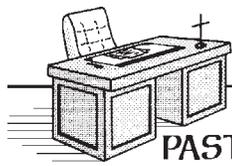
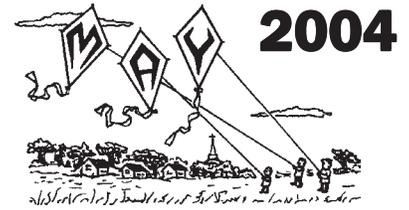


Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church Crossnotes



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

For me, Memorial Day always brings back childhood memories of going out with my grandmother to our church's country cemetery on the plains of Kansas. She would lovingly arranged dozens of bottles and jars with beautiful bouquets of lilacs and peonies and other flowers from her garden. Out at the cemetery, I would help her place them on the graves of her loved ones: my great-grandparents; grandfather; great-aunts and uncles; cousins who died in infancy.

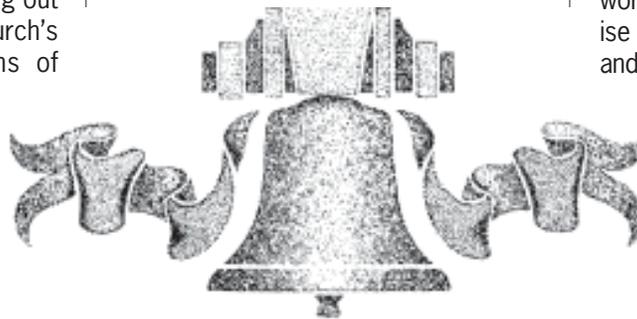
Memorial Day is different now. The earthly remains of my grandmother herself and also my father now lie in that cemetery. And it is now my mother who decorates their graves.

We call this national holiday Memorial Day because it is a time for us to remember. To remember, first of all, the men and women, like my father, whose graves are decorated with flags, who served bravely in our nation's defensive forces, especially those who gave the ultimate sacrifice to defend our liberty and freedom.

We also remember all our loves ones: fathers and mothers; sisters and brothers; sons and daughters; wives and husbands. We miss them so very much, and we remember the joy, the happiness, the love with shared with them.

St. Paul writes in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, "We would not have you be ignorant, brothers, about those who fall asleep, or to grieve in the same manner as the rest of men, who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in Him. . . . And so we shall be

faith. For, the shortest verse in the Bible tells us that even "Jesus wept" with grief Himself, when He stood before the grave of His friend Lazarus (John 11:35). Like Jesus, we grieve and weep and mourn our loves ones. However, as Psalm 30:5 says, "Weeping may remain for the night, but joy comes in the morning." Although we grieve and weep in the "night" of this world, we still have hope, in Jesus' promise of joy in the "morning" of eternal life, and reunion with our loved ones there.



We give thanks to You, O Lord, for all the blessings which You have showered upon our nation. Help us, and all the citizens of our land, to acknowledge that freedom, prosperity, peace, and all our other blessings come from You. Make us as a nation grateful and devoted unto You. Be with all the men and women serving in the defensive forces of our nation. Keep them safe and help them to serve with honor both their country and their God. Comfort us all as we remember departed loved ones, with the blessed hope of eternal life and reunion in heaven; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.



forever with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words."

Note that St. Paul does not say that we do not or should not grieve. Grieving is not a sign of weakness or a lack of

Jesus promises in John 14:1-6, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God ; trust also in Me. In My Father's house are many rooms. . . . I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and take you to be with me, so that where I am you also may be. You know the way to the place where I am going. . . . I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life."

For many of our loves ones, Jesus has already fulfilled His precious promise, "I will take you to be with Me." Even now their souls are with Him in paradise. And on the last day, He will raise up all the dead, our bodies and souls will be reunited, "And so we shall be forever with the Lord."

"I am the Resurrection and the Life," Jesus promises in John 11:25. "Whoever believes in Me, even though he die, yet shall he live." That is Jesus' promise to you , as you remember your loved ones this Memorial Day. For, even

though your loved ones, and you yourself die, *yet you shall live*, together, with Him in eternal life. "Therefore comfort one another with these words."

Pastor Kevin Vogts



Easter Outreach Events Success

Over 100 children—more than double last year—and at least that many adults accompanying them enjoyed our very successful Easter Egg Hunt at Holy Cross on April 10. Several visitors commented that it is the best and most well-run Easter Egg Hunt they have ever attended. Thankfully, the Lord averted the predicted rain and sent beautiful Spring weather instead!

The children enjoyed the eggs stuffed with candy, and redeemed special prize eggs for Christian books and other prizes. Over 50 children and at least that many adults also stayed for a video which told the Easter story.

Attendance on Easter Sunday also more than doubled over last year. Following the Sunrise Service, we enjoyed a delicious Easter Breakfast.

Special thanks to the members of the Evangelism Committee who worked so hard to make these community outreach events a success: Daniell Bargstadt, Kathi Bietz, Janet Martin (Chair), and Marcy Schroeder.

Crossnotes

Published Monthly by

*Holy Cross Evangelical
Lutheran Church*

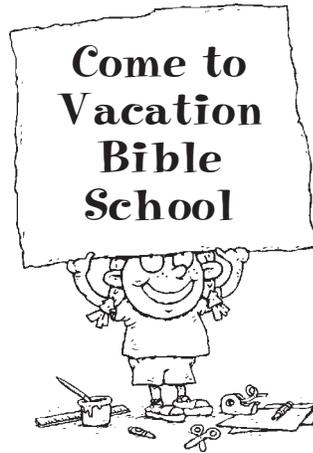
*149 Bison Trail P.O. Box 1902
Dakota Dunes, SD 57049-1902*

*605-232-9117
pastorvogts@cableone.net*

May, 2004

Volume 2

Number 5



All Children Are Invited to Enjoy Vacation Bible School

at Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Monday thru Friday
June 7th to 11th, 2004

Preschool (Ages 3-5) – 9:00-11:15am
Kindergarten thru Sixth Grade – 1:00-3:15pm

Bible Lessons ☺ Crafts ☺ Songs ☺ Refreshments

No Charges or Fees Non-Members Welcome!
Pre-Registration Appreciated

For more information contact VBS Superintendent Terese Vogts (232-4013)

VBS Pre-Registration

Return To: Holy Cross Lutheran Church
149 Bison Trail
PO Box 1902
Dakota Dunes, SD 57049

or Register by Phone by Calling Terese Vogts at 232-4013

Children's Names

Age or School Grade
Just Completed

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Parent or Guardian: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____



Help and Donations Needed for Vacation Bible School

Your help is needed as Holy Cross again offers Vacation Bible School for the community. Classes will be Monday thru Friday, June 7th to 11th. with Preschool (Ages 3-5) in the morning, from 9:00am-11:15am, and Kindergarten thru 6th Grade in the afternoon, from 1:00pm-3:15pm.

This year each child in the lower grades will receive as a gift from Holy Cross five high-quality Arch books, for each of the five stories being covered. Each child in the older grades will receive a comic book-style Bible story book. Wonderful crafts are being planned, and singing will again be led by the very talented Jill Ellickson.

Both leaders and helpers are needed for all areas. The children are a great joy and it is a really fun week. Let VBS Superintendent Terese Vogts know that you are able to help. Please also consider a special donation, marked "VBS Expenses," to help defray the costs of this important outreach activity.

Communion Change

The Voters Assembly recently decided to use the individual cups for Communion on the first, third and fifth Sundays, the common cup on the second and fourth Sundays, and both individual and common cup for special services.

Free Family Movie Nights



Sunday, June 20, 6:00pm

Disney's **The Lion King** 1 1/2
All-New Sequel to the Classic Hit—Never Shown in Theaters

Sunday, July 18, 6:00pm

Disney's **The Great Mouse Detective**

Sunday, August 15, 6:00pm

Jonah: A Vegitales Movie

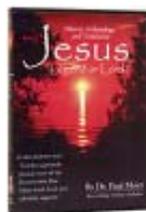
Presented at Holy Cross Lutheran Church
 Dakota Dunes Boulevard and Bison Trail
 Projected on Big Screen – Free Popcorn and Koolaid
 All Ages Welcome *(No unattended children, please)*

No Charges or Fees

All Invited – Everyone Welcome!

Presented Under License from Christian Video Licensing International CVLI License #501228800

For More Information Call 232-9117 or 232-4013



Jesus: Legend or Lord?

Is there any evidence for Jesus outside the Bible? Is the Biblical account of Jesus historically and factually accurate?

During May we are concluding a study in Adult Bible Class about these

and other questions regarding Jesus' life, crucifixion and resurrection, featuring a DVD with Rev. Dr. Paul Maier, Lutheran pastor, noted author, and professor of ancient history at Western Michigan State University.

Each week we see a 25-30 minute segment of Dr. Maier's captivating presentation. Everyone is invited to join in Sundays at 10:30am for this fascinating look at Jesus as seen from the perspective of a noted historian. You are also welcome to borrow the DVDs, which were purchased by the church.



Missionaries of the Month

Each month we remember in prayer in our worship specific missionaries sponsored around the world by our congregation, through our Synod and related organizations. You are encouraged to remember them also in your personal and family prayers.

May 2

*Matthew and Rebecca Wasmund
Taiwan*

Matthew and Rebecca teach in the English language program and lead Bible classes at Concordia Middle School, which has over 2,400 students! Pray for the continued success of this outreach program.

May 9

*Krista Krenske
Slovakia*

Krista serves in a special bilingual school in Tisovec. All the classes are taught in both English and Slovak. Pray that she will adapt to this new culture and language.

May 16

*Rev. Tim and Marguerite Nickel
Kyrgyzstan*

Pastor and Mrs. Nickel have recently planted the 11th new church Kyrgyzstan, at Jange Pachta. Pray for their safety in this part of the former Soviet Union, and continued growth of the Lutheran Church there.

May 23

*Michael and Cathering Tanney
Puerto Rico*

Mike and Cathy are working to plant a church in the city of Mayaguez. They also work with small groups, Sunday School classes and Bible studies. Pray for the growth of their church "plant" in Mayaguez.

Holy Cross Summer Kid's Camp

Hands-On Fun & Learning

for Ages 3-6

Wednesdays — 9:00am-3:00pm

June 16 thru August 11

Led by Jennie Thul

Certified Teacher with Master's Degree



To Register or For More Information Call Terese Vogts (232-4013)

May 30

*Bob and Alice Smit
Indonesia*

Bob serves as head of the counseling department for the Pelita Harapan University and the spiritual counselor for the student body. Alice teaches third grade at a Pelita Harapan school. Pray for the success of their labors and give thanks to God for opening extraordinary doors for working in this country of 213 million.

April 18

*Rev. Kevin & Terese Vogts
Kevin's Birthday*

April 25

*Joey, Marcy & Bryce Schroeder
Brady's Baptism Birthday*

May 9

*Virginia Peterson
In Memory of Robert Peterson*

*Rev. Kevin Vogts &
Jacob, Sarah and Anna
In Honor of Terese for Mother's Day*

Flowers for Worship



Thank you for these flower donations to beautify our worship. Any additional donations will be listed in future newsletters.

A sign-up sheet to provide flowers for worship in 2004 is on the bulletin board at the back of the church. Occasions to remember include anniversaries, birthdays, in memory of loved ones, etc. Flowers may be obtained anywhere and you may provide your own vase or use one of the assortment in the church kitchen.

April 11

*Paul & Diana Kaardal
Alex's Birthday
See Also Easter Lily List*



Robert L. Peterson

Entered Eternal Rest May 4, 2004

*"Blessed are the dead who die
in the Lord. . . God himself will
be with them and be their God.
He will wipe every tear from their
eyes. There will be no more death
or mourning or crying or pain."*

Revelation 14:13, 21:3-4



Rev. Tim and Marguerite Nickel
Kyrgyzstan



“Jange Pachta is now our 11th new church plant in Kyrgyzstan. It all started in September when Tanya, a national believer from Vorontsovka got the idea in our evangelists’ meeting to start a group two hours away in a village where her aunt lived. They started with one person, and after six weeks, 30 people came and then 40. About 20 people were baptized over the months, even several men. We began to teach the Catechism to prepare for a new church start and to meet the desire for Holy Communion. On February 26, nine people were confirmed with over 20 people present. A church is born. Next week there will be a Communion Service and more will be confirmed.”



Tim and Michelle Miller and Family
Thailand

“Mr. Gomet started coming to Phong Phet Lutheran Church in Bangkok last month. He’s a social worker at a prison five minutes away and pays a co-worker to work his shift on Sunday morning, so that he can come to church! He is under pressure from his long-time girlfriend to stop pursuing Christianity. But, he says, ‘There is no way I can stop now!’ Gomet is studying the Bible to prepare for Baptism. His mother is a Christian from the town of Khok Kloi, and attends Concordia Lutheran Church there. Several months ago, Mr. Gomet had come upon tough times and went to visit his mother. She shared the Gospel with

Holy Cross Preschool and After School Care

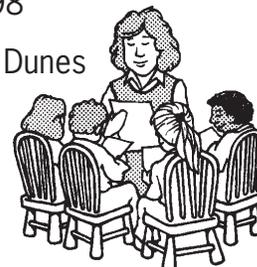
Reserve Now for Fall

Age 2 — Mom’s Day Out

Ages 3-5 — Preschool

K-6th Grade — After School Care

- Providing quality Christian education since 1998
- Only Preschool conveniently located in Dakota Dunes
- Preschool classes taught by certified teachers
- Reserve your child a place *now* for next year
- Through 6th grade, 3:00pm-6:00pm
- Bus service to After School Care direct from Dakota Valley and Sacred Heart
- Only After School Care conveniently located in Dakota Dunes
- To register or for more information call Board of Education Chair Terese Vogts (232-4013)



him, and he began to have hope that Jesus Christ was the One who could renew and help him. He started attending church with her. Before he returned to Bangkok, the pastor of the Khok Kloi church directed him to connect with Phong Phet Lutheran Church.”

May 30
Jacob Vogts



Elders



May 2
Doug Jansen

May 9
Greg Huibregtse

May 16
Dennis Melstad

May 23
Mike Bargstadt

May 30
Joey Schroeder



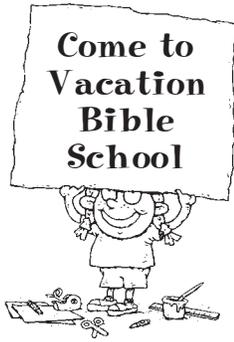
May 2
Morgan Kaardal

May 9
Sarah Vogts

May 16
Kendall Martin

May 23
Alex Kaardal

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