



This month I am sharing with you an excerpt from an exciting article in the current issue of Christianity Today, by Dr. Uwe Siemon-Netto, an acclaimed international journalist who is a member of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and who spoke at Holy Cross several years ago.

The Other Iranian Revolution

By Dr. Uwe Siemon-Netto
Excerpted from *Christianity Today*
July/August, 2012

“God must have been laughing up his sleeve,” muses Jobst Schöne. The retired bishop of the Independent Lutheran Church in Germany [an LCMS partner church body] is applying a German paraphrase of Psalm 2:4 to the baptism of seven former Muslims from Iran—who in Germany are generally referred to as Persians. Early Easter morning, the seven were baptized in the Berlin parish where Schöne serves as associate pastor. The baptisms were an emblem of something bigger—a nationwide surge of such conversions in several denominations and a spate of reports of Muslims seeing Jesus in their dreams. But Martin Luther’s Bible translation, now nearly 500 years old, also played an important role in their story.

The group baptism happened at an unsettling time for European Christians. During Lent, radical Muslims handed out large numbers of Qurans on street

corners and announced plans to distribute 25 million German-language copies of their holy book in order to win Germans to their faith. But on the night before Easter, some 150 worshipers filed silently into St. Mary’s Church in the Zehlendorf district of Berlin to witness conversions in the opposite direction.

Until midnight, the sanctuary was dark. Then Gottfried Martens, senior pastor, chanted from the altar: “Glory to God in the highest.” All at once the lights went on, the organ roared, and the faithful broke jubilantly into song: “We praise you, we bless you, we worship you.” Like Christians everywhere, they celebrated the Resurrection of their Lord.

“In this congregation, I heard for the first time that God is a loving Father who desires a personal relationship with every human being. This was news to me, because Islam had taught me the image of God as a distant, punishing deity.”

For the six young men and one woman in the front pew, the moment had additional significance: They were placing their lives in danger in exchange for salvation. Under Islamic law, apostasy is a capital crime, a fact brought home to the German public by press reports about Iranian pastor Youcef Nadarkhani, an ex-Muslim, who was sentenced to death in Tehran. Some of the converts at St. Mary’s were themselves persecuted before fleeing to Germany, now home to the largest Iranian community in Western Europe, numbering 150,000.

“These refugees are taking unimaginable risks to live their Christian faith,” says Martens, who ministers to one of Germany’s most dynamic parishes, which has grown from 200 to over 900 members in 20 years. He views the conversion of a growing number of Iranians in Germany as evidence of God’s sense of irony. “Imagine! Of all places, God chooses eastern Germany, one of the world’s most godless regions, as the stage for a spiritual awakening among Persians,” Martens exclaims. According to a recent University of Chicago study, only 13 percent of all residents of the formerly Communist part of Germany attest belief in God.

Martens’s experience with Muslim converts goes back to when he began catechism classes for Persian immigrants five years ago. The classes quickly expanded, and on Easter Sunday 2011, Martens baptized ten converts. Ten more converts are expected next Easter, and another ten the following year, plus more in between.

As news of the Easter baptisms at St. Mary’s spread, churches across Germany reported similar experiences. In a rural Lutheran church in Bavaria, for example, several dark-skinned strangers surprised the Communion assistant during Lent when they showed up at the altar. “Who were they?” he later asked his pastor. “Oh, they are just another family of Persian converts,” the minister answered.

The number of baptisms of Persians and, to a lesser degree, other Muslims in Germany outweighs the conversion of Christians to Islam. According to a report by the central archive of Germany’s Islamic organizations, approximately 500 Germans became Muslims in 2010. Yet those were either German girls marrying Muslim immigrants or nominal ex-Christians hoping for good business opportunities in other Islamic countries.

The conversion of Persians is of a totally different quality, usually following long instruction in the Christian faith.

In Martens' congregation, for instance, the catechumens from the Middle East spend four or more months studying the Bible, the church creeds, Martin Luther's Small Catechism, the significance of the liturgy, and the hymns. "They are very attracted by the liturgy, which was absent in their previous faith," Martens explains. Wilfried Kahla, a former missionary and a veteran in evangelizing Muslims says that he made his candidates study a 62-page brochure on Christian doctrine and administered a written exam to them. Then, at the baptismal font, he made them renounce Islam.

Martens follows a similar curricula, carefully explaining to converts the difference between the Allah of Islam and the God of Christianity. "Islam is like a rope ladder on which people try to reach God," Kahla likes to say. "They manage to climb a few rungs, but with each sin, fall off the ladder and must start all over again. Christians, by contrast, need no ladder because Jesus comes down to earth for them. Christians have salvation. Muslims don't."

Why is it that, of the 4 million Muslims living in Germany, Iranians are the most likely to turn to Christianity? The ministers interviewed attribute this fact in part to

Crossnotes

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their high level of education. They say that most of the Iranian refugees are businesspeople, physicians, scientists, engineers, lawyers, economists, teachers, and other professionals or students.

"Iran is suffering from a big brain drain as a result of its fanatical religious policies," observes Thomas Schirrmacher, chair of the Theological Commission of the World Evangelical Alliance. Hans-Jürgen Kutzner, who ministers to 1,000 Persians on behalf of the United Evangelical-Lutheran Churches in Germany, agrees: "As far as the university-educated elite in Iran is concerned, Islam has lost all moral integrity, especially among the young."

***"Isn't it odd that the
Ayatollah Khomeini has
turned out to be one of
modern Christianity's
greatest missionaries?"***

According to a report by the nationwide Deutschlandradio network, perhaps half of all young, educated Persian urbanites sympathize with Christianity these days. The rise of underground Christianity in Iran is due partly to the fact that every day 17 million of its 79 million people listen to programs via Christian satellite radio and television from abroad. Speaking on condition of anonymity, a U.S. Lutheran pastor involved in clandestine missionary work in the theocratic nation speaks with awe of the intensity of exchanges between the expanding Christian communities in exile and in Persia itself.

Perhaps the most convincing argument supporting Bishop Schöne's image of a laughing God at work is found in the genesis of the Persian awakening at St. Mary's. It began in Saxony, the birthplace of the Reformation, where Christians have become an endangered species. Twelve years ago, Trinity Parish in Leipzig, a tiny congregation of the Independent Lutheran Church, began teaching German as a second language to asylum seekers awaiting government approval of their refugee status.

Trinity used Luther's Bible translation as a textbook. Linguists credit that translation with having created the modern German language. Intrigued by what they read, several exiles asked to be baptized. They brought along friends who also wished to learn the basics of the Christian faith. "Today, one third of our 150 members are Persians," says Markus Fischer, Trinity's pastor.

Those members include 28-year-old "Amin" (not his real name) and his young family. Amin says he is a direct descendant of the prophet Muhammad. He was a successful corporate executive in Tehran until an Armenian friend introduced him to the Christian faith. Amin and his pregnant wife then fled to Europe. Their story is much like that of "Hamid," former owner of a Tehran shopping center. He was arrested and tortured after a raid by Iran's religious police on the house church he attended.

"In this congregation, I heard for the first time that God is a loving Father who desires a personal relationship with every human being. This was news to me, because Islam had taught me the image of God as a distant, punishing deity," says Hamid. He was one of the ex-Muslims baptized this Easter in Berlin, where he had moved after the German authorities granted him refugee status.

Other Persian converts from Leipzig also moved to Berlin. Others still moved onto Hamburg, Dresden, and Düsseldorf, where they joined the local congregations of the Independent Lutheran Church. Wherever they went, they started evangelizing fellow refugees, which helps to account for the surge in conversions.

Meanwhile, in Leipzig, Trinity's success among immigrants has caught the attention of German-born seekers. The congregation is outgrowing its minute makeshift building in a cemetery and negotiating a permanent lease of a large but little-used sanctuary of the state-related Lutheran Church, a shrinking denomination.

Schirrmacher finds stories like this engrossing. He says, "Isn't it odd that the Ayatollah Khomeini has turned out to be one of modern Christianity's greatest missionaries?"

BUDGET UPDATE



As of August 26, 2012

Total Offerings Budgeted
Year-to-Date \$142,125
Total Offerings Received
Year-to-Date \$107,978
Total Budget Surplus/Deficit
Year-to-Date (\$34,147)



Hog Roast October 7

Holy Cross Women In Mission will once again host the fourth annual Hog Roast/Bake Sale. Please mark your calendars for Sunday, October 7, from 4:00pm–7:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.

The 20% Mission Monies from the proceeds will go to Jesus Our Savior Lutheran School Association in Winnebago, Nebraska with our very own Sarah Bundschuh as their teacher.

Our sincere 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 Dee Reifke and Deb Stein for coordinating this event.

Tickets are now available for sale! Once again, we are asking for your help with pre-sale of tickets. Ladies, if you have not received your information letter, please call Dee Reifke (422-0109). The cost is \$8.00 per adult and \$4.00 per child ages 5-10, 4 & under free. Carry-out is available.

Tickets will also be available for purchase in the Atrium after church services beginning in September, and in

Sunday, October 7
4:00pm–7:00pm

BBQ Sandwiches,
Beef Brisket, Coleslaw,
Beans, Desserts,
Craft & Bake Sale, and
New! Quilt Silent Auction

\$8.00 per adult



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

All Invited — Everyone Welcome!

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.



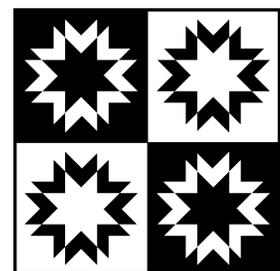
Grab Your Aprons!

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 Bake Sale table. Let your culinary talents shine! A separate sign-up sheet will be in the Gathering Room, as well. Questions may be directed to Angela Dial (605-422-2096) or Deb Stein (605-422-2401).



Are You Crafty?

Anyone wishing to donate crafts for the craft sale at the Hog Roast welcome—your help is appreciated! For questions contact Deb Stein (605-422-2401).



Something New!

This year we're adding a new feature to our Hog Roast. We will be having a Silent Auction on a quilt donated by Deb Stein. The minimum bid will be posted and bids will be accepted until 6:30 pm. The winner will then be announced.

Confirmation Class



Midweek Confirmation Classes Begin September 5

Midweek School confirmation classes at Holy Cross for 2012-13 for the 5th-8th Grades will begin on Wednesday, September 5 at 6:30pm. Because most of the students are returning we will not have a parents meeting this year and the first evening will be regular class sessions.

The Pre-Confirmation class for 5th-6th Grades focuses on key Bible stories and memorization of the Catechism, to prepare for Confirmation class in 7th-8th Grades. If you have questions about Confirmation class please contact Pastor Vogts for more information.



Sunday School Begins September 9

Join in Sunday, September 9 to kick off the new year of Sunday School. During the service the children entering 3rd Grade will be presented with *My First Catechism*, those entering 5th Grade will receive an student edition of the *Holy Bible*, and those entering 7th Grade are given *Luther's Small Catechism*. These gifts from the congregation are for them to use and grow in their love for Christ.

Sunday School is held during the school year at 10:30am in the Educational Wing. The lessons cover the entire Biblical story and give the children a solid Bible background. Our thanks to the Holy Cross Board of Education and all those helping with this important ministry of our congregation!

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6).



New Adult Bible Class "The Bible on Trial" Begins September 9

On September 9 we will begin a new DVD study in Adult Bible Class on *The Bible on Trial: Beyond a Reasonable Doubt*, showing how the Scriptures are authentic, dependable, God-inspired and worthy of our full attention and complete faith.

Originally produced by Lutheran Hour Ministries as a primetime television special that was broadcast nationwide, it was winner of the 2011 "Telly Award" for best religious documentary. Topics include "Answering the Bible's Critics," "Hard Evidence from the Ancient World," "Archaeology's Contribution," and "Eyewitness Testimony."

Noted attorney and LCMS member Craig Parton leads the investigation, with experts in areas such as ancient history and archaeology contributing insights and analysis on why the Bible is a trustworthy source on which to base our faith.

Join in Sundays at 10:30am in the Fellowship Hall beginning September 9 for *The Bible on Trial: Beyond a Reasonable Doubt*.



September 2
"Be Strong in the Lord"

Ephesians 6:10

September 9
"Everlasting Joy"

Isaiah 35:10

September 16
"Taming Your Tongue"

James 3:1-12

September 23
"Live in Peace"

James 3:16-4:6

September 30
"Adjust Your Focus"

James 1:2-12



Holy Cross Sermon Podcast Now in iTunes Store

You can now listen to or download Pastor Vogts' sermons in iTunes, or subscribe to a sermon podcast. Search in the iTunes store for "Kevin Vogts." If you subscribe to the podcast in iTunes the new sermon will be automatically downloaded each week.

Pastor Vogts' sermons are also posted on our church web site the week after being delivered. In addition to the printed text, beginning in May, 2012 audio is included on our web site. Click on the "Sermons" button at www.holycrossdakotadunes.org and then on the speaker icon after the sermon title to listen online, or right-click to download as an MP3. If you prefer a CD of a particular sermon just ask Pastor Vogts.



STEWARDSHIP

Board of Stewardship Plans Fall Emphasis

Our new Board of Stewardship is planning several events this fall to highlight the work of our congregation and the missions that we support.

◆ On Sunday, October 28 at 4:30pm a "Reformation Hymn Festival" for all the LCMS churches in the Sioux City area will be held at Holy Cross. It was decided to hold this annual event at our congregation this year to feature our new pipe organ. The festival will be based on the hymns of Martin Luther and Luther's Small Catechism. A freewill offering will be take to support the Winnebago Lutheran School (where our own Sarah Bundschuh teaches). Following the hymn festival there will be a soup and sandwich supper in our Fellowship Hall provided by the women's groups of the various congregations.

◆ On Saturday, November 17 at 1:30pm everyone is invited to Mission Central in Mapleton, Iowa for what will surely be a fascinating presentation by Rev. Shaue and Krista Trump about their missionary work among Muslims in Kenya.

◆ During the entire month of November we will have a Thanksgiving Food Drive for the Gospel Mission. This year we are planning a fall harvest display in the baptistery where you can leave your food donations.

◆ Under our new Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws our congregation's budget for 2013 is scheduled to be adopted at the Quarterly Business Meeting on November 11. The following Sunday, November 18, in place of our usual social hour in the Gathering Room and Adult Bible Class, everyone is invited to the Fellowship Hall after worship for "Martin Luther's Birthday

Party" (a week late since is birthday is November 10). We'll celebrate with birthday cake and beer (root, that is), and then the Board of Stewardship will give a brief—15 minute—presentation for the whole congregation about next year's budget and our congregation's general fiscal picture. What percentage of our budget goes for the mortgage? Utilities? Building maintenance? How much is left to pay on our mortgage? What are our overall assets and liabilities? How much do we plan to give to missions? These are some of the topics that will be addressed in this brief, informative presentation.

◆ In December we will be sponsoring the Angel Tree for the Gospel Mission. This has been a great success in past years and helped provide a Merry Christmas for the homeless children, women, and men that they serve.

If you would like to help with any of these events or have questions contact the Board of Stewardship chairman Pastor Charles Horkey.



Church Now Locked During Preschool, After School Care, and Office Hours

Like other schools and day cares in our area we are now keeping the entire Holy Cross building locked while Preschool and After School Care are in session. This includes the Sanctuary entrance, because the office volunteers often have duties in other parts of the building and cannot always monitor that entrance.

For the same reason we will generally keep the doors locked during Church Office hours, which are Tuesday thru Friday, from 9:00am-11:00am, even when Preschool and After School Care are not in session. There is now a doorbell button outside the Sanctuary entrance, which rings in the Church Office, Pastor's Study, and Gathering Room, that you can ring for entry.

The Preschool and After School Care parents have been issued fobs for the entrance system recently installed on the Educational Wing entry. Their fobs limit access to the appropriate days and times when Preschool and After School Care are in session. We plan to also have fobs available for Holy Cross members that will provide access during the daytime and evening hours.

*Building
for the
Future*

Hearth Room Plans Proceeding

At the Quarterly Business Meeting on July 15 the Voters Assembly approved a proposal from the Hearth Room Committee, with the concurrence of the Church Council, to proceed with seeking bids and completing and furnishing the Hearth Room. The Hearth Room Committee is proceeding with selecting the fireplace (which will be electric) and stone, getting bids, etc. When the work begins will depend on the contractors' schedules.

An architectural sketch of the fireplace and bookcase for the west wall is on the bulletin board in the Gathering Room. The room will be furnished so that it is multipurpose, with comfortable sofas and chairs around the fireplace, but also a table on the other side for small groups and classes. Designated funds are already available for this project.



Holy Spirit Window Design Approved

On the bulletin board in the Gathering Room is a sketch of the design from Bovard Studio for the west front "Holy Spirit" window of the Sanctuary. The sketch is also printed in color on the outside cover of this newsletter.

This design was approved by the Voters Assembly on July 15, upon recommendation of the Board of Elders and Church Council. However, there are no designated funds for this project, and installation will be deferred until commitments to fund the window are received.



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.

- Angela Dial, September 3
- Tammy Steemken, September 3
- Sarah Vogts, September 4
- Mindy Krause, September 11
- Matthew Baker, September 14
- Larissa Kommes, September 15

- Kylie Martin, September 19
- David Hill, September 21
- Bernetta Hirsch, September 23
- Kendall Martin, September 25
- Bryce Schroeder, September 28
- Marcy Schroeder, September 30

- Joey & Marcy Schroeder
September 7, 1996
- Doug & Sue Jansen
September 10, 1971
- Mindy & Mark Krause
September 26, 1981
- Helen & Kevin Hamilton
September 27
- Dennis & Jeri Melstad
September 28, 1985



MISSIONARY SPEAKERS

Each month we remember in prayer in our worship services specific Missionaries of the Month around the world who we are helping support by our congregation's gift to the LCMS of 10% of our general offerings.

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 on an old farm outside Mapleton, Iowa, brings missionaries from around the world to speak about their work. 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 for July will be speaking this month at Mission Central. You are encouraged to visit Mission Central and hear their wonderful stories of how, "All over the world this Gospel is bearing fruit and growing" (Colossians 1:6).

The dates of the missionaries' presentations at Mission Central are listed below. For more information and directions to Mission Central visit www.missioncentral.us or speak to Pastor Vogts.

- September 2
Eric Kunkel
China
September 17, 1:30pm
- September 9
Dennis & Monta Denow
Thailand
September 19, 1:00pm
- September 16
Rev. Jon and Julie Muhly
Russia
September 27, 1:30pm
- September 23
Coral Rose
South Africa
November 8, 1:30pm
- September 30
Rev. Brent & Jennie Smith
Russia
November 12, 1:30pm



- Elders for September
Gary Amunson & Carroll Gustman
- Ushers for September
Paul Eickhoff & Steve Stoeger-Moore
- Chancel Care for September
Jeri Melstad
- Acolytes for September
September 2 Anna Vogts
September 9 Caden Peters
September 16 Hayden Jensen
September 23 Brady Schroeder
September 30 Nichole Dial
- Crucifers for September
September 2 Jacob Michels
September 9 Kaleb Martin
September 16 Henry Jensen
September 23 Bryce Schroeder
September 30 Gracie Nelson



Altar Flowers

The flower calendar for 2012 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 east of Altar). They may be delivered during Office Hours, Tuesday thru Friday from 9:00am-11:00am, 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. Thank you to all those flowers to help beautify our Sanctuary as we worship the Lord!

August 5

Les & Dee Reifke
Anniversary

August 12

Gary & Betty Gunderson
56th Anniversary

August 19

Gloria Barnum
In Memory of Husband
Robert Barnum's Birthday

August 26

Pastor Kevin & Terry Vogts
Birthdays of Terry, Jacob, Sarah, Anna

September 9

Dout & Sue Jansen
41st Anniversary

October 7

Steve & Susanne Stoeger-Moore
Anniversary

October 14

Denise & Pat Honner
Anniversary

October 28

Nyla Hamm
In Memory of Mother Mildred Lang



Isn't it nice to have snack time after worship? 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!

- September 2 Refike
- September 9 Peters
- September 16 Von Minden
- September 23 & 30 ... Need Volunteers



Women In Mission is the Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) chapter at Holy Cross. We do not hold regular meetings in June, July, or August, but have enjoyed two special summer events in June and July, Women's Spring Luncheon and Outing, on June 13 in Tekamah, Nebraska, and a mission trip on July 26 to the Orphan Grain Train in Norfolk, Nebraska.

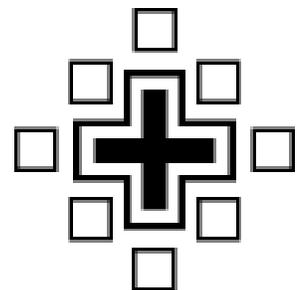
Our next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 12 at 9:30am. All women of the congregation are invited. Come join your sisters in Christ for the fun, fellowship, and service to the Lord!



You are invited to help sing praises to the Lord in the Holy Cross Choir! Choir practice this year will again be on Wednesday evenings at 7:30pm (7:45pm during Advent and Lent), beginning September 19.

Music has been purchased and we have some really beautiful selections again this year! We plan to sing for worship about a dozen times, and the dates can be adjusted depending on choir members' schedules. Once again we are distributing CD's with recordings of the selections for the choir members to become familiar with them.

We hope to have our former choir members back and need new members too! All are invited to participate. It is a real joy to sing in the choir loft of our sanctuary, with its excellent acoustics. For more information about the choir contact Pastor Vogts.



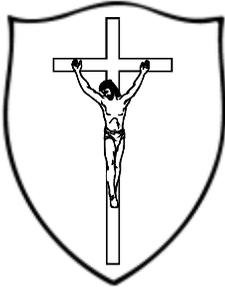
September Commemorations

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. 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 September are from the *Treasury of Daily Prayer*.

Holy Cross Day (September 14)

One of the earliest annual celebrations of the Church, Holy Cross Day traditionally commemorated the discovery of the original cross of Jesus on September 14, 320, in Jerusalem. The cross was found by Helena, mother of Roman Emperor Constantine the Great. In conjunction with the dedication of a basilica at the site of Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection, the festival day was made official by order of Constantine in AD 335.



A devout Christian, Helena had helped locate and authenticate many sites related to the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus throughout biblical lands. Holy Cross Day has remained popular in both Eastern and Western Christianity. Many Lutheran parishes have chosen to use "Holy Cross" as the name of their congregation.

St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist (September 21)

St. Matthew, also known as Levi, identifies himself as a former tax collector, one who was therefore considered unclean, a public sinner, outcast from the Jews. Yet it was such a one as this whom the Lord Jesus called away from his occupation and wealth to become a disciple (Matthew 9:9-13). Not only did Matthew become a disciple of Jesus, he was also called and sent as one of the Lord's twelve apostles (Matthew 10:2-4).

In time, he became the evangelist whose inspired record of the Gospel was granted first place in the ordering of the New Testament. Among the four Gospels, Matthew's portrays Christ especially as the new and greater Moses, who graciously fulfills the Law and the Prophets (Matthew 5:17) and establish-

es a new covenant of salvation in and with His own blood (Matthew 26:27-28).

Matthew's Gospel is also well-known and beloved for its record of the visit of the Magi (Matthew 2:1-12); for the Sermon on the Mount, including the Beatitudes and the Our Father (Matthew 5-7); and for the institution of Holy Baptism and the most explicit revelation of the Holy Trinity (Matthew 28:16-20).

Tradition is uncertain where his final field of labor was and whether Matthew died naturally or a martyr's death. In celebrating this festival, we therefore give thanks to God that He has mightily governed and protected His Holy Church through this man who was called and sent by Christ to serve the sheep of His pastures with the Holy Gospel.

St. Michael and All Angels (September 29)

The name of the archangel St. Michael means "Who is like God?" Michael is mentioned in the Book of Daniel (12:1), as well as in Jude (v. 9) and Revelation (12:7). Daniel portrays Michael as the angelic



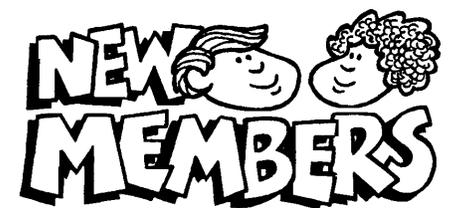
As an Apostle and Evangelist, St. Matthew actually has two symbols. The first is his symbol as an Apostle, three money bags representing his original occupation as a tax collector (Matthew 9:9). The second is his symbol as an Evangelist, a winged man, based on the vision of Ezekiel (Ezekiel 1:1-10, 10:14), upon which also Mark is represented by a winged lion, Luke by a winged ox, and John by an eagle.

helper of Israel who leads the battle against the forces of evil. In Revelation, Michael and his angels fight against and defeat Satan and the evil angels, driving them from heaven. Their victory is made possible by Christ's own victory over Satan in His death and resurrection, a victory announced by the voice in heaven: "Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come" (Revelation 12:10).

Michael is often associated with Gabriel and Raphael, the other chief angels or archangels who surround the throne of God. Tradition names Michael as the patron and protector of the Church, especially as the protector of Christians at the hour of death.



As protector of the Church, the symbol of St. Michael the Archangel is a shield and fiery sword, representing the power of God defending us (Ephesians 6:10-17).



We rejoice to welcome two more new members at Holy Cross! Roger & Peg Janke are at home at 267 Levee Trail in Dakota Dunes; 605-232-6170.

Rogers is a retired major in the Air Force where he worked in fuels management. Peg is also retired and worked in early childhood education. They have two children and two grandchildren.

We will have a New Member Sunday later in the fall to formally welcome the Jankes and other recent new members. *Welcome to the Holy Cross family of faith!*



HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

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



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 14th Sunday after Pentecost 9:15am Worship with Holy Communion 	3 Angela Dial Tammy Steemken	4 7:30pm Board of Trustees Sarah Vogts	5 10:00am Wednesday Coffee at Hy-Vee on Hamilton 6:30pm Midweek School Begins	6 Church Office Hours Tuesday-Friday 9:00am-11:00am 	7 Joey & Marcy Schroeder	1 <hr/> 8
9 15th Sunday after Pentecost 9:15am Worship with Holy Communion 10:30am New Year of Sunday School & Bible Class Begins 	10 Doug & Sue Jansen	11 Mindy Krause	12 9:30am Holy Cross Women in Mission (LWML) 6:30pm Midweek School	13 7:30pm Board of Elders	14 Holy Cross Day Matthew Baker	15 Larissa Kommes
16 16th Sunday after Pentecost 9:15am Worship with Holy Communion 10:30am Sunday School & Bible Class	17 Newsletter Deadline	18	19 10:00am Wednesday Coffee at Hy-Vee on Hamilton 6:30pm Midweek School 7:30pm First Choir Rehearsal Kylie Martin	20	21 St. Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist David Hill	22
23 17th Sunday after Pentecost 9:15am Worship with Holy Communion 10:30am Sunday School & Bible Class Bernetta Hirsch	24	25 Kendall Martin	26 10:00am Wednesday Coffee at Hy-Vee on Hamilton 6:30pm Midweek School 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal Mark & Mindy Krause	27 Kevin & Helen Hamilton	28 Amunson-Dodd Rehearsal Bryce Schroeder Dennis & Jeri Melstad	29 Amunson-Dodd Wedding St. Michael and All Angels
30 18th Sunday after Pentecost 8:45am Choir Warmup 9:15am Worship with Holy Communion 10:30am Sunday School & Bible Class Marcy Schroeder	Preschool Schedule Monday, Wednesday, Friday Mornings — Chapel Wednesdays at 9:00am After School Care Monday-Friday 3:15pm-6:00pm Both Follow Dakota Valley Calendar		Merciful God, Your Son Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross that He might bear the sins of the world and draw all people to Himself. Grant that we who glory in His death for our redemption may faithfully heed His call to bear the cross and follow Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (Collect for Holy Cross Day)			

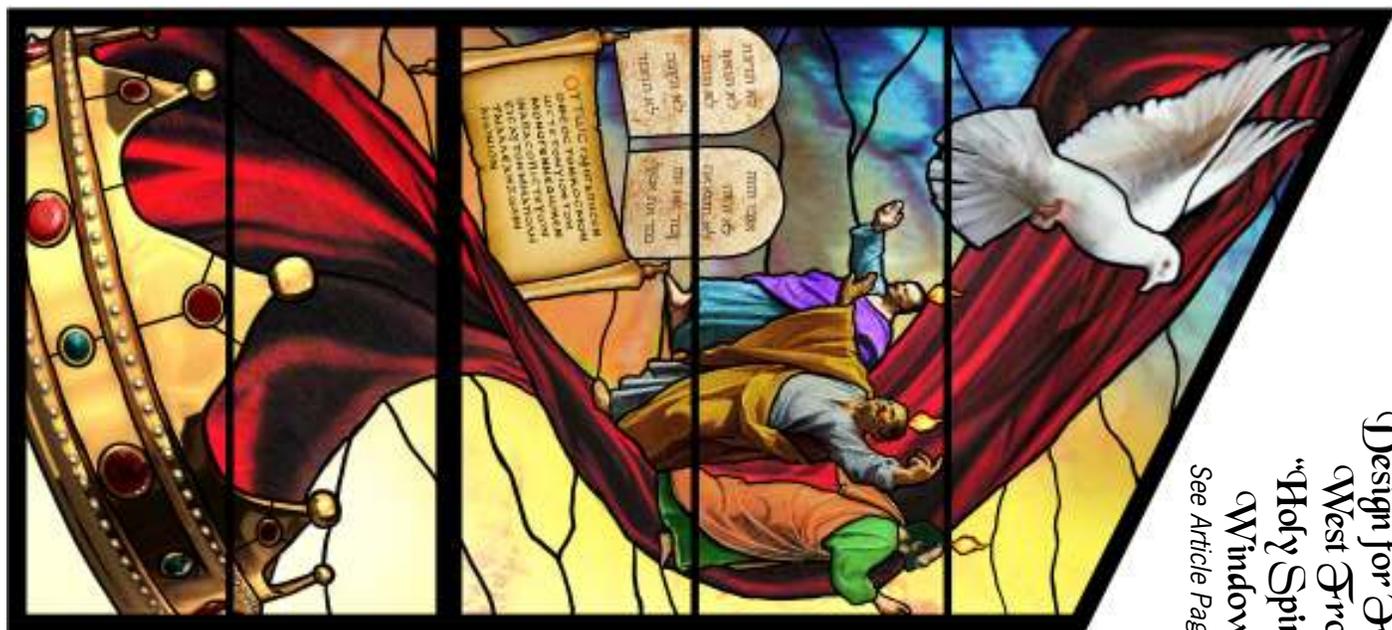
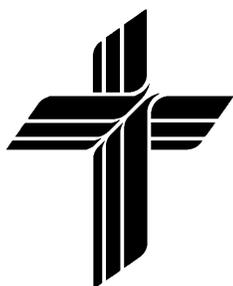
Deadline for Calendar Submissions or Changes is the 15th of the Prior Month – Email to holycross@longlines.com or Leave Voicemail Message at Church Office – This Calendar May Not Reflect Late Submissions or Changes

Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church

Crossnotes

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

Return Service Requested



Design for Future
West Front
"Holy Spirit"
Window
See Article Page 6