



Cross Currents

Holy Cross Lutheran Church, LCMS

February 2020

Volume 2 Issue 178

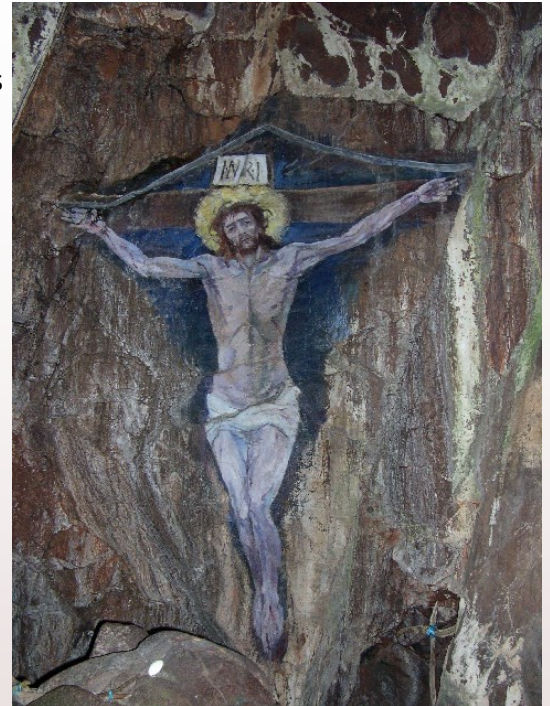
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What Should I Give Up?

By Pastor Munding

The Christmas season is now done and gone, and we are currently halfway through Epiphany. That means that the beginning of lent is only a few weeks away. As we approach Ash Wednesday you may hear people start talking about what they are going to give up for Lent. There has been a long-standing tradition in the church of giving up certain vices and luxuries during the 40 days of Lent. The idea of this type of fasting is to experience some kind of suffering in preparation for the bitter sufferings and death of our beloved savior. It is to help us focus not on the things of this world, but on what Jesus endured for our sake on the cross.



There is nothing wrong with giving up something for Lent. It can certainly be a good spiritual discipline. During the season of Lent, we need to be constantly reminded that we are in Lent, especially when we are going about our daily vocations like any other day. Giving up something that is so dear to us can help us to keep focused on what truly matters.

But there is more to Lent than just giving up Facebook or fast food for 40 days, or cutting out your morning coffee from your daily routine. It is always good to curb the unhealthy desires of the flesh, but Lent isn't really about giving things up. For some people, the season of Lent ends up becoming a season of self-improvement or self-absorption. Lent is not about those things; it is about preparation through repentance.

We as Christians are called to repentance, which doesn't just mean that we are to feel sorry for our sins. It also means that we are doing a complete 180° from them. We are to turn away from our sinful desires and turn in joy to God and His loving mercy. True repentance is faith! This is how we are to prepare this Lenten season as we anticipate the glorious resurrection of our Lord on Easter. We are to take a serious look at our sinful selves, repent of our sins, and turn from them towards the loving arms of our Heavenly Father.

Though giving up something for Lent is a good idea if it helps us to repent and turn back to the Father, I would like to suggest another way we can help

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prepare. Instead of giving something up, let us take time during the day to go to God in prayer, to focus on God's Holy Word through daily devotions, coming to the Mid-week services, and coming to the Divine service on Sunday. It is through these things that we can focus on the saving work of our dear Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Through the daily meditation of God's Word, we will experience both the crushing weight of the law and the sweet relief of God's mercy through the Gospel of Christ. We will see who we really are as sinners, but also who we are as baptized Christians under God's grace and forgiveness. There is no better way to prepare this Lenten season than to be in God's Word throughout daily lives!

So, dear brothers and sisters in Christ, why not give up some of your time throughout the day, and dedicate it to studying the scriptures, meditating on the Word of God, and going every Wednesday to the Lenten midweek service where we will hear all about what our Savior had endured for sinners like us.

*"Grant that I Your Passion view with repentant grieving.
Let me not bring shame to You by unholy living.
How could I refuse to shun every sinful pleasure
Since for me God's only Son suffered without measure?"*

*If my sins give me alarm and my conscience grieve me,
Let Your cross my fear disarm; peace of conscience give me.
Help me see forgiveness won by Your holy passion
If for me He slays His Son, God must have compassion."*

LSB 440 Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

IN VING MEMORY



A Thank You Message from Bill Riechmann

He is home & recuperating. He thanks you all for your prayers, cards, & well wishes!

Happy
BirthDay
to you!

2/4	John
2/5	Don
2/11	Sue
2/12	Mike
2/12	Gavin
2/19	Maxine
2/20	John
2/20	Mike
2/22	Tina
2/27	Justin

Welcome Ruth,
our new Organist!

Ruth Wright started on January 19 as our organist. Thank you for enhancing our worship with your beautiful music!



Our first **Work Party** of 2020 is set for Sat., 2/8, 9am. Plan to come for a hour or more to help!



Thank You!



February Choir Rehearsals

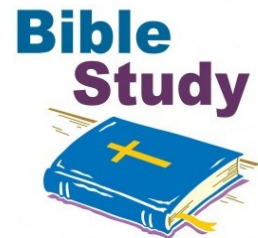
Rehearsal on Tuesdays, 2/4 & 2/25 at 7:15pm. No rehearsal on 2/11 & 2/18. Come join us in singing unto the Lord!

Thank You!
We Give Thanks
to God for our
Choir Members

Upcoming Fellowship Activities

February Sunday School & Bible Study Schedules

- ♦ Sunday Adult & Youth Bible Class 11AM: 2/2, 2/16, 2/23
- ♦ Sunday School 11AM: All Sundays
- ♦ Monday Ladies Bible Study 10AM All Mondays
- ♦ Wednesday Evening Bible Study 7PM 2/5, 2/12, 2/19 (2/26 is Ash Wednesday)



*Join us for dinner
before worship!*

Wednesday, February 26

Dinner at 5:45 pm

(free will offering will be taken)



ATTENTION MEN!

Thursday, 2/20, 8:30am

Mandatory
formation of
The Holy Cross
Men's
Kaffeeklatsch,
Mel's Diner.



ATTENTION LADIES!



Join us in the Parish Hall for our next
GAME NIGHT: Thursday, 2/20, 6:30pm

Family & Friends Welcome.
Dessert Provided - Bring your own beverage.

February 2020 – WoHC Happenings by Joyce Liebe, President

Here's a recap of our upcoming events. Please join us.

- ◇ 2/3 (Mon.) WoHC Board Meeting, Conference Room, 2:15pm
- ◇ 2/9 (Sun.) Bites for Mites Bake (& More) Sale, after church
- ◇ 2/20 (Thurs.) Ladies Game Night, 6:30pm, Parish Hall
- ◇ 2/26 (Wed.) Ash Wed. Pizza Dinner, 5:45pm (Worship 7pm)

Support the WoHC at our

Bites for Mites Bake (& MORE) Sale

Sunday, February 9

We will have a variety of items available:
baked goods, savory snack items, Valentine
cards, dog biscuits, & MORE...

All donations go to Mites & fund our CNH 2018-2020 Mission Grants.




I emailed some church bulletin bloopers last month & many asked for more (but NOT in our Holy Cross bulletins!). Here is another top 10 - take a brief break from the seriousness of life & enjoy!

10. At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What is Hell?" Come early and listen to our choir practice.
9. The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday morning.
8. The pastor will preach his farewell message, after which the choir will sing, "Break Forth Into Joy."
7. Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.
6. Announcement in the church bulletin for a National Prayer and Fasting Conference: "The cost for attending the Fasting and Prayer Conference Includes meals."
5. Charlene Mason sang "I Will Not Pass This Way Again," giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.
4. Next Sunday is the family hayride and bonfire at the Fowlers. Bring your own hot dogs and guns.
3. The church will host an evening of fine dining, superb entertainment, and gracious hostility.
2. For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
1. Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Don't forget your husbands.



February 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 9am Vision Mtg (PH)
2 Mite Boxes 9:30a Worship w/ Communion 11a Sunday School/Bible Study 2-6 Myanmar Christian	3 OFC CLOSED 10a Ladies Bible Study (C) 2:15pm WoHC Board Mtg (C)	4 11a Prayer Group 5:30-t YVCS Open House (PH) 7:15p Choir (cl)	5 7p Bible Study (PH)	6 11am Marv's Memorial Service & Reception following in PH	7	8 9am Work Party
9 9:30a Worship 11a Sunday School, Bites for Mites Bake Sale, & Voters Mtg 2-6 Myanmar Christian	10 OFC CLOSED 10a Ladies Bible Study (C) 6:30pm YVCS & HC Mtg. (Pastor's Ofc) 7-9:30p Scouts (PH)	11 9:30-11:30am Pastor's Circuit Mtg (PH) 11a Prayer Group	12 7p Bible Study (PH)	13	14	15
16 9:30a Worship w/ Communion 11a Sunday School/Bible Study 2-6 Myanmar Christian	17 OFC CLOSED HOLIDAY  7-9:30p Scouts (PH)	18 11a Prayer Group	19 7p Bible Study (PH)	20 8:30a Men's Kaffeeklatsch, Mel's 6:30pm Ladies Game Nite (PH)	21	22
23 9:30a Worship 11a Sunday School/Bible Study Outreach Sunday 2-6 Myanmar Christian	24 OFC CLOSED 10a Ladies Bible Study (C) 7-9:30p Scouts (PH)	25 11a Prayer Group 7:15p Choir (cl)	26  5:45pm Dinner 7pm Worship Service	27	28	29

cl=choir loft, C=Conference Room, E=Ed Bldg., PH=Parish Hall, L=Library, ws=wing room

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Council Secretary: Carrie Kroeger

Financial Secretary: Scott Stadler

Treasurer: Cheryl Syrovatka

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Elders: Bill Riechman, John Coyne,
Eric Roman, Herb Neumann

Secretarial Staff: Joyce Liebe

Newsletter Editor: Vacant

editor@holycrossconcord.org

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday 9am-1pm

Worship Schedule:

Sunday Service	9:30 AM
Communion	1 st , 3 rd , and 5 th Sundays
Adult Bible Study	11:00 AM
Sunday School	11:00 AM

Week Day Bible Study Schedule:

Monday (Ladies)	10:00 AM Conference Room
Wednesday	7:00 PM Parish Hall

Publication Deadline:

Bulletin: Noon, Tuesday

March 2020 Cross Currents: February 22, 2020