



# NALC

North American Lutheran Church

# Cross Connection

Growing Together

December 2011

## 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,

It is hard to believe that Advent, the beginning of the new church year, is here and in a few short weeks the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, Christmas, will be at our door steps. I wish time would slow down.

As I look back on the year and ponder all that has taken place throughout the world and within my own personal life, the one question that I keep coming up with year after year is, 'where do we / I place our hope in?' What basket do we place all our eggs i.e. hope, in that will get us through?

*NRS Psalm 39:7 "And now, O Lord, what do I wait for? My hope is in you."*

Many of us use the stock market to ensure that we will be able to retire and live comfortably. We work long and hard hours to earn money to ensure we can have food, clothing, and cars to pay for the mortgage, education for children, medical bills, prescriptions, etc. We feel secure when we have all

of that and then some. However, it seems like we are never satisfied with what we have.

*NRS Psalm 42:5 Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help*

We always seem to want more of our wants because they are never satisfied. Life turns into misery for us because we constantly want more than we have. We have to have more than our neighbor, we can't be satisfied with just 'ok', we have to have the best and once we have the best we need multiple of the best. It's not good enough to have a cell phone, you must have the latest and greatest cell phone or you are behind the times. Eventually the wants turn into needs and life becomes more skewed than it was before. We redefine what our needs are by changing wants into needs. In so doing we enter into a vicious cycle of constantly changing our values and where we place our

hope to secure our future.

*NRS Psalm 62:5 For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from him.*

Contrary to popular belief, true hope is given in the perfect gift of the baby being born in the manger. It is a gift we do not deserve because we have put our hope in things that are shallow, are short lived, and do not ensure our future. That baby in the manger is the true hope when all other hope runs out and it seems like all is lost.

*NRS Psalm 65:5 By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance, O God of our salvation; you are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.*

By placing all of your hope in God, in Jesus Christ, in the Holy Spirit, you will find the one thing you cannot buy at any store -- peace. Peace in Jesus Christ brings about a whole new life surrounded by grace, love, mercy, and forgiveness that will ensure the future i.e. eternal life with Jesus Christ.

**(Cont. on Page 2)**

# Preparing for Worship at Cross



**Dec. 4 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

1R – Isaiah 40:1-11  
 P – Psalm 85  
 2R – 2 Peter 3:8-14  
 G – Mark 1:1-8  
 Hymns: 30, 32, 33 Comm. 29, 627, 31

**Dec. 11 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

1R – Isaiah 61:1-11

P – Psalm 126  
 2R – 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24  
 G – John 1:6-28  
 Hymns: 36, 28, 25 Comm. 51, 52

**Dec. 18 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**

1R – 2 Samuel 7:1-16  
 P – Psalm 89:1-4, 19-29  
 2R – Romans 16:25-27  
 G—Luke 1:26-38  
 Hymns: 54, 60, 46 Comm. 58, 71, 73

**Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve**

1R – Isaiah 7:10-14  
 P – Psalm 110:1-4  
 2R – 1 John 4:7-16  
 G – Matthew 1:18-25  
 Hymns: 69, 65 Comm. 70, 62, 67

**Dec. 25 – Christmas Day**

1R – Isaiah 52:7-10  
 P – Psalm 2  
 2R – Hebrews 1:1-12  
 G—John 1:1-18  
 Hymns: 59, 45, 65 Comm. 41, 643, 39

<p><b>Cross Lutheran Church Women</b></p> <p><b>Rebekah Circle</b> will meet Tuesday, Dec. 6 at 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>The <b>Sarah Circle</b> will meet Wednesday, Dec. 14 at 9:30 a.m.</p> <p><b>Esther Circle</b> will meet Tuesday, Dec. 13 at 2 p.m.</p> <p><b>Love Day</b> will be Wednesday, Dec. 14 at 1:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Coffee Fellowship</b></p> <p>Dec. 4—Stewardship                  Dec. 11—Youth                  Dec. 18—Stewardship</p>
<p><b>Pigeon Food Pantry</b></p> <p>The Pigeon Food Pantry is in need of cereals as well as toilet paper and Kleenex tissues. Please no paper towels at this time. This past year 35—45 families were helped each month. Thanksgiving boxes were delivered to 36 families. Christmas boxes will be packed on Dec. 15 and delivered on Dec. 16. Work begins at 9 a.m. Help is gladly accepted. Call 453-3026.</p>	<p><b>CEA Christmas Fair</b></p>  <p>If you have a favorite craft, we would like your help. Cross CEA is organizing a Christmas Fair/Bazaar Dec. 22. We are looking for donations of homemade items for students to purchase as Christmas presents for their family. We will need gifts for all ages. If you have a talent or craft and would like to contribute, contact Melissa Helmuth at 989-980-5497.</p>

(Cont. from Pg. 1)  
*NRS* **Psalm 146:5** Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose **hope** is in the LORD their God,  
 My dear family of

Cross Lutheran Church, as God gave us the gift of hope through His Son, Jesus Christ, let us give the gift of hope to others by rejoicing and proclaiming the birth of the baby in the manger who

is the one and only true hope for the world.  
 Merry Christmas  
 Pr Tim

## In Memory

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

In memory of **Don Barbret**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by Carolyn Ferguson.

In memory of **Don Barbret**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by Alma Stahl.

In memory of **Don Barbret**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by Bradford and Robyn Lyons.

In memory of **Don Barbret** for Cross Lutheran Church, by Shirley and Leonard LaFayette.

In memory of **Don Barbret** for Cross Lutheran Church, by Caseville Retirement Club.

In memory of **Don Barbret**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by Paul and Takeko Heinrich.

In memory of **Don Barbret** for Cross Lutheran Church, by Arthur and Delphine Lubiartz.

In memory of **Don Barbret** for Cross Lutheran Church, by Joe and Arlene Wold.

In memory of **Don Barbret** for Cross Lutheran Church, by Ruth and Dave Milton.

In memory of **Don Barbret** for Cross Building Fund, by Larry and Gina Smith.

In memory of **Don Barbret**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by Ethel Mueller.

In memory of **Don Barbret**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by Carolyn Wooster.

In memory of **Don Barbret**, for Cross Building Fund, by Lillian Koehler.

In memory of **Don Barbret**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by Barbara Buchholz.

In memory of **Don Barbret** for Cross Lutheran Church, by Marlin and Marion Rathje.

In memory of **Don Barbret**, for Cross School, by Herbert and Elaine Neurath.

In memory of **Don Barbret** for Cross Lutheran Church, by Elaine Poirer.

In memory of **Don Barbret**, for Cross Building Fund, by Harold and Shirley Deering.

In memory of **Don Barbret** for Cross Lutheran Church, by Helen Decker.

In memory of **Don Barbret**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by John and Carol Cooper.

In memory of **Don Barbret**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by Robert and Mary Lou Fluegge.

In memory of **Don Barbret**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by LeeAnn Woolcox.

In memory of **Don Barbret**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by Carol Ivkov.

In memory of **Don Barbret**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by Donald and Nancy Begg.

In memory of **Don Barbret**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by Russ and Carol Phillips.

In memory of **Don Barbret**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by Ray and Victorie Nowak.

In memory of **Don Barbret** for Cross Lutheran Church, by Brian and Deborah Lindsley.

In memory of **Isabelle Herford**, for Cross Building Fund, by Art Woelke.

In memory of **Don Barbret** for Cross Building Fund, by Art Woelke.

In memory of **Harvey Weiss**, for Cross Building Fund, by Art Woelke.

In memory of **Don Barbret**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by Marilyn Cote.

In memory of **Don Barbret**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by Catherine Kennedy.

In memory of **Don Barbret**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by Frank and Carolyn Gates.

In memory of **Don Barbret**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by Florence Hoffman.

In memory of **Don Barbret**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by Louella McAllister.

In honor of **Helen and Ron Greene's Anniversary**, for Cross Building Fund, by Dorothy Young-Thuemmel.

In memory of **Don Barbret**, for Cross Lutheran Church, by Marlene Sharples.

In memory of **Don Barbret**, for Cross Building Fund, by Jim and Fran Laursen.

In memory of **Don Barbret**, for Cross Building Fund, by Elsie Trowbridge.

In memory of **Don Barbret**, for Cross Building Fund, by Sheila Yackle.

In memory of **Marilyn Diener**, for **Cont. on Page 4**

# Celebrate

## December Birthdays

- 1 Jordan Licht
- 3 Mark Trost
- 4 Cynthia Buchholz  
Daniel Azarovitz  
Art Woelke
- 5 Fred Haley
- 6 Troy Schuette
- 8 Beverly Knost
- 9 Neil Herford
- 10 Ryan Trost
- 11 Jordan Ruthen-  
berg  
Grace Shupe
- 14 Shannon Pionk
- 15 Roger Renn  
Kendal Delpiere
- 17 Dick Koehler Jr.  
Maria Schumacher  
Jacob Heck
- 18 Lorraine LePage  
Brad Buschlen
- 19 Kaoty Smith
- 20 Cheryl Sturm  
Marlene Landry
- 21 Daniel Smith
- 22 Donna Schuette
- 23 Gertrude Schuette  
Bill Love
- 24 Dennis Diener Sr.
- 25 James Siewert
- 27 Donald Schuette
- 28 Janice Uhan
- 29 Pastor Tim
- 30 Ethan Yackle
- 31 Mitchell Schuette

- Dec. 17 Loren & Dolores Elft-  
man, 62 years
- Dec. 20 Kent & Lori McKenzie,  
31 years
- Dec. 26 Dale & Chris Schulz,  
42 years
- Dec. 27 Joe & Arlene Wold, 55  
years
- Dec. 29 Dick & Lillian Koehler, 60  
years

**Cont. from Page 3**

Cross Building Fund, by Keith and Harriette Miller.

In memory of **Don Barbret** for Cross School, by Tonya and Dan McIlhargie.

In memory of **Isabelle Herford**, for Cross Building Fund, by Ruth Chiotti.

In memory of **Isabelle Herford**, for Cross Building Fund, by Pat Guigar.

In memory of **Isabelle Herford**, for Cross Building Fund, by Myrna Born.

In memory of **Isabelle Herford**, for Cross Building Fund, by Dale and Donna Schuette.

### 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:

Dick Freeland, brother-in-law of Loren and Dolores Elftman and Lou Ann Jarvis, Kay Schuette, Lisa Sturm, Art Woelke, Todd Lay, Kayla Livingston, granddaughter of Don and Sally Rogers, Don Rogers (cancer), son of Don and Sally Rogers, Donna Schuette, surgery, Helen Connors, mother of Wendy Gettel, Olga Renn, Nadene Barbret, Eric Swartzendruber, Helen Decker, Harold Damm (Pam Sturm's father); Stephanie Maust, Mindy Sutherland, Natasha Golder, Betty Schulze, Margaret Schaar, mother of Maxine Rice, 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

- Second Sunday of Advent, Dec. 4
- Third Sunday of Advent, Dec. 11
- Fourth Sunday of Advent, Dec. 18
- First day of winter, Dec. 22
- Christmas Eve, Dec. 24
- Christmas Day, Dec. 25
- New Year's Eve/Watch Night, Dec. 31



- Dec.3 Clarence & Inez  
Buchholz, 51  
years
- Dec. 14 Paul & Karen  
Schuette, 37  
years



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

# School Board

## School Board Meeting

**October 3, 2011**

Present: Brian Delpiere, Pastor Loehrke, Gwynne Barry, Rachel Higgins, April Rujan, Gretchen Roestel

**Treasurer Report:** CEA balance approximately \$4500, school account \$12,604. Annual fund has been earmarked for alumni donations and will be carefully dispersed. Motion to accept report by April Rujan and second by Higgins. Approved

Invoices in the amount of \$334 moved by Roestel and second by Rujan. Motion carried.

### CEA President report

- Next meeting Wednesday
- Wood chips received and dispersed for playground
- Frankenmuth fundraising will be kicked off October 19

Pancake breakfast October 23

### Pastor/Principal report

- Student enrollment 35
- Preschool enrollment 18
- Constitution day was observed on September 16
- Count day moved to October 5-we file numbers with the ISD.
- School handbook has been mailed out
- October 11 begins MEAP testing

Picture retakes will be November 7

### Old Business

### New Business

- There was discussion about kitchen helpers missing their obligations. It was decided that we would send a reminder to new families as they may not be in sync yet.

- There was discussion about a principal for the 2012 school year. Several things have slipped between the cracks, the teachers have picked up some of the slack but we don't want to burn out our teachers. The topic will be brought up with council and in the meantime the teachers are keeping track of things falling through the cracks.

Immunization records are delinquent by 17 children, 8 are lacking immunizations. On October 10, students will not

be allowed to attend school if not complete.

Next meeting will be November 3 at 5 pm.



## Moms in Touch

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

Contact Leanne Smith 856-4241 for more information.

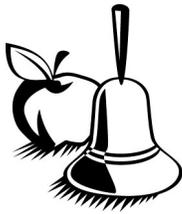
**Christmas Eve Children's Program**

**Saturday, Dec. 24**

**Prelude at 6:45 p.m. Program At 7 p.m.**

**Dress Rehearsals: Sat., Dec. 10 9:30—11 a.m. and Sat., Dec. 17 9:30—11 a.m. Mini practices at Sunday School**

# School News



## School Calendar

- Dec. 1 School Board Meeting 5 p.m.
- Dec. 7 Chapel 8:10 a.m.  
CEA meeting 6 p.m.
- Dec. 14 Chapel 8:10 a.m.
- Dec. 22 CEA Christmas Fair
- Dec. 23 No School - Christmas Break begins with school resuming on Jan. 3

### **CEA Meeting November 2, 2011**

Present at meeting were April Rujan, Melissa Helmuth, Melissa Raymond, Rachel Higgins, and Pastor Tim, Pastor opened with Prayer at 5:45pm.

#### **Pancake Breakfast**

Our first Pancake Breakfast was a hit. Want to thank all the volunteers helped out for the event, without them this wasn't possible. The total amount raised after expenses and Thrivent was \$2623.

Rachel H. motioned that \$260 from the profits go to the building fund. Melisa R. second the motion. Motion passed.

Our next Pancake Breakfast is going to be May 6<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Scrip**

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

#### **Frankenmuth Fundraiser**

We are wrapping up the Frankenmuth fundraiser. Orders should have been turned in on Fri. Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>.

Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> the orders should be delivered to the school for pick up.

Money is due back Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>.

#### **Cross Carnival**

Our annual Cross Carnival is set for April 14<sup>th</sup>. 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 Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. Come with an appetite. The CEA will be providing pizza and drinks. Feel free to bring a desert to pass. Our main topic of discussion is the Christmas Fair. Come and get some ideas for the fair and enjoy good company.

#### **Christmas Fair**

Christmas Fair is set for Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> and we are looking for donations. Have any scrap fabric or old fabric to donate feel free. Ribbons, bows, decorative containers, etc are also ideas.

#### **Cross Apparel**

We now have Cross apparel,

so feel free to stop in the office to find out more.

**Meeting closed @ 6:45pm**



## Honor Roll

### **1<sup>st</sup> Marking Period**

#### **3<sup>rd</sup> Grade**

Quinton Burgess  
Leah Irion  
Riley Shupe

#### **4<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Brianna Goretski  
\* Emma Irion  
Beau Martindale  
James Rochon

#### **5<sup>th</sup> Grade**

\* Greta Elston  
Grant Gascho  
Johnathon Higgins

#### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Lance Gascho

#### **7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Kendal Delpiere  
Austin Roestel

#### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

\* Isaac Elston  
\* Grace Higgins  
Michaela Love  
\* Denotes all A's

# Odds & Ends



## Advent Vespers

- Will be held at 7 p.m. on Sundays, Dec. 11 and 18

## Children's Program

- Rehearsals will be Saturdays, Dec. 10 and 17 from 9:30—11 a.m.
- Children Program will be Saturday, Dec. 24 at 7 p.m.

## Christmas Eve Worship Service

- Saturday, Dec. 24 at 10 p.m.

## Christmas Morning Worship Service

- Sunday, Dec. 25 at 10 a.m.

## Communion Bread

We have communion every Sunday during Advent, so we really need people to help with baking the communion bread. A sign-up sheet is in the hall on the bulletin board along with the easy recipe.



## Cookbooks

are still available for \$10 in the Church/School connector or office. They make great gifts for Christmas, weddings, showers, friends, neighbors, or just to say "thank you". Proceeds help support youth ministry.

## 2012 Calendars

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

## FROM THE DESK OF...RETH ELSTON

One of the reasons I enjoy teaching preschool is that I get to play a lot. I am not saying that handling a room full of 3 and 4 year olds is not work - believe me, it is work! However, the learning we do together is often done in a playful way.

Research has long shown the value of play for children. In fact, play is essential for the developing child. It literally "grows" the brain in positive ways that become part of a human being's mental, physical, emotional and organizational self. Play is so essential to human beings that attention is even being given to the importance of play for adults, through fun leisure activities, recreation, exercise, hobbies, and a myriad of other possibilities.

In preschool, we play with numbers and patterns during calendar time. We play during our body- and brain-building exercises. We playfully respond to a storybook each day. We playfully learn phonics characters related to alphabet letters. We play with a variety of toys that challenge us to build, connect, organize, share, measure, aim, balance and socialize. Sometimes we sing a silly song just for the fun of it, or laugh at a joke that can only be pulled off by a 3 or 4 year old.

If you are an adult, do you still play? With all the adult pressures we face in life, we could all use a little more joy. If you need a little help in this regard, remember the old song, *The Joy of the Lord is My Strength*. Try meditating on what God has done for you. Try something silly just for fun. Perhaps you could try singing louder than the vacuum cleaner or leaf blower, or try writing your shopping list with an accent. If you are still stuck in the doldrums, come visit the preschool, and we'll be glad to help you get back on the playful, joyful path.

Peace and Joy!

Mrs. Elston

## December Time & Talents

Date & Time	Leader	Reader	Children's time	Communion Assistant	Ushers for the Month	Altar Guild
Dec. 4 9:30 a.m.	Karen Schuette	June Sturm	Karen Schuette	Carole Mead	Bruce Baur Clarence Buchholz Richard Koehler	Laura Trost
Dec. 11 9:30 a.m.	Phil Schadd	Carol Diener	Karen Schuette	Norm Nelson	Norm Nelson Richard Mead	Marilyn Baur
Dec. 18 9:30 a.m.	Gwynne Barry	Ray Licht	Karen Schuette	Ray Licht		Carol Diener
Dec. 24 10:00 p.m.	Peggy Koehler	Gwynne Barry		John Trowbridge		Laura Trost
Dec. 25 10 a.m.	Karen Schuette	Sue Loehrke	Karen Schuette			Marilyn Baur

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

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

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

### Mission Outreach

**Food Drive:** A big thank you to all who donated food and necessity items during our Fall Food Drive here at church. The Pigeon Food Pantry helps about 35 families per month and they were very grateful to Cross for their generous contributions.

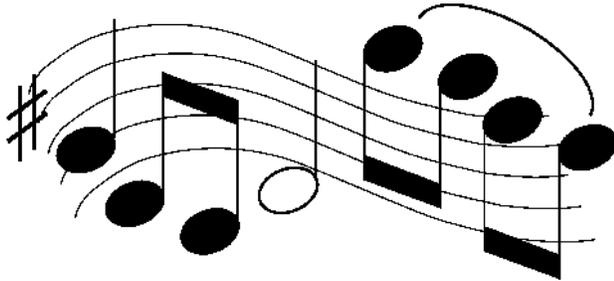
**Operation Christmas Child:** A HUGE thank you to all who donated and helped pack 400 shoeboxes for needy children around the world! This was our record year of contributions and the committee was so blessed! About 45 volunteers helped on the 2 work nights and the boxes were delivered on Saturday the 19th to Bay Shore camp where they will begin their long journey to many parts of the world. Once again, thank you so much for your participation!

**Giving Tree:** Cross will once again be doing the Giving Tree project to help local families in need with their Christmas gifts. Watch your upcoming bulletins for more details.



**Scrip Cards:** Don't forget....Scrip Cards make wonderful Christmas gifts. They can be ordered every week and picked up the next week at the church. The best part is, that our church receives financial benefits from your purchases!

## Cross News



# Advent Hope, Christmas Joy

A choral and handbell concert

**Sunday, Dec. 11, 2011**  
**3 p.m.**

### Cross Lutheran Church

Join us for a program of choral and handbell music, carols and scripture.

**A reception will follow.**

### Cross Lutheran Church Women's Bible Study

Beginning in January Cross Lutheran will now offer 3 opportunities to enjoy the nine session Bible study of Jesus' Discipleship Parables titled "The Wise and the Foolish".

This study will be offered at the morning circle which meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 9:30am or the afternoon circle which meets the first Tuesday of the month at 1:30pm and starting up again, an evening circle on the

third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. We will all be studying the same lesson each month so if you have to miss the circle you usually attend you can attend one of the others. There are no longer any assigned circles, just come to the one that is most convenient for your schedule.

Pastor Tim will lead the first session in January. We have scheduled two times to serve those that cannot make it during the day. The times are Monday January 9<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm and again in the evening Tuesday, Jan. 31 at 7 p.m.

Books are being ordered mid December and will be available as soon as they arrive. Cost of each book is \$5.00, and we will collect that during one of the sessions.

**MORNING CIRCLE SECOND WEDNESDAY**  
**9:30 AM**

**AFTERNOON CIRCLE FIRST TUESDAY**  
**1:30 PM**

**EVENING CIRCLE THIRD TUESDAY**  
**7:00 PM**

**Come to which ever circle is convenient for you.**

**FOR JANUARY ONLY**  
**MONDAY JANUARY 9 2:00 PM**

**OR**

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 31 AT 7 P.M.**

Any questions please see June Sturm, Betty Champagne or Sue Loehrke

# Council Meeting Minutes

**CROSS LUTHERAN SPECIAL CONGREGATION MEETING  
AMENDMENT VOTE TO CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS**

**OCTOBER 23, 2011**

A special called meeting was called to Order at 10:25 a.m. by President Richard Koehler to vote on the amendment to the constitution and by-laws. Pastor Loehrke opened the meeting with a prayer.

It was determined by the president that a quorum was met.

Agenda for the meeting was strictly on voting on the amendment changes to the Constitution and By-laws. Ushers passed out the ballots.

**SPEAKERS:** Paul Schuette – the major changes to the Constitution and By-laws were based on the model for the NALC Constitution. By-laws can be changed at any time. Second and final vote on the Constitution will be 1 year from today. We combined Social Services Ministry with Outreach Ministry.

**QUESTIONS:** Tom Shupe – Wondered what the major changes were from the ELCA to the NALC Constitution. Paul Schuette advised that the NALC is mostly scripture. We all have a voice now with the NALC, before only the delegate of ELCA had a voice.

Motion was made by John Trowbridge to accept the agenda and vote on the attached Amendments to the Constitution and By

-laws, the motion will be carried as to our vote.

Congregation could go ahead and vote, ballots were collected by the ushers.

Meeting adjourned by President Richard Koehler at 10:34 a.m.

**Vote Results:** 85 PEOPLE VOTED - 4 NO and 81 YES

Respectfully submitted,  
Krisie S. Fritz



**CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES**

**October 11, 2011**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The monthly meeting of the Cross Lutheran Church Council was called to order by acting president, Richard Koehler, Jr., at 7:00 p.m., on the above date. Members present were Pastor Timothy Loehrke, Karen Schuette, Krisie Fritz, Kevin Trost, Paul Schuette, Ray Licht, Lorraine LePage, Mike Fritz and Nancy Heck. Guests present were Betty Champagne and Carol Diener. Pastor Loehrke opened the meeting with prayer.

**MINUTES:** The previous

Council Minutes dated September 13, 2011, were reviewed by all present. Nancy Heck advised that a sentence under the Treasurer's Report should be removed, the secretary will make the correction. A motion was made by Karen Schuette to approve the minutes with correction to be made, Kevin Trost seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**AGENDA:** Agenda for the evening was presented to all present. Richard Koehler addressed that we will add under Old Business – accounts to be updated at Bay Port State Bank, and under New Business – Budget. Motion was made by Nancy Heck to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Ray Licht. 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 \$32,979.64 for the month of September and expenses of \$27,552.99. 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 \$9,524.82, and the Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund has a balance of \$8,975.00. Ray Licht makes a Motion to accept Nancy's report, seconded by Mike Fritz. Motion carried.

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT:** Paul Schuette provided his report to all present.  
**(Cont. on Page 9)**

**(Cont. from Page 8)**

His report covered the period of 1/1/2011 through 9/30/2011, and it showed Total Contributions for the General Fund were \$200,432.67 which is \$3,595.17 over budget. Other monies received to date were as follows:

Building Fund	\$ 27,253.00
(\$7,823.92 under budget)	
Benevolence	\$ 7,551.00
Other Donations	\$ 562.00

Paul advised that he is working on the envelope order for next year.

A Motion was made by Nancy Heck to accept Paul's financial report, seconded by Ray Licht. Motion carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Received a request from April Rujan. Moved request to Old Business – accounts.

**GUEST PRESENTATIONS/ REQUESTS:** None

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

- Pastor performed the following pastoral acts during the month of September: 1 Wedding, 14 Teachings, 14 Communions, 3 Hospital Visits, 14 Home Visits, 20 Meetings, and 11 Services.

Wedding – Tamara Fritz and Aaron Vermeesch, Saturday, September 24, 2011.

**Church Calendar:**

Kick off Shoe Box Drive – Sunday, October 16, 2011

CEA Pancake Breakfast – Sunday, October 23, 2011

Women's Retreat Bay Shore Camp – October 28 & 29, 2011

Reformation Sunday, October 30, 2011

Congregational Annual Meeting, Sunday, November 6, 2011, immediately following the service.

Pigeon Community Thanksgiving Service, Sunday, November 20, 2011 at 3:00 p.m. at Cross Lutheran Church.

Thanksgiving Service – Thursday, November 24, 2011 @ 10:00 a.m. with Communion

**Pastor's Report:**

- Attended NALC Dean's meeting with new Bishop, Thursday, September 15, and Friday, September 16, 2011 in Columbus, Ohio.

- NALC, Organization of Mission District of Michigan

- Confirmation Classes have begun - Confirmation will be Sunday, May 20, 2012.

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

**PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:**

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

Grades K-8 – 35 students

Preschool – 17 students

- MEAP testing started, October 11, 2011.

- Immunization records are being updated.

- TALL soccer – Friday, October 14, 2011 @ 3:00 p.m.

- Generous private donors have funded many students tuition.

There are still funds within the School Tuition Scholarship and Grandma Vi's fund.

**SCHOOL BOARD REPORT:** Terry Sturm wasn't present, an item will be discussed under New Business.

**MINISTRY OF STEWARDSHIP:** Ray Licht advised Council that he didn't have minutes to provide.

**MINISTRY OF WORSHIP AND MUSIC:**

Karen Schuette reviewed her report with everyone present. Highlights of her report were as follows: Mission Festival was cancelled for this year, due to the fact that they couldn't find a speaker. Council discussed what to do for next year. Council will discuss it further at a later date. Karen also advised that Coffee Hour will be cancelled on October 23, 2011, as it would create a conflict with the Pancake Breakfast. Choir Concert will be Sunday, December 11, 2011 @ 3:00 p.m.

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION:** No chairperson at this time, minutes weren't provided.

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

**MINISTRY OF YOUTH:** Kevin Trost had no minutes to provide.

**MINISTRY OF PROPERTY:**

Mike Fritz expressed thanks to Ray Licht for spraying the church grounds. He also advised council that many hours were spent on the shrub trimming by himself and his workers. No written report was given. Paul Schuette also advised Mike that the inserts have come loose on the crossbars and there was a problem with the corner edge on the  
**(Cont. on Page 10)**

## Council continued

### (Cont. from Page 9)

the slide, Others advised him that the women's bathroom water faucet is spraying water everywhere. Mike needs to submit his bill for this past year to Carol Diener for payment.

**MINISTRY OF PARISH LIFE:** No chairperson at this time, minutes were provided. Betty Champagne reported that there are still openings for the upcoming Retreat at Bay Shore Camp scheduled for October 28 and 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

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

### OLD BUSINESS:

NALC Constitution update - Paul Schuette advised that proposed Bylaws and Church Constitution will be voted on and held two weeks prior to the Annual Meeting on Sunday, October 23, 2011. After discussion, council will review the changes in detail at the next council meeting. Announcement will be made in church on Sunday October 16<sup>th</sup> for the Special Meeting following service, and placed in the bulletin. Copies of Constitution and By Law changes will be placed in mail boxes by October 16, 2011.

Ramification of August 2011 NALC Convocation Vote will be dealt with at a later date.

Motion was made by Nancy Heck that we accept the proposed Bylaws and Constitution for Cross Evangelical Lutheran and present them at the October 23, 2011,

special meeting. Krisie Fritz, seconded the Motion, Motion carried.

Chicken BBQ fundraiser profited \$1,938.65, (262 dinners were served.)

Fish Fry, Friday, March 16, 2012 (fundraiser for Youth)

Annual Reports due in church office, Friday, October 14, 2011

Accounts and safety deposit box at Bay Port State Bank were discussed. Motion was made by Karen Schuette to have Nancy Heck, Treasurer and Krisie Fritz, Secretary to gather information on all accounts, loans, safety deposit box for Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church and School accounts at Bay Port State Bank, seconded by Lorraine LePage, Motion carried.

A second Motion was made by Nancy Heck to remove any existing names on the CEA Scrip checking at present, and to have April Rujan, President, Rachel Higgins, Treasurer & Aileen Prill, School Secretary placed on the account. Motion was seconded by Mike Fritz, Motion carried.

### NEW BUSINESS:

Principle for School Year 2012-2013? – Pastor discussed this issue with council, it's putting a lot of added responsibility on the teachers and at times it is difficult to meet deadlines. Will need to discuss at a later date - will also need to look further if the school needs a full-time or part-time principle.

Budget was presented by Carol Diener & Stewardship Committee. Budget was discussed by council.

Ray Licht made a motion to accept the proposed Budget by the Stewardship Committee, seconded by Karen Schuette. Motion carried.

Lorraine LePage requested that we make a recommendation to the church at the annual meeting to get rid of the freeze on wages. This will be put on the agenda at the Annual Meeting.

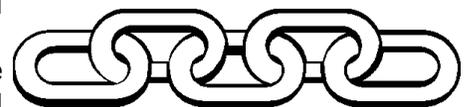
Pastor and Dick Koehler will work on the upcoming Agenda for the Annual Meeting on November 6, 2011.

**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 9:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Krisie S. Fritz

Secretary



**We may have a small Sunday School...but we still have a "Great God"!** Our message this year will be "Chain Reaction" and names that bind us together as children of God. We are asking for adults, children, and high school students to participate in our program. Can you serve as ushers, musicians, readers and helpers, (take down props), prop makers, costume dressers, etc.....**please** contact June Sturm 453-2575.

## 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

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 Eftman, 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

### Youth Ministry Minutes

October 19, 2011

Meeting opened with prayer.

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

#### **Old Business:**

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

#### **New Business:**

Youth have been invited to join the adult Sunday school class for the first portion of the school year. Cross youth will be invited to help lead a peer study and consider curriculum for the second half of the year.

Youth will go Christmas caroling on Saturday, Dec. 17 following the Christmas program practice and a light lunch. This is an annual event and a schedule of Cross shut-ins, local nursing homes and the hospital will be considered.

Youth Sunday will be Feb. 5, 2012.

A Fish Fry Fundraiser is scheduled for March 16, 2012. Kevin Sturm will chair the event again this year. Proceeds will support the Youth Ministry and assist youth in attending camp.

Next meeting is Nov. 16 at 7:45

Meeting closed at 8:30 p.m.

Rachel Higgins

# Growing Together

<u>COMBINED GENERAL AND OTHER FUNDS:</u>		OCTOBER, 2011	
BALANCE ON HAND 10/1/2011			30,227.45
INCOME:			
CHURCH/SCHOOL INCOME/ALL SOURCES		30,212.18	
BRICK FUND		-	
CEMETERY PERPETUAL CARE FUND		-	
THRIVENT MATCHING FUNDS		-	
ENDOWMENT FUND-Transfer of funds		-	
LEAF		-	
FLOW THROUGH ACCOUNT		-	
LINE OF CREDIT ADVANCE		-	
TOTAL INCOME:		30,212.18	30,212.18
EXPENSES:			
PAYMENT ON LINE OF CREDIT LOAN		-	
CHURCH AND SCHOOL EXPENSES	25,558.56		
	25,558.56		(25,558.56)
NET INCOME			4,653.62
BALANCE ON HAND 10/31/2011			34,881.07

<u>GENERAL FUND SEGMENTED:</u>	
LEAF FUND	732.49
ROOF REPAIR	3,695.14
ORGAN REPAIR FUND	7,300.00
GENERAL FUND	14,178.44
CEMETERY-PERPETUAL CARE FUND	8,975.00

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

TOTAL: 34,881.07  
 Total balance in all funds \$34,881.07 - Total balance in General Fund \$14,178.44 (positive balance)

<u>BUILDING FUND:</u>			
BALANCE ON HAND 10/1/2011			7,064.71
DONATIONS, PLEDGES & MEMORIALS*		5,437.50	
FUND RAISERS		-	
ADVANCE FROM GENERAL FUND		-	
THRIVENT MATCHING FUNDS		2,479.00	
TOTAL INCOME:		7,916.50	7,916.50
EXPENSES:			
OFFICE SUPPLIES		-	
MONTHLY BANK LOAN PAYMENT		(3,000.00)	
INTEREST ON PRIVATE NOTES		(1,100.00)	
PRIVATE LOAN AND INTEREST REPAID		-	
TOTAL EXPENSE		3,816.50	3,816.50
BALANCE ON HAND 10/31/11			10,881.21

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

<u>GENERAL FUND</u>		
BUDGETED NEED-YEAR TO DATE-ALL SOURCES		(301,183.97)
RECEIPTS - YEAR TO DATE - ALL SOURCES		290,496.97
	UNDER	(10,687.00)
DEBT OWING 10/31/2011		
SCHOOL LOAN BALANCE - BPSB	65,718.91	
PRIVATE LOANS	250,000.00	
	315,718.91	
OPERATIONAL LOAN	17,885.00	
TOTAL LOANS	333,603.91	
NEW OPERATIONAL LOAN	-	
TOTAL LOANS	333,603.91	

# December 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>Comm. Service</b> 9:30 a.m. <b>Sunday School</b> 10:45 a.m. Coffee Hour - Stewardship NALC Dedication in Manistee 4:30 p.m.	Moms in Touch 5 - 6 p.m. Choirs: Bells 6:30 p.m. Choir 7:30 p.m.	Rebekah Circle 1:30 p.m. Parish Life 5 p.m.	<b>Chapel 8:10 a.m.</b> Men's Breakfast 7 a.m. Hymn Meeting 1 p.m. CEA Meeting 6 p.m. <b>Comm. Service 7 p.m.</b>			Christmas Play Rehearsal 9:30 - 11 a.m.
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
<b>Comm. Service</b> 9:30 a.m. <b>Sunday School</b> 10:45 a.m. Coffee Hour - Youth Advent Christmas Concert 3 p.m. <b>Vespers 7 p.m.</b>	Moms in Touch 5 - 6 p.m. No Choir	Esther Circle 2 p.m. Executive Meeting 6 p.m. Council Meeting 7 p.m.	<b>Chapel 8:10 a.m.</b> Sarah Circle 9:30 a.m. Love Day 1:30 p.m. <b>Comm. Service 7 p.m.</b>			Christmas Play Rehearsal 9:30 - 11 a.m. Youth Meeting Youth Christmas Caroling
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
<b>Comm. Service</b> 9:30 a.m. <b>Sunday School</b> 10:45 a.m. Coffee Hour - Stewardship <b>Confirmation</b> 5 - 6:30 p.m. <b>Vespers 7 p.m.</b>	Moms in Touch 5 - 6 p.m. Choirs: Bells 6:30 p.m.	Pigeon Pastor's 1 p.m. Men's Bible Study 7 p.m. Bay Cafe	<b>Chapel 8:10 a.m.</b>  <b>Comm. Service 7 p.m.</b>	CEA CHRISTMAS FAIR 	NO SCHOOL  OFFICE HOURS 9 - NOON	<b>Children's</b> <b>Christmas Eve Program 7 p.m.</b>  <b>Christmas Eve Communion Service 10 p.m.</b>
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
MERRY CHRISTMAS!  <b>Christmas Service 10 a.m.</b>	No Choir		No Service			New Year's Eve No Service

# Cross Church/School Logo Clothing

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



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

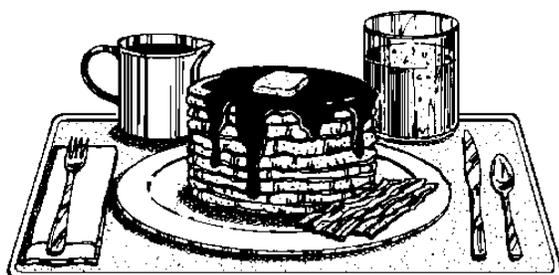
Prices include clothing item and embroidery

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

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

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

Orders will be taken through October 31, 2011.



## Pancake Breakfast

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

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



the difference  
1 can make.

## Box Tops For Education

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

We'll take care of the rest!

