



Cross Section



Senior Pastor's Message

Dear Friends in Christ,

Welcome to the glorious days of Autumn in Michigan. May your life and loved ones be blessed with the love of Jesus. Whether or not we are ready for colder temperatures and falling leaves, they will be coming. And, whether or not we are ready for the Lord's return in glory, He will be coming! The promise of Jesus is more certain than anything earthly, and far more lasting. The only question this Fall season is whether or not you and your loved ones are prepared for his return.

If you were to die tonight, are you certain you would be going to heaven? If you stood before the Lord God almighty, and He asked you, "Why should I let you into my heaven," what would you answer? Since John 3:16-17, and Ephesians 2:8-9 remind us that salvation is by grace through faith in Christ Jesus, and only those connected to Jesus will enter God's heaven, what should be our answer? What will be your answer? What will your children and grandchildren answer? What will our friends and co-workers answer? Hey, Pastor Jon, we don't really care! We are only concerned about the things of this life and the economy in Michigan. We do not want to hear anything negative. Our lives are busy enough without concerning ourselves with eternal life. Everything will be just fine! We just want our families to be happy.

If that is your feeling and belief, then everything must be absolutely wonderful in your life. No worries about finances, college, education, marriage, relationships, health, jobs, or anything else. Not a worry or concern in this world. Does that actually describe your life and mine? Not a worry or concern in the world? No lost souls, hungry children, homeless adults, addicted individuals, broken families, wars, poverty, and so forth? What a world we have created for ourselves. However, the world humans create is a fairy tale told to fools. Scripture says, "The fool says in His heart there is no God." This world belongs to our Heavenly Father, not us!

Ultimately, and eternally, we will live with the consequences related to the two original questions I asked. Hope you can find some time this Fall to contemplate, meditate, answer, and structure your life and relationships around an answer that will serve you for eternity. It may not bring earthly happiness in every situation, but your faithfulness and love for God and the things of God will bring delight to His loving heart. Have an answer that will be a certain blessing to children, friends, co-workers, and everyone we care about and love? Remember, Jesus loves you and He is counting on you. May God keep you growing in His grace.

Love in Jesus,
Pastor Jon

OCTOBER
2007

PRAYER FOCUS

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4: 4-7

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MISSION NEWS AND NOTES



October, 2007 Plate Offering Recipients

Beginning with this new fiscal year, 100% of the plate offerings will be for mission support. This month's offerings have been designated for the support of the Fort Wayne and St. Louis Seminaries' food banks and the for mission projects of the LWML (Lutheran Women in Mission).

The food banks are small stores that are stocked either by in-kind or cash donations. A point system is used to distribute items for all eligible students equitably. Available items include meat (especially chicken), vegetables, fruits, cereal, staple pantry items, detergents, personal care products and baby items. Donations come from congregations, organizations and individuals of the LCMS for the purpose of assisting students as they prepare to become ordained pastors, missionaries and deaconesses to serve the church. The program represents assistance given in addition to financial aid and is not based on financial need.

The LWML Mission Projects consist of two groups. One is on the Michigan District level, and the other is on the National LWML level. Detailed information on each group is available at www.lwml.org and www.mi-lwml.org. New projects are selected at convention every two years. Another means of support throughout the year is the mite boxes. For more information contact Dorothy Wernecke at 248/646-0726.

LWML Fall Rally

All ladies of the congregation are invited to the Suburban Lights Zone Fall Rally to be held on Friday, October 26, 2007, from 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 202 E. 5th St., Royal Oak, MI. The theme for the evening is "Two Sets of Jones' - Which One Will You Be". Cheri Fish will speak about the two kinds of wisdom: the world's and God's. The cost for the evening, which includes dinner and childcare, is \$6.00. There will be an in-gathering of used clothing, which will be distributed to the needy in our area. For more information and to register, contact Dorothy Wernecke at 248/646-0726 by Sunday, October 21, 2007.

Make A Difference Day

On Saturday, October 27, 2007, Cross of Christ will participate in the National Make A Difference Day effort. More details will be provided in flyers and the weekly bulletins. You are asked to reserve a few hours that day to "make a difference" in the community around us.

Looking Ahead

In November there will be an opportunity to share canned goods, boxed foods, paper products, etc. with those less fortunate. In December gifts will be collected for needy families in the area. More details on both will be shared in next month's newsletter.

Bloomfield Antique Show

The Bloomfield Antique Show is a Cross of Christ tradition that was started 44 years ago. Last year, more than 100 volunteers from our church worked on various phases of the Show and generated in excess of \$20,000 for charitable purposes.

Would you like to be part of this in 2007? If so, now is the time to volunteer. The Show is being held from October 4th to the 6th. Sign up or talk to Wendy or Don.

This year, these are the charities the Show is supporting:

- Project Compassion (Detroit) - Ministry for nursing home residents
- St. Paul Lutheran Church (Pontiac) - Support for families and family values
- Detroit Urban Lutheran School (Detroit) - Christian education, K-12
- Lutheran Seminary Students - Partial subsidy for 3 students

Haiti Mission Trip: A Participant's Experience

I find it strangely difficult to explain to people my experiences in Haiti. I have existed on the thought that unless you have been there you can not understand but I think that is a copout.

Let me begin by saying that I got more out of the trip than I could have ever imagined. My contributions seemed minimal but I received more love and a new perspective on life. I thought the children of Haiti were amazing. I think I did see God in their eyes. They had nothing to give but love and smiles and they gave them freely. They all seemed genuinely grateful to see us. We were handing our candy and toothbrushes (go figure how those go together) but I am certain the best thing we gave any of them was time and a little attention. When we got off the bus for VBS it was like we were rock stars, many times there were crowds of children waiting for us and they just wanted to spend time with us. Let me share one of my experiences:

Just got back from VBS, it was awesome. We started the day out arriving at the church around 11:00. There were kids there waiting for us and all they wanted to do was play. I think they could have played for hours. I taught them the hand slap game (BIG mistake). After a while I had to quit because I was getting smoked, they were good and took great delight in my pain.

So I sat for a while and a little boy found me. He was about 3. All he wanted to do was sit next to me and snuggle. I tickled him a little too. We had a good time. It was not long and the bigger kids had to teach me another game, soccer with a tennis ball. I held my own. I had shoes – they played in bare feet (my competitive advantage). As I said, they could have played with us for hours. Many of the kids told me they have been praying for three years that we would come back to do VBS. I told them “see God does answer their prayers.”

Finally, VBS started. We passed out crosses and crayons. Then the crayon mafia started. The nearest I could tell the mafia was run by what looked like a sweet 6 year (name withheld for my personal safety). My little buddy, who I gave cool colors to, was left with two gray and a white, time for new crayons. I passed out 2 to each kid. Some kids some how ended up with handfuls. The kids were so polite many tried to give the crayons back. At the end we passed out tooth brushes, bracelets (they say “Jesus loves me in Haitian”, cool!), and candy. It became a mad house. I coached the team to control the entrance and exit points and we were able to get through it. Finally we locked ourselves in a room (kind of like our own little prison) and ate lunch. Made an executive decision that ladies were no longer allowed to do VBS alone. There were a couple of rough looking male teens around putting voodoo curses on us. I thought there was going to be an altercation.

It is Haitian hot today (hot even in the shade). Sure am glad I did not do construction. Ed and I tried to organize a BBQ (hot dogs) at the construction site for the 4th. We thought we would get 400 hot dogs. Great idea for next year.

Just one of many experiences, they all were great (as I said it seems difficult to explain). The time spent getting to know my team better was also something I will hold dear. You make a connection with your fellow Christians that is difficult to explain. If you are ever considering going to Haiti I will leave you with this thought; “you will never be disappointed you went”.

God's Blessings,
John Kalusniak
Haiti Mission Trip 2007



New Church Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday
8:30-4:30
Friday
8:30-12:00

WHAT IN THE WORLD IS UPWARD?

Upward is an organization started from a single church in Spartanburg, South Carolina. The founder simply wanted to run a high-quality basketball program at his church. Each year the program continued to grow and eventually he decided to get into the business of getting similar programs up and functioning at other churches. The mission statement of Upward is "Introducing children to Jesus Christ by creating opportunities to serve through sports".

How does Basketball and Cheerleading tie into the Cross of Christ mission statement of Seek, Grow, and Send?

SEEK - Sports ministry has the ability to reach people who otherwise would have nothing to do with a church. As our renters have already proven, they are very willing to come and use the Light Center.

GROW - Upward's primary focus is nurturing the spiritual lives of the participants. This includes the players, cheerleaders, coaches, and/or spectators. It is the intention of the program to share the love of Christ Jesus with all who enter our facility and help them grow in their faith.

SEND - Our hope would be the participants in turn would invite their un-churched friends to participate in the program.

How does Basketball and Cheerleading tie into the Cross of Christ "Reaching Beyond Our Walls" concept?

We believe people who might not have interest in coming on a Sunday morning for church and Sunday school would be willing to bring their children to play basketball and do cheerleading at our facility. This gives us an opportunity to impact lives that we might not have reached otherwise. The best part is they would actually be coming to us.

What makes this program different than what the local parks and recreation department offers?

Glad you asked! This is really the cool part. For starters, we currently are developing a network of people that will be praying daily for 100 days while the program is being run. They will be praying for different facets of the program as a whole. Also, our plan is that each individual participant will have someone praying for them specifically on a daily basis during those 100 days.

Each week during the intermission of the games, there will be a brief object lesson that will share the good news of Jesus Christ with all in attendance. During practice each week the teams will be doing a brief devotion, lead by their coach.

Finally, the children have the opportunity to earn stars for their uniforms/megaphones by memorizing specific bible passages each week.

What age ranges is the program being geared to?

The first year we wanted to start small. This has more to do with controlling the number of volunteers we need than anything else. We are gearing it to children in grades 1 - 4. However, we would probably accept a Kindergarten or 5th grade student as well.

Is it being geared to both boys and girls?

Yes. In this area we have decided to jump in with both feet. Our plan is to allow for boys and girls basketball, as well as cheerleading.

How much does it cost?

The cost of the program is \$65 for participants that register early and \$75 for participants who register after October 21, but before the final deadline of November 6. Registration forms are available at the Welcome Center, at SonLight City, and the church office, and can be sent in now.

What does the child receive for the money?

All participants will participate in 8 games and are guaranteed equal playing time. They will receive a uniform and are given the opportunity to earn weekly awards. Plus, they will receive a gift at the Closing Ceremony.



What's this Closing Ceremony all about?

This is really one of the highlights of the season. The closing ceremony will be a great event that promises to be very entertaining. This will truly be a "can't-miss" item to get on your calendar! The closing ceremony for this first year is scheduled for March 15th at 7:00 pm.

At the closing ceremony, each participant receives an end-of-the-year gift. The purpose of this gift is simply to remind them of what they learned & experienced during the season. What they receive is determined by the Upward organization and is generally one of 4 things they rotate between each year. Typical items are a basketball or a duffle bag.

Where is all this happening?

We are planning to hold all basketball practices and games in the Light Center. Cheerleading practices will likely take place in the chapel and/or classrooms.

When will the program run?

The program gets rolling in January with practices once a week. The first weekend of games is scheduled for January 19th. It is scheduled to wrap up on March 15th with an exciting end-of-the-season celebration.

What is the schedule like?

Generally there will be one practice and one game each week for 8 weeks. The current plan is for the practices to occur one evening during the week and for games to be on Saturday morning. Both the practices and games should run about 1 hour.

What about playing time?

Upward has a strict rotation plan so playing time is not left to the coach's discretion. Each player will receive virtually the same opportunity to play. They will be directly playing against players with similar abilities.

Who would we play?

The teams would be comprised of all children who sign up to play. That is why it is important that we reach out beyond our walls to invite others.

Is there anything I can do to help the program succeed?

Sure thing! And....you do not have to be athletically inclined in order to help! Most important would be simply to pray for the program. Pray volunteers would step up to fill roles and that children would sign up to play.

Obviously, one of the key roles we need filled is that of coaches. However, you could also be a referee, run the game clock, help with registration or other administrative tasks, give a devotional message at half-time, or one of many other tasks.

Another way you can help is simply by picking up a few registration forms and inviting children in your life to participate. Your children, their friends, neighbors, grandchildren....the possibilities are endless!

Do you have to be knowledgeable in basketball to help?

No! There are many roles needing to be filled. For some of the roles, like coaches and referees, it certainly would help to have someone with some knowledge of the sport. However, there are certainly other roles where basketball or cheerleading knowledge is not necessary. There will be a special training session for the coaches and referees and the materials provided from the Upward organization are excellent. For instance, each coach receives a 150 page manual that details drills to run each week at practice.

Where can I find out even more?

If you have additional questions/comments feel free to send them our way. There are a variety of members already involved in the planning – Bobbie Weidendorf, Diann Richards, Marilyn Nix, Sarah Grafe, Scott Kos, Ron Berznicki, Sue and Jeff Grunewald – feel free to approach any of these people. Or you can send an email to UpwardBasketball@BloomfieldCross.Org.

*Please
get
involved!*

*Go,
Upward!*





Parish Nursing: Identifying Eating Disorders

Dear Church Family Members,

This month I would like to share some information on anorexia and bulimia that I learned at a recent parish nurse meeting.

Statistics

- 10 million females and 1 millions males suffer from anorexia or bulimia in the U.S.
- 25 million Americans suffer from binge eating disorder.
- 35% of normal dieters progress to pathological dieting.
- 50% of girls ages 12-14 are unhappy because they “feel fat”.

Behavioral Symptoms of Anorexia

- Preoccupation with food, weight and body image
- Desire for thinness, intense fear of food and fat
- Compulsive exercise
- Manipulative or secretive behavior
- Depression, shame and guilt
- Use of laxatives or diet pills
- Irrational thinking, “all or nothing” thinking

Physical Symptoms of Anorexia

- Weight loss of 15% in a short period of time
- Loss of menstrual periods
- Sensitivity to cold
- Dizziness, fainting spells
- Brittle hair and nails, anemia, hair loss

Behavioral Symptoms of Bulimia

- Secretive eating (usually binges)
- Purging (vomiting, laxative use, intensive exercise)
- Bathroom visits after meals
- Avoiding social situations involving food
- Impulsive behavior
- Sadness, self-disgust, shame

Physical Symptoms of Bulimia

- Frequent weight fluctuations
- Swollen salivary glands, puffy cheeks, broken blood vessels in eyes
- Inflammation and possible rupture of esophagus
- Complaints of sore throat, fatigue, chest pain
- Tooth decay, anemia
- Low immunity to colds/flu

Causes of Eating Disorders

- Biological/genetic
- Life stressors
- Cultural influences (music, media)
- Personality type

**Just a
reminder...**

a

GriefShare Support Group

**meets on
Wednesday
evenings from
6:30-8:30 PM in
Pastor Jon's
office.**

**Enrollment is
open to anyone
who has
experienced the
recent loss of a
loved one.**

Just show up!

(continued on next page)

(Parish Nursing, continued)

Risk Factors

- Female
- Low self-esteem
- Feelings of inadequacy, lack of control
- Troubled family or personal relationships
- History of being teased about weight
- Perfectionism, achievement oriented
- Desire for control

Treatment

- Counseling
- Medications (antidepressants etc.)
- Nutritional counseling
- Medical care for related health problems

How to help a friend or loved one...

- Follow your instincts; trust your gut feelings
- Share your concerns in a supportive way
- Mention specific examples and share feelings
- Express your love and support
- Be prepared with resources

www.NationalEatingDisorders.org

Referral Helpline 1-800-931-2237

Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak 1-248-551-5000

I feel I must add spiritual support to the treatment plan. God has created us in His image, and each of us is special to Him. He loved us so much that He sent Jesus to suffer and die for our sins. A helpful book to recommend is "The Search for Significance" by Robert S. McGee.

Blessings in Jesus,
Mary Lou Temple RN
Parish Nurse

Is it Sadness or Depression?

How do you tell the difference between sadness and depression?

A free, anonymous screening tool is available online through December 2007. Go to www.LHMINC.org to complete this grief, confidential screening. This free service is hosted by Lutheran Homes of Michigan, one of the state's non-profit providers of senior service—home care, residential living, skilled nursing and hospice.

Bulletin and Web Site Contacts

For submissions to the bulletin, please email Betty (breusch@bloomfielddcross.org) by Wednesday 10:00 am at the latest.

For the website, please email Scott Dudley (spdl@comcast.net). Allow a minimum of one week for your information to appear on the website.



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



VICAR REQUESTS CONTINUED PRAYERS

My Dear Christian Brothers and Sisters,

This week marks the first full month I've spent as vicar here at Zion. The transition from Seminary to vicarage church went very smoothly. Everyone here has been very welcoming and tried to make me feel at home. It's taken me a while to feel like I know what I'm doing, but I think I finally feel comfortable in what I'm doing. The pastor and I seem to get along quite well and he has worked hard to help me feel settled.

In the past month I've been more or less fully integrated into the workings of the church. I've preached twice already, been sent around doing shut-in visits and hospital calls, worked with the confirmation class, the high school class, and the kindergarteners. While it has been busy, it hasn't been overwhelming. The activities here are somewhat lighter during the summer and new things will be starting up soon.

Life in general is rather quiet around here. When night comes there is little activity and you can sit out and see the stars clearly. Though, many folks are up and around very early. It's still feels odd to see people driving around town on tractors.

Our church is getting ready for our 160th anniversary celebration, which is coming up on the 23rd. It's strange to think that this small-town church has been around that long, but some of the traditions here run deep. Everyone around here is looking forward to the festivities.

I look forward to hearing about how you're doing and getting the latest news. Please continue to keep me in your prayers, asking God to bless me and to work through me to bless the faithful here.

Yours in faith,
Richard Davenport

Dear Cross of Christ:

We would like to thank all of you for your kind words & thoughts, beautiful prayers, and comforting cards and emails. It is good to know Dad is in a better place, but at times it is still hard to be without him here on earth. This difficult time has been eased by loving, caring people like you. So thank you- you are a blessing!

Love,
Tracey, Brian, Cameron and Kaeli Fish

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

On behalf of everybody at Grace Centers of Hope, I would like to sincerely thank you for raising the funds from this summer's Vacation Bible School. Your donation of \$489.80, was greatly needed and will go to help the many desperate men, women and children who depend on Grace Centers of Hope.

With the warmer weather, please know that the work of Grace Centers of Hope continues. There are mothers who are fleeing abusive relationships, children are out of school and there will be people who are hurting and homeless who need our help.

Without your support, we would be unable to provide simple necessities such as food, clothing and shelter to those who daily seek our help. Thank you for joining hands with Grace Centers of Hope in partnership to help change lives and give hope to those who have been deemed hopeless.

God Bless,
Pastor Kent W. Clark, CEO, Grace Centers of Hope

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Turning Negative Market Talk into Positive Action

It seems that all we read and hear about money in the market place is negative reports. We understand that a lot of people are out of work; lay-offs, companies moving to other locations, off-shore production, imports, factory closings, but come on—give us a break. Maybe we wouldn't have as many economic problems if we looked at money as a positive benefit provided to us by our God rather than from the perspective of the local, national and international opinions.

It is a fact that Michigan has the highest rate of foreclosures in the United States. I know that because for the last 2 months it has been headline news. We know that Michigan's economy is in dire straights, because we have been hammered over the head with this information for the last 2 years. If we were to compare the press's view of the stock market to riding an elevator, we would climb stairs wherever we went—The market plunged—plummeted! The stock market crashed! A few months ago when the market was at the highest point in near history, a decline of only a few points was front page and TV headline news.

So, what is there to be positive about? For starters, while we are being bombarded by the news that stockholders are selling off, what's not being said is other stock purchasers are buying. As long as we practice buying at low prices and selling when prices are up, selling off is not a bad thing. Commercial investors practice non-emotional buying and selling. The headline news would have us to believe that the market is driven by emotions—and unfortunately, with many individual investors, decisions are based on emotions, emotions brought on by negative, big, free press hype.

Here is another positive prospective. Press writers and news commentators are not always correct when they predict future events. Listen carefully and you will hear words like: possible change; may indicate or could be. Warren Buffet, considered one of the greatest investment people of all times, when asked his thought on market timing was quoted as saying, “No one can predict the market”. If you believe Mr. Buffet, and I do, don't let negativity influence your buying or selling decisions.

Some money magazines make great reading, but remember that it typically takes a month for them to assemble and report their “knowledge” of “current” market conditions. Relying on monthly journals is like driving a car by looking in the rearview mirror—pretty scary.

Viewing the market from a positive aspect enables us to set aside negative press and rely on the gift that God has given us. The ability to study, gather market knowledge and make decisions based on market trends and conditions. We have to listen to TV and the press, some of what is said provides important insights. However, if you don't feel equipped to make important investment decisions, you must seek competent, Christian counsel and ask God for direction.

There is a story in the Bible that tells about a single mom with two sons. She was down and out; no money, no food. The first thing she did was seek Godly counsel. You know the rest of the story — She was advised to gather all the containers she could find or borrow and to use the little oil she had on hand to fill them. It was good counsel, because God blessed her efforts and provided her with enough oil to sell, pay her debts and live on the rest. (2 Kings 4)

God will bless your efforts also. Ask Him to place godly counsel in your life to help you make investment decisions. God wants the very best for you and He expects you to go after it, but that's another article to write.

Merl Terry
Ministry of Finance

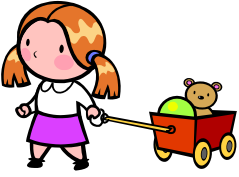


On the Lighter Side...

After starting a new diet I altered my drive to work to avoid passing my favorite bakery. I accidentally drove by the bakery this morning and as I approached, there in the window were a host of goodies.

I felt this was no accident, so I prayed... “Lord, it's up to You, if You want me to have any of those delicious goodies, create a parking place for me directly in front of the bakery.” And sure enough, on the eighth time around the block, there it was! God is so good!

Taken from the Steward Builders newsletter



LIBRARY CORNER: DVDs, CDs AND BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE LIBRARY

The library has received quite a few DVD and CD donations, as well as some new audio and video tapes, useful for those of us with the older technologies at home. In the DVD format we have twelve *McGee and Me* Mini-Movies in a four DVD set. *McGee and Me* is a Focus on the Family series containing an entertaining cartoon character (McGee) and a real boy (Nick) who learns Biblical values while having action-packed adventures and interacting with his pal McGee, family and friends. These full-length stories have been reformatted from their original video tape formats into DVD's; they also include special features which were not in the original releases. The whole family will enjoy them and have something to talk about after each viewing, should parents wish to reinforce their messages with discussions about the values presented.

In CD format is *Fully Alive in the Spirit* by Joani Tabor, a singer and motivational speaker. The topics include: "Decreasing Desire for the World's Systems", "Your Sphere of Love is Continuously Increasing" and "You Find it Easier and Easier to Forgive Those Who Offend You". Also in CD format is *Over the Top* a praise music album by Kellie Copeland Kutz, and *Cool Music, Hot Ministry* by Youth Encounter, both meant for young people and adults who like lively music. Intended for married adults is *Marriages That Have Been Restored* by Focus on the Family with Dr. James Dobson. This CD is from his radio ministry and consists of call-ins over two programming days. In audiotape format is *Wild and Wacky Totally True Bible Stories* by Frank Peritti, a tape of dramatized Bible stories and songs for children. In videotape format is *The Adventures of Prayer Bear*, which uses live action, music and animation to introduce children to the concept that prayer is talking to God, and that He is there even though we can't see Him, also that God is our friend and that talking to Him strengthens that friendship.

The library has an exciting new book as well, *Blessed Child* by Ted Dexter and Bill Bright. This fast-paced novel introduces readers to concepts about the Holy Spirit, the Kingdom and the role of prayer. *The Hurried Child* is an updated edition of the original by David Elkind, Ph.D. It deals with the risks of exposing children to "hurrying" influences in the movies, internet, television, schools and the home. *Christ the Lord - Out of Egypt* is a fictional, but historically accurate account of a year in the life of seven-year-old Jesus, told through His voice. It is written by Anne Rice who, after researching the life of Jesus for many years, converted from atheist to Christian. She then decided to dedicate her writing talents to God and wrote this book as an attempt to portray the Jesus of the Gospels at an early age. *Up on Melody Mountain* by Betty Jean Robinson is an autobiography detailing how the Holy Spirit has given her peace and joy in the midst of trouble and hurt, and thus allowed her to help others. She has witnessed healing miracles.

Thank you to all our summer donors. It will take me a while to include your donations into the church library, so please be patient.

Heather Sherk



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Steve & Laurie Barron
10/11/1975
Dan & Patti Bolda
10/9/1987

Roy & Carlene Fanning
10/28/2006
Richard & Denise Gosselin
10/23/1993
Mark & Donna Halstead
10/28/2000
Ron & Janice Milz
10/15/1971

Kevin & Lindsey Rem
10/6/2001
John Wicker & Carol Schave
10/5/1985
Nicolas & Cecile Skrzypczak
10/10/1998
Randy & Erin Spencer
10/27/2001

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION: PRAY, SEND CARDS

NEW MEMBER

Kendra Kretzschmer
29921 Meridian Place
#17-201
Farmington Hills,
MI 48331
248-752-4439

CHANGES & CORRECTIONS

Dionne family's new phone number:
248-640-7806

Change of email for Beth Dameron:
Bdameron1@yahoo.com

Atwood family's correct address: 6 Kelso Court (not Kelson Court)

Bill Fuhrman's correct email address:
Bill.fuhrman@att.net

TRANSFERRED

Tom & Kathy Eley

SHUT-INS

Richard Robb
Farmington Health Care Center, 34225 Grand River, Farmington, MI 48335-3440

Edna Foss
Waltonwood Retirement Living, 3450 West 13 Mile Rd, Royal Oak, MI 48073

Lillian Spellicy
Sunrise Assisted Living of Bloomfield, 2080 South Telegraph Road, #320A Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302

Jan Hartman, Sunrise of West Bloomfield, 7005 Pontiac Trl, West Bloomfield, MI 48323

MILITARY:

LCPL Gruits, M.W.T and Jena
1919 Swamp Fox Trail Beaufort, SC 29906

Doug Quitmeyer (do not include a rank)
Unit # 931003
TF TR (1)
APO, AE 09391
Email: rgrdoug@gmail.com

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 Worship
9:45 SonLight City
9:45 Worship
11:15 Worship

MONDAYS

10am Adult Bible Study

TUESDAYS

7am Men's Bible Breakfast
10 am Adult Bible Study
11:45 Primetimers (10/9)
12 pm Intern'l Friends
5:45pm Prayer Time
7pm Volleyball

WEDNESDAYS

4:45—4C's
5:30—Dinner
6:30—Classes

THURSDAYS

12:30 Int'l Friends

FRIDAYS

SATURDAY

5:30 Worship

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Janice Hartman	10/1	Alex Valenti	10/10	Wendy Scrimger	10/24
Bruce Markel	10/1	Loree Frank	10/11	Lucas Serowoky	10/24
Duane Turner	10/1	Claire Furhman	10/12	Erik Wright	10/26
Melissa Cesal	10/2	Alfred Sherk	10/13	Julie Atwood	10/26
Andrew Kirschbaum	10/2	John Artemenko	10/14	Irene Burchill	10/26
Carsten Ritter	10/2	Luke Dionne	10/14	Melissa Duggins	10/26
Robert VanNorman	10/2	Denise Schons	10/15	Rachel Duggins	10/26
Richard Krueger	10/3	Erin Marchione	10/16	Aubrey Lee	10/26
Gunther Paeselt	10/3	Nan Myrold	10/16	Eugene Sumney	10/26
Christopher Schulte	10/3	Keith Ollila	10/16	Bobbie Weidendorf	10/26
Ryann Pifer	10/4	Randy Spencer	10/16	Susie Allen	10/27
Nathan Eckert	10/5	Valerie Eckert	10/17	Dody Bree	10/27
Larry Krueger	10/6	George LaPlata	10/17	Bill Staehlin	10/27
Shawn Mason	10/6	Stephanie Corker	10/18	Megan LoebI	10/28
Dennis Toth	10/6	Doug LaFontaine	10/18	Madeleine Lorey	10/28
Lauren Artemenko	10/7	Jeane Lee	10/18	Lily Berlin	10/29
Matthew Artemenko	10/7	Jennifer Hechtman	10/19	Nate Grafe	10/29
Jerry Everson	10/7	Ben Kozel	10/19	Linda Toth	10/29
Laurie Barron	10/8	Nicolas Skrzypczak	10/20	Heidi Woltemath	10/29
Christian Curran	10/8	Doug Ebert	10/21		
Diana Schwab	10/8	Jodie Turner	10/21		
Heinz Wernecke	10/8	Zoe Viselli	1/21		
Abbey Barron	10/9	Jessica Turner	10/23		
Valerie Swick	10.9	Hermann Wurst	10/23		
Mary Lou Temple	10/9	Owen Pifer	10/24		
Sydney Lethermon	10/10	Jace Roberts	10/24		





Don't Mow Your Lawn!

GOD: Frank, you know all about gardens and nature. What in the world is going on down there on the planet? What happened to the dandelions, violets, thistle and stuff I started eons ago? I had a perfect no-maintenance garden plan. Those plants grow in any type of soil, withstand drought and multiply with abandon. The nectar from the long-lasting blossoms attracts butterflies, honey bees and flocks of songbirds. I expected to see a vast garden of colors by now. But, all I see are these green rectangles.

ST. FRANCIS: It's the tribes that settled there, Lord. The Suburbanites. They started calling your flowers "weeds" and went to great lengths to kill them and replace them with grass.

GOD: Grass? But, it's so boring. It's not colorful. It doesn't attract butterflies, birds and bees; only grubs and sod worms. It's sensitive to temperatures. Do these Suburbanites really want all that grass growing there?

ST. FRANCIS: Apparently so, Lord. They go to great pains to grow it and keep it green. They begin each spring by fertilizing grass and poisoning any other plant that crops up in the lawn.

GOD: The spring rains and warm weather probably make grass grow really fast. That must make the Suburbanites happy.

ST. FRANCIS: Apparently not, Lord. As soon as it grows a little, they cut it – sometimes twice a week.

GOD: They cut it? Do they then bail it like hay?

ST. FRANCIS: Not exactly, Lord. Most of them rake it up and put it in bags.

GOD: They bag it? Why? Is it a cash crop? Do they sell it?

ST. FRANCIS: No, Sir, just the opposite. They pay to throw it away.

GOD: Now, let me get this straight. They fertilize grass so it will grow. And, when it does grow, they cut it off and pay to

throw it away?

ST. FRANCIS: Yes, Sir.

GOD: These Suburbanites must be relieved in the summer when we cut back on the rain and turn up the heat. That surely slows the growth and saves them a lot of work.

ST. FRANCIS: You aren't going to believe this, Lord. When the grass stops growing so fast, they drag out hoses and pay more money to water it so they can continue to mow it and pay to get rid of it.

GOD: What nonsense. At least they kept some of the trees. That was a sheer stroke of genius, if I do say so myself. The trees grow leaves in the spring to provide beauty and shade in the summer. In the autumn, they fall to the ground and form a natural blanket to keep moisture in the soil and protect the trees and bushes. It's a natural cycle of life.

ST. FRANCIS: You better sit down, Lord. The Suburbanites have drawn a new circle. As soon as the leaves fall, they rake them into great piles and pay to have them hauled away.

GOD: No. What do they do to protect the shrub and tree roots in the winter to keep the soil moist and loose?

ST. FRANCIS: After throwing away the leaves, they go out and buy something which they call mulch. They haul it home and spread it around in place of the leaves.

GOD: And where do they get this mulch?

ST. FRANCIS: They cut down trees and grind them up to make the mulch.

GOD: Enough! I don't want to think about this anymore. St. Catherine, you're in charge of the arts. What movie have you scheduled for us tonight?

ST. CATHERINE: "Dumb and Dumber", Lord. It's a story about....

GOD: Never mind, I think I just heard the whole story from St. Francis.



**Reaching Beyond
Our Walls**

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