



# *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.

One of the awards-season darlings is the unusual movie, *The Banshees of Inisherin*. It is a strange R-rated movie about friendship and Ireland. Several of the other best picture nominees are as you would expect. *All Quiet on the Western Front* adapts a classic war novel. *Maverick* made a long-delayed return to the cockpit for *Top Gun: Maverick*. Steven Spielberg put together a semi-autobiographical story about moviemaking. *Avatar 2* burst out in 3D. Elvis captured the greatness of an American icon.

*The Banshees of Inisherin*, however, gives a first impression of being a small story set on a small Irish island. The friendship of Colm and Pádraic ends suddenly and without explanation. For years they drank at the pub together and then one day Colm refused to speak to Pádraic. The film follows downcast Pádraic as he seeks to understand why Colm has cut him out of his life. While dealing with that blow, Pádraic's sister Siobhán takes an opportunity to move away and better her own life in another land. Pádraic is left trying to understand his place in the world without the people he counted on.

While the story unfolds, in the background, you can hear the guns of the Irish Civil War in the distance. The people on Inisherin aren't caught up in that fight, but seeing the flashes in the mist, hearing the thunder, you catch the idea that *The Banshees of Inisherin* is a parable with more to say.

I needed a refresher of Irish history to understand. The movie is set during the Irish Civil War which fell immediately on the heels of the Irish Revolutionary War. The Irish won independence from Great Britain, but the treaty negotiated to end the Revolutionary War was not accepted by all the Irish. That means that right after they stopped fighting the British, the Irish started fighting each other. Some estimates are that more Irish died in the Civil War than in the Revolutionary War.

*The Banshees of Inisherin's* parable is about what happens when we try to end the relationships we are in. At Holy Cross, we've set peacemaking as our goal for this Lent. *The Banshees of Inisherin* shows the other path, illustrating why we don't want to take that path. The movie shows the path we are tempted to choose when we realize peacemaking will be hard. It seems like it will be easier just to walk away from someone that has hurt us. It seems like we can close relationships like we close a book or turn off a movie.

This paragraph has a spoiler for the movie, a spoiler albeit which is included in one of the trailers. As Pádraic keeps trying to reach out to Colm to understand why Colm closed the book on their friendship, Colm threatens to cut off one of his own fingers if Pádraic talks to him again. Pádraic doesn't believe Colm since those fingers are necessary for Colm to keep playing his fiddle. When Pádraic persists, Colm carries out his threat. That strange choice is part of the hook of the movie. How could anyone choose to do something like that?

The point of the parable is that choosing the opposite of peace does hurt us. It is a self-mutilating choice. We are bound up with the people God sets us among. There are unhealthy relationships the Bible teaches us to avoid (1 Corinthians 5-7, Psalm 1). Setting those exceptions aside, we are also taught to embrace the vocations around us, the relationships God puts us in.

Our faith enables this. We trust God's sovereign hand. He places each of us where we are in life. He promises to bless peacemaking. He promises to bless our honoring of parents and care for family. The world wants us to blame the people God gives us (just like Adam after the first sin), but persevering in faith, we find blessings in the people God gives us in our life.

More importantly, we do not need to look at life as a fleeting resource. Jesus has defeated death and sin. There awaits us an eternity of living, exploring all that we could be without sin. Jesus gave His life as a thirty-year-old, but He has been reigning at the right hand of God now for two millennia. The life that we have now is to give to others. The life we will have in the Resurrection is for God to give to us without end.

Your servant in Christ,

Pastor Daniel Guagenti

**LENT & HOLY WEEK  
2023**

**MARCH 1: HEROD**

**5 & 7PM LENTEN VESPERS**

**5:45-6:30PM MEAL**

**MARCH 8: SCRIBES & PHARISEES**

**7PM LENTEN VESPERS**

**5:45-6:30PM MEAL**

**MARCH 15: CAIAPHAS & SADDUCEES**

**5 & 7PM LENTEN VESPERS**

**5:45-6:30PM MEAL**

**MARCH 22: PILATE & ROME**

**5 & 7PM LENTEN VESPERS**

**5:45-6:30PM MEAL**

**MARCH 29: JUDAS ISCARIOT**

**5 & 7PM LENTEN VESPERS**

**5:45-6:30PM MEAL**

**APRIL 2**

**11:00AM PALM SUNDAY**

**APRIL 6**

**7PM MAUNDY THURSDAY**

**APRIL 7**

**7PM GOOD FRIDAY**

**APRIL 9**

**11AM RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD**



## Celebrations in March

### BIRTHDAYS

- 6- Pastor Henry Loppnow
- 6- Jennifer Harrod
- 7- Patrick Carnes
- 11- Ian Feole
- 12- Meagan Knuckles
- 16- Joni Skellie
- 19- Courtney Chesher
- 22- Cindy Winchester-Howard
- 24- Barbara Eaton
- 26- Jax Yaroma
- 30- Mark Murray

### ANNIVERSARIES

- 7- Patrick & Mary Carnes

### VOTERS' MEETING

There will be Voters' Meeting on Sunday March 12 following the Divine Service. All members are asked to attend.

### HOLY CROSS SCHEDULE

Pastor's family began a spring break vacation, running from Mar 2 - 9. Pastor Andy will be preaching today and this Wednesday. March 8 Vespers meets only at 7 PM. There will be a meal at 5:45 PM.

This week we will not have the Zoom Bible Study or Jr. Confirmation classes.

### TUESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

This Tuesday Hybrid Zoom-In-Person Bible Study will be reading and studying Paul's epistle to the Romans in our hybrid Zoom/In-Person Bible class. We'll meet at church and have Zoom access as well. Join us either in person or through the zoom link at 7pm. The Guagenti's address is 207 Old Spring Drive, Shelbyville.

To Join the Zoom Meeting

[:https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89139535214?pwd=d3pSUXM5eWhMSWc3Y01FR3VLNwVnQT09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89139535214?pwd=d3pSUXM5eWhMSWc3Y01FR3VLNwVnQT09)

Meeting ID:89139535214

Passcode: holycross

### NEW BIBLE STUDY SUNDAY MORNINGS

We have finished up Lutheranism 101 for now and have begun a new Lutheranism 201 class. Send in your questions for what we cover in this class. We'll be moving from the basics about church history, how to read the Bible, and Luther's Small Catechism into questions that tend to be more nuts and bolts. For example, we'll talk about how Lutheran churches are organized with presidents, elders, pastors, trustees, altar guilds, etc. We'll look at how Lutheranism adapted in America over the past two centuries. Where Lutheranism 101 was more Big Picture, Lutheranism 201 will cover a lot of day-to-day how we live out our faith, from potlucks and choir robes to voters assemblies and Lenten fasting. I think this will be a fun discussion and encourage all to participate. Class is at 9:45am.

### FRAZER MUSEUM: MARCH 25

The Day-Timers group will be going to the Frazer Museum on Saturday, March 25. They will meet at the church at 9:15am and travel to Louisville together. They will have lunch in Louisville. Everyone is invited to join them. For more information please see Charlie Moody.

### THANK YOU

I want to thank Holy Cross for the cards and prayers since my father's passing. It meant the world to me to know that my church family was keeping myself and my family in their prayers. Merrie Feole

### EASTER BREAKFAST: APRIL 9

Plans are in the works for Easter Breakfast again this year (April 9). Your help is needed to make it another great success. Three



quick questions need to be answered and communicated to Corrie Brian by Sunday, March 26. 1) How many family or friends are coming with you? 2) Does anyone in your group have any food allergies or restrictions, such as Lactose Free, Gluten Free, etc.? 3) What are your and your group's drink preferences (hot drinks, juice, milk)?

If you have any favorite one dish breakfast recipes and/or are interested in helping, please let Corrie know that too. Thank you!

### CAMP LAKEVIEW

Every year thousands of kids, youth, and families come to Lakeview Ministries. Why? It's because they know **YOU BELONG at CAMP**. Coming to camp gives you an all access pass into life-changing fun. It builds life skills and reduces levels of stress and anxiety. It allows for deeper friendships, and most importantly, it lets you experience Jesus in a way that connects with your everyday life.

Online registration of the 2023 summer season at Camp Lakeview and Lakeview Villages is currently open. Programs are available for students/families of all ages. For more information, visit camp's website at [www.lakeview.camp](http://www.lakeview.camp) or call the camp office a 812-342-4815. Come and experience the power of Camp! Brochures are located in the magazine rack and in the Sunday School rooms.

### AWAKE MINISTRIES MEALS

The Day-timers group takes a meal to the Awake Ministries ladies the third Monday of each month. Awake Ministries is a rehab house in Shelbyville providing help for ladies recovering from addiction. If anyone would like to participate in helping with the meals once a month you would be more than welcome to participate. We take an entrée, salad, bread, dessert and drink. See Brenda Moody if you would like to help. The meals are open to anyone in the congregation that you like to participate.

### HOLY CROSS FOOD BOX

The food box in our driveway is the result of an idea from the Day-Timers group. This is an outreach to the community that all the members of Holy Cross can share and participate in.

Several have been very generous in stocking the box but we continue to need help. There is a list of items on the kitchen door that are suggestions for donations. However, the food box is getting low. Money donations, or if those of you who have the Thrivent card would like to share, that too would be appreciated. Thanks to all who are helping and we look forward to future donations. Day-Timers Group

### 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) (<http://www.lhm.org>)

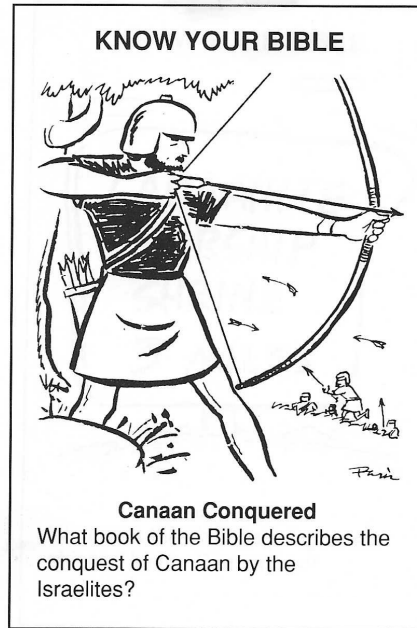
### LOUISVILLE BATS

Fellowship is considering a baseball game one Sunday afternoon in June. The schedule will be posted soon. I will purchase the block of tickets in advance but this will need to be done a minimum of 4-6 weeks in advance. Ticket prices are running around \$25-30 each. I will check to see if I can get a lower price for groups. Is this something the congregation would be interested in doing? More information will be forthcoming. Also, I want to thank everyone that volunteered to help with the Lenten meals.



## LIFE QUOTES

“When we ignore the baby in the womb and focus instead on what is now being labeled as the rights of the mother and women’s health care, we are turning our backs on God. Never has God authorized killing and called it a right. Never has God condoned promoting abortion and called it health care. His love for life is written throughout Scripture. What are we doing when we ignore His sacred Word?” *Virginia Flo, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life •*



Look for the answer in the April Newsletter  
February’s Answer: Zechariah (see Zech 2:1-2)

## VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

SUNDAY	ACOLYTE	READER	USHERS	CLEANING	NURSERY	ALTAR GUILD
March 5	Masyn Botkins	Nancy Kovach	Alex VanPelt Charlie Adams	Theresa Tippet Jennifer Harrod	Merrie Feole	Brenda Moody Annette Semeniuk
March 12	Nathaniel Semeniuk	David Franke	Corrie Brian Zoe Shreve	Roxana Pontius Guagenti Family	Suzanne Rutledge	No communion
March 19	Eden Guagenti	Charlie Moody	Cindy Alvano John Feole	Don Saltzman	Anita Themer	Jennifer Harrod Annette Semeniuk
March 26	Brenyn Botkins	David Themer	Don Saltzman Greg Rutledge	Charlie Adams	Merrie Feole	No Communion
April 2	Gabriel Guagenti	Nancy Kovach	Charlie Moody Rita Whitehouse	Franke family	Suzanne Rutledge	Brenda Moody Cindy Alvano
April 9	Zach Semeniuk	Charlie Moody	Alex VanPelt Charlie Adams	Sandy Runner	Anita Themer	Jennifer Harrod Cindy Alvano
April 16	Nate Guagenti	Dave Themer	Corrie Brian Zoe Shreve	Theresa Tippet Jennifer Harrod	Merrie Feole	Rita Whitehouse Cindy Alvano

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

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS OF THIS YEAR'S CHILI COOK-OFF!



Best Chili– Roxana Pontius  
Runner Up Unique Chili– Gabriel Guagenti  
Runner Up Red Chili– Mark Guagenti

Runner Up Spicy Chili– Dave Themer  
Runner Up White Chili– Danielle Themer  
People's Choice– Danielle Themer

**REVEREND FUN** © GOSPEL COMMUNICATIONS INTERNATIONAL, INC. WWW.REVERENDFUN.COM



Thanks to Joshua Zambrano

03-08-2010

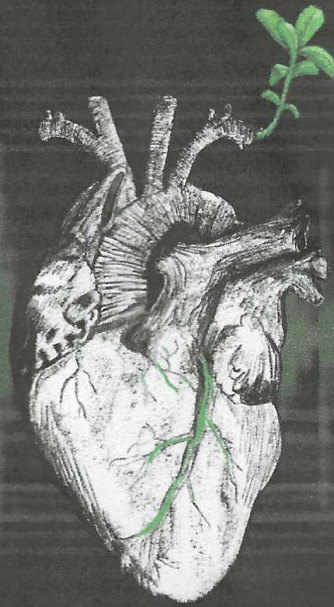
THE LAMB WASN'T CRAZY ABOUT THIS  
NEW SLEEPING ARRANGEMENT, BUT AT  
LEAST IT WAS AN IMPROVEMENT

### You Might Be a Lutheran If...

- You know what a Lutheran Church Basement Woman is.
- You give a party and don't tell anyone where it is.
- Someone asks you after church if there's any "decaf coffee" and you laugh because you KNOW that if it doesn't have caffeine, it can't be coffee!
- It takes 10 minutes to say good-bye.

God grades on the cross, not the curve.

# 2023 Men's Gathering



## Stop the White Noise

JOIN US ON **APRIL 13 - 16, 2023** AT  
**LAKEVIEW VILLAGES** TO HEAR  
**REV. JONATHAN FISK** PRESENT ON THE TOPIC:

## Stop the White Noise

ONE GREAT GOD

150 CHRISTIAN MEN

ONE UNFORGETTABLE WEEKEND

VISIT **WWW.MENSGATHERING.US**

FOR INFO AND REGISTRATION.



## The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

### LCMS Stewardship Ministry

#### Newsletter Article – March 2023

##### **LENTEN DISCIPLINE: DENYING THE SELF**

We are at the beginning of Lent. During the Lenten season, the church calls to our attention the sufficiency of what God gives. It points to the sufficiency of God's grace in the atoning work of Jesus. It shows us the sufficiency of faith in Jesus' work for us. It makes known the sufficiency of God's Word in faith and life.

But Lent doesn't just remind us of the sufficiency of God's spiritual gifts — the gifts that pertain to our redemption and salvation. Lent also reminds us of the sufficiency of the physical, temporal gifts of God which pertain to this body and life. In other words, it reminds us of the importance of godly contentment and of outward discipline and training of the body.

This outward training of the body teaches us not to give in to every desire of our flesh, but to learn to say no to them. And it does this in such a way that if you fail, it is no sin. It is a way to practice without putting yourself into a compromising situation.

Fasting is a good example of this outward training. When you fast, you are practicing saying no to the desires of your body. But if you fail in this, if you break your fast, you have not sinned. But you have learned something about how your flesh works, how difficult it is to fight against it, and how you need help from above to discipline the desires of your body.

Another example is almsgiving. An increase in giving to the church and its mission during Lent is also a form of outward training. We all know that our flesh finds security in money and stuff. By committing to give more to the church, you are training your flesh. You are, by this outward discipline, training yourself to be content with what God gives. You are practicing saying "no" to your desires. Again, if you fail, you have not sinned. But you've learned just how powerful your flesh is — it leads you instead of you leading it. You've learned how you need help from above in being content with what God gives.

This is why St. Paul instructs young Pastor Timothy in this way:

But godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs. (1 Tim. 6:6–10)

Our sufficiency is not of ourselves; it is in God. Let us learn this without sin by training our flesh this Lenten season.

– LCMS Stewardship Ministry: [lcms.org/stewardship](https://lcms.org/stewardship)





## 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

MARCH NEWSLETTER 2023

