

PARTNERS NEWSLETTER

“Equipping and sending God’s people to make a Christ-like difference in the world”

Dear Partners in Christ,

Our incredible God gives people the ability to create. Especially amazing is how He inspires us to combine existing material to create something new and exciting.

Authors take the same words available to you and me, arranging them in such a way that the reader laughs aloud, cries tears, or is moved to action. Composers put sounds together that cause us to tap our feet, sway our bodies, and sing at the top of our lungs in the shower! Isn’t creativity a marvelous gift?

Can you see God’s creativity in action at Holy Cross? I see laity creatively building, repairing, counting, speaking, listening, visiting, planting, sharing, witnessing, venturing, comforting, reading, teaching and a hundred other things. Ditto with the professional staff – gifted men and women who complement one another in a team only God could have put together! How true are the words of Paul: “For we are God’s **workmanship, created** in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do” (Ephesians 2:10).

One of my current tasks is putting together a future vision for Holy Cross Lutheran Church and School. The Senior Leadership Team and I have discussed such things as partners in the Gospel who are informed, inspired and ignited; worship and education that engages minds, touches lives and calls lives to action; the importance of passing on Christian faith, especially to the “next generation” (Psalm 78:4); caring for others with acts of mercy and creating a culture of outreach. At present, we have a “vision-in-progress”, a vision of people transformed by the Gospel of Jesus Christ who, in turn, will transform the world.

The plan is to articulate and act on this vision by the Fall. Please pray that it will be a creative vision, one that will take what our amazing God has given us at Holy Cross and combine it in ways that will make us even better at “equipping and sending God’s people to make a Christ-like difference in the world” . . . all for HIS glory and the service of others!

God’s continued and richest blessings be with you,

Rev. Thomas R. Ahlersmeyer, Ph.D.

In May, total monthly results were unfavorable when comparing actual to budget amounts. "Envelope and Plate Giving" was down \$7,455 and the "Tuition Assistance Fund" was lower by \$9,306 from the 2010 Guide for Spending. May total receipts were \$18,811 below budget. Compensating for the loss in revenue was a reduction in spending; expenditures were \$9,993 less than the 2010 budget. The net results for the month was an \$8,818 shortfall. The year to date results are positive as indicated by the chart below. For the first five months, the actual outcome was \$100,933 favorable to the Guide for Spending.

<u>May YTD, 2010</u>	Actual Results	Guide For Spending	Difference (Unfavorable)
Total Income	\$ 1,026,044	\$ 1,044,191	\$ (18,147)
Total Expenses	\$ 985,010	\$ 1,104,090	\$ 119,070
Income Less Expenses	\$ 41,034	(\$ 59,899)	\$ 100,933

By June 1st, 2010, the operating "Line of Credit" was \$133,400, up by \$43,500 from the previous month's balance. This large increase in the "Line of Credit" is due to the loss reported in May and the change in unrestricted reserve balances. Just over four months ago, the line of credit was \$231,758 as of Jan. 15th, 2010.

May's results reverse the favorable trend that was seen the last couple months. Income from the congregation is slightly down, as is the third-party funding for "school tuition assistance" and "school needs fund". Spending reductions continue to remain favorable, while salaries and benefits make up about 50% of the gain. Staff salaries were reduced by 10% percent on February 1st. Effective July 1st, 50% of the pay reduction will be restored.

Holy Hearts, Wholly His (HHWH) Comments: HHWH contributions for May 2010 year-to-date were \$25,079. Actual contributions received for HHWH to date amount to \$2,525,806. Of these dollars, \$2,402,006 were pledged amounts and \$123,800 were non-pledged. All pledges made for the HHWH capital stewardship campaign total \$2,800,000. The current loan balance for HHWH is \$648,295; the loan was started in October, 2008 because the HHWH expenses exceeded the pledges received as of that date.



Our Senior Saints Swell Summer

Despite the rising summer temperatures, enthusiasm of the Holy Cross Senior Saints is rising above them as they are having a swell time *studying, serving and celebrating*.

In the month of June a good number of seniors enjoyed the experience of putting on eighteen greens at the River City Links Putting Course, and followed that fun with lunch together at the Glenbrook Food Court. For two and a half weeks in June eight of our Holy Cross seniors (Glenn and Marcy Kanning, John and Barb Mueller, Dean and Edith Rodenbeck, Ken Schilf and Pastor Neubacher) participated in the Parks Department sponsored Senior Games. These games are headed up by the director of the Community Center and another Holy Cross member, Carol Clark. Of the 153 men participating in these games, Dean, John and Glenn came in first, third and fourth place respectively. Of the 118 women, Edith and Barb tied for third place. A special congratulations to all those Holy Cross participants, and we look forward to more members participating in next year's games.

Our special event on July 14 finds our seniors at the Potowatomi Inn at Pokagon for a wonderful dinner, followed by a trip to Tibbets Theater in Coldwater, Michigan to watch the play, "Crazy For You". (Sorry, waiting list only for this trip.)

Then in August our seniors are invited to push residents to chapel at Lutheran Life Villages on the 8th (9:30-11:45 a.m.), attend Lunch with the Pastor (Ahlersmeyer) at the Lone Star Steakhouse on Coldwater Road on the 11th (11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.), enjoy an afternoon of indoor and/or outdoor games, snacks and fellowship at the Aulick Center on the 15th (2:00-4:30 p.m.), and attend the Lutherhostel Week at Camp Arcadia, Michigan from August 28th - September 3rd.

All Holy Cross Seniors should have received your new July - December calendar of events which includes all kinds of special activities. We encourage you to reserve those dates with Barb Friedrich (484-3701) and get them on your calendar soon. If you did not receive your calendar please call the church office. Direct any questions about events above or events on the calendar to any member of the Senior Saints Action Team. Please join us as we *study, serve and celebrate!*

HEALTH CORNER Sue Seiman, Parish Nurse

Are you aware that the number ONE cause of death in MEN and WOMEN is an Acute Heart Attack?

According to the American Heart Association, some heart attacks are sudden and intense, but most heart attacks start slowly with minor pain or discomfort. Often people affected aren't sure what's wrong and wait too long before getting help. Here are signs that can mean a heart attack is happening:

- a. Chest discomfort. Most heart attacks involve discomfort in the center of the chest that lasts more than a few minutes or that goes away and comes back. It can feel like uncomfortable pressure, squeezing, fullness or pain.
- b. Discomfort in other areas of the upper body. Symptoms can include pain or discomfort in one or both arms, the back, neck, jaw or stomach.
- c. Shortness of Breath. This may occur with or without chest discomfort.
- d. Other signs include breaking out in a cold sweat, nausea or lightheadedness.

For MEN, the most common symptom of a heart attack is chest pain or discomfort.

However, research done by The National Institute of Health indicates that WOMEN often experience new or different physical symptoms as long as a month before experiencing a heart attack. Many women never experience chest pain. Surprisingly, fewer than 30% reported chest pain or discomfort prior to a heart attack and 43% reported no chest pain during any phase of an attack. According to Patricia A. Grady PhD RN, Director of the National Institute of Nursing Research: "Increasingly, it is evident that women's symptoms are not as predictable as men's."

For WOMEN the symptoms prior to a heart attack include:

Unusual fatigue	70%	Indigestion	39%
Sleep disturbance	48%	Anxiety	35%
Shortness of breath	42%		

Major symptoms during the heart attack include:

Shortness of breath	58 %	Cold sweats	39%
Weakness	55%	Dizziness	39%
Unusual fatigue	43%		

May the Lord bless you with a happy and joyful Heart!

LWML Happenings

The Indiana District LWML had its 23rd biennial convention in Indianapolis June 25-27. Those attending from Holy Cross were Sue Seiman (delegate), Carole Zilz (North Zone President/delegate). Many thanks to Diane Breininger and Peggy Thomas for making the North Zone banner which will be displayed at the convention. The banner will later be on display at Holy Cross.

The theme of the convention was "Standing at the Crossroads", based on Jeremiah 6:16a where the Lord says "Stand at the crossroads and look;. . .". As Christians, we will LOOK to the Word, ASK for discernment, WALK in His way and FIND rest for our souls.

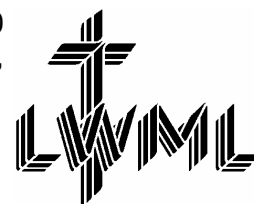
Thanks to all who have supported the missions with mite box donations. Holy Cross women have been very generous in this regard.

CALENDAR KEEPER

Saturday, October 2, 2010 - LWML North Zone Rally in the Welcome Center 8:30 – 11:30 am The keynote speaker will be Ellen Luepke. Her topic will be "While I'm Waiting for you, Lord".

A special quilt display will be featured

Sunday, October 3, 2010 - LWML Sunday here at Holy Cross.



Fiesta!

VBS



Holy Cross 2010

Our 2010 Vacation Bible School (VBS) was held June 21 through June 25, with a Fiesta! Finale on the 26th. The Fiesta! Finale included a celebration during the evening church service with a delicious dinner afterward.

The VBS program served approximately 140 children each day, entertained them with crafts, games and music; and fed them with Bible stories and tasty snacks.

A big thank you to Jill McGaffick for coordinating the entire event and to the 40 wonderful volunteers who gave their time and effort to make this program a huge success. *Gracias!!!*

School News

FIRST DAY OF PRESCHOOL CLASSES

WILL BE MONDAY, AUGUST 30TH
FOR BEARS, BIRDS 1, BIRDS 2, AND LAMBS

AUGUST 31ST WILL BE THE FIRST DAY
FOR THE BUGS CLASSES AND

SEPTEMBER 3RD FOR THE TERRIFIC 2'S.

2010/2011 School Registration

will be held on

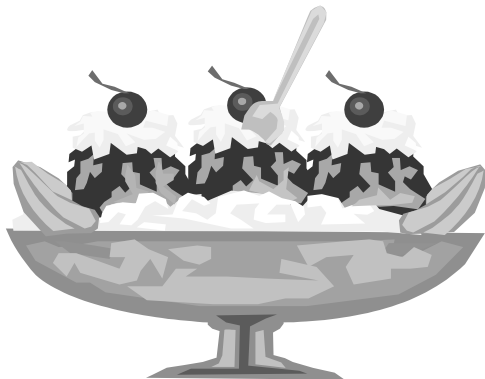
Monday, August 16th

2:00-4:00pm and 6:00-8:00pm

Registration packets will be mailed to school families the first week of August with all the information needed for Registration Day.

Back to School Ice Cream Social

Saturday, August 14th after the 5:00 service



Come meet your classmates and see the class lists - Posted for the 1st time that night.

FIRST DAY OF CLASSES
FOR GRADES K-8 FOR THE
2010/2011 SCHOOL YEAR

WILL BE

TUESDAY, AUGUST 24TH

School Summer Office Hours
for July through August

For July—by appointment only.

Please call school office
at 483-3173 ext 310

August hours—9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Tuesday through Thursday

The Holy Cross Lutheran School Band Program is looking for new and slightly used band instruments. As you do your summer clean-out---if you find any instruments that are not needed---the Holy Cross Band would love to have them! Donations are welcome, as well as instruments that you would like to sell to a new band member in the Fall.

Please contact Susan LaCroix at slacroix@holycrossfw.org or 484-9114 x344



Worship for Shut-Ins

Website:
worshipforshutins.org
Phone: 471-LOVE

Viewing times for the Fort Wayne Area:

Sundays:

6:30 AM WPTA-TV-21

8:00 AM FiOS Ch. 9 & Digital 33.2 & Sat. 252

11:30 AM DIRECTV 377; DISH 63 & WINM 12/38

4:00 PM Comcast Ch. 55 & FiOS Ch. 25

Mondays:

4:00 PM Comcast Ch. 55 & FiOS Ch. 25

“WORSHIP FOR SHUT-INS” HELPS TRAVELERS

Are you traveling this summer? Whether your job takes you on the road or you're taking a vacation with family or friends, there isn't always a Lutheran Church close by. If that is the case, our Lutheran television program can be your worship in that situation.

We can be seen across the United States on DIRECTV channel 377 every Sunday. “Worship for Shut-Ins” is the only Lutheran TV program shown weekly worldwide. Besides the satellite station, we are on over 40 **local** stations. They are listed on the Web site of www.worshipforshutins.org. And if that still doesn't fill your need, we Webcast all our programs and you can pull up any current or recent programs 24/7 by clicking “Online Worship”.

Starting in July, Lutheran Ministries Media (LMM) hopes to be moving to its new facility called The Elsie Rossman Media Center, which includes The Wolf Chapel. Therefore, after July 5, our new address will be 5 Martin Luther Drive, Fort Wayne – 46825.

Mark your calendars to attend the Dedication Service and Open House on Sunday, October 3 at 2:00 pm. President Dean Wenthe from the Seminary will preach and the Rev. Dr. Dan May, President of the Indiana District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, will dedicate the facility. An open house with refreshments will follow.

To sustain this worldwide mission, the current cost weekly is \$11,365. Donations can be sent to the new address listed above or made via their Web site. Even though LMM is moving to the seminary campus, we still feel we are partners with Holy Cross; for without the support of Holy Cross over our 30 years, “Worship for Shut-Ins” would not have survived. LMM is confident that this unique Lutheran broadcast will continue to move forward because of faithful people like you, who support this ministry financially and also with your prayers.

Ken Schilf, Director of Worship for Shut-ins

“Worship for Shut-Ins” July and August Viewing Schedule

July 4, 2010 – Ephesians 6:13-20

“Whole Armor of God”

by Chaplain Douglas DeWitt

The armor of God is timeless. No one can fight the devil alone, so prayer is also a part of a Christian's armor. No matter what situations you may find yourself in, go to the Lord in prayer.

July 11, 2010 – Luke 10:25-37

“Being a Neighbor”

by Rev. Karl Frincke

Having faith in Jesus Christ means doing something to demonstrate that faith. God freely gives the gift of eternal life; we inherit it, and then we respond in faith and do something; be a neighbor to others.

July 18, 2010 – Luke 10:38-42

“One Thing Necessary”

by Rev. Daniel Brege

We may get caught up in DOING all sorts of things for Jesus. Indeed this often has value. But doing things for Jesus does not take first place in God's priorities for us. God wants us **first and foremost** to hear the Word of Christ, and in so doing RECEIVE what we desperately need---life, love, and salvation.

July 25, 2010 – Luke 11:1-13

“The Perfect Prayer”

by Rev. Paul E. Shoemaker

Jesus, in response to His disciples' request, teaches them to pray. God responds to our prayers. He hears us. He knows our needs. He graciously responds.

August 1, 2010 – Luke 12:13-21

“ Possessing Possessions”

by Rev. James Elsner

Is your life filled with "stuff"? How well do you manage it? Or does it manage you? God has a plan for your possessions.

August 8, 2010 – Luke 12:22

“ No Worries! ”

by Rev. Ken Wise

Jesus not only tells us not to worry, but Why Not! Two reasons: 1) We have a loving Heavenly Father and 2) We are infinitely valuable to Him. So much so that Christ gave His life for us.

August 15, 2010 – Hebrews 12:1-2

“ Running the Race”

by Rev. Daniel Brege

We may think that our Christian life is solely our accomplishment. We cannot run the race (the Christian life) at all without Christ. He is the author and perfecter of the faith, who for the joy that was set before Him, endured the cross for our salvation. Fix the eyes of faith on Him, and your Christian race will be run by Him and through Him!

August 22, 2010 – Hebrew 12:29

“A Consuming Fire”

by Dr. Walter A. Maier III

God will be a consuming fire to all who persist in unbelief and rebellion against the Lord. But, He is also a God of grace, mercy, and love. Christ has redeemed the whole world, and all are invited to believe in Him and be saved. We who have faith in Christ have been freed from the guilt of our sin and from the power of sin.

August 29, 2010 - Luke 14:1-14

“Friend, Move Up Higher”

by Rev. Paul Shoemaker

We are to be humble before God, not thinking too highly of ourselves. God lifts us up and invites us, “Friend, Move Up Higher”. At the heavenly banquet God invites us into His presence

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
PARTNERS NEWSLETTER
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Tennis Camp

Beginners
through
experienced
levels
welcome



August 2nd-5th, 2010

9:00-11:00am

For all children ages 7-12

**Location: Concordia High School
tennis courts**

**Join us for tennis lessons, crafts,
games and Bible stories**

Adult and Teen volunteers are still needed.
Please call the church office at 483-3173 for more info.