



Cross Roads

The Newsletter of Holy Cross Lutheran Church

May 2009



KIDZ CONNECTION

Kidz Connection sessions will end on May 6 with a skating party from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

CONFIRMATION *Confirmation meets on Wednesday evenings beginning at 7:00 p.m. Confirmation for 8th graders will be held on Sunday, May 17.*

LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING

Leadership Team meeting is Monday, May 11 at 6:30pm. Per our constitution, President-Elect Heidi Morrissey will be taking over the task of formulating the agenda. Team members with agenda items to have added can email Heidi at heidi@kitchentuneup.com.

ADULT FORUM

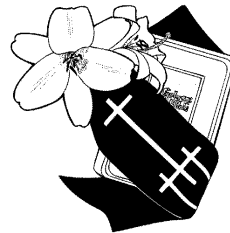
Adult Forum meets on Sunday mornings at 9:00a.m. Grab a cup of coffee and join us. Adult Forum will adjourn for the summer with the last meeting on May 17.



Women's Group

Monday
May 18, 6:30 p.m.

All women are invited to join us on Monday, **May 18 at 6:30 p.m.** as we finish our three-session study on Esther. Copies of the Lutheran Women Today will be available at the meeting, and no preparation is required.



Installation Sunday

May 3, 2009
10:00 a.m.

Pastor Bill Nelson-Loefke

Bishop David Zelmer Presiding

Potluck Dinner to follow.

Chicken and cake provided.

Please bring a dish to pass.

Ushering Schedule May 2009

May 3

Jim & Karen Buss
Virginia Hoff
Pat & Thomas
Weisgram

May 10

Brent, Jennifer &
Landon Danielson
Mike Kelly
Boyd & Jess Perkins

May 17

Jennifer & Morghan
Deiss
Judy Wilson
Wendy & Stefanie
Plummer

May 24

Darlene & Harley Mohr
JoAnn Williams

May 31

Dean & Michelle
Vilhauer
Sandra Erdahl

Thank You!

To all of you who provided soup and helped with the Lenten soup suppers, a big **THANK YOU**. Your gifts are truly appreciated.

General Fund Giving Recap

Monthly General Fund Giving Goal	\$ 11,000
YTD General Fund Giving	\$ 43,749
YTD General Fund Giving Goal	44,396
YTD General Fund Giving Shortfall	\$ 647

We invite your continued prayerful consideration..

Church Contact Info

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Aberdeen, South Dakota 57401

Church Office: (605) 226-0092
www.holycrosslutheranchurch.com

E-Mail

hclc@holycrosslutheranchurch.com

Rev. William L. Nelson-Loefke - Pastor
Tricia Mortensen - Office Assistant
Darlene Mohr - Financial Secretary
Anthony Morrissey - Worship Team
Bev Salwei - Pianist
Brandon Sterling - Pianist / Bass
Dewayne & Jon Hoffman - Custodians
Ellen Dinger / J. Ellingson - Altar Guild
Kent Edson - Building Fund Treasurer
Cindy Kocabinski - Head Teller
Lyle & Lois Chapin - Head Ushers
Heidi Morrissey - Kidz Connection
Kathy Harris - Women's Group

Leadership Team

Pam Fiechtner - President
Heidi Morrissey - President-Elect
Darlene Mohr - Treasurer
Cindy Kocabinski - Secretary

Nancy Palmer - Congregational Life
Lisa Gese - Congregational Life
Betty Gilchrist - Congregational Life
Janet Shilman - Congregational Life

Jon Fogarty - Properties
Pearl Holt - Properties
Brent Klipfel - Properties

Char Hager - Youth & Education
Cynthia Haglund - Youth & Education
Barb Kelly - Youth & Education
Michelle Vilhauer - Youth & Education

Anthony Morrissey - Worship Planning
Sheri Weisgram - Worship Planning
Gary Martinmaas - Worship Planning

All Members Are Ministers!



CHRIST IS RISEN. HE IS RISEN INDEED!

Let the Heavens shout and the Earth rejoice. Let all of God's people offer their worship and praise with hymns of thanksgiving and joy. Christ is Risen.

Death is defeated, and we are claimed as God's children; offered new and redeemed life here and now, offered life eternal in the presence of our God! This is the Good News of Easter morning. This is the Gospel of our Lord in which we securely live.

I found an interesting story some time ago, and I wanted to share it with you during this Easter season. It happened during the first part of the twentieth century in the Soviet Union. While it happened a long time ago, in a land far away, to a people whose ideological understanding of humanity was radically different than ours, it is a story that is worth mentioning, for it speaks to God's people in every time and place.

The principle character in this story is a man named Nikolai Ivanovich Bukharin. During his day he was as powerful a man as there was on earth. A Russian Communist leader he took part in the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917, was an editor of the Soviet newspaper Pravda (which by the way means truth!), and was a full member of the Politburo. His works on economics and political science are still read today. He had journeyed from Moscow to Kiev in 1930 to address a huge assembly on the subject of atheism.

Addressing the crowd he aimed his heavy artillery at Christianity hurling insult, argument, and proof against it.

An hour later he was finished. He looked out at what seemed to be the smoldering ashes of his people's faith. "Are there any questions?" Bukharin demanded. Deafening silence filled the auditorium but then one man approached the platform and mounted the lectern standing near standing the communist leader. He surveyed the crowd first to the left and then to the right. Finally he shouted the ancient greeting known well in the Russian Orthodox Church: "CHRIST IS RISEN!" En masse the crowd arose as one voice and the response came crashing like the sound of thunder: "HE IS RISEN INDEED!"

Let's take a moment and put this in context.

Two thousand years ago a carpenter from Nazareth turned his back on the family trade and followed his true calling, proclaiming that the Kingdom of God is at hand. His ministry began slowly amid questions of "Who is this? Isn't this Joseph's son?" But as he began to preach and teach, as he began to heal the sick, give sight to the blind, cleanse lepers, heal the bodies of the broken and lame, word began to spread. Pretty soon the name of Jesus was known throughout the countryside and people flocked to see him, to hear him, and to be touched by him. By the time he raised his friend Lazarus from the dead he was a popular celebrity. There was something new afoot. There was talk of the Messiah, the chosen one of God. Jesus was a big deal.

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This didn't sit well with the religious leaders of his time. He seemed to stand in contrast to their understanding of God and the relationship that their people had with God. It was as though he was speaking blasphemy and he had to be stopped. After all they had been charged with protecting their people's relationship with God. It was their sacred trust.

So Jesus was arrested, tried, condemned and crucified. Killed. Dead. Buried. You can't do much more than that. Then in the wee hours of the third day, God raised him from the dead. And in doing so brought redemption to the world.

What human folly it is to think that the good news of Jesus Christ could be stopped simply by arguing against it, insulting it, outlawing it, even not caring about it. If death couldn't stop it nothing can. The Gospel cannot be stopped. God will not let it be stopped. Bukharian might have offered a logical argument against Christianity but the fact of the matter is he didn't stand a chance.

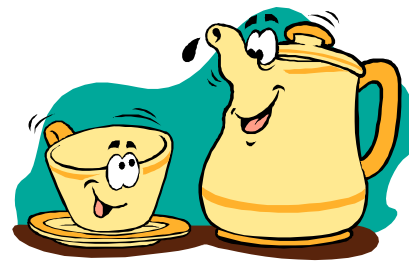
You know, it's interesting that for every person who is part of worship on any given Sunday, there are many who are not. It's interesting that for every person who proclaims Christ as Lord, there are many others who do not. It's interesting that for everyone who embraces the good news, there are more who greet it with disbelief or indifference.

As those who are baptized in Christ Jesus, each and every one of us is called to share that ancient Easter proclamation. **"CHRIST IS RISEN. HE IS RISEN INDEED!"** We are called to share the good news with those around us. That Christ died for our sins. That God has raised him from the dead. And in doing this God offers us salvation, a loving and personal relationship with him, children of our heavenly Father. We are called to stand with that unnamed man who opposed Bukharian in Kiev on that day in 1930. We may not have to deal with government that outlaws Christianity, or a political ideology that says religion is nothing but the opiate of the masses. But we do live in an increasingly secular world, an increasingly indifferent world. A world that, though it is often not realized, is hungry for God.

So this season of Easter, as the good news of Christ crucified and risen, as we offer our joyful worship and praise to God for the gift that we have been given, as we rejoice with all heaven and earth, let's not keep the message to ourselves. Share it with someone around you. Let them know, **"CHRIST IS RISEN. HE IS RISEN INDEED!"**

May His Grace Be Yours Always,

Pastor Bill



May Serving Team Schedule

Team Leaders: Wayne & Pearl Holt

May 3, 2009

Marlys Brick
Jim & Karen Buss
Virginia Hoff
Kent & Amy Jones

May 10, 2009

Vern & Estelle Meyers
Darl Olson
Nancy Palmer
Alvin & Lois Magnuson
Rick & Bev Bieber

May 17, 2009

Randy & Deb Bonn
Eldora Burckhard
Mark & Robin Calkins
Joe & Lisa Gese
Sharon Lust

May 24, 2009

Eugene & JoAnn Williams
Deuwayne & Louise Hoffman
Mike & Barb Kelly
Mike & Cindy Kocabinski
Phyllis Kringen

May 31, 2009

Eric & Jennifer Gray
Mike Muellenberg
Tracy Swanson
Greg & Denise VandeKamp



• REMINDER -

Youth and Shepherds going to New Orleans are not meeting in May, but **will** meet on Sunday, **June 10 at 7:30 p.m. at Bethlehem.**

Holy Cross Leadership Team

Minutes

April 13, 2009

Members Present: Pastor Bill, Pam Fiechtner, Anthony Morrissey, Heidi Morrissey, Pearl Holt, Brent Klipfel, Darlene Mohr, Janet Shilman, Cindy Haglund, Lisa Gese, Nancy Palmer and Cindy Kocabinski.

Pam called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and Pastor Bill had the opening prayer.

Pam asked everyone to look over the minutes from the March meeting and asked if there were any corrections to be made. None were found. Anthony moved that the minutes be approved.

Pastor Bill indicated that his daughter would like to go to New Orleans for the National Youth Gathering. We will check with Michelle to make sure there is room for her. We will make it work.

Pam reported that the executive committee had met just prior to the Leadership Team meeting. The main topic of discussion was her ongoing work with Trish to train her in some new duties. She will keep the Leadership Team informed as to how it is going.

Properties Team: Brent reported that there hadn't really been much done this month. Pam brought up that the rock salt and spray de-icer in the front entry has to be moved as it is dangerous if kids get into it. It will be moved. It was also brought up that there have been increased problems with seeing the screen in the sanctuary. It had been adjusted lately due to the sunlight coming through the windows. Ushers should try and seat people where they can see the screen better or suggest that they move if they do sit way over on the right side. The team is looking at options for the problem with the screen. It was mentioned that members should remember that we should leave up-front parking spaces for guests and visitors. Pearl will check with the person who did the mowing last summer and see if he will do it again this year.

Youth & Family Team: Just a couple of reminders, the last day of Kidz Connection will be on May 6. There will be a skating party that night. Teacher appreciation will be held on Sunday, May 3. The dates for VBS have been changed. It will be held in late June and early July.

Worship Planning Team: Music has been selected for all Sundays through mid-July and some into August. Some holes were left for new ideas Pastor Bill may have. Anthony has prepared procedures for the lights, sound and power point systems. He passed them around and asked anyone interested to see if they could follow the instructions.

Congregational Life Team: The team wishes to thank all the people who brought soup for the Lenten soup suppers. They will put a thank you in the newsletter. They also thanked Ellen Dinger who again volunteered to organize the annual pancake feed on Sunday, April 19. The team will also plan and organize a meal of some kind for Pastor Bill's installation Sunday when the date is set for that. Pam is working with the Synod on this. Lisa Gese has been going through the attendance sheets and taking Holy Cross coffee mugs to visitors. Pastor Bill wishes to see the attendance sheets first as he agrees it's very important to follow up with visitors.

Treasurer's Report: Darlene reported that due to a very nice offering on Easter Sunday, our yearly deficit is down to approximately \$1,100 and we are still doing ok. Darlene reported that the building fund balance is now approximately \$11,000 including interest. We pay \$2,500 per month and our interest rate is going up to 6% in May. If we paid the balance right now, it would be approximately \$9,200. Pam will check with Kent Edson to see if he would wish to make an announcement in church, telling the congregation how close we are to paying the building off seeing if everyone could help us retire this debt. Darlene said it is important to remind people not to forget the general fund in addition to their building donations. It is also important to remember to keep giving to the building fund after the building debt is retired so we can start saving for future needs.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Bill said he is "just tickled" to be here, he had a good first day in the office today and he loves our way of worship.

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Concerns were raised regarding the cars and trucks parked along the road leading to our church. We were told when the businesses went in there that there would not be any vehicles parked on the road. Pearl volunteered to talk to Scott Bender, the owner, and if she doesn't get any satisfaction from him, she will speak to someone at the Ramkota as they actually own the road.

Heidi reported on the Transition Team which is a group of people who will work with Pastor Bill to explain how different areas of the church work. If anyone can think of any areas not covered or if you have any suggestions for the Transition Team, please let Heidi know.

The subject of summer worship time was brought up. After much discussion, it was decided to leave it at 10:00 for the summer due to being on the radio. The possibility of having fellowship prior to worship was also mentioned. Heidi will make up a survey to put in the Sunday bulletins.

Pastor Bill was asked about Adult Ed/Faith Forum and he said he will definitely continue that. He is willing to do it during the summer or in the fall, depending on the wishes of the congregation.

Our next meeting will be May 11 at 6:30 pm. The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Cindy Kocabinski
Secretary

Back To The Bible!

How do we see and understand Psalm 23? Is it only the beloved and well-known psalm we recite at funerals? While I believe it is a source of comfort during those grieving times, it is so much more. Hopefully each of you read your Bibles everyday. Pray that the Holy Spirit reveals the scriptures to you in a new and exciting way! Let's briefly exam 23rd Psalm more closely.

The Lord is my shepherd **That's Relationship!**

I shall not want **That's Supply!**

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures **That's Rest!**

He leadeth me beside the still waters **That's Refreshment!**

He restoreth my soul **That's Healing!**

He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness **That's Guidance!**

For His name sake **That's Purpose!**

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death **That's Testing!**

I will fear no evil **That's Protection!**

For thou art with me **That's Faithfulness!**

Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me **That's Discipline!**

Thou anointest my head with oil **That's Consecration!**

My cup runneth over **That's Abundance!**

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life. **That's Blessing!**

And I will dwell in the house of the Lord. **That's Security!**

Forever **That's Eternity (and I say...Amen!)**

As David uttered these words, I'm sure they were both a comfort and a safe place from which to move on with the work God called him to do. May these words accomplish the same in your life! And may they be both a comfort and a sure foundation in both joy and sorrow.



Pastor Bill



May 2009



Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

<p>The day the Lord created hope was probably the same day he created Spring.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">– Bern Williams</p>						1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
<p>8:45 WPT Rehearsal 9:00 Adult Forum 10:00 Worship Pastor Bill's Installation 11:00 Potluck</p>		<p>11:15 Sr. High Table Talks @ Zion</p>	<p>6:00—8:00 KIDZ CONNECTION SKATING PARTY</p>	<p>1:30 Pastor Bill speaking @ Young at Heart @ Bethlehem</p>			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
<p>Mother's Day 8:45 WPT Rehearsal 9:00 Adult Forum 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee & Treats</p>	<p>6:30 Leadership Team Meeting</p>	<p>11:15 Sr. High Table Talks @ Zion</p>	<p>7:00 CONFIRMATION</p>			<p>Armed Forces Day </p>	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
<p>8:45 WPT Rehearsal 9:00 Adult Forum 10:00 Worship Confirmation 11:00 Coffee & Treats</p>	<p>6:30 Women's Group</p>	<p>11:15 Sr. High Table Talks @ Zion</p>			<p><i>NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE TO THE OFFICE</i></p>		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
<p>8:45 WPT Rehearsal 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee & Treats</p>	<p>Memorial Day </p>						
						<p>Synod Assembly in Sioux Falls. Pray for our Pastor and Delegates.</p>	
31	<p style="text-align: center;">Table Grace</p> <p style="text-align: center;">We thank you, God, for milk and bread and all our daily food. These gifts remind us day by day, that you, O God, are good. Amen.</p>						