

Holy Crossings

Our Mission... to seek, share, and serve our Savior

October 2020

PRAISE THE LORD FOR THE MINISTRY OF THE LWML, SUNDAY OCTOBER 4

Friends in Christ, this month we give thanks to the Lord for a very wonderful ministry here at Holy Cross, the LWML! This Sunday we have the LWML's yearly congregation worship service and emphasis of women in ministry in our church body. The LWML stands for Lutheran Women's Missionary League. The women of our church and churches in the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod engage in helping with time, talents, and treasure in the mission fields in our communities, local cities, state, nation and around the world.



They also invite women for fellowship and Bible study quarterly or more often and have wonderful topical discussions on prayer, service, family, women of the Bible, etc... to bring women closer in Christ to each other to help each other in difficult times as well as celebrations of special things and events in each other's lives.

This Sunday many women and families in our church body will bring mite boxes (similar to a piggy bank for coins) that reminds us of the Gospel of Luke and Mark's Gospel of the widow who put in all she had (2 copper coins or mites) to the collection box outside of the temple in Jerusalem. Jesus commented on her offering saying, **"Truly I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all; for all these out of their abundance have put in offerings for God, but she out of her poverty put in all that livelihood that she had."** Luke 21:3-4

What an example of love for our Lord by this poor widow. We pray that we also may not withhold anything from our Lord that helps bring the Good News to others including our finances. The LWML purple mite boxes are a way to remind us to give all we have and not forget even small amounts are blessings when given from the heart. The mite boxes will be collected this Sunday at Holy Cross to fund mission work locally and around the world, helping support missionaries spreading the Gospel of Christ in areas in need of God's truth and saving hope and other vital mission needs.

Other areas that the LWML help serves is VBS support with teachers, craft leaders, song leaders, snack support, drama, and adopt a mission. The LWML have also helped when a member's loved one has passed on from this life to eternal life. Many women and families support with home meals for a week or two to support people to eat during a difficult time and provide a little joy and care. Also, a meal for the family/congregation after the funeral and cemetery services are hosted by some LWML groups. Visitation ministry of the elderly and shut-in bringing comfort to those who find their life changing is done by LWML members. Women of the LWML also participate with other sisters in Christ at different levels such as the Circuit, Region, District and National levels with worship, service projects, conferences, Bible studies, mission trips, medical trips, food preparation and donations. They also provide educational grants for Teachers, Deaconesses, D.C.E's, DE's Parish Music, Pastors, Lay Ministers, and short term missionary funding – sending missionaries having backgrounds from business, communications, construction, mechanics, nursing, and many other vocations needed in the mission field.

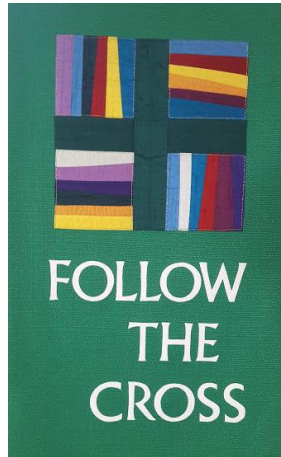
We give thanks always and in all ways for the support of our LWML in our church. On Sunday, please consider taking a new mite box or in coming weeks to begin helping support the mission work of the LWML in spreading the Good News of our Lord and Savior, Jesus. Once it is full it can be turned in monthly. *Blessings, Pastor Jim*



Who is "on call" 24 hours a day, seven days a week? Well, there's the obvious—parents. Then there's the not-so-obvious—your pastor. His office hours may be set days and times, but he doesn't clock out after that. Pastor Jobst's calendar is filled with shut-in visits, meetings, counseling, teaching, community-relationship building, and late-night phone calls. And his mind and heart hold the God-given weight of spiritual care for His people.

Lift Pastor Jobst up in prayer, ministry during COVID has not been easy. Ask him if he has any prayer requests. Treat him and Vivian to a meal out. Seek ways to get to know him outside of church. Did you know that back in June Pastor celebrated his 25th anniversary of being an ordained pastor! Now that is something to celebrate and thank the Lord for a faithful servant. And don't forget to show Pastor's wife a special measure of appreciation as well! Gifts, cards, flowers, a surprise corsage some Sunday morning or a cup of coffee with friends are all great ways to tell Vivian how much you care about her.

thank you 😊



October Sermon Themes

Oct. 4, 2020

LWML SUNDAY

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Theme: Eternal death warning becomes reality if rejection of God grace continues.

Text: Matthew 21:33-46

Oct 11, 2020

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Theme: The banqueting table is set! Inviting the lesser people when greater people are too pre-occupied.

Text: Matthew 22:1-14

Oct 18, 2020

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Theme: God's authority over all things, temporal and eternal. Give to Caesar what is Caesar but to God, what is God's.

Text: Matthew 22:15-22

Oct 25, 2020

Reformation Sunday

Theme: Trust in the Lord when chaos or reforming is happening.

Text: Psalm 46

Nov. 1, 2020

All Saints Day

Theme: The Hope of the Children of God is Jesus!

Text: 1 John 3:1-3

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

(alias: Sunday School/Bible Class)

Classes for Children and Youth are happening, in person, on Sunday mornings from 10:15-11 AM. Join us!



Sunday Schedule

9:00 AM
Traditional Worship
At Church
On Zoom

10:15 AM
Christian Education Hour &
Sunday School

LCMS Stewardship Ministry Newsletter Article – October 2020

We celebrate the Reformation at the end of each October. The Reformation began on All Saints' Eve in 1517, which was when Martin Luther posted the 95 Theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg. So, let's hear from Luther himself on the topic of giving and stewardship.

In the Small Catechism under the Table of Duties, Martin Luther gives specific Bible passages to help Christians know their duty in their various vocations as members of their family, society at large, and in God's family, the Church. Under the heading "What Hearers Owe Their Pastors," Luther lists five passages from the Bible, three of which have to do with giving to your local congregation. They are these:

- "The Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel." (1 Cor. 9:14)
- "Anyone who receives instruction in the word must share all good things with his instructor. Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows." (Gal. 6:6-7)
- "The elders [presbyters, i.e., pastors] who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially whose work is preaching and teaching. For the Scripture says, 'Do not muzzle the ox while it is treading out the grain,' and 'The worker deserves his wages.'" (1 Tim. 5:17-18)

Luther comments on these passages in his 1535 Lectures on Galatians. He wrote:

"When Paul says 'all good things,' this is not to be taken to mean that everyone should share all his possessions with his preacher. No, it means that he should provide for him liberally, giving him as much as is needed to support his life in comfort. ... The apostle is so serious in advocating this topic of support for preachers that he adds a threat to his denunciation and exhortation, saying: 'God is not mocked.' ... All this pertains to the topic of support for ministers. I do not like to interpret such passages; for they seem to commend us, as in fact they do. In addition, it gives the appearance of greed if one emphasizes these things diligently to one's hearers. Nevertheless, people should be taught also about this matter, in order that they may know that they owe both respect and support to their preachers. Christ teaches the same thing in Luke 10:7: 'Eating and drinking what they provide, for the laborer deserves his wages'; and Paul says elsewhere (1 Cor. 9:13-14): 'Do you not know that those who are employed in the temple service get their food from the temple, and those who serve at the altar share in the sacrificial offerings? In the same way the Lord commanded that those who proclaim the Gospel should get their living by the Gospel.' It is important for us who are in the ministry to know this, so that we do not have a bad conscience about accepting for our work wages ... it happens when those who proclaim the glory of God and faithfully instruct the youth derive their livelihood from them. It is impossible that one man should be devoted to household duties day and night for his support and at the same time pay attention to the study of Sacred Scripture, as the teaching ministry requires. Since God has commanded and instituted this, we should know that we may with a good conscience enjoy what is provided for the comfortable support of our lives from church properties to enable us to devote ourselves to our office." (LW 27:125-126)

CHURCH PLANNING TENTATIVE VOTERS MEETING OCTOBER 25 OR NOVEMBER 1

A voters meeting is being planned, Lord willing for the end of the month or the first Sunday of next month. Please look for information in the coming weeks from the church council meeting on ministry updates that will help us look at ministry needs and how to work together in Christian love and support during the continued challenges of Covid-19, Limits and Changes in our communities, homes, and lives.



AID ASSOCIATION
FOR LUTHERANS

Thrivent Helps Turn Ideas into Action

Many older Lutherans remember AAL, Aid Association for Lutherans. Members may remember having representatives in the congregation who coordinated funding for approved events, facilitated voting and even hosted Thrivent events, sometimes with giveaways for members. AAL eventually became Thrivent as we know it today. It is still a member-owned, fraternal benefit society. As such, it is required to carry out charitable activities for its members and the public. To enable its members to do this work, Thrivent offers each of its eligible members two Thrivent Action Team grants up to \$250 to fund a project. In the past, these have been used at Holy Cross to help with fundraisers for missions, garage sales, pizza for Christmas program fellowship and most recently, the Parking Lot Fellowship with treats from Edelweiss and Mums for Haiti. (Thrivent approved the seed money of \$250 which was used to help purchase mums, that were in turn sold at a retail price. Purchases and donations totaled \$1,260 which in turn was matched by Haiti Lutheran Mission Society with a final total of \$2,520—the result of an idea and \$250 seed money.) Members must apply for this money, and the process is relatively easy. Time is running out to apply for this year's funds.

Many members take advantage of this program and complete the requests for funds. Others do not use the funds for a variety of reasons. Bonnie Nowak has offered to compile a list of those members who have policies and would like to use their funds to support charitable work at Holy Cross. There are many opportunities coming up, including service projects for Sunday School. The Thrivent member would have to complete the application and dispense the funds which are given in a gift card. Bonnie would be happy to guide Thrivent members through this process. Also, Bonnie would like to maintain a list of project ideas that could be funded. Please email Bonnie at bonnienowak007@gmail.com or call her 952-406-0667 if you would like to add your name to the list of Thrivent members or if you have thoughts for future projects.

**Ideas
to
Action**

What is the LWML?

LWML stands for the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. The Lutheran Women's Missionary League is the official women's auxiliary of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS).

*It has as its "mission heart" thousands of volunteers who are daily dedicating their lives to making a difference in this world.

* It is also Lutheran Women in Mission, the dba ("doing business as") name adopted by the Board of Directors in January 1998.

* It is women who are finding avenues to use their God-given talents as they meet the challenges to share the Gospel message.

*It is composed of individual women and women's groups within congregations of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, on campuses, in resident homes, or in other settings.

* The LWML seeks to develop and maintain a greater mission consciousness among women of the LCMS through education, inspiration, and service.

For 75+ years a major emphasis has been the support of mission and ministry throughout the world by means of mite box offerings. These mite box offerings have funded tens of millions of dollars in mission grants since the organization's inception in 1942. Learn more about the mission grants and the LWML at lwml.org.

All women at Holy Cross are invited to attend any of our Bible studies, mission service activities or other gatherings. Our next time together will be a Bible Study at 6:30pm on Oct.13 at church. Sometimes you might hear us call it the Holy Cross Women's Ministry or LWML, it is one in the same. Watch for upcoming events and join us when you are able!