

## A Note from the Pastor

Greetings as we enter into the month of September...ministry is wide open! The gates of mercy and grace receive us each day filling us with new ideas and ways to share the love of Christ and to serve our neighbor. With school starting up, Sunday School back to business, Bible Studies and our fellowship groups working on new things, I am excited to share the ministries, love and command of Christ with others! We are blessed to be a blessing, you know!

This year "God's Work, Our Hands" day falls on Sunday, September 11, 2016. There are two projects that we will be working on so that more of God's work using our hands can be done on this day. We will take time to work with groups who are first responders and we will continue our work with the Women's Resource Center as we focus on the day of Peace and Non-violence. There is more information in the newsletter... keep reading!

Take time to sign up for different ministries... suggest different ministries.... lead different ministries. That is your gift and our gift together...serving others and loving others as we have been by our Lord and Savior.

This summer we focused on Job...courage, patience, grief, recreation, forgiveness, living in the light of hope. We too are like Job...in this time in our world there is much fear mongering and there are methods of fear in the homes, politics, community, nation and world that are being played out over and over again. Like Job we can sit and watch it happen. OR like Job we can get up off of our heap of ashes and walk with the hope that fills us through our Creator. Hope. In a month where we will remember September 11, Peace, Non-Violence and the love of Christ that surpasses all understanding, let us invite our neighbors to worship and give thanks for the beauty, hope and wonders of this world...all through Christ our Lord. Amen!

## STEWARDSHIP

Thank you for your gifts of time, talents, and treasures. Your volunteer hours are priceless. The people that you serve and continually lift up is such a blessing. Your volunteer hours here at the church cannot be thanked enough. From the upkeep on the building to teaching and folding bulletins, we give thanks to God for you! And for your treasures...your offerings help to pay our bills, but more importantly, your offerings help educate and share the Gospel and

support ministries that help those who hunger and those in need. Your giving helps our educational institutions and outreach to those who have been suffering through natural disasters and droughts and floods and hurricanes. Thank you for your constant giving and donation of time and talents and treasures...you share the light of Christ in all that you do...and in that light people experience HOPE. Thank you.

## Month at a Glance

**Noisy Offering:** Samaritas (see Worship & Music article for more information) 9/4 and 9/18

**Soup Kitchen:**

October 13th and 27th

**Due to office:**

Hard Copy Newsletter submissions:

September 10th

E-submissions for Newsletter:

September 15th

Unavailable to serve in November:

September 15th

**Paper Pantry:**

9/8 5– 7 PM (prep @ 3:30)

9/22 9-11 AM (prep @ 3:30 9/21)

**Committee Meetings:**

Management: 7 PM 9/12

Worship & Music: TBD

Council: 7 PM 9/19

**Useful Info:**

RALLY DAY: 9/18

BUDGET REQUESTS DUE: 9/25

## Readings for the Month

**September 4**

Wrapping up Lord's Prayer

**September 11**

Exodus 32:7-14

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Luke 15:1-10

**September 18**

Amos 8:4-7

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Luke 16:1-13

**September 25**

Amos 6:1a, 4-7

1 Timothy 6:6-19

Luke 16:19-31

## Finances at a Glance

YEAR TO DATE	FUND STATUS FOR THE PERIOD:				TOTAL
	GENERAL FUND	PROPERTY FUND	BENEVOLENCE FUND	MEMORIAL FUND	
			Jan-July	2016	
OPENING BALANCE	-4789.81	-2223.66	6029.11	46473.83	45489.47
+ INCOME	71378.71	6108.88	10,441.09	1135.00	89063.68
- EXPENSE	71930.97	9035.37	10936.05	786.94	92689.33
ENDING BALANCE	-5342.07	-5150.15	5534.15	46821.89	41863.82
					0.00
2016 CHANGE	-552.26	-2926.49	-494.96	348.06	-3625.65

## NOTE OF THANKS

*Cross of Christ Church,*

*Thank you so very much for help to the families of the fire victims of Traverse Woods Apartments. Though I did not get clothes there, I was very glad the others could. I was VERY impressed (at our meeting at the city building) with Sarah's very capable and reassuring talk to us regarding the available assistance. Somehow helped to see the light at the end of the tunnel! ~Kathryn Deloria*

## **Ministry Information**

### **Adopt-a-Highway**

The fall Adopt a Highway Clean Up for Cross of Christ is Sunday, September 18, 2016 at 1:00 pm. We clean up the road for two miles north of Alanson to Cupp Road. We will meet at 1:00 pm in the parking lot on the left side of the road just past the traffic light in Alanson.

Bring gloves if you have some. There will be a sign up sheet in the TURQUOISE binder next to the office. Please sign up so we can contact you if anything changes. If you have any questions call Priscilla Meyer at 347-8567.

### **Bible Studies Contact: Pastor Sherry 347-5448**

#### **Monday Night Study**

Monday evening Bible Study will resume on Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. We will begin discussing the book The Daughter of the Reformation: A historical perspective of the life and times of the wife of Martin Luther. Pastor Sherry has copies of the book for you if you need one. Please see her.

#### **Ladies' Bible Study**

Time: 1 PM  
Date: September 21st  
Day of Peace and Non-violence. What does the Bible Say about that? Guest speaker will be here from the Women's Resource Center. Dessert and coffee/juice will be served. Bring a friend. This is something that we can all take with us as we go in peace and serve the Lord!

### **Elderberries**

**President: Norm Cutshall 487-1707 Secretary: Cyndi Yingling 525-8950**

Date: Friday, Sept. 9th  
Time: TBA  
Location: TBA  
RSVP: TBA

Watch bulletins for updated information.

## Worship and Music

- ◇ We will finish using the Narrative Lectionary on September 4th as we conclude the study of the Lord's Prayer. Martin Luther reminded us that it should be taught at least once a year!
- ◇ Sunday, September 11th we will prepare and be sent into the community as bodies doing the work of God. There are two options, and we need you to sign up for them along with your children...
  1. Serving our first responders: bake snacks and treats along with cards of thanksgiving for our local first responders on this day. You have the opportunity to bake and take! Bring your baked goods to the church by Sunday at 8:30 am. Following the services we will divide the goodies and send them to our local responders. Cards will be set out in the upper level fellowship hall for you to create or sign and deliver.
  2. Volunteering a few hours at the Women's Resource Center Gold Mine North. Many of you have participated in this event for the last few years. We need volunteers of all ages and abilities...from weeding and cleaning windows and floors to sorting clothing and pricing items. Everyone can help here. Please sign up so that we know how many to accommodate and what you would prefer to do.
- ◇ Sunday, September 18th we will celebrate the International Day of Peace at both services. This is a day when we seek peace over violence and discover ways of solving issues using means of peace. We remember on this day all who are victims and survivors of acts of violence, from war to domestic violence, to bullying and crime against a person. We are God's hands doing God's work...Wear ORANGE on this day! ORANGE!!!! Orange is the international color to bring awareness against violence and means to bring about peace. The actual day of recognition is September 21<sup>st</sup>, so WEAR ORANGE again on that day as well!
- ◇ Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup> we will welcome the Rev. Dr. Niklaus C. Schillack, the Director and Church Relations for Samaritas (formerly known as Lutheran Social Services of Michigan). He will preach and teach us about Samaritas and their outreach in our community and beyond. Our noisy offering for the month of September goes to Samaritas to help with ministries from Adult care to People who are differently-abled and more. Let us Welcome Pastor Nick with a holy space!

The more hands, the less work.  
The more hands...the more blessings of God!

CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
GIFTS TO GOD FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD! 2017

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

**SERVICE ATTENDED**

\_\_\_ 1<sup>st</sup> service

\_\_\_ I follow the choir/chimes schedule

(in the summer I attend \_\_\_ 1<sup>st</sup> \_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup>)

\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> service

Months NOT available to volunteer: \_\_\_\_\_

**COFFEE HOUR**      \_\_\_ YES      \_\_\_ NO

(unless indicated, all member households will be placed on the volunteer schedule for coffee hour)

**WORSHIP** (Worship and Music)

\_\_\_ Acolyte (grades three until ... helps to serve communion, light candles...)

\_\_\_ Altar Care (sets up communion, banners, special services)

\_\_\_ Assisting Minister (leads prayers, distributes communion)

\_\_\_ Bake Communion Bread (*a month at a time*)

\_\_\_ Cantor (cants the psalm and different parts of the service)

\_\_\_ Greeter (first mark of discipleship as people enter! Hospitality!)

\_\_\_ Head Usher (Makes sure that all volunteers are present and finds replacements on Sunday morning, if necessary.)

\_\_\_ Lector (introduces and reads the lessons)

\_\_\_ Nursery attendant (must have babysitting certification if under 18!..only 2<sup>nd</sup> service)

\_\_\_ Offering Counter (at the end of 2<sup>nd</sup> service)

\_\_\_ Usher (give bulletins, collect offering, straighten sanctuary after service)

\_\_\_ Recycling (*weekly for a month at a time*, take recycling to the recycling center)

\_\_\_ Technology Assistant (run the power points and projector when needed during service)

**MUSIC** (Worship and Music)

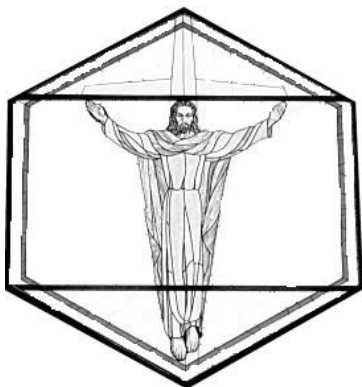
\_\_\_ Choir member

\_\_\_ Chimes member

\_\_\_ Special music/instrument? List: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Special vocal? (solos, duets, etc.)

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church  
1450 E. Mitchell  
Petoskey, MI 49770



***Empowered by the  
Grace of God to Love,  
Lead, and Serve***

**Check out [ELCA.ORG](http://ELCA.ORG) for updates on advocacy, worship,  
the Bishop's Letter, and other Church Wide information.**

**Youth Groups Contact: Pastor Sherry 347-5448**

**Elementary**

Date: 9/7

Time: after school/3:30 PM

Where: Pastor Sherry's house

We will meet to make cards and snacks for our First Responders. Snacks and materials will be provided...just need the youth group!!! Elementary Youth group is for all children in elementary school!

**Middle/Senior High**

Date: 9/14

Time: after school

Where: Bob-In

There is a possibility that we will have to move the meeting date if they do not have enough people to work. So stay tuned. We will focus on planning for the Youth Gathering in December as well as events throughout the school year...think about a tailgate party for a football game! Also we need to look at what we will be doing in February for World Hunger. Bring ideas and friends!