



Cross Section



Senior Pastor's Message

Dear Friends in Christ Jesus,

We have come to the end of another calendar year at Cross of Christ, a year filled with blessings and uncertainties. Our blessings come in a never-ending shower from the hand of our gracious God. They are independent of all earthly circumstances, for they reside in the heart of our Heavenly Father. Scripture reminds us that our God is unchanging through all the seasons of life. He is truly the same, yesterday, today, and forever. His mercies are new to us every morning. As years come and go, our God in Christ Jesus remains faithful and ever certain regarding His promises.

Earthly life is the realm of uncertainty. We do not know what each new day will bring to us. No government or church affiliation can safely predict the future. Fortunes come, and fortunes are lost. Concerns over health, occupations, relationships, family, and the world are beyond our control. Living on earth will always bring uncertainty.

The old Adam within us is always seeking to control human existence. Most of those attempts produce negative rather than positive results. And yet, we seem to persist in placing our confidence in that which cannot be trusted. As 2009 comes to an end, and 2010 prepares to take over our immediate future, perhaps now is the time to analyze the foundation of our life. Have we built upon a foundation that produces real joy and peace?

True peace and joy can only be found in Jesus. To build or focus on anything else is to welcome uncertainty as a permanent feature of our journey. Scripture tells us that the wise person builds their house on a rock. Those who are wise know peace....not freedom from life's troubles, but peace in the midst of any storm. The wise know joy even when death comes to call. Joy is having our heart and soul firmly in the hands of God. Those who do this can truly rejoice always! Earthly fortune and circumstances cannot rob us of our joy or peace. In fact, often our greatest experiences of joy come during our times of greatest challenge. Please do not pass over these thoughts lightly. Eternity should be our greatest concern. Held in our own hands, eternity is always uncertain. Placed in the hands of Jesus, it is a promised inheritance. I sincerely pray your life and eternity are firmly grasped by the hands of the One who will never fail. I pray you all look forward to 2010 as another step closer to the eternal bliss prepared for God's

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JANUARY 2010

"For I know the plans I have for you" declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Jeremiah 29:11

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children. May the peace that passes all human understanding keep your heart and mind in Christ Jesus. May the joy that abounds in Christ Jesus keep you living above your circumstances. And finally, may this be the most wonderful year of life for each of us and those we love. May God keep you growing in His grace.

**Love in Jesus,
Pastor Jon**

Betty, Faith, and I wish to extend our heartfelt thanks to all of you in our Cross of Christ family for your tireless efforts for the Kingdom, your growing love for us and one another, and all of the encouraging notes, gifts, and loving expressions we received this Christmas. We are so blessed to be part of this church family! We love you!

MISSION NEWS AND NOTES

January, 2010 Plate Offering Recipients

This month's offerings have been designated for Crossroads Pregnancy Center and Jews for Jesus.

Crossroads offers free pregnancy testing, lay counseling, material assistance, (diapers, formula, baby and maternity clothes), post abortion support group, young mom's support group, medical and community referrals, limited ultrasound and child-birth classes. They get no support from the government, but rely on donations from individuals and churches. Their website is www.crossroadspregnancy.com.

Jews for Jesus is a 35 year-old mission society and remains committed to making the Messiahship of Jesus an unavoidable issue to the Jewish people worldwide. In order to combat Jewish assumptions about Christian evangelistic methods, much creative effort is done in the areas of printed materials, witnessing campaigns, music, drama, secular media outreach, and internet evangelism. Their website is www.jewsforjesus.org. To learn more about either of these ministries, contact Mary Lou Temple at 248-626-4076 or e-mail to mltemple7@yahoo.com.

Thank You for Your Generosity

A hearty thank you is extended to everyone who donated to the various Christmas projects sponsored by Cross of Christ. The non-perishable food items for the Gleaners Food Bank filled an SUV. Fifty-nine shoe boxes were sent to the needy children of Haiti. A wide assortment of blankets, pillows, and pajamas were collected for Grace Centers of Hope. There were also cash gifts given to each of the above.

Katrina Relief Mission Trip

Much work still needs to be done in the areas affected by Hurricane Katrina after five years since the worst natural disaster in U.S. history hit the coast of Mississippi and Louisiana. Camp Restore, a Christ-centered ministry of the Southern District Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod Recovery Assistance, is in need of able-bodied volunteers willing to help reconstruct and repair homes and churches in the New Orleans area. This will be Cross of Christ's fourth visit to the area. Key to the success of this mission is the availability of skilled tradesmen who will lead teams of four to five workers. This mission will be one week in late May or early June. Please contact Ruth and Doug LaFontaine at 248-935-7231 or lafontainedoug@aol.com if you are interested in this effort to help our neighbors to the south.

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Reminder: The deadline for the Cross Section is the 10th of the preceding month. Submit your information via email to newsletter@bloofieldcross.org

(Mission News, Continued)

Haiti Mission Trip

John Kalusniak will serve as the coordinator for the mission trip to Haiti tentatively planned for July 10-17, 2010. Watch further bulletins and newsletters for more details, or contact him at kalusniaks@gmail.com or 248-335-9309.

LAMP Mission Trip

This year a VBS mission trip to the remote northern areas is being considered. The week-long trip will take place during the summer months and will be coordinated with LAMP. More information will be available as plans become more definite, and you may contact Verna Besancon at servantvb@gmail.com or 248-253-0289 if you are interested in participating.

Angel Food Ministries

Orders for Angel Food packages occur on the dates specified below. Food packages are normally picked up on the 4th Saturday of every month. Food orders will be taken in the hallway adjacent to the doors leading into the Old Chapel. All food orders are pre-paid; cash, money orders, food stamps and on-line payment by credit or debit cards are acceptable. Food is distributed within the Old Chapel area; make certain to bring laundry baskets, boxes or bags to carry the food. Any food not picked up between 10:30 – 12:00pm will be donated to a local food bank. If you have any questions about the program, please call either Greg or Marlene at 248-642-6342 or gregmar81@hotmail.com.

Wednesday **Food Orders@** **5:30 – 7:30pm**

January 6
February 10
March 10
April 7
May 5
June 9
July 14
August 11
September 8
October 6
November 3
December 1

Sunday **Food Orders @** **9:00am - Noon**

January 10
February 14
March 14
April 11
May 9
June 13
July 18
August 15
September 12
October 10
November 7
December 5

Saturday **Food Pick – Up @** **10:30am – 12:00pm**

January 23
February 27
March 27
April 24
May 22
June 26
July 31
August 28
September 25
October 23
November 20
December 18

Introducing... **God Provides** Crown's New Film Learning Experience

Timeless illustrations shown in epic detail leap off the pages of Scripture and into our modern lives to teach us how to faithfully live with trust in God, our ultimate Provider. Don't miss any of the Lent Services this year, beginning with Ash Wednesday April 7, 2010. We will be introducing the God Provides film series April 14th. For a quick preview, visit this web site <http://vimeo.com/Channels/GodProvides>

Also...Biblical Financial Study, a 10 week in-depth experience of what Scripture teaches about money and possessions. This life group study is only one of several Crown Teaching Solutions available to teach us how to handle money God's way. The next class begins March 20, 2010—Saturday Morning at 9:30am

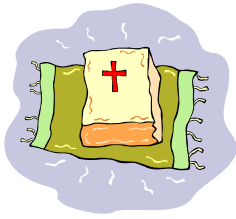
Do you have a small group Bible Study in your home? You may want to consider one of several Biblically based stewardship studies to add a positive, God filled experience and enhance your studies. Contact the Ministry of Finance at terry-crown@comcast.net or call the church office at 248-646-5886.

THANKS!

Dear Friends at
Cross of Christ,

It was great to have the chance to share with you on November 21st and 22nd about the mission work in Macau. I enjoyed talking with so many of you eager to learn about Macau and China and to share the gospel with others. May that passion continue! Thank you for generously supporting me both financially and in prayer. Please continue to pray for my work and for the Chinese people with whom we share the gospel.

God's Blessings,
Mary Eddy



Happy New Year

Wow! 2009's over and the first month of the New Year, almost gone! Economically speaking, 2009 was a year of great challenge and concern at home—and I mean right here on our church campus—as well as throughout the world. People, who just a short time ago believed they were able to live financially productive lives, found themselves unemployed or underemployed with debt increasing and a fear of what the future would bring.

The New Year has not brought with it an end to the concern we share for America's governance, health insurance issues, international peace keeping efforts, abortion issues, crime, education of our youth and a myriad of other concerns that hold us in Satan's smiling grasp of fear. But then, Jesus never said it would.

Take a look at Romans 2. Paul was talking to the Christian's who lived in Rome about A.D. 57, that was about 24 years after Jesus died, and like a lot of the teachings of Paul, he was talking to the Christians of today also. In verse 7, Paul says, "He will give eternal life to those who persist in doing what is good, seeking after the glory and honor and immortality that God offers. Paul wasn't saying—do good deeds and you will go to heaven. Good deeds are not a prerequisite to earning a key to heaven. Paul was saying do God's will and commit your lives fully to God and the "good deeds" will become our response.

A look into God's Word shows that material blessings were given because God loved His people, not because they deserved them or He was obligated to bless them. On the other hand, His blessings were withheld from those who used them foolishly or misused them.

If we think a quick resolution to the mess we see ourselves in today can be found by voting a new set of politicians into office, throwing money in the air to "bail out" the world or by passing new legislation, we are drinking the wrong kind of beverages or taking the wrong kind of pills. Read more of Romans 2. "God will punish the Gentiles when they sin—and God will punish the Jews when they sin—it's not knowing what's right that saves us—it's doing what is right".

I believe the people that God has called to lead this church on the corner of Lone Pine and Telegraph have the right answer to our concerns and the concerns of the world. And that is, submitting to Jesus Christ—acknowledging Him as the leader of His Church and then fully committing our lives in service to Him.

Have you ever said to yourself and maybe others, "what can one person do to change—?" Maybe you're right. One person can probably do very little to influence major decisions. But one person with one God is one powerful action. If only we could keep in mind that God is in control of EVERYTHING and that He promises to help us when we need Him. Then, instead of operating on our own, we become a part of an unbeatable team.

Hey 2010, here we come! God is with us, who can be opposed?

Blessings for a God filled Year....and then some.

Merl Terry

PARISH NURSING: ASSESSING PRIORITIES

Dear Church Family Members,

A Blessed New Year to you all! Another year ahead of us...may you see it as a blessing from God and find new opportunities to grow closer to Him and serve others around you. Many people make New Year's resolutions, but most of them are broken within days and weeks. "The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak".

I encourage you to get your priorities straight this year...**GOD, OTHERS, YOU.** Sometimes we have a tendency to over commit and get involved in activities because there is a need or we feel "pressured" to. I encourage you to step back, reassess the situation, and commit to those things you truly have a passion for.

That eliminates a lot of things, doesn't it? God wants us to put Him first, and promises to bless us when we do. Jeremiah 29:13 says "You will seek Me and find Me when you seek me with your whole heart". I encourage you to spend quiet time each day with the Lord, reading your Bible (remember 12:12:1), praying and focusing on your relationship with the Lover of your soul.

There is also great benefit to serving others. Sometimes we have a tendency to be overwhelmed by our own problems and concerns, but when we reach out to others, it helps put our "little world" into perspective, and blesses others and ourselves as well. It is truly better to give than to receive.

My love and prayers go out to all of you who are dealing with illness or lost loved ones last year. Please know that my prayers are with you, and I would love to visit you and offer prayers and support personally.

A final note...we will have a Blood Drive at church on January 17th from 9 AM - 3 PM. Past donors, please sign up at the Welcome Center. If you have never donated, please consider it. There is a great need, and you can save lives just by donating your blood.

If you have any suggestions or questions about how I can serve you better, please give me a call.

Blessings in Jesus,
Mary Lou Temple RN
 Parish Nurse

Dear Cross of Christ,

Thank you once again for your financial assistance. I got straight A's this past quarter. This quarter will be even busier. I'm taking 15 credits and am working more. Jesus keeps me going and is well providing for me. Thanks again for your support!

Joe Signore



JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Jeffrey & JoAnn Johnson	1/28/1967
Vijay & Jhansi Kodi	1/22/1987
Steven Peacock & Leslie Evans-Peacock	1/15/2000
Duane & Kimberly Turner	1/6/2007
Paul & Nancy Wilkie	1/24/1987



Congratulations to Nick Grunewald and Soline Skrzypczak for achieving the “High Honor Roll” at their schools! Well done, we are filled with Godly pride over you.

Dear Pastor Reusch,

I wanted to let you now Nick Grunewald made the High Honor Roll this semester!

Thank you for sharing the love of Christ with this family and so many others. We are blessed to have the opportunity to continue your ministry here at St. John Lutheran School on a daily basis with the Grunewald’s, Dameron’s and Dionne’s.

Thank you for your encouragement. I pray the Lord will continue to bless families through your ministry as well as our Lutheran Schools. Please feel free to call me any time.

God’s Blessings on your day,

Tracie Roush, Admissions Counselor, St. John Lutheran School

Dear Pastor Reusch,

Soline Skrzypczak has been named to the Principal’s Honor Roll at Our Shepherd Lutheran School for the first school quarter. God has given her special gifts and like the parable of the faithful servant, she has used them wisely.

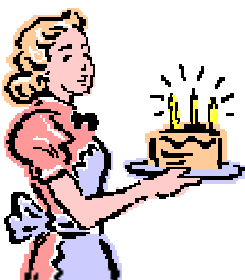
Megan Loebel has been recognized at Our Shepherd Lutheran School for having perfect church attendance for the first school quarter.

Thank you for partnering with not only the parents but also the school to raise up Godly children.

Laurie Dopke, Admissions Counselor

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Fred Korzon	1/1	Shirley Beerman	1/12	Brad Winter	1/24
Dan Santiago	1/1	Kaitlyn Topham	1/13	Adam Novack	1/26
Marlene Loucks	1/3	Lauren Balagna	1/15	Karen Dahlgren	1/27
Teresa Serowoky	1/3	Christopher Duggins	1/15	Daniel Miller	1/27
Riley Pearl	1/5	Amani Kodi	1/17	Rob Brown	1/29
Nicholas Wilkie	1/5	Jeff Marchione	1/17	Chase Zaidan	1/29
Juli Garretson	1/6	Kathleen Rae	1/17	Breanna Dionne	1/30
Jeffrey Johnson	1/6	Noah Brown	1/18	Kristin Ulmer	1/30
John Reusch	1/6	Kim Miller	1/18	Christina Davenport	1/31
Griffen Duggins	1/7	Will Miller	1/18	Wilma Jed	1/31
Jennifer Markel	1/7	Tommy Milz	1/18	Eric Lorey	1/31
Mickey Wilkinson	1/9	Sue Grunewald	1/20	Lissa Topham	1/31
Gary Schaefer	1/10	Steve Kirschbaum	1/20	Amanda Winchester	1/31
Kathryn Streng	1/10	Don Berkemeier	1/21		
Brad Lampkin	1/11	Debra Maher	1/21		
Timothy Peacock	1/11	Betty Daykin	1/23		



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION: PRAY, SEND CARDS

New Members

Richard & Sheryl Parsons
Alexa, Jessica & Melissa (children)
4767 Oakhurst Ridge Rd.
Clarkston, MI 48348
248-977-1636

Kim Welch

4680 Mirror Lake Dr.
West Bloomfield, MI 48323
414-732-4434

Patrick & Melody Williams (Youth Director)

15092 Northpointe Dr.
Sterling Heights, MI 48313
586-419-0304

Address Changes

John & Melissa Cesal

770 Birch Tree Lane
Rochester Hills, MI 48306

Kevin Schaible

57295 Warwick Drive
Washington Township, MI 48094

The Settecerrri Family

1048 Home Lane
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304
248-289-6818

Our Family & Friends In The Military

Mr. Ryan Alexander -home!

(children: Caleb & Caitlyn)
Sgt. Ryan Alexander
e-mail: msualexander@sbcglobal.net

Tyler Barnes

Tylerbarnes@us.army.mil

A1C Garretson, Zachary P.

(in Iraq, cousin of Juli Garretson)
USAF/332nd EAMXS/Tiger AMU
APO AE 09315-9997

Sgt. Robert and Mrs. Nicole Luecke

(friend of the Reusch Family)
19049 County Route 189
Adams, New York 13606-3214

Doug Quitmeyer

(family member of Betty & Pastor Jon)
699 14TH Street , #525
San Diego, California 92101

Mr. and Mrs. Keith A. Waller

(godson of Betty and Pastor Jon) –
serving in Germany for 3 years
CMR 445 Box-174
APO EA 09046-0174
(child: Brayden)



Sick & Shut In

Mrs. Florence Arendt

Farmington Hills Inn
30350 West Twelve Mile Road
Farmington, Michigan 48339

Mrs. ChicE Burchill

5165 Clarendon Crest Street
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48302-2610

Kathleen Kaiser

Elizabeth Briarbank Assisted Living for Women
39315 Woodward
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304
(248) 203-2728

Mrs. Ruth Korzon

1367 Club Drive
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48302-0823

Mr. and Mrs. George (Fran) LaPlata

254 Monterey Drive
Naples, Florida 34119-4624

Mr. and Mrs. Chuck (Ruth) Meyka

801 South Long Lake Road North
Traverse City, Michigan 49684

Mrs. Jinny Poirier (sister of Diane Stanke)

2309 Leslie Circle
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48105

Mr. Bill Scarlet (father of Debbie Alexander)

4890 Sherwell Drive
Waterford, Michigan 48327

Mrs. Terri Winchester

19517 Faulman Road
Clinton Township, MI
48035-1540

Edna Welch

5905 Strathdon Way
Waterford, MI 48327

Mrs. Johanna Wurst

1010 Argyle Avenue
Pontiac, Michigan 48341-2303

JANUARY CHURCH CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

ONGOING EVENTS

SUNDAY

8:30 Worship
9:00 Classes & Sunday
School
10:30 Worship

MONDAY

10am Adult Bible Study
10 am Mom's Group

TUESDAY

7am Men's Bible Breakfast
10 am Women's Bible
Study
11:45 Primetimers (1/5)

FRIDAY

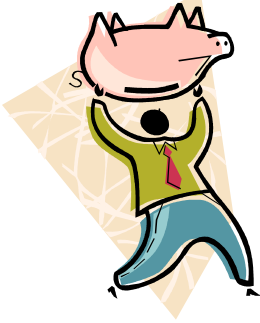
SATURDAY

5:30 Worship (except
1/2)

CALENDAR ON THE WEB!

Go to
www.bloomfieldcross.org and
click on the
"Calendar" link to
the right side of
the home page.





Giving More Than Money

For many, giving is associated with money. Giving includes money, but, as faithful givers, we first give ourselves, and the giving of our gifts and resources will follow (2 Corinthians 8:5). We all have different gifts and blessings to share. God has blessed us with gifts of wood-working, sewing, serving, teaching, singing, gardening, leading, cleaning, etc. Whatever our skills or gifts, we can use and give them to extend the kingdom and help others. Through faith, we are compelled to give because we know that God is the source of all of our blessings (2 Corinthians 5:14). Giving expresses our gratitude to God for what He has given to us.

In the third chapter of Acts, we find a lame beggar at the temple in Jerusalem, pleading with people to give him money. Peter and John were entering the temple, and they heard the beggar's plea for help. Perhaps the beggar saw Peter with his hand in his pocket, but the hand came out empty, dashing the beggar's hopes. *"Then Peter said, 'Silver or gold I do not have, but what I have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk' "* (Acts 3:6). Peter's pocket was empty, but he was willing to give what he had, and he had something worth far more than a pocketful of money.

God wants us to give more than our money. He wants us to give of ourselves, our hearts and our lives, and to share our time and talents. We have been blessed to be a blessing. Thank God Peter had more to give the beggar than money. In order to use our gifts and blessings effectively in service for others, let us ask God for guidance as to how to best use and give what He has given us. Through faith, we can be confident that God will open our eyes and hearts for opportunities to give and share what He has entrusted to us.



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