



NALC

North American Lutheran Church

Cross Connection

Growing Together

February 2012

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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Message from Pastor Tim

My dear family of Cross Lutheran Church,

The season of Epiphany is almost over and Ash Wednesday (Feb 22) and Lent are rapidly approaching. During this season of Epiphany we have been reading in the Gospels how Jesus has started his short ministry with his baptism, time in the wilderness, calling his disciples, and then going out and proclaiming the Good News.

In all that, there is a subliminal message for all of us which we always miss. The obvious message from Jesus is to follow him and teach others to follow him. However, the subliminal message in all of that is to "intentionally" follow Jesus Christ and "intentionally" live the life style of Jesus Christ. We are to be intentional about all that we do by making God/Jesus Christ number one in our lives. We are to go out of our way as did Jesus Christ to proclaim the Good News.

The question then becomes do we intentionally live the life style

that Jesus Christ lived? Do we go out of our way to proclaim Jesus Christ? I'm starting to get a bad feeling about that. Today we are very intentional in a million ways e.g. getting to work, getting to the grocery store, being active in clubs, organizations, etc., however; when it comes to being intentional about Jesus Christ, our urgency and energy wanes and fades. What if God were as intentional with us as we are with Him? What would we feel like when we really needed God in our crisis and God said 'not now, you're not a priority for me. I'm busy.' Thank God that He does not stoop down to our level of immaturity and always has us as a priority in His life with out fail. For without that we will surely die.

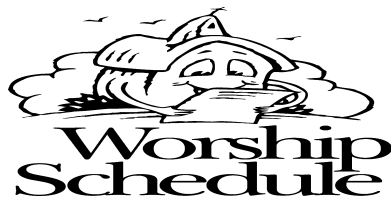
Jesus Christ is calling each and every one of us to follow him and to make our lives intentional in everyway to proclaim the Good News. What does that look like for each of us? We need to figure that out for our selves. We

need to do that by praying to God for strength and courage to be intentional to Him even when our life circumstances emphatically say no. Each of us needs to determine how we will change our life styles so it will honor God and not honor our materialistic world.

Let me make this very clear. To be intentional about living the life style of Jesus Christ is very, very hard. It is not easy. There are so many barriers that block the way. Society will say no because they want our money. Work will say no because the business needs to make money. Friends will say no because it's unpopular. Family will say no because it takes up too much time and there is no time left in our busy schedule. Finally, we say no because I can't.

However, Jesus Christ says follow me. He is always saying follow me. He will never give up on us no matter how many excuses we come up with. He will always be there saying;
NRS **John 12: 23** *Jesus*
(Continued on Page 2)

Preparing for Worship at Cross



Feb. 5 – 5th Sunday after Epiphany

1R – Isaiah 40:21-31
 P – Psalm 147:1-11
 2R – 1 Corinthians 9:16-27
 G – Mark 1:29-39
 Hymns: 650, 654, 649 Comm. 702, 710, 706

Feb. 12 – 6th Sunday after Epiphany

1R – 2 Kings 5:1-14
 P – Psalm 30
 2R – Romans 1 Corinthians 10:19 -11:1
 G – Mark 1:40-45
 Hymns: 88, 230, 470

Feb. 19 - Transfiguration

1R – 2 Kings 2:1-12
 P – Psalm 50:1-6
 2R – 2 Corinthians 3:12-18; 4:1-6
 G – Mark 9:2-9
 Hymns: 542, 706 Comm. 701, 699, 706

Feb. 22 – Ash Wednesday

1R – Joel 2:12-19
 P – Psalm 51:1-19
 2R – 2 Corinthians 5:20 – 6:10
 G – Matthew 6:1-21

Feb. 26 – 1st Sunday in Lent

1R – Genesis 22:1-18
 P – Psalm 25:1-10
 2R – James 1:12-18
 G – Mark 1:9-15
 Hymns: 552, 343, 341

Cross Lutheran Church Women

- **Morning Circle** will meet Wednesday, Feb. 8 at 9:30 a.m.
- **Afternoon Circle** will meet Tuesday, Feb. 7 at 1:30 p.m.
- **Evening Circle** will meet Tuesday, Feb. 21 at 7 p.m.
- The Study material for all circles will be "Wise and Foolish." Booklets are available.
- **Love Day** will be Wednesday, Feb. 8 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

- Feb. 5— Ministry of Education
- Feb. 12—
- Feb. 19—

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

(Continued from Page 1)

answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

²⁴ Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵ Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their

life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶ Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

As we finish Epiphany and begin Lent, let us be intentional in answering the call to follow Jesus Christ and

intentional in living the life style of Jesus Christ. For living the intentional and authentic life style in Jesus Christ is the truest form of worshiping God and we will be blessed beyond our wildest imaginations.

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 **Ollie Leitch** for Cross Lutheran School by Tom & Bernice Shupe.

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

In memory of **Harold Damm**, for Cross Lutheran School, by Shawn, Dale and Christine Schulz.

In memory of **Geraldine Steinman**, grandmother of Savannah and Booklyn Schulz, for Cross Lutheran School by Shawn, Dale and Christine Schulz.

In memory of **Harold Damm**, for Cross Building Fund, by Dennis and Carol Diener.

In memory of **Harold Damm**, for Cross Building Fund, by Art Woelke.

In memory of the former Northwest Michigan Bishop, **Rev. Robert Weitelman**, for Cross Building Fund, by Art Woelke.

In memory of **Karen Heck**, for Cross Lutheran School, by Dale, Christine, Edna and Shawn Schulz.

In memory of **Harold Damm**, for Cross Building Fund, by Richard and Lillian Koehler.

In memory of **Florence Otto**, for Cross Building Fund, by Richard and Lillian Kohler.

Mission / Outreach Ministry

Operation Christmas Child: Watch the after-Valentines Day sales and winter clearance shelves and look for shoebox items for 2012....stuffed animals, hard candy, toys, books, art supplies, socks, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, etc.

Church Garage Sale: As you're cleaning up and packing away your decorations after the holidays, remember the church garage sale that will be held at Cross in June. We will start collecting items in a few months for our annual sale!

Pigeon Food Pantry: Remember that the Food Pantry gives boxes of food to needy families all year long. They

are always very grateful for our donations.

Scrip Cards: Scrip cards can be ordered every week and picked up the following week.

Buy them all year long for gifts and to use for yourself! Your grocery and gas purchases help generate funds for the church and school if you use a scrip card!

Mom to Mom Sale: Something new for Cross, a Spring Mom to Mom sale! Watch your newsletter for upcoming dates and information!

Our next meeting will be on February 28, 2012 at 5:30 p.m.

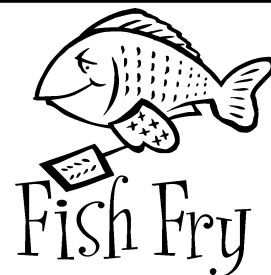
Communion Bread

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.

Friday, March 16

Join us for another

Fish Fry



Serving 5 p.m. — 7:30 p.m.

Here in Cross Lutheran Gym—All you can eat fish, fries, baked potatoes, beans, coleslaw, roll and desserts.

\$8 adults \$5 kids 5-12 and under 5 are Free

Proceeds for Summer Youth Camp Ministry

A Thrivent Financial Sponsored Event.

Celebrate



Paul Kunish
 26 Loren Elftman
Anniversary 2012
 Feb. 2 Ray & Elaine Buchholz, 61 years

Jim & Sheila Yackle, 32 years
 Feb. 13 Robin & Ann Buschlen, 30 years
 Feb. 29 Clarence & Eleanor Schadd, 47 years

February 2012

- 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 Jennifer Irion - Sears
Jacqueline Finneren
- 17 Russell Nichols
Eleanor Tate
- 18 Eunice Richmond
- 19 Tim Fritz
Chase Gardy
- 20 Dorothy Thuemmel
- 23 Joe Wold
Pr. Raymond Orth
- 24 Elsie Trowbridge

2012 FLOWER CHART

The 2012 flower chart is now available on the "Sign-up Board". Please select the Sunday(s) you would like to recognize an event or individual (in honor or memory). The cost is \$30.00 for altar flowers or \$15.00 for one arrangement. Following the service, flowers are yours to take, or you may designate that they be taken to home-bound or hospitalized members as reminders of Cross family's love and concern.

Checks may be made out to Cross Lutheran Church and make note that they are for Altar flowers or given to Bonnie Schulz or LouAnn Jarvis.

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, 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

- Boy Scout Sunday, February 5
- Valentine's Day, February 14
- Transfiguration of Our Lord, February 19
- Presidents Day, February 20
- Ash Wednesday, February 22
- First Sunday in Lent, February 26



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

School Field Trip to Apple Mountain

HOW TO SKI

BY MRS. MUSOLFF'S CLASS

When you go skiing the first thing you need to do is get dressed in snow clothes. Then you need boots and skis that are the right size. Pull your socks up straight so there are no crinkles. That is so your leg doesn't get sore. Next the helpers teach you how to ski.

Put the tip of your toe in the ski and then press your heel down hard. You have to hear it click so you know you are locked in.

Now you are ready to learn how to move on skis. Then you have to know to stop. It is really important to know how to use the rope lift because that takes you up the hill. This was hard to do because the rope goes fast. Once you get up the hill now you get to ski down the hill. Some people went straight down and some zigzagged. Skiing is a kind of sport that is good to learn.

FROM

MRS. BARRY'S CLASS

When I went to Apple Mountain it was a blast! Well, it was hard at first then after lunch I got the hang of it and it was fun. So I learned how to go down the hills. The trick is that your skis are straight and lean forward. What I loved the most was the tow rope. It is hard at first then you get the hang of it. To stop my skis have to look like a triangle. When I got home there was a storm. But I didn't worry about



that I just had lots of fun.

Leah Irion

3rd grade

Apple Mountain was the best of all. That was my first time skiing at Apple Mountain and I never ever skied in my life. It was cool and the best. But, the best of all was that we had no homework! One thing I got to do was hold onto a rope and it pulled me up and I skied all the way down. It was a blast. It was a fun time even though I had fallen a lot of times.

Riley Shupe

3rd grade

When I went to Apple Mountain I had a blast. I thought it would be hard but it was easy. I fell and fell but, I got back up. I learned how to stop. It was hard at first but it was easy when I learned. I also learned to do the S tune. I was good at that. I got it perfect on the first time. My ski instructor said,

good job. I said back, thank you I had so much fun. I want to go again.

Sierra Mascorro

5th grade

I remember skiing like it was yesterday...but it was yesterday. I had a great time skiing at Apple Mountain Jan. 17, 2012. I had a great instructor named Curt. My mom said I caught on really fast, but it was really easy to me. There was only one time I fell down but it was probably the biggest fall of the century. I rolled like ten feet. I was done big time after that. I hope we go to Apple Mountain next year.

Grant Gascho

5th grade

Skiing is a crazy blast! I was so excited getting my first skis on, ready to ski out my energy at Apple Mountain. My instructor taught me most basic things on skis. Before long, I was hungry for a bigger hill. I could turn and

control my speed easily. I was thankful. My big trouble was on the tow rope. In the conditions my gloves were in, ripped up and soaked, my chances of getting to the top of the hill were very little toward the end of our day. Otherwise it was an awesome time.

Greta Elston, 5th grade

It started on a bus. Almost no one could stay in their seat. Finally we arrived at Apple Mountain. When we got outside we had people show us how to go, stop, turn and how to use the towline. I fell five times just on the towline. I fell too many times to count on the hills. I was finally done when I fell on the hill with the ski lift. I went head over heels twice. It was probably the worst fall out of everyone there but I still had fun.

Johnny Higgins

5th grade

I was so excited about our awesome field trip, and it was crazier than all the field trips I went to. It was...skiing! I had the best time ever. We went to Apple Mountain. I knew skiing was not going to be easy at first so I started my skiing lesson. But first, you have to put on these heavy, protective boots that connect to your skis. I've got to admit that they were hard to walk in at first, but then I got the hang of it. So then my instructor, Kurt taught me. I fell a lot, I mean a lot of times. So I practiced with him. Then I lost him. I needed more help. Then this instructor named Brandon helped me. Then I didn't want to ski. But I didn't give up. So I kept on practicing going down the hills. Then I could finally ski. So then I went down a big hill.

Emily is a 1st grader that needed help because she always falls. So I helped her a lot. Then we had to go home. I went down my last hill. I had the best time ever.

Emma Irion, 4th grade

Our trip to Apple Mountain started out dull because of the lessons, but I needed them. I guess skiing isn't as easy as I thought, trust me, I learned the hard way. Once I fell and immobilized, see, I told you. Turns out, there is more than one way to get up the slopes, like the tow rope. And some slopes are small and easy and some are huge and dangerous. You probably think I had ski poles, right? Well, turns out you don't need them. Surprising, huh? Well, overall I had a great time at Apple Mountain, and, no homework! Booyah!

Beau Martindale

4th grade

Best skiing trip ever! We went to Apple Mountain. Our instructor's name was Curt. Well we'll just say I wiped out pretty hard. I mean I went backwards all the way down the hill! So I kind of got the hang of it. At least I know how to ski, finally! Well, we had a great time and I learned a lot about how to stop, start, turn and more.

Brianna Goretski

4th grade

The first time I went skiing. I didn't like it. But then it started to get easier every time I went back up the hill and tried again. Once I learned how to stop, I was so happy. Next time I just won't keep taking off my gloves. They were just to

big and I just wore my gloves when I was using the towrope. My favorite part was when I learned how to stop.

Jessica Nugent

4th grade

I was hot and sweaty... I know what you're thinking. It's cold outside and I'm saying I'm hot and sweaty. Well, I was on the bus and I had my gear to hold! WHEW, that's a lot of work. I tell you it is. When we got there, I put my skis on and got my lesson. You don't know what I went through. I was going to the top of the hill. I was starting to go backwards! Guess what? I got saved. I didn't pass my test to go on the ski lift because they took down the cones before I could take it. So, I just went down the hill a million times. Well, that may be an exaggeration. I got freezing cold and went in to eat my lunch by the time I went back outside to ski Mrs. Barry said "Time to go home." I was sad but I had a great day!

Alyssa Goretski

4th grade

It was a blast! It was January 17, 2012. We were going to Apple Mountain to ski. I couldn't wait. I never skied before. I thought I would get hurt. When we got there we were told what to do. Then we got to skiing! I was really good at turning, stopping, and going down hills. I fell quite a few times, but I never got hurt. My favorite part was when we had to turn around cones because I was really good at turning.

James Rochon

4th grade

My field trip to Apple Mountain, a skiing & snowboarding resort. The first try I knew I could do it. But.... When I got to the top I fell and on my way down the hill I didn't fall down the hill. I was so happy. I asked the guy that was helping if I could go to the other side and he said yes. When I got to the other side, it was so long going up and down. When you went down you would go fast. There were some cones for kids and if you turned at the cones by going left and right and if you passed the test you would go on the chair lift. I went down the big hill and you would go slow down the hill. When we were all done the bus came. I wanted to still stay outside, but we had to leave.

Jacob Marks

3rd grade

Apple Mountain Reflections from Mrs. Barry:

Russell's snowmobile jacket. *Check.* Snowpants. *Check.* Gloves. *Check.* Warm socks. *Check.* Longjohns. *Check.* Big fuzzy hat. *Check.* I was ready for our first skiing field trip to Apple Mountain. But. . . was the mountain ready for me? I have to admit, the mountain was ready and it won. Despite the efforts of a very patient instructor, and I mean patient, this teacher wiped out time after time. It's a good thing I have a sense of humor. My skiing didn't last long, but what a delightful time I had encouraging kids, helping younger ones up, and watching those who called out, "Look at me, Mrs. Barry!" A great time. *Check.*

Favorite quotes of the day:

During a period of hail, a kinder-



gartener exclaimed, "It's raining stones!"

A sixth grader proclaimed, "This is the best school day ever!"

FROM MR. FAUPEL'S CLASS

When I first heard my school was going on a ski trip, I was excited and nervous. I had never gone skiing before, but I was excited for the chance to try. I ended up having a lot of fun. My favorite part was conquering the biggest slope, even though I almost died trying.

Grace Higgins

8th grade

When I went to Apple Mountain it was one of the most fun things I have ever experienced. The best thing about it was the feeling you get when you're speeding down the hill. The only thing I didn't like was

the training.

Lance Gascho, 6th grade

Ski Trip Reflections

I really appreciated the patient instruction of the teachers at Apple Mountain. It felt really good to be able to ski down the biggest slope confidently. I fell a lot, at first, but by the end of the day I was having a great time skiing. It was lots of fun!

Michaela Love

8th grade

When we went on the ski trip I had fun. I liked going up the ski lift and going down the hill.

Austin Roestel

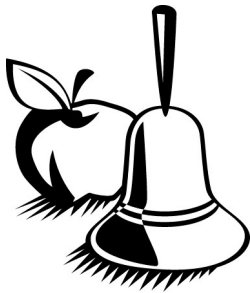
7th grade

On the ski trip I had fun. I had fun because I learned how to ski better. I also had fun because I went on the ski lift for my first time ever.

Kendal Delpiere

7th grade

School News



School Calendar

- Feb. 1 Chapel 8:10 a.m.
CEA 6 p.m.
- Feb. 2 Krispy Kreme
Fundraiser begins
- Feb. 4 Basketball Tournam-
ent at Port Hope
3-4-5 grade
- Feb. 5 Basketball Tournam-
ent concludes
- Feb. 8 Chapel 8:10 a.m.
- Feb. 9 School Board 5:30
- Feb. 13 Winter Break Be-
gins
- Feb. 20 No School
- Feb. 21 School Resumes
Krispy Kreme deliv-
ery
- Feb. 22 Chapel 8:10 a.m.
- Feb. 29 Chapel 8:10 a.m.

FROM THE DESK OF...GWYNNE BARRY

“Love. Love. Love. That’s what it’s all about!” Remember that song? “Cause God loves us, we love each other. Mother, Fa-ther, Sister, Brother. Everybody sing and SHOUT, ‘cause that’s what it’s all about. It’s about love, love, love. It’s about love, love, love.”

Sometimes we get songs stuck in our head (and our heart), don’t we? The school children are often heard humming or singing softly some song from our opening together. They also come back into the classroom after music class with a song on their lips. They have just begun working on songs for “Musical Palooza” in March. I can be found making up words to well known songs to redirect students’ attention. Songs serve many purposes!

“Sing to the Lord a new song for He has done marvelous things! I, too, will praise Him with a new song.” Words from scripture are perfect for songs. Read through the psalms or other parts of the Bible and challenge yourself to make up your own song!

May the Lord bless you with a song for your head and heart!

May God bless us as we continue this ministry together in His name and song!

Cross Lutheran School 2nd Quarter Honor Roll

Third Grade

Leah Irion
Jacob Marks
Riley Shupe

Fourth Grade

Kylie Chubb
Alyssa Goretski
Brianna Goretski
Emma Irion *
Beau Martindale

Fifth Grade

Greta Elston
Grant Gascho
Johnathon Higgins

Sixth Grade

Lance Gascho
Seventh Grade
Kendal Delpiere
Austin Roestel

Eighth Grade

Isaac Elston
Grace Higgins
Michaela Love *

**Please join us for our
Lenten Potluck Suppers
At 6 p.m. each Wednesday
during Lent**

In the overflow area.

**Lenten Service conducted
at 7 p.m.**

**Feb. 29, March 7, 14, 21
and 28**

February Time & Talents

Date & Time	Assisting Minister	Reader	Children's time	Communion Assistant	Ushers for the Month	Altar Guild
Feb. 5 9:30 a.m.	Peggy Koehler	Caro Diener	Karen Schuette	Ray Licht	Bruce Baur, Clarence Buchholz	Carol Diener
Feb. 12 9:30 a.m.	Phil Schadd	Sue Lorhrke	Aileen Prill		Richard Koehler Norm Nelson	
Feb. 19 9:30 a.m.	Karen Schuette	Peggy Korhler	Leanne Schuette	Norm Nelson	Richard Meade	Laura Trost
Feb. 22 7 p.m.	Gwynne Barry	June Sturm		John Trowbridge		Peg McCrimmon
Feb. 26 9:30 a.m.	Paul Schuette	Karen Schuette	Gwynne Barry			

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!

“Managing Your Moods”

Women of Faith Study

Saturday, Feb. 25

10:30 a.m. to Noon

Have you ever had one of “those days”? A day when your moods and emotions get the best of you? We’ve all had them.

God created us as emotional beings, capable of a wide range of feelings, such as:

- Disappointment, fear, loneliness, grief, depression, elation, eagerness, anticipation, gladness, sadness, compassion, affection, resentment, guilt, worry, frustration, admiration, curiosity, anger,



jealousy, confusion, confidence, love, peace and joy, just to name a few.

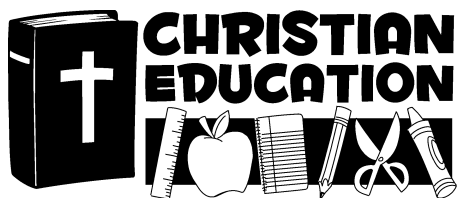
God's desire is that these feelings do not control us. Through this study, we will learn how God can help us manage our

moods.

So let's sit down with a cup of tea or coffee for a heart-to-heart study about our moods and emotions. This study consists of 12 sessions and will meet here at church.

If you have questions, you may call Sue Loehrke at 989-453-3053 or Betty Champagne at 989-856-7170.

Meetings & Ministries



CEA Meeting

Present at the Jan. 3 meeting were April Rujan, Melissa Helmuth, Melisa Raymond, Rachel Higgins, Gwynne Barry, and Pastor Tim.

Christmas Fair

Special thanks to Melissa Helmuth for everything she did for the fair. Also a big thanks to all helped and participated in the fair. The fair was a great success, selling 504 items totaling \$747.80. Great job everyone.

Krispy Kreme

Next scheduled fundraiser is the Krispy Kreme starting Feb. 2nd going till Feb 15th.

Scrip

Scrip orders are going to be done weekly. Orders received on Monday will be back on that same Friday.

Cross Carnival

Our annual Cross Carnival is set for April 14th. The CEA will need volunteers for this event as well so if anyone is interested contact the CEA.

Family CEA Meeting

Our next family meeting is set for Jan 24th at 6pm-8pm. Guest speaker Scott Wipple will be here so come check him out and bring a drink or dessert to pass.

Video Presentation

The CEA and staff are working on a documentary video about Cross. The video will be 5-7 mins in length and the main idea is to reach out to others to let them know about Cross and what we have to offer; also will help in recruiting more students to the school. The theme for the presentation is "Everyone Has A Story".

CEA Meeting

Next CEA meeting is for Feb. 1 at 6 pm

Cross Apparel

We now have Cross apparel, so feel free to stop in the office to find out more.

Meeting closed @ 7:30pm

Parish Life Ministry

Meeting was called to order at 5 p.m. on Jan. 3 with an opening with prayer.

Members present: Aileen Prill, chairperson, Betty Champagne, Sue Loehrke, Paul Schuette, Pr. Tim.

- Parish Life will take Coffee Hour for Jan. 8 and encourage other groups to sign up.
- A date of Saturday, Feb. 25 from 10:30 - noon was set for the follow-up study from the fall Womens Retreat.
- We will again have Lent Potlucks at 6 p.m. on Feb. 29, March 7, 14, 21, and 28.
- A "Paper Shower" was scheduled for Sunday, March 11.
- Betty contacted Dr. Sherry Baker and a date of Sunday, May 20 from 2-4 was set. Topic for the afternoon is yet to be determined.
- Discussed a Fellowship Night offer by Midland Loons. A date of Tuesday, Aug. 12 was set.
- We are still looking into offering a couples evening featuring a DVD called "Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage."

Talked about possibly having a New Year's Eve game night.

Next meeting Tuesday, Feb. 7 at 5 p.m.

Meeting ended at 5:45 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted

Aileen Prill

Benefit Spaghetti Dinner & Bake Sale

Sunday, Feb. 26

From 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

All You Can Eat **Spaghetti**, Salad,
Rolls, Dessert Bar and Beverage

Adults **\$7**

Children 6-12 **\$3**

Children 5 and under **Free**

Plus a Bake Sale

Proceeds will support Duane Peterson
and family for medical expenses after he
was severely injured in an accident

This is a Thrivent Financial Sponsored Event



Spaghetti Dinner

To help make this benefit a success, we need your help. Please see the sign-up board in the overflow area. We need people to make deserts, make items for the bake sale, help the day before setting up and the day of. If you wish to make a cash donation, please call the church office.



the difference
I 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!

Winter Uplift

A retreat for men, women and teens will be held Feb. 10 & 11 at Evangel Life, 1369 S. Van Dyke, Bad Axe. "Forgiveness" is this year's theme. Friday begins at 7 p.m. Saturday is from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Register and pay for a hot catered lunch at www.thumbmin.org or call 989-269-8443 by Feb. 3.

March is

Parenting Awareness Month

March 2 at 10 a.m. there will be a PAM Kickoff event at the Huron County Courthouse. Senator Green will be the guest speaker.

March 8 Dr. Thomas Haller will be presenting the workshop, "The Six Best Parenting Strategies Ever." at HISD from 6—8 p.m.

Council Meeting Minutes



December 13, 2011

CALL TO ORDER: The monthly meeting of the Cross Lutheran Church Council was called to order by president, Richard Koehler, Jr., at 7:05 p.m., on the above date. Members present were Pastor Timothy Loehrke, Karen Schuette, Krisie Fritz, Kevin Trost, Paul Schuette, Nancy Heck, Tom Shupe, Aileen Prill and John Smith. Guests present were Carol Diener. Pastor Loehrke opened the meeting with prayer.

MINUTES: The previous Council Minutes dated November 8, 2011, were reviewed by all present. A motion was made by Nancy Heck to approve the minutes as amended by Nancy, Karen Schuette seconded the motion. Motion carried.

AGENDA: Agenda for the evening was presented to all present. Richard Koehler addressed that we will add under New Business – #1. Aileen Prill – Traffic Signs and #2. Approve Benevolence Schedule for 2012, and a couple of other minor corrections were made. Motion was made by Tom Shupe to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by John Smith. 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 \$24,802.53 for the month of November and expenses of \$26,450.12. 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 \$12,530.85, and the Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund has a balance of \$8,975.00. Krisie Fritz made a Motion to accept Nancy's report, seconded by Tom Shupe. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT: Paul Schuette provided his report to all present. His report covered the period of 1/1/2011 through 12/10/2011, and it showed Total Contributions for the General Fund were 254,838.48 which is \$7,529.83 over budget. Other monies received to date were as follows:

Building Fund \$ 32,211.00
(\$13,019.77 under budget)

Benevolence \$
8,903.10

Other Donations \$ 1,182.00

COMMUNICATIONS: None

GUEST PRESENTATIONS/REQUESTS: Carol Diener appeared and advised council that the ELCA is no longer providing health care for our staff. NALC will be providing through Hahn Group Insurance. This insurance will cost

an additional \$2,098.00 per year, but it has better coverage. She also indicated that a flex plan is offered, along with dental and vision. She also wondered if David Faupel should be added at this time, it would bring the cost of coverage to \$10,769.00 per year, but this is the only time he can be added during this open window; otherwise it would take a qualifying event to add him later. Discussion followed by all present, David is currently a three year teacher, making a salary of \$18,500.00 per year with no benefits. Council needs to make a decision tonight, otherwise we lose the open window. The open window would end January, 2012. Tom Shupe made the Motion to include David Faupel in the health insurance program offered by NALC and contracted with Hahn Group Insurance, supported by John Smith. Motion carried. Nancy Heck was opposed.

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 November: 2 Funerals, 1 Baptism, 13 Teachings, 12 Communions, 1 Hospital Visit, 8 Home Visits, 26 Meetings, and 13 Services.

Church Calendar:

Baptism, Jonah Yackle, son of Greg and Rebecca (Eden) Yackle, Sunday, December 18, 2011.

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(Cont. from Page 12)

Last day of School, Thursday, December 22, 2011.

CEA family fair, December 22, 2011.

Friday, December 23, 2011, office open half day – 9:00 a.m. until Noon.

Saturday, December 24, 2011, Children’s program at 7:00 p.m. and Candlelight service at 10:00 p.m.

Christmas Day Service at 10:00 a.m.

Monday, December 26, 2011, Office closed.

Tuesday, December 27, 2011 – Friday, December 30, 2011 – office open half day 9:00 a.m. to Noon.

Wednesday, December 28, 2011 – No service

Sunday, January 1, 2012 New Year’s Day – service at 10:00 a.m.

Monday, January 2, 2012, No school, office open half day 9:00 a.m. to Noon.

Tuesday, January 3, 2012, School resumes.

Saturday, January 7 & 8, 2012, Basketball Tournament at Cross.

Baptism, Sunday, January 8, 2012, Jayden Papkey.

Pastor’s Report:

•Pastor and Sue will be taking time off, leaving right after the service on Christmas day and returning late afternoon on Wednesday, December 28, 2011.

•Community Thanksgiving Service was held on Sunday, November 20, 2011, with 51 in at-

tendance.

•Thanksgiving Day Service – 29 in attendance.

Choir and Hand Bell Concert was great and there were more non-Cross members present than Cross members – 146 in attendance – \$523.10 was collected, this money will be used for music and etc...

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT:

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

Grades K-8 – 35students

Preschool – 17 students

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

Basketball practice is ongoing, Pray!!!!

SCHOOL BOARD REPORT:

John Smith was present and advised Council that the School Board is contacting Kasey Turner to help with a video to promote our school, and the T.A.T. program will be held January 15th & 16th, 2012 for the school children.

MINISTRY OF STEWARDSHIP:

Tom Shupe was present, he had no minutes to provide.

MINISTRY OF WORSHIP AND MUSIC:

Karen Schuette reviewed her report with everyone present. Highlights of her report were as follows: Organ was tuned, will need in the near future a new electronic board for the organ. Karen also advised council that Beth found out that Cross needs to be reporting and paying for every hymn recorded according to copyright laws. Council addressed this issue and doesn’t feel it’s an issue at this

time.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION: Gretchen Roestel absent.

MINISTRY OF OUTREACH: Lori Smith absent.

MINISTRY OF YOUTH: Kevin Trost advised that the youth will be Christmas Caroling on Saturday, December 17, 2011, and lastly the youth is gearing up for camp.

MINISTRY OF PROPERTY: Mike Fritz absent.

MINISTRY OF PARISH LIFE:

Aileen Prill provided her minutes to all present. Highlights of her minutes were as follows: Revised funeral list, Handy Helper list will be updated, Kitchen Shower planned for this spring, Possible Women’s Event in May, Looking into a retreat for February, and lastly there is 3 circle groups to choose from, morning, afternoon and evening in hopes to accommodate all those interested.

OLD BUSINESS:

NALC Constitution update – Paul hasn’t had time to do anything further with this at this time – he will be working on this.

Principal for 2012-2013 school year is still in question, council will continue to discuss this in upcoming council meetings.

Benevolence for Homeless Coalition – Huron County services 300 people a year. Tom Shupe went over the upcoming Benevolence Schedule in great detail and it was discussed by council to see if we could add the Homeless Coalition to the 2012 Benevolence Schedule. Motion was made by Nancy Heck to add the Homeless Coalition into the

(Cont. on Page 14)

Council continued

(Cont. from Page 13)

Mission Festival Slot, seconded by Aileen Prill. Motion carried.

Restructuring of Accounts – Nancy Heck advised council that there could be problems if we were to be audited. Counters shouldn't be from the same family, and the same person counting the money is entering the amounts on the computer, big audit No-No!! Paul Schuette will call Troy Schuette for recommendations. Her other concern was that the School Board should have their own separate budget, so that the money can be tracked better. She advised council that the school currently has their own checking account. Nancy also questioned whether or not we could dispose records that are more than 7 years old, currently they are in the storage garage. Bay Port State Bank has a shredder that we could use to shred the documents. Council advised her that she could dispose according to IRS standards.

NEW BUSINESS:

Aileen Prill – Traffic Signs. Aileen requested that it would be beneficial for a couple of signs to be placed on the property for school entrance and drop off, offices, and kitchen deliveries. Dick Koehler will contact the Road Commission, it shouldn't cost more than \$100.00 to do this.

2012 Benevolence Schedule - Karen Schuette made a motion to accept the Benevolence Schedule as amended, Nancy Heck seconded the Motion. Motion carried. 2012 envelopes will

be coming from a new company and they were having a few problems, but they should be here prior to January or shortly thereafter.

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 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Krisie S. Fritz

Secretary

Youth Ministry

Quilts for Senior High students – **Projects to work on at home, could you help?** We have a large amount of jeans to be cut for quilts. Leg seams need to be cut, seam at the bottom of legs cut off, and waist bands and around zippers cut off. (We like to put pockets in the quilts, but there needs to be at least 1/2-3/4 inch seam allowance.)

If you would like to cut blocks we need 35 blocks measuring exactly 7 X 13" and 70 blocks measuring exactly 7x7".

If you are able to help with this project or have questions contact Leanne Smith or Sheila Yackle or just pick up some jeans in the storage part of youth room.

Jeans are not needed at this time, we are trying to condense

the pile. Will let you know when we need more. Thanks for all who have helped and are helping with this ministry.

Souper Bowl Sunday will be February 5, 2012. An offering will be collected by the youth to support the East Side Soup Kitchen in Saginaw.

Youth Sunday will be March 4, 2012.

On **Friday, March 16, 2012** Youth Ministry will sponsor **The Fish Fry!!!!** Yes! Kevin Sturm has offered to help us with this fundraiser as chief chef. Details on Page 3 of this newsletter .

Area churches support:

"United Christians In Prayer"

Sunday, March 4

4:00 p.m.

at Michigan Avenue Mennonite Church

Speaker: Mike Karle, "His Hands"

Offering to support "His Hands", a local project to help persons in need of home repair.

(Betty Shetler 453-2577 or Norma King 453-3026)

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

Growing Together

<u>COMBINED GENERAL AND OTHER FUNDS:</u>		DECEMBER	2011	
BALANCE ON HAND 12/1/2011				33,233.48
INCOME:				
CHURCH/SCHOOL INCOME/ALL SOURCES		30,256.67		
BRICK FUND		-		
CEMETERY PERPETUAL CARE FUND		-		
THRIVENT MATCHING FUNDS		204.00		
ENDOWMENT FUND-Transfer of funds		-		
LEAF		-		
FLOW THROUGH ACCOUNT		-		
LINE OF CREDIT ADVANCE		-		
TOTAL INCOME:		<u>30,460.67</u>	30,460.67	
EXPENSES:				
PAYMENT ON LINE OF CREDIT LOAN		-		
CHURCH AND SCHOOL EXPENSES		<u>32,405.16</u>		
			<u>(32,405.16)</u>	
NET INCOME			<u>(1,944.49)</u>	
BALANCE ON HAND 12/31/2011				31,288.99

<u>GENERAL FUND SEGMENTED:</u>	
LEAF FUND	732.49
ROOF REPAIR	3,695.14
ORGAN REPAIR FUND	7,300.00
GENERAL FUND	10,586.36
CEMETERY-PERPETUAL CARE FUND	<u>8,975.00</u>
TOTAL:	31,288.99

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

Total balance in all funds \$31,288.99 - Total balance in General Fund \$10,586.36 (positive balance)

<u>BUILDING FUND:</u>				
BALANCE ON HAND 12/1/2011				10,479.63
DONATIONS, PLEDGES & MEMORIALS*		19,028.29		
FUND RAISERS		-		
ADVANCE FROM GENERAL FUND		-		
THRIVENT MATCHING FUNDS		-		
TOTAL INCOME:		<u>19,028.29</u>	19,028.29	
EXPENSES:				
OFFICE SUPPLIES			-	
MONTHLY BANK LOAN PAYMENT			(13,000.00)	
INTEREST ON PRIVATE NOTES			-	
PRIVATE LOAN AND INTEREST REPAID			-	
TOTAL EXPENSE			<u>6,028.29</u>	6,028.29
BALANCE ON HAND 12/31/11				16,507.92

<p>***THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT TO THE BUILDING FUND-THE NEED FOR JANUARY IS \$5,500.00.</p>

<u>GENERAL FUND</u>			
BUDGETED NEED-YEAR TO DATE-ALL SOURCES		(361,339.00)	
RECEIPTS - YEAR TO DATE - ALL SOURCES		<u>345,757.14</u>	
	UNDER	(15,581.86)	
DEBT OWING 12/31/2011			
SCHOOL LOAN BALANCE - BPSB	50,400.55		
PRIVATE LOANS	<u>250,000.00</u>		
	300,400.55		
OPERATIONAL LOAN	<u>17,885.00</u>		
TOTAL LOANS	318,285.55		
NEW OPERATIONAL LOAN	-		
TOTAL LOANS	<u>318,285.55</u>		

February 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<p>1 Men's Breakfast 7 a.m. Chapel 8:10 a.m. CEA 6 p.m. Comm. Service 7 p.m.</p>	<p>2 BB Game vs. Rural here 4:30 p.m.</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 BB Tourney at Port Hope</p>
<p>5 Comm. Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Confirmation 5 - 6:30 p.m. BB Tourney at Port Hope</p>	<p>6 Moms in Touch 5-6 p.m. Choir: Handbells 6:30 / Choir 7:30</p>	<p>7 Scheurer Memorial Service 2 p.m. Afternoon Circle 1:30 p.m. Parish Life 5 p.m.</p>	<p>8 Chapel 8:10 a.m. Morning Circle 9:30 a.m. Love Day 1:30 p.m. Youth Ministry 5:30 p.m. Comm. Service 7 p.m.</p>	<p>9 School Board 5:30 p.m.</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12 Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m.</p>	<p>13 Winter Break Begins</p>	<p>14  Executive 6 p.m. Council 7 p.m.</p>	<p>15 Comm. Service 7 p.m.</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 Ministry of Education 4 p.m.</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 Comm. Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m.</p>	<p>20 No School Volleyball 5:30 - 9:15 p.m.</p>	<p>21 Pigeon Pastors 10:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study 7 p.m. at Bay Cafe Evening Circle 7 p.m. Archery 3:30 - 5 p.m.</p>	<p>22 Ash Wednesday Archery 3:30 - 5 p.m. Service 7 p.m.</p>	<p>23 Archery 3:30 - 5 p.m. Worship & Music 7 p.m.</p>	<p>24 Archery 3:30 - 5 p.m.</p>	<p>25 Women's Study Group 10:30 - Noon Set up for benefit 12:30 p.m.</p>
<p>26 Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Benefit Dinner 11 - 2:30 Confirmation 5 - 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>27 Choirs: Handbells 6:30 / Choir 7:30 p.m. Archery 3:30 - 5 p.m. Moms in Touch 5-6 p.m.</p>	<p>28 Archery 3:30 - 5 p.m. Mission Outreach 5:30 p.m. Stewardship 7 p.m.</p>	<p>29 Archery 3:30 - 5 p.m. Lenten Potluck 6 p.m. Comm. Service 7 p.m.</p>	<p>Benefit Dinner & Bake Sale Sunday, Feb. 26 11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Proceeds to Duane Peterson and family</p> 		

