Choly Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church CESSON OTES





There was a remarkable and historic development recently on the Lutheran scene. The organization Word Alone is an association of pastors, laity, and congregations that for nearly 15 years have been opposed to and struggling against some of the radical changes in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Their goal was to reform the ELCA and bring it back to a more historic Lutheranism. However, in view of the ELCA's approval last summer of "gay marriage" in their churches and unrepentant homosexuals as clergy, the Word Alone leadership recently stated quite bluntly that the ELCA is beyond salvaging.

"The End of Loyal Opposition by Rev. Tom Walker Vice President, Word Alone Ministries

"For over a decade, Word Alone has assumed the role of the loyal opposition in relationship to the ELCA. We clearly voiced opposition to prevailing trends, but always with the intention of getting the ELCA back on a faithful track with a future. However, we see in the watershed events surrounding the August, 2009 churchwide assembly the ELCA's irrevocable change of direction. The actions of the Church Council, the rejection of Biblical authority by the delegates, the weak-kneed response by the bishops, and the increasingly strong-arm tactics of the church to repress critique make it clear that it is not a church body whose direction can be changed by a loyal opposition...

"After a decade of concerted effort ... we have concluded as a movement that the theological decay of the ELCA cannot be stemmed or reformed. The entire doctrinal infrastructure of the ELCA is extremely damaged and the pervasive apathy of the membership at large assures that the current tragic direction will continue indefinitely. We urge confessional and biblical Lutherans to begin making plans to disassociate with the ELCA for the sake of their spiritual well being and particularly for the spiritual well being of their children and grandchildren. . .



When demanded to recant his teachings at the Diet of Worms in 1521, Martin Luther boldly declared, "My conscience is bound by the Word of God. I cannot, I shall not, I will not recant. Here I stand. I can do no other. So help me God!" But, sadly, nearly 500 years later many who call themselves "Lutherans" no longer take their stand on the teachings of God's Word. This illustration of Luther's heroic stand at the Diet of Worms is a detail from a woodcut in a report about the Diet, printed in 1521.

"[W]ith all due haste, leave the ELCA. The clear departure from Christian orthodoxy over the last dozen years provides all the clarity one needs for your decision. The 'vote' in August 2009 was only the most recent and most flamboyant in a long series of evidence that the ELCA is no longer a viable and thriving Christian denomination."

Approximately 600 ELCA congregations are now in the process of leaving the ELCA, including dozens in South Dakota, Iowa, and Nebraska. When added to those which had previously left, this means the ELCA could lose about 10% of their approximately 10,000 congregations over this issue, and perhaps a greater percentage of members, since some of their largest congregations are leaving. These figures would be much higher if not for an ELCA requirement for two consecutive two-thirds votes of a congregation in order to separate from the ELCA, meaning that a minority can prevent a congregation from leaving.

Also hindering congregations from leaving is a rule that they cannot simply become independent, which is the historic course in such situations. Instead, the ELCA instituted a requirement, unprecedented in Lutheranism, that congregations which leave must transfer to some other established Lutheran body, or the congregation's property will be seized by the ELCA. (The LCMS has no such requirement, and the LCMS constitution specifies the national body has no rights to congregations' property.)

Although some ELCA congregations have opted to join the LCMS, most are moving to two new bodies recently formed by former ELCA members, the North American Lutheran Church (NALC) and Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC). (The latter's acronym, LCMC, is confusingly close to our own Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod, LCMS.)

While we applaud their rejection of the ELCA's "gay marriage" and ordination of unrepentant homosexuals, unfortunately there remain important differences between the LCMS and the NALC and LCMC. Perhaps the most significant, and crucial for the future of these new denominations, is their continuation of the ELCA's practice of ordaining females as pastors.

Our LCMS actually has, by far, the most females serving as professional church workers of any denomination in the United States. My own three sisters preceded me in professional service in the LCMS, as Teachers in Lutheran parochial schools. They are on the "roster" of Synod as "Ministers of Religion," just as I am, as well as a sister-in-law, and several nieces preparing to serve in this capacity. Our family gatherings are sort of LCMS church worker conventions, but I am outnumbered by the female delegates!

In addition to Teacher, females serve in the LCMS in a multitude of other professional, "rostered" roles: Deaconness, Director of Christian Education, Director of Christian Outreach, Director of Family Life Ministry, Director of Parish Music, Lay Minister, and Parish Assistant. Each of these positions requires special study at one of our Synod's ten universities or two

Crossnotes

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A large group of LCMS Deaconesses participated in the recent installation of the new LCMS President Matthew Harrison. Deaconesses traditionally wear a distinctive suit to mark their office. Deaconess Gloria DeCuir, former head of Diaconal Studies at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, says that Harrison is a strong proponent of the service of the Deaconess in the Church, and his election "will increase the visibility of the Deaconess program. It is very exciting!"

seminaries, are issued Calls just like Pastors, and for most, like my sisters, are lifelong, full-time careers of professional service to the Church.

All LCMS "Minister of Religion" positions are open to both males and females on an equal basis, with two exceptions: males cannot serve as Deaconesses, and females cannot serve as Pastors. Future Deaconesses and Pastors study side-by-side at our two seminaries, but for different roles within the Church.

The limitation of the Pastoral ministry to males only is based on the injunctions of Scripture in 1 Corinthians 14:33-38 and 1 Timothy 2:11-12. However, as noted above, this does not at all mean that females do not use their gifts in professional service in the LCMS. In fact, there are about 9,500 LCMS Pastors but nearly 18,000 other rostered LCMS "Ministers of Religion," so that even though females do not serve as Pastors there about an equal number of male and female professional church workers in the LCMS.

The LCMS arguably provides females the *most* opportunities for professional service of any denomination in the United States. For example, newly-elected LCMS President Matthew Harrison recently appointed three "Assistants to the President," two Pastors, and one Deaconess. So, it is a fallacy that heeding the Scriptures in not ordaining females as Pastors hinders their full service to Christ and His Church,

as can be seen in the exemplary service of tens of thousands of females, including my own sisters, as professional church workers in the LCMS.

This issue is crucial for the future of the NALC and LCMC because, although they left the ELCA over the issue of homosexuality, recent history shows that nearly every denomination that has begun ordaining females as Pastors has within decades also accepted unrepentant homosexual clergy and "gay marriage." This progression has already occurred in the United Church of Christ, Episcopal Church, Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A, and Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and is on the verge in the United Methodist Church and Reformed Church in America, among others.

What is the connection between these issues? Once a denomination decides it can overrule Scripture in one area, such as females serving as Pastors, it inevitably follows that they feel free to reject Scripture on other issues. If the NALC and LCMC start off with women's ordination, they are simply setting back the clock to when the ELCA was formed in 1988, and setting themselves up to relive all over again in their new denominations the strife and struggles they endured in the ELCA over the issue of homosexuality for 21 years, until it was finally deemed not sinful in 2009.

The writer quoted above is quite right to warn, "We urge confessional and biblical Lutherans . . . for the sake

of their spiritual well being and particularly for the spiritual well being of their children and grandchildren. . . with all due haste, leave the ELCA." However, the solution and safe haven is not to be found in the NALC or LCMC, which unfortunately have retained the fundamental errors of the ELCA.

As Article XXI of the Augsburg Confession of the Lutheran Church states: "Certainly we would not wish to put our own souls and consciences in grave peril before God by misusing His name or Word, nor should we wish to bequeath to our children and posterity any other teaching than that which agrees with the pure Word of God and Christian truth."

Pastor Kevin Vogts



As of September 19, 2010

Total Offerings Budgeted Year-to-Date	\$145,426
Total Offerings Received Year-to-Date	\$136,633
Total Budget Deficit Year-to-Date	(\$8,793)



Located just a half-hour from Holy Cross is the biggest mission support organization in the LCMS, and one of the biggest of any denomination in the United States. LCMS Mission Central, located

Sunday, October 3 4:00pm-7:00pm

BBQ Sandwiches, Beef Brisket, Coleslaw, Beans, Desserts, and Bake Sale

\$8.00 per adult



\$4.00 per child (ages 5-10, 4 & under free)

All Invited — Everyone Welcome!

on an old farm outside Mapleton, lowa, brings missionaries from around the world to speak about their work in an old barn turned into a charming country chapel. This unique organization raises millions for missions each year—with no overhead, 100% going directly to support missionaries.

All of our Missionaries of the Month will be speaking this month or next month at Mission Central. You are invited and encouraged to visit Mission Central on the dates and times listed beneath their country of service, and hear their wonderful stories of how, "All over the world this Gospel is bearing fruit and growing" (Colossians 1:6).

For more information and directions to Mission Central speak to Pastor Vogts or visit www.missioncentral.us.

October 3 Ivan & Jennifer Rasch Nigeria October 6, 7:00pm

October 10 Carol Halter Hong Kong October 21, 1:00pm & 7:00pm

October 17 Rev David and Radka Fiala Slovakia November 3, 1:00pm & 6:00pm

October 24
Rev. Shauen & Krista Trump

Kenya November 10, 1:00pm & 7:00pm

October 31 Dr. Zachery & Erica Somermeier Asia November 18, 1:00pm and 7:00pm



Wow, the first month of preschool has flown by. We have a great group of kid's this school year. The classes are full with just a few openings in the Mother's Day Out class. Just a few of the activities that we have coming up are school pictures, cookie dough sales, a Fireman as a special guest, field trip to a Pumpkin Patch, and Parent Teacher Conferences. Bible and educational lessons are taught daily along with singing and movement activities.

We appreciate so much this valuable ministry that your church offers to all the young families. We'd love to have you stop by anytime and see all the smiling faces of our little ones. I am so excited to be apart of Holy Cross Preschool.

Synda Durham, Director



What is the meaning of love? What are the four kinds of love found in the Bible? How does God want you to show love toward Him and toward others?

Our current study in Adult Bible Class is *The Epistles of Love—1st, 2nd & 3rd John.* John is often called the "Apostle of Love" because the word "love" occurs in his writings over 100 times, more than any other books of the Bible. Though his Epistles of 1st, 2nd and 3rd John are some of the shortest books in the Bible, the word "love" occurs in them more than 50 times!

Join in Sundays at 10:30am in the Gathering Room as we learn about love from the Author of love, with our study of *The Epistles of Love—1st, 2nd & 3rd John.*



October 3

"Keep the Faith—Share the Faith"

2 Timothy 1:13-14

October 10

"The Story of Ruth"
Ruth 1:1-19

October 17

"Jacob at the Jabbok Genesis 32:22-30

October 24

"Holier Than Thou' or 'A Tale of Two Men'" Luke 18:9-14 October 31 "God's Glorious Gospel" Isaiah 1:18



Elders for October Carroll Gustman & Ron Yockey

<u>Ushers for October</u> Gary Amunson & Randy Stein

Chancel Care for October Sherry Isley

Acolytes for October

October 3	Claire Johnson
October 10	Kathleen Soukup
	Gracie Nelson
October 24	Bryce Schroeder
	Anna Vogts

Crucifers for October

October	3	Emily Steemken
October	10	Nathan Soukup
October	17	Tiara Selby
October	24	Kaleb Martin
October	31. Stephanie	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.

Ryan Dial, October 2 Dennis Melstad, October 5 Heidi Finkral, October 8 Denise Fletcher, October 8 Garett Nelson, October 8 Linda Amunson, October 12 Earl Biggers, October 15 Jim Goede, October 16 Les Britson, October 21 Sailor Kommes, October 24 Ali Eickhoff, October 25 Gracie Nelson, October 25 Emma Bargstadt, October 26

Steven & Susanne Stoeger-Moore October 1, 1977

> Larissa & Brent Kommes October 4, 2003

Bobby & Rashell DeRocher October 6, 2007

> Doug & Janet Martin October 6, 1990

Denise & Patick Honner October 16, 2004

Doug & Becky Nelson October 18, 2003

Earl & Dawn Biggers October 20, 1984



POTLUCK DINNER

Reformation Day Potuluck Dinner & Quarterly Business Meeting

We will celebrate Reformation Day on Sunday, October 31 with a Potluck Dinner at 11:30am, followed by the regular Quarterly Business Meeting of the Voters Assembly.

All adult members of Holy Cross are automatically members of the Voters Assembly. You are invited to enjoy the Potluck Dinner and then stay and help administer the business side of our congregation.



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 following brief descriptions of the significance of these commemorations in October are from the Treasury of Daily Prayer.

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).

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



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.

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 theo-logians believe that James was a son of Joseph and Mary and, therefore, a bio-logical brother of Jesus. But throughout most of the Church (historically, and even today), Paul's term "brother" is under-stood 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.

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.

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 is a fish on a the apostles, to Bible to show preach and teach the that through Holy Gospel, to the Wordhe was proclaim repentance a great fisher of and forgiveness, and to baptize in the bol for St. Jude name of the Father (bottom) is a and of the Son and of ship symbolizthe Holy Spirit (John 4:1-2; Matthew 10; ary journeys. 28:16-20: Luke 24:46-49).



The symbol for St. Simon (top) men. The syming his mission-

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.



The flower calendar for 2010 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 cabinet in the Vestry (small room <u>east</u> of Altar).

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

September 12
Doug & Sue Jansen
Anniversary

September 19
Doug & Janet Martin
Kylie & Kendall's Birthdays

October 3 Women in Mission LWML Sunday

October 3
Doug & Janet Martin
Wedding Anniversary

November 14 Mabel Schibonski 102nd Birthday



No one has signed up yet to serve snacks for October 17, 24 or 31. Please help with this fellowship activity by signing up on the table in the Gathering Room. Thank you to all those providing snacks!

October 3 LWML Sunday October 10 Kay Hageman October 17, 24, 31 .. Need Volunteers

Hog Roast October 3



Holy Cross Women in Mission will once again be hosting the Hog Roast/Bake Sale

on Sunday, October 3. Tickets are now available for sale. Once again, we are asking for your help with pre-sale of tickets. The cost is \$8.00 per adult and \$4.00 per child. Tickets will also be

available for purchase in the Atrium after church services beginning 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. Carry-outs available.

Our mission emphasis will be to donate 20% of the profits to Ft. Wayne Seminary Washer/Dryer Fund to purchase new washers and dryers for campus housing. Proceed will be used towards one or more of the following unfinished interior church projects: Secretary's Office – Cupboards & countertops; Hearth Room – Furnishings; Gathering Room – Cabinets.

Our sincere thanks to the following: Jon and Gail Dorr for donating the hog; to Rev. Donald Meyer of Trinity Lutheran Church, Marcus, lowa for roasting it for us; to Ron and Jeannette Yockey for donating the beef brisket; and to Betty Gunderson and Deb Stein for coordinating this event.

Volunteers are also needed for working during the dinner, and cleaning up afterward. Many hands make light work!



Calling All Bakers!

Volunteers are needed to donate homemade baked goods and canned goods for our Bake Sale table. Let your culinary talents shine! Additional 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. We still need a few volunteers to help with this. Questions may be directed to Angela Dial (605-422-2096) or Deb Stein (605-422-2401). Please consider helping with these projects.

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Holy Cross Lutheran Church

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

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 19th Sunday after Pentecost 9:15am Worship with Holy Communion 10:30am Sunday School & Bible Class 11:30am Choir Rehearsal 4:00pm-7:00pm Hog Roast	Q Roasi Larissa & Brent Kommes	5 Dennis Melstad	6 6:30pm Midweek School 7:30pmBoard of Education Bobby & Rashell DeRocher Doug & Janet Martin	7 7:00pm Board of Elders	Steven & Susanne Stoeger-Moore Heidi Finkral Denise Fletcher Garett Nelson	Ryan Dial
9:15am Worship with Holy Communion 10:30am Sunday School & Bible Class 11:30am Choir Rehearsal	11 Columbus Day	12 Linda Amunson	13 9:00am Women in Mission 6:30pm Midweek School 7:30pm Church Council	14	15 Newsletter Deadline Earl Biggers	Jim Goede Denise & Patick Honner
17 21st Sunday after Pentecost 8:45am Choir Warmup 9:15am Worship with Holy Communion 10:30am Sunday School & Bible Class Johann Gerhard, Theologian, Born 1582	St. Luke, Evangelist Doug & Becky Nelson	19	20 6:30pm Midweek School Earl & Dawn Biggers	Offi Tue	22 Church ice Hours sday-Friday am-11:00am	23 St. James of Jerusalem
24 22nd Sunday after Pentecost Reformation Sunday 9:15am Worship with Holy Communion 10:30am Sunday School & Bible Class 11:30am Choir Rehearsal Sailor Kommes Reformation Sunday	C.F.W. Walther, Founder of Missouri Synod, Born, 1811 Ali Eickhoff Gracie Nelson	Emma Bargstadt	27 6:30pm Midweek School d, pour out You	St. Simon & St. Jude, Apostles	29	30

8:45am Choir Warmup
9:15am Worship with
Holy Communion
10:30am Sunday School

& Bible Class

11:30am Potluck Dinner & Quarterly Business Meeting

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 Reformation)

Monday-Friday Mornings
Chapel Wednesdays & Thursdays 9:00am

After School Care

Monday-Friday, 3:15pm-6:00pm

Both Follow Dakota Valley Calendar



Return Service Requested



Sunday, October 3

4:00pm-7:00pm

BBQ Sandwiches, Beef Brisket, Coleslaw, Beans, Desserts, and Bake Sale

\$8.00 per adult

\$4.00 per child (ages 5-10, 4 & under free)

Carry-Outs Available

Open to Community
All Invited — Everyone Welcome!

