

Cross Words

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church and School



July 2018

Pastor's Page
Rev. John De Young



From the Pastor's Desk . . .

July 4th brings Fireworks, Red, White and Blue, Apple Pie and the Nathan's Hot Dog Eating Contest (it's almost become a ritualistic right in our home – we have to see the Contest) and a remembrance of the Declaration of Independence. Few realize that in Lutheranism, July 4th is another important date in its great church history. In fact, 472 years ago (230 years before the Declaration of Independence was even signed)

the Pope openly declared the Bull of July 4, 1546. It read:

*"From the beginning of our Papacy it has always been our concern how to root out the weeds of godless doctrines which the heretics have sowed throughout Germany ... Now it has come to pass that, by the inspiration of the Holy Ghost, our dearest son in Christ, Charles, the Roman Emperor, has decided to employ the sword against these enemies of God. And for the protection of religion we intend to promote this pious enterprise with all our own and the Roman Church's possessions. Accordingly, we admonish all Christians to assist in this war with their prayers to God and their alms, in order that the godless heresy may be rooted out and the dissension removed ... To each and all who do these things we grant the most complete indulgence and remission of all their sins."*¹

It is safe to say and without a doubt that we Americans are truly blessed. It is truly wonderful that we live in a free nation that has been so blessed by God that we are often and still the envy of the world. In these dark days of universal poverty of the Third world nations we are the watched, we are dreamed about, even desired by people. If need be people from all over the world flock to our nation and they believe it is worth endangering their lives on the land, over the seas or through the air, just so they can get to our shores. At all cost the world looks to our lands, leadership, and Government and the basic concepts of freedom to emulate in hopes of a better future for their countries.

But with such blessings comes great responsibilities also. As the "bread basket" of the world we should be feeding the masses. As a Medical forefront we should be assisting the world with basic Medical necessities. As the wealthiest nation we should be sharing the blessings with the impoverished. And as "Christian" we should be teaching the world about Christ. America is still the hope of the whole world no matter what people think.

Yet, with all these blessings, greater still, is how God has preserved for us the true teachings of the Holy Scriptures and the Sacraments even in the darkest of Medieval Times. Through those who

have gone before us, our forefathers of faith, we have been entrusted with the Divine truths of Holy Scripture even when the “false church/papacy” would rise up against us to extinguish our voices.

Our task as Christians is to speak the Word of God clearly with the proper distinction of Law and Gospel to a people who are literally “dying” to hear the truth and that God has sent a Savior in His Son, Jesus Christ our LORD.

This day we have three reasons to thank the LORD: 1) for our nation; 2) for those who have gone before us and stood firm in the faith even when facing death and the threats of extermination from those who are in the church and 3) that God would use us as His servants to bring to this sin-sick world the message of His dying Son Who was Raised from the dead to pay the wages for our sin. Thanks be to God.

We pray:

Almighty God, You have given us this good land as our heritage. Grant that we remember Your Generosity and constantly do Your will. Bless our land with honest industry, truthful education, and an honorable way of life. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion, from pride and arrogance, and from every evil course of action. Grant that we, who came from many nations with many different languages, may become a united people. Support us in defending our liberties, and give those to whom we have entrusted the authority of government the spirit of wisdom, that there may be justice and peace in our land. When times are prosperous, may our hearts be thankful, and in troubled times do not let our trust in You fail; through Jesus Christ, ✠ our LORD.

Heavenly Father, God of all Grace, Govern our hearts that we may never forget Your blessings but steadfastly thank and praise You for all Your Goodness in this life. Keep us ever thankful for the Saints who have gone before us who have kept Your Word in Truth and Purity that we may know the Salvation of our souls until, with all Your saints, we praise You eternally in Your Heavenly Kingdom; through Jesus Christ, ✠ our LORD.

LORD God, Bless Your Word wherever it is proclaimed. Make it a Word of Power and Peace to convert those not yet Your own and to confirm those who have come to saving Faith. May Your Word pass from the ear to the heart, from the heart to the lip, and from the lip to the life that, as You have promised, Your Word may achieve the purpose for which You send it; through Jesus Christ, ✠ our LORD.

Thank you, LORD.

Your brother and under-shepherd of Christ,

Pastor De Young

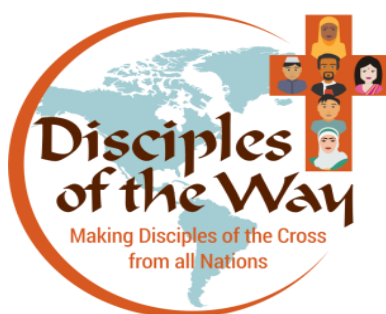
1 Bente, F. (1997). Concordia Triglotta - English : The symbolic books of the Evangelical Lutheran Church. Includes Historical Introductions by F. Bente and indexes of subjects. (electronic ed.). Milwaukee: Northwestern Publishing House.

DOW Mites Contributions

April 30, 2017	\$129.10
November 13, 2017	\$ 35.10
June 6, 2018	<u>\$125.40</u>
TOTAL	\$289.60

Thank you so much and God bless each of you for your gifts for Missions.

Cross of Christ
Lutheran Church
Joan Symank,
LWML Treasurer



Are you in need of prayer?

- Complete a prayer request card (found in the back of the pews in the sanctuary), and place in the offering plate.
- Send an email to the church office: admin@crossofchrist.org.
- Call the church office at 972-223-9340.

Q. Want to join the people praying for those in need of prayer? **A.** Provide the church office with your email and your desire to be on this list. Emails are sent out on Monday and Thursday mornings.



Thank You

Volunteer Opportunities available:

Greeters—one volunteer needed, serves three (3) times a year*

Altar Committee—one volunteer needed, serves three times a year.*

Ushers—one volunteer needed, services three times a year*

Saturday Secretary— one volunteer needed, serves once every 8 weeks.

* these positions serve one month at a time, three times a year.

My family and I wish to express our sincere appreciation for all the support you gave us with your cards, food, offers of help, and especially your prayers during Bob's illness and at his passing. The love and care the Lord showered on us through Pastor and the congregation was overwhelming! Thank you!

Gretchen Thomale and Family

Board of Elders

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! Along with Pastor, I recently attended the Texas District Convention in Irving. It was a very interesting and uplifting experience. There were approximately 400 voting lay and pastoral delegates. A new District President was elected and his name is Michael Newman, which will become effective on September 1, 2018. Rev. Newman is currently Texas District Mission & Ministry Facility in Area C. Prior to that, he was as associate pastor at Concordia San Antonio and a senior pastor at a church in Illinois. We should keep him in our prayers and pray that he receive and follow the guidance of the Lord and Holy Spirit in his role as President.

At the convention, I had the opportunity to hear the Synod President, Matthew Harrison, speak. He gave a very impressive message to the convention. His theme was about each of us having the joy of being Christian and that we can't be fully Lutheran without having that joy in our hearts. It is a fact that the Lutheran church, our church and other denominations face severe challenges in this country, but these challenges also present opportunities to spread the message of the Gospel. In facing these challenges, we will more likely succeed if we remain joyful in the Word of God as we should. President Harrison presented a brochure on the subject entitled "Joy:Fully Lutheran 1Thess. 5:16-24." You can find it easily on the internet, just type in the title. I also have extra copies if you want one.

At our last meeting, the Board of Elders decided that women members in our church can act as ushers. I want to explain how we reached that decision. First, Pastor gave an excellent and extensive presentation on the service of women in congregational and synodical offices. Basically, Pastor explained that women can serve in positions in the church that are humanly created (not divinely mandated) and do not involve authoritative public teaching in the church, which is the office of pastor. Further, women, along with men, should be encouraged to serve in the type of roles that are permissible. Based on Pastor's study, the position of usher is clearly one that women can serve in and should be able to do so if they so desire. There is no doubt that our Pastor is a confessional pastor who follows the Word of God and Lutheran principles/confessions as set forth in the Book of Concord. If he tells me that women can serve as ushers, I accept his conclusion without question. Let me add, however, that the Board of Elders made this decision and Pastor's role was to advise us on the Word of God.

I have heard one person express reservations about women acting as ushers, because of a concern that it will lead to women fulfilling other roles in the church, which are divinely mandated or involve authoritative public teaching, such as doing the readings, administering the sacraments, acting as elders, president, etc. That will not happen. Pastor would never allow that to happen and none of the elders are even remotely in favor of anything like that occurring. Plus, our Constitution and by-laws prohibit that from occurring. I would note that for years there have been women who have served in different positions in our Church and very important ones, but this has never led us to violating any Biblical principle in regard to roles of women and men in the Church.

Peace be with you!

Tom

From the President

My brothers and sisters in Christ,

This month we unfortunately did not have a quorum at our monthly church council meeting. I assure you that this was not because our individual council members have lost our zeal for service. Fact is, we are so few in number right now that if any one of us happens to be unavailable for any legitimate reason, we do not make our constitutional requirements for a quorum. I am very happy to report that Greg Fussell has agreed to serve on the council as Board of Properties Chairman. We will be holding a special voters meeting to hopefully confirm him in this role. But there are remaining vacancies to fill! In the next few weeks I will be offering a personal invitation to join us. When I do, all I ask is that you prayerfully consider how important and fulfilling it is to serve God's church.

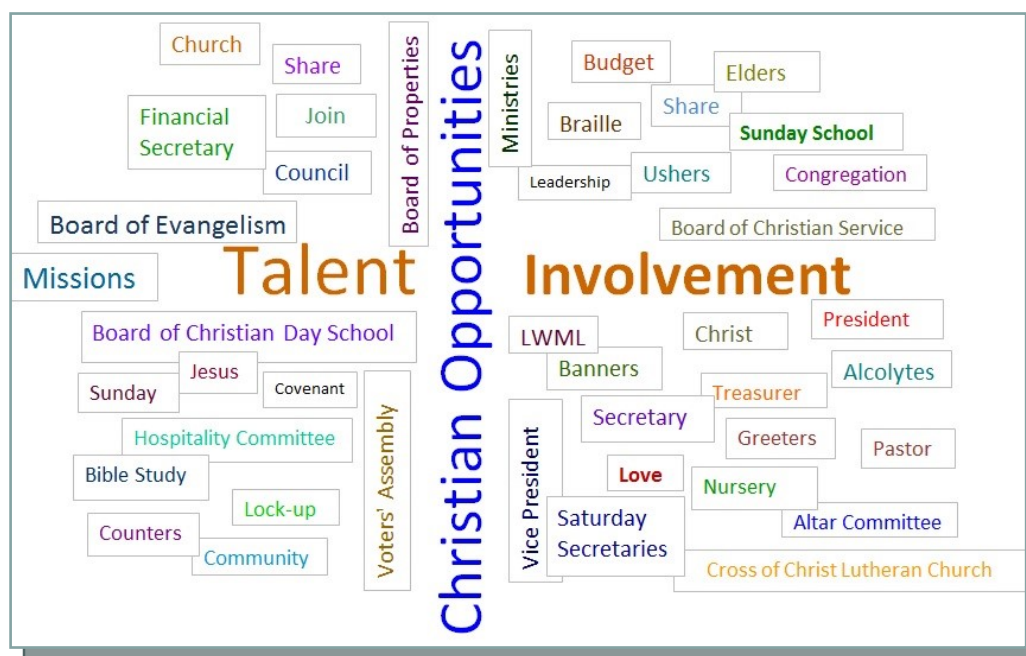
I also committed to you to always be transparent regarding our finances. Truth is, we are experiencing our normal summer month challenges as published by our Treasurer. God has been generous in His blessings to Cross of Christ and will continue to be so. I acknowledge that the summer months include travel opportunities for many of us. I ask each of you to remind yourself that Cross of Christ's financial obligations continue during the summer months. Are you caught up with your pledges? If so, I represent your council when I offer my thanks. If not, please remind yourself that giving back to God that which He has blessed you with remains a wonderful opportunity even when you are far away! The Lutheran Study Bible carries a wonderful note attached to Mathew 25:14-30; "Our relationship to God and the world is one of stewardship. We are to use everything entrusted to us in such a way that it benefits God's kingdom."

Yours in Christ,

Dan

2 Corinthians 8:5-7

"...but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us. ⁶Accordingly, we urged Titus that as he had started, so he should complete among you this act of grace. ⁷But as you excel in everything— in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in our love for you— see that you excel in this act of grace also."



Greetings from the ACTING Board of Properties Chairman.

The focus of the Board of Properties has been changing lightbulbs. This sounds like a minor issue, but if you think about how high the ceiling is in the gym, you will understand it is not a one man job. Other areas of focus in the last month include repairs to the air conditioning for the church office, working with our new phone provider to be sure all phones are working as intended, as well other minor repairs that are tackled as they come up.

Greg Fussell
Acting Board of Properties Chairman

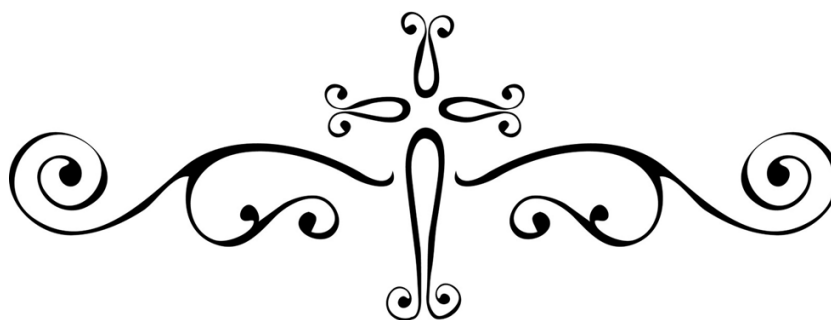


DOW Sunday—July 29, 2018

Donations of sewing items, including working sewing machines, are welcome as well as furniture in good working order. Note: furniture donations should be cleared with DOW before

Food items such as: Basmati Rice; Pickles; Couscous; Flour; Sugar; Cornmeal; Pasta; Canned Tuna, Salmon or Sardines; Green & Black Tea; Coffee; Peanut Butter; Jams/Preserves; Lentils (green, red or brown); Canned Beans (garbanzos, brown, & lima); Canned Milk; Walnuts; Almonds; Olives; Olive Oil; Canned Tomatoes; Canned Fruits; Canned Vegetables; Hummus; Dried Fruits (raisins & dates); Spices (Turmeric, Cumin, Paprika, Chili Powder, Mustard Seeds, Ground Ginger, Curry Powder, Coriander, Allspice, Salt, Pepper)

Cash donations are also welcome, as well as gift cards from Wal-Mart, Target, & Kroger. Checks and gift cards can be mailed to:
Disciples of the Way, 6500 Greenville Ave., Suite 190, Dallas, TX 75206



Join us for the
4th of July Parade!

July 3rd 9:00 a.m.
Please be in place (around
the front of the church and
the north parking lot) at
8:45 a.m. as the parade
will begin at 9:00.

We look forward to seeing
everyone there!



Church Office &
School will be closed on
July 4th, in observation
of Independence Day!

**NOW
ENROLLING!!!**

Cross of Christ Lutheran School

Summer Camps
June 1st through August 2nd

**To Enroll
or Learn More
Contact Us:**

512 N. Cockrell Hill Rd
De Soto, TX 75115

972-223-9586

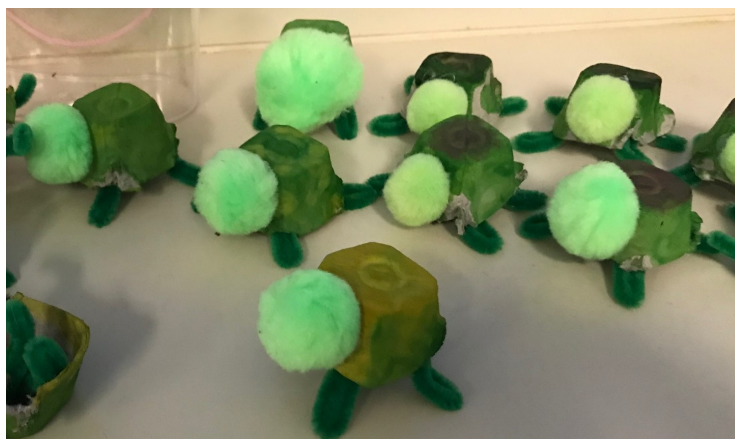
*Designed for ages 3
through 12 years.*

Camp Weeks Include:

Art; Recycle Art; Lost Artifacts; Dino Days; World
Travel; Behind the Story; Space Avenger; Nature Garden;
Animals Large & Small; Games that Last Forever

**Remember
It is Hip to Clip!**

Box Tops for
Education help the
school with the
costs of supplies.



A bale of turtles—made from recycled items. One of the many objects made during the
“Recycle Art” week at Cross of Christ Lutheran School Summer Camps

July 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	31				

July 3rd — Fourth of July Parade 9:00 a.m.

July 4th — Church Office and School closed in observance of 4th of July

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

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

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

Newsletter Articles due — Monday, July 16th

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

DOW Sunday — Sunday, July 29th

Pastor's Day Off — Fridays

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: Carrie Graves; Gail Bielefeldt

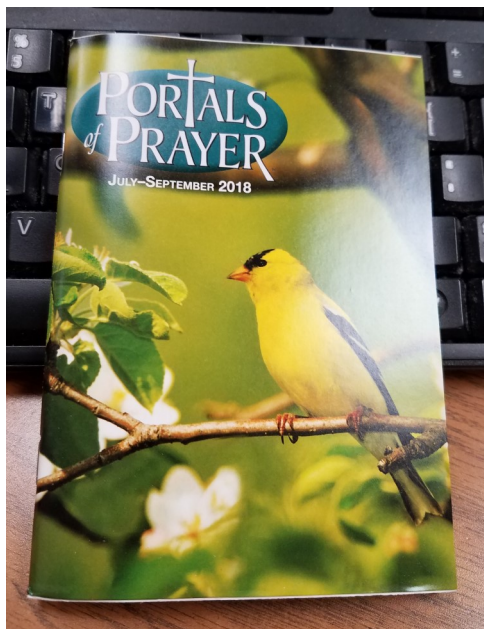
GREETERS: Gail Bielefeldt; Carrie Graves; Cynthia Huse

USHERS: Dale Huse; Ron McKethan; Roe Bobo

<u>July 1</u>	<u>July 8</u>	<u>July 15</u>	<u>July 22</u>	<u>July 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>	<u>CROSS BEARERS</u>	<u>CROSS BEARERS</u>	<u>CROSS BEARERS</u>	<u>CROSS BEARERS</u>
As Assigned	As Assigned	As Assigned	As Assigned	As Assigned
<u>ELDERS</u>	<u>ELDERS</u>	<u>ELDERS</u>	<u>ELDERS</u>	<u>ELDERS</u>
Robert Flye	Allan Kloess	Tom Graves	Tom Caldwell	Robert Flye
	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>
Paul Tucker	Phil & Anita Strand	Tom Caldwell	Carrie Graves	Paul Tucker
<u>NURSERY</u>	<u>NURSERY</u>	<u>NURSERY</u>	<u>NURSERY</u>	<u>NURSERY</u>
Cassey Martin	Jackie Peña	Kay Boelter	Jackie Peña	Cassie Martin
<u>SATURDAY SEC.</u>	<u>SATURDAY SEC.</u>	<u>SATURDAY SEC.</u>	<u>SATURDAY SEC.</u>	<u>SATURDAY SEC.</u>
(30) Cynthia Huse	(7) Polly Braig	(14) Mary Caldwell	(21) Carol & Bo Brown	(28) Bennie & Joan Symank
Amber Parker	Kate Duncan	Gloria Jones	Nona Flye	Vera Watson
	Patty McKethan	Lila Fussell	Ellen Holmes	



Please help keep our church grounds clean and tidy. If you see trash please pick it up and dispose of it properly. Thank you!



Available in Narthex!



Mark Your Calendar

October 13, 2018
Country Day on the Hill
9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Volunteers needed!

**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.



Remember Scrip Gift Cards for your favorite restaurants and stores make great gifts and a great alternative to carrying checks and cash.

To purchase Scrip Cards:
See 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.



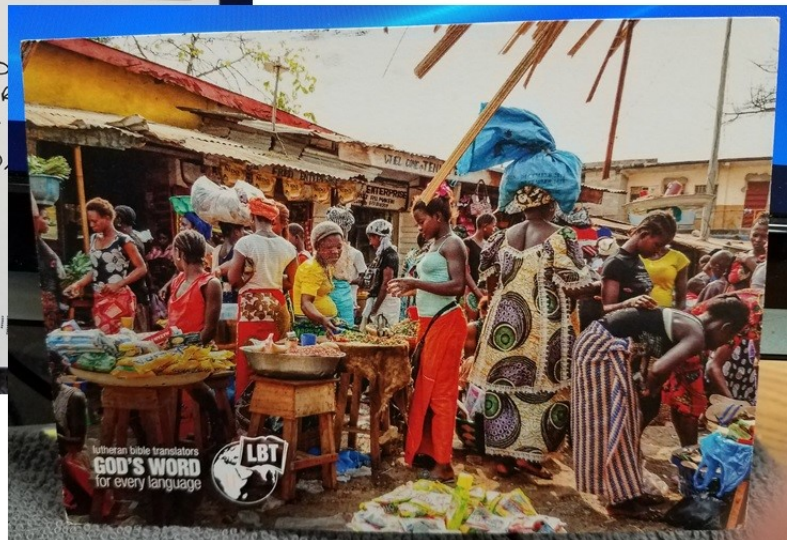
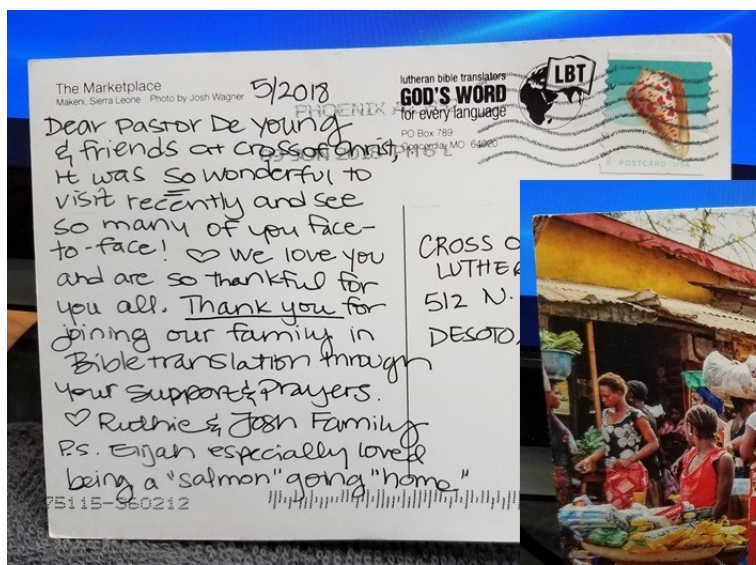
"De Soto Reads" Volunteers come and read to our children of all ages. It is enjoyed by everyone.

School Board Report
A. D. Cowser, Chairman

As expected the summer enrollment is down. We have a great weekly summer camp program in progress and have received many inquiries. Our hope is that those inquiring will bring their children to the school for fresh and exciting weekly camps.



Fun-filled learning, sharing, and exploring by focusing on heart, mind, and soul.



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.



Cross of Christ Lutheran Church and School

512 N. Cockrell Hill

De Soto, TX 75115

972-223-9340

Fax 972-223-8432

Email: admin@CrossofChrist.org



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



July Birthdays

7-4	Polly Braig
7-5	Grace Miller
7-6	Paul Tucker
7-6	Glenn Goodrich II
7-7	Brittany Symank
7-11	Tom Caldwell
7-19	Alyce Staehs
7-21	Mia Adams
7-26	Weston Arrington
7-30	Phil Strand

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:



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**.

Remember our Shut-ins

Dolores Jirik	Gail Carmical
Nathalie Smith	Joan Symank
Karen Wenzel	Dr. Falke
Lucille Gropp	Sue Riewe

