



Growing together

February 2013

Cross Lutheran Church & School

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Secretary

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Our mission:

**Bring people to
Christ.**

**Teach Christians
to be disciples.**

**Send disciples to
reach the world.**



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Message from Pastor Tim

My dear family of Cross Lutheran,

I just finished a Bible study with the Women of the Church about Jonah. We covered the first 17 verses of chapter one and had a very interesting discussion for two hours.

One of the questions discussed read like this, 'What do these verses tell you about God?' Hmm. In other words, what is God like? There was a period of silence as the group pondered their reply. Some replied that God was a judging God and that He was a trusting God.

The one that stuck me was that God is a guiding / caring God. ^{NRS} **Jeremiah 29:11** *For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.* It seems lately that a lot of people have told me that they are not sure what God wants them to do with their life. I am talking about seniors getting ready to graduate in four short months. I'm also talking about adults of all ages trying to figure out what their life is all about and

what God is telling them to do. I see this struggle as one that relies on who you trust. Do you trust yourself that you are making the right choice based on what your friends and families are telling you? Or do you trust what God is telling you to do? Trusting God and following what He wants us to do is very hard. Why? For the simple fact that God is asking me to do that which seems impossible for me. I'm stuck in life and can't move. I don't have any money to do what God wants me to do. It's just impossible.

^{NRS} **Matthew 19:26** *But Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but for God all things are possible."*

When it comes to what God wants us to do, our first reaction is always it can't be done or I can't do that. We have the standard excuse that works for us and therefore we follow our own instincts and not God's. When I was in the Coast Guard, we were directed by a higher authority to take on a mission. We never said we couldn't do it. Our first thought was how can

we do this when it seemed impossible to do. Our first response to God's call should be like Isaiah's; ^{NRS} **Isaiah 6:** *8 Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"*

God has a plan for you. He has a plan for all of us and it's a plan that is on a scale so big that it seems like we have nothing to do with it. Yet the part He has planned for you to follow is a part that might one day save a persons life by bringing that person to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We must trust God that whatever He is calling us to is a path that will lead you to joy and peace in Jesus Christ. *"The will of God will never take you where the grace of God will not support you."*

That path will not be easy though. Others will tell you don't do it. We can't afford it. Do something else that you can handle. Don't do something you've never done before. You'll just fail at it. I've heard all that and that is sad because God has given

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Preparing for Worship at Cross



Feb. 3 – 4th Sunday after Epiphany

1R – Jeremiah 1:4-10 (17-19)
 P – Psalm 71:1-6 (7-11)
 2R – 1 Corinthians 12:31b - 13:13
 G – Luke 4:31-44
 Hymns: 415, 551, 559 Comm. 197, 200, 203

Feb. 10 - Transfiguration

1R – Deuteronomy 34:1-12
 P – Psalm 99
 2R – Hebrews 3:1-6
 G – Luke 9:28-36
 Hymns: 80, 89, 75

Feb. 13 – Ash Wednesday

1R – Joel 2:12-19
 P – Psalm 51:1-13 (14-19)
 2R – 2 Corinthians 5:20b – 6:10
 G – Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
 Hymns: 304, 99, 733

Feb. 17 – 1st Sunday in Lent

1R – Deuteronomy 26:1-11
 P – Psalm 91:1-13
 2R – Romans 10:8b-13
 G – Luke 4:1-13
 Hymns: 562, 543, 341 Comm. 710, 706, 702

Feb. 24 – 2nd Sunday in Lent

1R – Jeremiah 26:8-15
 P – Psalm 4
 2R – Philippians 3:17 – 4:1
 G – Luke 13:31-35
 Hymns: 93, 291, 104

Special Dates

- African-American History Month
- Boy Scout Sunday, Feb. 3
- Transfiguration of Our Lord, Feb. 10
- Ash Wednesday, Feb. 13
- Valentine's Day, Feb. 14
- First Sunday in Lent, Feb. 17
- Presidents Day, Feb. 18
- Second Sunday in Lent, Feb. 24

Coffee Fellowship Hour

- Feb. 3 – Decorating Committee
- Feb. 10 –
- Feb. 17 – Ministry of Education
- Feb. 24 –

Bread Maker

- Feb. 3 –
- Feb. 17 –
- Feb. 24 –

We need people to sign up please!

(Cont. from Page 1)

you skills and gifts to do his work and not fail.

Through the Holy Spirit, you have gifts to do the work God calls you to. ^{NRS} **1 Corinthians 12:** ⁴ *Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit;* ⁵ *and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord;* ⁶ *and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.* ⁷ *To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common*

good. To not utilize these gifts by not doing what God is calling you to do is to deny God and the good God has planned for you.

I struggled with this for a long time until there came a point in my life that I had to stop listening to those “voices” that said don’t do it and listened to God’s voice that said follow me for I have wonderful plans for you and I will be with you all the way no matter how hard it may seem. Stay the course with me and you will know the joy and peace that

comes from my son Jesus Christ. So I followed, stayed the course, and I am enjoying the peace and love of my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ with my Cross Lutheran family.

God is calling you right now. God is saying to you, it is possible with me. God is saying follow me. God is saying I have great plans for you. You’ll never regret it. ^{NRS} **2 Corinthians 5:7** *for we walk by faith, not by sight.*

God’s speed
 Pr Tim

In Memory

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



In memory of **Mr. and Mrs. Adam Stueck**, for Cross Building Fund, by Harold and Shirley Deering.

In memory of **Gertrude Schuette**, for Cross Lutheran School, by Denny and Leanne Smith and family.

In honor of **Cross School Staff**, for Cross Lutheran School, by Denny and Leanne and family.

In memory of **Mildred Schnicker**, for Cross Building Fund, by Roberta Danks and Gertrude Czajkowski.

In memory of **Ruth Milton**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by Harold and Shirley Deering.

In memory of **Elsie Sturm**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by Dorothy Ruby.

In memory of **Ruth Milton**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by Steven Vaughan.

In memory of **Ruth Milton**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by John and Doris Seley.

In memory of **Ruth Milton**, for Cross Building Fund, by Elsie Trowbridge.

In memory of **Ruth Milton**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by Ray and Elaine Licht.

In memory of **Ruth Milton**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by Kathryn Southworth.

In memory of **Ruth Milton** for Cross Lutheran Church, by Ron and Ann Elbing.

In memory of **Ruth Milton** for Cross Lutheran Church, by Peter and Melissa Shupe.

In memory of **Ruth Milton** for Cross Lutheran Church, by Pete and Heather Draber.

In memory of **Ruth Milton**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by John and Grace Blair.

In memory of **Ruth Milton** for Cross Lutheran Church, by Al and Sharon Bumhoffer.

In memory of **Ruth Milton** for Cross Building Fund, by Clarence and Eleanor Schadd.

In memory of **Ruth Milton** for Cross Building Fund, by Tom and Bernice Shupe.

In memory of **Ruth Milton** for Cross Building Fund, by Sheila Yackle.

In memory of **Ruth Milton**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by James and Margaret Ritter and family.

In memory of **Ruth Milton**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by Vivian Buschlen.

In memory of **Ruth Milton** for Cross Lutheran Church, by Ed and Ann Bumhoffer.

In memory of **Ruth Milton**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by Eric and Jennifer Gardy.

In memory of **Ruth Milton** for Cross Lutheran Church, by Ron and Janet Bumhoffer.

In memory of **Ruth Milton**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by

Lydia Decker.

In memory of **Ruth Milton**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by Denny and Leanne Smith.

In memory of **Ruth Milton** for Cross Lutheran Church, by Dave Armbruster.

In memory of **Ruth Milton** for Cross Lutheran Church, by Gene and Sandy Iseler.

In memory of **Ruth Milton**, for Cross Building Fund, by Don and Donna Wheeler.

In memory of **Ruth Milton** for Cross Building Fund, by Ruth Schuette.

In memory of **Gertrude Schuette**, for Cross Building Fund, by Ruth Gambee.

In memory of **Ruth Milton** for Cross Lutheran Church, by Ervin Ignash.

In memory of **Ruth Milton**, for Cross Lutheran School, by Loren and Delores Elftman.

In memory of **Ruth Milton**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by Clarence and Inez Buchholz.

In memory of **Ruth Milton**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by Robert & Peggy Tymkew.

In memory of **Gertrude Schuette**, for Cross Building Fund, by Schulze Farms.

Box Tops For Education

Is an easy opportunity for you to help support Cross Lutheran School! Look for the pink Box Tops Coupon on hundreds of products. Clip it from the package and place it the church office.

Celebrate



Birthdays

- 2 Shawn Deer
- 3 Brenda Kretzschmer
- 4 Ray Buchholz
Charles Buchholz
- 7 Connie Eden
Alex Cucinello
Mike LePage
- 8 Michael Siewert
- 9 Marilyn Baur
Greta Elston
- 10 Shelly Baur
- 11 Gene Champagne
- 13 Kirk Yackle
- 14 Muriel Hurdelbrink
Grace Trost
Travis Roestel
Christina Cucinello
- 16 Jacqueline Finne-
ren
- 17 Russell Nichols
Eleanor Tate
- 18 Eunice Richmond
- 19 Tim Fritz
Chase Gardy
- 20 Dorothy
Thuemmel
- 23 Pr. Raymond Orth
- 24 Elsie Trowbridge
Paul Kunish
- 26 Loren Elftman

Anniversary

- 2 Ray & Elaine
Buchholz, 62
years
- 13 Robin & Ann
Buschlen, 31
years
- 29 Clarence & Eleanor
Schadd, 48 years

Cross Lutheran Church Women

The **Morning Circle** will meet on Wednesday, Feb. 13 at 9:30 a.m.

The **Afternoon Circle** will meet on Tuesday, Feb. 5 at 1:30 p.m.

Quilting Day will be Wednesday, Feb. 13 at 1:30 p.m.

Women of Faith Study

The topic for February is "P.M.S. ing." All women are invited to attend Saturday, Feb. 2 from 10:30 to noon.

Choirs

Monday, Feb. 4—Bells at 6:30 p.m. and Choral at 7:30 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 11—Bells at 6:30 p.m. and Choral at 7:30 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 28—Bells at 6:30 p.m. and Choral at 7:30 p.m.

Moms in Prayer

Monday, Feb. 4 at 8:35 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 11 at 8:35 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 25 at 8:35 p.m.

Confirmation Classes

Sunday, Feb. 10 from 5—6:30 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 24 from 5—6:30 p.m.

Remember our Shut-ins:

Edna Schulz, George Mohr, Fred & Lois Chisholm, Dorothy Hafner, Barb Ruff, Harold Deering, Dick Koehler Sr., Donald Schuette, Fred Edler, Bill Buchholz, Thelma Warner, Hulda Baur, Gloria Lewis.

Please Remember in

Prayer:

Ezra Sturm, Blaine Renn, 2nd grader with non-Hodgkin lymphoma, Terry Muntz, friend of John and Linda Shope, Leola Engelhardt, mother of Doralee Schulz, Deb Lange, Eric Herzog, Harold Deering, Kay Schuette, Todd Lay, Don Rogers, son of Don and Sally Rogers, Nadene Barbret, Eric

Swartzendruber, Helen Decker, Mindy Sutherland, Betty Schulze, Roger Fritz, Mike Trost, Sharon Dietzel, Eunice Richmond, Dorothy Hafner, Dennis Diener, George Mohr, Loren Elftman.

In the Service of Our Country:

- Justine Armstrong (niece of Rachel & Ron Higgins) is serving with the Air Force in Afghanistan. Please pray for Justine's safety and her 2 year old daughter, Riley, as they are separated.
- Nathan Schulz, grandson of Ron and Bonnie Schulz is in Marine boot camp in San Diego, CA

School News



February School Calendar

- 2 3-5th grade Basketball Tournament at Port Hope
- 3 Tournament concludes
- 4 Basketball game here vs. Rural Schools 4:30 p.m.
- 5 Scrimmage here vs. Owen-Gage at 4:30 p.m.
- 6 Ski Trip to Apple Mountain
- 7 CEA Board 4:45 p.m.
School Board 5:30 p.m.
- 12 Krispy Kreme Delivered
- 13 Ash Wednesday
Chapel 8:10 a.m.
- 18 Winter Break all week
- 25 School Resumes
- 27 Chapel 8:10 a.m.

FROM THE DESK OF ... GWYNNE BARRY

"Oh yes, Oh yes! XX I guess XX that's all I need to know. Oh yes, Oh yes! XX

I guess XX that's all I need to know!"

These words probably don't

make sense to you. They are from a song the school children are learning for Musical Palooza to be presented in March. The X stands for a clap and the tune is a catchy one. My class can be heard humming and/or singing it throughout the day. As I am writing this, it is echoing in my head.

What is it that we need to know? Some may say...

Math facts. When kids have instant recall of these basic facts, the rest goes more smoothly. They are the foundation.

ABCs. The sounds these wonderful letters make when combined to make words are essential. When these are mastered, oh the learning that can be expanded!

Manners. Again, basic courtesies to be taught at home and reinforced at school and practiced daily in all settings.

One could go on and on about the basics we need to know which lead to deeper understanding of harder concepts in the classroom. As a teacher, I know there are a lot of things kids need to know!

But, what do we really need to know? Oh yes! Oh yes! The kids can tell you. It is the most important thing we need to know. Jesus Christ is our Savior and by God's grace we are saved! Oh yes! Oh yes! XX Jesus Christ is the foundation on which all else is built upon. Oh yes! Oh yes! XX We are children of the Lord! Oh yes! Oh yes! XX

I am privileged to be able to work with children at Cross Lutheran Church and School. Together may we proclaim that Jesus is our Savior! It's what we need to know and share with others. Oh yes! Oh yes! XX

In Christ,
Gwynne Barry

CEA Meeting Minutes

January 3, 2013

Present at meeting were April Rujan, Rachel Higgins, Melisa Raymond, and Gwynne Barry

Rachel opened with Prayer at 4:45pm.

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February Time & Talents

Date & Time	Assisting Minister	Reader	Children's Time	Comm. Assist.	Ushers for the Month	Altar Guild	Acolyte
Feb. 3 9:30 a.m.	Phil Schadd	Gwynne Barry	Ray Licht	Norm Nelson	Brian Delpiere Dick Mead		Elly Hyzer
Feb. 10	Leanne Smith	Vivian Buschlen	Brian Delpiere		Norm Nelson Ron Schulz		Travis Fritz
Feb. 17	Karen Schuette	Carol Diener	Karen Schuette	Carole Mead	Tom Shupe Mike Trost		Mitchell Schuette
Feb. 24	Paul Schuette	Peggy Koehler	Leanne Smith	Phil Schadd			Brittany Richmond

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!**

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Christmas Fair

The Christmas Fair was once again a success. A big thank you to Melissa Helmuth and all that helped make it happen.

Apple Mountain

The ski trip is just around the corner. The date is set for Feb 6. We plan on leaving Cross at 8 a.m. and returning at 3:30. Make sure forms are turned in before that day.

Lutheran School Week

Lutheran school week is set for Jan. 28 through Feb. 1. Themes will be announced at a later date.

School Choice Week

Jan 25 there will be a movie night held at the school. The movie "BRAVE" will start at 6:30. Pop-

corn and drinks provided, but feel free to bring your own snacks. Come in your PJ's and bring a blanket.

Upcoming Fundraisers

Krispy Kreme- will start Jan 22 and is due back Feb. 5. Donuts will be delivered Feb. 12.

Hungry Howie- this fundraiser is set for the month of March.

Carnival- our carnival is set for April 20.

Spring Pancake Breakfast- this is set for May 5.

CEA Meeting

Next CEA meeting is scheduled for Feb 7 at 4:45pm.

Cross Apparel

Cross apparel still available, so feel free to stop in the office to find out more.

Meeting closed with prayer @ 5:30

Church Council Minutes



MINUTES

December 11, 2012

CALL TO ORDER: The monthly meeting of the Cross Lutheran Church Council was called to order by President, Richard Koehler, at 7:04 p.m., on the above date. Members present were Pastor Timothy Loehrke, Karen Schuette, Paul Schuette, Nancy Heck, Tom Shupe, Aileen Prill, John Smith, Lori Smith, Gretchen Roestel, Neil Herford and Krisie Fritz. Pastor Loehrke opened the meeting with the Story of Christmas from Luke, Chapter 1, followed with prayer.

MINUTES: The previous Council Minutes dated November 13, 2012, were reviewed by all present. A motion was made by Nancy Heck to approve the minutes as presented, Tom Shupe seconded the motion. Motion carried.

AGENDA: Agenda for the evening was presented to all present. Motion was made by Nancy Heck to approve the agenda as written, seconded by Aileen Prill. Motion carried.

GUEST PRESENTATIONS/REQUESTS: None

TREASURER'S REPORT: Copies of the Treasurer's report were distributed to all present by Nancy Heck. Nancy Heck re-

ported that the General Fund had income of \$23,058.14 for the month of November, and expenses of \$34,775.05. The General Fund balance segmented, includes Leaf Fund \$757.59, Capital Improvement Fund 8,475.14, Organ Repair Fund \$7,300.00, General Operating Fund has a NEGATIVE Fund Balance of \$5,930.78 and the Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund has a balance of \$11,500.00. Krisie Fritz made a Motion to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Aileen Prill. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT: Paul Schuette provided his report to all present. His report covered the period of 1/1/2012 through 12/15/2012, and it showed Total Contributions for the General Fund were \$252,986.79, which is \$32,177.63 under budget.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

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

Pastor performed the following pastoral acts during the month of November: 1 funeral, 1 baptism, 17 teachings, 9 communions, 0 hospital visits, 8 home visits, 15 meetings and 12 services.

Baptism – Harper Schultze – Saturday, November 24, 2012

Funeral – Gertrude Schuette – Saturday, December 8, 2012.

CHURCH CALENDAR:

- Sunday, December 16, 2012, Choir/Bells Christmas Concert, 3:00 p.m. at Cross Lutheran.

- Saturday, December 22, 2012, Christmas Caroling after Christmas rehearsal.

- Monday, December 24, 2012, Christmas Eve Children's Service at 7:00 p.m. with Candle Light Service at 10:00 p.m.

- Tuesday, December 25, 2012, Christmas Day Service at 10:00 a.m.

- Wednesday, December 26, 2012, Office Closed.

- Monday, New Year's Eve Family Get Together. Parish Life is organizing this event.

- Tuesday, January 1, 2013, office closed.

- Wednesday, January 2, 2013, No Wednesday evening service.

- Sunday, January 6, 2013 – Epiphany.

- Saturday, January 19, 2013 – Dr. Sherry Baker workshop.

- Wednesday, February 13, 2013 – Ash Wednesday.

PASTOR'S REPORT:

A meeting of all interested adults concerning the youth program was held on Sunday, November 18, 2012. There was a good turn-out of adults and youth. Events were discussed and the future of the youth program.

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Church Council (Cont.)

SCHOOL CALENDAR:

CEA Christmas Fair, Friday, December 21, 2012.

Christmas Break, Mon. December 24 – Friday, January 4, 2013. School resumes Monday, January 7, 2013.

Monday, January 7, 2013 – first basketball game is at Harbor Beach.

Saturday/Sunday – January 12 & 13, 2013, Cross Basketball Tournament.

Friday, January 18, 2013, ½ day of school w/busing.

Monday, January 21, 2013, no school, Laker PD

Friday, January 25, 2013 – CEA is planning a movie night.

Monday – Friday, January 28, 2013 – February 1, 2013, Lutheran School Week.

Wednesday, February 6, 2013, Apple Mountain Ski Trip

PRINCIPALS'S REPORT:

- Lunch program under the new state rules seems to be going okay.
- The School play on December 8, 2012 went very well. Parents of school children did all of the organizing and rehearsing of the children. Attendance was better than expected. It was a great night to hear the story of the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Jeff Elston is not coaching basketball this year due to his work load and time. Shawn Martin-

dale is assisting Gwynne Barry this year in coaching both the A and B teams. Shane's two sons are students here at Cross.

SCHOOL BOARD REPORT:

John Smith was present and reported the following:

The urinal in the boy's bathroom has been fixed.

Christmas Fair will be held again this year so that the children can shop for their loved ones.

Gwynne Barry is continuing to work on the Alumni Annual Contributions – she has collected around \$15,000.00 for the past two years. She sends out requests and the thank you's. It appears to be a success so she will continue.

MINISTRY OF PROPERTY:

Neil Herford was present, and had nothing to report at this time. Pastor advised that he will go over some items that need attention with Neil.

MINISTRY OF WORSHIP AND MUSIC:

Karen Schuette was present and provided an oral report to all present. Highlights of her report were as follows:

- Advent – Christmas Concert with Reception to follow on Sunday, December 16, 2012, at 3:00 p.m.

Lenten Devotions – We need to have people share their faith journey stories as soon

as possible so they can be used for devotions during Lent.

MINISTRY OF STEWARDSHIP:

Tom Shupe was present and he reported a few highlights of his report as follows:

Benevolence – was reviewed from September through November. A motion was made at their last meeting to designate the donations from Benevolence Envelopes of October and November to be made to hurricane victims of Sandy through NALC.

Their ministry had a discussion on the issue of changing the Benevolence Donation for Mission Festival from Huron County Homeless Coalition to the Operation Christmas Child. Stewardship would still like to make a donation of the Huron County Homeless Coalition.

MINISTRY OF YOUTH:

Pastor advised no one is willing to take the lead regarding the youth. Discussion was held to explore some options. Sign up for camp needs to be done by January 15, 2013 and \$50.00 is due per child.

MINISTRY OF OUTREACH:

Lori Smith was present for the meeting and provided her report to all present. Highlights of her report were as follows:

Welcome Station was moved into place in the overflow area.

Operation Christmas Child

Church Council (Cont.)

was a huge success. 414 shoeboxes were packed and delivered to Bay Shore Camp. This is 14 more boxes than last year. Monetary donations reached nearly \$2,000.00 for shopping and shipping.

Giving Tree is up, decorated and contains cards that can be taken off. Gifts need to be returned by Sunday, December 16, 2012.

Food Pantry (fall food drive) – 15 boxes of food, paper goods, toiletries, and a monetary donation were delivered to the Pigeon Food Pantry on November 27, 2012.

Scrip cards – some of the most ordered cards will be on hand during the Christmas Season for purchase and also available in the Church office.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION:

Gretchen Roestel was present and minutes were provided from their November meeting. She advised that Christmas Practice will be on December 16th and 22nd. Christmas Eve service will begin at 7:00 p.m. They also ordered Advent Calendars and ornaments for the children.

MINISTRY OF PARISH LIFE:

Aileen Prill provided her written report to all present. Highlights of her report were as follows:

New Year's Eve family get together event is set for 6:30 p.m. All ages are welcome to attend. They will have board games, cards, and gym activities.

Dr. Sherry Baker will return for Workshop on Relationships on January 19, 2013.

Paper Shower will be held on April 21, 2013.

Working on putting together another Loon's Game Family night scheduled for Friday, June 21, 2013.

New Coffee Hour Schedule is up for next year. Please schedule your Ministry Groups.

OLD BUSINESS:

John Smith reported that the top thermostat wasn't working in the school water heater. He has replaced the thermostat and adjusted the pump to speed up to ensure hot water.

Light replacement in gym has been ongoing.

NEW BUSINESS:

None

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 next council meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 8, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Krisie S. Fritz, secretary

2103 Calendars Available

The calendars are located on the table near the church office. They are \$10 and proceeds support our youth. An envelope is available if the office is closed. There are also cards and note pads for sale which support our youth.

Pop Tabs

Cross School is collecting the tabs from the tops of soda and beer cans. Proceeds from these help to support Ronald McDonald House. If you would like to save and donate them, place them in the recycle box outside the church office.

Scrip Cards

\$1,119.16

Was earned just during the month of December!!

Schedule Change

The Fish Fry in March is now scheduled for Friday, March 8 from 5—7:30 p.m.

Coming Up

- ◆ Christian Parenting Day will be Saturday, March 16 here at Cross.
- ◆ The School's Music Palooza will be held Thursday, March 21.
- ◆ Kids Against Hunger will be here at Cross on Thursday, April 11.
- ◆ CEA Carnival will be Saturday, April 20.

Ministry News

Parish Life Ministry

Jan. 8

Meeting was opened at 5 p.m.

Members present: Aileen Prill, chairperson, Betty Champagne, Sue Loehrke, Paul Schuette, Alice Trost, and Pastor Tim.

- Discussed the workshop with Dr. Sherry Baker, on Saturday, January 19. Talked about providing refreshments and setup. There are 16 already signed up to attend.
- February 2 is the next Women of Faith meeting from 10:30 to noon.
- Discussed events for the upcoming year.
- Pastor said that Worship and Music is looking for help with the meal/food for the Spring Musical. It has a western theme and organization is still in the works. He said that Mission / Outreach would also be approached to help.
- The Paper Shower is scheduled for Sunday, April 21
- Lenten Potluck meals will begin on Feb. 20 at 6 p.m. and continue on Wednesdays until Holy Week.

Next regular meeting Tuesday, Feb. 5 at 5 p.m.

Meeting ended at 5:30 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted

Aileen Prill

Ministry of Worship and Music

Jan. 3

Members present: Beth Elston, Pastor Tim and Karen Schuette.

Meeting opened with prayer.

MUSIC – BETH

Advent/Christmas Concert – the offering totaled \$452.00 and 159 attended. We received many good compliments. We discussed the “flow” of the program and if the audience was distracted with the movements between music. We decided that the flow was OK and the audience was not distracted.

New Music – Beth discovered a new source of music for church year (songsforthechurchyear.com) The source is reasonably priced (\$50 - \$60). There are contemporary songs that support the scripture of the day that could be used for congregational singing. We will be using this source for Epiphany. Beth is also selecting music from this site that would be suitable for liturgy that will be used after Easter or in the summer.

Liturgy for Lent – LBW Setting #1 with “Create in Me” coming from the ELW.

Variety Show – Discussed asking the choir members to take on more active roles in producing the show. Karen will contact individuals. Will ask another Ministry to take the food portion if we want to have a dinner (may get better attendance).

WORSHIP – PASTOR

Lent – Pastor and Karen will choose a new drama for the Wednesday night worships.

Chose Lenten calendars from Creative Communications for our children and youth for devotional materials. Also will choose some resources for Children's time from the Lenten selections at Creative Communications.

Pastor would like to have the Psalms chanted during Lent. He and Beth will decide what to use.

OLD BUSINESS

Hearing Loop – Karen will call for information.

Youth Ministry – Peg and Karen will continue to work on this. We “dropped the ball” on this in the fall and will begin contacting families. We can start simply with after church greeters and ushering. Possibly youth taking all worship “jobs” one Sunday per month.

Lenten Devotional booklet – We have not had a great response for writers. Pastor suggested that we write devotionals for 5 Sundays in Lent, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter. For the rest of days we will use appointed scripture and space for reflection. We also will provide hymns for reflection for the rest of the days.

No new Business.

Next meeting, Thursday, Jan. 31 at 7 p.m.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Ministers - The people of Cross

Officers, Ministries and Committees

Pastor

Tim Loehrke

Music Director

Beth Elston

Church Council

Dick Koehler, President

John Smith, V P

Krisie Fritz, Secretary

Nancy Heck, Treasurer

Paul Schuette, Financial

Secretary

John Smith, School Board

Neil Herford, Properties

Karen Schuette, Worship
& Music

Tom Shupe, Stewardship

Gretchen Roestel, Educa-
tion

Pastor Tim, Youth

Aileen Prill, Parish Life

Lori Smith, Mission Out-
reach

Advisors

Tim Loehrke, Pastor

Paul Schuette, Constitu-
tion Rep.

Ministry of Properties

Neil Herford, Chair

Ronald Higgins

Mike Eden, Paul Schuette

Ministry of Worship &

Music

Karen Schuette, Chair

Peg McCrimmon

Delores Lange

Beth Elston

Ministry of Mission /

Outreach

Lori Smith, Chair

Krisie Fritz, Connie Eden

LouAnn Jarvis, Rachel

Messing, Bonnie Schulz

Kay Schuette, RoseAnn

Budnick

Lorraine LePage

Ministry of Stewardship

Tom Shupe, Chair

Carol Diener, Nancy Heck

Paul Schuette, Ray Licht

June Sturm, Cyndi Buchholz

Kim Delpiere, Kyle Yackle

Roger Fritz

Ministry of Education

Gretchen Roestel, Chair

Connie Eden, Jean Sturm

Brenda Smith, Kim Fritz

Laura Trost

Ministry of Youth

Pastor Tim, Chair

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 Sturm, Alice Trost

Audit Committee

Suzie Swanson, Mike LePage

Kent McKenzie

Leanne Schuette

Connie Herford

John Schuette

Nominating Committee

Betty Champagne, Roger Fritz,

John House, Ray Licht, Duane

Peterson, Kyle Yackle

Synod Assembly Rep

Mike & Connie Eden

School Board

John Smith, President

Peter Shupe, 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 Forster 375-2754

Vickie Forster 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

Sheila Yackle 453-2589

<u>COMBINED GENERAL AND OTHER FUNDS:</u>		DECEMBER	2012	
BALANCE ON HAND 12/1/2012				22,101.95
INCOME:				
CHURCH/SCHOOL INCOME/ALL SOURCES		36,565.48		
SCHOOL REGISTRATION				
CEMETERY PERPETUAL CARE FUND		-		
THRIVENT MATCHING FUNDS		6,349.00		
CEA - DONATIONS FOR CURRICULUM		-		
ENDOWMENT FUND-Transfer of funds		-		
LEAF		-		
FLOW THROUGH ACCOUNT		-		
BEQUEST		-		
TOTAL INCOME:		<u>42,914.48</u>	42,914.48	
EXPENSES:				
LEAF - CONTINUING EDUCATIONS	344.00			
CHURCH AND SCHOOL EXPENSES	<u>30,962.65</u>			
	31,306.65		<u>(31,306.65)</u>	
NET INCOME			<u>11,607.83</u>	
BALANCE ON HAND 12/31/2012				33,709.78

<u>GENERAL FUND SEGMENTED:</u>	
LEAF FUND	413.59
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	8,475.14
ORGAN REPAIR FUND	7,300.00
GENERAL FUND	6,021.05
CEMETERY-PERPETUAL CARE FUND	<u>11,500.00</u>
TOTAL:	33,709.78

Thank you for supporting the Lord's work Please continue to help as you are able

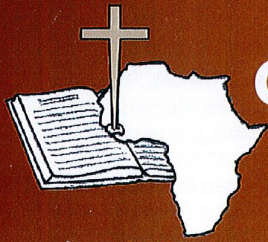
Total balance in all funds \$33,709.78 - Total balance in General Fund - \$6,021.05 (positive balance)

<u>BUILDING FUND:</u>			
BALANCE ON HAND 12/1/2012			6,813.82
DONATIONS, PLEDGES & MEMORIALS*		26,833.26	
FUND RAISERS		-	
ADVANCE FROM GENERAL FUND		-	
THRIVENT MATCHING FUNDS		-	
TOTAL INCOME:		<u>26,833.26</u>	26,833.26

EXPENSES:			
OFFICE SUPPLIES			-
MONTHLY BANK LOAN PAYMENT			(3,000.00)
INTEREST ON PRIVATE NOTES			-
PRIVATE LOAN AND INTEREST REPAID			-
TOTAL EXPENSE			<u>23,833.26</u>
BALANCE ON HAND 12/31/12			30,647.08

***THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT TO THE BUILDING FUND-THE NEED FOR JANUARY IS \$4,875.00.
--

<u>GENERAL FUND</u>		
BUDGETED NEED-YEAR TO DATE-ALL SOURCES		(368,056.00)
RECEIPTS - YEAR TO DATE - ALL SOURCES		<u>362,402.40</u>
	SHORT	(5,653.60)
DEBT OWING 12/31/2012		
SCHOOL LOAN BALANCE - BPSB	16,820.45	
PRIVATE LOANS	<u>250,000.00</u>	
	266,820.45	
OPERATIONAL LOAN	-	
TOTAL LOANS	<u>266,820.45</u>	
NEW OPERATIONAL LOAN	-	
TOTAL LOANS	<u>266,820.45</u>	



Compassion Evangelical Hospital

P.O. Box 870 • Southfield • MI 48037

Providing the best medical care possible ... with the compassion of Christ
www.cehguinea.org • Mamou • Guinea • West Africa

December 2012

Dear Friends and Prayer Partners,

In the October email update I encouraged CEH supporters to pray for the coming elections and to vote. The results of the elections were polarizing and emotions ranged from elation to grief. Regardless of your thoughts on the results, may I encourage you to focus on our Sovereign God and His glory. His promises and His character are unchanging. With confidence we can march into this joyful season of Christmas and celebrate the birth of Christ Jesus. Let us have renewed determination in this coming New Year and pray for His kingdom to increase in the hearts of all people.

Continue to pray as Scripture reminds us: "If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land" (2 Chronicles 7:14). A work continues in me as I seek His face in this way. I'm reminded of how necessary it is to better reflect His Glory and His Salvation to the whole world — and in the work of CEH in Guinea.

Etienne's Surgery

Etienne, CEH Hospital Director, underwent surgery for cervical spinal decompression October 24th at Mayo Clinic in Minnesota and it was a marvelous success. The neurosurgeon was amazed that many functions below his neck were preserved because the stenosis of the spinal cord in his neck was so severe [narrowing of the open space within the spine]. The morning after surgery the searing pain he experienced from his neck-shoulder to his right thumb and index finger was markedly relieved. It continues to diminish as he recovers.

Paulette, his wife, was granted a visa to come to the U.S. for his surgery and recovery. This was an answer to prayer and the result of much human effort. While recovering, Etienne and Paulette shared their heart-felt testimonies during a mission's conference at Autumn Ridge Church (ARC) in Rochester, Minnesota. God used their time at ARC to move many members to become more deeply involved, both by committing to short term missions trips and financial giving. The church indicated interest in helping with the funding of the Emergency Room and X-ray Building. We praise God for this.

In Michigan Etienne and Paulette spent time with supporters from local churches and spoke in various Sunday school classes. An open house reception was held at Highland Park Baptist Church (HPBC) during their final week in the U.S. and 60 individuals interested in CEH met

with and were inspired by their testimony. It was good to have them here in the U.S. to meet many who support the ministry. If you did not get a chance to meet or greet them, we apologize. The time they spent here was certainly a blessing!

Etienne and Paulette returned to Guinea on November 20th, which was earlier than originally planned. Back home in Guinea, their 25 year old niece, Joan, who was helping care for their children, experienced severe abdominal pain and needed medical evaluation. They arrived to be with her for that evaluation in Conakry and then her surgery at CEH. She is recovering now but had some complications with anesthesia. **Please pray for her full recovery and that CEH will be able to advance the anesthesia options to better serve the patients.**



Paulette and Etienne

Prayer Request for Personnel

Please continue to pray for more medical staff. God is answering those prayers, in part, by sending us Dr. Amos. He has almost completed medical school and will join the CEH staff as an intern soon. Two Cameroonian doctors who recently finished medical school in Guinea also applied. A well-trained African surgeon is another important person we hope to bring on staff. Three nurses are needed to cover all of the nursing shifts for the wards and surgery. This week we received three applications. **Pray that these have the qualifications we are looking for and the spiritual maturity required to join the staff at CEH.**

With the difficulty of finding Christian nurses, we are looking to hire medically untrained believers and equip them with skills to be nursing aides. A call was made to the evangelical missions and churches in Guinea to recruit these laborers. **Please pray for just the right people.**

It would be a blessing for some U.S. nurses to go for an extended period of time and help both in giving care and training nationals. The

24 hospital beds are almost always full. The clinic sees 50 to 70 patients per day. The Surgery works well in the OB/GYN area but is still weak in the other areas. A rotation of numerous U.S. doctors giving service through their specialty areas and training African doctors at the same time would be helpful.

Patient Care

Recently an elderly woman in a coma and very near death was carried into CEH by her two sons. She was hospitalized, IVs were started, antibiotics and antimalarial medications were given. Nutrition, supportive care and much prayer was all part of the medical care she received. In three days God healed her and she and her family left the hospital testifying "they raise the dead at that hospital." The African grapevine is the most effective advertisement. We smile and praise God. As an outcome of this, there are now many more very ill patients brought to the hospital. Some die, some live and the inpatient care is now almost always full.

Dr. Kristen's Second Term

Dr. Kristen, the CEH pediatrician from Texas, first came in 2007 when she transferred from the Lutheran World Mission and helped launch the medical work in Guinea as our first and only long term American medical missionary. She came with her personal support from many churches and constituency, who have also generously supported a number of the hospital projects.



Dr. Kristen with patient

Her pediatric skills and abilities served thousands of needy children. Along with Etienne and Jean Paul, she serves on the hospital administrative committee which meets monthly. They guide the day to day operation of the hospital and recruit personnel.

>>>

Paralleling her medical ministry she began to learn the Pular language and culture, spending many nights in a village close to the hospital. She worshipped with a Pular church in Dalaba which is in a neighboring town about one hour north of the hospital.

Another role that Kristen took on was with the Christian Reformed World Mission (CRWM). The CRWM is a cooperative of six evangelical missions serving the 4 million people of this area. They recognized her interests and gifts, asked her to facilitate their annual meeting and to visit each of their stations. She served in this role well though it took her away from the medical work from time to time.

At the end of this second term, Kristen lived in Dalaba for six weeks to tie up some loose ends in her language study. Currently she is on a five month home assignment and staying with her parents near her sending church, Christ Memorial Lutheran, in Houston. Her Medical CMEs and Texas medical license will be renewed during this time. In January she will be traveling and speaking with her supporters in the U.S. We are very grateful for all that Kristen does at CEH and for all who faithfully support her in prayer, friendship and financial giving. New housing arrangements will be made when she returns to Mamou in May.

Construction Projects

Container "N" will be shipped soon. It will hold a donated "John Deere Gator," chemistry lab equipment, building and electrical supplies for the Emergency and X-ray building, septic fields, and miscellaneous donated medical supplies. The cost of this shipment will be covered from the general operational funds due to the urgency and timing of this container but designated gifts to help cover the cost of this shipment are welcome anytime!



Loading the Gator into container "N"

Our next construction project is the Emergency Room and X-ray Building. Currently in the central part of Guinea with a population of over 5,000,000 there is not one functional

X-ray machine. Mamou is mountainous and also the hub of the major East/West and North/South roads in the country contributing to the highest vehicular accident rate in this developing country. The Emergency Room and X-ray technology will greatly enhance the services CEH can provide. ARC has indicated interest in this project and others are encouraged to join with them to fund it to completion.

The fencing project will be 50 percent complete by the end of December with the north (1000 m) and east (300 m) borders of our property enclosed. The two main gates are also installed. The rest of the perimeter will be worked on as funds are available.

The Morgue is a hard project to raise funds for but it is important for cultural and spiritual reasons. A Guinean views the ceremony of burial as a very important part of a person's life. Providing a place that respectfully accommodates this solemn and sorrowful event for people of all religions is a need. When those who die are treated with respect and given a proper burial, it can open the door to share Christ with the surviving family and friends.



Working by flashlight at night

It is hard to provide medical care for patients at night without electricity. The staff uses flashlights, lanterns and cell phones but there is still a lot that cannot be done. The cost of fuel to run the main generator through the night is prohibitive. There is no government or private electricity available in most of the country. Tribal Tech, associated with New Tribes Mission, will help us plan a generator / solar / battery / inverter system that may help us meet this need in a cultural and economically sensitive way. The Foundation for Hope in Africa, a Christian foundation from Wisconsin will visit CEH in January to consider helping fund this project.

Staff housing became more challenging when Rio Tinto, the mining company, moved into town and rented the nicest houses. Unfortunately some of these houses are the homes of CEH staff. Landlords are raising rents five-fold and three CEH staff members were asked to move

out of their rented homes. The purchase price of property bordering the hospital increased ten times the price it was just seven years ago. This is sometimes referred to as the "white man's price" but is now being applied to our national staff. It also acknowledges that the presence of the hospital increased the value of the land for the surrounding peasants and the city "fathers." CEH board consideration is being given to building six homes on the south west corner of the hospital property for hospital staff to live in. This could lower the prices being charged by lowering the demand. Another benefit is to have at least six of the CEH workers closer to the hospital allowing for additional help during medical emergencies that arise after hours from time to time.

It would be wonderful to complete the fund-raising and give the green light to start each of these construction projects as we close 2012. The estimated time to build each one is four to six months but all could be accomplished next year if the funding was available. **Would you prayerfully consider partnering with us in these projects for the Lord's work?**

**Financial Opportunities
2013 Projects**

Monthly operational support/ MIAPE* support	\$7,300
Container "N"	
Purchase & Shipping Costs	\$10,000
ER & X-ray Building	\$80,000
X-ray, digital developer and ER equipment	\$100,000
Fencing	\$10,000
Morgue	\$24,000
Off hour power supply (solar/battery/inverters)	\$60,000
Staff Housing-Six units	\$60,000

I am sincerely grateful to our many partners who have faithfully prayed and given to the Lord's work for His honor and glory. Recently as I introduced Etienne to supporters, he shared what a blessing it is for him to hear how many pray regularly for him and the ministry at CEH. I say Amen to that and thank you!

Your brother in Christ,
Dr. Dwight E. Slater, MD
CEO of CEH




*MIAPE Mission Internationale Africain Pour l'Evangelisation - English translation: International African Mission for Evangelization

February 2013

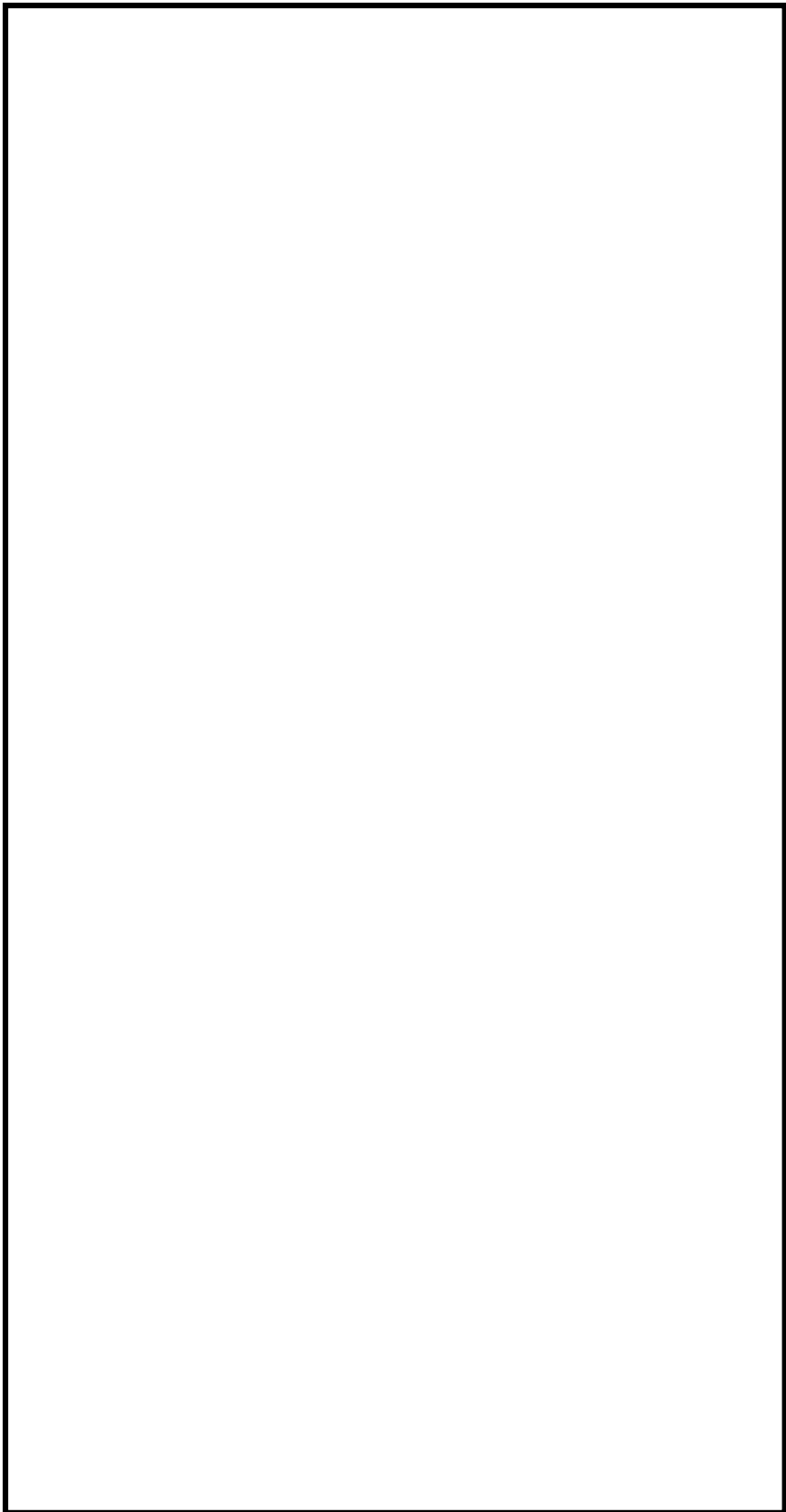
Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat



1	2
Ethics Meeting 7:30 a.m.	Women of Faith 10:30 a.m. - Noon 3-5 grade Basketball Tournament at Port Hope
Worship & Music 1 p.m.	

3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Comm. Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Basketball Tournament concludes	BB Here vs. Rural 4:30 p.m. Choirs: B 6:30 C 7:30 MIP 8:35 p.m.	Schuerer Memorial Service 2 p.m. Parish Life 5 p.m. Scrimmage vs. O-G here 4:30 p.m.	Men's Breakfast 7 a.m. School Ski Trip Comm. Service 7 p.m.	CEA 4:45 p.m. School Board 5:30 p.m.		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Confirmation 5-6:30 p.m.	Choirs: B 6:30 C 7:30 MIP 8:35 p.m.	Afternoon Circle 1:30 p.m. Men's Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Council 7 p.m.	Chapel 8:10 a.m. Morning Circle 9:30 a.m. Quilting Day 1:30 p.m. Comm Service 7 p.m.	VALENTINE'S DAY 		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Comm. Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Vespers 7 p.m.	Newsletter Deadline	Pigeon Pastors	Comm. Service 7 p.m.	Ministry of Education 5 p.m.		
----- Winter Break - No School -----						
24	25	26	27	28	ASH WEDNESDAY FEB. 13	
Comm. Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Confirmation 5-6:30 p.m. Vespers 7 p.m.	Choirs: B 6:30 C 7:30 MIP 8:35 p.m.	Mission / Outreach 6:30 p.m. Stewardship 7 p.m.	Chapel 8:10 a.m. Comm. Service 7 p.m.	Worship & Music 7 p.m.		

This and That



Ministry News Continued
