

Cross Lutheran Church

35851 Utica Road; Clinton Township, MI 48035 (586) 791-6640

Email: officeatcross@yahoo.com

Pastor: Barry R. Osterbur

October 9, 2011—Pentecost 17

Welcome! The image of celebration, as if at a sumptuous banquet table, clearly comes to us from today's lessons. And from that image, we can ask: How frequently do we experience "breaking bread" with each other? How deeply and meaningfully? How joyfully? Whether with family and friends in our homes, here in worship around the altar, we can give God thanks for the community we share as we receive God's gracious blessings....

Visitors—Greetings & Welcome! Please "sign in" on the worship registration sheets, including your prayer requests, and make note of an invitation to the Lord's Table. Feel free to join Cross in worship, fellowship, and study! AND, come again!

Prayer List All are invited to make requests as soon as they are realized. You may send them by email: officeatcross@yahoo.com OR phone 586/791-6640. Last minute requests may be placed on the clipboard at the "sign up ledge" in the narthex. Ongoing prayer needs may be written on the welcome sheets.

We Worship...

Welcome to the Lord's Table! All those who are desiring to grow in their relationship with God in Christ Jesus are invited to come to Communion... We join together with humble, confessing, yet joyful hearts, forgiven by the gracious love of God in Christ, enabled to be there because of his death on the cross for our sins... AND his victorious resurrection to eternal life. We come, that the bread and cup of the Lord's Supper might be a sign of Christ's everlasting presence for us.

*(PLEASE NOTE! Gluten free wafers are now available. Let the pastor know if you need to receive one. If other medical/health concerns give you reason to avoid the cup or the bread, remember our teaching: **Christ is fully present in either element alone, bread or cup.** Younger children who have not yet had "first Communion" instruction are invited for a blessing.)*

We Serve & Reach Out...

MCREST Volunteer Board is out! Please look them over and offer any help you can with this effort!
Thanks to Joe and Arlene Gruckunas and Janine Haugen for volunteering to oversee the kitchen duties.

Cross Helping Hands Volunteers are available!!...for household chores, repairs, transportation, yard care, shopping, meals, or a friendly visit. "Cross Helping Hands" is their name!! Please use the cards that may be found in a basket on the Welcome shelf to recommend someone, or yourself! Needed: several persons have asked for rides to Sunday services...can you help? Contact Elaine Osterbur or the church office for details.

Red Cross Blood Drive, Tuesday, October 25! Don't forget to sign up for the blood drive on the bulletin board or online at www.redcrossblood.org (sponsor code crosslutheran). As an added incentive donors will be signed up for a chance to win a Friday overnight stay at The Inn and Spa at Cedar Falls and a Zip-line tour through the Hocking Hills Canopy Tours.

We Learn...

Adult Study Groups – will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30: **Book study of The Faith Club**, with Kathy Ming; **Wired Word** discussion group on Christian perspective of a current news event, with Tom Blohm; **"Parenting 101,"** with Karen Loftus; **Sermon Feedback** with Pastor Barry.

In an ongoing effort to raise funds for Youth Activities for the youth at Cross, there will be **Bagel Sales** each Sunday (with some exceptions; that will be announced) in the Fellowship Hall; after each service. This is a free-will donation. Thanks for your support!

Confirmation Youth & Parents –Because of MCREST week, the regular Wednesday night class will NOT meet this week, nor the Sunday class for next Sunday...ALL confirmands are invited to help with MCREST set-up at 10:30am today, immediately following class.

We “Fellowship” & Support...

Please note!! The coffee pots are now in the Fellowship Hall. Please enjoy the extra space there, AND some delicious “treats”...

Picture Directory This year Cross will once again create a Family Album/directory with the help of Lifetouch Family Photography. Sign up for your photo session appointment time during the week through the Cross website or on Sundays at church beginning October 30 through November 20. Photographs will be taken at Cross beginning Wednesday November 30th through Saturday December 3rd. There is no charge to you or Cross and for participating you will receive a free 8 x 10 photo and Cross Family Album/directory. Any photos ordered will be available before Christmas. If for some reason you are not available during these photography dates, please call Tom Johnson at 586/298-0269.

Mark the date for MASTERING THE GRAPE wine tasting event, Saturday, November 12th at 6:30pm. The cost is one bottle of wine per couple (singles please coordinate to provide one bottle of wine per two singles) + \$5/person. Please provide one bottle of your favorite wine to Barb or Tom Johnson no later than Sunday, November 6th. Price and type of wine are completely up to you. Please also consider signing up to bring a dessert for the evening. This fellowship event will be a blind taste test of the wines you offer. Wines will be judged by you on clarity/color, aroma, and taste. For more information contact Barb & Tom Johnson 586/298-0269. Sign up at the board today!

This ‘N That

Stewardship—This fall we “**Believe in Tomorrow**”—we remind ourselves that God is with us always, in good times and the most difficult of times. A major part of this belief is demonstrated in our stewardship of what God provides for us. This month we’ll focus on how when we go forward in faith, trust, hope and love we open the door for wonderful things to happen. We’ll each have an opportunity to demonstrate our faith by indicating our giving intentions for the coming year. These individual steps of faith added together are a giant step forward in growing God’s work through Cross Lutheran Church. Stop by the table in the narthex before or after service to pick up your “Believe in Tomorrow” stewardship package.

Music for Sabilo was a fantastic evening with super entertainers. Thank you to the people who supported this great event. Also a big thank you to you to the fellowship committee for helping to make the event successful. We raised \$550.

Tanzania New items have arrived from Tanzania - please check them out and while you are there check out the new supply of coffee and chocolate that is available. These sales support our sister congregation in Sabilo Tanzania.

Healthy Congregations Workshop—Sunday, November 6—save the date!! Rev. John Burow will be the presenter at this special planning seminar for about 30 members of Cross. Plan now to attend! Details are coming soon.

Transition Planning for next year—come meet with Pr. Cherlyne Beck of the Southeast Michigan Synod on Sunday, November 20!!—save the date!

THRIVENT The East Macomb Chapter Election Brunch will be Sunday October 23 from 12:00-2:30 at Gino's Surf. The restaurant is located at 37400 Jefferson in Harrison Township. They have an excellent brunch buffet and a great time should be had by all. The regular price for the buffet is \$18.95 but Thrivent members only pay \$5.00. The Board will have drawings and other entertainment, so there should be something for everyone. Since these are elections for the Board, it is asked that only Thrivent members and their immediate family take advantage of the pricing. Members will pay \$5.00 at the door, so no registration is needed. For those congregations without representation on the Board, now is the time to become a Board member at large, and learn about the great things the Chapter volunteers do for you and your communities. Please talk a board member at the brunch for more details.

Genealogy Anyone? Are you the keeper of the family history? Into working on your family tree, or interested in how you start up? How about getting together monthly or every other month for talking about our trees, our breakthroughs, our head banging on walls that never seem to move to let us find one person in that tree. Sometimes when you talk things over you may find another direction to look. See Charlee Wray if interested. She would like to get a count from those who would be interested...(586/344-1889)

This week's schedule:

Today: MCREST SETUP/GUESTS AT 6P; CELI -1pm
Monday: MCREST; Praise team; AA-8p
Tuesday: MCREST; Bible Study-10:30a
Wednesday: MCREST; Bells-7:15p, Choir-7:30p
Thursday: MCREST; Bells-6:30p
Friday: MCREST
Saturday: MCREST

Worship Schedule: *Please note!! Responding to requests to "mix" our worship experiences more, musicians and leaders will bring the Praise service to 8:15, and a more liturgical service to 10:45, on a monthly basis. Here's the schedule for the rest of October:*

10/16 Chicago Folk at BOTH
10/23 Contemporary at BOTH
10/30 8:15 With One Voice 10:45 Contemporary