

**FROM THE
PASTOR'S DESK**

As we celebrate the Fourth of July, it is a good time to recall what the Bible says about government:

- ★ **Government is established by God.** Contrary to popular belief, government is not a human invention. God himself has established government for our good. As St. Paul writes in Romans 13:1-2: "There is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God" (NIV).
- ★ **Government is to maintain order.** This is the main purpose for which God established government. St. Paul says of our rulers in Romans 13:4: "He is God's servant to do you good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword for nothing. He is God's servant, an agent of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer" (NIV).
- ★ **God commands us to honor our governmental leaders.** Those who serve in government are deserving of our honor and respect, as St. Paul tells us in Romans 13:7: "Give everyone what you owe him . . . if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor" (NIV).
- ★ **God commands us to obey our rulers.** St. Paul explains in Romans 13:1-2: "Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently,

he who rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted" (NIV). And St. Paul writes to the young pastor Titus: "Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good" (Titus 3:1 NIV). Likewise, St. Peter says: "Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every authority instituted among men" (1 Peter 2:13 NIV).

- ★ **We may—and must—disobey when the government directs us to act contrary to God's Word.** This is the only exception to God's command to obey the government. When the government ordered the disciples not to preach about Jesus, the Book of Acts reports: "Peter and the other apostles replied: 'We must obey God rather than men!'" (Acts 5:29 NIV).
- ★ **It is our duty as Christians to pay taxes.** St. Paul directs in Romans 13:7: "Give everyone what you owe him. If you owe taxes, pay taxes" (NIV). And when Jesus was asked about paying taxes to the Roman Empire, he replied: "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's" (Matthew 22:21 NASB).
- ★ **God wants us to pray for our rulers.** St. Paul writes in 1 Timothy 2:1-2: "I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone—for kings all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior" (NIV).

So as you celebrate Independence Day, give thanks to God for our government, and pray that our rulers may be blessed with godly wisdom.

Pastor Kevin Vogts

***Organ Donation to
Be Considered at
July 19 Meeting***

Holy Cross has unexpectedly been presented with a unique possibility. Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Sioux City recently closed and is seeking a "good home" to give away their pipe organ, a high quality instrument by a famous maker, in excellent condition, and with a replacement value of about \$300,000.

The Board of Elders maintains for Holy Cross a Memorial Gift List of items that are suggested to those who want to give a gift to the congregation. Unaware of even the potential of this possible gift, in 2007 the Elders added a pipe organ to that list, at the time as a long-term aspiration.

When an item which is on the Memorial Gift List is offered to the congregation, it is reviewed by the Board of Elders, and then if over \$1,000 is submitted by the Elders to the Voters Assembly for approval. The Elders, along with the Congregational Chairman, have reviewed this possible gift which has been offered to Holy Cross by Our Savior's, and at the regular quarterly business meeting on Sunday, July 19 at 10:30am the Elders will recommend we notify Our Savior's of our interest and desire to receive this gift.

Our Savior's will then take us into consideration along with whatever other churches or entities have also expressed an interest. They have a preference for the instrument remaining in the Siouxland area and continuing to be used on a regular basis for worship in a Lutheran congregation, which is to our advantage as they make their final decision.

Our Savior's was founded by Danish immigrants in 1890. Since 1922 it was located at 1924 Jones Street. Changes

in demographics and close proximity of several other Lutheran churches in the immediate area contributed to their decision to close. Their last service was held on Transfiguration Sunday, February 22, 2009. Their building is for sale and they are gradually finding “good homes” for some items. The baptismal font, pulpit and many other historic items will go to the Danish Immigrant Museum in Elk Horn, Iowa.

Their organ is a significant instrument for several reasons. It was built by the premier American organ builder, Dobson Pipe Organ Builders of Lake City, Iowa. Some of Dobson’s projects include the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C., the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels in Los Angeles, California, the Atlanta Symphony Center in Atlanta, Georgia, and Verizon Symphony Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. More information about their firm and the instruments they have crafted is at www.dobsonorgan.com.

Our Savior’s organ is also significant because it is Dobson Opus 1, the first organ ever built by this famous firm and its founder, Lynn Dobson, the dean of American organ builders. Our Savior’s reports that organists from across the country would frequently visit for the opportunity to play their organ. It is their



Holy Cross has unexpectedly been presented with a unique possibility of receiving for free the pipe organ from Our Savior’s Lutheran Church in Sioux City, which recently closed and is looking for a “good home” for the instrument. It is a high quality organ by a famous maker, in excellent condition and ideally suited for our sanctuary, with a replacement value of about \$300,000.

desire to find a permanent home where this historic instrument will be preserved and well cared for, and also utilized on a regular basis to God’s praise and glory. Full specifications of the organ are at www.dobsonorgan.com/html/instruments/op01_siouxcity.html.

To determine if the instrument was suitable for us we asked the Dobson company to send a representative to survey its current condition and visit our sanctuary. Because of his close attachment to the instrument—at a recent banquet celebrating the 35th anniversary of their firm he reminisced about its construction—Lynn Dobson himself came, along with a technician. They first surveyed the organ in its current location at Our Savior’s and reported that it has been very well cared for and is in exceptionally good condition. Next, they visited our sanctuary and indicated that the organ is ideally suited for our needs. Lynn Dobson said that if he was designing a new organ for us, it would essentially be this same instrument. It is just the right size, and a great advantage is that it

was originally designed specifically to lead Lutheran liturgical worship.

Our Savior’s is planning to give away the organ for free to a “good home.” The expense to Holy Cross would be to have the Dobson firm disassemble, move, and reassemble it in our balcony, perform maintenance they might find that it needs in the process, and any changes that may be needed to our balcony, electrical, etc. A member of Holy Cross has offered to donate these and all other related expenses.

As part of the review process an analysis was also made by our architect, who confirms that the balcony is capable of supporting the weight of the organ. It would fit in the balcony without any structural changes. However, another option would be to slightly recess it into the storage area behind the balcony, which was actually designated on the building plans as a “Pipe Organ Chamber.” If the congregation votes on July 19 to express an interest to Our Savior’s in receiving the organ, and Our Savior’s decides to give it to Holy

Crossnotes

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Volume 7

Number 7

Cross, these options would be more fully developed and presented to the congregation for a decision. Either option would still allow for the choir and some overflow seating in the balcony. As part of the project the balcony, which was left unfinished, would also receive flooring, trim, etc.

The plan is to also keep the current electronic organ, because of the MIDI recording and playback capability it has, which is helpful when we are without an organist. The speakers would need to be moved and the architect would include in the plans building them in and concealing them.

The Board of Elders and Congregational Chairman are reviewing other questions, such as ongoing maintenance costs, and will have a full printed report for the July 19 meeting. If you have particular questions or concerns you would like addressed, please contact Elders Chairman Tony Waybright (605-422-2403; tonyway@longlines.com) or Congregational Chairman Ron Yockey (605-232-0615; rcougs@longlines.com).

On a Journey with Jesus



Vacation Bible School Success!

Over 50 children were blessed at our Vacation Bible School the week of June 1-5. Our theme was "On a Journey with Jesus," featuring the Bible stories of Creation, the Exodus, Jesus' First Miracle, the Transfiguration, and Christ's Death and Resurrection.

Thanks so much to all those who helped with VBS, especially: Linda Amunson, Jackie Baker, Ashley Bargstadt, Myron Bose, Quinton Bose, Zhahn Bose, Wendy Brown, Sherry Isley, Jeri Melstad, Melanie Melstad, Mary Mittenbrink, Dee Reifke, Deb Stein, Sarah Vogts, Jace Waybright, Margaret Waybright, Megan Winborn, along with Board of Education members Daniell Bargstadt, Angela Dial, Heidi Finkral,



Summer Sermon Series

Life Lessons from the Old Testament

This summer we are having a special "Summer Sermon Series" on "Life Lessons from the Old Testament," looking at characters from the Old Testament and what lessons we can learn from their lives.

June 14

"Adam: Be Content With What You Have"

Genesis 3:1-4:1

June 21

Rev. Steve Benson

Guest Preacher

June 28

"Abraham: It Seemed Like a Good Idea at the Time"

Genesis 16:1-4

July 5

Rev. Henry Witte

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July 12

"Jacob: God Will Provide"

Genesis 27:1-36

July 19

"Joseph: Do Not Seek Revenge or Bear a Grudge"

Genesis 50:15-21

July 26

"Moses: I Know the Plans That I Have For You"

Exodus 3:1-15

August 2

"Joshua: Dare to Be Different"

Joshua 24:15

August 9

"Ruth: He Will Give You Your Heart's Desires"

Ruth 4:13

August 16

"David: Nip Temptation in the Bud"

2 Samuel 11:26-27

August 23

"Job: The Comforting Hope of Everlasting Life"

Job 19:23-27

August 30

"Josiah: God's Extreme Renovation"

2 Kings 22-23

Terry Vogts and Pat Winborn, Pastor Vogts, and all who brought snacks.

Each child was given as a gift from our congregation three Arch books featuring several of these Bible stories. The children donated \$230 in their daily offerings, which will be used to buy 92 Arch books for distribution to needy children at the Gospel Mission in Sioux City. They also donated 85 other "gently used" children's books for distribution at the Gospel Mission.

BUDGET REPORT



As of June 14, 2009

Total Offerings Budgeted
 Year-to-Date \$77,820

Total Offerings Received
 Year-to-Date \$87,476

Total Budget Surplus
 Year-to-Date \$9,656

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

We list members' birthdays and anniversaries in the newsletter each month and the bulletin each week. However, our records are not complete. If your information is missing or inaccurate, please accept our apologies and notify the church office at 232-9117 or email holycross@longlines.com.

Barry Hageman, July 2
 Taylor DeRocher, July 4
 Karen Brock, July 5
 Nichole Dial, July 5
 Jacob Michels, July 6
 Darla Bauer, July 13
 Shannon Feese, July 16
 Gloria Barnum, July 20
 James Miller, July 28



Denise and Patrick Honner and big brother Eli rejoiced as Emma Kay Honner was received into Christ's Church by the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on May 24.

Barry & Kay Hageman
 July 2, 1976
 Harold & Mary Mettenbrink
 July 6, 1985



Quarterly Business Meeting July 19

The governing body of Holy Cross is the Voters Assembly, which has regular quarterly business meetings. All adult members of Holy Cross are automatically voting members and invited to participate in the Voters Assembly.

The next quarterly business meeting of the Voters Assembly will be on Sunday, July 19, immediately following worship at 10:30am. (We will not have Adult Bible Class that Sunday.)

An important item of consideration will be the possible donation of a pipe organ. For more information about the Voters Assembly or quarterly business meeting contact Congregational Chairman Ron Yockey (605-232-0615; rcougs@longlines.com).



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.

July 5
 Alyssa Stone
 Haiti

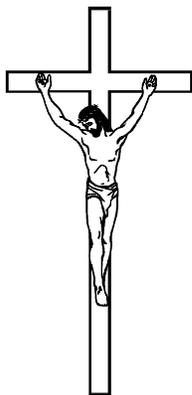
July 12
 Rev. Mark and Rose Krause
 Latvia

July 19
 Eric and Karin Semler
 Indonesia



Over 50 children enjoyed going "On a Journey with Jesus" at Vacation Bible School at Holy Cross on June 1-5.

July 26
Rev. Frederick Reinhardt
Senegal



Meditations on Divine Mercy

In our newsletter as space allows we include selections from Johann Gerhard's *Meditations on Divine Mercy*. Gerhard was a leading Lutheran pastor and theologian in Germany during the 16th and 17th centuries. He suffered extraordinary afflictions in his life, and his experiences are reflected in this inspiring devotional book.

The devotions are in the form of extended prayers. The entire book is available from Concordia Publishing House, 1-800-325-3040, www.cph.org, stock #12-4183.

PRAYER FOR THE GOVERNMENT AND THOSE UNDER AUTHORITY

O OMNIPOTENT, ETERNAL, AND MERCIFUL GOD, LORD OF HOSTS, You remove kings and set up kings (Daniel 2:21). All powers in heaven and on earth are from You (Colossians 1:16). In heaven, the angels worship You, archangels praise You, thrones revere You. Governing authorities are subject to You and revere You, dominions serve You (Romans 13:1-4), the powers fear You.

With these holy and most powerful spirits I join my payers, such as they are, and humbly ask You to fill our earthly government with the spirit of wisdom. Protect it with the strength of Your might.

Support with Your grace all Christian rulers so the more they encounter danger because of their high position, the more they will experience the abundance of Your kindness. Kindle in their hearts the light of heavenly wisdom, so they recognize that they are subject to You, Lord of all, that they are Your vassals, and that one day they must give account for their governing.

May they strive for peace because they serve You, the Prince of Peace. May they strive for justice because they serve You, the most just Judge. May they strive to be merciful because they serve You, the kindest Father. May they be

guardians of the Ten Commandments and of the Church, which is downtrodden in this world. May they show goodwill and correct judgment toward those under their authority.

Draw their hearts away from the splendor of earthly and miserable power, so a forgetfulness of the heavenly kingdom and true piety does not creep up on them. Rule them by Your Holy Spirit so they do not become puffed up with pride and misuse the power granted to them.

Grant that they carry out their official duties in such a way that they may rule without end in eternity with all the elect, and pass from the most fleeting glory of this age to the eternal glory of the heavenly kingdom. Prevent them from exercising tyranny over Your people so, after wearing glittering clothing and elegant gems, they do not descend, naked and wretched, to be tormented in hell.

You willed us to be subject to Your representatives. Grant to us obedient hearts. Make us ready to serve with complete willingness, so under the authority of Your representatives we may lead quiet and peaceful lives in all godliness and virtue (1 Timothy 2:1).

May we show honor and obedience to those whom we acknowledge as possessing authority and power over us. May we comply with their honorable commands, so by keeping these laws we may be partakers of true liberty.

True liberty is, in short, to serve God, government, and law.

O kindest God, may we honor with heart, word, and deed those whom You have willed to be Your representatives on earth. May the eyes of the government leaders be watchful and observant (Proverbs 20:8). May the ears of those under their authority be open and attentive. May the gates of heaven finally be open and unobstructed to both.

AMEN.



Briley Lynn Schroeder

Daughter of Marcy & Joey Schroeder
Born June 5, 2009
7lbs. 2oz., 20 in.

*"Children are a heritage
from the LORD."
Psalm 127:3*



Elders for July

Caroll Gustman & Tony Waybright

Ushers for July

Dylan Sawyer & Alex Waybright

Acolytes/Crucifers for July

July 5 Kasey Michels
July 12 Ashley Bargstadt
July 19 Anna Vogts
July 26 Kaleb Martin



GUEST PREACHER

The Vogts family will be traveling at the beginning of July. The guest minister on July 5 will be Rev. Henry Witte, the LCMS Hispanic Missionary in Sioux City and a former longtime foreign missionary in several South American countries. Services will be at the regular time of 9:15am and will include Holy Communion as usual.

In case you need pastoral care during Pastor Vogts' absence, the Vogts' family home phone (605-232-4013) is forwarded to automatically ring Pastor Vogts' cell phone, voicemail messages left for him at church are also forwarded to his cell phone, or feel free to call his cell phone directly (712-898-4818). You may also contact Rev. Ken Schmidt, Pastor of Concordia Lutheran Church, Sioux City (712-251-1791).



ALTAR FLOWERS

The flower calendar for 2009 is on the table in the Gathering Room. 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 Coffee Bar.

June 7

Tony & Margaret Waybright
Birthdays

June 14

Doug & Sue Jansen
Birthdays

June 21

Doug & Janet Martin
Kaleb's & Kaden's Birthdays

July 5

Bobby & Rashell DeRocher
Taylor's 1st Birthday

Harold & Mary Mettenbrik
Wedding Anniversary

July 12

Ginny Peterson
In Memory of Bob Peterson

August 9

Les & Dee Reifke
Wedding Anniversary

August 16

Tony & Margaret Waybright
Wedding Anniversary



Preschool Registration Night July 28

Holy Cross Preschool and After School Care will hold an Open House and Registration Night on Tuesday, July 28 from 6:00pm-7:30pm. This is an opportunity for parents and children to see the facilities and meet the staff.

Spaces fill up fast so if you are interested or have a grandchild, friend, neighbor, etc. who may be interested you are encouraged to please register *now* to reserve a place for fall.

For more information about the Preschool and After School Care programs you may leave a message for the Christian Education Office at 235-1688.



HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Rev. Kevin Vogts, Pastor

Office: 605-232-9117 Home: 605-232-4013

Cell: 712-898-4818 Email: pastorvogts@longlines.com

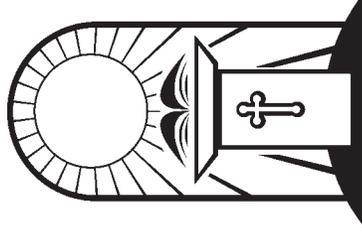
www.holycrossdakotadunes.org

2009

July

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>O merciful Father in heaven, from You comes all rule and authority over the nations of the world for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do well. Graciously regard Your servants, those who make, administer, and judge the laws of this nation, and look in mercy upon all the rulers of the earth. Grant that all who receive the sword as Your servants may bear it according to Your command. Enlighten and defend them, and grant them wisdom and understanding that under their peaceable governance Your people may be guarded and directed in righteousness, quietness, and unity. Protect and prolong their lives that we with them may show forth the praise of Your name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.</i></p>			<p>1 9:00am-3:00pm Summer Day Camp</p>	<p>2 Barry Hageman Barry & Kay Hageman</p>	<p>3  INDEPENDENCE DAY</p>	<p>4 Taylor DeRocher</p>
<p>5 5th Sunday after Pentecost 9:15am Worship with Holy Communion Rev. Henry Witte, Guest Preacher</p>  <p>Guest Preacher Karen Brock Nichole Dial</p>	<p>6 Jacob Michels Harold & Mary Mettenbrink</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 9:00am-3:00pm Summer Day Camp</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12 6th Sunday after Pentecost 9:15am Worship with Holy Communion 10:30am Bible Class</p>	<p>13 Darla Bauer</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 9:00am-3:00pm Summer Day Camp</p>	<p>16  Newsletter Deadline Shannon Feese</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 7th Sunday after Pentecost 9:15am Worship with Holy Communion 10:30am Quarterly Business Meeting</p> 	<p>20 Gloria Barnum</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 9:00am-3:00pm Summer Day Camp</p>  <p>St. Mary Magdalene</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25  St. James the Apostle</p>
<p>26 8th Sunday after Pentecost 9:15am Worship with Holy Communion 10:30am Bible Class</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 6:00pm-7:30pm Preschool Open House & Registration Night</p>  <p>James Miller</p>	<p>29 9:00am-3:00pm Summer Day Camp</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31  Church Office Hours Tuesday-Friday 9:00am-11:00am</p>	

**Deadline for Calendar Submissions or Changes is the 15th of the Prior Month
Email to holycross@longlines.com or Leave Voicemail Message at Church Office
This Calendar May Not Reflect Late Submissions or Changes**



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Life Lessons from the Old Testament

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