



CROSSLink

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847.639.6533 Preschool Office
www.HolyCrossCary.org

Worship Services:
Saturdays 5:30PM (Sanctuary)
Sundays 8:30AM (Sanctuary)
Sundays 10:45AM (LOFT)

May 2021

From Pastor's Desk

A Certain & Living Hope In Jesus

Hebrews 10:23 – *“Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.”*

HOPE is a big word in the Bible. Matthew 12:21, *“and in His name the Gentiles will hope!”* Jeremiah 29:11, *“I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord..., to give you a future and a hope.”* I Peter 1:3, *“He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.”*

Unlike our normal use of the word that implies an uncertainty about the ‘hoped’ for result, God’s Word speaks of a sure and certain hope that is ours in Christ Jesus. Some in our world see NO hope and NO future beyond our death. Some even get upset that believing Christians speak of the hope that is ours in Jesus. Like it or not, hope, true hope is a concept and need that is important to people everywhere. Hope, true hope can transform and encourage a troubled soul. Without hope, what’s the point? And as I love to share, with Jesus there is always hope! Yes, there will be trouble, but with Jesus there is always cause for joy and celebration, even in the midst of the sorrows and deep pains of the world. I Thessalonians 4:13 *“We do not weep as those who have no hope.”*

My encouragement to you and all believing Christians is to keep the faith, trust God’s Word and keep leaning on Jesus! *“He who promised is faithful!”*

Seen on the wall of my daughter’s home when we last had the chance to visit their home two years ago in Minnesota: *“Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.”* Romans 12:12 –

Good words for us all! May God bless and keep you all in His grace!

In Christ,
Rev. Glenn Meyer
Intentional Interim Pastor

News & Work Objectives From Pastor’s Desk

- Several items are in the works: **Interim Task Force:** For a variety of reasons, this has been delayed, but will now soon be meeting together. They are a sub-committee of the Governing Board, but will give an independent report to the church in a Town Hall Setting. They will process information gathered from the Cottage Group Meetings and from other community sources. This report will include our strengths; areas of weakness, neglect or other concerns; opportunities for ministry that exist now or in the near future; and what we believe should be our key signature ministries going forward. They will also share things that have already been done and what is already being planned. When they make this report, we need everyone there. If they leave out something important, we need to make certain that it gets included. Once we are in agreement about their report (hopefully at the conclusion of that Town Hall Event) then this information will be shared with District and with our Call Committee that will begin preparing for their work. Our District President will then follow up and set up a Pre-Call Meeting with our congregation.

- In this **Interim Task Force report to the congregation**, and in all our interactions, it is crucially important that we listen to one another and respect one another. We trust that each fellow member of the body of Christ has a gift, an insight to share that must be received by the body. We value the contribution and encouragement that each fellow member can bring as we strive to see and act on the total picture of what God is calling us to do in this time and place!
- **Reconciliation:** Where we see or personally experience any brokenness, unresolved hurts, anger, bitterness, etc. then there must be extreme efforts at building and restoring the peace that is God's gift to us as God's redeemed children in Christ! This is true in our communities, but is especially true in our families and in our church! Often it begins with a sincere effort using words like, "How are you doing? I care about you and if there is something that I have done that has upset you, I am sorry." And, please, with God's help, when someone tells you they are sorry, please be prepared to be able to say, as one already forgiven by Christ, "I forgive you." And maybe, just maybe, you will also experience what I have had shared with me many times over the years when I was told, "It was like a huge weight was lifted off of my shoulders!"
- **Trust God, follow where HE leads, and extend a Unanimous Call.** We must trust our Lord God and seek His guidance in ALL things, including our preparations which will lead to a call process that (I believe) MUST lead to a willing UNANIMOUS call extended to our next resident pastor. Yes, we may not each get our 'first choice' based on the information we have...., but we will trust the Lord's guidance in our process and trust that God will lead us to **His** choice at **His** chosen time.
- **Ministry Action Council**, this is a recent initiative that comes out of our efforts at figuring out why we have had such a difficult time getting things done in ministry. We talk things to death, apparently at times, for years, but find it difficult to actually do something. The Ministry Action Council (MAC) will work directly with me, the pastor, and will be made up of people who represent various action ministries of our church: Elders, OWLS, etc. It will also include people who have a passion about doing ministry and are willing to help the pastor start new ministries. This will be the group that represents and helps coordinate the efforts of those groups in our church who are actually doing something. The Governing Board governs and works with the pastor in setting the vision and goals. The MAC is where the ministry and goals are 'acted' upon. In the pastor's report to the Governing Board and also to the congregation (The Voters) I will share what is being done, what is being planned, any barriers we need to get through, and resources we need to accomplish the task.
- **Truth, Hope, Prayer, Patience and Love** "*Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.*" Romans 12:12 In everything we do and say, we will strive to be firmly grounded on the foundation and truth of God's Holy Word. All that we do and say will be done in love. We will listen to one another in love, patience and respect. We will strive, in all things, to reflect the hope that is ours in Jesus. And every decision, conversation, and debate will be continually covered in personal devotion and prayer. In all things, our desire is this, "Not my will, but Thy will be done!" And in anything good that happens, "To God be the glory!"
- **HOME VISITS:** As I write this, I am in the midst of several home visits with prospective members and with private communion visits with shut-ins. I enjoy these visits immensely. If you desire a visit from me, the pastor, please let me know or call the church office and talk with Denise.
- **There are some exciting things happening! It is my joy to be working with you at this time of transition as God is, I believe, leading Holy Cross into an exciting new chapter of life and ministry, to the glory and praise of God!**

Sola Deo Gloria, Your fellow servant in Christ, Pastor Meyer

Note Well: Ascension Day Service on Thursday, May 13 at 6:30 PM

Please plan to attend!

Pastor Meyer is glad that this is a current practice here at Holy Cross Lutheran. Ascension shouldn't be overlooked. It is one of the chief festival days of the Church Year. We will sing as one of our many Ascension hymns: ***"On Christ's ascension I now build the hope of my ascension;***

Jesus concludes His earthly ministry and promises the Holy Spirit's imminent arrival. Jesus sends His disciples to the ends of the earth as witnesses of His resurrection. He promises that He will always be with us even to the end of the age. We do not need to see Him with our eyes to know He is still with us, speaking to and strengthening us with His gift of salvation and eternal life. In Holy Baptism, Absolution, Communion, the preaching/sharing of His Word, in worship and the fellowship of God's people around God's Word, He gives us His mercy and grace. He equips and sends us out in His mission work. In Jesus, we and many others have been and continue to be transformed.

When Pastor Meyer was in his early years as a pastor, he was at Trinity Lutheran, Creston, Iowa. Some members came up to him and asked that we would have a Thursday Night Ascension Day service **on Ascension Day**. (Many churches have this service on the following weekend.) And they explained: "It was their favorite festival of all the festival days of the church." And yes, he asked. It was more special to them than even Christmas Day, Good Friday or Easter Sunday. He will explain why they felt that way at the service. We encourage you to be present where we can all join together in one worship service.

6:30 PM, Thursday, May 13 - Ascension Day Service at Holy Cross Lutheran

OWLS Happenings

OWLS will meet at noon on May 6 in the lower LOFT. You are invited to join us and spend an afternoon with friends. Bring your own lunch. There is a microwave to warm up something you bring. Dessert and beverages will be provided. Leah Johnson will host and lead the devotion to start our meeting. After lunch we will play cards, dominoes and table games or just enjoy conversation with friends. You may bring books and magazines to swap or donate to the Bethesda Shop in Crystal Lake.

OWLS will celebrate the return of spring on May 20 with a trip to Cantigny Park in Wheaton to enjoy the gardens and museums. The historic home is closed for updating, but the newly expanded 1st Army Museum is open for visitors. Admission is free, but a parking fee is charged. You may bring your picnic lunch or purchase food there. Carpools will form in the parking lot at 9:00 AM. A signup sheet is posted on the OWLS bulletin board so we can plan carpools. Please, join us.

In case of inclement weather, adjustments to the plans may be made.

Kids for Christ

Kids for Christ has been a huge success. The kids have had a great time together and friendships have certainly developed.

We will have completed 12 weeks of meetings as of Thursday, May 6 which brings this session to a close.

During our time together we have shared God's word through Bible studies and learning about the New Testament. In addition, there has been plenty of music, crafts, puzzles, games, team building and gym time.

Watch for information about starting up again next fall.

LWML News

The LWML convention is taking place in Louisville, Kentucky June 24-27. "Gifts from the Heart" will be collected and taken there with our delegate to the convention. Recipients of our gifts are Assurance for Life Ministry (Lexington), MOST (eye care) Ministry and the food banks at Concordia Seminaries in Ft. Wayne and St. Louis. You are invited to join in by donating any of the following:

Baby items: toiletries, bath towels, wash cloths, burp cloths, crib sheets, diapers (size 3) and wipes
Laundry baskets - small or collapsible
Baby clothing - sized newborn to 12 months
Diaper bags
Teething toys
Small Christian books for babies

Gift cards from Walmart or Target in small denominations

Used eyeglasses and sunglasses

Collection boxes are located in the coat room in the narthex.

Thank you very much!

Prayer Shawl LWML

Stamps for Missions

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League NID invites you to save postage stamps – especially during the holiday season and donate them for our mission goal.

Since 1997 Lutheran Women in Mission across the Northern Illinois District have been clipping, sorting and sending in cancelled postage stamps. If you would like to contribute to this ministry, here is what LWML is looking for:

1. All intact picture postcards. Do not cut off the stamps, send the entire postcard.
2. All old (pre-1930) envelopes intact. Do not cut off the stamps.
3. All foreign stamps, large and small.
4. Large commemorative U.S. stamps.
5. Small definitive (common) U.S. stamps (including USA nonprofit bulk stamps), except **DO NOT** save Love, Flag, Bell OR Christmas stamps. Save unused charity return mail stamps.
6. Any collections of stamps, save on sheets if possible and do not remove stamps from pages/albums.

If at all possible, stamps should be trimmed leaving about 1/4" margin around the stamp. Do not trim stamps to touch perforations or the stamps will be discarded.

Look in the narthex for a place to drop off your donations. This is an ongoing project.

May

	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
						1 10:00A Confirmation 5:30P Worship
2 8:30A Worship (sanctuary) 9:45A Adult Bible Class 10:45A Worship (LOFT)	3	4 10:00A Adult Bible Class	5	6 Noon OWLS 7:00P Kids for Christ	7	8 10:00A Confirmation 5:30P Worship 7:00P Taizé Service
9 8:30A Worship (sanctuary) 9:45A Adult Bible Class 10:45A Worship (LOFT)	10 6:30P Elders	11 10:00A Adult Bible Class	12	13 10:00A Prayer Shawl 6:30P Ascension Worship 7:15P Confirmation	14	15 10:00A Confirmation 5:30P Worship
16 8:30A Worship (sanctuary) 9:45A Adult Bible Class 10:45A Worship (LOFT)	17 7:00P Governing Board	18 10:00A Adult Bible Class	19	20 OWLS to Cantigny Park 7:00P Confirmation	21	22 10:00A Confirmation 5:30P Worship
23 8:30A Worship (sanctuary) 9:45A Adult Bible Class 10:45A Worship (LOFT)	24	25 10:00A Adult Bible Class	26	27 10:00A Prayer Shawl	28	29 5:30P Worship
30 8:30A Worship (sanctuary) 9:45A Adult Bible Class 10:45A Worship (LOFT)	31 Memorial Day Office closed				2021	