

HAPPENINGS

October 29 – November 5, 2023

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WELCOME GUESTS AND MEMBERS – Welcome to the Lord’s House. God bless you as you hear the Good News today of His unconditional love! Jesus promised wherever two or three are gathered in His name, His presence is there. Jesus is here! We pray and know He will bless you with faith, hope, and love for your daily life through His Word and Spirit! If you have any questions, please feel free to speak to one of our ushers or greeters.



VOTERS' MEETING The Voter’s Meeting is today **October 29th at 10:15 am** after the service.

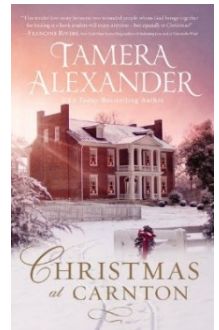
OPERATION CHRISTMAS

CHILD Check out the Shoebox display in the Commons. Take a shoebox (or more) to fill and bring back. **Please, do NOT tape your box shut.** Every box is opened when they arrive at the distribution centers and checked for items that are not allowed or to add more items if needed as well as to remove any checks placed inside. If your boxes are bulging, use rubber bands. Again, **do NOT tape your boxes!** A goal page for Holy Cross has been set up where one can also “build-a-box” online. The link is <https://sampur.se/3YJyjji> or scan the QR code. **Collection deadline is November 14th.**

Your shoebox may be the only Christmas gift a child receives.



BIBLE BOOKENDERS Our next meeting will be **Tuesday, January 23 at 7:00 pm.** For January Bible Bookenders we will be reading *Christmas at Carnton* by Tamera Alexander. Invite your friends to join us, all are welcome, men, women and teenagers. If you have any questions, please ask Bonnie Nowak, Patricia Harvey or Michele Lein.



LET’S LIGHT UP OUR CHURCH! It’s that time of year again. We have all enjoyed how beautiful our church looks, and what a beacon it is, when it is lit up for the holiday season. We have been able to accomplish this in the past through your generous contributions. We will once again have a free will offering basket available at the end of services if you would like to contribute. Or you may write a check and note "Christmas Lights" in the memo line. Thank you for your support!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The IFC has some URGENT volunteer opportunities.



INTERNATIONAL
FRIENDSHIP CENTER

1. We are starting an ESL class on Tuesday evenings at 5 pm at **MT Hope in Bloomington**. We will have a DMV permit drivers class right after at 6 pm. We are looking for teachers for both. Please contact me if you are interested.
2. **Ascension in Burnsville** also needs teachers on Monday nights at 6 pm for ENGLISH and we would also like to add a 7 pm class for a DMV permit class on Monday and Wednesday in Burnsville.
3. **MT HOPE in Bloomington** needs helpers for childcare and Arabic Sunday school on Sunday evenings.

There is a great need for both classes in each location, please prayerfully consider volunteering your time 1-2 hours per week! You will not regret it, I find it very fulfilling and enjoy it immensely.

Donations - we are looking for donations to buy equipment needed for our new IFC soccer program and cooking classes. If you would like to donate, please go to our website at poblotwincities.org or contact Shari Schulze.

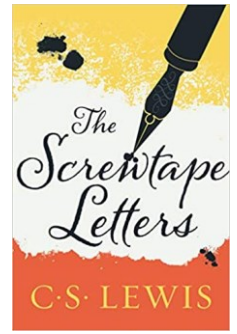
We appreciate your support! We now have 15 new students in Burnsville since August 1st, and Shari is teaching the majority of them. Please volunteer if you can!



LAST SUNDAY OF LWML CELEBRATION Today is the last collection day of mite offerings for LWML. Drop your coins/mites in the big box in the back of church and join us in spreading the Gospel around the world. Grab a small Mite Box for your home or office and collect your mite offerings all year long. When your box is full bring it to any women's event or give it to Bonnie Nowak or Joy Anderson. Learn more about the Lutheran Women's Missionary League at lwml.org.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

We continue with the study of C.S Lewis's book **The Screwtape Letters**. It is a brilliant and satirical look at spiritual warfare and the dynamics of temptation. Screwtape, a senior demon in the bureaucracy of Hell, writes letters to his incompetent nephew Wormwood, a junior devil. The younger demon's assignment is to corrupt a young man living in London during the tumultuous days of World War II. Using Scripture references, discussion questions, and related commentary, we will examine each letter through a Christian lens of morality, temptation, and good and evil. There are two equal and opposite errors into which our race can fall about the devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe, and to feel an excessive and unhealthy interest in them. They themselves are equally pleased by both errors and hail a materialist or a magician with the same delight. Join the study if you haven't been here, discussion on these topics should be enriching for all.



TIME OF GRACE connects people to God's grace—his love, glory, and power—so they realize the temporary things of life don't satisfy. However, through Jesus we have access to the eternal God—right now and forever. Subscribe to Time of Grace resources to be delivered to your email inbox daily. You will receive daily devotion emails with "Grace Moments" written devotions and "Grace Talks" video devotions. Pastor Mike Novotny, The Core, Appleton, WI, KARE (NBC 11) 10:30 am www.timeofgrace.org



HAPPENINGS ARTICLES We are in need of some new and fun ideas to get people reading the Happenings! If you have anything you think would be a good addition, please email it to Megan at megan@holycross-pl.org. **Please submit all additions by 10am on Wednesdays.**



OCTOBER IS PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

THANK YOU...

- For the countless times you have stretched out your hands in service to others in times of need.
- For the early Sunday mornings and many hours in preparations for your sermons.
- For the thousands of prayers you have prayed for your congregation and others.
- For the time spent out of church to help those who needed help or need a friend.
- For not judging people, and always embracing everyone with open arms.



PRAYER REQUESTS If you have a prayer request for today, please fill out the form in the pew and put it in the offering plate. Pastor will include them in Prayer of the Church during the

service. You can also email weekly prayer requests, and any prayers that should go out to the whole congregation, to megan@holycross-pl.org.

VACANCY PASTOR GADE'S church hours are **Monday and Tuesday**, 7:30 am to 3:30 pm. Other times can be arranged, call 763-333-5896.



WOMEN'S LUNCHEON Cross View Lutheran Church in Edina invites you to a Fall luncheon featuring Jane Horn speaking about "Positional Gratitude."

Date: November 4, 2023
Time: 11:00 am - 1:00 pm
Cost: \$15 / person

SAGACITY The new SAGACITY newsletter is on the tables outside the sanctuary.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Join us every **Tuesday from 8-9:00 am** for Community Light Hope Revealed – Revelation Part I (Chapters 1-10).



Community Light School of Discipleship is an online Bible study designed to help each of us to grow as disciples to make disciples. These free series equip participants with the resources to go and make disciples wherever God has planted them. Community Light School of Discipleship is a ministry of Cross View Lutheran Church, Edina, MN, in partnership with Concordia University, St. Paul and the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod - Minnesota South District.



MAIN STREET LIVING airs each **Sunday at 9 am** on WFTC Channel 29/9-2 with an episode of This Is the Life. Visit www.mainstreetliving.com for more information or to watch the program.

DID YOU KNOW Holy Cross has a form to help you with your funeral planning or that of a loved one? It is available to you to fill out and it will be kept on file at Holy Cross. Alleviate the stress of an already stressful time and plan your service in advance. See Megan for a form.



UPCOMING COFFEE SERVERS

- October 29 – Norma & Evelyn Jabs
- November 5 – Mike & Kris Hentges
- November 12 – Wendy Fitzwater & Joyce Drenckhahn
- November 19 – Jason & Kelly Kruse
- November 26 – Robert & Bonnie Nowak



FUR BABIES AND GODS LESSON

We all think that our furry little pets were put here so we could have a best friend. Perhaps that is a

good way to think about it. Personally, I believe they were put here to teach us unconditional love, patience, and sacrifice.

Pets may not understand us when we talk, at least not completely. But we understand our need to hold, cuddle and talk with them. We buy them toys and special treats because they hold the key to our hearts. They, in return, teach us unconditional love. We allow them to take the paint off the walls, shred our furniture and keep us up all night whining. Yet we continue to love them.

They teach us patience as we attempt to correct their bad behavior, which normally doesn't change. Yet, we continue to love them.

Now for the biggie, they teach us sacrifice. When they are missing we will sacrifice our comfort for their safety. We wander around in knee deep snow or frigid temperatures calling out their names. When they are sick, our budget goes out the door, it's whatever it takes to make them feel better. We sit with them in our arms and tell them how precious they are until we can't keep our eyes open.

Our sweet little fur babies are being used by God to teach us a lesson that man can't teach each other. He is saying, "Unconditional love does exist and you yourself have proven it over and over." God doesn't waste anything. He uses it all!

by Toni Rittenhouse | www.faithwriters.com

ALL SAINTS' DAY (celebrated on November 5th)

If you have someone you'd like remembered on **All Saints' Day**, please put their first and last name on a

Prayer Request Form noting it's for All Saints' Day or email Megan with their information. Thanks!



CHRISTMAS WITH DIGNITY (CWD)

Hospitality House Youth Development (HHYD) sponsors



CWD each December which allows families to buy presents for their children at 10 cents on the dollar. This year it is on **Friday, December 8th**. This "help-up" as opposed to "hand-out" approach offers Twin Cities Metro families a way to share in the joy of giving while preserving the self-respect and dignity of those in financial need.

We will be collecting **NEW, unwrapped toys** through **Sunday, December 4th**. Gift ideas will be posted on the Missions board. This info is also at <https://hhyd.org/christmas-with-dignity/donate-to-christmas-with-dignity/> Monetary donations for purchasing larger gift items are also accepted and can be made online. There are **volunteer opportunities** the first week of December at HHYD to help set up as well as on sale day. Questions? Talk to Pam Hunter.

HOLY COMMUNION

is celebrated weekly. Our belief and practice is Confessional. Jesus clearly teaches He is truly present in His supper in the bread and wine. We receive miraculously, in the gift of faith, His true body and blood, given and shed for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you have been baptized and confirmed in our church body, please commune with us. If you have questions about communing, please wait to commune until receiving instruction in one of our communion classes. Thank you. **Note: Communion Kits are available, if needing one please contact Pastor.**



SERVING THE LORD AND HIS PEOPLE, OCTOBER 29

Elder: Dennis Waderich
Lector: Paige Westrum
Ushers: Denny Case
Acolyte: Daniel Vannett
AV: Dinah Gilberts
Offering Count: Dave Albrecht & Denny Case

SERVING THE LORD AND HIS PEOPLE, NOVEMBER 5

Elder: Doug Brunner
Lector: Pam Hunter
Ushers: Dinah Gilberts
Acolyte: Tate Kruse
AV: Eric Brown
Offering Count: Wendy Fitzwater & Doug Schulze

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2023 - 9:00 AM ATTENDANCE

Worship: 53

Communion: 53

Bible Study: 17

Sunday School: 9

THIS WEEK AT HOLY CROSS

SUNDAY **Reformation Sunday**

29

9:00 am
10:15 am

Worship with Holy Communion
Voter's Meeting

MONDAY

30

TUESDAY

31

8:00 am
4:00 pm

Men's Bible Study
Confirmation Class

WEDNESDAY

1

10:00 am

Happenings Articles Due

THURSDAY

2

7:00 pm

Choir Practice

FRIDAY

3

SATURDAY

4

SUNDAY **23rd Sunday after Pentecost**

5

9:00 am
10:15 am
10:15 am

Worship with Holy Communion
Bible Study
Sunday School



November Birthdays

Kathy Gillespie	November 5	Shannon Busse	November 29
Heidi Cordell	November 13	Doug Albrecht	November 30
Becky Lepley	November 16	Greg Albrecht	November 30
Jacob Oak	November 27		

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 7	Elder's Meeting
November 13	Church Council
November 14	Deadline for Operation Christmas Child Boxes
November 23	Happy Thanksgiving!
December 5	Elder's Meeting
December 6	Midweek Advent Worship
December 11	Church Council
December 13	Midweek Advent Worship
December 20	Midweek Advent Worship
December 25	Merry Christmas!



14085 Pike Lake Trail NE, Prior Lake, MN 55372 • Phone: 952-445-1779
 Music & Choir Director: Mui Cheng • Praise Band: Nathan Hentges & Greg Albrecht
 Office Ministry Assistant: Megan Luckfield • Vacancy Pastor: Rev. Dean Gade