# Cross Ties

Monthly newsletter of Cross of Christ Lutheran Church 3204 Hixson Pike, Chattanooga, TN 37415 church@cocluth.com ~ 423-877-7447 ~ www.cocluth.com

March

2020



#### **Our Mission Statement**

To know Jesus Christ as Lord and make Him known.

### **Our Vision Statement**

We are committed to reaching out to the local community and supporting world-wide ministries, as we embrace and nurture current and new brothers and sisters with our Savior's own forgiveness and love.

### Statement of Faith

Cross of Christ is a congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. We accept and teach the inspired word of God from the Bible.



### IN CONTEMPLATION OF LENT

If you were asked by a time-traveler or space-traveler about this coming season of the Church Year, what would you say? Or to put it another way, how can we as Christians approach Lent in a Biblical and hallowed manner? Certainly, a godly answer begins and ends with the cross. Yes, that cross of Jesus speaks of Jerusalem and Golgotha, of ugly mobs and fleeing disciples, of betrayal and denial, of envy and hatred, of submission and obedience. The Christ that we worship hanging on the Calvary cross was caught up in all these circumstances, which came together to place Him on that instrument of death.

What's incredible is that this same cross speaks even more strongly of our Savior's love: love that suffered and endured, love that died and triumphed, love that forgave and promised redemption! Indeed, His cross still stands... its shadow stretches out across the world and across time. Accordingly, the Lenten Season comes again, beginning this Wednesday, as Christians around the globe receive ashes as a reminder of our common humanity. This time offers us once more the opportunity to fortify our souls and to find renewed strength for our spirits through the power and love of our Savior's cross.

This season is also a wonderful occasion for each of us to discover the hidden treasure of silence. Everyone – if we will only do it – can use the next six weeks to take time out from our busy schedules on a deliberate and daily basis for quiet and private contemplation of such a love that moved our Heavenly Father to give up "His only begotten Son." Through such personal meditation and our Lenten devotional readings, we can gather at the foot of the cross for the "one thing needful" which Jesus mentioned to Martha.

Finally, Lent gives us a chance to develop a deeper appreciation for God's daily blessings and the ministry opportunities around us. Will regular and consistent worship and Bible study be the mark of these next six weeks? Will our filling of our Lenten coin folders be a daily reminder of all the good things which our Lord showers upon us? Do not we who have found hope and life in the shadow of the cross have an obligation toward those who do not know Christ's redeeming love and stand in the shadow of death? So, whom do you know that you can bring with you on Sunday mornings or Wednesday evenings?

Now may the Holy Spirit enable us to consecrate our lives anew to our Lord and to His Church. Remember this: we worship not a Savior who dies and remains entombed in the past, but One who is alive and leads us even now into all eternity!

~Pastor Hildebrandt

March at a glance...

EVERY WEDNESDAY: Lenten supper, 6 p.m.

Worship, 7 p.m.

March 22<sup>nd</sup>: Voters' Meeting, 11:00 a.m.

(PLEASE NOTE: The date & time has been changed)

March 25<sup>th</sup>: Snack Pack assembly, 5 p.m.

Serve Chatt. Comm. Kitchen, 10:15 a.m.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

### **GIVE A LASTING GIFT**

The Lord has truly blessed us beyond comprehension. Continuing the mission of our Christian Faith by our weekly contributions to Cross of Christ Lutheran Church definitely assists us with our responsibility to go out into all the world and share that eternal life gospel! We want to be sure our Church's presence in Chattanooga will continue to fund missions at home and abroad. There are several ways to ensure this can happen.

Cross of Christ has a special account that is used to support the day to day operations of the church which is provided by members who want to save on their state and federal taxes by making a gift of appreciated securities directly to the church. This account is referred to as the LPL account. Members will receive an immediate income tax deduction for the value of the security on the date of transfer, no matter what was originally paid for them with the benefit of PAYING NO CAPITAL GAINS TAX. Appreciated securities would include stocks, bonds, or mutual fund shares that you have owned for more than one year.

In our retirement years we begin thinking about those Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA's) that many folks have set up years ago for our "golden years"! Before you make arrangements for IRA withdrawals, discover how you and Cross of Christ can benefit from the IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER. This way of support to the church is an easy and convenient way to make a gift from one of your major assets. It is excluded from your gross income, as a tax-free rollover and counts toward your required minimum distribution. The requirements are that you are at least 70 1/2 years old at the time of the gift and the transfer must go directly from your IRA to Cross of Christ.

The easiest and simple way to carry on the church's mission and ministry is to consider the church in your Will. By remembering Cross of Christ in your will or the other mentioned estate plans above, you could receive important tax benefits while supporting the work of the church and leaving a legacy of providing the gospel message to future generations, through our local and foreign missions.

Please consult with a tax professional or broker on these suggestions or call the church office and we will arrange for additional professional assistance.

-Larry Zehnder, Congregational President



### BY HIS WOUNDS WE ARE HEALED

...is the theme for this year's Lenten series. The innocent Son of God had no sins of His own for which He deserved to die, yet His enemies falsely accused Him of violating every commandment of God. In each service in this series we will see that it was our sin, our disobedience, that Jesus bore in His body on the cross. The Lord laid on Him "the iniquity of us all." Jesus suffered the penalty of death in our place, and "by His wounds we are healed."

- Ash Wednesday: The Wounds of Blasphemy
- Lenten 1: The Wounds of Violating the Sabbath
- Lenten 2: The Wounds of Dishonoring Authority
- Lenten 3: The Wounds of Murder
- Lenten 4: The Wounds of Adultery
- Lenten 5: The Wounds of Stealing

Join us Wednesday evenings for a fellowship meal and then as we come together to focus and repent of our complicity and involvement in wounding our Savior. Hopefully, these weekly emphases will stimulate some introspections and discussions between us.

### **WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT:**

Supper at 6:00 p.m. Worship at 7:00 p.m.

#### **Lenten Meal Hosts:**

- March 4 LWML Ladies (Soups)
- •March 11 Elders' Group (Chili)
- •March 18 Pastor's Sunday School
- •March 25 Church Council (Taco Salad)
- April 1 Church Potluck (everybody brings something to share with others)





## **LWML hosts the first Lenten meal on March 4<sup>th</sup>.**Contact Eunice Timm on how you can help!

### **QUILTING:**

Tuesday mornings in the Fellowship Hall 9:30-11:30 A.M.
Please join us!

### **SAVE THE DATE: Hygiene Kit Assembly**

All hands are welcome as we assemble Hygiene Kits on **Tuesday, April 21**st **at NOON.** 

### LWML Hygiene Kit Collection

### Collecting NEW and UNUSED:

- Travel size shampoo
- Travel size conditioner
- Travel size soap
- Travel size lotion
- Travel size toothpaste
- Toothbrush
- Nail clippers
- Disposable razor
- Wide-tooth comb
- Packs of purse-size Kleenex
- Individually wrapped Handi-wipes
   \*Please no travel size mouthwash

Hygiene kits are delivered to the Chattanooga Community Kitchen for distribution to our homeless neighbors.

### **OUR LENTEN FOCUS**

Lent, the church-year season that begins on Ash Wednesday, is a time of penitence and spiritual renewal. Some people give up a luxury or vice during Lent as a form of self-denial; others undertake a project that benefits others.

The point isn't to denigrate ourselves or to see how much we can do without. Instead, Lent helps us reflect on Jesus' death. As Timothy Keller writes in *The Reason for God:* "The Christian Gospel is that I am so flawed that Jesus had to die for me, yet I am so loved and valued that Jesus was glad to die for me. This leads to deep humility and deep confidence at the same time. It undermines both swaggering and sniveling. I cannot feel superior to anyone, and yet I have nothing to prove to anyone. I do not think more of myself nor less of myself. Instead, I think of myself less."

# Snack Packs for Rivermont Elementary

On March 25<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. (our regular time) we will be packing student Snack Packs for our neighbors at Rivermont Elementary. These snack packs provide at least one meal for students over the weekend in disadvantaged homes. Packing takes less than an hour! Last packing date for this school year is April 29<sup>th</sup>.

### **BCA Dates to Remember:**

March 1<sup>st</sup>: Continuous Enrollment Deadline

March  $2^{nd}-6^{th}$ : Lutheran Schools Week

& Scholastic Book Fair

March 6<sup>th</sup>: Grandparents' Day, 8:15 a.m. March 13<sup>th</sup>: Closed for in-service training

March 18th: Report Cards available





March/April/May Birthday Hostesses for our next gathering are Rose Dawn and Holly Clemmons. Please

watch your email & bulletins for more information on when and where we will hold our next gathering.

The following people are signed up as hostesses for the remainder of 2020...

June/July/August Jo Parham & Lorilynn Baier September/October Maria Rabbio & Margie Lee November/December Eunice Timm & Donna Flippin

### **CHURCH ADMINISTRATION**

The following are the important dates in 2020 for the administrative and management processes for our local congregation. If church members have any suggestions for carrying out the Lord's mission at Cross of Christ, the agendas for these meetings would be an opportunity to review and discuss any recommendations:

### 2020 BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETINGS:

Feb. 11 April 14 June 9 Aug. 11 Oct. 13 Nov. 10

### **2020 VOTERS' MEETINGS:**

(meetings are conducted after Sunday School)
March 15 May 17 (Election Of Officers)
Sept. 13 Dec. 6 (Annual Budget)

-Larry Zehnder, Congregational President

#### BIBLES & BREWS

This Young Adult Bible Study meets every Thursday at 8:00 p.m. at the Terminal Brewhouse for Christian fellowship, encouragement in the Word of God, and a good brew! We welcome young adults from across the city! If you are interested or know of a young adult who would enjoy this time of fellowship, follow us on Facebook to get the latest updates on the group.

Questions? Nyssa Hunt (991-5891) or Pastor



Gain confidence and learn strategies for how to have more meaningful spiritual conversations with others. Our engaging presenters will guide you through research-based insights and give you tools that will help you more comfortably engage in Spiritual Conversations.

Saturday, March 21st, 2020 Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church 260 Wade Road, W. Loudon, TN 37774 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. \$5 cost to cover provided lunch

Contact us at 865-458-9407 to register or Christrs@bellsouth.net

Registration deadline March 7

### PRESENTER



Rev. Micah Glenn Regional Ministry Facilitator Lutheran Hour Ministries

#LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES

**#EAGERTOSHARE** 



Faith in the Home Forum this spring in Nashville and Little Rock. It will be a unique event focused on nurturing faith in families from the most important starting point: the home...emphasizing the impact of sharing faith within the family.

Faith in the Home Forum encourages participation from all generations of faith leaders - including grandparents! Anyone outside of our Mid-South District congregations are also welcome to attend, so look for ways to share the event within your circle of family and friends and

Faith in the Home Forum will take at the following locations this Spring:

within your community.

- Saturday, March 21, 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. in Nashville at Our Savior Lutheran Church
- Saturday, April 25, 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. in Little Rock at Christ Little Rock Church

A catered lunch will be served at \$10 per person.

If you have any questions regarding Faith in the Home Forum, please contact Tessa Brasher at: brashert@csp.edu



"Lent isn't ultimately about giving things up. Its purpose is not self-improvement in the conventional sense. Instead Lent is a season of preparation. We are preparing to celebrate Easter, and the Church is always prepared in the same way: by repentance. True repentance means turning away from sin in sorrow and also turning toward God in joy. That is to say, that true repentance is faith. It expects forgiveness. It trusts in Christ to give it."—Rev. David Peterson



(The following is an insert from the latest newsletter we received from The Shaneyfelts. This missionary family works with Wycliffe Bible Translators and Lutheran Bible Translators to speed Bible translations for the "Bible poor" of the world today! When they are in the States, they have stopped at Cross of Christ and spoken about their unique ministry. More detailed info. is available in their newsletter located on the hallway bulletin board.)

ScriptureEarth.org is a comprehensive index of Bible and Scriptures resources for the world's languages. It lists the individual language and guides you to where you can find online Bibles in written and audio form, the Jesus film, and other audio/visual resources, which can be downloaded to a computer or an app that can be put on a mobile device. A quick example... you have a friend from Liberia that wants access to Scripture:

- 1. Go to the ScriptureEarth.org website
- Click on the box that says "Country" and start typing the "Li" in Liberia
- Click on "Liberia" among all the countries (Typing just the first two letters of the country is a very useful feature for other countries that are more difficult to spell.)
- Click on a "Language Name", like "Klao" and then select the desired Scripture resource.

Now, when you meet a person who is from another part of the world, you can share this info. with them! In this way, you will be a true blessing, and even change a life.

GOD'S WORD for every language



# FEBRUARY AT CROSS OF CHRIST WAS "SOUPER BOWL" MONTH!

Cross of Christ Annual <u>'CAN' Do</u> time to help replenish the Chattanooga Area Food Bank.

WE "CAN" DO! AND... WE DID IT!

<u>Items collected as of February 25<sup>th</sup></u> when the truck came to pick up our barrels:

828 items for the Chattanooga Area Food Bank!

This blew our goal of <u>491</u> items for 2020 out of the water!

Thank you all for your contributions! Thank you to Donna Flippin for putting this outreach program together. We would like to especially thank Jo Parham who supplied us with a Thrivent card, allowing us to purchase 264 canned soup items from Food City (just down the street). If you are in Food City and see Manager - Luther, or Asst. Manager - Tim, please thank them for working with Cross of Christ to obtain items for the Chattanooga Area Food Bank.



(L-R) Lorilynn Baier & Joyce Skiles loading the last items into the barrels.



"Donuts with Dad" at BCA on Feb. 14.

Pictured: (L) Margret McCall & her dad, Philip McCall

(Right)
Mikanzie
Lanier with
her uncle,
Kirk Lanier
(L) and her
dad, Steve
Lanier (R)





(Above) Judy Zehnder impressively directed a hand bell rehearsal on Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> while holding a tuckered-out Ruth Schlie.

February...

Question
Of the
Month!



# Church Website & Facebook Page Updates/info can be emailed to: secretary@cocluth.com

and changes will be taken care of by our webmasters. Thanks!

### <u>APRIL NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:</u> \*\*March 20<sup>th</sup>\*\*

Articles, reports, info & photos need to please be emailed to Rachel Schlie no later than the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. Thank you!

rachel.schlie@outlook.com

### **HOUSEKEEPING ITEMS**

### Hymnal Ribbons...

We are asking and discouraging braiding of the satin ribbons that are in each hymnal. Recently we have had to cut out many, due to permanent damage. Thank you for your continued assistance with this matter.

### We Could Use Some Help Please...

We are please asking for everyone to be mindful of cleaning up their dirty coffee cups and food items, as there have been an increased number of cups, plates, and trash items spread throughout the church recently. Thank you!

### **Building Repairs or Improvements...**

If you see something that needs attention, there is a sheet on the bulletin board by the library that you can add what needs to be repaired, improved, etc. Writing it down will bring the issue to the attention of our Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Joel Duncan, and he will see that the issue is addressed as soon as possible. If there is an urgent problem, please feel free to call or text Joel at (423-309-7932).

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church 3204 Hixson Pike Chattanooga, TN 37415 Pastor Barry Hildebrandt

Email: church@cocluth.com

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Administrative Specialist – Lorilynn Baier



**The Lutheran Witness:** "Interpreting the Contemporary World from a Lutheran Christian Perspective"

### **Background**

The Lutheran Witness is the official publication of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. In print for nearly 140 years, this continued periodical is one of the longest running Christian print magazines in American history. The legacy began on September 7, 1844 with the Synod's first President, C.F.W. Walther and his publication under the name Der Lutheraner (The Lutheran). In his first newsletter, he talked about his goal and mission, which was to help LCMS Lutherans believe, live and die as Lutherans. This message was carried throughout all of his writings as he taught on the doctrines of the church and against false teaching and errors. The hope with *Der Lutheraner* was to explain Lutheran theology to the German American immigrants in the United States. The paper succeeded beyond their wildest dreams. Der Lutheraner would help scattered Lutherans organize a new fellowship — a synod — of confessional churches – now known as the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Der Lutheraner continued being published in German until 1972! In 1882, the Evangelical Lutheran Synod picked up publishing the Lutheran Witness, and when they became part of the LCMS, our Synod carried on its publication in 1911.

#### **The New Managing Editor**

Rev. Roy Askins began his new position as Managing Editor for The Lutheran Witness on January 1st. His background consists of serving in Asia through the Office of International Ministry as the managing Communications Director. His vision as Editor is to continue Walther's goal of helping people understand what they believe and why they believe it, and to point out false doctrines we need to be aware of. In Askins' words: "The whole point is to point people to Jesus Christ and Him crucified for their sins. We might have great articles, but if they don't teach people to cling more tightly to Jesus Christ, we've failed. That's the whole point." Rev. Askins encourages subscribers to contact him directly with questions and to share what you like about The Lutheran Witness and how it could be made better for you. His email: lutheran.witness@lcms.org

Available in both print and digital format, subscribers to the Lutheran Witness receive 11 issues a month, one being a combined June/July issue. Visit CPH.org/witness for subscription information or contact the church office. [Info from: The Coffee Hour; Robert E. Smith; cph.org/witness]

### MARCH WORSHIP ASSISTANTS



### ALTAR GUILD

Sherry Reed & Carmen Autry

### ACOLYTES, Sunday, 9 a.m.

1<sup>st</sup>: **Zachary Land** 8<sup>th</sup>: Nathan Pugh 15<sup>th</sup>: **Zachary Land** 

22<sup>nd</sup>: Chloe Doebler & Zoe Riethmeier

29<sup>th</sup>: Nathan Pugh

### **ELDERS**

Saturday, 6:00 p.m. Scott Brewster

Sunday, 9:00 a.m. Tony Pessini & Dave Hook

### GREETERS, Saturday, 6 p.m.

7<sup>th</sup>: Joel & Rhonda Duncan 14<sup>th</sup>: Brad & Jamie Mofsky 21<sup>st</sup>: Mark & Donna Wachholz 28<sup>th</sup>: Nancy Ashby & Rose Roelofs

### GREETERS, Sunday, 9 a.m.

1 st: John & Pat Stehr 8<sup>th</sup>: **Eloise Bartlett** 

15<sup>th</sup>: **Bob & Eunice Timm** 22<sup>nd</sup>: Tony & Maria Pessini 29th: Bonnie Woodward-Wright

### READERS

### (Saturday)

(Sunday) 7<sup>th</sup>: Rhonda Duncan 1<sup>st</sup>: John Stehr

8th: Tony Pessini 14<sup>th</sup>: Jamie Mofsky 15th: Jane & John Rudat 21st: Mark Wachholz

22<sup>nd</sup>: Dave Hook 28th: Nyssa Hunt

29th: Natalie Doebler

### **USHERS**

Saturday, 6 p.m.

Scott Brewster

### Sunday, 9 a.m.

John Stehr, Nathan Pugh and Jim Walpert



## 2020 LENTEN CALENDAR

### Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

3204 Hixson Pike ~ Chattanooga, TN (423) 877~7447

February 26<sup>th</sup> ASH WEDNESDAY

7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service w/Imposition of Ashes

and Holy Communion

March 4<sup>th</sup> (Wed.) <u>LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICE</u>

6:00 p.m. Supper (Hosted by LWML) 7:00 p.m. Lenten Worship Service

March 11th (Wed.) LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICE

6:00 p.m. Supper (Hosted by our Elders)
7:00 p.m. Lenten Worship Service

March 18<sup>th</sup> (Wed.) <u>LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICE</u>

6:00 p.m. Supper (Hosted by Pastor's Sunday School Class)

7:00 p.m. Lenten Worship Service

March 25<sup>th</sup> (Wed.) <u>LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICE</u>

6:00 p.m. Supper (Hosted by our Church Council)

7:00 p.m. Lenten Worship Service

April 1st (Wed.) <u>LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICE</u>

6:00 p.m. Supper (Church Potluck – Everyone Brings/Shares)

7:00 p.m. Lenten Worship Service



### HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE



April 5<sup>th</sup> PALM SUNDAY

9:00 a.m. Palm Sunday Service w/Holy Communion

10:15 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Class

April 9<sup>th</sup> MAUNDY THURSDAY

7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service w/Holy Communion

April 10<sup>th</sup> GOOD FRIDAY

12 noon Good Friday Service 7:00 p.m. Tenebrae Service

April 11<sup>th</sup> "NO" SATURDAY WORSHIP

April 12<sup>th</sup> <u>EASTER SUNDAY</u>

7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service

8:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast (served from 8 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.)

9:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt

10:00 a.m. Resurrection Celebration w/ Holy Communion





### CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

"May you have warm words on a cold evening, a full moon on a dark night, and the road downhill all the way to your door."

~~ Irish blessing



					20	2019	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
DFORTY OF MENT Y	e a season of preparation		Midweek Meals	March 2nd-6th National Lutheran School Week and BCA Scholastic Book Fair	MARCH 8 <sup>th</sup> (set your clocks ahead 1 hour before bed on the 7 <sup>th</sup> )	DAVING THE SAVING	
First Sunday in Lent Mites Sunday 1	2	3	4	5	World Day of Prayer		
Dam Worship w/ Holy Communion 10:15am Sunday School & Bible Class 11:15am VBS Planning Mtg. 1:15pm Crossways Ypm Bells	10am Pastor's Bible Class @ Nursing Home 7pm Scouts	9:30am Quilting	6pm Lenten Dinner 7pm Lenten Service 8pm Choir	8pm Bibles & Brews	8:15am BCA Grandparents Day	6pm Worship	
Daylight Savings	9	10	11	12	13	1	
Time Begins 8 lam Worship 0:15am Sunday School & Bible Class :15pm Crossways pm Bells	10am Pastor's Bible Class @ Nursing Home 7pm Elders' Mtg. 7pm Scouts	9:30am Quilting	6pm Lenten Dinner 7pm Lenten Service 8pm Choir	8pm Bibles & Brews	BCA Closed	6pm Worship w/ Holy Communion	
15	16	St. Patrick's Day	18	First Day	20	2	
Dam Worship w/ Holy Communion 10:15am Sunday School & Bible Class 1:15pm Crossways 17pm Bells	Hamilton Co. Schools Closed 10am Pastor's Bible Class @ Nursing Home 7pm Scouts	9:30am Quilting	6pm Lenten Dinner 7pm Lenten Service 8pm Choir	of Spring 19 8pm Bibles & Brews	APRIL NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	9am-2pm Spiritual Conversations (**Loudon, TN) 10am-2:30pm Faith In Th Home Forum (**Nashville, TN) 6pm Worship (**See Newsletter Article:	
22	23	24	25	26	27	( See Newsletter Article	
Dam Worship 0:15am Sunday School & Bible Class 11:00am Quarterly Voter's Aftg. NOTE: Date & Time Change) ::15pm Crossways 'pm Bells	10am Pastor's Bible Class @ Nursing Home 7pm Scouts	9:30am Quilting	10:15am Meet & Go Serve Meal at Community Kitchen 4pm Snack Packs 6pm Lenten Dinner 7pm Lenten Service 8pm Choir	6pm CoC Reads! 8pm Bibles & Brews	21	Noon-5pm Fellowship Hall Busy 6pm Worship w/ Holy Communion	
(5th SUNDAY) 29	30	31					
Dam Worship w/ Holy Communion 10:15am Sunday School & Bible Class 1:15pm Crossways /pm Bells	10am Pastor's Bible Class @ Nursing Home 7pm Scouts	9:30am Quilting		March	March 2019	He Makes ALL THINGS W	