



# *Holy Cross Lutheran Church*

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*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!

We have all sorts of ways to shorten words or phrases. It's much easier to say "y'all" than "you all." And so, when my kids ask for "mac" I know they will not be happy if in cooking I also shorten things, leaving off the cheese. They expect Macaroni noodles with a cheese sauce (though they will never ask for it by that name). In the church, we can talk about "confession," even though the absolution of "confession and absolution" is what completes the blessing.

Similarly, for Lenten practices, we often speak of "what you give up for Lent." The most important part is not what you give up, but what replaces the temporary sacrifice. We can take a few examples. The classic Lenten fast involves food. But you don't just give up a meal and go back to work. The goal is to take the moments of bodily hunger, remembering that "man does not live on bread alone," and replace the time usually spent on feeding the body with feeding the soul in Scripture reading and prayer.

A more modern approach to fasting involves stepping away from social media. So, whenever your mind has that itch, "I want to check my phone," instead you pray and read the Bible. Or if you give up chocolate, when your body demands a sweet, you insist that God's Word is sweeter than honey (Psalm 19).

In all these examples, the most important thing is what replaces the temporary sacrifice. Now that I think of it, if I was out of macaroni noodles, but had fusilli or farfalle or penne, I doubt I'd hear complaints so long as the cheese was thick and gooey.

So, this Lent, I want for us together to focus on the second part of Lenten sacrifice. You can give up whatever works for you. Let me propose a focus for what we take up together. Let's take up prayer for church missionaries, for the Lord's mission, for mercy.

This is our Lenten theme: Mission and Mercy. We'll explore all throughout the Bible the ways God blessed His people sending them out to serve others, to share mercy, to build unexpected fellowships. We'll do this in our Wednesday night vespers and our Lenten devotions.

Our devotions will look a little different. Each Saturday, instead of a written devotion, we will have a prayer card for a missionary family. We're also going to pass out mission prayer cards throughout Lent, praying for our missionaries. My challenge to Holy Cross is that all together we pray for every one of the LCMS missionary families each day of Lent.

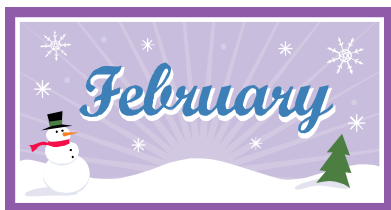
And if you're giving up something you pay for- say lattes and mochas- consider taking those

five-dollar bills and sending them to our missionaries. Furthermore, while we pray for those sacrificing so much to go overseas, let's ask in our prayers what mission and mercy God is setting before us here. Who are the people He is inviting us to see differently, to give mercy?

Whatever you give up, let's take up mission and mercy. Let's find the joy of the harvest is greater than whatever we might choose to give up.

Your servant in Christ,

Pastor Daniel Guagenti



## *Celebrations in February*

### *Birthdays*

- 4- Robert T. Chesher
- 7- Dave Pontius
- 9- Anna Haynes
- 11- Logan Skellie
- 12- Lexi Powell
- 13- Tanner Shreve
- 15- Ruth Hacker
- 17- Travis Jager
- 18- Preston Garrett
- 22- Dottie Weed
- 23- David Franke
- 24- Cathy Delk
- 24- Tracy Lancaster
- 26- Judy Chapman

### *Anniversaries*

- 1- Andy & Nancy Guagenti (1974)
- 7- Dave & Roxana Pontius (1980)
- 21- David & Lori Franke (1987)
- 27- Cecil & Lisa McCarty (2006)

### **ADULT BIBLE STUDY: SUNDAYS 9:45AM**

The Sunday morning Bible class will cover Isaiah in Overview. This four-week class won't cover every verse of the major prophet. Instead, we'll give you an idea of the overview of the book, helping you place Isaiah in Israelite history, and reading the book in Biblical context. The goal is to enrich your own devotional reading of Isaiah. Come and join us!

### **LUTHERANISM 101: SATURDAYS 2PM**

The Lutheranism 101 class will meet on Saturdays at 2pm. For more information please see Pastor Guagenti.

### **WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: FEBRUARY**

Women's Bible Study will meet on Monday February 10 at 7pm and on Tuesday mornings February 18 & 25 at 10am. For more formation please see Nancy Guagenti.

### **MEN'S TIME OUT: FEBRUARY 8**

Men's Time Out will be going to Johnny Carino's in Frankfort on Saturday, February 8. They will meet there at 12pm. If you wish to carpool please meet at the church at 11:30am. Please let Rod Shreve know if you will be attending.

### **THRIVENT PRESENTATION: FEBRUARY 9**

On Sunday, February 9, following the Divine Service, Wendy Gonzales will be here at Holy Cross to give a presentation on Thrivent. A lunch of sub sandwiches will be served.

### **LADIES NIGHT OUT: FEBRUARY 11**

The ladies will be going to Cattleman's in Shelbyville on Tuesday, February 11. They will meet there at 6:30pm. Please let Suzanne Rutledge know if you will be attending.

### **DEEP ROOTS: FEBRUARY 12**

In Deep Roots February 12, 7pm, we'll talk about Jesus' discourse on the Mount of Olives. Is He warning about the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 AD? Is He talking about the end of the world? Hearing these words, what should be our focus in following Him?

### **BOOK CLUB: FEBRUARY 23**

The next book club meeting is set for February 23. We will be sharing Valentine's Day themed and St. Patrick's Day themed foods. Our selection for next meeting is: *I Told Me So* by Gregg A. Ten Elshof. Gregg Ten Elshof reintroduces readers to self-deception and offers an explanation for its recent neglect in Christian thought. He describes conditions that tempt us to deceive ourselves and points out where they exist in contemporary Christian life. He explains the most successful strategies we use in self-deception and offers practical advice on how to confront and eliminate them.

### Youth Lock-In: February 21

Our area Lock-in at the Family Activity Center is coming up. The Lock-in is scheduled from Friday, February 21, at 10pm until Saturday 22, 7am. Swimming, sports, a devotion, board games, and other fun activities will occur. Youth from Confirmation through High School are invited. It is recommended that each youth bring a snack or 2L of soda to share. If you have any questions, please contact Charlie Adams at



[charles.hubert.adams@gmail.com](mailto:charles.hubert.adams@gmail.com).

Also, any adult volunteers or youth-adjacent people who would be willing to show up at 6:30 on the 22nd to help us clean up the FAC (because we have to be out of there by 7), I would deeply appreciate

### LENTEN DINNER: FEBRUARY 26

A Lenten Dinner will be served on Wednesday, February 26 at 5:30pm. There will be a sign up sheet. Please let us know how many in your family will be coming so we will know how much to prepare.

### CAMP LAKEVIEW SUMMER REGISTRATION

Camp Lakeview and Lakeview Villages (near Seymour, IN) are currently registering campers, grades K-12, for the 2020 summer season. What a great place to have fun and learn about God at the same time! To get more information, visit the website at [www.lakeviewministries.camp](http://www.lakeviewministries.camp) or call the camp office at 812-342-4815. Online registration for Lake view Ministries opens on February 1st at 9am. Last year, many programs were filled quickly, so register online today.

### HOUSE NUMBER PEDESTALS

Charlie Schufer says he will make anyone a house number pedestal if they give an extra \$20 donation to church.

### YOU MIGHT BE A LUTHERAN IF...

- You freeze the leftover coffee from fellowship hour for next week.
- When you were little you actually thought the Reverend's first name was "Pastor".
- You think you're paying our pastor too much if he gets a new car for the first time in eight years.

### CONGRATULATIONS CHILI COOK-OFF WINNERS

The Winners of this year's Chili-Cook-Off are:

Red: Jack & Gwen Trumbo

White: Theresa Tippet

Hottest: Dave Themer

Unique: Nate Guagenti

Overall Winner: Jeremy & Danielle Botkins



### 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 more information, visit [www.lhm.org](http://www.lhm.org) (<http://www.lhm.org>) or call 1-800-876-9880.

### HOLY CROSS 2020 DIRECTORY

The 2020 Directory has been completed. You may pick one up from the credenza at the front entrance of the church.



♥ Happy Valentine's Day ♥

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(See Genesis 29:14-30)

02-11-2008

FLOWERS?!? ... I MARRIED ONE OF YOU AGAINST MY WILL AND WORKED FOURTEEN HARD YEARS FOR THE OTHER ... I THINK THAT'S ENOUGH OF A VALENTINE'S GIFT THIS YEAR

### LIFE QUOTE

"The key to a Christian family living out His love—the mutual love we can only know because God first loved us—is Jesus. In the Christian household where friends, extended family members, and neighbors come together, we love one another and forgive one another. We do this because God loves and forgives us through the life, death, and resurrection of His beloved Son Jesus."

*Ron Schlegel, The Lutheran Laymen – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life •*  
[www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org)

### KNOW YOUR BIBLE



#### Insistent Disciple

What disciple insisted on seeing the nail prints in Jesus' hands?



Look for the answer in the March Newsletter  
 January's Answer: Baal (see 1 Kin. 18:17-40)

### VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

SUNDAY	ACOLYTE	READER	USHERS	CLEAN	NURSERY	ALTAR GUILD
February 2	Zoe Shreve	David Franke	Don Williams Bob Myers	Botkins family	Kathy Vetter	R. Whitehouse N. Kovach
February 9	Eden Guagenti	Jeff Wilson	Alex VanPelt	Charlie Adams	Josh Botkins	No Communion
February 16	Elijah Smith	Charlie Moody	Rod Shreve John Feole	Franke family	Shelah Shreve	J. Harrod N. Kovach
February 23	Max Semeniuk	David Themer	Don Saltzman Aaron Franke	Kathy Vetter	Jennie Shreve	No Communion
March 1	Brenyn Botkins	Nancy Kovach	Charlie Moody R. Whitehouse	Sandy Runner	Alena Guagenti	J. Harrod N. Guagenti
March 8	Isaac Guagenti	David Franke	Don Williams Bob Myers	Bob Myers	Josh Botkins	No Communion

**If you cannot serve on the appointed day, please call someone to serve in your place.**

# FEBRUARY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is. 47:1-15;</li> <li>Ps. 31;</li> <li>John 13:1-20</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is. 48:1-11;</li> <li>Ps. 32;</li> <li>John 13:21-55</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is. 48:12-22;</li> <li>Ps. 33;</li> <li>John 13:56-14:14</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is. 49:1-7;</li> <li>Ps. 34;</li> <li>John 14:15-31</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is. 49:8-26;</li> <li>Ps. 35;</li> <li>John 15:1-17</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is. 50:1-11;</li> <li>Ps. 36;</li> <li>John 15:18-16:4</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is. 51:1-11;</li> <li>Ps. 37:1-22;</li> <li>John 16:4-24</li> </ul>
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is. 51:12-23;</li> <li>Ps. 37:23-40;</li> <li>John 16:25-33</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is. 52:1-12;</li> <li>Ps. 38;</li> <li>John 17:1-26</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is. 52:13-53:12;</li> <li>Ps. 39;</li> <li>John 18:1-18</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is. 54:1-17;</li> <li>Ps. 40;</li> <li>John 18:19-40</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is. 55:1-13;</li> <li>Ps. 41;</li> <li>John 19:1-16</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is. 56:1-12;</li> <li>Ps. 42;</li> <li>John 19:16-27</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is. 57:1-10;</li> <li>Ps. 43;</li> <li>John 19:28-42</li> </ul>
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is. 57:11-21;</li> <li>Ps. 44;</li> <li>John 20:1-18</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is. 58:1-14;</li> <li>Ps. 45;</li> <li>John 20:19-31</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is. 59:1-15;</li> <li>Ps. 46;</li> <li>John 21:1-19</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is. 59:16-21;</li> <li>Ps. 47;</li> <li>John 21:20-25</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is. 60:1-22;</li> <li>Ps. 48;</li> <li>Gal. 1:1-24</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is. 61:1-11;</li> <li>Ps. 49;</li> <li>Gal. 2:1-14</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is. 62:1-12;</li> <li>Ps. 50;</li> <li>Gal. 2:15-3:9</li> </ul>
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>TRANSFIGURATION</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ex. 24:8-18;</li> <li>Ps. 2;</li> <li>2 Peter 1:16-21;</li> <li>Matt. 17:1-9</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is. 63:1-14;</li> <li>Ps. 51;</li> <li>Gal. 3:10-29</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is. 63:15-64:12;</li> <li>Ps. 52;</li> <li>Gal. 4:1-20</li> </ul>	<b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joel 2:12-19;</li> <li>Ps. 51;</li> <li>2 Cor. 5:20-6:10;</li> <li>Matt. 6:1-6</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is. 65:1-16;</li> <li>Ps. 53;</li> <li>Gal. 4:21-31</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is. 65:17-25;</li> <li>Ps. 54;</li> <li>Gal. 5:1-15</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is. 66:1-6;</li> <li>Ps. 55;</li> <li>Gal. 5:16-6:5</li> </ul>
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>

**The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod**  
**LCMS Stewardship Ministry**  
**Newsletter Article – February 2020**

Of the three things a person is not to talk about in polite company – religion, politics, and money – the church is called, in one way or another, to talk about all three. Perhaps this is the reason why teaching about stewardship often seems to be an afterthought. It's something that happens only out of necessity when financial constraints are already nipping at the heels.

There is a more excellent way. Stewardship shouldn't be the kind of teaching that comes up only when there is a financial crunch. It should be part and parcel of the ongoing instruction of Christians as they live out their faith in their vocations – members of their family, their society, and their church. This teaching touches upon every facet of our lives; it stakes a claim upon our time, our presence, our prayers, and our possessions.

Stewardship begins with the acknowledgment that we are stewards. A steward is a manager of someone else's possessions. In Christian stewardship, we recognize, according to the Apostles' Creed, that God is the owner of all things as the Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier. And in His fatherly divine goodness and mercy, He gives us what is His to manage here below.

The principal virtue for stewards is faithfulness. As St. Paul wrote to the Christians in Corinth:

“Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful.” (1 Cor. 4:2)

Stewards must manage that which belongs to the owner according to the owner's wishes. That is what it means to be faithful in stewardship.

That raises a question: How are Christian stewards to be faithful in their managing of what God has entrusted to them to manage? In other words, what are the specific duties of a Christian steward?

This depends upon what God has revealed in His Word for each of our vocations in life as those in a family (fathers, mothers, husbands, wives, children), society (governors or citizens), and the church (pastors or laity). The Table of Duties from *Luther's Small Catechism* lays this out in helpful and orderly way.

Let's look just at what the laity (hearers as it is labeled in the catechism) owe their pastors:

“In the same way, the Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel.” (1 Cor. 9:14)

“Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches. Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.” (Gal. 6:6–7)

“Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching. For the Scripture says, ‘You shall not muzzle an ox when it treads out the grain,’ and, ‘The laborer deserves his wages.’ ” (1 Tim. 5:17–18)

“We ask you, brothers, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves.” (1 Thess. 5:12–13)

“Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.” (Heb. 13:17)

We can see that the Lord commands hearers to support the work of the ministry with the gifts God endowed them – their time, their presence, their prayers, and their possessions. This is the means by which God blesses His people with His gifts: the ministry with the support of those whom they serve, and the hearers with the work of the ministry.

St. Paul expounds upon this further in his letters to the church at Corinth. He instructs them to give regularly (1 Cor. 16:1–2), proportionally (1 Cor. 16:1–2; 2 Cor. 8:12), and generously (2 Cor. 8:20) of our first-fruits (1 Cor. 16:2) with a spirit of eagerness (2 Cor. 9:2), earnestness (2 Cor. 8:7), cheerfulness (2 Cor. 9:7), and love (2 Cor. 8:23).

All of this teaching is set forth squarely within the context of stations to which God calls us. This is always appropriate for the church to speak because it instructs God's people in how they are to live out their faith as His stewards under those who are created, redeemed, and sanctified by Him.



**SHARING THE POWERFUL GOSPEL!**

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EVERY SUNDAY  
BIBLE STUDY AND SUNDAY SCHOOL-9:45AM  
DIVINE SERVICE-11:00AM

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER 2020



**February 26, 2020**  
**5:30pm Lenten Dinner**  
**7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service**