



Cross Section



Senior Pastor's Message

Dear Friends in Christ Jesus,

Wow! What a wonderful day you provided for my family and me. I was deeply touched by the outpouring of love on the occasion of my twenty-five years in the Pastoral ministry. I sincerely thank you for the gifts, the worship, the hugs, Pastor Steve's kind words, the dinner, and all the friendly smiles. I was humbled by your kindness and love. As my sermons occasionally allude to, I have my moments of soul-searching related to my effectiveness as a Pastor. I am not seeking anything in particular at those times, simply relating my personal struggles to be useful to the Lord we all love. Perhaps some of you have done a bit of soul-searching from time to time. The two things that touched me most deeply were the following:

The cards were very

special because of the kindness of your words. More than a few tears were shed as I read the words from those who have seen me in many different roles, and yet, still love me and thanked me. Believe me, it is my daily activity in prayer to thank God for all of you!

Your love for my wife was the best part of the day. I thank you for expressing love and appreciation for this incredible woman. She truly deserves praise and thanks, even for just putting up with me for thirty-seven years. What a jewel God gave me in Betty. Thank you for giving her honor and love.

I really do not have anything profound to add to the newsletter this month. I see wonderful signs of life and love all around our church. Your acceptance of the worship schedule and response to new

challenges for Jesus warms my heart. I thank and praise God for the hundreds of faithful volunteers and leaders who pray and serve to make Cross of Christ a blessing to the kingdom. Thank you all for believing we can and we must do better and more to reach those who do not know of Jesus love. It is your heart God seeks, and it is from your heart that the best ministry flows. God bless you all with joy in your service to the Savior. May we, together, strive to make an eternal difference in the lives of others. It is our mission as the children of God. I am so very grateful to God for allowing me to share this exciting work with people I love and consider friends.

May Jesus keep you growing in His grace.

Love in Him.

Pastor Jon

October 2006

PRAYER FOCUS

Matthew 23:12

“And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted.”

Inside this issue:

Mission News

Library—New Location & Titles

Managing Time to Minimize Stress

Servitude vs. Serventhood

Thank You Letters

Important Dates and Info

MISSION NEWS AND NOTES



Kids' Fall Frolic

October 29
9—11 am
Light Center Gym

Sponsored by SonLight City, this exciting event will give kids a chance to celebrate the fall season.

Kids in grades K-5 will be able to play games, do crafts, shoot hoops, and much more! Donuts and cider provided.

Bring a friend or two! Staffed nursery and preschool playtime also provided.

Worship service is held from 9:30a-11a (and afterwards from 11:15a-12:30p) Registration will be on-site; the event is free.

Contact the Church Office or Beth Kalusniak at bkalusniak@bloomfielddcross.org for more information or to volunteer to help.



Plate Offering Designation

For the fiscal year 2006-2007 fifty percent (50%) of the plate offerings has been designated for mission support. The other half will be earmarked for Elementary Christian Education Support. A tentative schedule of mission projects follows.

- July-August - Macau
- September - Thrivent Habitat Build
- October - Tom Daykin's Mexico Mission
- November - World Hunger
- December - India & POBLO
- January - Crossroads Pregnancy Center
- February-April - Haiti Mission Trip
- May - STAND
- June - Local Food Banks

The weekly bulletin will contain any changes.

October, 2006 Plate Offering Recipient

In October the plate offerings will assist Tom Daykin's winter mission service at Rancho Betania, Santa Ana, Sonant, Mexico. Tom uses his welding and other construction skills to assist with the upkeep of and new construction at this international Christian camp and retreat center. The founding missionaries developed a large farm property to serve as a camp for young people in Mexico and throughout North America. Today its ministry extends to all age groups and offers a

beautiful setting for conferences, retreats, and other gatherings. Amenities include cabins, dormitories, campsites, meeting areas, a garden, a pond, and recreation fields for various sports.

October, 2006 Mission Service Project

Saturday, October 28th, is the day Cross of Christ members and friends will have the opportunity to participate in the national observance of "Make a Difference Day". Juli Garretson will assist with coordinating this event. Watch the Sunday bulletin for more details as to exact opportunities to serve.

LWML Fall Zone Rally

The Suburban Lights Zone of Lutheran Women in Mission will hold its fall meeting on Saturday, November 4th, from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church on the west side of Dequindre just north of Big Beaver in Troy. The theme is "Together in Christ", and the speaker will be Barbara Hoffmeier, past president of the Michigan District LWML. Cost is \$6.00, and lunch is included. For reservations and more information contact Pat Marion at 248/332-4030.

Gifts for All God's Children

If you are an early shopper, you might want to include items for needy children at Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries. Names of

children and gift suggestions will be available for pickup in early November. Gifts will need to be back at the church no later than Sunday, December 3, 2006. Other service opportunities for this ministry are handing out names before & after worship services and the sorting & bagging of gifts on Monday, December 4, 2006. For more information and/or to volunteer, contact Verna Besancon at 248/253-0289, or e-mail to servantvb@gmail.com.

Haiti Mission Trip Next Summer

Diane & Ed Stanke and Linda & Dennis Toth will serve as coordinators for a mission trip to Haiti tentatively planned for the summer of 2007. Watch further newsletters for more details or contact these couples directly.

Senior Ministry Volunteer Opportunities

Sunrise of Bloomfield, an assisted living facility on the west side of Telegraph and north of Square Lake, is looking for volunteers to read to residents, write letters for them, visit with them, and help with various activities sponsored at the facility. Similar assistance would also be appreciated by St. Anne's Mead, a retirement home on W. 12 Mile Rd. at which the pastors lead a monthly worship service with communion.

MISSION NEWS AND NOTES

Global Mission Health Conference

Last November I attended the Global Mission Health Conference in Louisville KY with several hundred other people. Dr. Frank Artinian has attended for several years now. We both agree that it is a very informative and motivating conference. It is not only for medically oriented people anyone with a heart for missions either nationally or internationally would thoroughly enjoy and benefit from this conference. Whether you are already serving full time on the mission field, are looking for a short term opportunity or are just interested in how God is at work in the world this conference is designed to inspire, encourage, and equip you.

For more information see their web site: www.medicalmissions.com or contact me. I'm still in the COC directory.

God Bless,
Dianne Ruprich

Updates on Haiti and the Haiti Lutheran Mission Society (HLMS), Macau China, and information on a new mission opportunity Camp Safe Haven coming up next month. Any questions before that email me at dllr@aol.com

BLOOMFIELD ANTIQUES SHOW

Charity Preview—Thursday, October 12th
(Tickets available until October 6th)

OCTOBER 13-14, 2006
FRIDAY 10 A.M. to 6 P.M. & SATURDAY 10 A.M. to 5 P.M.

2006 Proceeds will support

Seminary Students
Detroit Urban Lutheran School
Alaska Mission Trip
Crossroads Pregnancy Center
Gary Burnstein Free Health Clinic

The Country Store is looking for donations of jams, jellies, mustards, candies, and home baked goods (cookies, breads, other treats), plus handmade items such as cards, purses, scarves, etc.

The Silent Auction/Collectibles table is seeking donations for this year's show. PLEASE CHECK YOUR CLOSETS, BASEMENTS, AND ATTICS FOR ITEMS YOU WOULD BE WILLING TO DONATE.

Sign-Up Boards for workers and donations are already out in the coffee area. **Please sign up to help!**

Working on the Antiques Show is fun, fellowship, outreach to our community and it supports Seminary Students and Christian Missions.

Questions? Call Wendy Scrlmger or Don Berkemeler

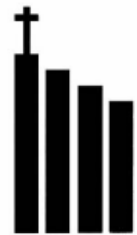
GoodSearch

Raise Money For
Cross of Christ...

Go to [www.
goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com)

Designate Cross
of Christ
Lutheran Church,
Bloomfield Hills
MI as your
charity of choice.

We raise one
penny per search
for God's
Kingdom!



BLOOMFIELD
ANTIQUÉ SHOW
OUR 43rd YEAR

Bloomfield
Antiques Show

Cross of Christ
Lutheran Church

October 13th and
14th, 2006

Friday
10 am to 6 pm
Saturday
10 am to 4 pm

Charity Preview
Thursday, October
12, 2006
6:30 pm-9 pm

Verbal Appraisals
by DuMouchelle's
Saturday 10-1



Join the MOMS Group

Moms meet in a small group, book study format to discuss the challenges and blessings of motherhood. Young kids get a playdate.

1ST/3RD MONDAYS during the school year, 9:30a-11a, at the home of Beth Kalusniak (contact the Church Office for directions).



Parish Nursing Ministry: Managing Time to Minimize Stress

Dear Church Family Members,

Well, summer is definitely over, and we're all back into our fall schedules. Already you and your children may feel over stressed, over committed and burned out. An article in the Detroit Free Press on August 19, 2006 had some good tips. Let me share them with you in a Christian perspective.

Prioritize your life: Put your relationship with God first. Find daily quiet time to spend in his Word, worship and prayer.

Don't get over involved in extra-curricular activities. You and your children don't have to have an activity every day after school or work. It's not a badge of honor to be that busy.

Consider cutting back on an activity that doesn't seem

meaningful. Don't feel guilty about it.

Allow your children time to play, read, daydream, appreciate God's beautiful world and enjoy the family. It is not time wasted. (These are the things they will remember, anyway.)

Examine your own spending habits; your child will inherit them. Recycle or fix toys and clothing that need it. Don't try to keep up with the Jones; you'll never manage it, and it's a meaningless endeavor, anyway.

Model Christian values for your children; they'll follow your "walk" more than your "talk".

Apologize to your spouse or child if you make a mistake; it won't hurt! Speak the truth in love to those around you.

The most important thing you can do for your children is share your love for Jesus and His love for them. Give your child the gift of eternity!

Please keep our mentoring group in your prayers; a small group of young women will meet for 6 weeks to be spiritually encouraged by older women in the church.

Watch the bulletin for dates for the Flu Clinic at church. It will be on Sunday, October 22 or 29th.

Please let me know if I can help you.

Blessings in Jesus,
Mary Lou Temple, RN, Parish Nurse

Dear Members of Cross of Christ Lutheran Church:

“You are being rich in every way so that you are totally generous. This moves us to give thanks to God.” 2 Corinthians 9:11

On behalf of the Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana, we would like to thank you for your gift of food for our 20th Annual Food-A-Thon.

Your support for our seminarians and their families has helped this Food-A-Thon become a huge success. May the Lord continue to bless you and your members.

Richest Blessings.

Sincerely,
Richard C. Hallgren

Dear Pastor Jon, and the rest of our brothers and sisters at Cross of Christ,

It is with thankfulness and appreciation that I write to you on behalf of Congregation Shema Yisrael. You have been a blessing to us for the past couple of years. You received us with warm and loving Christian hearts. You have been gracious and hospitable. You have made our time with you a pleasure. It has been a blessing to get to know you, and fellowship with you. Enclosed is a small token of our appreciation.

We pray that the God of Israel, who sent the glorious Messiah to bless Jews and Gentiles, would bless all of you more and more! Shalom!

Rabbi Loren

Grace Notes: Put Your Life Into the Hands of God

"Create in me a clean heart, oh, God..."

Countless generations before Dr. Jarvik came on the scene, God made the first human heart in an open-air field hospital in Eden. Having created every other thing in the universe with nothing but His voice, God decided it was time to get some newly minted dirt under His fingernails. Kneeling in the dust of the garden, and drawing from a deep well of love, imagination and a foresight which would defy explanation, He reached His perfect hands into the rich loamy soil and, without a word,

formed every detail of the first man. A short time later, starting with a simple rib, He would create Adam's perfect counterpart, Eve.

A fall and many generations later, it is still important to remember this simple Genesis scene. Especially in those times in our life when things around us seem to have fallen apart, or our hearts have been crumbled by a pain or deep injury, or the vitality of our love for Jesus has been drying out, leaving us with a sense of despair or solitude. It's easy to find the picture again. It's right at the

beginning of The Book. Go ahead and just pick it up. When you get to the part about the sixth day of creation, gather the dust and pieces and broken parts of your life, and put them again into the hands that also remember Eden ...and Calvary... and just see what He can still do. *"Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free Spirit."*

Text from "Offertory",
Music from The Lutheran Hymnal © 1941 Concordia Publishing House

By Bob Alexander
Director of Worship



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

Library Corner: New Location

Welcome to October and a surprise. The library has probably moved from its familiar location tucked away under the stairwell, between the gym and the chapel, to a previously empty office near the chapel. The reason I say "probably" is because that is the plan. Should the moving plans go smoothly the library will be happily relocated by the time you read this month's Library Corner!

As far as new books for October; there are several family-related selections; *The Power of A Parent's Words* by Norman Wright, *Families Where Grace is in Place* by Jeff VanVonderen, and *The Moral Compass* by William J. Bennett. There is also an entertaining and educational new children's

picture book, *The Time of the Church* by Suzanne Richterkessing.

Both *The Power of a Parent's Words* and *Where Grace is in Place* focus on family life, its challenges, and ways to make it better. *The Moral Compass's* forward says it is aimed at America's teachers in homes, schools and churches. Certainly, this collection of short stories and poems could easily be used by teachers, since many of the stories are based on historical events and show the courage, perseverance or compassion of a historical figure. Other selections are Aesop-like fables from a variety of cultures, illustrating a truth about human nature. I enjoyed reading a few stories at a

time from Bennett's book during spare moments last summer. I will leave you with a poem to illustrate the type of poetry Bennett has included; "Words are Wonderful Things" was written by Mrs. E. R. Miller (p.150).

Keep a watch on your words my darling,
For words are wonderful things;
They are sweet like the bees' fresh honey,
Like the bees they have terrible stings;
They can bless like the warm, glad sunshine,
And brighten a lonely life;
They can cut, in the strife of anger,
Like an open, two-edged knife.

Heather Sherk

Christmas Concert...

REHEARSALS
WEDNESDAYS,
7: 30p-9p,
SEPTEMBER to
DECEMBER



The Exalted State of Servanthood

Martin Luther, the author of the Reformation which we celebrate at the end of October, wrote, "A Christian is a perfectly free lord of all, subject to none. A Christian is a perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject to all." Perhaps those two sentences appear at first to be contradictory. What Luther was trying to help us understand is that we, as Christians, are called to freedom from an obligation to serve, but that we are called to the freedom to serve joyfully.

This call to joyful servanthood is understood and often scoffed at, simply because we have confused servanthood with servitude. Servitude conveys the idea of bondage and even slavery. Servanthood, on the other hand, connotes voluntary service, joyful giving of

ourselves, a willing choice to help others, and selfless commitment.

One who is involved in servitude serves unwillingly out of a sense of fear and has no hope of entering into a different state, while one involved in servanthood lives in an exalted state, a healthy and uplifting climate of helping others. Even though challenges must be overcome and problems may abound, the joy of servanthood is the overriding experience.

How do we get from a state of servitude to a state of servanthood? This transition is made when we properly understand the Word of God which clearly defines servanthood by explaining Christ's purpose in coming to Earth: ". . . *the Son of Man*

did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many" (Matthew 20:28). Jesus has lived the perfect life of the servant in our places, so we no longer are constrained to try to "measure up" to what God expects. The Law never saves, never enables us, only shows us our shortcomings.

When we look at Christ, though, and how He lived His earthly life and what He has done for us, we are freed to respond with heartfelt, sincere, loving service to those He has placed around us. The acts of service we render are the same; the motivation and attitude are what make the difference. Through Christ, we are elevated to the exalted state of servanthood.



EIGHTH

Advent by Candlelight

Ladies, are you interested in a beautiful way to begin the Christmas season? Join us to celebrate the birth of Jesus!

Monday,
December 4,
2006

7:00 pm to
9:00 pm

(Viewing of the tables
starting at 6:15 pm)

If you would like to be a Table Hostess, a signup sheet will be in the Narthex on Sunday, October 7, 2006

Optional Hostess table setup on Sunday, December 3, 2006

Cross of Christ Annual Rummage Sale

Friday, November 10th, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Saturday, November 11th, 9:00 am–12:00 pm

Donations Needed

Clean clothing (women, men, kids) and accessories, Kitchenware (glassware, dishes, small appliances), Furniture, linens, books, toys, snow boards, etc. Please notify Jansi if you plan to donate large items

We suggest that—all items should be usable and in working condition or a note of what repairs are needed.

Many helping hands are needed for setting up, sorting, and assisting during the sale. Your help really makes a difference in somebody's life. This is a very good outreach program, that we can really blessing the lives of shoppers. Proceeds go to in-reach /outreach programs. I pray that God touches your heart to reach out to some other souls.

Volunteers needed for:

Set -up: Sunday, Nov 5th (after late service)

Sorting &organizing: Nov 6th – Nov 9th

Clean up: on Saturday immediately after the sale

Lunch will be served everyday for all the volunteers

For more information, call Jhansi : (248) 524-0503 (Home), or (248) 388-3967(cell)

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION: PRAY, SEND CARDS

SHUT-INS:

Richard Robb, Farmington Health Care Center, 34225 Grand River, Farmington, MI 48335-3440
 Lillian Spellicy & Edna Foss Waltonwood Retirement Living, 3450 West 13 Mile Rd, Royal Oak, MI 48073

Jan Hartman, Sunrise of West Bloomfield, 7005 Pontiac Trl, West Bloomfield, MI 48323
 Glen Schultz, Campbell Nursing Home, 1900 Lakeville Rd, Leonard MI 48367

MILITARY:

LCPL Gruits, M.W.T and Jena 1919 Swamp Fox Trail Beaufort, SC 29906
 Douglas Quitmeyer; PRG 6-3 (1); APO AE 09354-3005 rgrdoug@comcast.net

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Anthony Ford	10/1	Mary Lou Temple	10/9	Zoe Viselli	10/21
Janice Hartman	10/1	Valerie Swick	10/9	Hermann Wurst	10/23
Bruce Markel	10/1	Sydney Lethemon	10/10	Owen Pifer	10/24
Duane Turner	10/1	Alex Valenti	10/10	Jace Roberts	10/24
Andrew Kirschbaum	10/2	Loree Frank	10/11	Wendy Scrimger	10/24
Carsten Ritter	10/2	Claire Fuhrman	10/12	Lucas Serowoky	10/24
Richard Krueger	10/3	Dottie Reiher	10/12	Erik Wright	10/25
Gunther Paeselt	10/3	Alfred Sherk	10/13	Julie Atwood	10/26
Christopher Schulte	10/3	John Artemenko	10/14	Melissa Duggins	10/26
Ryann Pifer	10/4	Luke Dionne	10/14	Rachel Duggins	10/26
Anne Williams	10/4	Denise Schons	10/15	Eugene Sumney	10/26
Larry Krueger	10/6	Irene Burchill	10/16	Bobbie Weidendorf	10/27
Shawn Mason	10/6	Erin Marchione	10/16	Susie Allen	10/27
Dennis Toth	10/6	Nan Myrold	10/16	Dody Bree	10/27
Lauren Artemenko	10/7	Keith Oilila	10/16	Bill Staehlin	10/27
Matthew Artemenko	10/7	Randy Spencer	10/16	Megan Loebel	10/28
Jerry Everson	10/7	Valerie Eckert	10/17	Jeff Peckens	10/28
Laurie Barron	10/8	George LaPlata	10/17	Brian Covert	10/29
Christian Curran	10/8	Stephanie Corker	10/18	Nate Grafe	10/29
Diana Schwab	10/8	Doug LaFontaine	10/18	Cathy Holste	10/29
Tom Scott	10/8	Jennifer Hechtman	10/19	Linda Toth	10/29
Heinz Wernecke	10/8	Ben Kozel	10/19	Heidi Woltemath	10/29
Abbey Barron	10/9	Nicholas Skrzypczak	10/20	Hannah Ridenour	10/30
Barbara Krueger	10/9	Doug Ebert	10/21	Michele Hein	10/31



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

John Wicker & Carol Schave	10/5/1985	Steve & Laurie Barron	10/11/1975
Kevin & Lindsey Rem	10/6/2001	Ron & Janice Milz	10/15/1971
Carol & Robert Powrie	10/7/1990	Christopher & Shawn Mason	10/16/1998
Dan & Patti Bolda	10/9/1987	Richard & Denise Gosselin	10/23/1993
Tom & Kathy Eley	10/9/1965	Mark & Donna Halstead	10/28/2000
Nicolas & Cecile Skrzypczak	10/10/1998	Randy & Erin Spencer	10/27/2001

CALENDAR ON THE WEB!

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

OCTOBER CHURCH CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

ONGOING EVENTS

SUNDAYS

8:15 Adult Bible Study
 9:30 am SonLight City
 9:30am Worship
 11:15am Worship

MONDAYS

10am Adult Bible Study

TUESDAYS

7am Men's Bible Break-fast
 10am Adult Bible Study
 12:30 Internat'l Friends
 5:45pm Prayer Time
 7pm Volleyball

WEDNESDAYS

4:30 4C's Rehearsal
 6:30 Worship

FRIDAYS

6p Scrapbook Outreach (10/6)



God Calls Us To Be His Workers

In spite of our foolish and sinful ways, God calls us to be His workers. Scripture tells us that Jesus did not pick people from society's elite when He chose his workers. Jesus' disciples were peasants, fishermen, and even a tax collector. Paul wrote, *"Brothers, think of what you when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. He chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things. . . "* (1 Corinthians 1:26-28). The majority of God's work was done and continues to be done by the lowly and oppressed people.

Certainly, God can use

celebrities and very successful people in His work. However, we need to remember that, even though we may not have accomplished anything of worldly significance, broken any records, or won any awards, God can use and transform us into effective workers in His kingdom. *"I can do everything through Him who gives me strength"* (Philippians 4:13). Society gives many accolades to those who succeed, but there is no greater honor or privilege than to be chosen as God's vehicle to spread the Gospel. As John states in his Gospel, it is Jesus Who does the choosing. *"You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit"* (John 15:16).

So why does God elevate the foolish and the lowly to be His workers? A reason may be found in 1 Corinthians 1:29: "so

that no one may boast before Him." It is only by God's grace that we are saved, called, and equipped to be in His service. If we come into God's work with impressive credentials, we risk taking the glory and credit for ourselves. God desires the weak and the lowly. As Paul said, *"Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties For when I am weak, then I am strong"* (2 Corinthians 12:9-10). God uses ordinary people to do extraordinary things. Are you ready for duty?



**Reaching Beyond
Our Walls**

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

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