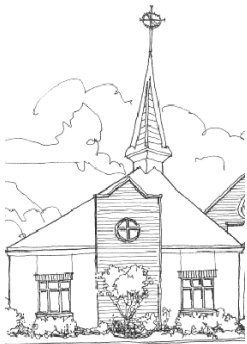


Cross Words

Reaching, Teaching and
Living with the Cross of
Christ

**APRIL 2019
Edition**



512 North Cockrell Hill Rd
De Soto, TX 75115
972-223-9340

Pastor's Page

Pastor John De Young



From the Pastor's Desk . . .

Easter came last month. The next big days for the Church are Ascension Day and Pentecost, also called Whitsunday in the old days. Ascension will be at the end of the month of May and Pentecost will be in June. There is very little happening during the rest of April this year, at least as far as the Church is concerned. And May only has Memorial Day (27th). Oh, there are observances and minor holidays, just not religious holidays (unless you count Holocaust Memorial Day - Yom HaShoah - as a religious holiday). Other than that, there isn't much happening in May.

So, the question is, Now What? What are we to do for this entire month with no holidays?

Of course, you could go to a beautiful wedding – but that has come and gone – or to West Texas for the graduation of the finest female lawyer in modern times – there might be a little bias showing. We will be

there. We would (have) love(d) to invite each of you for our kids big days but we were limited to small numbers at both occasions. Thanks for your continued prayers and support.

We must note that even though Easter Sunday has come and gone, Easter is not over. Until Pentecost, we are in the Easter season. How can one settle with something of the magnitude of Easter with one or two church services?

The world blows by Easter in favor of candy and colored eggs because the world does not believe in the realities of Easter. Everyone recognizes that it is a big day. Family traditions for many unbelievers include the family gathering and the big meal. They would simply prefer that we make it about bunnies and candy and leave the death and resurrection stuff behind. They like the family events and the food, but it is hard to believe it is rising from the dead that they want to ignore. And they want us

to ignore it too.

It is hard to believe. It is actually impossible to believe without God's help: Third Article of the Apostles Creed in the Small Catechism. Besides, you cannot believe in Easter without also believing in Christmas. The death and resurrection doesn't make sense, or have any real meaning, without the Incarnation, the Personal Union, the sinless perfection of His life, the doctrines of creation and the fall into sin, and so forth. Santas - Elfs - reindeers -make-believe bunnies with colored eggs and jelly beans is a lot easier to deal with. They don't cause you to re-examine your life or make you feel like you should be getting up for church on Sunday.

They don't save you, or give you a Resurrection of your own (or even the hope of one) or Eternal Life either. Only Jesus does that by His death and Resurrection. So, we don't try to put it all on one week. In fact, we take the whole year, since every Sunday is an

Easter celebration of sorts. But we have this special season of Eastertide to focus on the specific event called the Resurrection and its repercussions. To look at how it works itself out, I prepared a list below, of the major theme of the Scripture lessons in the three year lectionary: Series C. The Gospel, First Reading and the Epistle are included:

April 28th – Gospel: John 20 – Doubting Thomas

First Reading (Old Testament readings during Easter are replaced with the readings in the book of Acts): Acts 5 – Peter, who denied Christ 3 times, preaches Christ boldly

Epistle: Revelation 1 – John’s vision of the Heavenly Kingdom

May 5th – Gospel: John 21 – Disciples don’t recognize Jesus – He reveals Himself to them

First Reading: Acts 9 – Paul’s conversion – doesn’t recognize Christ – Christ reveals Himself

Epistle: Revelation 5 – Christ, the Lamb of God, is revealed to be the lion of the tribe of Judah

May 12th – Gospel: John 10 – Jesus is the Good Shepherd

First Reading: Acts 20 – Paul warns the shepherd’s of the Church to protect the Flock against the wolves

Epistle: Revelation 7 – The sure vision of Christ victorious as the Perfect Shepherd King

May 19th – Gospel: John 16– Jesus Promises Holy Spirit Who will Guide Church into the Truth

First Reading: Acts 11 – God has granted Life also to the Gentiles

Epistle: Revelation 21 – The New Jerusalem – Heaven – will be for all People

May 26th – Gospel: John 16– Jesus proclaims He has over come

this world.

First Reading: Acts 16 – Conversion of Lydia also to the Gentiles
Epistle: Revelation 21 – Continuation of an explanation of the New Jerusalem – Heaven – will be for all People

We have the effect of the resurrection laid out for us. This is our last weeks of April and all of May.

After the Easter morning experience, the first lesson is the lesson of faith that is needed to believe in the Christ. The third Easter teaches us that Jesus is recognized. The fourth Easter shows Jesus as the Great and Good Shepherd. The fifth Easter promises what we need to keep the Easter festivals of our lives: Holy Spirit. The Sixth Easter proclaims that the Church is made up of all nations.

This leads into the Ascension where Christ proclaims preach and teach all nations (people) and Baptize (including infants).

Then will come Pentecost (June 9th) where the message of the Gospel is spoken to all the world.

And we thought that there was nothing going on between Easter and Pentecost, except the Ascension!

These are the messages of our Eastertide season. We don't have special services for them, or colored eggs, or candy, but they are an expression of the meaning and purpose of Easter in the life of the Church and her members. So you can see why it does not all fit in just one week. We need this extra time.

Your Brother in Christ,

Pastor De Young

Board of Elders

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! As I write this, we have just celebrated our Easter service. As always, it was a wonderful service, and I also want to thank my fellow elders who all contributed to the cooking and serving of our traditional Easter breakfast. Many thanks also for those who assisted in the Lenten soup suppers that preceded Easter.

After the Easter Sunday service, I feel, and perhaps you as well, the strong urge to live my life in a manner pleasing to our Lord. Easter has a way of making us all focus on the most important thing in our lives, our Savior Jesus Christ. Then, as time goes by, we drift back to the things of this world and become absorbed in our own material world. We can't help it. Our sinful nature always drags us down to our earthly care and desires.

We are taught, however, that we should live “Godly” lives and to renounce “ungodliness.” Titus 2:11-12. What do those terms mean? According to the Portals of Prayer, ungodliness means living our lives without acknowledgment of God and what He does for us each day. We can renounce ungodliness and lead Godly lives when we take time each day to think and pray to God for guidance. By the same token we need to trust in Jesus even when everything seems to be going bad. In short, we need to remember that wonderful gift that Jesus gave us on the Cross and his resurrection not only on Easter but every day of the year. If we will just remember our Lord even a little bit each day, it will go a long way to our renouncing ungodliness and living

godly lives.

As we continue on with this year, I pray that you and I will remember Jesus in our daily lives and always turn to him.

Peace be with you!

Tom

Chaplains Corner

Isaiah 41:10 (NIV) *“So do not fear, for I am with you, do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”* Every one of us needs someone to be with us when things go wrong, when life goes in the ditch. On some occasions it may be better to just be with our brother or sister en lieu of trying to fix the problem(s). I know that sounds strange because we frequently want to make things better so our beloved family member or best friend does not have to suffer emotionally, physically or spiritually. I’ve discovered that by “sitting with someone who is broken”, can actually bond us closer together in Christ which cannot happen in any other way. I found this to be true when serving as a volunteer Chaplain at Baylor Scott & White Hospital’s oncology section. I cannot heal people’s cancer (I so wish I could) but I can sit with them, in their brokenness with stage four cancer, and we can trust and love God together as we pray.

Being with someone, sitting through their pain and agony, holding them as they weep, will help both you and them walk through life. Brokenness is broken by reaching out and loving through God’s grace. Children

who are ill can be fighting the medical staff, doctors and nurses, who really want to help them, however, the deep relationship and love of the parent quickly turns the tears and sobbing into a smile, and hugs that just don’t let go. Parent and child have gone through being in the ditch a lot of times, the parent has sat with the child in the brokenness and in so doing has bonded at a very deep level. And when that parent walks in the room, and scoops up that sobbing child, he/she brings peace, calm, assurance and most of all love. It is what God the Father in Heaven does with us – it is His promise from Isaiah 41 when He says that He alone will strengthen us and help us.

Marshall Schultz
SIL International Chaplain

MAY Birthdays

5-2	Richard Doyle
5-3	Amber Knorr
5-6	Lucille Gropp
5-8	Aundrea Martin
5-9	Charlene Vidmar
5-12	Eileen Davis
5-15	Karen Williams
5-18	Caryn Huse
5-22	Chloe Pedersen
5-26	Mary Ewing

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: crossofchristchurchtx@gmail.com so we can update our list.



Cross of Christ Lutheran School Indoor Easter Egg Roll





All ladies are welcome to join us for our annual Salad Supper. This Supper will be at 6:30 p.m. on May 16th in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring a salad to share.

We will be electing officers during the meeting, but don't let that scare you off. The officers will probably be the same as this past year.

The 109 Personal Care Kits provided by our church members and under the leadership of Cross of Christ LWML have been delivered to Messiah Lutheran Church in Plano. These will be loaded with other Care Kits and taken to Lutheran World Relief in Maryland for distribution worldwide as needed.

Thank you all for this blessing.

Remember:

As you travel and stay in hotels please pick up the travel size shampoos; soaps; tissues; conditioners; and mouth wash. Place them on the table in the main hallway and we will set them aside for our Gift Bags we present to the Pregnancy Center. We also collect baby socks and booties; onesies; and receiving blankets for this worthwhile project.

Widowed Friends

Widowed Friends is making a change!

We are NOW meeting every two weeks.

The potluck lunches in May will be on the 9th and the 23th. We will continue our discussion about "Living with Grief". We will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 12:30 p.m.

Bring a dish to share and come enjoy the support and fellowship. Feel free to bring a family member or a friend who is dealing with the loss of a loved one.

Also, share this information with fellow parishioners that may not have received this newsletter.

Family Life Ministry

The May activity has been set. There will be a fish fry at the home of A. D. Cowser. (1351 Bryson, Midlothian, TX 76065) There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. SAVE the date May 5th, after church.

We had 14 people at the first outing and 16 for the second. Let's top those numbers for the next outing.

Watch for details coming soon. We welcome suggestions for future events.

A. D. Cowser

Below is the website to enter to the **Amazon Smile** account that benefits Cross of Christ Lutheran Church. Feel free to share this information with others that shop on Amazon.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/75-1850377>

As you shop you will see "Eligible for Amazon Smile donation". These items will earn .5% for Cross of Christ Lutheran Church at time of purchase. No additional fees or charges will be added to your purchase.

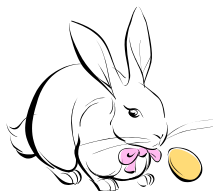
Board of Christian Services

Before the Voters' Meeting on May 18th we will have a Potluck dinner. The meal will be at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The Voters' Meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m.

Please bring a dish to share and attend this important quarterly meeting. It is about *Your Church*!



This summer we will have a **Clean the Handbells** event. We need a coordinator for this event. Won't you help us coordinate this event? Let Pastor De Young; Greg Fussell; or Sharon Wilson know if you are interested.



Easter Egg Hunt

April 21, 2019

Great fun for the hunters!



Scrip Cards

Shop with Scrip!

If we don't have a gift card for a store or restaurant you would like, ask! We can add it to the next order, just for you.

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.

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

COC Lutheran School Highlights

We continue to accept items for our Yard Sale, benefitting the School Playground Project. The date has been postponed. Watch for the new date to be determined soon. Please get with Lila on where to place donations. Note furniture will not be accepted.



VOLUNTEERS!!

Chris Kloess has agreed to take over as the chairperson for the Altar Guild and is asking for volunteers for the Guild. We need two people to complete the current schedule. Please visit with Chris Kloess to learn more.

Sharon Wilson is going to assume the role of coordinating the Saturday Secretaries. We need one person to fill the teams of volunteers.

Remember our Shut-ins

Nathalie Smith; Dolores Jirik; Joan Symank; Dr. Falke; Lucille Gropp; Sue Riewe; Grace Miller

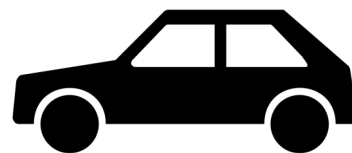
NEED A RIDE TO CHURCH?

If you need a ride to church the Board of Family Life and Ministries is willing to help.

Contact A. D. Cowser
972-979-3584 -or-
Sharon Wilson at the church office 972-223-9340.

Please allow plenty of time to make arrangements for your ride.

If you are willing to pick up someone for church, please contact A. D. or Sharon.



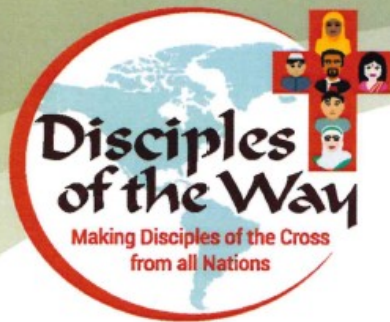
THE WEDDING AT CANA

C	E	R	K	T	C	F	N	Y	M	I	B	M	M	L	B
N	M	W	R	R	K	T	K	C	D	E	A	I	V	V	A
K	A	K	S	A	D	J	B	P	L	S	N	R	L	N	L
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K	L	H	S	J	N	N	A	D	A	P	E	H	O	O	N
F	B	J	P	T	A	A	D	O	S	T	I	C	W	J	A
R	Q	Q	P	R	W	E	R	O	T	S	E	G	T	I	Q
V	H	C	I	H	W	O	G	Y	B	N	J	R	T	W	W

Find the CAPITALIZED words listed below in the puzzle above.

AT MARY's
REQUEST
JESUS
AND HIS disciples
ATTENDED
a WEDDING
IN CANA.
WHEN THE wine
RAN OUT,
Jesus INSTRUCTED
the SERVANTS
TO FILL
SEVERAL
STONE pots
with WATER,

and the ORDINARY
water was TRANSFORMED
INTO WINE.
This MIRACLE
WAS
THE
FIRST
ATTESTED to
in the GOSPEL
of JOHN
WHICH
STATES
THAT it
made BELIEVERS
of the DISCIPLES



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(214) 200-3009



March 27, 2019

Rev John DeYoung
Cross of Christ Lutheran Church
512 N. Cockrell Hill Road
De Soto, TX 75115

Pastor DeYoung and Cross of Christ Congregation, Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

I thank the Lord of the harvest for your partnership in the Gospel to reach out to our Muslim neighbors. We thank you for including DOW as part of your mission outreach and for the love you share with our ministry and the refugees from all nations that we reach out to in the name and love of Jesus.

God has brought many Muslims to us in order so that we may reach out to them with the Gospel. The harvest among Muslims as you already know is plentiful **-John 4:35b-** and God continues to change Muslim's lives one person at a time. Please pray that the Lord of the harvest will send more laborers into the ripe fields as *"the fields are ripe and ready to harvest"* John 4:35

"How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?" Romans 10:14

I thank God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray that the Lord may continue to bless you as you continue to **"Grow in the Grace and Knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ"** 2 Peter 3:18.

Saving the lost together in Christ,

Rev. Karim Baidaoui

Rev. Karim Baidaoui
Disciples of the Way Ministries

"Disciples of the Cross Making Disciple-Makers from All Nations" (Matt. 28:19)

*My brothers and sisters in Christ,
I ALWAYS THANK THE LORD of the Harvest
for your sincere partnership in the Gospel
to ALL NATIONS!*

S. L. Baidaoui



disciplesoftheway.org

MAY 2019

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	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	

May 2019 Activities

May 2nd - 7:00 p.m. Board Meetings
 May 9th - 12:30 p.m. "Living with Grief"
 May 9th - 7:30 p.m. Council Meeting
 May 16th - 6:30 p.m. LWML Meeting*
 May 16th - 7:00 p.m. Elders Meeting
 May 18th - 5:30 p.m. Potluck Supper
 May 18th - 6:00 p.m. Voters' Meeting
 May 22nd - 9:30 a.m. Braille, Grace Lutheran, Arlington
 May 23rd - 12:30 p.m. "Living with Grief"

Mondays, May 6th, and 13th - Monday Night Bible Study. At 7:00 p.m.

Tuesdays, May 7th and 14th - Tuesday Ladies Bible Study at 10:15 a.m.

*See page 4 for more information.

CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH Serving the LORD

ALTAR COMMITTEE: Thomas and Jocelyn Lee

GREETERS: Polly Braig; Carol Brown; Verna Geihl

USHERS: A. D. Cowser; Mia Adams; Michael Arrington

May 5

COUNTERS - Harry & Eileen Davis
 ELDERS - Robert Flye
 LOCK-UP - Carrie Graves
 NURSERY - Cassie Martin
 SATURDAY SECRETARY -
 (4) Bennie & Joan Symank; Vera Watson

May 12

COUNTERS - Elton & LaVonne Kindler
 ELDERS - Allan Kloess; Dale Huse
 LOCK-UP - Phil & Anita Strand
 NURSERY - Jackie Peña
 SATURDAY SECRETARY -
 (11) Carrie Graves; Lila Fussell

May 19

COUNTERS - Gail Bielefeldt; Charlotte Walker
 ELDERS - Tom Graves; Ron McKethan
 LOCK-UP - Tom Caldwell
 NURSERY - Cassie Martin
 SATURDAY SECRETARY -
 (18) Verna Geihl; Charlotte Walker

May 26

COUNTERS - Ken & Kay Boelter
 ELDERS - Tom Caldwell; Thomas Lee
 LOCK-UP - Carrie Graves
 NURSERY - Jackie Peña
 SATURDAY SECRETARY -
 (25) Vic & Charlene Vidmar