

Cross Words

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church and School



April 2018

Pastor's Page

Rev. John De Young



From the Pastor's Desk...

And, so, with the confession on Easter: “Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!” we will raise the Alleluia banners from their six week burial in the trunk at the foot of the Altar. We have been through our 40 day Lenten Journey and walked through Holy Week – Maundy Thursday—(we heard Jesus promise those powerful and effective words that remain effective every Sunday morning, “*Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of your sins*” – Matthew 26:28) and Good Friday – (We stood at the foot of the cross and heard Jesus’ lonely cry, “*My God, my God, why have you forsaken me*” (Mark 15:34)? We heard the finality of Jesus’ last breath, “*It is finished!*” (John 19:30), paying in full the price for our Sin that separates us from God) and we have celebrated the Resurrection of Christ. We walked to the empty tomb to hear again from the angel at the empty tomb, “*He is not here, but has risen*” (Luke 24:6).

Now what do we do?

Literally, the whole month of April remains. But Easter is an “every Sunday” celebration during which we come together to receive the fruit of the cross and resurrection of Jesus—the forgiveness of sins and the certainty of eternal life with God. Easter is also an “every day” celebration in which we live each day trusting in God through Christ, knowing that Jesus is “*the resurrection and the life*” (John 11:25) for us.

So what do we do now as we go forth from the empty tomb? Let us follow the example of the first witnesses of the empty tomb. After the two angels reminded Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women that Jesus had risen, St. Luke tells us that “*they remembered the words, and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest*” (Lk 24:8-9, emphasis mine). They went forth from the tomb changed by the resurrection of Jesus. They went forth from the tomb to bring an “every day” witness of God’s power over sin, death, hell, and satan himself.

So where do we go once we leave the empty tomb? Let us follow the example of Jesus’ first disciples. After Jesus walked through locked doors to appear to the eleven disciples and to show Himself to Thomas, seven of the eleven disciples went back to their fishing business (John 21:1-14).

They went back to their vocations or stations in life and took the witness of the resurrection with them. They lived in the joy of the resurrection of Jesus while carrying out the daily, ordinary labor and

responsibilities given to them.

Similar to the women at the empty tomb and the eleven disciples, we are “every day” witnesses and participants in the resurrection of Jesus. We believe and are baptized. We have the hope of eternal life. We have the joy of the resurrection living inside of us. Also, like the women at the empty tomb and the eleven disciples, we have vocations or stations in life that God has given to us as a gift.

Most of us are not fishermen, but all of us have one or more of these callings: father, husband, mother, wife, son, daughter, brother, sister, grandparent, employee, retiree, friend, and neighbor. Each of these callings comes with a set of duties and responsibilities – See Luther’s Small Catechism, Table of Duties. As repentant Christians, by God’s Grace we wrap the daily duties and responsibilities of our vocations in the Joy, Love, Peace, and Forgiveness of Christ. And, more than likely, others will take notice and God will bless your faithful work by giving you opportunities to “*tell all these things to all the rest*” (Luke 24:9).

Now, we go forth from Easter Sunday and the celebration of the empty tomb free as God’s forgiven children in Christ. Now we go forth empowered by God’s Spirit living and active within us to live in the joy of the resurrection as “every day” witnesses. “For Thee delightfully employ whate’er Thy bounteous Grace has giv’n, and run my course with even joy, and closely walk with Thee to heav’n” (LSB 854, “Forth in Thy Name, O LORD, I Go,” stanza 5).

A blessed Easter and beyond to each of you.

Your brother in Christ,

Pastor De Young

Board of Properties

The new air conditioner for the sanctuary was delivered on Thursday, 3-22-2018. Installation was completed on 3-27-2018.

J. V. Smith



The LWML Texas District 40th Biennial Convention July 5-8 Waco Convention Center

Hotel reservations are open:

Hilton Waco—\$145 room rate,
113 South University Parks Dr., Waco

Courtyard Waco—\$135 room rate,
101 Washington Ave., Waco

Links and group codes for hotel reservations can be found at lwmltxdist.org/2018-waco-convention.

Registration will begin on March 1!
Have questions? Send an email to Waco@lwmltxdist.org.



**Have you checked out www.crossofchrist.org lately?
NO?**

Check out our new look!

Sign in

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

[Home](#) [About Us](#) [Worship Times](#) [News](#) [Ministries](#) [Sermons](#) [Visit](#) [School](#)

Welcome to Cross of Christ Lutheran Church.
Join us for worship and Bible class this Sunday!

Service Times

9:00 a.m. Sunday, Divine Worship with Communion
10:30 a.m. Sunday School & Bible Study

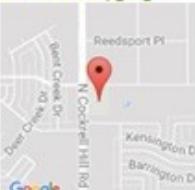
Contact Information

Church

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Cross of Christ School

Phone 972-223-9586
Email lilafussell@crossofchrist.org
Address
512 N Cockrell Hill Rd
De Soto TX 75115



 **HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Sunday, March 25th - Palm Sunday

Thursday, March 29th - Holy (Maundy) Thursday - 7:00 p.m. Service

Friday, March 30th - Good Friday - 7:00 p.m. Service

Sunday, April 1st, EASTER

6:30 a.m.	Sunrise Service
7:30 a.m.	Breakfast
9:00 a.m.	Divine Service with Communion
10:30 a.m.	Sunday School / Bible Study



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Board of Elders

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! This month, I would like to report on some recent events at our Church. First, thanks largely to the efforts of our able church secretary, Sharon Wilson, the Church will have an updated website. Among other things, the website will have recorded sermons on it so anyone can click on the right icon and hear Pastor DeYoung's latest sermons. Hopefully, our shut-ins will be able to take advantage and listen to the sermons as opposed to just reading the sermons that are sent to them. I would strongly encourage everyone to check out the website and if you have any suggestions, please let us know.

J. V. Smith and I recently gave a tour of our facility to representatives of the Upbring organization. Upbring is the successor to Lutheran Social Services. Upbring was interested in looking at our facility as a possible location for a school operated by Upbring, which would be a Christian school. They have opened schools in Houston and Austin, and are looking at a school in Victoria. Generally, they make their decisions in the April/May time frame. If they decided to do something here, the earliest feasible date for their school opening would be in January, 2019. Thanks to Lilla Fussell for participating in the tour and answering questions. I will keep you posted.

Finally, please continue to keep Bob and Gretchen Thomale in your prayers. As you know, Bob has had some serious health issues. Both Bob and Gretchen have been strong and long standing members of our church. Bob has greatly added to everyone's knowledge about the Bible by leading classes and making comments in classes. His input has been very helpful in our understanding of the Old Testament. Gretchen has always been deeply involved in LWML for decades and dealing with Bob's situation has not been easy on her. I strongly urge everyone to let them know we care and will do anything we can to assist them, and that the Lord will look over them both.

Peace be with you, Tom

From the President

My brothers and sisters in Christ,

Recently Josh and Ruthie Wagner visited Cross of Christ with "Nanna Hannah" and their beautiful children. I was inspired. What an amazing story they have with the challenges they faced over the last few years in Sierra Leone. Such hardships endured for the whole family in service to God and their calling to share God's Word to the Themne people as they come to know Him!

And they were in such good spirits! Filled with the contentment that only comes to those that have a deep understanding of their purpose.

My prayer is that we can feed off that gift and the gifts we bring each other – always centered on God's blessings, Jesus' sacrifice and the Holy Spirit's gift of Faith – as we confront our own daily challenges.

I pray this confidently. Ruthie wrote in one of her newsletters "It's not a coincidence that so much has gone 'wrong' and seems against us and the work in Sierra Leone. God is at work there, and the enemy is not going to give up his hold without a fight."

God is at work here as well and we are well served to remind ourselves and each other of that.

Yours in Christ, Dan

2 Corinthians 3:5-6 "*Not that we are sufficient in ourselves to claim anything as coming from us, but our sufficiency is from God, who has made us competent to be ministers of a new covenant...*"



Once again our LWML has gathered items for Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits. These kits make a difference in the communities where they are distributed because they provide basic hygiene and personal dignity where natural or man made disasters strike.

We exceeded our goal of 90 Kits with a total of 99 Kits!!!
Your support is greatly appreciated!



Cross of Christ Lutheran School

SUMMER CAMPS

We are now accepting enrollments for Summer Camps happening June 1 through August 2.

Camps will include:

Art Camp — focusing on drawing and painting with a contest at the end of the week

Recycle Art — focusing on making gifts, bags, pictures & pots for plants out of recycled material

Lost Artifact — recording the results of the scavenger hunt, working with a map, molding clay, and looking for buried treasure

Dino Days — including a Dig for Dino Bones

World Travel — exploring the 4th of July (including a parade on the 3rd of July); Olympics and Volcanos around the world

Behind the Story — imagining and making puppets; writing and drawing a story

Space Avenger — exploring slime; mobiles; stars; planets; the moon and the sun

Animals Large and Small — exploring animals, including where they live and what they eat

Nature Garden — planting for fall — learn about plants; cooking and eating healthy, including a focus on manners

Games That Last Forever — learning how to play games which will enable the children to carry the knowledge with them for life

Fresh & Exciting Camp Weeks Featuring New Teachers!



**Volunteer
Opportunities
available:
Saturday Secretary
Sunday School
Altar Guild**



Information from Paper Retriever to help us help them:

For Schools and Non-Profit Groups

The PaperRetriever program helps non-profit groups and schools reduce expenses on trash collection. A significant amount of school waste is paper, so why not save money and help the planet at the same time?

Moore Recycling provides your school or non-profit group with a familiar green recycling bin. We'll schedule the bin to be emptied on a regular basis as needed.

PaperRetriever services are available at low or no cost to qualified non-profits. Rebates may be available at some locations based on tonnage collected and market commodity process.

Any paper based products, free of food waste and contaminants.

These are acceptable:

- Newspapers and circular inserts
- Magazines
- Catalogs
- Office and school paper, file folders
- Collapsed cardboard boxes
- Cereal boxes and soda boxes
- Paperback books and workbooks
- Colored construction paper, wrapping paper or tissue paper
- Phone books
- Textbooks or hard-cover books
- Direct mail and window envelopes (Shred personalized mail.)
- Shredded paper
- Tissue boxes
- Paper towel and toilet paper rolls
- Paper grocery bags
- Non-greasy pizza box tops

Anything that tears, really! Don't worry about staples. — We'll remove them.

NO CARDBOARD boxes or waxed paper products.

April 29, 2017 is DOW Collection Sunday.

At this time DOW is requesting food and sewing related items (their greatest needs).

Food suggestions include:

Basmati Rice	Pickles
Couscous	Flour / Sugar / Cornmeal
Canned Tuna, Salmon or Sardines (no processed meats, no pork)	Pasta
Lentils (green, red or brown)	Green & Black Tea & Coffee
Canned Beans (garbanzos, brown, and lima)	Peanut Butter
Canned Milk	Jams/Preserves
Olives and Olive Oil	Dried Fruits, such as Raisins & Dates
Canned Tomatoes	Walnuts / Almonds
Hummus	Cereal
	Canned Fruits
	Canned Vegetables

Spices including:

Turmeric / Cumin / Paprika / Chili Powder / Mustard Seeds / Ground Ginger / Curry Powder / Cinnamon / Coriander / Allspice / Salt and pepper

Sewing related items such as material, thread and notions are also needed. Sewing machines are also needed, but only machines in good working order.

If you prefer you can mail \$25.00 gift cards directly to the ministries at Disciples of the Way / 6500 Greenville Ave., Suite 190, Dallas, Texas 75206. Gift cards can be from stores, such as Wal-Mart, Target, or Kroger.

Remember we have Scrip gift cards that can be purchased to support DOW. See Lila Fussell or Carrie Graves after church on Sundays for assistance with purchasing Scrip gift cards or call the church office during the week.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.





LBW

LUTHERAN BRAILLE WORKERS

PO Box 5000 Yucaipa CA 92399
800.925.6092 www.LBWinc.org

Braille alphabet

a b c d e f g h i j k l m

n o p q r s t u v w x y z

Can you read this?

卷之三

April 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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					

Easter Sunday

6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service
 7:30 a.m. Breakfast
 9:00 a.m. Service
 10:30 a.m. Sunday School & Bible Study

Monday Night Bible Study—7:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall (except April 2)

Ladies Bible Study—Tuesdays, 10:15 a.m., Fellowship Hall (except April 3)

Board Meetings—Thursday, April 5th, 7 p.m.

Council Meeting — Thursday, April 12th, 7:30 p.m.

Elders Meeting — Thursday, April 19th, 7:30 p.m.

Newsletter Articles due — Monday, April 16th

Braille Workers—Wednesday, April 4th, and April 25th, 9:30 a.m., Grace Lutheran, Arlington

DOW Sunday—Sunday, April 29th

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship with Communion
 10:30 a.m. Adult Bible Classes & Sunday School

CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Serving the LORD

ALTAR COMMITTEE: Patty Polly Brag; Francis Sladek; Kate Duncan

GREETERS: Karen Dillon; Ellen Holmes; Cheryl Smith; Vera Watson

USHERS: Bennie Symank; Dan Pedersen; Jeff Martin

<u>April 1</u>	<u>April 8</u>	<u>April 15</u>	<u>April 22</u>	<u>April 29</u>
<u>COUNTERS</u>	<u>COUNTERS</u>	<u>COUNTERS</u>	<u>COUNTERS</u>	<u>COUNTERS</u>
Harry & Eileen Davis	Elton & LaVonne Kindler	Gail Bielefeldt	Ken & Kay Boelter	Bennie Symank
		Charlotte Walker		Gail Bielefeldt
<u>CROSS BEARERS</u>				
As Assigned				
<u>ELDERS</u>	<u>ELDERS</u>	<u>ELDERS</u>	<u>ELDERS</u>	<u>ELDERS</u>
Tom Caldwell	Robert Flye	Allan Kloess	Tom Graves	Tom Caldwell
Thomas Lee	Mo Horstmann	Dale Huse	Ron McKethan	Thomas Lee
<u>LOCK-UP</u>	<u>LOCK-UP</u>	<u>LOCK-UP</u>	<u>LOCK-UP</u>	<u>LOCK-UP</u>
Carrie Graves	Paul Tucker	Phil & Anita Strand	Tom Caldwell	Carrie Graves
<u>NURSERY</u>	<u>NURSERY</u>	<u>NURSERY</u>	<u>NURSERY</u>	<u>NURSERY</u>
Gail Bielefeldt	Jackie Peña	Gail Bielefeldt	Jackie Peña	Gail Bielefeldt
<u>SATURDAY SEC.</u>				
(31) Carol & Bo Brown	(7) Bennie & Joan Symank	(14) Carrie Graves	(21) Grace Miller	(28) Vic & Charlene Vidmar
Nona Flye	Vera Watson	Lila Fussell	Verna Geihl	Alyce Staehs
Ellen Holmes			Charlotte Walker	



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972-223-9340

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Find us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/171963486643/>

Remember our Shut-ins

Dolores Jirik

Marion Knaub

Joan Symank

Dr. Falke

Linda Hinckley

Gail Carmical

Nathalie Smith

Karen Wenzel

Lucille Gropp

Pastors Thomas Oberstat (Ebenezer, Manheim, TX) and Matthew Jacobs (Grace, Brenham, TX) are hosting an

11 day Cradle of the Reformation Germany Tour.

The travel dates are May 20-30, 2020 and depart from Houston. A brochure is available on the bulletin board in the main hallway if you would like to learn more.

Remember Scrip Gift Cards for your favorite restaurants and stores make great gifts.

To purchase Scrip Cards, get with Lila Fussell or Carrie Graves after church on Sundays or call the school at 972-223-9586. Or contact Sharon Wilson at the church office during the week.



April Birthdays

- 4-2 Alexander Kersting
- 4-3 David Symank
- 4-9 Linda Hinckley
- 4-11 Carl Chapman
- 4-16 Michael Caldwell
- 4-20 Gail Carmical
- 4-24 Barbara Rockford
- 4-26 Jeffrey Martin
- 4-26 Nathalie Smith



We are sorry if we have inadvertently left your name off the birthday list. Please contact the church office by phone, 972-223-9340, or e-mail at: admin@CrossofChrist.org, so we can update our list.

Ways you can help:

Tom Thumb



Kroger



Have you re-enrolled this year? Re-enroll your Kroger Community Rewards card to continue to help our Church grow!

You can enroll and re-enroll at one of the following: www.KrogerCommunityRewards.com or call 1-800-576-4377 or take this and your card to Kroger and provide our number **80948**.