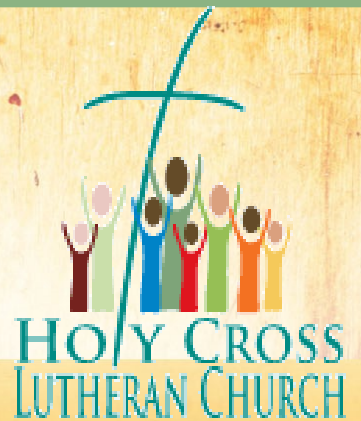


The DISCIPLE



October 2016

Note From The Pastor



Dear friends of Holy Cross,

“For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:” (Eccl. 3:1) ESV

As I write these words for the October Disciple we are coming to the close of September. Soon Fall colors will return and even as nature prepares for winter, the green turns brown and the lushness of summer becomes barren, our lives step up a notch in activity. Children are back in school, vacations are in the rear view mirror, holiday preparations of Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas loom large. But, of course, the landscape is wider than these.

The church, our church, Holy Cross awakes from the relative calm of days since VBS with the beginning of Sunday School, the prospect of hosting Rev. Joe Boway- a foreign missionary Oct. 16, Trunk or Treat Oct. 31, and the celebration of God’s providence with Thanksgiving and the gift of our Savior at Christmas. Yet, there is something more- something that will affect us year round.

That something is happening now- “Make It Simple”. “Make It Simple” is our stewardship campaign for 2016 where we learn how and why making it simple will enhance ours and other’s lives with God’s good blessings. By making it simple we can get “back to basics” of who we are and what we are to God. We are learning that things are given us by God not to be worshiped or served but to be used for maintaining our own lives and that of others. We are learning that when people or things are the objects of our lives, our lives are subject to being diverted from God’s plan for our and our neighbor’s ultimate joy. We are learning that when Jesus said in Matthew 6:33 (ESV), *“But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”* He wasn’t kidding.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

10.2
FOOD PANTRY
SUNDAY
Bears/Lions Football Game

10.3
Elders’ Meeting

10.4
NEM Meeting

10.5
Evangelism Meeting

10.8
LWML FALL RALLY

10.10
COLUMBUS DAY

10.11
Community Meal

10.15
Stewardship Meeting

10.16
Mission Festival Joe Boway

10.17
Council Meeting

10.17, 18
Pastoral Meeting

10.30
Chicago Reformation Service

10.31
HALLOWEEN
Trunk or Treat

Cont. pg. 2

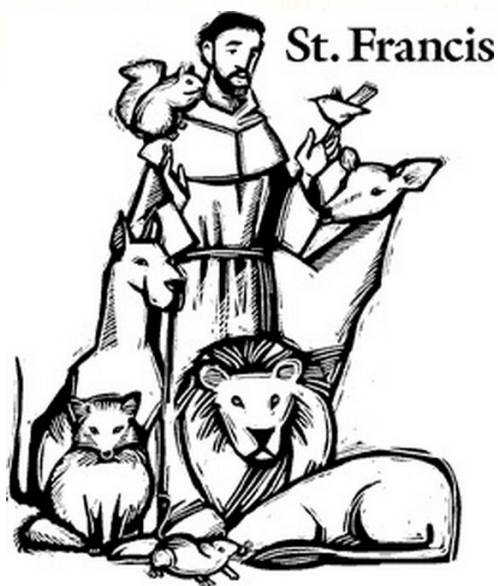
Continued from pg.1

We are learning that as Jesus, "for the joy set before Him endured the cross" (Heb. 12:2) so we for the joy set before us now and for eternity do have the power of God within to put God first and make Jesus Lord of our lives. Making it simple may not be simple because of the sinful corruption within, but it, nevertheless is possible - even assured because of God's Spirit (Lk. 24:49) that lives within each of us baptized children of God.

When we make our lives simple, back to basics-back to God then deep seated joy knows no season. Our days are filled with thanksgiving that wells up into rich generosity toward others. We eagerly look to find ways that we can be even larger conduits of God's blessings into others lives. It becomes no longer a matter of avoiding scarcity but of sharing affluence, not hoarding but gifting and God's name is praised.

You and I are heading into a time of greater and greater activity this Fall and end of the year. There is much excitement and joy in what will be. Let's enjoy it to the fullest extent possible by minimalizing our reliance on things and maximizing our trust in God.

May God bless you richly!
Pastor Chris Ongstad



PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY
WITH HEALTH CONCERNS

Johanne Kernahan (*hospice*)

- Edna Wendt
- Erna Sherman
- Doris Kracht
- Marilyn Long
- Joe Bradley
- Kathy Ridder
- Rita Joyce
- Jeanne Simovic
- John Knoska
- Barbara Piekosz
- Joy Maddox
- Judy Meilahn
- Jennifer Wedster
- Donna Judd



Disciple Newsletter
 Holy Cross Lutheran
 Church
 (LCMS, SELC District)
 4041 W. 120th St.
 Alsip, IL 60803
 708.597.5209
 Office: Mon.- Thurs.
 8:00am - 12:00pm
 Web: www.hc-lc.org
 Email: hclc@hc-lc.org
Pastor Chris D. Ongstad
 Worship-8:00am &
 10:30am Sundays

Council Minutes



HILITES OF HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Danielle Beukema (2)
 Joy Maddox (6)
 Kaitlyn Shelton (20)
 Theresa Boltz (23)
 Ken Rheinwald (25)
 Amanda Hammond (28)
 Susan Wilczynski (29)

OCTOBER BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES

Kathy Ridder (7) Chris Fuller (26)
 Faith Schulz (7) Bonnie Wedster (27)
 Alisa Bahr (9) Amanda Hammond (28)
 Susan Boltz (12) Bruce McGlin (30)
 Joy Maddox (20)
 Mike Hablewicz (23)


OCTOBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Tom & Rita Joyce (4)
 Mike & Dorota Hablewicz (20)



- The August 22, 2016 Holy Cross Lutheran Church Council meeting was opened at 7:35pm with prayer. The following attended: Jim Boltz, Greg Beukema, Pauline & Tom Griffin, Marye Meyer, Pat & George Minet, Pastor Chris Ongstad, Joan Opyd, Ron Wedster and Liz Wilczynski. A motion was made and approved to accept the June minutes.
- **PASTOR'S REPORT** - Rochelle and Matthew's wedding ceremony was July 16. Lectors' meeting August 14 and Ushers' and Greeters' meeting is the 28th.
- **TREASURER'S REPORT** - we spent more than we took in. The Emergency Fund and the Trustees Fund gained. Envelope offerings are under budget. A motion was made and approved to accept the Treasurer's report. A motion was made and approved to **use the Scholarship Fund to pay bills for the Good Samaritan Fund if needed.**
- **ELDER'S REPORT** - will host a Bears Game (vs. Detroit Lions) event October 2 at noon.
- **EVANGELISM REPORT** - Post cards are being mailed out to people that have just moved into our area inviting them to our church. Pastor Boway is coming October 16 from Ft. Wayne, IN. He will preach at both services and lead the Bible Class. A meal will be served.
- **EDUCATION REPORT** - Sunday School for the younger children starts September 11 and the Youth Class starts the 18th.
- **TRUSTEE'S REPORT** - The size of our parking lot is 24,830 square feet. One of the quotes for the redo is \$51,723.
- **STEWARDSHIP/FINANCE REPORT** - The Make it Simple program starting September 11, affects our whole life, not just church life.
- **SOCIAL MINISTRY REPORT** - an extra driver is needed for the Saturday morning Food Pantry pick up since Joan is moving.
- **COMMUNITY MEALS** - Demon Dawgs donates the meat for the meals.
- **NEW BUSINESS REPORT** - A motion was made and approved for Tom to sign a new 5 year lease for the copier.

Upcoming events



Holy Cross will be hosting Trunk or Treat for our neighborhood again this year. We NEED you to help us greet and treat the families around Holy Cross with goodies. All you need is a vehicle with a trunk, candy and any appropriate costume. It's always great fun. Since it will be held on Monday this year from 3 to 6p.m. it will be even easier for you. PLEASE sign up on the Trunk or Treat signup sheet on the bulletin board. Please be at the church by 2:30 p.m. on Oct. 31 to line up your vehicle. IF YOU CAN'T COME and still want to help, you can always donate candy and those present will pass it out.



BEARS GAME AT HOLY CROSS

Come and join your church family to see the Bears play the Detroit Lions Sunday, Oct. 2 at noon in the Fellowship Hall.



FALL RALLY Saturday Oct. 8th, 9:00am at Zion Lutheran Church 8600 W. Lawrence Ave. Norridge, IL. All women are invited to attend. Registration is \$7.00. Please let Jeanne Simovic know by October 1, if you will be attending. See bulletin board for more info.



MISSION FESTIVAL AT HOLY CROSS
Rev. Joe

Boway, missionary to Liberia, will speak. Celebratory luncheon to follow. Tickets on sale soon. The Mission Festival will be Sunday, October 16.



Joint Chicagoland SELC Reformation Worship



Dr. Martin Luther Ev. Lutheran Church
Sun. Oct. 30, 2:30 pm



UPCOMING EVENTS IN OTHER CHURCHES

Hymn Festival

A hymn festival will be held Sunday September 18, 3:30 p.m. at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 5211 Carpenter Street, Downers Grove. The concert will be led by John A. Behnke, Emeritus Professor of Music, Concordia University Wisconsin. The concert is free and all are welcome. There will be a reception following the concert. Call 630-968-3112 for information.

Artist Series

This event in the Artist Series will present internationally renowned composer/organist/choral director Michael Burkhardt in a Reformation Festival featuring organ and chorus, Sunday, October 23, at 3 p.m. in the sanctuary at St. John's Lutheran Church, 215 S. Lincoln, Lombard. An informal reception will follow. Freewill offering will be received. For more information visit stjohnslombard.org/wordpress/st-johns-artist-series.

LCEF Y.I. Club

Do you know about this program? Parents and grandparents have been jumping on board to start accounts for their children and grandchildren. Y.I. accounts have exceptional rates of return (3.5% on investments of \$25 to \$1,000). But even better, Y.I. Club starts involving children in savings and good stewardship from a very young age. Check out all of the benefits at lcef.org/young-investors-club.

Partner with Concordia Youth Ministry

Concordia Youth Ministry is a student-run ministry at Concordia University Chicago. They gather their best spiritual leaders and train them to lead impactful Bible studies, games and events that connect with youth of all ages. Now, they are excited to bring their passion for Jesus and youth to your congregation. They have teams of students that will come to your church to host a spiritual and fun event for your youth. CYM teams are ready to lead lock-ins, retreats, youth events, or anything that you can think of to benefit your youth. To request a team or for more information visit cuchicago.edu/experience/faith/spiritual-life-campusministry/cym, email cym@cuchicago.edu or call 507-259-3476.

Pumpkin Patch and Car Show

St. Paul's Lutheran Sunday School, 10th and Ashland Avenue, Chicago Heights, Illinois, is holding its Pumpkin Patch & Car Show. Pumpkins, gourds, fall decorations, Bake sale, face painting, lots of good foods. For information, call 708-754-4493. Date: Saturday, October 1, 2016 - 8:30am to 4:30pm.

CUC Carrers for Christ Weekend

Save the date for Careers for Christ Weekend 2016 to be held Friday, October 28 - Sunday, October 30 at Concordia-Chicago. High school sophomores, juniors and seniors who are interested in becoming LCMS church professionals are invited to CUC for a weekend of special activities where you will have the opportunity to: Learn more about CUC's LCMS church professional programs. Enjoy a group outing to exciting downtown Chicago. Tour CUC's beautiful 40-acre campus. Call the Office of Undergraduate Admission at 708-209-3100 or visit CUCChicago.edu/C4C. Date: Friday, October 28, 2016 - 6:30am to Sunday, October 30, 2016 - 5:00pm

End of Life In Light of the Resurrection Workshop

Keynote Speaker, Dr. Lamb, retired Executive Director for Lutherans for Life, presents "The Other End of Life" will address what death means in our society and how we as Christians can respond from Scripture to our culture's view. There are two locations/dates:
November 5, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. - St. Peter Lutheran Church, 111 West Olive Street, Arlington Heights, Illinois. November 12, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. - Immanuel Lutheran Church, 10731 W. La Porte Road, Mokena, Illinois. Registration is \$10 payable at the door with cash or check. To reserve your spot please call Deaconess Kris Blackwell at 630-234-1491. Date: Saturday, November 5, 2016 - 9:00am to 12:30pm.



Faithful STEWARDSHIP

Dear participant in the “Make It Simple” stewardship response program,

“Thank you” for your participation! We hope that your experience was spiritually enriching. As a congregation we have experienced rich conversation, thoughtful reflection, and prayerful discernment concerning more simple living and our stewardship of the abundant blessings we receive from God. We hope to experience a good re-

sponse in estimates of giving through the Commitment Cards. And we have grown as a community of faith in the covenants that we have made with one another in the use of the Covenant Cards.

We will be collecting the Commitment and Covenant cards Oct. 2 during the worship service. If you were not handed your blank copies which were enclosed in an envelope with your household’s name and address on it than please contact the greeter or the church office.

I encourage you and your family to continue in your covenant to grow in your discipleship through prayer and conversation regarding your stewardship of your blessings.

In Jesus,
Pastor Chris

MAKING IT SIMPLE AT HOLY CROSS *“It’s always been about Jesus”*



Family Matters



Lutheran Child and Family Services of Illinois

LCFS Clinical Services

Recognizing Depression In Teens

October 2016

The teen years can be confusing for both children and parents. While young children accept and identify with their parents, adolescents embark on a search for their own identity. They may begin to question and rebel against previously accepted rules and values. They are also going through physical changes and a surge in hormones. These physical, emotional and cognitive changes can play havoc with a teen's sense of well-being.

Parents may feel at a loss as their child changes from compliant and loving to moody and rebellious. It is particularly frightening for parents if the teenager engages in risky behaviors.

How do parents differentiate between a teen experiencing normal mood swings and a depressed teen? Depression is more than feeling sad once in a while. Signs of depression in teens include sadness or crying, hopelessness, increased irritability or anger, inability to concentrate, school absences or a drop in grades. Other signs include physical complaints such as stomachaches or headaches, fatigue or eating or sleeping too much or too little. In addition, a depressed teen may have feelings of hopelessness or guilt, social isolation, boredom or loss of interest in previously-enjoyed activities or low self-esteem.

In more serious cases, you may see alcohol or drug use, self-mutilation (cutting, burning, biting) or thoughts of suicide.*



If your teen is experiencing any of these symptoms for two weeks or more, make an appointment with your doctor. Some illnesses have symptoms similar to depression. If other causes are ruled out, your doctor will recommend individual and/or family counseling and may prescribe an antidepressant.

While depression is a serious illness, don't overreact to the anger and irritability that is common in teen depression. Remember (even when your teen can't) that you and he are partners in fighting the illness, not each other.

** If your teen is having thoughts of suicide, call your local hospital's emergency room immediately.*

You and your family do not have to struggle alone. LCFS counselors help families generate hope and cope with life's challenges. Most insurance plans accepted; sliding-scale fees are available on a case-by-case basis. For more information or to schedule an appointment, contact us at lcfs_info@lcfs.org or 800-363-LCFS (5237). Discover LCFS and the services we offer at www.lcfs.org and www.facebook.com/LCFSIL.

LCFS offers counseling at the following locations:

Northern Illinois

Grace Lutheran School, River Forest

Central Illinois

Trinity Lutheran School, Bloomington

LCFS office, Decatur

LCFS office, Springfield

Southern Illinois

LCFS office, Bellville

LCFS office, Mount Vernon

To schedule a first-time appt.

call 1-800-363-LCFS (5237) or

visit www.LCFS.org for additional info.



“Men in Church”

by Kevin Kosberg



This article first appeared in the June 29, 2007, Mission Moments newsletter from the Center for U.S. Missions. Permission is given to copy this article for

distribution within your own congregation. Please credit the author and the Center for U.S. Missions in Irvine, California, www.centerforusmissions.org. For more information, contact the Center at 949-854-8002 x1780.

I am a guy, and I am about to confess to you one of my darkest secrets. If I weren't a pastor, I am not sure that I would go to church very often. There is a reality in 21st century America that our church is dealing with: most men don't like church.

In his recent book, *Why Men Hate Going to Church*, David Murrow gives some reasons for his somewhat shocking title.

1. Men don't like to sing in public. Think about how much of our worship involves singing. Look around at your next worship service and notice how many men are participating but not singing.

2. Men don't really like to talk about their feelings or to talk about relationships. Think about how your church talks about following Jesus. Most of us use the picture of a relationship with Jesus. We tell men that they grow in that relationship by sitting around and talking about how the Bible impacts their life.

3. Most men love a challenge, a chance to risk and to put their faith into action. Consider having more opportunities for the men in your church to grow through service. I had a real learning experience when twelve men from our congregation spent a week in New Orleans after hurricane Katrina. We did not spend a ton of time in the Bible each day, but instead put faith into action, shoulder to shoulder, as we "mucked out" houses, shingled roofs and ate and played together. I bet those twelve men would say they grew more in their faith that week than at any other time in their lives.

4. Men respect and expect excellence and quality. But excellence and quality are probably not the first two words that pop into the average man's mind when he thinks about church. Think seriously about how your church can strive for excellence and quality in all the areas of your ministry; from the music to the messages; from the way the church is decorated to the activities you offer men. God is worthy of our best efforts and so are the men (and women) who have yet to come to know His grace in Jesus.

After reading *Why Men Hate Going to Church*, our staff and men's ministry leaders began to think about the messages that we are sending to men. Here are some changes we are trying to make.

1. We changed our men's ministry from monthly dinner meetings with a Bible study to what we call Men's Ministry Adventures. These adventures are quick hitting, fun, risky get-aways for men. A group hiked down to the bottom of the Grand Canyon and camped there for a few days. We took a group of men white water rafting in the mountains, and we have golf weekends. We are also looking at a home remodeling ministry in some of the poorer parts of Phoenix. The goal is to get guys side by side, living out their faith.

2. We have also tried hard to become more sensitive about how we talk about following Jesus. We try to use that exact phrase – "to follow Jesus" -- as much as possible. It implies motion and movement, things that appeal to men. In messages, we talk about what it looks like to follow Jesus in marriage, at work, while using our money, and so on. We believe this picture is more helpful to men. After all, Jesus called His disciples to follow Him.

I encourage you to look closely at how your church connects with men and encourage you to read David Murrow's [Why Men Hate Going to Church](#).

(Rev. Kevin Kosberg is pastor at Cross of Christ Lutheran Church in Anthem, Arizona.)

SERVANTS IN WORSHIP OCTOBER, 2016

DATE	TIME	USHER	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	LECTOR	ALTAR GUILD	COUNTER	GREETER	PROJECTIONIST
2	8:00 am	Jim Boltz	Jim Boltz	Donna Judd	Martha Stevens	Terry Vrshek	Sue Boltz	Martha Stevens
	10:30 am	Ron Wedster		Donna Meilahn	Carole Vrshek	Carole Vrshek	Jeanne Simovic	Pam Rutkowski
9	8:00 am	Jim Boltz			Martha Stevens	Dorothy Lux	Sue Boltz	Martha Stevens
	10:30 am	Ron Wedster	Tom Griffin	Liz Wilczynski	Carole Vrshek	Doris Kracht	Jeanne Simovic	Pam Rutkowski
16	8:00 am	Jim Boltz	Jim Boltz	Donna Judd	Martha Stevens	Pauline Griffin	Sue Boltz	Martha Stevens
	10:30 am	Ron Wedster		Sue Wilczynski	Carole Vrshek	Nancy Fehser	Jeanne Simovic	Pam Rutkowski
23	8:00 am	Jim Boltz			Martha Stevens	Pam Rutkowski	Sue Boltz	Martha Stevens
	10:30 am	Ron Wedster	Jim Bahr	Pam Rutkowski	Carole Vrshek	Marye Meyer	Jeanne Simovic	Pam Rutkowski
30	8:00 am	Jim Boltz			Martha Stevens	Donna Meilahn	Sue Boltz	Martha Stevens
	10:30 am	Ron Wedster		Aimee Wilczynski	Carole Vrshek	Faith Schulz	Jeanne Simovic	Pam Rutkowski

Thank you for all you do for Christ and His Church!



Happy Halloween!

“For God so loved the world
that he gave his one and only Son,
that whoever believes in him shall
not perish but have eternal life.”

-- John 3:16

October, 2016

Church Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 8:00 am -12:00 pm, 708.597.5209 hclc@hc-lc.org

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 10:30AM Food Pantry 2:00PM Musicians
2 FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY 8:00AM Worship/Traditional (C) 9:15AM Sunday School 9:15AM "Make it Simple" Small Group 10:30AM Worship/Contemporary 12:00PM Bears/Lions Football Game Danielle Beukema (b)	3 4:30PM "Make it Simple" Small Group 7:30PM Elders Meeting	4 9:00AM NEM Meeting 4:30PM Food Pantry	5 9:30AM Evangelism Meeting	6 9:00AM Senior's Group Gathering Joy Maddox (b)	7 Pastor's Day Off	8 LWML FALL RALLY 10:30AM Food Pantry 2:00PM Musicians <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">Pastor Vacation</div>
9 8:00AM Worship/Traditional 9:15AM Sunday School 10:30AM Worship/Contemporary/(C) <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">Pastor Vacation</div>	10 COLUMBUS DAY	11 4:30PM Community Meal	12	13 9:00AM Senior's Group Gathering	14 Pastor's Day Off	15 10:30AM Food Pantry 1:00PM Stewardship Meeting 2:00PM Musicians
16 MISSION FESTIVAL JOE BOWAY 8:00AM Worship/Traditional / (C) 9:15AM Sunday School 10:30AM Worship/Contemporary	17 7:30PM Council Meeting	18 <div style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Pastoral Conference</div>	19	20 9:00AM Senior's Group Gathering Kaitlyn Shelton (b)	21 Pastor's Day Off	22 8:30AM Bd. of Education 10:30AM Food Pantry 2:00PM Musicians
23 8:00AM Worship/Traditional 9:15AM Sunday School 10:30AM Worship/Contemporary/(C) Theresa Boltz (b)	24	25 Ken Rheinwald (b)	26	27 9:00AM Senior's Group Gathering	28 Pastor's Day Off Amanda Hammond (b)	29 10:30AM Food Pantry 2:00PM Musicians Sue Wilczynski (b)
30 8:00AM Worship/Traditional 9:15AM Sunday School 10:30AM Worship/Contemporary 2:30PM Chgo. Reformation Service	31  3:00PM Trunk or Treat					



GOD IS PURE LIGHT, UNDIMMED BY DARKNESS OF ANY KIND

