



IN HIM
our hearts rejoice.
Psalm 33:21, NIV

**Holy Cross
Herald
July & August
2022**

Aiming
our lives toward
Christ!

Proclaiming
Christ crucified!

Reclaiming
lost lives for Christ!

PASTORAL MUSINGS . . .

Final Thoughts and A Prayer

When I was at my previous congregation (St. Mark in Elko, Nevada) we undertook the task of remodeling the sanctuary. The wood tones were very dark and there was a lot of it, including the planking on the ceiling. The carpet was a deep red while the windows were like frosted glass but with a yellowish tinge to them. My objective was to lighten up the space and let the sun shine in. We went to transparent glass in all the windows (except two red stained-glass windows on each side of the altar; they had been a gift from a family still in the congregation and were very sacrosanct!). The altar, pulpit, and lectern were made of plexiglass, and the color of the carpet was changed to a medium brown. Most of ceiling planking was sheet rocked over and painted white to allow more light to diffuse around the room and further lighten up the space. In the end our/my objective was met! The space was so lightened up, and appeared bigger than it really was, that people were sure we had added on to the sanctuary! And I am proud to say that over 20 years later it still looks very contemporary!

But the one feature I am most proud of is the cross. I mentioned in passing that I would like the cross to be in the shape of our Synod's logo cross but be a mirror. Much to my surprise, my lone trustee—Gene Fenhaus—brought it to reality. My thought was being able to go up to the altar and look at the cross and see yourself in it/on it. The apostle, Paul writes in Galatians 2:20, "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." Again, Paul writes in Romans 6 that when we were baptized, we were crucified with Christ on the cross. He says in verse six, "For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin—because anyone who has died has been freed from sin,"



By being joined with Christ in his crucifixion by means of the waters of baptism we have been freed from the clutches and awe-full consequences of sin, death, and the devil. We have passed from death to life. We are a new creation in Christ. As Paul vowed to know nothing but Christ crucified, so I would encourage you to do the same! While we have no mirrored cross behind our altar, but the one we do have looms large and proud! When we gather for worship, we can't miss seeing it and being reminded of who we are and what we are because of what Christ won for us on his cross!

Half of my ministry has been spent here at Holy Cross. You have become very dear to Teryl and me! While you won't see us as much as you have in the past, we will be in the area and will still stay in touch. Our prayer for you will always be in the words of Thomas Hansen Kingo:

On my heart imprint your image,
Blessed Jesus, King of grace,
That life's riches, cares, and pleasures
Never may Your work erase;
Let the clear inscription be:
Jesus crucified for me,
Is my life, my hope's foundation
And my glory and salvation."

AE

Elders' Corner

Pastor has been our shepherd for a very long time and will be live in our hearts until the day we die. In the last six months, he has tackled very difficult subjects and passages. It is almost like he left the best for last, and we have made it; however, Jesus is ultimately our Shepherd, and the Holy Spirit is our teacher. We must give our love, trust, and attention to Him. So really, we haven't finished this book yet, but continuing this chapter with Holy Cross without Pastor.

The call committee has been working for more than a year now to find a pastor. We were hoping for a smooth transition. We even considered having two pastors for six months, if God blessed us with another one. Unfortunately, it did not happen. Matthew 6:33 says, "Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness and all these things will be added unto you." So what do we do now? Do God's Will. Pray, pray, and pray some more. Pray for our Pastor, new pastor, Deacons, council, church members, new members, future members, country, other countries. We need to be patient, so God's Will can happen.

Give God the Glory,

Roger Withrow, Elder, Zone 4

Remember our Homebound



Mae Ristau
Lotte Weber
Donna Marshall
Ken Sobocinski
Shirley Pontious
Harry Roberts
Peggy Majeske
Linda Troppman
Shirley Tallman
Marylou Schmidt
Siegfried Tyburski
Dolly Ferries
Margaret Green
Barb Ugo
Jim & Evelyn
Cantwell
Vern & Ruth Parker



BIRTHDAYS

ANNIVERSARIES

Terry Grable	7/1
Nicole Bosca	7/3
Mae Ristau	7/3
Harry Roberts	7/3
Elaine Ziaya	7/3
Sharon Adler	7/4
Charlene Cucinella	7/4
Maurya Withrow	7/6
Doug Conger	7/7
Doreen Fillmore	7/8
Tim Hercula	7/8
Paul Meyerand	7/8
Frances Schaefer	7/8
Sadie Nowakowski	7/9
Ed Danner	7/10
Kyle Green	7/11
Jim Hill	7/11
Ken Sobocinski	7/11
Marcus Coon	7/14
Morgan Bean	7/16
Rose Marquette	7/17
Megan Wiley	7/18
Charles DeMoss	7/19
Vern Parker	7/19
Darrell Brandenburg	7/24
Denise Vandenberghe	7/24
Christian Agudo-Honold	7/26
Kim Atkinson	7/26
Susan Williams	7/26
Rachael Edwards	7/27
Jim Cantwell	7/29
Pam German	7/29
Ryan Ritthaler	7/29
Helen Heikkinen	7/31
Shirley McClenahan	7/31

Jim & Rose Marquette	July 16, 1960	62 years
Ron & Joanne Vollbrecht	July 17, 1994	28 years
Dan & Janet Garza	July 18, 1992	30 years
Robert & Anne Ehresman	July 20, 1973	49 years
Ed & Helen Heikkinen	July 24, 1965	57 years
James & Cindy Pfahlert	July 24, 1982	40 years
Jacob & Anna Llewellyn	July 27, 2019	3 years
Mike & Rachel Yusko	July 31, 2021	1 year





Austin Drew	8/2
Gary Hill	8/4
Kathryn Clemons	8/5
Sue Jager	8/6
Linda Troppman	8/6
Ron Ratzow	8/7
Caesar DiCristofaro	8/8
Shirley Handy	8/9
Jake Kaupp	8/9
Jerred Kaupp	8/10
Andrew Schwartz	8/10
Don Horton	8/12
Siegfried Tyburski	8/12
Keith Quail III	8/13
Nicolas Schwartz	8/14
John Cunningham	8/15
Dave Difatta	8/15
Amy Fontana	8/16
Larry Hoeft	8/16
Rachael Marchionda	8/16
Matthew Northcott	8/16
Don Handy	8/19
Bonnie Esch	8/20
Michael Stewart	8/20
Hanna Garza	8/21
Dave Mutschler	8/24
Arlene Coon	8/28
Barb Ugo	8/28
Sharon Smith	8/30
Ray Marchionda	8/31
Barbara Unger	8/31

Ray & Sue Marchionda	August 5, 1990	32 years
Mike & Marie Metcalfe	August 7, 2010	12 years
Justin & Jane Petretis	August 10, 2019	3 years
John & Dolly Ferries	August 12, 1950	72 years
Mike & Vickie Yuhase	August 12, 1977	45 years
Shawn & James Stafford	August 13, 2010	12 years
Larry & Shirley vandenBerg	August 14, 2008	14 years
Evan & Dana Hecker	August 17, 2013	9 years
Charles & Brenda DeMoss III	August 20, 1999	23 years
Darrell & Mary Brandenburg	August 24, 2002	20 years
Tim & Sherryl Hercula	August 24, 1990	32 years
Greg & Sheryl Haase Sr.	August 28, 2010	12 years
Don & Shirley Handy	August 29, 1953	69 years
Marcus & Arlene Coon	August 30, 1952	70 years



THIS AND THAT



During the next few months, the mailings to the "youngsters" will be featuring/emphasizing some of Jesus's parables (the "earthly stories with heavenly meanings"). He told, hoping the disciples and all who heard them would pick up how much God wants "all people to be saved." The first one we will be looking at is "The Prodigal Son". Notice how the father does not chastise that son, but simply welcomes him with open arms.

God expects us to do the same for former believers who return to the family of the Christian Church, do we act as the father in the story does, or do we get jealous and pout because the returnee doesn't "deserve such a warm welcome?" That's what Holy Cross's motto says. We are aiming, proclaiming, and "RECLAIMING" the lost. Who do YOU know that isn't found gathering with the saved in church on a regular basis? Can you invite them to join you?

May Jesus give you the courage to ask, "why not?". And then give you the words to invite them to come with you!

Blessings to you as you try to be such a witness for Jesus.
From Oldsters to Youngsters

NEW HOPE FOOD PANTRY

For the month of May New Hope Food Pantry helped 19 families, serving 75 people, gave 20 units and 4 packages of diapers. The year-to-date totals through May are 109 families, 375 people, and 111 units. We gave 16 Bibles and 12 packages of diapers.

During the summer months we are still here. Everyone has volunteered for working, packing, distributing, shopping and buying the food items needed to keep our shelves full. And for those of you who like to help, we frequently run low on juice. Also, you know those plastic grocery store bags from the supermarkets. If you have any that you would like to recycle, we can use them too. Please drop these items off by the pantry door.

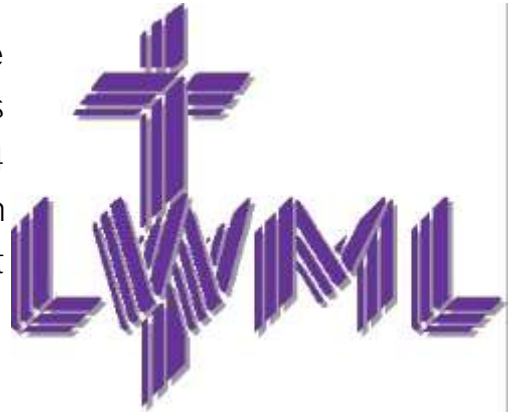
Please remember that we are here with food for our church family too. We will also serve any friends or neighbors that you know can use some help. Just ask a member of the pantry. We can serve anyone in private.

Our next pantry meeting will be in the Fall, on Saturday, September 10th because the Labor Day weekend is September 3rd. Will you please join us on Saturday, September 10th at 10 a.m. We would be excited to welcome more members or visitors to New Hope Outreach. Have a safe summer and hopefully we will see you in the Fall.



UNITED WOMEN'S MINISTRY

THANK YOU: I'm happy to report our LWML Mite goal of \$348,438 for this biennium 2020 – 2022 has been met. This means we have been able to pay all 14 Mission Grants that were voted on and approved in 2020. This would not have been possible without your support. May God continue to bless you all.



LWML MITES CHALLENGE: We are having a "Mite Challenge" for the months July and August. Please join us where each day you have the opportunity to contribute to your mite box as well as pray for our church and the Mission Grants that we support. Enclosed is fun Mite Challenge calendar's to follow. Extra mite boxes are available on the LWML table in the hallway.

Your contributions will go toward the new mission grants for the biennium 2022 – 2024 that will be chosen at our LWML District convention July 7- 9, 2022.

If you have any questions, please contact Carol Dehnke. Your contributions are so appreciated. Thank you!

SAVE THE DATE: POBLO (People of the Book, Lutheran Outreach) is sponsoring an International Women's Tea, Saturday, August 27th at Cross of Christ Lutheran Church, 1100 Lone Pine Rd, Bloomfield Hills. Doors open at 1:30pm with program from 2-5pm. Come and meet your International Christian sisters in their native dress and taste their native food. Anyone interested please contact Roberta Hanka.

OUT REACH

FOG (FAMILY OF GOD) EVENTS

On June 26th Denise Oughton, with the help of family and friends, assembled and delivered the lunch bags to FOG. Thanks to the Evangelism Committee for supplying the bottled water. A family from our congregation will fill the lunch bags for July 31st and Rev. Hanna's group will handle it for August 14th. We need drivers to deliver the lunch bags - can you help us out? Please call Roberta Hanka with any questions on how this is handled or if you would like to deliver the lunch bags.



Pastor Tyler contacted us asking if we could help because another group had to cancel their scheduled June 26th date for making and serving a meal at Family of God. We were blessed to get the following folks who helped to make the meal - Roberta Hanka, Carol Heidenreich, Denise Oughton, and Linda Conger. Thanks to Maurya Withrow and our Food Pantry for supplying other items for the meal. Ed Danner drove all the items over to FOG, and helped to serve the meal along with Jan Danner and Denise Oughton. THANK YOU!!



REMINDER - COLLECTIONS IN SEPTEMBER

In September you will see a collection box for baby items (handmade baby blankets, onesies - watch bulletin for further details). These will be collected during the entire month of September and delivered to the Council of Lutheran Women Fall Meeting on September 26th. The Most Ministry Eyeglass collection will also be delivered at the same time.

Sunday School News!



Rally Day Sunday is Sunday, September 11th. There will be one service at 10:00AM, followed by a Potluck. Saturday service will be held as usual on Saturday, September 10th. Look for more details about Rally Sunday coming soon! We are looking forward to Rally Day Sunday and hope that you all will join in the celebration of our new Sunday School program.

We are extremely happy to announce our team of teachers to you! Teaching P/K is Allison Hall, 1-3 grade Ashley Vandenberghe, 4-6 grade Denise Vandenberghe, crafts will be led by Angela Leithead and Maurya Withrow and opening by Michael Katopodes.

Ways YOU can help!

~PRAY! Keep this growing ministry in your prayers.

~INVITE! Please invite your family and friends to join us for Sunday School.

EVERYONE is welcome

We are also looking for donations of the following items

24 count box crayons

8 count box markers

12 count box colored pencils

Glue sticks

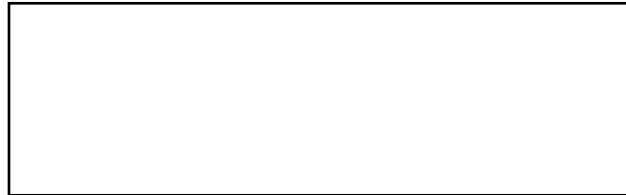
Monetary donations are also appreciated. Donations can be added to your offering envelope and indicated under the Special Line "Sunday School."

Look for more details about the upcoming Sunday School year to come! We are very excited and looking forward to our kickoff in the fall! If you have any questions, please contact Laurel Clemons.



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NEW HOPE FOOD PANTRY

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!

SATURDAY MERITAGE - 5:30 PM

SUNDAY - 8:30 AND 11:00 AM
Bible Class - 9:45 am

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Alan Eisinger, Pastor
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Church Council

Doug Conger, President
Mark Coon, Vice-President
John Pepperman, Treasurer
Denise Vandenberghe,
Financial Secretary
Linda Conger, Council Secretary

