN—Wanda Hall's brother, long recovery after heart attack

DARYL CHRISTOPHER—Wyatts' neighbor, bone marrow transplant, treatment stopped to clear up blood infection and blood clot

DEAN CLICK— Monica Witherby's uncle, trouble with his pacemaker

TOM DALPINI—brother of Karen Miller, safe keeping while in Iraq

NATHAN FISHER—30 year old son of Pastor's college friend, recovering from a 3-story fall, multiple injuries

SHIRLEY GOGGIN—friend of John Little, stage 3 colon cancer

DAVID HAMILTON—friend of Julia's, serious heart problems

ARDIS JOHNSON—grandmother of Lori Baier, terminal cancer and minimal lung function

DEE MEADERIS—scheduled surgery this Wednesday

Member of Tennessee Tigers football team—acquaintance of Shelly Land, vertebrae injury during game, required hospitalization

GINNY MINNINGER—former member, breast cancer— undergoing treatment

JOHN NIEVES—former member, recovering from cancer surgery

WILLIAM PONDER—father of friend of Penni Walpert, being treated for cancer—complications due to other physical issues

ZOEY SKILES—5-year old grand-daughter of Joyce Skiles, broken elbow and arm

DON BRUCE WARNER—brother of Bea Lagoo, cancer has returned, undergoing chemo and radiation

EVELYN WILSON—Bonnie Shrik's mother, out of CCU at Memorial with heart and lung issues—condition stable

FAMILY of BILL WINTER—father of Jennifer Grosskreutz, comfort following his death

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

The Sending of the Holy Spirit

Our New Members

Our Junior Confirmation Classes

The Seasons of Stewardship
"To everything there is a season" Ecc. 3:5



The Stewardship Committee met on Wednesday, April 22nd and came up with some ideas for the next 2 years.

I will be stepping down from my position as Chairperson after 4 years. It has been a wonderful experience and I was blessed to have such a great committee working with me. We hope to have a new chairperson in place this month after the Voters' meeting. If you have any ideas or would like to attend our meetings, we would love to have you. We will post our meetings on the weekly calendar and in the Crossties monthly newsletter. Stewardship lives on at Cross of Christ!! Thank you for being a steward of the Lord's many gifts.

Gail Winterbauer, Chair and Your Stewardship Committee

Bro's and Sis's in Christ -

I'm writing to express a need of Cross of Christ - and an opportunity for you.

You may have noticed several things over the past 6 or 7 months that have been done at church which have added to our worship experience, reached our community and improved communication. They include:

- *Video Announcements (before Worship)*
 - o Done in PowerPoint - can be done from home or church
 - o Commitment: 1.5hrs/week on a rotating basis.
- *Website (cocluth.com)*
 - o Requirements: Internet and Internet browser. Can be done from home or church
 - o Commitment: Commitment: 1-3 hrs/week
- *Worship Tech (audio and video system - 1st and 2nd Service)*
 - o Done during worship - both services and rehearsals.
 - o Commitment: 2-3 hrs/week on a rotating basis.

If you have the talent or the interest in helping in one of the areas above, **please reply and let me know.** You're not committing yet, and I'd be happy to answer questions. I would like to train and entrust these important items into the hands of you - the congregation. (Especially if you are not involved in a whole lot now!) I would be happy to help train you at your convenience after the Lenten/Easter season.

Remember: Cross of Christ isn't just something we do once a week on Sundays. Our mission depends on folks like you who are willing to tithe of your time as well as resources! We're in the business of bringing people into a closer relationship with their Savior - but we can have fun while we do it!

Thanks. Seriously.

George Carstensen
Vicar | Cross of Christ Chattanooga
micah 6:8 | ><>

www.cocluth.com



ORGAN UPDATE

The organists say Thank You!!! to DENNIS SAVOR who saved us from harm (and embarrassment), by speedily repairing the organ bench after it came apart during a Sunday service in March, and to Larry Zehnder for discovering the accident-about-to-happen!

In one month, Cross of Christ has come \$525 closer to our goal of paying cash for our pipe organ in September.

Thank you all for your continuing support.

As of April 12, we still needed \$23,372 toward the total goal of \$99,886. Please prayerfully consider what you can give to the organ replacement fund.



FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

- Tired of stressing about your finances?
- Sick of arguing about money with your spouse?
- Worried that you might not have enough money to retire?
- Wondering why you can't seem to save any money?

• Then come and get some peace and encouragement.

• Starting **May 17**, and running through Aug. 9, Financial Peace University will teach us, in 13 entertaining lessons, how to manage our incomes and plan for the future (be good stewards) in the ways that the Bible teaches.

• **The weekly classes, at 3 - 5 PM each Sunday**, are taught on DVD - now with Closed Captioning - with a fill-in-the-blank workbook, followed by small group discussion.

• This class can be life-changing.

• Because each family unit gets a box of materials to keep (book, workbook, CD's, CD-ROM, etc.), there is a cost to the program. But - Good News - Dave Ramsey discounts the price to churches, saving each family nearly half by ordering through the church.

• Those who have taken the class before can always attend for free, and can take notes from the newly re-done DVD's in their old workbooks. (If any of you "alumni" want to get the updated workbook +/- CD's, though, be sure to tell me immediately, so your order can be included with the class' - to save you some shipping costs.)

• FPU Mission: " To empower and give HOPE to everyone from the financially secure to the financially distressed."

Judy Zehnder 875-3529

Cross of Christ Adventures Group 2009 Schedule

Date	Time	Location/Event	Reservation Type	Recommended Reservation Deadline	Comments
May 2 nd Saturday	5:30 pm 8:00 pm	Cornerstone Grill or Amicis "I Ought to Be in Pictures"	Through SM Independent	April 27 th April 17 th	Dalton, GA Dalton Little Theatre RES: 706-226-6618 – no coupon
May 23 rd Saturday	11:45 -1:30 1:30-2:???	Sight seeing Cruise Southern Belle Pot luck picnic –Coolidge park afterwards	Independent	May 1 Not Any	RES: 423-266-4488 Details will follow
June 27 th Saturday	5:30 pm 8:00:pm	"The Foundary" "Dearly Beloved?" Chattanooga Theatre Center	Through SM Independent	June 20 th June 15 th	RES: 423-267-8534
		Eagle Bluff Golf Club			
Jul 25 th Saturday	5:30 pm 7:30 pm	Food Works Juke Box Junction	Through SM Not Required	July 20 th July 20 th	Sue will arrange carpooling-leave from church RES: 931-484-5000
Aug 22 Saturday	10:00 am	"Hair Spray?" Cumberland County Playhouse Play is at 2:30 we'll have a picnic prior to show	Independent	August 14 th	
Sept 19 Saturday	10:00 AM 6:00 PM	Polly Crocket Arts and Crafts festival/ Wine tasting Pearls Foggy Mountain Cafe	Through SM Through SM	Sept 10 th Sept 10 th	No reservation needed for the festival, but Sue will arrange carpooling-leave from church
Oct 24 th Saturday	5:30	Button Willow Dinner Theatre, Whitwell, TN	Through SM	Oct 15 th	Sue can arrange car pool leave from church.
Nov 21 Saturday	6:00	The Station House or Dinner in the Diner	Through SM	Nov. 15	
Dec 12 Saturday	7:30 pm	Portfino Italian restaurant-Rossville "White Christmas" Colonade, Ringold, GA	Through SM Independent	Dec 5 Nov 20	RES: 706-935-9000

Please remember we are an outreach GROUP—SO INVITE , INVITE, INVITE. Julia has extra coupons for anyone who does not have a book and would like to attend at discount prices.
Regardless. Everyone is welcome to join us.

**Sue Mantney will try to coordinate all events: 423~842~2950
or email (preferred) at SEMantney@gmail.com**

HAVE YOU HEARD???

Our new Vicar will be Jacob (Jake) Allstaedt. He is excited about coming to Cross of Christ.

Read his letter posted on the bulletin board nearest the water fountain.



MAY

BIRTHDAYS

- | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Ricki Henke | 9 Martha Westburg | 17 Irma Pinkerton |
| 2 Teresa Curtis | 10 Patrick Cooper | Andrew Wright |
| 3 Amber Gardenhire | Dennis Savor | 18 Joe Lynch |
| Jo Ann Parham | 11 Karen Savor | Austin Pickett |
| 4 Karen Crowder | 12 David Williams | Don Smits |
| 5 Cassy Englert | 13 Chris Brandt | 19 Kilah Wright |
| Steve Shirk | Eric Kuykendall | 20 Carolyn Funderburk |
| 7 Shelly Bumgardner | 14 Mike Witherby | 23 Harold Kelley |
| Eric Crowder | 15 Kirsten Humble | 26 Frances Kinney |
| William Steele | | 31 Leigh Hamilton |

ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 12th Scott & Sherry Reed | 25th Dean & Jennifer Grosskreutz |
| 16th Greg & Mary Sedrick | 29th James & Leigh Goebel |
| 17th Mike & Connie Hamilton | 30th Richard & Nancy Allen |

Looking for the Calendar?

[View the up-to-date version on COCLUTH.COM](http://COCLUTH.COM)

You can view details, and even print a copy
Right from our website.

Those Who Serve in MAY

ELDERS OF THE MONTH

8:30 Richard French, Larry Zehnder

11:00 Scott Brewster, Tom Butler

ALTAR GUILD:

Ethel Hamilton

Barbara Wyatt

DATE	3	10	17	24	31 ONE SERVICE 10:00
ACOLYTES	Sarah Clemmons & Elora Hunt	Nicholas Miller	Jordan & Haley Halabrin	Madeline MacLean & Hannah Peiffer	Brandon Land
GREETERS 8:30A.M.	Richard & Lanette Bagley	Paul & Barbara Wyatt	Richard & Nancy MacLean	Dave Murray	Tom & Sue Manthey
READERS 8:30A.M.	Nancy Allen	Sherry Reed	Bob & Eunice Timm	Carmen Autry	Jeremy & Rachel Clifton
USHERS	Dick Allen, Craig Curtis, John Musser, Larry Zehnder	Dick Allen, Craig Curtis, John Musser, Larry Zehnder	Dick Allen, Craig Curtis, John Musser, Larry Zehnder	Dick Allen, Craig Curtis, John Musser, Larry Zehnder	Dick Allen, Craig Curtis, John Musser, Larry Zehnder
GREETERS 11:00A.M.	Ray & Pat Veldman	Jamie & Kathy Holloway	Jim & Sandi Reisenbuechler	Scott & Allison Brewster	ONE SERVICE
READERS 11:00A.M.	Dean Grosskreutz	Dave & Cara Welsh	Ken Maury	Jim Walpert	10:00 A.M.

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

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E-mail: church@cocluth.com
Info line: 648-0995

Return Service Requested



**Go tell everyone what He has done!
Live IT! Share IT! Show IT!**