

# Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church Crossnotes

2010  
January

New Year  
Message  
from the  
Pastor



In his best-selling book *A Brief History of Time*, Cambridge University physicist Stephen Hawking theorized that time has no beginning and no end; time exists from eternity, to eternity. Hawking is correct in his description, but he is describing the wrong thing. For, it is not time itself which has no beginning and no end, but the Creator of time, the eternal God.

God has no beginning and no end; God exists from eternity, to eternity. It is difficult to put this concept into words, but this is how Moses expresses the eternity of God in Psalm 90:1-2: "Lord, You have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. Before the mountains were born or You brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting, You are God."

Contrary to Hawking's theory that time is infinite and eternal, the Scriptures report that the phenomenon of time was created by God: "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth . . . And God said, 'Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark seasons, days, and years'" (Genesis 1:1, 14).

So, the Bible tells us that the steady march of time had a definite beginning, and it will also have a definite end, at the end of all things. : "But the day of the

Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare. . . That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat" (2 Peter 3:10, 12).

Like a clock that is wound and slowly progresses through the hours, God has set time into motion, and He has fixed a certain point at which time will end. This is not only true in the grand scheme of the universe, but also for each of us as individuals. As Psalm 139:16 says, "All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to pass."

God has set your life into motion, and He has allotted to you a certain number of days. As Psalm 31:15 says, "My times are in your hands," and Psalm 90:12 says, "Teach us to number our days aright." God has fixed a time when your earthly life will end and He will take you out of the realm of time and into His eternal kingdom.

While you remain here on earth, your most precious possession is the time God has allotted you. The old song says, "If I could put time in a bottle." But, you cannot halt the unyielding march of days. Like a clock ticking away, time progresses invariably. Like a precious treasure, your days on earth are spent, never to be returned or relived. You cannot "put time in a bottle," you cannot save up extra time for the future. And you cannot borrow or buy extra time, as Jesus says in Matthew 6:27, "Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?"

Jesus told the Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-30), about three men, each given a certain amount of money by their master to invest and use while the master was away on a trip. And when he returned, two of the servants had wisely used the money and gotten a

good return. But, one of the servants, wicked and lazy, hid his portion away, did not use it, had not gained anything for his master.

Like the master in the parable, God has allotted to each of us a precious treasure: a certain amount of time, to serve Him here on earth. And when He comes again, He expects to see that we each have used our time wisely and well, that we each have invested our time to serve Him and spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

St. Paul says in Colossians 4:5, "Make the most of every opportunity." When God calls for an accounting of the time allotted to you, will He commend you for making the most of every opportunity, for serving the Lord with gladness, for giving to Him and His service the proper portion of your life?

St. Paul says in 1 Corinthians 7:29, "Brothers, the time is short." Another year has passed, so quickly. Over this past year good resolutions and good intentions have fallen by the way. The precious treasure of time has too often been wasted.

Jesus says in Revelation 22:7, "Behold, I am coming quickly!" Your master is returning, the clock is running, your time on earth is precious. Make not just good resolutions and good intentions. Make the most of every opportunity. As St. Paul says in Colossians 3:17, "And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."

In this New Year, use your most precious, irreplaceable treasure—your time—to serve the Lord with gladness. Even as the Lord has blessed you in ages past, He will bless you in the year to come, and He will finally grant you the gift of everlasting time in the eternal bliss of heaven.

Pastor Kevin Vogts



Offerings Budgeted  
for 2009 ..... \$188,510

Offerings Received  
for 2009 ..... \$189,287

Budget Surplus  
for 2009 ..... \$777

2009 was a challenging year financially for Holy Cross, with both the first full year of mortgage payments on our new sanctuary, and an accelerated reduction in mission subsidy from the South Dakota District.

Thank you to everyone who gave so generously throughout 2009 to allow us to meet this challenge and achieve our budgeted offerings.

## Crossnotes

*Published Monthly by*

*Holy Cross Evangelical  
Lutheran Church*

*149 Bison Trail  
Dakota Dunes, SD 57049*

*Rev. Kevin Vogts, Pastor  
Church Office: 605-232-9117  
Preschool & Fax: 605-235-1688  
Pastor's Home: 605-232-4013  
Pastor's Cell: 712-898-4818  
www.holycrossdakotadunes.org  
holycross@longlines.com*

*January, 2010*

*Volume 8*

*Number 1*



*Eric Joshua Yockey*

Son of Jeannette and Ron Yockey

Born November 11, 1975

Entered Eternal Rest  
December 9, 2009

Christian Burial December 14, 2009

*"Come unto Me, all you who  
are weary and heavy laden,  
and I will give you rest."  
Matthew 11:28*



Thank you to everyone for your wonderful cards and many generous gifts, in the surprise card shower on December 20 and throughout the holiday season.

*Rev. Kevin & Terry Vogts*



The flower calendar for 2010 is now 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.

December 20

Eric Yockey Funeral

January 10

Teri Hageman  
Birthday



## First Angel Tree Success!

Thank you to everyone who gave so generously for first year Holy Cross sponsored an Angel Tree for the Sioux City Gospel Mission. Over 170 items were donated! Included were clothing items, pajamas, underwear, gloves, hats, toiletry items, Bibles, videos, and toys.

They were delivered to the Gospel Mission by students from our Sunday School. These items helped provide a "Merry Christmas" for the homeless children, women, and men they serve. We look forward to making the Angel Tree an annual Christmas tradition at Holy Cross.

*"Therefore, as we have opportunity,  
let us do good to all people" (Galatians  
6:10)*



## **Potluck Dinner & Business Meeting January 31**

Everyone is invited to a congregational potluck dinner on Sunday, January 31 at 11:45am. Please bring a main dish and either a side dish or dessert. Drinks will be provided.

After the potluck dinner the first quarterly congregational business meeting of the New Year will be held at 12:30pm. This meeting will include election of new officers, elders, and board chairs for 2010. All adult members are automatically voting members of the congregation, and everyone is urged to come help administer the business side of our congregation.



## **Sunday Bible Class on "Speechless: Silencing the Christians"**

Because of great interest in the video series we used last fall for Midweek Bible Study by those who are unable to attend in the evenings, beginning January 3 we will repeat this same interesting study in our Sunday morning Adult Bible Class.

Featuring real-life accounts of discrimination against Christians,



# 2009 Poinsettia Donations

Thank you to all who donated a record 38 poinsettias to beautify our church this Christmas, and to all who helped decorate. There were many comments from visitors on how exceptionally beautifully our church was decorated.

### Given By

Robert & Gloria Barnum (2)  
Earl & Dawn Biggers  
Angela & Ryan Dial  
Darrel & Jacki Baker (3)  
Betty & Gary Gunderson (2)  
Teri Hageman  
Nyla Hamm (2)  
Denise & Patrick Honner  
Doug & Sue Jansen (2)  
Dennis & Marleen Kuhn (2)  
Doug & Janet Martin (3)  
Harold & Mary Mettenbrink (2)  
Todd Peters  
Todd Peters  
Ginny Peterson (2)  
Les & Dee Reifke  
Mabel Schibonski  
Randy & Deb Stein  
Rev. Kevin & Terese Vogts  
Rev. Kevin & Terese Vogts  
Tony & Margaret Waybright  
Jeannette & Ron Yockey (2)  
Eric Yockey Funeral (4)

### In Memory or Honor Of

Joy of Life  
Our Fathers Rollan Griffin & Earl Sr.  
Our Family  
Walter Baker  
Nita & Harold  
Mom & Dad  
Life Itself  
Paul Jansen & Nancy Shortridge  
Brother  
Grandparents  
Mr. & Mrs. Walter & Edith Peters  
Rev. Carl and Dorcas Brueggemann  
Bob Peterson  
Our Family  
Husband Elmer Schibonski  
Family  
Leroy Vogts  
Grandparents  
Family  
Ted Beasley



“Speechless: Silencing the Christians” is a DVD series looking at current social and cultural changes from a Christian perspective.

- You'll meet citizens who have been arrested for speaking at a public rally.
- You'll hear from students who have been required to learn verses from the Koran (while Bible reading is banned).
- You'll learn about activists pushing social tolerance to such an extreme that the Bible is being labeled “hate speech.”
- 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.

Each week we will begin with an episode from this series as a springboard for discussion, with a look at the Biblical principles for us to follow. Our thanks to Carroll and Janet Gustman for donating this DVD series. Join in Sunday mornings at 10:30am in the Fellowship Hall for an interesting study of this contemporary topic!

Upcoming topics include:

January 3—Author and commentator Janet Parshall takes you on a journey across the country to meet citizens who have been arrested for speaking out at a public rally, students who are being forced to attend classes that require them to recite verses from the Koran and to stage their own jihad, and activists pushing social tolerance to such an extreme that the Bible itself is being labeled “hate speech.” This episode is an introduction to the entire series.

January 10—The concept of “separation of church and state” has become a hammer aiming to silence Christians and eliminate the Bible from



**Over 30 members—our largest group ever—gathered for the Women's Christmas Dinner, served by Grahams at the Country Inn meeting room, on December 1. Betty Gunderson and Ginny Peterson made the arrangements and decorated, Jakie Baker led the group in several very fun games, and Pastor Vogts gave the devotion. Following the ornament exchange there was a Christmas offering which was used to purchase cookie dough and DVD movies as a Christmas gift for the women and children at Jackson Recovery Center.**

our public life. But the fact is that this phrase is not even part of the Constitution. Yet a few loud voices, ignoring historical evidence, continue seeking to reshape our laws. In this episode of “Speechless ... Silencing the Christians,” you'll learn how Christ is being kept out of schools while Islam is being promoted and how students have been prohibited from speaking their personal beliefs, thus violating their constitutional freedoms.

January 17—“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.

January 24—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.

January 31—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.

## 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](mailto:holycross@longlines.com).

Greg Huibregtse, January 4  
 Megan Winborn, January 4  
 Teri Hageman, January 10  
 Denise Honner, January 10  
 Denny Kuhn, January 11  
 Rob Finkral, January 15  
 Tami Michels, January 16  
 Vickie Britson, January 18  
 Janet Martin, January 20  
 Darrel Baker, January 22  
 Erin Fletcher, January 24  
 Caitlyn Bargstadt, January 30

Andy & Pat Winborn  
 January 7, 1995

Bob & Gloria Barnum  
 January 20, 1962

Joe & Elaine Van Ackeren  
 January 25, 1969



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



The children of Holy Cross Sunday School did a wonderful job sharing the Christmas story at their Christmas Program on December 20, closing the program by acting out the Nativity scene while the congregation sang "Silent Night."

prayer in our worship services specific missionaries around the world who are supported in this way by our congregation.

January 3

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

January 10  
*Eric Richter  
 Slovakia*

January 17  
*Shauen and Krista Trump  
 Uganda*

January 24  
*Rev. Jim and Mabelle Bloker  
 Czech Republic*

January 31  
*Ted and Rebecca Krey  
 Dominican Republic*

your mailbox, with additional copies available in the Gathering Room.

Read with breakfast or before going to bed; keep it in your desk to read during break at work.

In addition to the brief daily devotions and short daily Bible readings prayers, there are suggested longer readings for each day and a wonderful collection of longer prayers for each day of the week and special needs and occasions in the back of each issue. A great way to help you keep close to the Lord in the New Year!

## New Portals of Prayer



The new *Portals of Prayer* daily devotional booklets for January thru March 2010 are in



## Worship Assistants

Elders for January  
 Caroll Gustman and Tony Waybright  
Ushers for January  
 Dylan Sawyer, Jacob Vogts,  
 Andy Winborn

Chancel Care for January

Mary Mettenbrink

Acolytes for January

January 3 ..... Anna Vogts  
January 10 ..... Bryce Schroeder  
January 17 ..... Stephanie Stoeger-Moore  
January 24 ..... Claire Johnson  
January 31 ..... Gracie Nelson

Crucifers for January

January 3 ..... Emily Steemken  
January 10 ..... Jace Waybright  
January 17 ..... Ashley Bargstadt  
January 24 ..... Megan Winborn  
January 31 ..... Myron Bose

Snacks for January

January 3 ..... Vogts  
January 10 ..... Dial  
January 17, 24, 31 ... Need Volunteers



We plan to publish an updated Pictorial/Phone Directory. We would like our directory to be as accurate as possible. Please make sure the church office has any changes to address, phone number, and/or email address.

You can email your changes to [holycross@longlines.com](mailto:holycross@longlines.com) or call the church office at 232-9117. Thanks for your help!



The first meeting of 2010 for our women's group Holy Cross Women in Mission will be Wednesday, January 13 at 9:30am in the Gathering Room. All are invited to attend. Please remember to bring your mite boxes.



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 in 2010. Why not sign up for a birthday or other special event?

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. Thank you to all those providing snacks!



**Sunday School Topics for January**

January 3—In Sunday School today, the lesson was about the boy Jesus in the temple (Luke 2:41–52). As a boy, Jesus was found in His Father's house. In God's house I hear His Word, see that Jesus is my Savior, and receive His gifts of forgiveness and salvation. Because of sin, we are like Jesus' parents and do not understand what God says to us. We don't recognize who Jesus truly is—our Savior.

*Talk about how through Baptism and the power of God's Word, the Holy Spirit makes clear to us that Jesus is God's Son and our Savior.*

January 10—Jesus' Baptism (Luke 3:15–22) is the Bible story taught in Sunday School today. God sent the Holy Spirit at Jesus' Baptism, announcing that Jesus was God's son. At our Baptism, God makes us His children through the work of the Holy Spirit.

*Let your children tell you the dramatic events of this story, and share with them that because of God's wrath and anger over sin, the people were looking for a Savior. We, too, need a Savior, for God is angry with our sin. But thanks be to God, who in His mercy makes clear at Jesus' Baptism that we need look no more, for the Savior is here!*

January 17—Today in Sunday School the children learn the story of Jesus' first miracle, the changing of water into wine at the wedding in Cana (John 2:1–11). Through His first miracle, Jesus revealed Himself to be true God. God uses His Word and physical means—water, bread, and wine—to reveal to us that Jesus is our Savior.

*Discuss the story with your children and talk about how we are like the disciples, not sure just who Jesus is. At times, we also doubt Him and His Word. Emphasize that in His Word and Sacraments, Jesus shows us that He is the Savior, conquering our doubts with these visible means. We hear Jesus in His Word and see Him in His Sacraments.*

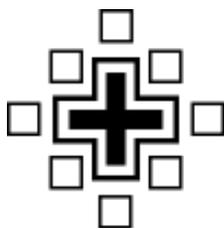
January 24—The account of Jesus' rejection in Nazareth (Luke 4:16–30) is the Sunday School lesson today. In Nazareth, throughout His ministry, and even today, Jesus is rejected by people who do not have faith in Him. God's Word clearly shows that Jesus is God's Son, and in faith, we believe.

*With your family, discuss how sin blinds our eyes to the Savior and causes us to suffer from sin's effects with sickness, trouble, and even physical death. Emphasize that through God's Word and Sacraments we can see and believe in Jesus, who releases us from the bondage of sin. He restores us with forgiveness, life, and salvation.*

January 31—Today in Sunday School, the lesson was about Jesus healing many people (Luke 4:31–44).

Through many miracles, Jesus shows us His power over sin. Ask your children to tell you who Jesus healed. What were some of the sicknesses the people had?

*Talk about sin—yours, theirs, the world's and how Satan holds the world in bondage, causing sickness and death. Assure them that Jesus is the Holy One of God, who defeats Satan and frees us from his hold, granting us eternal life in paradise. Emphasize that Jesus has power over sin and sickness, saving the lost by His death and resurrection.*



## January 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 this month 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 #12-4318.

### ***The Circumcision of Our Lord (January 1)***

Already on the eighth day of Jesus' life, His destiny of atonement is revealed in His name and in His circumcision. At that moment, His blood is first shed and Jesus receives the name given to Him by the angel: "You shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21).

In the circumcision of Jesus, all people are circumcised once and for all, because He represents all humanity. In the Old Testament, for the believers who looked to God's promise to be fulfilled in the Messiah, the benefits of circumcision included the forgiveness of sins, justification, and incorporation into the people of God.

In the New Testament, St. Paul speaks of its counterpart, Holy Baptism, as a "circumcision made without hands" and as "the circumcision of Christ" (Colossians 2:11).

### ***Confession of St. Peter (January 18)***

The confession of St. Peter did not arise in the imagination of Peter's heart but was revealed to him by the Father. The reason this confession is important is seen in Jesus' response: "You are Peter [Greek *petros*], and on this rock [Greek *petra*] I will build My church" (Matthew 16:18).

As the people of God in the Old Testament began with the person of Abraham, the rock from which God's people were hewn (Isaiah 51:1-2), so the people of God in the New Testament would begin with the person of Peter, whose confession is the rock on which Christ would build His Church.

But Peter was not alone (the "keys" given to him in Matthew 16:19 were given to all the disciples in Matthew 18:18 and John 20:21-23). As St. Paul tells us, Peter and the other apostles take their place with the prophets as the foundation of the Church, with Christ Himself as the cornerstone (Ephesians 2:20).

The confession of Peter, therefore, is the witness of the entire apostolic band and is foundational in the building of Christ's Church. Thus the Church gives thanks to God for St. Peter and the other apostles who have instructed Christ's Holy Church in His divine and saving truth.

### ***St. Timothy, Pastor and Confessor (January 24)***

St. Timothy had Christian believers in his family. His mother, Eunice, was a Christian woman and was the daughter of a Christian woman named Lois (2 Timothy 1:5). Acts records that St. Paul met Timothy on his second missionary journey and wanted Timothy to continue on with him (16:1-3).

Over time, Timothy became a dear friend and close associate of Paul to whom Paul entrusted mission work in Greece and Asia Minor. Timothy was also with Paul in Rome. According to tradition, after Paul's death, Timothy went to Ephesus, where he served as bishop and was martyred around AD 97.

Timothy is best remembered as a faithful companion of Paul, one who rendered great service among the Gentile churches.

### ***The Conversion of St. Paul (January 25)***

St. Paul's life-changing experience on the road to Damascus is related three times in the Book of Acts (9:1-9; 22:6-11; 26:12-18). As an archenemy of Christians, Saul of Tarsus set out for Damascus to arrest and bring believers to Jerusalem for trial. While on the way, he saw a blinding light and heard the words: "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?" Saul asked, "Who are You, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting."

In Damascus, where Saul was brought after being blinded, a disciple named Ananias was directed by the Lord in a vision to go to Saul to restore his sight: "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of Mine to carry My name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel" (Acts 9:15). After

receiving his sight, Saul was baptized and went on to become known as Paul, the great apostle.

### **St. Titus, Pastor and Confessor (January 26)**

St. Titus, like Timothy with whom he is often associated, was a friend and co-worker of St. Paul. Titus was a Gentile, perhaps a native of Antioch, who accompanied Paul and Barnabas to Jerusalem when they brought assistance to the Christians in Judea during a famine (Acts 11:29-30; Galatians 2:1).

It is not known if he accompanied Paul on his first or second missionary journeys, but Titus was with him on the third one, when he helped reconcile the Corinthians to Paul (2 Corinthians 7:6-7) and assisted with the collection for the Church in Jerusalem (2 Corinthians 18:3-6).

It was probably on the return to Jerusalem that Paul left Titus in Crete (Titus 1:4-5). Afterward he is found working in Dalmatia (2 Timothy 4:10). According to tradition, Titus returned to Crete, where he served as bishop until he died about AD 96.

---

## **2009 LCMS Mission Highlights**

As we review the mission work of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in 2009, there is much for which we should give God thanks and praise! The Lord of the harvest continues to send workers out into His ripe fields and reap a rich harvest. The Lord continues to draw people to Himself for redemption and eternal life through Jesus Christ!



**The first confirmation class in Palmar Arriba, Dominican Republic.**

In the **Dominican Republic**, the Lord continued to expand His family through Baptism and the teaching of His Word through confirmation classes, vacation Bible schools, and Sunday school teacher training. In 2009, the mission team in the Dominican Republic celebrated a total of 14 confirmations and 34 Baptisms at the six mission locations throughout the country. There are still many more people studying towards confirmation and learning more about the Lutheran Christian faith through study of the catechism (including 50 baseball players who meet with the missionary pastors). There are also two Dominican men serving their vicarages as they train to become pastors in the emerging Lutheran church body.

In **Eastern Europe**, God is expanding partnerships between LCMS World Mission and other Lutheran church bodies in the **Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, and Slovakia**. For the first time, multiple short-term teams served in these countries, conducting 15 week-long English camps for children. Members of the short-term teams planned many English activities that also incorporated Bible themes. The congregations and towns that hosted these 10 short-term teams are eager to expand this ministry next summer—they've requested three times as many teams for the summer of 2010!



**Newly ordained Lutheran pastors Rev. Aaron Bamuwamye, Rev. Samuel Ogwang, and Rev. Jerome Wamala at their ordination celebration in Kampala, Uganda.**

In **Uganda**, the national church body is celebrating its expansion of leaders—their pastoral leadership grew by 250 percent in 2009! At the beginning of the year, the Lutheran Church Mission Uganda (LCMU) had two ordained pastors. In October, three men

completed their vicarage internships that was the last stage of their pastoral training. The LCMU now has five pastors who are ready to serve as congregational leaders.

In **South Korea** the Lutheran Church in Korea (LCK) recently celebrated 50 years since the beginning of mission work there by LCMS missionaries in 1958. Not satisfied to simply expand God's kingdom at home in South Korea, the LCK has embraced an international mission strategy which includes Russia, China, and others, but work has also begun very close to home, in North Korea.

"North Korea is our same people, our same nation," said President Um. "Still, they don't have any message from God; they need the Gospel." It is not yet possible to share the Gospel in North Korea, but there are other ways that God's love can be demonstrated among the North Korean people. Working in partnership with a U.S.-based non-profit organization, the LCK and the LCMS have developed a relationship with four collective farms south of the capital, Pyongyang.

LCMS missionary Rev. Patrick O'Neal explains this developing relationship: "We work with four farms and the 15,000 people connected to those farms. We are able to provide seed, fertilizer, and some equipment that they need for their farming. These things enable them to produce enough food, not only for their own families and village to eat, but also to generate enough income so they can purchase seed and fertilizer for the next season. We're working toward food security for the people in North Korea, as we develop relationships with them and as we let ourselves be known as Lutheran Christians."

The LCK fully expects and looks forward to the day when it can do more among its neighbors to the north. In the meantime, acts of Christian love such as these agricultural human care projects help meet current needs, allow relationships to develop, and lay a foundation for the LCK to be more fully involved in the future.



# HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

149 Bison Trail, Dakota Dunes, South Dakota, 57049

Rev. Kevin Vogts, Pastor

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

Cell: 712-898-4818 Email: [pastorvogts@longlines.com](mailto:pastorvogts@longlines.com)

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

2010



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>3</b> 2nd Sunday after Christmas 9:15am Worship with Holy Communion 10:30am Sunday School & Bible Class	<b>4</b> Greg Huibregtse Megan Winborn	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 6:30pm Midweek School 7:30pm Board of Elders 7:30pm Board of Education	<b>7</b>  The Epiphany of Our Lord Andy & Pat Winborn	<b>1</b> The Circumcision of Our Lord New Year's Day	<b>2</b> Wilhelm Loehe, Theologian
<b>10</b> 1st Sunday after the Epiphany The Baptism of Our Lord 9:15am Worship with Holy Communion 10:30am Sunday School & Bible Class 10:30am Youth Group Organizing Meeting 11:30am Choir Rehearsal Teri Hageman, Denise Honner	<b>11</b> Denny Kuhn	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 9:30am Women in Mission 6:30pm Midweek School	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>  Newsletter Deadline Rob Finkral	<b>16</b> 10:00am "Undeck the Halls!" Tami Michels
<b>17</b> 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany 9:15am Worship with Holy Communion 10:30am Sunday School & Bible Class 11:30am Choir Rehearsal	<b>18</b>  The Confession of St. Peter Vickie Britson	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 6:30pm Midweek School Janet Martin Bob & Gloria Barnum	<b>21</b> 	<b>22</b> <b>Church Office Hours</b> Tuesday-Friday 9:00am-11:00am Closed for Christmas Break December 24-January 5 Darrel Baker	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany St. Timothy 9:15am Worship with Holy Communion 10:30am Sunday School & Bible Class 11:30am Choir Rehearsal Erin Fletcher	<b>25</b>  The Conversion of St. Paul Joe & Elaine Van Ackeren	<b>26</b> St. Titus	<b>27</b> 6:30pm Midweek School	<b>28</b> 	<b>29</b> Preschool Schedule Monday-Friday Mornings Chapel Wednesdays & Thursdays 9:00am After School Care Monday-Friday, 3:15pm-6:00pm Both Follow Dakota Valley Calendar	<b>30</b> Caitlyn Bargstadt
<b>31</b> 4th Sunday after the Epiphany  9:15am Worship with Holy Communion 10:30am Sunday School & Bible Class 11:45am Potluck Dinner 12:30am Quarterly Business Meeting	 <b>POTLUCK DINNER</b>	Eternal God, we commit to Your mercy and forgiveness the year now ending and commend to Your blessing and love the times yet to come. In the new year, abide among us with Your Holy Spirit that we may always trust in the saving name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (Collect for New Year's Eve)				

**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



# Potluck Dinner & 1st Quarter Congregational Business Meeting

Sunday, January 31

Potluck—11:45am

*Please bring a main dish and either a side dish or dessert.*

**Business Meeting—12:30pm**

*This meeting will include election of new officers, elders, and board chairs for 2010. All adult members are automatically voting members of the congregation, and everyone is urged to come help administer the business side of our congregation.*

## All Invited!



Return Service Requested

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

**Crossnotes**  
Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church