

Where You Meet Your Savior and Find a Friend

# NEWS & NOTES

Sunday Worship - 9:00 a.m.  
Monday Worship - 7:00 p.m.

[www.portagelutheranchurch.org](http://www.portagelutheranchurch.org)  
[crossofchristportage@hotmail.com](mailto:crossofchristportage@hotmail.com)



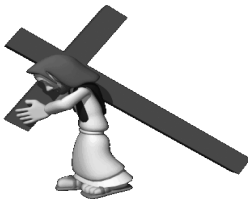
Church: (608) 742-5609  
Pastor Scott Schultz: (608) 617-8409

# MARCH 2021

## ISSUE

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### My Daily Walk With God

Mar.	1	Leviticus 9:23 - 12
	2	Leviticus 13 - 14:32
	3	Leviticus 14:33 - 16
	4	Leviticus 17 - 19
	5	Leviticus 20 - 22
	6	Leviticus 23 - 25:22
	7	Leviticus 25:23 - 26; Ps. 38
	8	Leviticus 27; Psalm 66, 143
	9	Galatians 1 - 3
	10	Galatians 4 - 6
	11	Num. 1:1-27; Prov. 1 - 2
	12	Num. 1:28-54; Prov. 3 - 4
	13	Num. 2; Prov. 5 - 6
	14	Num. 3:1-13; Prov. 7 - 9
	15	Num. 3:14-39; Prov. 10 - 11
	16	Numbers 3:40-51; Proverbs 12 - 14:20
	17	Numbers 4:1-20; Proverbs 14:21 - 16:19
	18	Numbers 4:21-49; Proverbs 16:20 - 18:15
	19	Num. 5; Prov. 18:16 - 20:19
	20	Num. 6; Prov. 20:20 - 22:16
	21	Numbers 7:1-23; Proverbs 22:17 - 24:22
	22	Numbers 7:24-53; Proverbs 24:23 - 26:20
	23	Numbers 7:54-77; Proverbs 26:21 - 28
	24	Num. 7:78 - 8; Prov. 29, 30
	25	Numbers 9, 10; Proverbs 31
	26	Numbers 11 - 13
	27	Numbers 14 - 15
	28	Numbers 16; Psalm 58, 75
	29	Numbers 17, 18; Psalm 106
	30	Numbers 19 - 21
	31	Numbers 22 - 24



### **“We Can Be Certain Jesus Is Our Savior” How Can We Be Certain Jesus Wasn't A Raving Mad Lunatic?**

If someone appeared on television and claimed he is the one and only true god whom all people must believe in and worship, most people would think he was a raving mad lunatic. As Christians we know he wouldn't be because he is not the Triune God. Most people from other religions wouldn't believe he was their god either because he wouldn't act like them. However, there may be some people who would believe he was god. In a similar way, when Jesus was alive on this earth, he claimed he was the one and only true God even though he looked and acted like a normal human being. We Christians believe he really was. However, there are many people of today and even during Jesus' day who think he was a raving mad lunatic for claiming this. For example, after Jesus claimed to be the Good Shepherd, the Jews said in John 10:20, "He is demon-possessed and raving mad. Why listen to him?" But was Jesus really a raving mad lunatic?

In this monthly article entitled, "Questions About Christianity", we answer questions people have about Christianity. Our current topic is entitled, "We Can Be Certain Jesus Is Our Savior." In this month's article, we will learn why we can be certain Jesus wasn't a raving mad lunatic by answering this question, "How can we be certain Jesus wasn't a raving mad lunatic?"

There are two main reasons we can be certain Jesus is really God and not a raving mad lunatic. The first reason is he didn't act like he was a raving mad lunatic. When psychologists look at people who would clinically be considered raving mad, they look at more than what a person says. They look to see if a person expresses inappropriate emotions such as being inappropriately depressed, being vehemently angry, and being plagued with anxiety. They look to see if a person is out of contact with reality such as claiming people wronged him when they didn't or seeing things that aren't really there. They look to see if a person has a thinking disorder where he cannot think rationally. They also look to see if a person shows any signs of mental disturbances unsuitable for human beings such as being oddly dressed or being unable to relate socially to others. However, when we look at Jesus' life in the books of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John Jesus clearly did not act like this in any way. He dressed and acted like the people of his day. He showed appropriate emotions, such as when he cried when his friend Lazarus died. He was definitely aware of what was going on around him. He knew when the Jewish leaders tried to trick him, and he often spoke about his upcoming suffering and death on the cross.

The second main reason we can be certain Jesus is God is because he proved it time and time again. Day after day during Jesus' 3-year earthly ministry, Jesus performed a countless number of miracles. He raised the dead. He healed the sick. He cast out demons. He calmed a storm. He shone bright like the sun on top of the Mount of Transfiguration. At Jesus' baptism, on the Mount of Transfiguration, and during holy week, God the Father spoke from heaven and said he was his Son.

When we look at what the Bible says about Jesus, it is clear Jesus was not a raving mad lunatic as some claim he was. He truly is our God. This is because he needed to be to live a sinless life, to suffer and die for our sins on the cross, and to rise to life so all of our sins are now forgiven and so everyone who believes in him as their God and Savior will receive eternal life in heaven. That is why we can be certain Jesus really is our God and Savior.

## Lenten Worship Services Schedule

The theme for this year's midweek Lenten worship services is, "The Hands of the Passion". Here is the service schedule:



Wednesday, March 3	7:00 p.m.	
Wednesday, March 10	7:00 p.m.	
Wednesday, March 17	7:00 p.m.	
Wednesday, March 24	7:00 p.m.	
Thursday, April 1	7:00 p.m.	Maundy Thursday
Friday, April 2	3:00 p.m.	Good Friday
Friday, April 2	7:00 p.m.	Good Friday Tenebrae

Cross of Christ also has worship services on Sunday at 9:00 am and Monday evening at 7:00 p.m. We hope you come and join us!

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## Martin Luther College Holy Week Devotions

As you prepare for Holy Week, Martin Luther College is once again providing a devotional resource for you and others you know. These devotions will be available at <https://mlc-wels.edu/publications/seasonal-devotions> beginning on March 17.

Titled "**My Song is Love Unknown**," these eight Holy Week devotions will lead you deeper into the truths of Jesus' love for us through the poetry, imagery, and music of Lent and Easter hymns.

Links embedded in the devotions will allow you to hear the hymns performed by MLC College Choir, College Chorale, Women's Choir, Männerchor, Hosanna Ringers, and Wind Symphony.

Because of the hymn recordings, Martin Luther College is offering this series **online only**, but in several formats:

- Read them online
- Download the series as a PDF.
- Listen to podcasts online.
- Request that they send them to your personal email on a daily basis, March 28-April 4.

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## Thank You

Marian Kreitzman sent Cross of Christ a thank you for the Christmas gift bag she received. Cross of Christ also received thank yous for the children's valentines.

## **Stay Connected**

Finally, as we continue to live in these trying times, the Cross of Christ Church Council will continue to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic to see when things can get back to normal at church or if any further changes are needed. For this reason, stay connected to Cross of Christ on the church website, Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter to get important updates about worship services and other news and events. Regardless when things get back to normal, find comfort in your risen and ascended Savior Jesus who has forgiven your sins and who uses his almighty power to rule all things for the good of his people so we can one day join him in heaven. There we will all gather together and worship him in his presence safe and healthy forever.

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## **What Are You Reading?**

Last year we needed to stay home more than normal because of COVID-19. Many people used this time to catch up on their reading. If you have a book you would recommend for Cross of Christ's church library, please let Sandy Beimborn know.

Make sure to check out the books already in the church library. There is the new Evangelical Heritage Version (EHV) Bible. There are also books on the books of the Bible, the life of Martin Luther, devotions, family life issues, and much more! The church library has many good books just waiting to be checked out.

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## **Lutheran Women's Missionary Society Rally**

The Lutheran Women's Missionary Society (LWMS) Beaver Dam Circuit Spring Rally has been cancelled due to COVID-19. However, WELS missions still need to be supported. During the month of March, Cross of Christ will take a collection for the Beaver Dam Circuit's Home and World Missions. Cross of Christ will also collect money for the Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary's food pantry. Please place your offering in your offering envelope and mark it "BD Circuit Mission or Food Pantry".

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## **Camp Phillip Early Registration**

If you are interested in sending your child or grandchild to Camp Phillip this coming summer, you can find information on their website [www.campphillip.com](http://www.campphillip.com). You can also talk to Tim Scharenbroch.

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## **Time Change: Leap Forward!**

Don't forget to set your clocks ahead on Sunday, March 14 for the start of Daylight Savings Time.

## School Calendars

# St. John's Lutheran School

505 E. LaFollette St. (608) 429-3636  
 Pardeeville WI 53954  
[www.stjohnspardeeville.org](http://www.stjohnspardeeville.org)



MARCH EVENTS	
March 5	Half Day of School
March 26	End of third quarter
March 29-April 5	No School-Spring Break/Holy Week/Easter



231 Woodland Beach Rd.  
 Lake Mills WI  
 (920) 648-2321 [www.llhs.org](http://www.llhs.org)

MARCH EVENTS	
March 1	Financial aid Forms Due for 2021-22
March 7, 12:30 pm	FFA Banquet
March 15-17	K-8 Tech Ed Makers Camp
March 14 - 20	Spring Break
March 28	Palm Sunday

## Tuition Assistance Fund

In order to assist parents in sending their child(ren) to one of these schools or another WELS school, Cross of Christ has established a Tuition Assistance Fund. The goal of this fund is to give \$125.00 per child a month for 10 months each school year to the school their (child)ren are attending for their tuition. If you would like to receive assistance from this fund, talk to the Education Chairman. If you would like to contribute to this fund at any time, please mark on the front of your weekly offering envelope how much you want designated to go to this fund.



## A Heart at Peace Biblical Strategies for Christians in Conflict



### Easter Triumph, Easter Joy Devotions for the Easter Season

Turn your heart and mind to the victorious resurrection of Jesus! *Easter Triumph, Easter Joy* is a collection of 56 adult devotions for Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter based on classic Bible texts. It focuses on the scriptural truths of Easter morning and the empty tomb—not just on the truths of Lent.

As you read *Easter Triumph, Easter Joy* this season, you will be reminded that Jesus' triumph over death grants believers eternal joy, completing the promise of salvation.

Devotional topics:

- Our Priceless King
- Easter Answers for Life and Death Questions
- What Difference This Day Makes
- Jesus Is the King of Life
- Songs of Sweet Jubilation
- The Blessings Easter Brings
- More Convinced Than Ever
- Jesus—Alive and Well

OL-0600754

\$12.99

You can place your order by visiting [www.nph.net](http://www.nph.net) or call Northwestern Publishing House at 1-800-662-6022.

### WELS Websites

[www.wels.net](http://www.wels.net)

*The website for the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.*

[www.nph.net](http://www.nph.net)

*Northwestern Publishing House's website that sells religious materials.*

[Forwardinchrist.net](http://Forwardinchrist.net)

*The website for the WELS magazine Forward In Christ.*

[www.whataboutjesus.com](http://www.whataboutjesus.com)

*Learn more about Jesus, the Bible, how to deal with social concerns, etc.*

[www.christianliferesources.com](http://www.christianliferesources.com)

*Stay up-to-date with important life issues and get answers to difficult ethical questions.*

[www.lwms.org](http://www.lwms.org)

*The website for the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society.*

[www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com)

*A search engine (comparable to Google or Yahoo) that donates money to the Wisconsin Synod when it is used.*

## **Church Council February Meeting Recap**

At their February meeting, the Church Council decided to meet with the WELS ministry called Grace In Action to discuss how they can help Cross of Christ with their mission and vision statements, and the building program. They also decided to continue with the current COVID-19 safety protocols.

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## **Evangelism Committee February Meeting Recap**

*Current Members: Chairman Joshua Veglahn, Don Graham, Sarah Hochmuth, Dave Kreklow*

At their February meeting, the Evangelism Committee met with a WELS woman over Zoom about the changes she made to the new church website. They also decided to promote the Easter Sunday worship services.

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## **Fellowship Committee February Recap**

*Current Members: Chairman Joshua Veglahn, Sandy Beimborn, Vi Burmeister, Joan Klappstein, Judy Trebatoski, Johanna Veglahn.*

- Fellowship Groups possibly will be serving meals after Easter, depending on the Covid-19 situation.
- There will be no Wednesday evening Lenten meals.
- There will be no Sunday fellowship snacks until after Easter.
- The Fish Fry will be held later.
- On February 7, children in Sunday School made Valentine cards for their families, shut-ins and missionaries. The cards were mailed out.
- On February 14 children in Sunday School decorated cookies and made valentine boxes.
- The next meeting will be on March 14 following the Sunday Bible Study.
- Anyone interested in serving on the Fellowship committee should speak to Joshua Veglahn.
- Anyone interested in being on one of four Fellowship Groups for serving meals should speak to Sandra Beimborn.



## **Stewardship Committee February Recap**

*Current Members: Chairman Scott Crosby, William Beiborn, Bonnie Dorniak, Dan Heckmann*

The Stewardship Committee did not meet in February because of bad weather. However, they did email Cross of Christ members the 10 For 10 Stewardship program final letter. March's Scrip orders are due on March 14.

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## **Cross of Christ Ladies' February Recap**

*Officers: Joan Klappstein, Sandra Beiborn, Jill Schultz, Judy Trebatoski, LWMS Reporter: Sandra Beiborn*

At the Cross of Christ Ladies' February gathering, Pastor Schultz led a Bible Study called, "Bible Basics". They went through chapter 3 called, "The Story of the Old Testament." The Cross of Christ Ladies' will continue this Bible Study at their April gathering. After the Bible study, the ladies discussed making hanging decorated eggs at their March gathering to put in Easter baskets to give to Cross of Christ's shut-in members.

Sandra Beiborn reported Lutheran Women's Missionary Society (LWMS) Beaver Dam Circuit officers' meeting was held at Friedens, in Randolph, on January 30. They decided not to have their spring rally due to COVID-19 concerns. She discussed the new Befriend a Mission assignments, and the donations for the Beaver Dam Circuit's Missions will be due at the March meeting. Refreshments were enjoyed. Refreshments for the March meeting will be provided by Joan Klappstein.

## **Missions**

Cross of Christ's "Befriend A Mission" Home Mission churches:

Good News Ev. Lutheran Church  
Mt. Horeb, WI.  
Rev. Jonathan Bauer

Mount Lebanon Ev. Lutheran Church  
Milwaukee, WI  
Rev., Nathanael Bourman

Cross of Christ's "Befriend A Mission" World Mission is the same as last's years. Information for this mission is available at church. As we get more details, we will keep the congregation updated.

## **New Members**

We welcome Troy and Angie Haase and their daughter, Tianna Jackson, into membership by transfer from Faith Ev. Lutheran Church in Fond du Lac, WI. Please introduce yourself to them and make them feel a part of the Cross of Christ family.

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### **Shut-Ins**

Elmer Glaeske	Lois Plath
Marian Kreitzman	Norman Stump
Margery McCluskey	Lisa Vahradian
Julie Moran	Audrey Zunker

Even though these members are unable to come to regular worship services, please continue to keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

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### **Cross of Christ Church Council Members**

Dan Heckmann	President & Financial Secretary	(920) 992-5692
Matthew Buchholz	Secretary/ Education Comm. Chairman	(608) 354 - 8708
William Eckert	Treasurer	(608 )742-2547
Chase Spillner	Elders' & Worship Comm. Chairman	(608) 408 - 7105
Joshua Veglahn	Evangelism / Outreach & Fellowship Comm. Chairman	(608) 697 - 6526
Tim Scharenbroch	Property Comm. Chairman	(608) 742 - 2421
Scott Crosby	Stewardship Chairman	(414 ) 791 - 2567

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### **Questions or Concerns?**

If anyone has questions, concerns, or comments about our church, please feel free to talk to someone on the Church Council because God has provided these men to assist you.

## Thankful Giving Opportunities

In 1 Corinthians 16:2 God encourages believers to give their first fruits as offerings in church in proportion to their income. Believers do this to thank God for what he did for them and to support the gospel ministry.

Cross of Christ encourages all of its members to give their offerings for these reasons. It also offers other programs for its members to give to the church above and beyond their offerings, which do not support our church's budget.

**SCRIP:** We offer a SCRIP program where members can buy gift cards for many different stores. A percentage of the money our members pay is given to the church. SCRIP deadline is always the second Sunday of the month. Order forms are available at church in the mailbox labeled SCRIP. If you need help, talk to Jeannine Heckmann.

**NPH Extra Rewards Program:** One of the ways Northwestern Publishing House (NPH) can support the ministry of Cross of Christ is through the EXTRA Rewards Program. EXTRA allows NPH customers to contribute a portion of their purchases to a church or school of their choice. If you have not already, we encourage you to sign up for EXTRA. This program is **free!** For more information visit [www.nph.net](http://www.nph.net) or call Northwestern Publishing House at 1-800-662-6022. Then, when ordering online, your EXTRA Rewards card number will be applied automatically. When purchasing by phone, simply give your customer service representative your EXTRA Rewards card number.

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## Newsletter

Cross of Christ's News & Notes monthly newsletter will be mailed by the Sunday before the first of the month. If you have an article, meeting recap, note, or flier for publication, please either email your newsletter item to [crossofchristportage@hotmail.com](mailto:crossofchristportage@hotmail.com) or place it in Sandra Beimborn's mailbox by **March 15, 2021**.



**If you do not wish to continue receiving this newsletter, please e-mail Cross of Christ at [crossofchristportage@hotmail.com](mailto:crossofchristportage@hotmail.com) or call the church office at (608)742-5609 and leave a message. Thank you!**

**Cross of Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church  
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