



# NALC

North American Lutheran Church

# Cross Connection

## Cross Lutheran Church & School

200 Ruppert Street  
Pigeon, MI 48755  
989-453-3330

**Our mission:**  
**Bring people to Christ.**

**Teach Christians to be disciples.**

**Send disciples to reach the world.**

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Growing Together

January 2012

## Message from Pastor Tim

My dear family of Cross Lutheran Church,

As I reflect back on the year 2011 and contemplate the coming year of 2012, I wonder, what is it the most I seek and long for? A tremendous amount of events occurred in 2011, Cross joining the NALC, weddings, funerals, baptisms, fundraisers, VBS, school, and the list goes on. WOW!! When one does look back as to what took place, yes, a lot was accomplished and we are still here.

But is this what we really want? In looking ahead in the year 2012 we'll see the same fund raisers, more weddings, funerals, baptisms, school events, VBS, etc. But what is our goal come January 2013 other than to say we survived another year? In listening to all the recent Christmas Carols and reading scripture about the birth of our Lord and Savior, the one theme that keeps coming out is peace.

*NRS Psalm 29:11* **May the LORD give strength to his people! May the LORD bless his people**



with peace!

What then is this peace the LORD gives us and where do we find it? The first place to find it is in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for within him is the peace that takes away the sins of the world. The peace Jesus gives us is the perfect peace we need. It is not the peace we so often seek in our material possessions, power and authority over others. It is the peace that resides within Jesus on the cross for it is a peace given in grace and not a peace we earn.

*NRS Psalm 85:8* **Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.**

What does peace look like? The only way to find out is to put Jesus Christ as number one in your life and at the center of your heart. From that you will experience peace beyond peace.

*NRS Philippians 4:7* **And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.**

So for this coming year I am going to ask that all of you seek peace in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Seek the peace that will get you through all life has in store for you. Seek his peace when all seems hopeless. Seek his peace when you are full of joy. Most important of all seek his peace no matter what and give thanks for an undeserving gift of peace.

*NRS John 14:27* **Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.**

God's speed  
Pr Tim

# Preparing for Worship at Cross



## Jan. 1 – Name of Jesus

1R – Numbers 6:22-27

P – Psalm 8

2R – Galatians 3:23-29

G – Luke 2:21

Hymns: 646, 652, 651 Comm. 701, 702, 706

## Jan. 8 – Epiphany

1R – Genesis 1:1-5

P – Psalm 29

2R – Romans 6:1-11

G – Mark 1:4-11

Hymns: 89, 90, 82

## Jan. 15 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

1R – 1 Samuel 3:1-20

P – Psalm 139:1-10

2R – 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

G – John 1:43-51

Hymns: 75, 84, 494 Comm. 212, 213, 215

## Jan. 22 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

1R – Jonah 3:1-5, 10

P – Psalm 62

2R – 1 Corinthians 7:29-35

G – Mark 1:14-20

Hymns: 403, 504, 415

## Jan. 29 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

1R – Deuteronomy 18:15-20

P – Psalm 111

2R – Luke 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

G – Mark 1:21-28

Hymns: 265, 385, 390 Comm. 203, 341, 200

### Cross Lutheran Church Women

- **Morning Circle** will meet Wednesday, Jan. 11
- **Afternoon Circle** will meet Tuesday, Jan. 3 at 1:30 p.m.
- **Evening Circle** will meet Tuesday, Jan. 17 at 7 p.m.
- **Two Combined Circles** will meet the daytime combined will meet Monday, Jan. 9 at 2 p.m.
- The evening combined will meet Tuesday, Jan. 31 at 7 p.m.
- The Study material for all circles will be "Wise and Foolish"
- **Love Day** will be Wednesday, Jan. 11 at 1:30 p.m.

### Pigeon Food Pantry

The Pigeon Food Pantry is in need of toilet paper and personal products. Also, the pantry is in need of spaghetti, sauce and tuna. Everything right now is quite low, so anything donated would be very much appreciated.

### Coffee Fellowship

- Jan. 8—
- Jan. 15—
- Jan. 22—
- Jan. 29—

**Please see the signup sheet on the board for 2012. Many dates are available.**

### Less is More:

What if we took our lengthy lists of changes we want to make in the new year and narrowed them down—way down? Rather than making a half dozen or more commitments that we're unlikely to keep, how about zeroing in

on a single word that captures the essence of what we want to achieve or become?

North Carolina pastor Mike Ashcraft encouraged church members to each find one word that described a characteristic or vision they want-

ed to achieve in the year ahead.

The experiment turned into a movement, with ideas and testimonials available at myoneword.org.

What would your one-word resolution be?

## In Memory

**These gifts were received to the glory of God in memory or honor of the following people:**

In memory of **Walt Rummel** for Cross Lutheran Church Building Fund by Bill & Muriel Hurdelbrink.

In memory of **Merlin Yoder** for Cross Lutheran School by Tom & Bernice Shupe.

In memory of **Walt Rummel** for Cross Lutheran Building Fund by Gerri Edler.

In memory of **Walt Rummel** for Cross Lutheran Church by Ray & Elaine Buchholz.

In memory of **Carolyn Stirrett** for Cross Lutheran School by Marilyn & Gerald Buchholz.

In memory of **Walt Rummel** for Cross Lutheran School by Cordelia Trost.

In memory of **Martin Schuette** for Cross Lutheran Building Fund by Ruth Schuette.

In memory of **Walt Rummel** for Cross Lutheran Building Fund by Delores Lange, Henry & Deb Lange.

In memory of **George Gardy** for Cross Lutheran Church by Terry & June Sturm.

In memory of **Don Barbret** for Cross Lutheran School by Tom & Bernice Shupe.

In memory of **Walt Rummel** for Cross Lutheran School by Tom & Bernice Shupe.

In memory of **Walt Rummel** for Kids Against Hunger by the Children of Frank & Sally Taschner, Nancy Schuette, Donald Taschner, Robert Taschner, Pearl

Fitzpatrick, and Julia Crawford.

In memory of **Elmer Schuette** for Kids Against Hunger by Nancy Schuette & family

In memory of **Elmer Schuette** for Thumb Bread Basket by Nancy Schuette & Family.

In memory of **Florence Otto** for Cross Lutheran Building Fund by Ron & Bonnie Schulz.

In memory of **Walt Rummel** for Cross Lutheran Building Fund by Ron & Bonnie Schulz.

In memory of **Mary Scheurer Rummel** for Cross Lutheran Building Fund by Ron & Bonnie Schulz.

In memory of **Florence Otto** for Cross Lutheran Church by Wayne Otto.

In memory of **Florence Otto** for Cross Lutheran School Library by Roger & Pat Ewald.

In memory of **Walt Rummel**, for Pigeon Food Pantry by Dennis and Carol Diener.

## Ministry of Worship and Music

**Nov. 17, 2011**

Members present: Peg McCrimmon, Beth Elston, Vivian Buschlen, Pastor Tim, Karen Schuette.

Meeting opened with prayer.

### Music – Beth

- Choirs Concert – Sunday,

Dec. 11, should be 55 – 60 minutes long. All offerings at the door are designated for music for the choirs.

- Liturgy for Advent through Epiphany will be WOV setting #5.

- The organ was tuned last week. Discussed the need in the near future for a new electronic board for the organ.

Discussed exposing the organ pipes for better sound. Will need to be aesthetic looking.

### Worship – Pastor

- Decided that Christmas and New Year's Day Sunday worship should be at 10 a.m. this year.

- FYI – Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, is Feb. 22, 2012

Peg McCrimmon needs an Altar Guild substitute for a number Wednesday worships in the winter.

Council Notes – Karen reported items from November council meeting.

### Old Business

- Peg and Karen reported on the concert reception planning.

Tape Ministry – Beth found out Cross needs to be reporting and paying for every hymn recorded according to copyright laws.

Next Meeting – will be decided on after Christmas.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Karen Schuette

# Celebrate



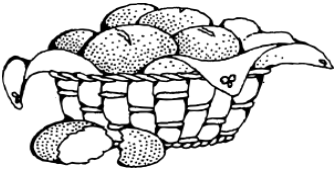
- 2 James Laursen  
Jeremy Siewert
- 3 Philip Schadd
- 4 Paul Schadd
- 7 Kyle Yackle
- 8 Elaine Licht  
Abigail Walker
- 9 Martin Sturm  
Miranda Fritz
- 10 Kenneth Licht  
Barb Degg  
Dana Young  
Susanne Schulze
- 11 Michelle Walsh  
Jessica Peterson
- 14 Anna House
- 17 Karen Anklam  
Adam Rosenthal
- 18 Sue Loehrke
- 19 Dale Schuette
- 20 Denny Smith
- 21 Vickie Forster
- 22 Chris Papkey  
Matt Papkey
- 24 Brenda Smith  
Cordelia Trost
- 25 Willow Rice  
Andrew Pionk  
Zachary Pionk
- 26 Lori McKenzie  
Alice Trost
- 27 Geri Edler
- 28 Clarence Buchholz

- Heather Kunisch
- 29 David Elftman  
Connie Herford
- Tonja Nelson
- 31 Gary Forster

- Anniversaries 2012**
- 1/6 Aaron & Katherine Hessling, 5 years
  - 1/15 Mary & Scott Dubs, 8 years
  - 1/24 George & Ruth Mohr, 64 years

**THANK YOU!!  
THANK YOU!!**

**To everyone who purchased Christmas rolls to help support Cross School Hot Lunch program.**




**Also, thank you to Karen Peterson and all her helpers who spent many hours preparing and packing them for us! Over \$700 was raised!**

**Remember our Shut-ins:**  
George & Ruth Mohr, Fred & Lois Chisholm, Dorothy Hafner, Barb Ruff, Ruth Milton, Harold Deering, Dick Koehler Sr., Donald Schuette, Marge Krause, Fred Edler, Bill Buchholz, Thelma Warner, Hulda Baur, Gloria Lewis.

**Please Remember in Prayer:**  
Duane Peterson, Dick Freeland, brother-in-law of Loren and Dolores Elftman and Lou Ann Jarvis, Kay Schuette, Lisa Sturm, Art Woelke, Todd Lay, Landon Livingston, nephew of Gina and Larry Smith, Don Rogers (cancer), son of Don and Sally Rogers, Donna Schuette, surgery, Helen Connors, mother of Wendy Gettel, Olga Renn, Nadene Barbret, Eric Swartzendruber, Helen Decker, Stephanie Maust, Mindy Sutherland, Betty Schulze, Roger Fritz, Mike Trost, Clara Story (Linda Shope's mother), Tina Smith, Sharon Dietzel, Eunice Richmond, Dorothy Hafner, Dennis Diener, Harold Deering, Marge Krause, George and Ruth Mohr, Loren Elftman. Please be sure to update your request so we can keep our prayer list current.

**Special Dates**

- New Year's Day, Jan. 1
- Epiphany, Jan. 6
- Baptism of the Lord, Jan. 8
- Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday Observance, Jan. 16
- Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Jan. 18-25



**In the Service of Our Country:**  
Tim Neal, the brother of Kayla Smith, who is in the army and was deployed to Afghanistan.

# Odds and Ends

## Ministry of Education Minutes

Our November 18, 2011 meeting was held at church and began at 4 p.m. on Friday. Gretchen Roestel took over as Chairperson for our group I'm happy to report. Connie Eden had prepared a notebook to update her on past business and we went over the By Laws after Connie had an opening from the Bible.

There was no new on the Leaf Fund of which Brenda Smith is in charge.

VBS is set for July 16—19, 2012 during Farmer's Festival Time.

Sunday School will have a Christmas Eve Program at 7 p.m. Sunday School starts with a group activity and then the children break off into groups. Connie Eden, June Sturm, Gwynne Barry, Gretchen Roestel, and Brenda Smith are our teachers. Laura Trost and Jean Sturm are the substitutes. Some old news was brought up about the Baptism Bulletin Board needing an up-date and we discussed the current situation of the Bibles for Baptism.

The Coffee Hour Money that our group collected was put to use for ordering Christmas ornaments for the Sunday School Children.

A new time of 4:30 p.m. was selected for our meetings and our next meeting will be on January 20, 2012. Before closing with a prayer Pastor Tim, Gretchen, Connie, Laura, and Jean mentioned that Communion was on every first and third Sunday of the month.

Cordially,  
Jean Sturm



## Moms in Touch

(A group praying for children and schools) will meet every Monday from 5—6 in the Cross Library when school is in session beginning Nov. 28.

Contact Leanne Smith 856-4241 for more information.

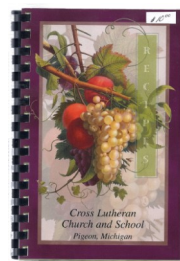


## Communion Bread

We **really** need people to help with baking the communion bread. A signup sheet is in the hall on the bulletin board along with the easy recipe.

## Cookbooks

are still available for \$10 in the Church/School connector or office. They make great gifts for weddings, show-



ers, friends, neighbors, or just to say "thank you". Proceeds help support youth ministry.

## 2012 Calendars

Can be purchased in the overflow area. The cost is \$10 each and proceeds benefit the youth program and camp fund. They make great gifts and have beautiful pictures and encouraging scripture each month.

## Thumb Breadbasket

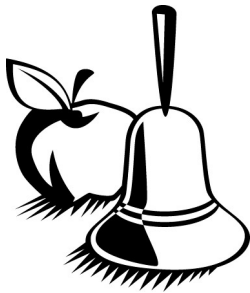
The next bi-monthly food distribution to Thumb Area families in need is Saturday, Jan. 14 from 8:30—10:30 a.m. at Laker Elementary School. Set up is at 7 a.m. with clean up at 10:30 a.m. 100% of money donated in 2011 went for the purchase of food. A total of 1,268 families have registered to date, mostly from Huron, Tuscola and Sanilac Counties.



## Box Tops for Education \$671.60

Was just received for the school from this program! This is an easy opportunity for you to help support Cross Lutheran School! Look for the pink Box Top coupons on hundreds of products. Clip it from the package and place it in the box outside the secretary's office. We'll take care of the rest!

# School News



## School Calendar

- Jan. 2 No School
- Jan. 3 School Resumes  
Basketball Practice  
2:55—4:20
- Jan. 4 Chapel 8:10 a.m.  
CEA 6 p.m.
- Jan. 5 Basketball Game at  
Harbor Beach 4:30  
School Board 5:30
- Jan. 7 Basketball Tourna-  
ment
- Jan. 8 Basketball Tourna-  
ment
- Jan. 9 Basketball Game  
here 4:30
- Jan. 10 Basketball Practice  
2:55—4:20
- Jan. 12 Basketball Game at  
Port Hope 4:30
- Jan. 16 Basketball Game  
here 4:30
- Jan. 17 Basketball Practice  
2:55—4:20
- Jan. 19 Basketball Game  
here 4:30
- Jan. 20 1/2 day of school  
End of Semester
- Jan. 23 Basketball Game at  
Berne 4:30
- Jan. 24 Basketball Practice  
2:55—4:20  
CEA Family Meet-  
ing 6 p.m.
- Jan. 26 Basketball Game  
here at 4:30
- Jan. 30 No game  
Solo & Ensemble

## FROM THE DESK OF...DEB MUSOLFF

I am writing this article on December 16, one week until Christmas. I know it will be read in January, but all that is on my mind is teaching children. It is the job that I get paid to do and I take it seriously maybe too seriously at this time of year. It is typical that in December young children look at serious teachers with glazed-over eyes. They don't remember how to count by fives, what sound "c" makes, where their mittens are, how to share the toys with others...you get the idea. The little ones are staying up past their bedtimes as the adults around them prepare for that most special of days. Anticipation is high and the thirst for knowledge is low. So in December teachers everywhere survive by keeping children's hands busy. Lessons continue, at a slower pace sometimes, and we play math and reading games to reinforce skills and "make". At Lutheran schools teachers use Advent as a time to help children prepare for the coming of our Savior. I can say with confidence that the students of Cross know the true meaning of Christmas and what a joy that is! Joy to the World! Happy New Year!

## A NEW YEAR'S BLESSING

May God make your year a happy one!  
 Not by shielding you from all sorrow and pain,  
 But by strengthening you to bear it as it comes;  
 Not by making your path easy,  
 But by making you sturdy to travel any path;  
 Not by taking hardships from you,  
 But by taking fear from your heart;  
 Not by granting you unbroken sunshine,  
 But by keeping your face bright, even in the shadows;  
 Not by making your life always pleasant,  
 But by showing you when people and their causes need you  
 most, and making you anxious to be there to help.  
 God's love, peace, hope and joy to you for the year ahead.

—Author unknown

# January Time & Talents

| Date & Time          | Leader         | Reader          | Children's time | Communion Assistant | Ushers for the Month                | Altar Guild  |
|----------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| Jan. 1<br>10 a.m.    | Gwynne Barry   | Laura Trost     | Sue Loehrke     | John Trowbridge     | Clarence Buchholz<br>Brian Delpiere | Carol Diener |
| Jan. 8<br>9:30 a.m.  | Peggy Koehler  | Vivian Buschlen | Leanne Smith    |                     | Ron Schulz<br>Bob Tait<br>Tom Shupe |              |
| Jan. 15<br>9:30 a.m. | Phil Schadd    | Norm Nelson     | Brian Delpiere  | Norm Nelson         | John Trowbridge                     | Laura Trost  |
| Jan. 22<br>9:30 a.m. | Karen Schuette | Connie Eden     | Aileen Prill    |                     |                                     |              |
| Jan. 29<br>9:30 a.m. | Gwynne Barry   | Phil Schadd     | Peggy Koehler   |                     |                                     |              |

**LEADERS, READERS, COMMUNION ASSISTANTS, AND ALTAR GUILD**

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO PARTICIPATE AS SCHEDULED, PLEASE CONTACT A SUBSTITUTE. If unable to find anyone, please contact me at (989) 453-2744. Thanks and God's Blessings to you! Karen Schuette

**USHERS PLEASE NOTE:** Unlock doors, turn on lights, and sound system, then lock and turn off lights, etc. to close up the church. THANKS!

## Mission / Outreach Committee

O.C.C.: We received word from one of our tracking labels on a shoebox that it was sent to India!

**Thank you** to all of you who took part in the Giving Tree at Cross this year. We're sure that your generosity made many happy smiles this Christmas!

**Thank you** to all who baked, donated, and helped pack cookies for our local nursing facilities and our own shut-ins this Christmas.

Our January meeting will be held on the 24th at 5:30 p.m.

**Remember** to keep buying scrip cards all year long! They really help generate funds for the church & school and school children!

**Please keep** your eyes open for good deals on after - Christmas sales. It's a great time to get reduced hard candy, toys, etc. for next year's shoebox project!

**Don't forget** to keep bringing in items for the Food Pantry. Personal items, canned foods, cereal, laundry detergent, etc. is needed all year long!

# Ministries

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## Youth Ministry Minutes

**Nov. 16**

Meeting opened with prayer at 7:45 p.m.

Present: Kevin Trost- Chair, Pr. Tim, Leanne Smith, and Rachel Higgins.

### Old Business:

There are still several boxes of cookbooks left to sell. We are looking for avenues to finish the fundraiser after taking a break. Discussion on approaching local businesses and the library took place to see if they might be willing to display the cookbooks during the holiday season.

### New Business:

Youth will go Christmas caroling on Saturday, Dec.17 following the Christmas program practice and a light lunch. Discussion on lunch planning and schedule was discussed.

Michi-Lu-Ca Camp plans are underway for 2012 and the 1<sup>st</sup> choice week is July 8-13<sup>th</sup> the second choice week is June 24 – 29<sup>th</sup>. A letter will go out to families with children confirmation age through senior high. The cost for confirmation students is \$50 each and senior high students are \$75 each. The true cost of camp is \$290 per student but through fundraising the costs to families are greatly reduced.

Research on a curriculum for the beginning of 2012 is underway. Sola Publishing, Core and Word Alone are considerations. Youth will be asked for input as well we are working toward youth leadership and will research curriculum that the youth can be directly involved in and even do some peer teaching and participation.

Youth Sunday will be Feb. 5, 2012.

A Fish Fry Fundraiser is scheduled for March 16. Kevin Sturm will chair the event again this year. Proceeds will support the Youth Ministry and assist youth in attending camp.

Next meeting planned for 12/17/11 at 10:00 a.m.

Meeting closed w/ the Lord's Prayer at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Rachel Higgins

## Parish Life Ministry

**Dec. 6**

Meeting was called to order at 5 p.m. with a welcome to our new chairperson, Aileen Prill and opening with prayer.

Members present: Aileen Prill, chairperson, Betty champagne, Sue Loehrke, Paul Schuette, Pam Sturm, Alice Trost, Pr. Tim.

- Updated Aileen on duties of Parish Life and functions of committee.
- Advised that the new Coffee Fellowship list is up and needs to be brought to Council's attention.
- Revised funeral list is just about completed and will be handed out to Team leaders. Betty champagne has agreed to be the contact person.
- The "Handy Helper" list will be updated.
- Another "Kitchen Shower" is being planned for this spring.
- Looking into having another Women's Event in May with speaker.
- Betty and Sue are planning a follow up to the positive response from those that attended the retreat in October. Possibly a Saturday morning in February using the Women of Faith study guide the topic being "Managing Your Moods." Continuing dates will be decided at that time. We hope to turn this into a monthly group study separate from the Circles Bible Study.

The CLCW will begin a new Bible series in January titled "The Wise and the Foolish." There are now three circles to hopefully accommodate all those interested. Pastor Tim will do the first session in January. There will be a morning circle, afternoon circle and evening circle.

Next meeting Tuesday, Jan. 3 at 5 p.m.

Meeting ended at 5:45 p.m. w/ the Lords Prayer.

Respectfully submitted

Sue Loehrke



# Council Meeting Minutes



## CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

November 8, 2011

**CALL TO ORDER:** The monthly meeting of the Cross Lutheran Church Council was called to order by acting president, Richard Koehler, Jr., at 7:02 p.m., on the above date. Members present were Pastor Timothy Loehrke, Karen Schuette, Krisie Fritz, Kevin Trost, Paul Schuette, Lorraine LePage, Mike Fritz and Nancy Heck. Guests present were newly elected council members, Lori Smith and John Smith. Pastor Loehrke opened the meeting with prayer.

**MINUTES:** The previous Council Minutes dated October 11, 2011, were reviewed by all present. A motion was made by Nancy Heck to approve the minutes, Kevin Trost seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**AGENDA:** Agenda for the evening was presented to all present. Richard Koehler addressed that we will add under Old Business – #3. - Benevolence Homeless Coalition and #4. - Accounts at Bay Port State Bank, and under New Business – #1. – Kitchen Rental, and #2. – Restructuring of Accounts. Motion was made by Krisie Fritz to

approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Karen Schuette. Motion carried.

### SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES:

Minutes from Special Meeting held on Sunday, October 23, 2011 to vote on the Amendments to the Bylaws and Constitution. Lorraine LePage made a motion to accept the Special Meeting Minutes as presented, seconded by Nancy Heck. Motion carried.

### TREASURER'S REPORT:

Copies of the Treasurer's report were distributed to all present by Nancy Heck. Nancy Heck reported that the General Fund had income of \$30,212.18 for the month of October and expenses of \$25,558.56. The General Fund balance segmented, includes Leaf Fund - \$732.49, Roof Repair Fund - \$3,695.14, Organ Repair Fund - \$7,300.00, General Operating Fund as a Fund Balance of \$14,178.44, and the Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund has a balance of \$8,975.00. Lorraine LePage made a Motion to accept Nancy's report, seconded by Krisie Fritz. Motion carried.

### FINANCIAL SECRETARY

**REPORT:** Paul Schuette provided his report to all present. His report covered the period of 1/1/2011 through 11/8/2011, and it showed Total Contributions for the General Fund were \$230,135.19 which is \$3,015.00 over budget. Other monies received to date were as follows:

Building Fund \$ 29,423.00  
(\$12,115.46 under budget)

Benevolence \$ 7,551.00

Other Donations \$ 562.00

**COMMUNICATIONS:** None

**GUEST PRESENTATIONS/REQUESTS:** None

**PASTOR'S REPORT:** Pastor Loehrke's written report was provided to all present. Highlights of his report were as follows:

- Pastor performed the following pastoral acts during the month of October: 1 Funeral, 10 Teachings, 8 Communion, 6 Hospital Visits, 5 Home Visits, 20 Meetings, and 8 Services.

Funeral – Donald Barbet, Sunday, October 16, 2011, Internment at Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly, MI, on Monday, October 24, 2011.

### Church Calendar:

- Veterans Day Chapel service held on November 11, 2011, to honor all veterans.
- Thumb Distribution was held on Saturday, November 12, 2011.
- Pigeon Community Thanksgiving Service, Sunday, November 20, 2011 at 3:00 p.m. at Cross Lutheran Church.
- Last day of School before Thanksgiving break, November 2, 2011.
- Thanksgiving day service, November 24, 2011, 10:00 a.m., with communion.

(Cont. on Page 10)

**(Cont. from Page 9)**

- Office closed on Friday, November 25, 2011.
- First Sunday in Advent, Sunday, November 27, 2011, additional vespers at 7:00 p.m. will be held each Sunday in Advent.
- School resumes, Monday, November 28, 2011.
- Sunday December 4, 2011, Pastor and Sue will be attending the dedication service into the NALC at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Manistee, MI,
- Christmas Concert will be held at Cross, on Sunday, December 11, 2011, at 3:00 p.m.

**Pastor's Report:**

- Pastor thanks all for the cards, prayers, and generous purse during my hospital stay and recovery, Pastor will start cardiac rehab on Wed., November 9, 2011.
- After the Thanksgiving Service, Pastor will be heading to Ohio to have Thanksgiving with his family and returning on Saturday, November 26, 2011.

Adult Sunday School, studying Augsburg Confession – Attendance & Discussion have been very good. Upon completion of the Augsburg study, Luther's Small Catechism will be explored.

**PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:**

School children totals for 2011-12 school year are as follows:

Grades K-8 – 35students

Preschool – 17 students

- Generous private donation of funds was given for 11 new lap tops, overhead projectors for classrooms, and received a digital camera.

- Frankenmuth Fundraiser ends on Monday, November 14, 2011, CEA sponsored.

- Finger printing for Kindergarten students will take place on Friday, November 18, 2011.

- CEA is planning a CEA family meeting on Tuesday, November 29, 2011.

CEA Christmas Fair will be held on the last of school before Christmas break, Thursday, December 22, 2011.

**SCHOOL BOARD REPORT:** Terry Sturm was absent, Pastor provided his report for him as above.

**MINISTRY OF STEWARDSHIP:** Ray Licht wasn't present. Tom Shupe is the newly elected chairman for this committee. No minutes were provided.

**MINISTRY OF WORSHIP AND MUSIC:** Karen Schuette reviewed her report with everyone present. Highlights of her report were as follows: X-Mas Concert will be held here at Cross on Sunday, December 11, 2011 @ 3:00 p.m.

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION:** Gretchen Roestel is the newly elected chairperson for this committee.

**MINISTRY OF OUTREACH:** No chairperson at this time, no report given.

**MINISTRY OF YOUTH:** Kevin Trost provided minutes to all present.

**MINISTRY OF PROPERTY:**

Pastor expressed a big thanks to Mike Fritz for all of his hard work on taking care of the church grounds. Mike was informed that the outside door has a latch that is sticking.

**MINISTRY OF PARISH LIFE:** Aileen Prill is the newly elected chairperson for this committee.

**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL SERVICES:** Lorraine LePage provided her minutes to all present. She advised that Scrip would be done weekly through the end of the year.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

NALC Ramification of August 2011, NALC Convocation Vote is available online.

Principal for 2012-2013 school year was discussed in great detail, discussion will continue for ideas and input in upcoming council meetings.

Benevolence for Homeless Coalition will be taken to Stewardship Ministry for review for 2012. (average age for a homeless child in Huron County is 9 years old)

Accounts and safety deposit box at Bay Port State Bank were discussed. President, Richard Koehler needs to sign at Bay Port State Bank.

Nancy made a Motion to renew the line of credit at Bay Port State Bank in the amount of \$50,000.00, and to have the president and treasurer to sign same, seconded by Karen Schuette. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**(Cont. on Page 11)**

# Council continued

(Cont. from Page 10)

Kitchen Rental – Executive Council members were approached by a member of the church to use the kitchen for a possible catering business. They wish to start by the 1<sup>st</sup> part of December. All church functions would take priority over the private business. Discussion followed – may need to have an agreement regarding Workmen’s comp and insurance. Nancy Heck made the Motion to allow a member of our congregation to use the kitchen for \$50.00 per week until the next meeting, seconded by Lorraine LePage. Motion carried.

Cross had some recent auditing issues with the Scrip and CEA accounts. An ad hoc financial committee has been formed to come up with a single system procedure for keeping income, receipts, disbursements, deposits, and etc... for all 12 accounts. This should make it is easier for the auditors in the future. Committee members will be Aileen Prill, Suzie Swanson, Nancy Heck and Carol Diener.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business to come before the meeting it was adjourned and good things from around the room was shared by all present. The meeting was closed with the Lord’s Prayer at 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Krisie S. Fritz  
Secretary

## CEA Meeting Minutes

December 7, 2011

Meeting opened with prayer at 5:30 p.m.

Present: Gwynne Barry, Pr. Tim, April Rujan, Melissa Helmuth and Rachel Higgins.

Previous months minutes were not available as the secretary was unable to attend.

**New Business:**

**Basketball Concessions:** Gwynne Barry brought to the board’s attention that Deb Musolff has been in charge of concessions for the past several

years and might like have other parents involved. We appreciate her dedication and time in managing this fundraiser well. Rachel will oversee the fundraising for this year and get helpers in place. Deb Musolff will transfer books and notes from previous years.

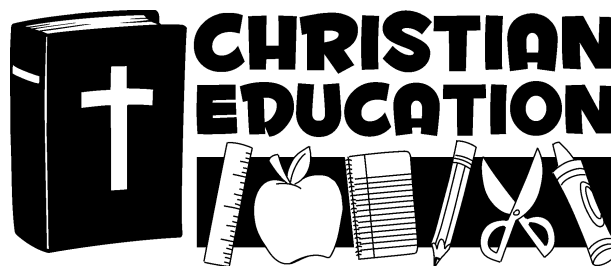
**Christmas Fair:** Students will have age appropriate art activities on December 15<sup>th</sup> after lunch to make items for the upcoming Christmas Fair.

**Ski Field Trip:** A ski trip has been offered to our students for a fee of \$14 each at Apple Mountain by Freeland, MI. Transportation will be followed up by Rachel Higgins. The date being consid-

ered is Tuesday, January 17, 2012.

**Family Meeting:** The next family meeting is scheduled for January 24<sup>th</sup>. Gwynne Barry is working on details of having Scott Whipple come as a guest speaker to make an interactive science and problem solving presentation.

**Video Presentation Project:** For several years there has been discussion of having a video made about Cross School and Church to use as a marketing tool to help represent our ministry and mission to the community. Casey Turner was invited to come and discuss budgeting and development of this project. Casey was informative and willing



to help cut costs when possible to help us achieve our goal of having this tool by the end

of the school year. The presentation will include interviews with pastor, staff and some school families as well as possible interviews with prior students.

Ongoing discussion will take place with the school board and church counsel to determine funding of the project and how it can best be used to promote our mission and increase student enrolment.

Next meeting planned for 1/3/12 at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rachel Higgins

# Ministers - The people of Cross

## Officers, Ministries and Committees

### Pastor

Tim Loehrke

### Music Director

Beth Elston

### Church Council

Dick Koehler, President

John Smith, Vice President

Krisie Fritz, Secretary

Nancy Heck, Treasurer

Paul Schuette, Financial Secretary

John Smith, School Board

Mike Fritz, Properties

Karen Schuette, Worship & Music

Tom Shupe, Stewardship

Gretchen Roestel, Education

Kevin Trost, Youth

Aileen Prill, Parish Life

Lori Smith, Mission Outreach

### Advisors

Tim Loehrke, Pastor

Paul Schuette, Constitution Rep.

### Ministry of Properties

Mike Fritz, Chair

Ronald Higgins

Mike Eden, Paul Schuette

### Ministry of Worship & Music

#### Music

Karen Schuette, Chair

Peg McCrimmon

Vivian Buschlen

Delores Lange, Beth Elston

### Ministry of Mission Outreach

Lori Smith, Chair

Krisie Fritz

LouAnn Jarvis

Bonnie Schulz

Kay Schuette, Lorraine LePage

### Ministry of Stewardship

Tom Shupe, Chair

Carol Diener, Nancy Heck

Paul Schuette, Ray Licht

June Sturm, Cyndi Buchholz

### Ministry of Education

Gretchen Roestel, Chair

Connie Eden, Jean Sturm

Brenda Smith, Kim Fritz

Laura Trost, Paul Schuette

### Ministry of Youth

Kevin Trost, Chair

Leanne Smith, Rachel Higgins

John Shope, Linda Shope

Elizabeth Higgins, Youth Rep.

Alissa Peterson—LYO President

### Ministry of Parish Life

Aileen Prill, Chair

Betty Champagne

Sue Loehrke, Paul Schuette

Pam Strum, Alice Trost

Rick & Marlene Landry

### Audit Committee

Suzie Swanson, Mike LePage

Kent McKenzie, Leanne Schuette

Peter Shupe

### Nominating Committee

Dave Elftman, Ray Licht, Bruce

Baur, John Shope, John Houst,

Roger Fritz

### Synod Assembly Rep

Mike & Connie Eden

### School Board

John Smith, President

Brian Delpiere, Vice President

Gretchen Roestel, Secretary

Rachel Higgins, Treasurer

April Rujan, CEA President

Pastor Tim, Advisor

### C.E.A

April Rujan-President

Melissa Helmuth-Vice President

Melisa Raymond-Secretary

Rachel Higgins-Treasurer

## Handy Helper Ministry

Barb Buchholz 453-2127

Inez Buchholz 375-4165

Vivian Buschlen 453-2649

Patty Cucinello 453-3589

Roberta Danks 453-3760

Gerry Edler 678-0080

Dolores Elftman 453-2679

Pat Elston 453-2409

Carol Forester 375-2754

Vickie Forester 883-3875

Ava Gies 453-2193

Rachel Higgins 975-0668

Lou Ann Jarvis 453-2790

Lillian Koehler 453-2121

Peggy Koehler 453-2278

Elaine Licht 453-3744

Peggy Licht 453-3845

Carole Mead 856-7438

Olga Renn 453-2150

Carol Schadd 269-5150

Donna Schuette 375-4328

Karen Schuette 453-2744

Nancy Schuette 453-3969

Ruth Schuette 453-3885

Bonnie Schulz 453-3116

Erica Sturm 453-3830

Alice Trost 453-2279

Laura Trost 453-3209

Brigid Trowbridge 453-3990

Arlene Wold 856-4988

Sheila Yackle 453-2589

## A Message from Aaron Shupe

### Flashlights Needed

Sheer blackness.

I blink.

Eyes wide open, I intensely stare, even squint.

Still nothing and completely dark.

Really?! Absolutely nothing?

Yep, nothing.

Though I obviously cannot see them, the narrow walls of the natural-formed cave seem narrower, the pointy stalactites and stalagmites loom around me as invisible teeth and spikes. Thanks to gravity, I'm pretty sure what direction up and down are, but that is pretty much it. A heavy lump of fear or concern should be forming in my gut, but to be honest, its not. I know what is in my hand.

Without much thought, I clumsily push the button of the little cylinder-shaped object. Zap! As simple as that, the zigzagging tunnel is transformed into a dazzling wonder. I immediately regain my sense of direction, choose the correct tunnel to navigate, and continue on my way out.

What if I did not have my flashlight?

Seriously.

Think about it.

What if I really did not have a flashlight? What if I had wandered into this cave in darkness (cliffs and all!) and had to find my own way without a light? A big problem. A hopeless problem. A life-threatening problem.

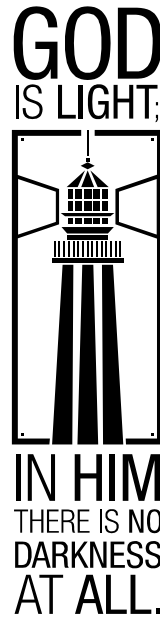
In a very real way, this is our situation without the Word of God. Without the Word is darkness and death.

John 1:1-5 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it." John 1:1-5 ESV

And so is the situation of spiritual darkness in Guinea as the Fulani wander without the Gospel. So many people, generation after generation without the light. But God has not forgotten them. Already, throughout many areas where we've already been, God's Word, little bits of his light, can be found.

Once again I am humbled to be able to be part of God sharing his light and 'spiritual flashlights.' This winter, I've been invited to join in on trekking this dry season from 20 Dec until the beginning of March.

Since trekking last winter I've continued to work with my brothers on the farm in Michi-



1 JOHN 1:5

gan and also travel some too. The spelunking story actually comes from my visit last week with my brother Andrew in New Zealand.

As for long term plans for myself, I'm still deciphering God's call on my life, planning for sure to do missions, but still prayerfully considering the details.

I invite you to join in on this ministry holding the Fulani, myself, and the Hoflands (the family I'm working with,) up in prayer.

Some particular prayer requests:

- Health and safety as quite a bit of difficult traveling will be involved

- For Fulani who are searching for truth, that they would find it in the Word

- Direction for what areas and villages we should go for trekking

- Continued open doors from leaders.

- That I'd be able to recall and deepen language

Its so great to be writing a letter like this again, I look forward to sharing glimpses of what God is doing, and maybe even hear a 'hey' from you. Thanks so much for being part of this.

By His grace,

Aaron

PS. For those who might have missed, this is the same place I had taught three years, and also visited last winter. This time I am not teaching the kids; only trekking.)

Growing Together

|  |  |                  |                    |
|--|--|------------------|--------------------|
| <u>COMBINED GENERAL AND OTHER FUNDS:</u> |  | NOVEMBER, 2011   |                    |
| BALANCE ON HAND 11/1/2011                |  |                  | 34,881.07          |
| INCOME:                                  |  |                  |                    |
| CHURCH/SCHOOL INCOME/ALL SOURCES         |  | 24,559.53        |                    |
| BRICK FUND                               |  | -                |                    |
| CEMETERY PERPETUAL CARE FUND             |  | -                |                    |
| THRIVENT MATCHING FUNDS                  |  | 243.00           |                    |
| ENDOWMENT FUND-Transfer of funds         |  | -                |                    |
| LEAF                                     |  | -                |                    |
| FLOW THROUGH ACCOUNT                     |  | -                |                    |
| LINE OF CREDIT ADVANCE                   |  | -                |                    |
| TOTAL INCOME:                            |  | <u>24,802.53</u> | 24,802.53          |
| EXPENSES:                                |  |                  |                    |
| PAYMENT ON LINE OF CREDIT LOAN           |  | -                |                    |
| CHURCH AND SCHOOL EXPENSES               |  | <u>26,450.12</u> |                    |
|  |  | 26,450.12        | <u>(26,450.12)</u> |
| NET INCOME                               |  |                  | <u>(1,647.59)</u>  |
| BALANCE ON HAND 11/30/2011               |  |                  | 33,233.48          |

|                                |                 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| <u>GENERAL FUND SEGMENTED:</u> |                 |
| LEAF FUND                      | 732.49          |
| ROOF REPAIR                    | 3,695.14        |
| ORGAN REPAIR FUND              | 7,300.00        |
| GENERAL FUND                   | 12,530.85       |
| CEMETERY-PERPETUAL CARE FUND   | <u>8,975.00</u> |
| TOTAL:                         | 33,233.48       |

|   |
|---|
| Thank you for supporting the Lord's work<br>Please continue to help as you are able |
|---|

Total balance in all funds \$33,233.48 - Total balance in General Fund \$12,530.85 (positive balance)

|                                  |  |                 |                 |
|----------------------------------|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| <u>BUILDING FUND:</u>            |  |                 |                 |
| BALANCE ON HAND 11/1/2011        |  |                 | 10,881.21       |
| DONATIONS, PLEDGES & MEMORIALS*  |  | 2,598.42        |                 |
| FUND RAISERS                     |  | -               |                 |
| ADVANCE FROM GENERAL FUND        |  | -               |                 |
| THRIVENT MATCHING FUNDS          |  | -               |                 |
| TOTAL INCOME:                    |  | <u>2,598.42</u> | 2,598.42        |
| EXPENSES:                        |  |                 |                 |
| OFFICE SUPPLIES                  |  | -               |                 |
| MONTHLY BANK LOAN PAYMENT        |  | (3,000.00)      |                 |
| INTEREST ON PRIVATE NOTES        |  | -               |                 |
| PRIVATE LOAN AND INTEREST REPAID |  | -               |                 |
| TOTAL EXPENSE                    |  | <u>(401.58)</u> | <u>(401.58)</u> |
| BALANCE ON HAND 11/30/11         |  |                 | 10,479.63       |

|   |
|---|
| ***THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT TO THE BUILDING FUND-THE NEED FOR DECEMBER IS \$3,000.00. |
|---|

|  |                   |                   |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| <u>GENERAL FUND</u>                    |                   |                   |
| BUDGETED NEED-YEAR TO DATE-ALL SOURCES |                   | (331,260.98)      |
| RECEIPTS - YEAR TO DATE - ALL SOURCES  |                   | <u>315,298.01</u> |
|  | UNDER             | (15,962.97)       |
| DEBT OWING 11/30/2011                  |                   |                   |
| SCHOOL LOAN BALANCE - BPSB             | 63,093.06         |                   |
| PRIVATE LOANS                          | <u>250,000.00</u> |                   |
|  | 313,093.06        |                   |
| OPERATIONAL LOAN                       | <u>17,885.00</u>  |                   |
| TOTAL LOANS                            | 330,978.06        |                   |
| NEW OPERATIONAL LOAN                   | <u>-</u>          |                   |
| TOTAL LOANS                            | 330,978.06        |                   |

# January 2012



| Sun  | Mon  | Tue   | Wed   | Thu   | Fri   | Sat                             |
|--|--|---|---|---|---|---------------------------------|
| 1<br><b>Comm. Service 10 a.m.</b><br>No Sunday School  | 2<br>No School<br>Office open 9 a.m. - noon  | 3<br>School Resumes<br>Afternoon Circle 1:30 p.m.<br>Parish Life 5 p.m.<br>BB Practice 2:55 - 4:20 p.m.             | 4<br><b>Chapel 8:10 a.m.</b><br>CEA 6 p.m.<br>School Staff Meeting 3:30 p.m.<br><b>Comm. Service 7 p.m.</b>           | 5<br>School Board 5:30 p.m.<br>BB Game Cross at Zion 4:30 p.m.              | 6   | 7<br>Basketball Tournament Here |
| 8<br><b>Worship Service 9:30 a.m.</b><br><b>Sunday School 10:45 a.m.</b><br>Basketball Tournament Here             | 9<br><b>Combined Women's Bible Study 2 p.m.</b><br>Choirs: Bells 6:30/Ch. 7:30<br>Moms in Touch 5 p.m.<br>BB Game - Berne at Cross 4:30 p.m. | 10<br><b>Pigeon Pastors 10:30 a.m.</b><br>Executive 6 p.m.<br>Council 7 p.m.<br>BB Practice 2:55 - 4:20 p.m.        | 11<br><b>Chapel 8:10 a.m.</b><br><b>Morning Circle 9:30 a.m.</b><br>Love Day 1:30 p.m.<br><b>Comm. Service 7 p.m.</b> | 12<br>Basketball Game Cross at Pt. Hope 4:30 p.m.                           | 13  | 14                              |
| 15<br><b>Comm. Service 9:30 a.m.</b><br><b>Sunday School 10:45 a.m.</b><br><b>Confirmation Class 5 - 6:30 p.m.</b> | 16<br>BB Game Zion @ Cross 4:30 p.m.<br>Moms in Touch 5 p.m.<br>Choirs: Bells 6:30/Ch. 7:30  | 17<br>School Field Trip<br><b>Evening Circle 7 p.m.</b><br>BB Practice 2:55 - 4:20 p.m.                             | 18<br><b>Chapel 8:10 a.m.</b><br><b>Comm. Service 7 p.m.</b><br>Youth Ministry 7:45 p.m.                              | 19<br>Basketball Game w/Rural at 4:30 p.m.                                  | 20<br>1/2 Day of School<br>Ministry of Education 4 p.m. | 21                              |
| 22<br><b>Worship Service 9:30 a.m.</b><br><b>Sunday School 10:45 a.m.</b><br><b>Confirmation 5 - 6:30 p.m.</b>     | 23<br>BB Game Cross at Berne 4:30 p.m.<br>Moms in Touch 5 p.m.<br>Choirs: Bells 6:30/Ch. 7:30  | 24<br>BB Practice 2:55 - 4:20 p.m.<br>Mission Outreach 5:30 p.m.<br>CEA Family Meeting 6 p.m.<br>Stewardship 7 p.m. | 25<br><b>Chapel 8:10 a.m.</b><br><b>Comm. Service 7 p.m.</b>  | 26<br>Basketball Game Pt. Hope at Cross 4:30 p.m.<br>Worship & Music 7 p.m. | 27  | 28                              |
| 29<br><b>Worship Service 9:30 a.m.</b><br><b>Sunday School 10:45 a.m.</b>  | 30<br>Moms in Touch 5 p.m.<br>No Game<br>Solo/Ensemble   | 31<br><b>Combined Women's Bible Study 7 p.m.</b>  |   |   |   |                                 |

# Cross Church/School Logo Clothing

| Item # | Description             | Price |
|--------|-------------------------|-------|
| 1      | Baseball Caps           | \$ 10 |
| 2      | Tee-Shirts - Adult      | \$ 12 |
| 3      | Tee Shirts - Youth      | \$ 11 |
| 4      | Hoodies - Adult         | \$ 23 |
| 5      | Hoodies - Youth         | \$ 20 |
| 6      | Full-zip Hoodie - Adult | \$ 26 |
| 7      | Full-zip Hoodie - Youth | \$ 21 |
| 8      | Polo Shirt              | \$ 18 |
| 9      | Denim Shirt - Mens      | \$ 25 |
| 10     | Denim Shirt - Ladies    | \$ 26 |
| 11     | 1/4 Zip Fleece          | \$ 28 |
| 12     | Full Zip Fleece         | \$ 38 |
| 13     | Fleece Vest             | \$ 26 |
| 14     | Crew Sweatshirt - Adult | \$ 15 |
| 15     | Crew Sweatshirt - Youth | \$ 14 |
| 16     | Fleece Throw            | \$ 20 |



For all Adult Clothing 2XL and larger add \$2 to the price.

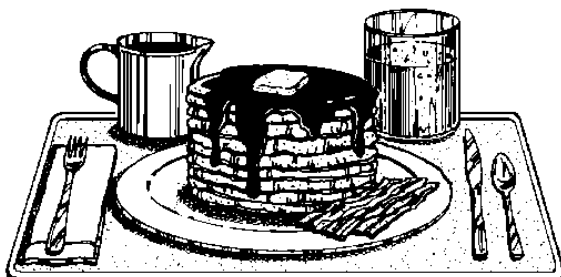
Prices include clothing item and embroidery

Sizes: Adult S, M, L, XL, XXL

Youth 6-8, 10-12, 14-16, 18-20

Please indicate Mens, Womens or Youth  
Colors available are Red w/white lettering and Navy w/white lettering

Orders will be taken through October 31, 2011.



## Pancake Breakfast

**New Date: Sunday, Oct. 23**

Cross CEA is offering an all you can eat breakfast on Sunday, Oct. 23 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. the meal will include pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, cheesy potatoes, juice and coffee. The proceeds will benefit the school. We invite you to join us for fellowship, food and support of Christian education.



the difference  
1 can make.

## Box Tops For Education

Here's an easy opportunity for you to help support Cross Lutheran School! Look for the pink Box tops coupon on hundreds of products throughout grocery, discount and club stores. Clip it from the package and place it in the box outside the secretary's office.

We'll take care of the rest!



