



*“And if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit, who lives in you”*

(Romans 8:11)

As we celebrate Christ's resurrection at Easter, it is a good time to look at what we mean when we say in the Apostles' Creed, “I believe in . . . the resurrection of the body.”

Jesus promises, *“I am the Resurrection and the Life; whoever believes in Me, even though he dies, yet shall he live”* (John 11:25). For all who trust in Jesus, death is the beginning of eternal life.

At the moment your body dies, your soul goes immediately and directly to be with Jesus in heaven. As Jesus promised the repentant thief on the cross, *“Today, you will be with Me in paradise”* (Luke 23:43). St. Paul describes the soul departing the body this way: *“Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord”* (2 Corinthians 5:6, 8). The souls of those who have departed are described as being “asleep” in Jesus (1 Thessalonians

4:13-14), but it is a sleep in which their souls actively enjoy the bliss and peace of Paradise while awaiting the resurrection of the body at the Last Day (Luke 16:25, 23:43; Philippians 1:23).

Concerning the resurrection, Jesus says: *“For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in Him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the Last Day”* (John 6:40). To us, how the resurrection of the body will take place is incomprehensible. But Jesus reminds us that *“all things are possible with God”* (Mark 10:27). *“Do not be amazed at this,”* Jesus says, *“for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear His voice and come out”* (John 5:28).

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## Spring Promise

*Tender buds on shrub and tree*

*Boast of Spring's bright victory*

*Dormant seeds beneath earth's floor*

*Leap from darkness through life's door*

*The world has changed its winter scene*

*To fertile fields with glint of green,*

*Blossoms burst to meet the sun—*

*The glad awakening has begun!*

*Somewhere beneath Death's winter sleep*

*Mortals too will wake from the deep—*

*For Christ arose that He would bring*

*His promise of eternal spring!*

*Iris W. Bray*

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The very same bodies we have now will be raised up and restored to life. As Job testifies, *“I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end He will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; I myself will see Him with my own*

*eyes—I, and not another”* (Job 19:25-27). And in Ezekiel 37:1-14 there is a fascinating vision of the resurrection and restoration of our bodies. The prophet sees the bones coming together and being covered with tendons, flesh and skin, and the Lord breathes back into the bodies the breath of life. The Lord concludes the vision with a promise: *“I am going to open up your graves and bring you up from them.”*

Our resurrected bodies will then be transformed into glorious, heavenly bodies. As St. Paul says in Philippians 3:20-21, *“But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables Him to bring everything under His control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like His glorious body.”* In 1 Corinthians 15:35-58 St. Paul discusses at length what our transformed and glorified bodies will be like.

*“Because I live,”* Jesus says, *“you also will live”* (John 14:19). Because Jesus rose from the dead in the body on Easter morn, your body also will be raised to eternal life.

Pastor Kevin Vogts

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*Building  
for the  
Future*

## New Building Dedication Success

On Palm Sunday, March 16, we began our worship in the “old” sanctuary with the children processing with palms during the opening choir anthem. At the

end of the service, the entire congregation followed the crucifer and processed together into our new addition, where a brief closing liturgy was the first act of worship in our new sanctuary. For this procession all those in attendance were asked to take along a hymnal from the old church to the new church, to ceremonially begin the moving process.

Later that afternoon dozens of members helped with a very smooth move of furnishings and fixtures into the new addition. Our first service and first celebration of Communion in our new sanctuary was on Maundy Thursday. On Easter Sunday we rejoiced on the first Sunday in our new sanctuary to also use our new Baptistry for the first time for the baptisms of Scott Feese and his son Chance.

Dedication of the new sanctuary was the following Sunday, March 30. The celebration began at the morning service at 9:15am with the Holy Cross Preschool children singing and welcoming 20 new members.

At 2:00pm there were many visitors from neighboring congregations for the special service of dedication. The guest preacher was Rev. Dale Sattgast, President of the South Dakota District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, who recalled his involvement as chairman of the district's mission committee with the initial planning for a mission congregation in Dakota Dunes in the early 90's.

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## Crossnotes

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Our organist for the dedication was Paulette Schmidt, who was the first organist of Holy Cross in the basement of a rented house from 1995-1997. She said it was like a dream playing now for the same congregation in this stunning new sanctuary.

A very special treat for the dedication were anthems by the choir of Morningside College. Their performance from our new "choir loft" also confirmed that our new sanctuary has very superior acoustics. Following the service there was a reception in our "new" Fellowship Hall.

Our thanks to everyone who helped make the move to the new building and our first services and dedication go so smoothly and be such a big success!

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## Baptisms

*Rylee Autumn Rehnelt*

Daughter of Brian & Melissa Rehnelt  
Baptized March 2, 2008

*Chance Martin Feese*

Son of Scott & Shannon Feese  
Baptized March 23, 2008

*Scott Martin Feese*

Baptized March 23, 2008

*"He saved us through the  
washing of rebirth and renewal  
by the Holy Spirit."*

Titus 3:5

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## Adult Bible Study



During the Easter season in Adult Bible Class we are continuing our study of *The Week That Changed the World*, looking

at the accounts of Holy Week from the Gospels, using a booklet with the four Gospel accounts in parallel columns. Join in Sunday mornings at 10:30am.



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## *Kneeling Optional for Communion in New Sanctuary*

Our new sanctuary is equipped with a Communion rail to allow for kneeling. However, kneeling is completely optional. Some people are unable to kneel, or simply prefer not to kneel.

When the Pastor "bows" slightly to the communicants, those who wish to kneel may do so. Those who do not wish to kneel should simply remain standing. Kneeling or standing is completely optional for each individual, like taking either common or individual cup.



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## *First Quarter Attendance Increase*

Our Sunday morning worship attendance for the First Quarter of 2008 averaged 75, compared to the overall average of 59 for 2007. In addition, attendance at our Lent and Holy Week services averaged 59, compared to 44 in 2007. Total attendance for our two Easter services was 234, compared to 123 in 2007—a 90% jump!



We rejoiced to welcome 20 new members for the first quarter of 2008 at our New Member Sunday on March 30. This was the same Sunday as the dedication of our new sanctuary later that afternoon, so it was a very fitting occasion to also welcome these latest new members of Holy Cross!

**Bob and Gloria Barnum**—Bob is retired from IBP/Tyson and Gloria is retired as founder of the Daily Grind coffee shop. They are at home in Dakota Dunes at 655 East Sawgrass Trail, but spend about half the year at their condo in Lake Ozark, Missouri; (605)232-4049; bobbarnum@live.com.

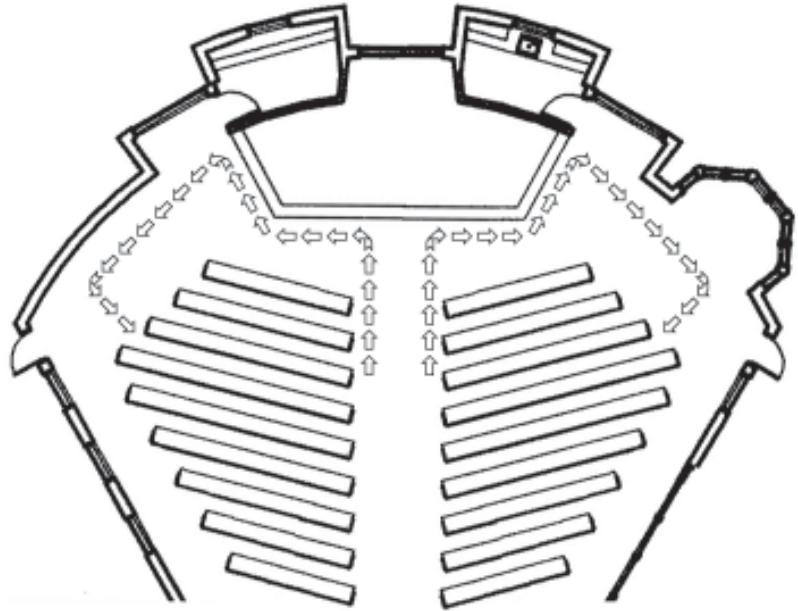
**Darla Bauer**—Darla recently moved to Dakota Dunes from Iowa. She is a student at WIT and plans to study radiological technology at St. Luke's College. She is at home at 260 Courtyard Drive, Apt 203; 333-0901.

**Justin Benson**—Justin is originally from Hurley, South Dakota and is an engineer at Mesaba Mining in Vermillion. He is at home in Dakota Dunes at 300 Courtyard Drive, Apt 104; (605) 695-5677; justinbenson@yahoo.com.

**Earl Biggers**—Earl is the Dairy Field Supervisor for Iowa, South Dakota and Nebraska for the Dairy Farmers of America. He and his wife Dawn are at home in Dakota Dunes at 247 Levee Trail; 422-1117; ebiggers@hotmail.com.

**Scott and Shannon Feese, Chance**—Scott and Chance were baptized together on Easter Sunday, the first baptisms in our new baptistry. Scott is a Physician's Assistant at CNOS in Dakota Dunes. Shannon is a Public Health Nurse on the Winnebago reservation. They are at home in Dakota Dunes at 233 Shadow Valley Bend; 232-2086.

## Communion Procedure in New Sanctuary



- ◆ Elders will usher communicants from *both* sides of sanctuary at the same time
- ◆ Each side of Communion rail holds 8-10 communicants
- ◆ If rail appears to be full on your side, please wait in aisle for next group
- ◆ When Pastor bows slightly toward communicants, you may kneel, or remain standing if you prefer
- ◆ Because some people are unable to kneel, or simply prefer not to kneel, *kneeling is completely optional for each individual*
- ◆ Leave individual cups in the tray built into the Communion rail
- ◆ After Pastor gives blessing stand and bow slightly to reverence the altar
- ◆ Return to pew by side aisle

**Nyla Hamm**—Nyla works in property management and real estate and is at home in McCook Lake at 614 Lakeview; 4901606.

**Jason and Christie Mensch**—Jason and Christie recently moved to Dakota Dunes from Texas. Jason is an anesthesiologist at Mercy Hospital and Christie is a family practice physician. They are at home in Dakota Dunes at 378 Inverness Trail; 232-2012.

**Brian and Melissa Rehneft, Rylee**—Brian is a manager at Wal-Mart on Singing Hills. In addition to being a Mom for Rylee, Melissa works part-time at Olive Garden. They recently moved from Sioux Falls and are at home in Dakota Dunes at 380 Prairie Boulevard; 422-2069.

**Mike Steemken**—Mike has attended Holy Cross for many years with his wife Tammy. He works for Johnson Feed. Their son Evan is in eighth grade and will be confirmed this year, and Emily is in 5th grade. They are at home in North Sioux City at 200 Merrill Avenue; 232-4093.

**Andy and Pat Winborn, Megan, Scott and Lauren**—Andy is the manager for the Union County Electric Cooperative and Pat is a full-time Mom. Megan is in 5th grade, Scott in 2nd grade, and Lauren in preschool. They are at home at 1806 Jack Nicklaus Drive in Elk Point; (605) 761-0245; awinborn@unioncounty.coop, pwinborn@iw.net.



## Potluck Dinner and Quarterly Business Meeting April 27

All adult members of Holy Cross are automatically voting members of the congregation. The next quarterly business meeting of our Voter's Assembly is Sunday, April 27.

There will be a potluck dinner at 11:30am with the meeting starting at 12:15pm. Everyone is urged to come enjoy the potluck and stay to help administer the business side of Holy Cross.

Quarterly business meetings for the remainder of 2008 will be on Sunday, July 27 and Sunday, October 26. For more information contact congregational chairman Doug Martin (232-9657).



## South Dakota District Pastors Conference at Holy Cross

Our congregation is privileged to host the LCMS South Dakota District Spring Pastoral Conference at our church, Monday thru Wednesday, April 7-9.

The South Dakota District has generously helped Holy Cross as a

# Easter Lily Donations



Our thanks to those who gave a record 27 lilies to beautify our new sanctuary for Easter.

Given By

- Earl & Dawn Biggers ..... Our Fathers Rollan & Earl Sr.
- Ryan & Angela Dial ..... Loving Memory of Grandparents
- Scott & Shanon Feese ..... Baptisms of Scott & Chance
- Gary & Betty Gunderson ..... Building Dedication
- Carroll & Janet Gustman ..... Parents
- Terri Hageman (2) ..... Family
- Nyla Hamm ..... My Dad Eldon Lange
- Doug & Sue Jansen ..... Paul Jansen
- Larissa Kommes ..... Lenny Kommes
- Mark & Mindy Krause (2) ..... Toby Meister and Nick Pinneke
- Doug & Janet Martin ..... Grandparents
- Jason & Christie Mensch (2) ..... Grandparents Ed & Helen Kirchbaum
- Harold & Mary Mettenbrink (2) ..... In Loving Memory of Parents
- Todd Peters (2) ..... Walter & Edith Peters and Rev. Carl & Dorcas Brueggemann
- Mabel Schibonski ..... Elmer Schibonski
- Joey & Marcy Schroeder (2) ..... Kelly Schroeder & Our Grandparents
- Randy & Deb Stein
- Rev. Kevin & Terese Vogts (2) ..... Leroy Vogts & Grandparents
- Ron & Jeannette Yockey (2) ..... Jeannette's Father

In Memory or Honor Of

mission congregation over the years, so this is an opportunity for pastors from throughout the District to rejoice with us in our new facility. The participants will be staying at the Country Inn and the conference will be held in our Fellowship Hall, with the opening service and devotions in our Sanctuary, and snacks and displays in our Gathering Room.

Everyone is invited to the opening service on Monday, April 7 at 7:30pm. The service will include Holy Communion and a reception will follow. If you've never heard a church full of pastors singing it is quite an experience, and

should be especially inspiring with the fantastic acoustics in our new sanctuary!



Elders for April  
Rob Finkral, Carroll Gustman & Doug Jansen

April Elders Meeting  
April 1, 7:00pm



## Holy Cross Women in Mission

All women of the congregation are invited to the next scheduled Women In Mission meeting on Wednesday, April 9th at 7:00pm in the Gathering Room.

For more information contact Janet Martin (232-9657 or 251-0682).



## BUDGET UPDATE

### As of March 30, 2008

Total Offerings Budgeted	
Year-to-Date .....	\$36,685
Total Offerings Received	
Year-to-Date .....	\$33,640
Total Budget Deficit	
Year-to-Date .....	(\$3,045)

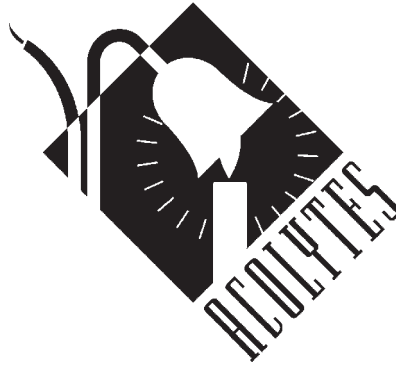


April 6  
A.J. Michels

April 13  
Dylan Sawyer

April 20  
Zachary Selby

April 27  
Evan Steemken



April 6  
Keegan Johnson

April 13  
Trevor Vilhauer

April 20  
Tyler Fletcher

April 27  
Justin Peterson



## Lutheran Lecture Series April 26

You are invited to a *free* lecture series featuring four top speakers in the Lutheran Church right here in our area. The *Lutheran Lecture Series—Midwest* will be held on Saturday, April 26 at Trinity Lutheran Church, Marcus, Iowa.

This year's topic is the Office of the Pastoral Ministry, and how changes in this office have an impact on the entire Church.

Dr. David Adams, Professor of Old Testament at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri, will address the topic, "*Biblical Doctrine of the Office of the Ministry: Does It Matter?*" Dr. Adams has his Ph.D. from Cambridge University.

Deaconess Pam Nielsen, Senior Editor for Sunday School, Youth and Family Materials at Concordia Publishing House will speak on, "*Women: Should They Be Excluded from Serving in the Church?*"

Dr. Larry Rast, Professor of Historical Theology at Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, Indiana will consider, "*Early American Tampering with the Office: Were There Consequences?*" Dr. Rast has his Ph.D. from Vanderbilt University.

Finally, Rev. David Peterson, Pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church, Ft. Wayne, will address, "*Males Only in the Office of the Ministry: What Really Is at Stake?*"

Registration, coffee and donuts begins at 9:00am. The formal activities start at 9:45am and will continue until 11:45am when everyone will break for lunch, which will be provided by the host congregation's youth group. The afternoon's lectures will begin at 1:00pm and finish by 3:30pm. A short services of Vespers will follow, and the day's activities will conclude by 4:00pm.

This is a great chance to hear some top Lutheran speakers close to home, and there is no charge.

If you plan to attend please email Jon Dorr (jdorr@midlands.net). You can also speak with Jon for more information.



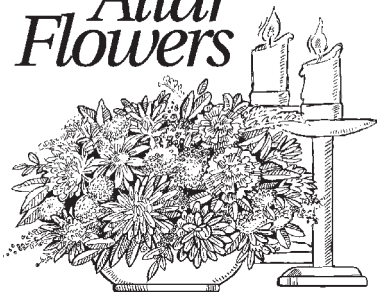
Todd Peters, April 2  
Kevin Hamilton, April 5  
Jeri Melstad, April 6  
Andy Winborn, April 8  
Chance Feese, April 10  
A.J. Michels, April 14

Nyla Hamm, April 15  
Pastor Kevin Vogts, April 17  
John Isley, April 22  
Gary Gunderson, April 26  
Lauren Winborn, April 26

Todd & Jill Peters, April 21, 2001

We list members' birthdays and anniversaries in the newsletter each month and the bulletin each week. If your information is missing or inaccurate, please accept our apologies and notify the church office at 232-9117 or email [holycross@longlines.com](mailto:holycross@longlines.com).

## Altar Flowers



The flower calendar is on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. 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.

February 24  
Jon & Gail Dorr

March 30  
Ron & Jeannette Yockey

March 30  
Doug & Janet Martin  
Church Dedication

April 6  
Nyla Hamm

April 13  
Rev. Kevin & Terese Vogts  
Kevin's Birthday

April 20  
John & Sherry Isley  
John's Birthday

April 27  
Randy & Deb Stein  
32nd Wedding Anniversary

## Out with the old...



## ...in with the new!

"Out with old, in with the new" is a good way to describe what our Lord does for us in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, "the washing of rebirth and renewal" (Titus 3:5). It also describes these two baptisms which recently took place at Holy Cross. On March 2, Rylee Autumn Rehnelt was the last person baptized in our "old" sanctuary. On Easter Sunday, March 23, Scott Martin Feese and his son Chance Martin Feese were the first to be baptized in the baptistry of our "new" sanctuary.

May 4

Patrick & Denise Honner  
Eli's 1st Birthday

May 25

Ron & Jeannette Yockey  
Wedding Anniversary & Travis' Birthday

Thank you to the confirmands' parents for their faithful attendance, and to Rob Finkral and Terry Vogts for helping teach our Confirmation classes.

# Jump in with Jesus

## Vacation Bible School June 2nd-6th

Mark your calendars now for our annual Vacation Bible School, which will be held the week of June 2nd thru 6th. This year we are having morning classes only for age three thru children who have just completed 4th grade.

This year's theme is "Jump in with Jesus!" Lessons will include the stories of Noah, Jesus calming the storm, and the raising of Lazarus. Once again we



## Confirmation Sunday

This year's confirmands, Tyler Fletcher, Keegan Johnson, A.J. Michels, Justin "J.P." Peterson, Zachary Selby, Evan Steemken, Trevor Vilhauer, and Jacob Vogts, will have their Confirmation and First Communion on Sunday, May 4. Public Examination of the confirmands was held on April 27.

plan to give all the children several Arch books which coordinate with the lessons.

Volunteers are needed for group leaders, snacks, crafts, music and recess. Sign up sheets are on the table in gathering room. Pre-registration encouraged. For more information about helping with or attending VBS please contact Angela Dial or Pat Winborn (605-761-0245; pwinborn@iw.net).

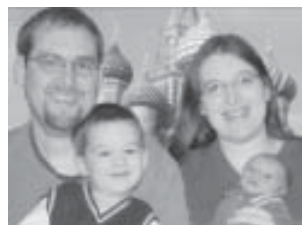
This is a wonderful opportunity to share Christ with the children of our community.



Our congregation has designated a tithe of 10% of our general offerings to support the work of our District and Synod. Each month we remember in prayer in our worship services specific missionaries around the world who are supported in this way by our congregation.



April 6  
*Rev. Patrick and Jennifer O'Neal*  
*South Korea*



April 13  
*Rev. Jon and Julie Muhly*  
*Russia*



## *Easter Egg Hunt 2008*

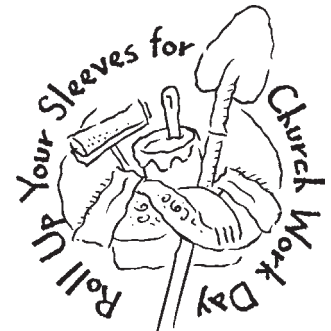
A large group of children and their parents enjoyed the Easter Egg Hunt on our church grounds on March 22.



April 20  
*Mark Wolfram*  
*Vietnam*



April 27  
*Rev. Richard Schlak*  
*Mexico*



Volunteer help is needed for our upcoming church work days to build fences, do landscaping, trimming, and general outdoor clean-up projects.

Saturday, April 12, 10:00am-5:00pm

Sunday, April 13, 11:30am-5:00pm

*(Lunch will be provided  
both days for workers)*

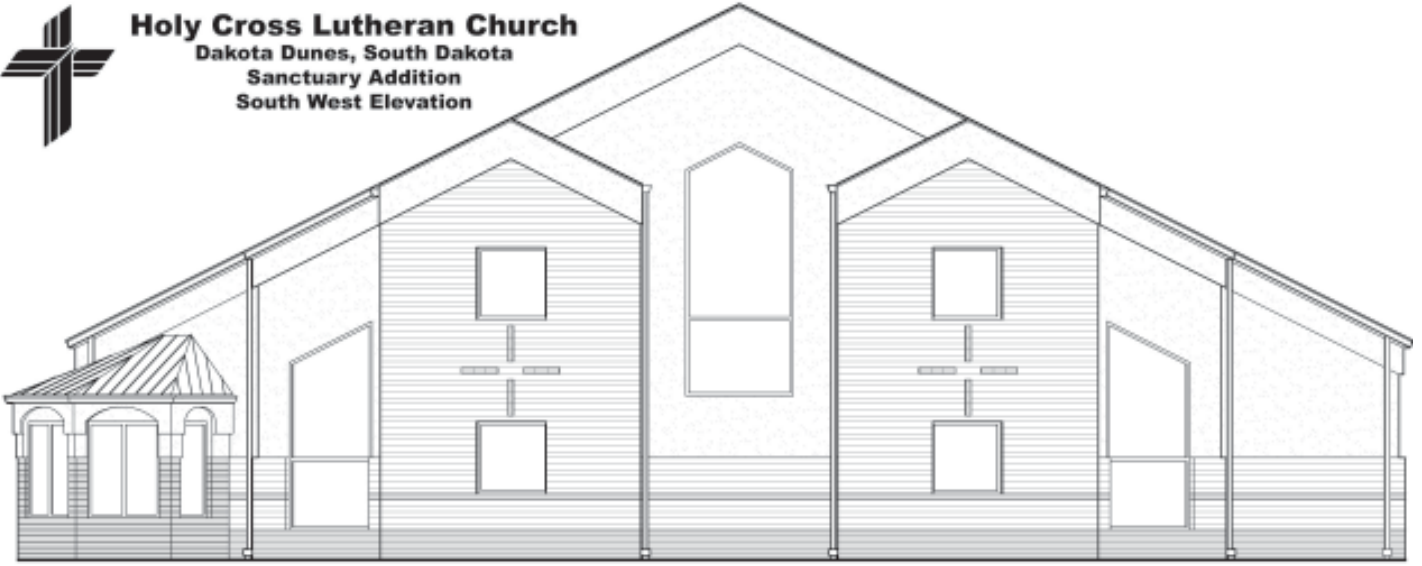
Saturday, April 19, 10:00am-5:00pm

Sunday, April 20, 11:30am-5:00pm

See the bulletin insert for more information, or contact Janet Martin (232-9657; 251-0682). Also, in case of inclement weather, call Janet.



**Holy Cross Lutheran Church**  
Dakota Dunes, South Dakota  
Sanctuary Addition  
South West Elevation



Return Service Requested

Rev. Kevin Vogts, Pastor  
149 Bison Trail  
Dakota Dunes, SD 57049

**Crossnotes**  
Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church