

Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church

# Crossnotes



## ***Are You Those Lutherans?***

As you can imagine, I have received many comments and questions, from both members and non-members, about the action taken recently by the national convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to endorse active homosexuals as pastors and perform so-called “gay marriages” in their churches. I have written this article to address some of these comments and questions. This article is also available in the form of a tract in the tract rack in the Gathering Room.

Pastor Kevin Vogts

***I heard in the news that a Lutheran church body had voted to approve active homosexuals serving as pastors, and will now perform “gay marriages” in their churches. Are you those Lutherans?***

No. This action was taken by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Holy Cross is a congregation of a different church body, the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS). It is because of issues such as these that the LCMS is separate from and does not have fellowship with the ELCA.

The President of the LCMS addressed the convention of the ELCA where these decisions were made, and stated:

The decisions by this assembly to grant non-celibate homosexual ministers the privilege of serving as rostered leaders in the ELCA and the affirmation of same gender unions as pleasing to God . . . grieves my heart and the hearts of all in the ELCA, the LCMS, and other Christian church bodies throughout the world who do not see these decisions as compatible with the Word of God, or in agreement with the consensus of 2000 years of Christian theological affirmation regarding what Scripture teaches about human sexuality. Simply stated, this matter is fundamentally related to significant differences in how we understand the authority of Holy Scripture and the interpretation of God's revealed and infallible Word.

***But why does your sign out front say “Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church” if you are not a part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America?***

The word “evangelical” means “Gospel-oriented,” and this is the name by which the churches we would call “Lutheran” are commonly known in Europe. Because there was already established in America a non-Lutheran “evangelical” denomination, it became customary for Lutheran congregations here to name themselves “Evangelical Lutheran.” This is the formal name of many Lutheran congregations, including Holy Cross, but is often shortened for everyday use to simply “Lutheran.”

Ironically, until the ELCA adopted this name in 1988, it had actually been the more conservative Lutheran church

bodies and congregations that had historically described themselves as “Evangelical Lutheran,” and that title was often even considered a badge of conservatism! Thus, two other conservative Lutheran church bodies in America, which like the LCMS strongly disagree with these actions of the ELCA, are the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) and the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS).

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***The Lord has given to no one—no theologian, minister, or church body—the right to declare any sin to no longer be sin.***

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The confusion is compounded because the news media hardly ever distinguishes between the ELCA and other Lutheran church bodies. They give the impression that the ELCA represents all Lutherans in America, when in fact the combined weekly worship attendance of the LCMS, WELS, ELS, and other conservative Lutherans in America is equivalent to the ELCA.

While certainly no one had a trademark on the “Evangelical Lutheran” label, to some extent conservative Lutherans in America feel that the ELCA has misappropriated and besmirched the good name “Evangelical Lutheran.” It is unfortunate that the general public in America now associates this venerable title with the radical, really *non*-Lutheran positions of the ELCA. As the President of the LCMS commented:

Already in 2001 . . . the LCMS, in sincere humility and love . . . declare[d] that we could no longer consider the ELCA “to be an orthodox Lutheran church body.” Sadly, the decisions . . . to ignore biblical teaching on human sexuality have reinforced that conclusion.

**What is the position of the LCMS on homosexuality?**

Quite simply, homosexuality is and remains a sin. It is included in lists of sins in Romans 1:24-32, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, and 1 Timothy 1:9-11. In the latter, Paul specifically says it is "contrary to the sound doctrine that conforms to the glorious Gospel of the blessed God."

The Lord has given to *no one*—no theologian, minister, or church body—the right to declare *any* sin to no longer be sin. As Jesus says, "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. . . I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until all is fulfilled. Anyone who breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 5:17-19)

Unrepentant homosexuals serving as clergy is therefore forbidden by Scripture, because Christian clergy are required to be "above reproach" (1 Timothy 3:2) and "blameless" (Titus 1:7). This would also apply to "celibate" homosexuals, if they are not repentant of and struggling against their homosexual desires, because sinful lust of any kind is declared by Jesus to be "adultery . . . in the heart." (Matthew 5:28)

# Crossnotes

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So-called "gay marriage" is also forbidden by Scripture, because that would be a sacrilegious mockery of God's institution of marriage, and an endorsement of sin. Homosexual relations are explicitly described in Romans 1:24ff as "degrading of their bodies with one another," "shameful lusts," "unnatural," "indecent," "perversion," and "depraved," concluding with this warning: "Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them."

On the other hand, homosexuality is not to be singled out, or cast as an unforgivable sin. As 1 Corinthians 6:11 says, "And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God." Like any sin, those who are repentant of homosexual actions and desires and sincerely struggle against them receive full forgiveness in Christ. However, sincere repentance precludes both "pride" in and a demand for tolerance of one's sinfulness.

**How could the ELCA take such radical actions?**

Colossians 2:8 warns, "See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ."

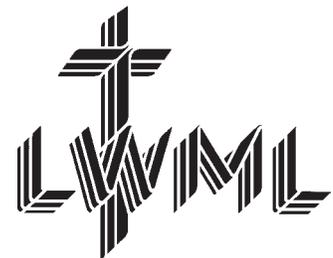
That describes exactly what has happened in the ELCA. As a lay delegate to their convention, who opposed these actions, put it during the debate: "We are asked to affirm a description of sexuality based on a reality that's shaped not by Scripture but by today's culture." (Unfortunately, such viewpoints were in the minority, as these proposals all passed overwhelmingly.)

Jesus put the sad situation in the ELCA—and other church bodies taking similar actions—this way: "You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to the traditions of men." (Mark 7:8)



**As of September 13, 2009**

Total Offerings Budgeted	
Year-to-Date .....	\$124,360
Total Offerings Received	
Year-to-Date .....	\$129,749
Total Budget Surplus	
Year-to-Date .....	\$5,389



**LWML Sunday  
October 4**

The Lutheran Women's Missionary league (LWML) is the official women's auxiliary of the The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Since its founding in 1942, the LWML has focused on affirming each woman's relationship with Christ, encouraging and equipping women to live out their Christian lives in active mission ministries and to support global missions.

The Mission Statement of the LWML says: *The mission of The Lutheran Women's Missionary League is to assist each woman of The Lutheran church – Missouri Synod in affirming her relationship with the Triune God so that she is enabled to use her gifts in ministry to the people of the world.*

As part of our worship on Sunday, October 4 we will celebrate and recognize the LWML women of Holy Cross who follow the LWML motto and, "Serve the Lord with gladness" (Psalm 100:2).



## Hog Roast October 4

The Holy Cross Lutheran Women in Mission group is sponsoring our third annual Hog Roast Fundraiser on Sunday, October 4 from 4:00pm–7:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Proceeds will be used to purchase such items as: additional tables and chairs for the Fellowship Hall, chair cart, serving cart, and many items for the kitchen. The 10% Mission Monies from the proceeds will go to the LWML group of St. John Lutheran in Yankton, South Dakota, whose church suffered a fire in April of this year with extensive damage.

Our thanks to Jon and Gail Dorr for donating the hog, to Rev. Donald Meyer of Trinity Lutheran Church, Marcus, Iowa for roasting it for us, to Ron and Jeannette Yockey for donating the beef brisket, and to Betty Gunderson and Ginny Peterson for coordinating this event.

### ***Tickets for Sale***

Tickets are now available for sale. We are asking the women of Holy Cross Women in Mission to help with the pre-sale of tickets. Ladies, if you have not received your information letter, please call Jackie Baker (422-3132). The cost is \$7.00 per adult and \$4.00 per child.

Tickets will also be available for purchase in the Atrium after church services thru September 27, and in the Church Office during normal office hours (9:00am-11:00am, Tuesday thru Friday).

Treat your family and friends to a fabulous feast! The menu consists of pulled pork or beef brisket; coleslaw, beans, dessert, and beverage.



Sunday, October 4

4:00pm–7:00pm

In Holy Cross Fellowship Hall

BBQ Sandwiches, Beef Brisket,  
Coleslaw, Beans, Desserts,  
and Bake Sale **New!**

\$7.00 per adult — \$4.00 per child

*Open to Community*

*All Invited — Everyone Welcome!*

### **New! Bake Sale Too!**

This year, there will also be a Bake Sale with many homemade goodies to tempt your pallet. Volunteers are needed to make the three different desserts that are planned. There is a sign-up sheet in the Gathering Room with the chosen recipes that we will be using. Additional volunteers are needed to donate *homemade* baked goods and canned goods for our first attempt at a Bake Sale in conjunction with the Hog Roast. This is your chance to really

show us your culinary talents! A separate sign-up sheet will be in the Gathering Room, as well. Questions may be directed to Angela Dial or Deb Stein (605-422-2401).

### ***Strong Backs and Willing Hearts Needed***

Volunteers are needed for setting up before the event, working during the dinner, and cleaning up afterward. Please talk to Betty Gunderson (605-235-1551) for more information.

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## With Sympathy

*Marjory Goede*

Mother of Jim Goede  
Entered Eternal Rest August 24, 2009

*Darlene Jones*

Grandmother of Marcy Schroeder  
Entered Eternal Rest September 6, 2009

*Nancy Shortridge*

Mother of Sue Jansen  
Entered Eternal Rest September 17, 2009

*"Blessed are the dead  
who die in the Lord."*

Revelation 14:13



## **Organ "Transplant" Begins!**

Thank you to all who helped on September 15-17 begin the "transplant" of the pipe organ from Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Sioux City—pictured above in their balcony—to Holy Cross, with removal of the instrument from Our Savior's. Who knew pipe organs were so heavy—or have so many parts!

The organ was fully documented, carefully disassembled, and then crated

under the supervision of technicians from Dobson Organ Builders. It was taken to their factory in Lake City, Iowa, where it will be carefully checked and any needed repairs made. Due to a backlog of other orders, it will be up to a year before it is reinstalled in our sanctuary.

As we were removing the pipe organ, members of Our Savior's were completing the removal of other items from their former church, which has now been sold, and offered numerous items to Holy Cross. Our Board of Elders met that evening and gratefully accepted the donation of these items, including banners, paraments, a parament cabinet, a complete library of choir music, music stands, candlesticks, altar vases, and other miscellaneous items. We will sort through the items and will find a good home with another congregation for those we cannot use.



## **Midweek Bible Study "Speechless: Silencing the Christians"**

Join in Wednesdays from 7:30pm–8:30pm for our Midweek Bible Study on a very interesting, contemporary topic. Each week we begin with an episode from the DVD series, "Speechless: Silencing the Christians," which looks at current social and cultural changes from a Christian perspective. Discussion of the episode is then combined with a look at Biblical principles for us to follow as Christian citizens.

Upcoming topics include:

September 30—"Hate crime" is the new buzzword in law enforcement. But how is "hate" being defined? And what

would these laws punish? In this episode you'll learn how this legislation targets thought and freedom of speech that could make it illegal to believe in "Truth" or even quote the Bible. Already, in the name of "tolerance," 75-year-old grandmothers face life in prison for comments at public rallies. An expert on hate crimes laws in Canada explains what we can expect in the United States if these laws are passed on the federal level. Don't miss this important program.

October 7—Kids learn firsthand that freedom takes a backseat to political correctness as a young girl learns she's not allowed to sing a song about God in an after-school talent show. The Boy Scouts of America in Philadelphia face losing their home of 80 years in an attempt by the city to force the group to accept homosexual Scout leaders. A veteran's hospital neutralizes its chapel by removing all symbols of Christianity, and discrimination expert Dr. Gary Cass talks about violence and harassment aimed at Christians.

October 14—A New Jersey church association finds itself in a legal battle when lesbian couples sue for the right to use the church's seaside worship pavilion to hold civil union ceremonies. A mother in Pennsylvania is told that reading a passage from the Bible to her son's kindergarten class is against the law. Instead, she is encouraged to read a book about witches. A Canadian pastor faces a hate crimes tribunal for writing a letter to the editor of his local newspaper: a chilling precursor to what Americans will face if similar laws are passed.

October 21—Public school students in Texas are told they can't mention Jesus in discussions about Christmas or Easter! A superintendent in Plano admits his plans to "shut down religious speech" in school. The myth of separation of church and state is exposed. The state of Texas becomes the first in the nation to pass a law designed exclusively for the protection of students' religious liberties.

October 28—Opponents of free speech work to silence the voice of radio and television programs with a traditional perspective.



## The Lutheran Difference

Our new study in Adult Bible Class is on "The Lutheran Difference."

Why did Martin Luther and his followers seek to reform, and eventually separated from, the Roman Catholic Church? Why did the other "Protestants" which followed separate themselves in turn from the Lutherans?

In this class we will look at how the Lutheran Church differs from other denominations on such fundamental topics as justification, Scripture, Baptism, Communion, etc.

Join in Sundays at 10:30am to learn more about "The Lutheran Difference" on these and other key teachings.



## Altar & Flowers

The flower calendar 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. They may be delivered during Office Hours, Tuesday thru Friday from 9:00am-11:00am, and placed in the flower cooler in the Sacristy west of the altar area. Or, you can simply bring them early on Sunday morning.

September 27

Doug & Janet Martin  
Wedding Anniversary  
Kendall's & Kylie's Birthdays

October 4

Women In Mission  
LWML Sunday

October 11

Denise & Patrick Honner  
Wedding Anniversary

## Fall Church Picnic and Old-Fashioned Mission Festival at Adams Nature Center, McCook Lake



## Come to the Fall Church Picnic

Sunday, October 25

Picnic—12:30pm

Nature Center Activity Room

Please Bring a Main Dish, Side Dish,  
Dessert, and Your Own Table Service  
Drinks Provided

Mission Festival—2:00pm

At Historic Stavenger  
Lutheran Church on the  
Nature Center Grounds

Speaker Rev. Henry Witte  
27 Years Missionary in South America  
Now LCMS Sioux City Hispanic Missionary

*All Invited — Everyone Welcome!*

November 8

Mabel Schibonski  
Birthday

November 15

Steven & Susanne Stoeger-Moore



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](mailto:holycross@longlines.com).

Christie Mensch, October 1

Ryan Dial, October 2  
Dennis Melstad, October 5  
Heidi Finkral, October 8  
Denise Fletcher, October 8  
Michele Miranda, October 11  
Linda Amunson, October 12  
Earl Biggers, October 15  
Jim Goede, October 16  
Alex Waybright, October 18  
Les Britson, October 21  
Sailor Kommes, October 24  
Ali Eickhoff, October 25  
Emma Bargstadt, October 26  
Clarissa Mensch, October 29

Larissa & Brent Kommes  
October 4, 2003

Bobby & Rashell DeRocher  
October 6, 2007

Doug & Janet Martin  
October 6, 1990

Denise & Patick Honner  
October 16, 2004

Earl & Dawn Biggers  
October 20, 1984

## Chancel Care

Your help is needed to care for our chancel. Duties include changing the paraments, banners, and candles, laundering the Communion linens, and helping with poinsettias and lilies at Christmas and Easter.



We will have an introductory meeting on Tuesday, October 20 at 7:00pm to go over the duties. Open to *everyone!* For more information contact Jeri Melstad (235-1656). (This does not include preparing or cleaning the Communion vessels, which is done separately.)



## Sunday School Topics

October 4—*God Provides for Elijah* (1 Kings 17)—Just as God provided food and life for Elijah, the widow, and her son, so He provides food, forgiveness, and life eternal for us in Christ.

October 11—*Elijah and the Prophets of Baal* (1 Kings 18:20-46)—Just as the true God revealed Himself on Mount Carmel's altar, so on the cross-shaped altar of Mount Calvary, Jesus revealed once and for all that He alone is the real God who loves us enough to die for us.

October 18—*Elijah Is Taken to Heaven* (2 Kings 2:1-15)—Enoch and Elijah were taken into heaven alive. Jesus, who is our Enoch and our great Elijah, ascended alive into heaven for us and our salvation.

October 25—*Naaman and Elisha* (2 Kings 5:1-14)—The Word of God spoken by the prophet was in and with

the water of the Jordan to restore the flesh of Naaman; the Word of God spoken by the pastor is in and with the water of the baptismal font to cleanse us of our sin and restore us as children of the heavenly Father.

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

### Elders for October

Earl Biggers and Rob Finkral

### Ushers for October

Ryan Dial and Ron Yockey

### Chancel Care for October

Sherry Isley

### Acolytes for October

October 4 ..... Anna Vogts

October 11 ..... Kaleb Martin

October 18 ..... Kasey Michels

October 25 ..... Claire Johnson

### Crucifers for October

October 4 ..... Emily Steemken

October 11 ..... Jace Waybright

October 18 ..... Megan Winborn

October 25 ..... Myron Bose



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.

### October 4

Julia Wehnerberg  
South Africa

### October 11

Rev. David and Rachel Baker  
Kazakhstan

### October 18

Rev. Fungchatou and Kalia Lo  
Cambodia

### October 25

Rev. Henry & Ruth Witte  
LCMS Sioux City Hispanic Missionaries  
Speaker for Afternoon Mission Festival



### October 4

"Take Sin Seriously!"

Mark 9:38-50

### October 11

"Render to God and Caesar"

Mark 12:13-17

### October 18

"You Do Not Belong to the World"

John 15:18-25

### October 25

"God's Two-Edged Sword"

Hebrews 4:12-13



## October Commemorations

You may have noticed on our church calendar that in addition to members' birthdays and anniversaries there are

also listed historic commemorations of some of our forbearers in the faith.

The Augsburg Confession of the Lutheran Church states:

*"We gladly keep the old traditions set up in the church . . . among them being certain holy days, festivals, and the like."* (Article XV)

*"It is also taught among us that saints should be kept in remembrance so that our faith may be strengthened when we see what grace they received and how they were sustained by faith. Moreover, their good works are to be an example for us, each of us in his own calling."* (Article XXI)

A list of such occasions commonly observed in the Lutheran Church is included on pages xi-xiii in the front of *Lutheran Service Book*. The following brief descriptions of the significance of these commemorations in October are from the new *Treasury of Daily Prayer*. This excellent publication is available from Concordia Publishing House, 1-800-325-3040, www.cph.org, stock #124318.

### **St. Luke, Evangelist (October 18)**

St. Luke, the beloved physician referred to by St. Paul (Colossians 4:14), presents us with Jesus, whose blood provides the medicine of immortality. As his traveling companion, Paul claimed Luke's Gospel as his own for its healing of souls (Eusebius).



**Based on the vision of Ezekiel (Ezekiel 1:1-10, 10:14) the symbol for St. Luke, Evangelist is a winged ox, upon which also Matthew is represented by a winged man, Mark by a winged lion, and John by an eagle.**

Luke traveled with Paul during the second missionary journey, joining him after Paul received his Macedonian call to bring the Gospel to Europe (Acts 16:10-17). Luke most likely stayed behind in Philippi for seven years, rejoining Paul at the end of the third missionary journey in Macedonia. He

traveled with Paul to Troas, Jerusalem, and Caesarea, where Paul was imprisoned for two years (Acts 20:5-21:18). While in Caesarea, Luke may have researched material that he used in his Gospel. Afterward, Luke accompanied Paul on his journey to Rome (Acts 27:1-28:16).

Especially beloved in Luke's Gospel are the stories of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:29-37), the prodigal son (Luke 15:11-32), the rich man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31), and the Pharisee and the tax collector (Luke 18:9-14). Only Luke provides a detailed account of Christ's birth (Luke 2:1-20) and the canticles of Mary (Luke 1:46-55), of Zechariah (Luke 1:68-79), and of Simeon (Luke 2:29-32). To show how Christ continued His work in the Early Church through the apostles, Luke also penned the Acts of the Apostles. More than one-third of the New Testament comes from the hand of the evangelist Luke.

### **St. James of Jerusalem, Brother of Jesus and Martyr (October 23)**

St. James of Jerusalem (or "James the Just") is referred to by St. Paul as "the Lord's brother" (Galatians 1:19). Some modern theologians believe that James was a son of Joseph and Mary and, therefore, a biological brother of Jesus. But throughout most of the Church (historically, and even today), Paul's term "brother" is understood as "cousin" or "kinsman," and James is thought to be son of a sister of Joseph or Mary who widowed and had come to live with them.



**The symbol for St. James of Jerusalem is the Jerusalem cross, which represents the Gospel going out from Jerusalem to the four corners of the world.**

Along with other relatives of our Lord (except His mother), James did not believe in Jesus until after His resurrection (John 7:3-5; 1 Corinthians 15:7). After becoming a Christian, James

was elevated to a position of leadership within the earliest Christian community. Especially following St. Peter's departure from Jerusalem, James was recognized as the bishop of the Church in that city (Acts 12:17; 15:12ff.). According to the historian Josephus, James was martyred in AD 62 by being stoned to death by the Sadducees.

James authored the Epistle in the Testament that bears his name. In it, he exhorts his readers to remain steadfast in the true faith, even in the face of suffering and temptation, and to live by faith the life that is in Christ Jesus. Such a faith, he makes clear, is a busy and active thing, which never ceases to do good, to confess the Gospel by words and actions, and to stake its life, both now and forever, in the cross.

### **St. Simon and St. Jude, Apostles (October 28)**

In the lists of the twelve apostles (Matthew 10:2-4; Mark 3:16-19; Luke 6:14-16; Acts 1:13), the tenth and eleventh places are occupied by Simon the Zealot (or "Cananaean") and by Jude (or "Judas," not Iscariot but "of James"), who was apparently known also as Thaddaeus. According to early Christian tradition, Simon and Jude journeyed together as missionaries to Persia, where they were martyred. It is likely for this reason, at least in part, that these two apostles are commemorated on the same day.



**The symbol for St. Simon (top) is a fish on a Bible to show that through the Word he was a great fisher of men. The symbol for St. Jude (bottom) is a ship symbolizing his missionary journeys.**

Simon is not mentioned in the New Testament apart from the lists of the twelve apostles. Thus he is remembered and honored for the sake of his office, and thereby stands

before us—in eternity, as in his life and ministry on earth—in the name and stead of Christ Jesus, our Lord. We give thanks to God for calling and sending Simon, along with Jude and all of the apostles, to preach and teach the Holy Gospel, to proclaim repentance and forgiveness, and to baptize in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit (John 4:1-2; Matthew 10; 28:16-20; Luke 24:46-49).

Jude appears in John's Gospel (14:22) on the night of our Lord's betrayal and the beginning of His Passion, asking Jesus how it is that He will manifest Himself to the disciples but not to the world. The answer that Jesus gives to this question is a pertinent emphasis for this festival day: "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him" (John 14:23).

Surely both Jude and Simon exemplified, in life and death, their love for Jesus and their faith in His Word. Not only are we thus strengthened in our Christian faith and life by their example, but, above all, we are encouraged by the faithfulness of the Lord in keeping His promise to them to bring them home to Himself in heaven. There they live with Him forever, where we shall someday join them.

### **Reformation Day (October 31)**

On October 31, 1517, an Augustinian monk posted ninety-five statements for discussion on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. Dr. Martin Luther hoped that posting his theses would bring about an academic debate regarding repentance, the sale of indulgences, and other matters of concern within the Roman Catholic Church. However, Rome eventually excommunicated Luther, judging him to be a heretic. Luther's reforms, centered on the teaching that a believer is justified by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, sparked religious reforms not only in the German states but also in many European countries. In 1667, Elector John George II of Saxony standardized the custom of observing Luther's October 31 posting of the Ninety-five Theses.

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## **Portals of Prayer Devotions Written by "One of Our Own"!**

The new *Portals of Prayer* daily devotional booklet for October thru December, 2009 is in your Member Mailbox, with extra copies available on the table in the Gathering Room. In this issue the devotions for October were written by "our own" Adriane Dorr, daughter of Jon and Gail Dorr and a Deaconess student at Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

The brief daily devotions are a great way to help you keep close to the Lord!



## **LCMS Pastor Elected in African Church**

Dr. Berhanu Ofgaa, an LCMS pastor elected to be General Secretary of the largest Lutheran church body in Africa, says his experience with the LCMS will strengthen the relationship between the two church bodies.

Ofgaa, who is currently serving among African immigrants in central Ohio, said that his ministry "has helped me to deeply understand the relationship of these two churches, their theological understanding, and their missional interests."

While in the United States Ofgaa became an LCMS pastor in 2002 and has served as a missionary to African immigrants in central Ohio. He also completed a doctorate in missions at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne.

Ofgaa returned to Ethiopia in September to become General Secretary of the Ethiopian Evangelical Church—Mekane Yesus (EECMY). With 5 million members it is the second-largest Lutheran church body in the world. As General Secretary, Ofgaa will be responsible for the administration of the church-at-large, serving next to the recently elected President, Dr. Wakseyoum Idosa.

The EECMY is a dynamic, fast-growing Lutheran church body approximately twice the size of the LCMS. So, there is not only much they can learn from us, but also much we can learn from them as we work together.



Isn't it nice to have snack time after worship? We need volunteers to help! In the Gathering Room there is a new sign-up sheet to bring snacks for fellowship time after worship. Most dates for the remainder of the year are open and we need volunteers!

You are welcome to bring whatever snacks you wish. Those serving snacks are also asked to prepare the coffee and juice, which along with cups, napkins, plates, etc. are available in the Coffee Bar.

If you serve snacks please be sure to sign up on the list. Thank you to all those providing and serving snacks!

October 4, 11, 18 ..... Need Volunteers  
October 25 ..... Winborn



# HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

149 Bison Trail, Dakota Dunes, South Dakota, 57049

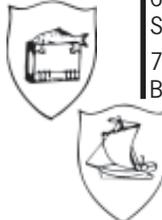
Rev. Kevin Vogts, Pastor

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

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[www.holycrossdakotadunes.org](http://www.holycrossdakotadunes.org)



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p><i>Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptations, defend us against all enemies of Your Word, and bestow on the Church your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. (Collect for the Festival of the Reformation)</i></p>				1	2	3
				<p><b>Preschool Schedule</b>            Monday-Friday Mornings            Chapel Wednesdays &amp; Thursdays 9:00am            After School Care            Monday-Friday, 3:15pm-6:00pm  <i>Both Follow Dakota Valley Calendar</i></p>		
				<i>Christie Mensch</i>	<i>Ryan Dial</i>	
<b>4 18th Sunday after Pentecost</b> 8:50am Choir Warmup 9:15am Worship with Holy Communion 10:30am Sunday School & Bible Class 4:00pm-7:00pm Hog Roast <i>Larissa &amp; Brent Kommes</i>	<b>5</b>  <i>Dennis Melstad</i>	<b>6</b> <i>Bobby &amp; Rashell DeRocher</i> <i>Doug &amp; Janet Martin</i>	<b>7</b> 6:30pm Midweek School 7:30pm Midweek Bible Study	<b>8</b> 7:00pm Board of Elders	<b>9</b>  <i>Heidi Finkral</i> <i>Denise Fletcher</i>	<b>10</b> <b>Church Office Hours</b> Tuesday-Friday 9:00am-11:00am
<b>11 19th Sunday after Pentecost</b> 9:15am Worship with Holy Communion 10:30am Sunday School & Bible Class 11:30am Choir Rehearsal <i>Michele Miranda</i>	<b>12</b>  <i>Linda Amunson</i>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 6:30pm Midweek School 7:30pm Midweek Bible Study	<b>15</b>  <b>Newsletter Deadline</b> <i>Earl Biggers</i>	<b>16</b> <i>Jim Goede</i> <i>Denise &amp; Patick Honner</i>	<b>17</b>  <i>Johann Gerhard, Theologian, Born 1582</i>
<b>18 20th Sunday after Pentecost</b> 9:15am Worship with Holy Communion 10:30am Sunday School & Bible Class 11:30am Choir Rehearsal <i>St. Luke, Evangelist</i> <i>Alex Waybright</i>	<b>19</b> 	<b>20</b> 7:00pm Chancel Care Meeting <i>Earl &amp; Dawn Biggers</i>	<b>21</b> 6:30pm Midweek School 7:30pm Midweek Bible Study <i>Les Britson</i>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>  <i>St. James of Jerusalem</i>	<b>24</b> <i>Sailor Kommes</i>
<b>25 21st Sunday after Pentecost Reformation Sunday</b> 8:50am Choir Warmup 9:15am Worship with Holy Communion 10:30am Sunday School & Bible Class 12:30pm Fall Church Picnic & Mission Festival at Adams Nature Center <i>Ali Eickhoff</i>	<b>26</b>  <i>C.F.W. Walther, Founder of Missouri Synod, Born, 1811</i> <i>Emma Bargstadt</i>	<b>27</b> 	<b>28</b> 6:30pm Midweek School 7:30pm Midweek Bible Study <i>St. Simon &amp; St. Jude, Apostles</i>	<b>29</b> <i>Clarissa Mensch</i>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>  <b>Reformation Day</b>

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

Rev. Kevin Vogts, Pastor

149 Bison Trail

Dakota Dunes, SD 57049

Return Service Requested



Sunday, October 4

4:00pm–7:00pm

In Holy Cross Fellowship Hall

BBQ Sandwiches, Beef Brisket,  
Coleslaw, Beans, Desserts,  
and Bake Sale **New!**

\$7.00 per adult — \$4.00 per child

*Open to Community*

*All Invited — Everyone Welcome!*