

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

181 Old Seven Mile Pike, Shelbyville, KY 40065 Phone: (502) 647-3696 Fax: (502) 647-4994 pastor@holycrosslutheran-ky.org

Making peace by the blood of his cross — Colossians 1:15-20

Grace, peace, and mercy to you from our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Ten years ago, a Pew "Faith in Flux" study looked at how adults have lost their faith. One of the leading indicators was the lack of regular worship attendance. Those who maintained attendance as kids and through as teens were much less likely to lose their faith. And yet, despite these facts, Christians of every denominational stripe have been heading the opposite direction. Church attendance is flagging with more and more people seeking private expression of faith. These isolating behaviors sadly end up stifling faith.

Now, further studies are showing just how unhealthy this lonely tendency is for us all. Harvard scientist Robert Putnam has examined many different signs of health connected to regular church attendance. Children who regularly attend church are less likely to become addicted to drugs, less likely to experiment with minor law-breaking, do better in school, and even show signs of better relationships across the board with parents, teachers, friends, and teammates. Just this year, a new Pew survey found increased happiness in those who find their way into church each Sunday.

Hebrews 10:25 charged believers facing deadly persecution, "Do not neglect to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encourage one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near." Luther's Catechism teaches us about the third commandment, "We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but gladly hear and learn it." It's always been a temptation to skip out on the daily bread. Sometimes the bread seems stale or too hard to chew through, and yet it remains life-giving, as even secular studies discover!

We've been talking about evangelism, proclaiming the good news of Jesus. One area in which we often overlook our call is in this great group of neighbors who call themselves Christians but are drifting further and further from the Good Shepherd. Sixty percent of Americans who call themselves Christians <u>report</u> that they rarely or never attend services for reasons other than unbelief. James 5:19-20 promises great reward and blessing for "whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering."

We can't let fear or apathy keeps us from engaging our neighbors. Show them where Jesus can be found. Invite them to church, not just once, but let them know how important it is. Keep urging them to restore or start fresh the habits that are proven to help.

And when they come, evangelism is not done. Christ's flock is a precious, delicate blessing. We know how easy it is for people to stray and get lost again. Each of us is part of the environment found in the church. When we joyfully receive Christ's gifts, this is catching. When we

pridefully indulge in grudges, this also spreads. Romans 12:18 tells us, "So far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all."

Whether we call it "evangelism" or not, this is learning to live Jesus' Gospel throughout our lives. We live at peace with others because God is at peace with us. We want to tell the victory of Jesus over sin because it is the victory we feel in our own lives. "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God" (Colossians 3:16). This is the irony, that when we feel impoverished, we tend to withdraw, when exactly the opposite is called for. We find the riches of God's Word in our lives when it is shared!

We have excuses to invite and encourage others with Rally Day and later Friendship Sunday. But don't wait. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly by opening your heart to have that word flow out to others. Pray for opportunities and then seize them. Let the Word grow among us, Lord Jesus!

Your servant in Christ,

Pastor Daniel Guagenti

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: SUNDAYS 9:45AM

As the Scriptures focus us God's grace in Christ, characters from Abraham to Zebedee move in and out of the spotlight. Peter is one of the most memorable. He is heroic and yet utterly human. He boldly jumps out of the boat to Jesus walking on the water, actually walks a few steps, then begins to sink and needs Jesus to save him. Starting Rally Day, September 22, we will follow the story of Peter up through his first epistle. We'll see a man grapple with his own country rejecting His Lord, feeling himself an exile, and yet built up into an everlasting temple. We will see how in Christ His power is made perfect in weakness, how we, too, can fish for men, and how our Lord chooses precisely what is rejected by the world to build His glorious kingdom. Come and join us!

BOOK CLUB: SEPTEMBER 29



The Book Club will be reading Afraid written by Robert Bennett for September. A fascinating and unnerving book, Afraid is a mustread that equips all Christians to recognize the devil's influence in our society and to act on it. Robert Bennett describes real events and actual confessions people have shared with him of demonic encounters in America, in our modern age. Summoning demons, interacting with ghosts, and holding séances led to what many may call horrifying hallucinations and even schizophrenia. But for many Americans, these things are their spirituality. How can we break free from the despair and crushing fear that such encounters can bring? How do we come to the aid of our neighbors who are lost in Satan's deceptions? Bennett points us to the only way out: God s grace and the medicines He gives to His people. Next meeting is Sept. 29.



CELEBRATIONS IN SEPTEMBER

BIRTHDAYS

- 2- Terry Conder
- 2- A. Isaac Guagenti
- 2- Colleen Skellie
- 7- Pastor Guagenti
- 8- Nancy Guagenti
- 12- Rita Whitehouse
- 15- Jeff Wilson
- 16- Branden Nelson
- 16- Ricky Spreitzer
- 16- Chris Phoebus
- 18- Alexander Lee
- 19- Lori Franke
- 19- Sandy Jager
- 19- Skylar Shreve
- 21- Elijah Smith
- 22- Richard Spreitzer
- 23- Kara Kremer
- 29- Maxwell Themer
- 29- Mary Carnes

ANNIVERSARIES

- 3- Bill & Judy Chapman, 1983
- 4- Fred & Debbie Wilbur, 1971
- 7- Rebecca & Clay Anderson, 2015
- 9- Don & Donna Saltzman 1992
- 9- Brian & Cathy Gehrman, 1994
- 18- Jim & Dottie Weed, 1953
- 28- Rick & Carol Spreitzer, 1991
- 29- Daniel & Ann Amyx, 2012

VOTERS' MEETING: SEPTEMBER 15

There will be a Voters' Meeting on Sunday, September 15 following the Divine Service. All members are asked to attend.

SIGN LANGUAGE CLASS: FRIDAYS

The Sign Language Class meets at 10am on Fridays.

LUTHERANISM 101 CLASS: SATURDAYS

Lutheranism 101 class is at 10 am. This tenweek course covers the basics of our faith, the Bible, and church history. New members go through this class before joining to get a sense of what we believe, teach, and confess. Everyone is welcome to join. Please see Pastor Guagenti for more information.

THREADS OF GRACE CLASS: SEPTEMBER 17

Threads of Grace meets here at Holy Cross. Whether you knit, crochet, cross-stitch, needle-point or just want to socialize - all are welcome. They will meet again on Tuesday, September 17.

DEEP ROOTS: SEPTEMBER 18

For September, Deep Roots will have two pastors teaching - Andy Guagenti will teach half the Deep Roots class on Heaven and Hell. Where do we go when we die? What comes next after this life? How does God decide who goes where? These questions and more will be answered by both Pastors Guagenti. They will meet on Wednesday, Sept 18 at 7pm.

RALLY DAY: SEPTEMBER 22

A celebration of the kick-off of our Sunday School year will be held on Sunday, September 22. Sunday School and Adult Bible Class begin at 9:45am with Divine Service at 11am. Food and games to follow.

TRUNK OR TREAT

Now that school supply giveaway is over I would like to focus on Trunk or Treat... I am seeking a Chairperson for this event. If you are interested in heading up this event please contact Debbie Nelson or Pastor. I will assist with any planning or legwork. First item on that agenda would be setting a date.

I also would like to know which one of our Thrivent members are willing to apply for a Thrivent Card for the event. We could use a card for: Food, Bouncy House, Crafts.

Debbie Nelson, Evangelism Chair

LADIES NIGHT OUT QUESTION: SEPTEMBER 10

There is a floral design class at a St. Matthews florist on Tuesday nights at 6:00. There is also a class on Saturday mornings at 10:00. The cost for either



class is \$15 and everything is provided. Registration is required for the class and there are about 20 people in a class.

If this might be something of interest for a ladies night out please let me know. If Tuesday night is something that is chosen we could skip the meal and just do the class or have a meal afterwards, probably around 7:30-8:00. If a Saturday morning class we could do lunch.

September LNO is Tuesday, September 10. It will take approximately 30 minutes to carpool to the florist but keep in mind Tuesday would probably encounter rush hour traffic and we cannot be late! I would need to make a reservation for a group by Tuesday September 3. Please let me know in time to either make the reservation (by Sept.) or plans for a restaurant. Rita Whitehouse ritarose02@gmail.

LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES

Lutheran Hour Ministries is a Christian outreach ministry supporting churches worldwide in its mission of *Bringing Christ to the Nation—and the Nations to Church*. Lutheran Hour Ministries produces Christian radio and TV programming for broadcast, as well as Internet and print communications, dramas, music, and outreach materials, to reach the unchurched in more than 30 countries. LHM"s flagship program **The Lutheran Hour**, is the world's longest-running Christian outreach radio program. It airs Sundays at 9am on 102.7FM. For information, visit www.lhm.org (http://www.lhm.org)

YOU KNOW YOU MIGHT BE A LUTHERAN IF...

- In response to someone jumping up and shouting "Praise the Lord!", you politely remind him or her that we don't do that around here.
- You think a meeting isn't legitimate unless it's at least three hours long.
- Your church is on fire and you rush to save the coffee pot.

SERVICE OF DEDICATION: SEPTEMBER 1

Good Shepherd, Bardstown, has purchased and taken possession of their first Church Building. A Service of Dedication will take place beginning in their rented location at 9am, Sunday, September 1. The service will follow the Agenda rubrics to officially "close" this site ... and then the congregation, taking may of the articles pertaining to worship with them, will proceed to the New Building (less than 2 miles away) and officially "Open the Doors" and Dedicate the new Worship Location. They have extended an invitation to all to come and be part of this celebration.

Festival and Health Fair: September 7

Redeemer Lutheran Church invites you to join us on September 7th from 10 am – 3 pm for a time of fun, prizes, fellowship, and many free health services. We are thrilled to have the UofL Jazz Quartet playing in the afternoon. Also, free food and giveaways. 3640 River Park Drive, Louisville, KY. Hope to see you then!

FISH FRY: SEPTEMBER 7

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Georgetown, Indiana will be hosting a 'Fish Fry' on Saturday, September 7 from 4 to 6pm. Meals will be \$7.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children 4-12 and children under 4 are free. Shepherd of the Hills is located at 5231 SR 62, Georgetown, IN.

REVERENDEUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



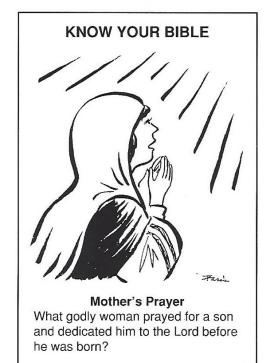
HEY JOB IT LOOKS LIKE YOU HAVE JURY DUTY TOMORROW

LIFE QUOTES

"A God who marks His covenanted people is telling them something important about the power of sex and its control and its proper place within the divine-human economy: It comes to us as a gift, to be used for its purposes and no other, and its abuse will sully the soul of man. Its proper use in marriage is a great mystery, a great gift which was given for the protection of all. It doesn't always work out that way, sadly, but its imperfect practice is no excuse for throwing it all away for what we see today."

James M Kushiner, The Fellowship of St. James "A "Life Quote" from Lutherans For Lifewww.lutheransforlife.org





Look for the answer in the October's Newsletter August's Answer: Philemon (see Philem. 10)

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

SUNDAY	ACOLYTE	READER	USHER	USHER	CLEAN	NURSERY	ALTAR GUILD	MOWING
September 1	Gabriel Guagenti	David Themer	Don Williams	Bob Myers	Botkins Family	Jennie Shreve	J. Harrod J. Dillard	D. Themer B. Gehrman Sep 4-7
September 8	Zoe Shreve	Nancy Kovach	Alex VanPelt	Charlie Adams	Franke Family	Alena Guagenti	No Communion	C. Phoebus C. Schufer Sep 11-14
September 15	Eden Guagenti	David Franke	Joel Franke	Harlan Joseph	Kathy Vetter	Kathy Vetter	J. Harrod J. Dillard	G. Rutledge Pastor Sep 18-21
September 22	Elijah Smith	Jeff Wilson	Rod Shreve	John Feole	Harlan Joseph	Josh Botkins	No Communion	J. Botkins J. Botkins Sep 25-28
September 29	Max Semeniuk	Charlie Moody	Harlan Joseph	Aaron Franke	Sandy Runner	Shelah Shreve	B. Moody J. Dillard	A. VanPelt M. Carlson Oct 2-5
October 6	Brenyn Botkins	David Themer	Charlie Moody	Rita Whitehouse	Botkins Family	Jennie Shreve	J. Harrod J. Dillard	D. Pontius J. Bink Oct 9-12

IF YOU CANNOT SERVE ON THE APPOINTED DAY, PLEASE CALL SOMEONE TO SERVE IN YOUR PLACE.

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

LCMS Stewardship Ministry
Newsletter Article – September 2019

What is a steward? Most people will say a steward is a manager.

That is correct, but it is only half right. A steward is indeed a manager, but he is a manager of what does not belong to him. Someone else is the owner, and the steward manages the owner's property on the owner's behalf.

We are God's stewards. Our stewardship is that God has made us managers of what belongs to Him:

"For we brought nothing into this world, and we cannot take anything out of the world" (1 Tim. 6:7)

Everything that we have and everything that we are comes from God's fatherly divine goodness and mercy. God is the owner.

This is not only because He created all things; He is also the redeemer. He has redeemed – that is, purchased – and won all things. Therefore, it all belongs to Him.

We are simply managers of everything in this world. Like Joseph in Egypt, we are put in charge of managing what belongs to God. What a privilege.

Think about that for a minute. The all-knowing, all-powerful, all-wise God has asked us to manage his possessions on His behalf here on earth.

And by doing this, He invites us to take part in the allocation of His good gifts. He wants us to give our input and advise Him in where His gifts are to be used. What a privilege indeed.

But what a responsibility!

"Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required" (Luke 12:48b).

We are not the owners. And while He puts us as managers, we are still to do with His property what He wants done with it. That means we need to know what He desires and wills for His property.

How do we know this? How can we know the will and mind of God?

We find the will of God in the Bible. There God tells us what His will is for all of His gifts. He tells us how we are to spend our time and use our talents and treasures. He instructs us in the use of our minds, bodies, and souls.

There is nothing we have that doesn't belong to Him.

"Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body" (1 Cor. 6:19–20).

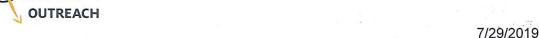
God informs us of the big picture, the overarching policy, of how we as His stewards – managers and custodians – are to manage His property.

And that is stewardship. It is simply doing what God wants us to do with what He has given us.

As St. Paul said,

"Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness" (Rom. 6:13).

So, let's dive into God's Word, and listen to what He desires from His stewards.





Holy Cross Lutheran Church 181 Old Seven Mile Pike Shelbyville, KY 40065

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you for your commitment to sharing the Gospel with those who need it most, both close to home and across the world.

When you give to Concordia Gospel Outreach, books that are sent to missionaries and mission teams working to share the message of Jesus Christ with children, youth, and adults all over the world.

Your recent gift of \$227.00 to the Sharing God's Miraculous Message project will help us put the Gospel in the hands of more children in the United States who have not yet heard the Good News.

Sharing the Gospel is urgent work, and your gifts aid people who share the Gospel with those who desperately need to hear it. Please visit our website, concordiagospeloutreach.org, to read stories of your gift in action and discover more ways to partner with us in our mission. And please, tell others to do the same. The world needs Jesus! Let's proclaim Him!

Blessinas.

Elizabeth Pittman

Manager

Concordia Gospel Outreach

In accordance with IRS regulations, this letter verifies that you received no goods or services in exchange for this gift.

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Dear Friends at Holy Cross Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your participation in our annual Baby Bottle Campaign. Because of faithful partners like you, we've raised a grand total of §42,140!

For your records, your organization received 35 bottles and returned 27, which resulted in a giving total of \$742.98. If more bottles are turned in, please let us know and we will be happy to pick them up and adjust your giving total. We're also happy to receive any empty bottles as it will save us the expense of purchasing more next year.

Your generous contribution to the ministry of ALC helps fulfill the mission of protecting the lives of unborn children and supporting and empowering women and families facing or having experienced a crisis pregnancy by sharing the hope, love, and grace of Jesus Christ.

Thank you again for your support and for your financial gifts to ALC!

Blessings,

Diana Cahill

Executive Director

Jana Cahill



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Saturday	Hos. 2;Ps. 67;Rom. 3:1-20		Hos. 9;Ps. 74;Rom. 7:7-25		Joel 1:13–20;Ps. 80;Rom. 11:11–24		Amos 1:1-12;Ps. 87;Rom. 15:22-33			OCTOBER 2019 >
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Friday	Hos. 1;Ps. 66;Rom. 2:1-29		Hos. 8;Ps. 73;Rom. 7:1-6	-	Joel 1:1-12;Ps. 79;Rom. 11:1-10		Joel 3:17-21;Ps. 86;Rom. 15:8-21			
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Thursday	Jonah 4;Ps. 65;Rom. 1:18-32	>	Hos. 7;Ps. 72;Rom. 6:15-23		Hos, 14;Ps, 78:36-72;Rom, 10:5-21		Joel 3:4-16;Ps. 85;Rom. 14:13-15:7			
day		4			7 :4	9	2;	25		
Wednesday	Jonah 3;Ps. 64;Rom. 1:1-17		Hos. 6;Ps. 71;Rom. 6:1-14		Hos. 13;Ps. 78:1–35;Rom. 9:27–10:4		Joel 2:28-3:3;Ps. 84;Rom. 14:1-12			
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Tuesday	Jonah 2;Ps. 63;Matt. 28:1-20		Hos. 5;Ps. 70;Rom. 5:1-21		Hos. 12;Ps. 77;Rom. 9:1-26		Joel 2:18-27;Ps. 83;Rom. 13:1-14			
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Monday	Jonah 1;Ps. 62;Matt. 27:57-66		Hos. 4;Ps. 69;Rom. 4:13-25		Hos. 11;Ps. 76;Rom. 8:18-39		Joel 2:12-17;Ps. 82;Rom. 12:1-21		Amos 2:6-16;Ps. 89;Rom. 16:17-27	
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Sunday	2 Kings 25:22-30;Ps. 61;Matt. 27:32-56		Hos. 3;Ps. 68;Rom. 3:21-4:12		Hos. 10;Ps. 75;Rom. 8:1-17		Joel 2:1-11;Ps. 81;Rom. 11:25-36		Amos 1:13-2:5;Ps. 88;Rom. 16:1-16	2 S AUGUST 2019
	2 King Ps. 61; Matt. 2		Hos. 3;	(407)	Hos. 10;Ps. 75;Rom. 8;		Joel 2:Ps. 81;Rom. 1		Amos 1Ps. 88;Rom. 16	× AUG



SHARING THE POWERFUL GOSPEL!

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
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EVERY SUNDAY
BIBLE STUDY AND SUNDAY SCHOOL-9:45AM
DIVINE SERVICE-11:00AM

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER 2019

