

The Second Sunday in Lent

8:30 & 11:00 am - Divine Services

9:45 am - Sunday School and Bible Classes for All Ages

3:30 pm - Slovak Congregation Service

Order of Service: Service of Prayer and Preaching, LSB page 260

Hymns: 837, 571, 722

Readings: Genesis 12:1-9 (Pew Bible, Page 11)
Romans 4:1-8, 13-17 (Pew Bible, Page 1093)
St. John 3:1-17 (Pew Bible, Page 1029)

Sermon: "THE ULTIMATE VACCINATION" St. John 3:1-17

Special Music: (11:00) String Group (Brigitte Bridgemohan, Isaiah Bridgemohan, Olivia Clay, Jonathan Das, Sam Schafer, Justus Schafer, Jordan Fergin, Max Wentzlaff)

Anthem: "God So Loved" A medley of Hope arr. By Chuck Bridwell (by Church Choir)

Serving in God's House Today: Pastor Nolan Astley (Officiant), Pastor Roland Syens (Preacher), Jennifer Massicotte (Organist), Nicole Relf (8:30 Acolyte), Madison Neustaedter (11:00 Acolyte), Ken Griffin (8:30 Sound Operator), Chris Bohl (11:00 Sound Operator).

Prayer Concerns: We pray for traveling mercies for **all who travel over the March Break**. We pray for peace in the Middle East and for peace in all countries where there is war and civil unrest. We pray for **our leaders** that God give them wisdom and courage to lead fairly. We pray for **those struggling with illness, depression, addictions**. We pray God's blessings upon marriages and that He give wisdom to parents as they care for their children. We pray for **Bernice Allensen and family** as they mourn the death of Lloyd Allensen whose funeral was yesterday. We pray for God's wisdom to **our youth and young adults** as they navigate through the challenges of life and the many decisions they need to make that effect their future. We give God thanks for His mercies which are new to us every day.

No Adult Information Class this evening. We will meet again next **Sunday, March 19 from 6:30-8:30 pm**.

We Welcome Back Today Pastor Astley from his travels out east and back this past week. **Janet Cumby** continues on vacation returning to the office this Thursday, March 16th.

Youth! Forms are due **TODAY** for the **Higher Things Conference** and the **Lock In**. Please sign up on the youth board and place signed forms in Krysti's mailbox by the office. Transportation is available for both events.

Today's Education Hour

Time Together Families will meet with Michelle Tracz downstairs at 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School students find out about the time Jesus walked on water!

Youth Bible Class meet with Michelle & Nicole to discuss "Historic Lutheranism (come learn about us!)"

YABS will meet in the Triple Bible Classroom.

Thank you! It was wonderful to have your joyful music last week sharing Beth's "Angels" song and WOW, keep the donations of every size / shaped ball coming! Already more than 2/3 box full to give!



Adult Bible Class will move into Romans 6. Many people misinterpreted the message of God's free gift of salvation as a license to continue in sin. However, Paul teaches something quite different. Grab a coffee and join us in the sanctuary at 10:00 am.

Coming Events...

Midweek Lenten Services continue this week...

Wednesday, March 15 at 1:30 and 7:00 p.m.

"STANDING UNAFRAID"

Jubilation Male Chorus will be singing at the **7:00 p.m. Service**

We will stand together at the foot of the cross where our Saviour died to save us from death and every evil. In Him we can face both life and death unafraid, because He fearlessly faced death for us!

Sign Up for Easter Plants if you're willing to donate a hydrangea or lily to beautify our altar for Christ's Resurrection Day in April. Posters are on bulletin boards around the building. Lilies are \$8.00 and hydrangeas are \$12.50. If you want to designate yours as a memorial or thank offering you still need to sign up on the posted lists, but pick up a form at the Welcome Centre, fill it in, and drop it off in the box outside the church office. The deadline is **Sunday, March 26**.

Library Birthday Days - On **Sunday, March 26 & Sunday, April 2** come and celebrate our church libraries with us in the church parlour between the two services. We will display new books, DVDs and CDs that we hope to have in our libraries. Take time to browse and sponsor something new. Enjoy refreshments and your children can pick a small toy out of the "treat box". If you are not able to join us on these Sundays, you can make a donation to the "Libraries" on your church offering envelope. Thank you for your support and God bless you and your family.

Loving our Neighbours! Our Sunday School mission project continues thru **Sunday, April 9**. The BIG box in the narthex is where we will collect any size/shape BALL to distribute to refugee families.

Women's Renewal Weekend Teens, Young Adults and Women of All Ages!

Confused, feeling down and need a break? Our weekend will help you as we discover that "God is closer than you think!" Join us **April 21 & April 22** at the Guelph Bible Conference Centre where our guest speaker, Lori Schultz, will present and guide us as we study and discuss our theme with each other. Enjoy the fellowship, fun, good food and relax with friends. Bring a friend with you. For more information and registration forms, please see our display on the welcome desk. **Registration Deadline is April 16**, please try to register early. We look forward to seeing you there.

St. John's Kitchen Large Coffee Mugs, Fork and Knife Drive: Please go through your cupboards and see what you can spare. Wrap the mugs in paper to avoid breakage, put them in a bag, include some forks and knives and bring them to the collection box at the back entrance of the church. We will collect these items until **April 30**. On behalf of St. John's Kitchen and the Board of Evangelism, we thank you for your support.

Concordia Lutheran Mission Society "Project 1708": The Board of Missions would like to challenge the members of Holy Cross to match their donation of \$1,500 to help CLMS raise funds for the **Rancheria Earthquake Relief in Nicaragua**. This is one of the new 2017 CLMS Mission Projects requiring \$10,000 to provide relief for the people of Rancheria. To make a donation simply mark your envelope with **"CLMS 1708"** and make any cheques out to Holy Cross Lutheran Church. Let's see if as a congregation we can raise \$1,500 **by April 30**. Will you accept the challenge?

Please Note...

So Many Books! Thank you for the overwhelming response of Christian children's books collection. We have received enough for the time being. Thank you again!

Do you have extra Mason Jars? We have a LINC activity that needs Large Mason Jars (1 quart/32 oz.), no lids required. Please place them in the collection box at the back entrance. Thank you!

Please save your old Electronics and Clothing: The Board of Missions is excited for some potential mission projects coming soon and we need your help! Don't get rid of your old electronics or clothing. Save your stuff as we plan for another Green Tech bin at the church and potential clothing collection to raise funds for our 2017 Mission projects. Stay tuned for announcements about the collection dates.

Last Week at Holy Cross...

Ash Wednesday Attendance:	45 & 135	Total 180	('16 – 163)
Ash Wednesday Communion:	33 & 118	Total 151	('16 – 241)
Sunday Attendance:	120 & 165	Total 285	('16 – 286)
Communion Attendance:	89 & 127	Total 216	('16 – 237)
Sunday School:	Pupils: 31 Staff: 19	Total 50	('16 – 45)
Adult Bible Class:	Pupils: 48 Staff: 1	Total 49	('16 – 43)
YABS:	Pupils: 4 Staff: 1	Total 5	('16 – 7)
Youth Bible Class:	Pupils: 7 Staff: 2	Total 9	('16 – 6)

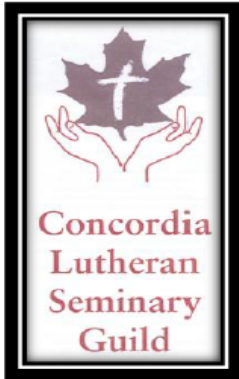
Thankoffering: In honour and with thanks for **HOLY CROSS CHURCH** to the Unified Church Budget from Sherry Swartz-Hill.

Memorials: In memory of **RUTH SWARTZ** to Canadian Lutheran World Relief from Jack & Elaine Kahl. To the Unified Church Budget from Pastor Roger Winger, Gerry & Lilian Golschesky . To the Organ Fund from Virginia Schmidt, Judy Hebner, Betty Hebner, Harold & Norma Blake, Bruno & Jean Fergin, Pastor Konny & Doris Hahn.

Weekly Calendar

Monday March 13 to Sunday March 19, 2017

Monday	ESL, <i>Historic St. Pauls</i> 10:30 a.m.
	Griefshare, <i>Confirmation Classroom</i> 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday	ESL, <i>Historic St. Pauls</i> 6:30 p.m.
	Young Adult Bible study, <i>Henri Schafer, 85 Manitoulin Crescent, Kitchener</i> 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday	Knotty Ladies, <i>Confirmation Classroom</i> 9:00 a.m.
	Lenten Service , <i>Church</i> 1:30 p.m.
	Lenten Service , <i>Church</i> 7:00 p.m.
	Board of Worship, <i>Youth Centre</i> 8:00 p.m.
Thursday	Beginnings, <i>Downstairs</i> 9:30 a.m.
	Prayer Group, <i>Triple Bible Classroom</i> 9:30 a.m.
	Stephen Ministry, <i>Panel Room</i> 1:30 p.m.
Friday	'Higher Things' Youth Conference, <i>Redeemer Lutheran Church</i> 9:30 a.m.
	Youth Lock-In, <i>Holy Cross Church</i> 4:30 p.m.
	Small Group Bible Study, <i>Triple Bible Classroom</i> 7:00 p.m.
Sunday	The Third Sunday in Lent
	Holy Communion Service , <i>Church</i> 8:30 a.m.
	Sunday School, <i>Downstairs</i> 9:45 a.m.
	Adult Bible Class, <i>Church</i> 9:45 a.m.
	YABS, <i>Triple Bible Classroom</i> 9:45 a.m.
	Youth Bible Class, <i>Youth room</i> 9:45 a.m.
	Holy Communion Service , <i>Church</i> 11:00 a.m.
Adult Instruction Class, <i>Confirmation Classroom</i> 6:30 p.m.	



Concordia Lutheran Seminary Guild

St. Catharines, Ontario

Devoted to Service through the use of Talents and Resources to
Support the Seminary and its Students, our Future Pastors

Annual Membership Drive

In one of the recent Seminary newsletters, Professor John Stephenson appeals to congregations to keep the seminary in our prayers, as they continue to prepare the next generation of pastors.

God has blessed Holy Cross with faithful pastors throughout its history without any prolonged vacancies, as some churches have endured.

Never has the need been greater to prepare workers to spread the Gospel of Christ in our District congregations and Mission stations.

How can we help?

Besides our prayers, we can support the Concordia Seminary Guild with an annual gift of \$5.00 (or more).



You place your gift in an envelope marked "Seminary Guild", sign your name and place it on the offering place in the next two weeks.

Cheques can be **made payable to:**

'Concordia Lutheran Seminary, St. Catharines, ON' and
Mark it "for Seminary Guild"

What is the money used for?

This money, gathered from all the district churches is then used by the Seminary Guild to help the seminarians in various ways. Such as a food and clothing bank they can draw on, books and gifts at birthday and Christmas. Some enter seminary with a family to support while studying, and this too is where the Guild can be of help.

I thank all who have so faithfully and generously given their support to the Seminary Guild in the past. We welcome many new members to join us as we help our future Pastors.

Seminary Guild Membership Convenor
Shirley Wentzlaff

"By God's grace, the members of Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church will be a caring, vibrant diverse community of blessed believers, lovingly reaching out with the message of Jesus Christ." - Vision Statement 2010