

Easter Message from the Pastor



It was nearly 30 years ago that I was blessed, as a college student preparing to enter seminary, to take a Holy Week pilgrimage to Jerusalem and the Holy Land. Highlights of the trip included a Palm Sunday procession along the route taken by Jesus, a Maundy Thursday service of Holy Communion at the Garden Tomb, and an Easter Sunrise Service on the Mount of Olives.

The most memorable experience was joining tens of thousands of other pilgrims from around the world on Good Friday, as we retraced the path which Jesus took carrying His cross to the place of crucifixion. His agonizing journey to Calvary was dramatically depicted several years ago in the movie "The Passion of the Christ." In Latin this route is called the "Via Dolorosa," which means "The Way of Sorrows."

Isaiah 53:3-7 says, "He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. . . Surely He took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows. We observed Him stricken by God, smitten by Him, and afflicted. He was pierced for our transgressions, He was

crushed for our iniquities. The punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, and by His wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way, and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. . . He was led like a lamb to the slaughter . . ."

Christ endured the torturous march on "The Way of Sorrows" for you. As Hebrews 10:10 says, "We have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." On account the suffering He endured as your substitute, your sins are all forgiven.

And there is another comforting message for you in Christ's agony on the "Via Dolorosa." Isaiah says He was "a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering." You know how your path through life in this world is so often your own personal "Via Dolorosa," your own personal way of sorrows—and God knows it too.

Your God understands your pain, because He came down to earth and was made man, and He Himself endured the ultimate way of sorrows. Compressed into His horrible journey to Calvary were all the pains, all the sufferings, all the sorrows of all humanity.

Hebrews 4:15 says that Jesus is able to "sympathize with us in our weaknesses" because He Himself was "tested in every way, just as we are." Your God is not some distant, nebulous Higher Power. In all your struggles, as you face your own personal "Via Dolorosa," your own way of sorrows in this life, He sympathizes, He understands, He knows your pain. As the old spiritual says, "Jesus walked this lonesome valley." He walked for you "The Way of Sorrows."

Pastor Kevin Vogts



Renown Lutheran artist Albrecht Dürer depicted the Resurrection of Christ in this 1511 woodcut.

NEW MEMBERS

**New Member
Sunday April 19**

On April 19 we will have a New Member Sunday to formally welcome about twenty new members for the first quarter of 2009. Following the service we will have a reception and

extended fellowship hour in the Gathering Room—with tables on the patio and the waterfall flowing, weather permitting. Anyone else interested in joining Holy Cross at this time, please contact Pastor Vogts.

Among those we will welcome into membership are Bobby and Rashell DeRocher and their daughter Taylor, who reside at 19504 C-60, Sioux City, IA, 51109, and Jim and Barbara Goede, who reside at 588 Sandstone Circle, Dakota Dunes, SD, 57049, (605) 540-0150. Welcome to the Holy Cross family of faith!

HOLY WEEK



Services for Maundy Thursday on April 9 and Good Friday on April 10 are at 7:00pm. The Maundy Thursday service will include Holy Communion and the message will be *“Given and Shed for You”* based on 1 Corinthians 11:23-25. For Good Friday we will meditate on *“His Pain—Our Gain”* based on Isaiah 53:4. Bring your family to meditate on our Savior’s sacrifice for your salvation.

Crossnotes

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You are invited to a Community Sunrise Service on Easter Sunday, April 12 at 7:00am. This simple service will feature the Easter story and favorite Easter hymns. A second Easter Service, with Holy Communion, will be held at the regular time of 9:15am. The sermon theme for both services will be *“Easter: Good News for You!”* based on Mark 16:1-8.

Easter Sunrise Service is one of the most moving and meaningful worship opportunities of the year. Bring your family and holiday guests to celebrate the real significance of Easter. This is a wonderful opportunity to invite family, friends, neighbors, etc.—everyone enjoys Easter Sunrise services!



Holy Cross is again sponsoring a Community Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 11 (day before Easter) at 10:30am on the church grounds.

Volunteers are needed to help on the day of this event, hiding eggs, distributing prizes, etc. Please sign up on the table in the Gathering Room to help with this outreach activity.

This event is for the entire community, and all children up to age 10 are welcome. Last year about 100 children and at least that many adults attended. This event is becoming a real community tradition. There will be plenty of eggs, prizes, snacks and an Easter video. Bring your children and grandchildren, invite your children’s friends and neighbor’s children.



Baptismal Window Donated

Our thanks to Darrel & Jacquleen Baker for donating the Baptismal Shell Window which will be above the “praying hands” slope to the east of the Altar. This donation will be approved by the Quarterly Business Meeting on April 19. It is hoped that this window and the companion Chalice Window on the west side of the Altar will be completed and installed later this summer.

Designed by Bovard Studies, Fairfield, Iowa, the Baptismal Shell Window features an ivory shell with three drops of water beneath to represent Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, in whose name we are baptized, and a blue background to symbolize the waters of Holy Baptism and tie into the blue background of the Altar Window.



As of February 29, 2009

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| Total Offerings Budgeted | |
| Year-to-Date | \$42,665 |
| Total Offerings Received | |
| Year-to-Date | \$35,955 |
| Total Budget Deficit | |
| Year-to-Date | (\$6,710) |



**Kansas City
Lutheran
Concert at
Holy Cross
April 24**

Holy Cross will host a Sioux City area concert of sacred music by the handbell and vocal choirs and band of Lutheran High School of Kansas City on Friday, April 24 at 7:00pm. Their Spring Tour will also take them to performances at LCMS congregations in Black Hawk and Rapid City, South Dakota, Omaha, Nebraska, and Concordia University, Seward, Nebraska.

The handbell choir is under the direction of Paul Meier, sister of Pastor Vogts. Previous members of this group have gone on to tour internationally with the Alleluia Ringers of Concordia University Wisconsin.

Plan now to bring your family to this uplifting concert!



**Housing and Meal
for Concert**

Prior to their performance at Holy Cross on April 24, Holy Cross Women In Mission will host the meal for the students of the band, vocal, and handbell choirs of Kansas City Lutheran High School and their adult chaperones.

There is a sign up sheet in the Gathering Room for donations of lasagna and desserts, as well as volunteers to help set up, serve, and clean up. The meal will be served at 5:00pm. Any food donations must be at the church by noon



**Community
Easter Sunrise Service**

Easter Sunday, April 12

Sunrise Service—7:00am
Second Easter Service with Holy Communion—9:15am

All Invited—Everyone Welcome!

of that day. For more information about the meal, please contact one of the Committee Members for this service project: Deb Stein, Janet Martin, and Terry Vogts.

Members of Holy Cross are also asked to host these high school students, in groups of two. Could you host two, four, six, or more students? We need spaces for 60 students as well as nine adults accompanying them, so this is a challenge for our congregation! You are also asked to give them breakfast Saturday morning and have them back to the church by 8:00am.

Sign up sheets are on the table in the Gathering Room. Please fill out and put in the box marked "Choir Hosts" which is also on the table in the Gathering Room. If you are unable to host them in your home there is also an option of providing rooms at the Country Inn in Dakota Dunes for the special rate of \$45. You would pay the church and the church will pay for all rooms that are donated. For more information about housing, contact Pastor Vogts.



We list members' birthdays and anniversaries in the newsletter each month and the bulletin each week. However, our records are not complete. If your information is missing or inaccurate, please accept our apologies and notify the church office at 232-9117 or email holycross@longlines.com.

- Todd Peters, April 2
- Kevin Hamilton, April 5
- Jeri Melstad, April 6
- Andy Winborn, April 8
- Chance Feese, April 10
- A.J. Michels, April 14
- Nyla Hamm, April 15
- Pastor Kevin Vogts, April 17
- John Isley, April 22
- Elaine Van Ackeren, April 23

Gary Gunderson, April 26
Lauren Winborn, April 26

Jim & Barbara Goede
April 17, 1982

Les & Vickie Britson
April, 19. 1980

Todd & Jill Peters
April 21, 2001



The congregation's next Quarterly Business Meeting will be Sunday, April 19 at 11:00am. That is New Member Sunday with a reception and extended fellowship hour following the service, and the meeting will be after the reception. There will not be Adult Bible Class that Sunday.

All adult members are automatically voting members. You are urged to come and help administer the business of our congregation.



Our congregation has designated a tithe of 10% of our general offerings to support the work of our District and Synod. Each month we remember in prayer in our worship services specific missionaries around the world who are supported in this way by our congregation.

April 5
Megan Birney
Togo

April 12
Rev. Craig Molitoris
Hong Kong

April 19
Marat and Amy Kashenov
Kazakhstan

April 26
James and Christel Neuendorf
Panama



April Elders Meeting
April 9, 8:00pm

Elders for April
Earl Biggers & Rob Finkral

Ushers for April
Doug Martin & Kendall Martin

Chancel Care for April
Jeri Melstad

Junior Ushers for April
April 5 (Palm Sunday) ... Trevor Vilhauer
April 12 (Easter Sunday) ... Jacob Vogts
April 19 Zhahn Bose
April 26 Kendall Martin

Crucifers for April
April 1 (Lent) Dylan Sawyer
April 5 (Palm Sunday) Myron Bose
April 9 (Maundy Thurs.) Dylan Sawyer
April 10 (Good Friday) Myron Bose
April 12 (Easter Sunrise) Sarah Vogts
April 12 (Easter) Kylie Martin
April 15 (Vespers) Dylan Sawyer
April 19 Myron Bose
April 22 (Vespers) Kylie Martin
April 26 Dylan Sawyer
April 29 Sarah Vogts

Acolytes for April
April 1 (Lent) Emily Steemken
April 5 (Palm Sunday) Kasey Michels
April 9 (Maundy Thurs) Ashley Bargstadt
April 10 (Good Friday) Jace Waybright
April 12 (Easter Sunrise) Sarah Vogts
April 12 (Easter) Megan Winborn
April 15 (Vespers) Claire Johnson
April 19 Tiara Selby
April 22 (Vespers) Megan Winborn
April 26 Ashley Bargstadt
April 29 (Vespers) Emily Steemken



The new flower calendar for 2009 is on the table in the Gathering Room. Occasions to remember include anniversaries, birthdays, in memory of loved ones, etc. Flowers may be obtained anywhere and you may provide your own vase or use one of the assortment in the Coffee Bar.

March 1
Ryan & Angela Dial
Wedding Anniversary

March 8
Darrel & Jacquleen Baker
35th Wedding Anniversary

March 22
Jane Michels
T.J.'s Birthday

April 5
Rev. Kevin & Terese Vogts
Birthday of Kevin's Father Leroy Vogts

April 12
Rev. Kevin & Terese Vogts
Kevin's Birthday

April 19
Les & Vickie Britson
29th Wedding Anniversary

May 3
Patrick & Denise Honner
Eli's Birthday

South Dakota District Convention April 29-May 2

The South Dakota District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod will hold its 58th District Convention at the Sioux Falls Convention Center from April 29 thru May 2 under the theme "Called

Into Partnership," based on Philippians 1:3-6.

District conventions are currently held every three years. The main business is consideration of resolutions submitted by congregations and election of District officers. Each congregation in the District is represented by its pastor and a layperson. Our congregation's delegates are Pastor Vogts and Jeri Melstad.

The convention will open with a service of Holy Communion on Wednesday, April 29, at 4:00pm at Resurrection Lutheran Church, 5500 West 26th Street, Sioux Falls. Business sessions will be held at the Convention Center on Thursday from 9:30am-9:00pm, Friday from 8:00am-6:00pm, and Saturday from 8:00am-10:00am.

During Thursday and Friday there will also be an extensive display of exhibitors sharing their work from around the Synod, and a large on-site convention store by Concordia Publishing House, with special convention pricing.

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend the opening service and to drop by "your" District convention!



Lilies for Easter

Although the deadline has passed to order Easter Lilies through the church, you are still *welcome* to bring your own plants, if you wish to purchase them elsewhere or receive them as gifts. Please still sign up on the table in the Gathering Room, indicating whom your plants are in memory or honor, and noting that you are bringing your own

COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT



Saturday, April 11 • 10:30am

On Church Grounds

Up to Age 10 • Plenty of Eggs!

Prizes • Snacks • Easter Video

All Children Invited—Non-Members Welcome!

No Charges or Fees

plants. You can drop them by the church during Holy Week and leave them in the kitchen.

A complete list of Easter Lily donations will be included in the May newsletter.



God's Grace in Galatians

We are currently studying "God's Grace in Galatians" in Adult Bible Class. Martin Luther says, *"In Galatians, St. Paul shows that the law brings sin and a curse rather than righteousness. Righteousness is promised by God, fulfilled by Christ without the law, given to us—out of grace alone."*

Join in Sundays at 10:30am in the Fellowship Hall to learn more about "God's Grace in Galatians."



Lutheran Lecture Series April 25

You are invited to a *free* lecture series featuring four interesting Lutheran speakers. The *Lutheran Lecture Series—Midwest* will be held on Saturday, April 25 at Trinity Lutheran Church, Marcus, Iowa.

This year's topic is, "Reason for Hope: The Lutheran's Defense in the Battle for Our Minds, Bodies, and Souls."

Dr. John Nordling, Professor at Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, Indiana, will speak on, "The Paideia of the Lord: Teaching the Person, Not Just the Mind."

Rev. Sean Smallwood, Pastor of Lamb of God Lutheran Church, Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin, will speak on "The Triangular Shape of Lutheran Catechesis: Scripture, Catechism, and Hymnal."

Rev. Joel Brondos, headmaster of St. Paul Lutheran School, Brookfield, Illinois, will speak on "Back to the Source: A Truly Lutheran Education Is a Classical Education."

Rev. Scot Kinnaman, Senior Editor for Periodicals and Consumer Books at Concordia Publishing House, will speak on "Lutherans at Prayer: Robust Theological Study Begats a Robust Life of Prayer."

Registration, coffee and donuts begins at 9:00am. The formal activities start at 9:45am and will continue until 11:45am when everyone will break for lunch, which will be provided by the host congregation's youth group. The afternoon's lectures will begin at 1:00pm and finish by 3:30pm. A short service of Vespers will follow, and the day's activities will conclude by 4:00pm.

This is a great chance to hear some interesting Lutheran speakers close to home, and there is no charge.

From the south edge of Marcus, Trinity Lutheran Church is four miles south of the intersection of Highway 3 and 143 (Marcus Junction Cafe on corner) and then turn west on C-38 and go one mile.

If you plan to attend please email Jon Dorr (jdorr@midlands.net). You can also speak with Jon for more information.



The next meeting for Holy Cross Women in Mission will be Wednesday, April 8, at 9:00am in the Gathering Room.

Our special program that day is called S.T.A.R.S (Special Troopers Adaptive Riding School). This organization provides therapeutic dog and riding classes to persons with disabilities. We would like a good attendance. Please be prompt. All are welcome. April Chancel Committee is Jeri Melstad, and April Hostess is Janet Martin.



Please mark your calendars for June 1-5 (9:00am-11:30am) and come along "On a Journey with Jesus." Those children 3 years of age to those that just completed 4th Grade are encouraged to attend. Sign up sheets and PreRegistration forms can be found in the Gathering Room. We are looking for volunteers as well. Please contact Angela Dial for further information.



by Shauen and Krista Trump
LCMS Missionaries in Uganda

Less than a year ago, we wouldn't even have considered a trip into Gulu in the war-torn north of Uganda. This region has suffered 35 years of turmoil and instability with an ongoing conflict perpetuated by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) which is infamous worldwide for conscripting child soldiers and committing horrible atrocities against civilians-especially women and children. A year ago, the leader of the LRA was still a strong threat in this area, with vehicles traveling only in convoy and only during daylight hours. Today, the first taste of peace has come to parts of Northern Uganda and, at the same time,

the Lutheran Church Mission Uganda (LCMU) has also come with a message of hope in the Gospel. During our visit to Gulu this past week, we were blessed to meet with the members of the newest congregation in the LCMU—the 64th congregation!



We accompanied fellow missionary Rev. Jacob Gillard, President Noah Isanga of the LCMU, and Rev. Charles Bameka, the senior (only) pastor of the LCMU, to visit this young congregation. The Holy Spirit raised up this church through the work of a seminary student home for the November-January school break. This young church meets in a half-built school. We felt privileged to be able to greet these brothers and sisters and see in them the new life God has brought into this area of suffering and struggle.

Driving south from Gulu, we came to Lira, where the LCMU has been working almost since its beginning and now has four congregations. As our truck pulled up to these congregations, we were greeted with singing and dancing—warm expressions of joy at our arrival. Rev. Jacob was asked to conduct two baptisms and to confirm more than 15 people in a special worship service planned for our visit! This congregation has recently moved from their meeting place under a mango tree to a basic structure that provides some shade from the sun and they have just been granted a piece of land adjacent to their original mango tree to construct a more permanent structure. After baptizing, preaching, and confirming, this congregation gave Rev. Jacob a local name, Okello, which means "The one who brings." Krista was given the female version of the same name, Akello, since she brought me, Shauen!













HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

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 Rev. Kevin D. Vogts, Pastor
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2009

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|------------------|--|---|--|---|
| <p><i>A</i>lmighty God, by the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, You destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light. Grant that we who have been raised with Him may abide in His presence and rejoice in the hope of eternal glory; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (Collect for Wednesday after Easter)</p> | | | <p>1 6:15pm Midweek School 7:00pm Lent Service 7:30pm Board of Education</p> | <p>2</p> <p>Church Office Hours Tuesday-Friday 9:00am-11:00am</p> <p><i>Todd Peters</i></p> | <p>3</p> | <p>4</p>  |
| <p>5 8:45am Choir Warm-Up 9:15am Worship with Holy Communion 10:30am Sunday School & Bible Class</p> <p><i>Kevin Hamilton</i></p> | <p>Palm Sunday 6</p>  <p><i>Jeri Melstad</i></p> | <p>7</p> | <p>8 9:00am Women in Mission</p>  <p><i>Andy Winborn</i></p> | <p>9 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Service 8:00pm Board of Elders</p> <p>MAUNDY THURSDAY</p> | <p>10 7:00pm Good Friday Service</p>  <p><i>Chance Feese</i></p> | <p>11 10:30am Easter Egg Hunt</p>  |
| <p>12 7:00am Sunrise Service 9:15am Worship with Holy Communion</p>  <p><i>A.J. Michels</i></p> | <p>Easter Sunday 13</p>  | <p>14</p> | <p>15 6:15pm Midweek School 7:00pm Midweek Vespers</p> <p><i>Nyla Hamm</i></p> | <p>16</p>  <p>Newsletter Deadline</p> <p><i>Pastor Vogts Jim & Barbara Goede</i></p> | <p>17</p> | <p>18</p> |
| <p>19 9:15am Worship with Holy Communion 10:15am New Member Reception 10:30am Sunday School 11:00am Quarterly Business Meeting</p> <p><i>Les & Vickie Britson</i></p> | <p>2nd Sunday of Easter 20</p>  | <p>21</p> | <p>22 6:15pm Midweek School 7:00pm Midweek Vespers</p> <p><i>John Isley</i></p> | <p>23</p> <p><i>Elaine Van Ackeren</i></p> | <p>24 7:00pm Kansas City Lutheran High Concert at Holy Cross</p>  <p><i>St. Mark, Evangelist</i></p> | <p>25</p> |
| <p>26 9:15am Worship with Holy Communion 10:30am Sunday School & Bible Class 11:30am Choir Rehearsal</p> <p><i>Gary Gunderson, Lauren Winborn</i></p> | <p>3rd Sunday of Easter 27</p> | <p>28</p> | <p>29 6:15pm Midweek School 7:00pm Midweek Vespers</p> <p>South Dakota District Convention Sioux Falls April 29-May 2</p> | <p>30</p> | <p>Preschool Schedule Monday-Friday, 8:30am-11:15am Chapel Wednesdays 9:00am</p> <p>After School Care Monday-Friday, 3:15pm-6:00pm <i>Both Follow Dakota Valley Calendar</i></p> | |

Deadline for Calendar Submissions or Changes is the 15th of the Prior Month
 Email to holycross@longlines.com or Leave Voicemail Message at Church Office
 This Calendar May Not Reflect Late Submissions or Changes



Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 11

10:30am

On Church Grounds

Up to Age 10

All Children Invited!

Non-Members Welcome!

No Charges or Fees

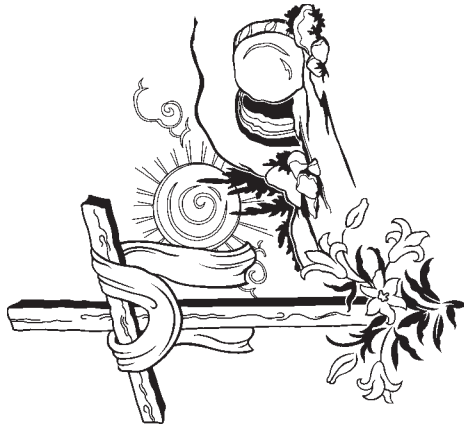


Community Sunrise Service

Easter Sunday, April 12
7:00am

Second Easter Service
9:15am

Both Services at Holy Cross



All Invited—Everyone Welcome!

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Dakota Dunes Boulevard & Bison Trail

For More Information Call 232-9117