



RESURRECTION REFLECTIONS

Volume 2, Issue 3

December 2010

OUR MISSION

Live the Faith! Lift High the Cross!

OUR VISION

We will grow in faith and numbers by seeing Christ in one another in all we say and do!

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Spotlight On Pastor Larry Cross

Meet Pr. Cross, who came to Resurrection in September as our interim pastor. Born and raised in Haddam, KS where his great-great grandparents homesteaded, Pr. Cross was the first born of two sons. Growing up in a



small town, pass times were outdoor games, fishing, and ball teams. Some favorite activities became lifelong pleasures: reading, gardening and being with people—made easy by his great sense of humor which he says is inherited from his dad. As high school valedictorian, he earned a scholarship to Bethany College, Lindsborg. There he joined the Lutheran church and led the student vespers. While teaching grade school in St. Francis, KS, Janis Prather came into his life. Married August 19, 1966, Pastor and Janis have 2 daughters and 6 grandchildren.

In describing how he was led into 'ministry front lines', Pastor Cross cites people, activities and God given gifts. Bethany professor, Stan Swanson and Pastor Don Conrad of Messiah Lutheran Church, in Lindsborg, both recognized gifts pointing to service as a pastor. He realized that being youth leader at church was more fun than teaching public school---even with the same school kids. Pastor Cross was ordained in 1968,

has served four parishes and now Resurrection is his 2nd interim position.

Asked to name his favorites, Pastor Cross listed preaching first, followed by teaching adults. His most encouraging Bible verse is Ephesians 4:11-12, defining how he sees ministry. "Crown Him with Many Crowns" tops his 'all-time list of favorite hymns'. Pastor Cross chose Lent as his most meaningful church season with an emphasis on John 3:16. Lent is a time of reflection and renewal while deepening a walk with Christ.

What's on our pastor's bucket list? A trip to Luther Land in Germany. Join Pastor Cross anywhere, anytime you can. You will have a fun time and be surprised how much you learn!

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Farewell, Pastor Hallstrom

After serving as Interim Pastor for one year, Pastor Hallstrom was called to serve as Interim Pastor for Christ Lutheran Church in Wichita. We do wish him well and we thank him for his service and leadership as we work to call a full time pastor.



A Word from Interim Pastor Cross

I began my duties as interim pastor on October 16th, 2010. It's hard to believe that as of this writing, I have been with you over two months. During this time of becoming familiar with the congregation, the order of worship, the calendar of church activities, committee functions, etc., I have met a congregation of active, committed, enthusiastic and dedicated people who love their Lord and their church. It has been a real joy and privilege to be in your midst and serve you as interim pastor.

We have seen and experienced the change of season as Fall gave way to Winter and the Pentecost Season gave way to Advent. Some of you may prefer one season over another but for me I like the changes that take place in between as we progress from to another. Some people just hate to see winter approach and others hide indoors in air-conditioned comfort almost all summer. We each seem to have our preferences.

The funny thing about the change of our seasons is that we cannot stop it or reverse it. Once God puts nature into motion, a great symphony erupts all around us. Every living creature is busy in preparation for the changes to come.

The same thing happens when we concentrate on deepening our walk with the Lord through the seasons of the church year. Each season has a unique emphasis to help us grow in our faith. Soon the Epiphany Season will begin and will then give way to the Season of Lent. God bless you as you journey from one season to another.

Speaking of seasonal change, Merry Christmas to all and may 2011 be full of blessings for you and yours.

Pastor Larry Cross
Interim Pastor

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Hebrews 13:1-2 Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.

Looking to Christmas



To symbolize the yearning and anticipation of Advent, two pottery vases with bare branches have been placed in the chancel. For, as any gardener knows, swelling buds on lifeless branches speak of Hope. Garlands of greenery along the walls, dazzling trees, dozens of poinsettias, wreaths throughout the building, seasonal paraments, and a beautiful creche at the entrance to the sanctuary make Resurrection a place of anticipation and celebration during the Advent and Christmas seasons.

At Resurrection, there are two huge trees, one for the sanctuary and one for the narthex, facing busy 71st Street. The lighted tree always elicits comments from passers-by. At the first Christmas in our new church building, there was a general appeal for tree ornaments, given in love to the glory of the birth of Christ and perhaps also in memory of or in honor of a loved one. MANY ornaments were received which have been used each year to decorate the sanctuary tree. Each year, more ornaments continue to be dedicated by our families.

FIRST BIBLE CLASS



In October and November Resurrection kids studied the Bible with our seminarian, Tim Meyer. They made a remembrance chain and scrolls with names

of people from the Bible and their own families, teachers and heroes. In a worship service, First Bibles were presented to the children by their parents. Special cake and photos followed the service.



Left Photo: Emma Atcheson, Trey Gonzales, Ellie Bock, Emery Evans, Tim Meyer, Natasha Braun, Tyler Williams

Right Photo: Derick Krueger, Tim Meyer, Trace Tjaden, Heather Westerhaus

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Reformation Sunday Confirmation



Pastor Larry Cross, Jake Stevenson, Andrew Kaufman, William Casteel, Sarah Johnson

First Communion



Trey Gonzales, Derick Krueger, Ellie Bock, Heather Westerhaus

“Hey! Wasn’t our bread good?”
“Yuck! Did you swallow the wine?”

In preparation for their first communion, the group met with Interim Pastor Tom Halstrom, learning all about that communion thing. Ask them about the whys and wherefores, even names of the communion ware. With Altar Guild’s help, they made and baked the bread. It was an important and memorable day for our kids and church family!



The St. Olaf Choir

Coming to a church near you
(Holy Cross Lutheran, Wichita)

Tuesday, February 1, 7:30 pm

The St. Olaf Choir, a widely acclaimed ensemble and long time creative influence behind the a cappella choral tradition, has toured annually since 1912, when it was founded. Their unaccompanied style of singing has become a significant force in American choral music. The choir has been acclaimed internationally with 13 tours to Europe, Asia and the Pacific Rim.



Save the Date!!

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Epiphany Party

Come on ACT Night January 5th to our Epiphany Party. Following an Italian themed meal at 6:00 PM, we will hear the Epiphany story and sing the Twelve Days of Christmas. Will there be a camel jockey?



Come and see!

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Simple Gifts

There was (almost) no room at the church as Resurrection's Sunday School presented their Christmas pageant on December 12th. Family and friends with came with smiles, applause and cameras to appreciate the dedication, time and energy our kids and SS staff offered to present the memorable version of Christ's birth.



Merry Christmas!

Resurrection Lutheran Church joins the angels as they proclaimed to the shepherds in Luke 2:19 "We bring good news of great joy to all people. To you is born this day in the City of David, a Savior, the Messiah, The Lord." Keep Christ in your hearts and lives every day, all year long. Know he is always with you. God bless you!



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Your Generosity at work!

Resurrection Lutheran members collectively and as individuals give generously throughout the year to help those in need. The following figures indicate such giving through November:

The Property Committee and WELCA have both given 10% of their recent fund-raisers to benevolence.

ELCA/Central States Synod Benevolence: \$600

ELCA Disaster Response to the hurricane in Haiti: \$1010

ELCA Disaster Response: \$1000

ELCA Stand With Africa: \$1000

Lenten offerings with some matching through Thrivent:

Episcopal Social Services: \$833

Haysville Community Outreach: \$824

World Hunger Appeal: \$1670

Lutheran Malaria Initiative: \$50

Central Asia Institute: \$500 (work of ELCA member Greg Mortensen in Afghanistan is supported by individual giving)

Camp Tomah Shinga: \$400

The Prayer and Care Team has given over \$4900 in 2010 to individuals in need and special projects as VBS and St Paul's breakfast for the homeless. The Team is funded through private contributions.

The Christmas Eve 2010 offerings have been designated for the Haysville Community Outreach.

Another Successful Bazaar

A great selection of items and faithful shoppers resulted in another successful Fall Bazaar. Funds raised will go toward scholarships for youth attending Summer Camp Tomah Shinga events and special congregational projects such as a display board and shelf in the hall between the narthex and Fellowship Hall, a display shelf in the narthex, and a coat rack just off the narthex.

WELCA thanks to all who contributed time and talents and to those who shopped.



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Christmas Craft Day

On the first Saturday in Advent, Sunday School children of all levels gathered to make and take Christmas gifts, decorations and keepsakes. Each child made four different crafts. The Jr. High youth worked together making a nativity set of clay.

Pastor told the Christmas story while volunteers were chosen on the spot to be actors. Thirty kids and 17 adult helpers were present. Snacks were served. It was a yummy, fun learning time! Thanks to Vicki Nunn and the Sunday School staff for planning and carrying out this event.

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Thank You

Haysville Historic District Committee for participating in the 2010 Haysville Village Christmas.
Episcopal Social Services for donations from the Lenten Offerings.

Gethsemane Lutheran Church, St. Bernard Parish, LA for donations after hurricane Katrina.

Christ Lutheran Church and Falcon Fellowship Ministry Team for donation toward youth ministry.

Breakfast at St. Paul's

On the Saturday after Thanksgiving, at o-dark hundred, (6:00 am) Resurrection youth and several adults met at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in downtown Wichita to cook and serve breakfast to homeless folks. Our menu included scrambled eggs and ham, pancakes, fruit salad, juice and of course, coffee. The kitchen and serving crews worked hard and long as "The line is still out the door!" was reported several times. The breakfast guests were indeed so very appreciative of our cooking as well as bus tokens, and a selection of coats and clothes for the taking. Resurrection Youth also prepare brown bag lunches several times during the year.



Breakfast helpers: Heather Porsch, William Casteel, Pastor Cross
(Pastor's apron reads, 'Have you hugged a Lutheran today?')

YOU CAN HELP WOUNDED VETERANS

Have you ever wondered what you can do to help a wounded hero? I am collecting new and used sweats and pajamas for Americans wounded in Afghanistan. Patients are evacuated from Afghanistan in the middle of the night and endure a cold, loud, seven hour flight to Germany. Most patients have their clothing cut off when they reach the ER, so ensuring a constant supply of comfortable clothes is essential to their comfort and recovery. Thanks for all of your help!

Bring donations to church and **Kay Rodman** will take them to the collection point.
Sweat Pants (Average Size Large), Socks, Underwear, Sweatshirts, Pajamas. Blankets, and \$ for shipping

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**Season's Greetings
for the Property Committee**

by Darrin Deutscher, Chair

The property committee has had a very good year. We began our year with the implementation of our property care fund. This fund has been used to pay for all the maintenance issues that have come up throughout this year. Some of the issues that have been addressed were the replacement of the well pump, hiring an electrician to repair all lighting issues, hiring a plumber, and the continued maintenance of the lawn and snow removal. We would like to give the congregation a heartfelt thanks for making this fund a huge success.

The property committee has been busy this year with several fund raising activities, including a breakfast after church, a garage sale, and our Second Annual Last Soup Supper. The proceeds from these fund raisers are designated for: new furnishings for the pastor's office and church sign, parking lot lighting is in the planning stages at this time. Patrick DeWitt has been gracious enough to draw up a sign design. If anyone would like to view the design, it is posted in the Narthex, next to the office door. The congregation's input would be greatly appreciated. You can talk with any member of the property committee and let us know what your thoughts are.

The New Year is quickly approaching and as everyone knows the work never ends. We are planning to paint the pastor's office and install new furnishings, paint the fellowship hall and have the carpets cleaned in the fellowship hall, a spring and fall work day will be planned and of course, our 3rd Annual Last Soup Supper will be planned for the fall. If you haven't been able to attend this event, I would encourage you to attend. In my opinion, there are some of the best soups you will ever taste.

The property committee meets on ACT Night, the first Wednesday of each month, and we would welcome any new members who feel the call in this area of service to our church.

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YMT (High School Youth)

What are the Youth of RLC doing?? Service projects continue to play an important role for our Youth. The Area 5 Youth have committed to providing sack lunches, to the less fortunate, the fourth Saturday of every month. The next date for RLC's youth is February 26, 2011. The youth provide all the makings for the lunches, prepare the lunch and deliver them. The Senior High Sunday School class adopted three children from the Angel Tree and purchased gifts for them. They are also encouraged to participate in the sorting and wrapping of the gifts, as well as packing the food boxes at the Haysville Community Outreach events (December 7th-9th). Speaking of gifts, the 3rd-12th grade youth are exploring their Spiritual Gifts in FAITH Night. This has proven to be an eye opener for all! We have several youth participating in the Youth Zone event to be held in Topeka, February 11th-13th. Fund raising continues to be an important part of facilitating our Youth to participate in events, so look for more to come! Grace & Peace from the YMT!

Christmas Traditions

By Roza Atcheson

Most of us have a tradition we do with our family or friends around Christmas time. So I asked some people and this is what they had to tell me.

Vicki Nunn spends time with the family and gets a new ornament every year.

The McKusker Family goes to Salina then Topeka to go see family.

Barry Schroeder remembers Christmas Eve church service with singing Silent Night by candlelight followed by driving around town to see the Christmas lights then going home and opening presents.

The Atchesons get a tree every year from Pine Lakes Christmas Tree Farm. We pick out the tree and take our picture by it. Then we have hot chocolate in the shed while they shake the tree. Then we come home and Dad and Mom argue while they put up the tree.

Betty Batten remembers as a child hearing the snow crunch as she walked, and being very c-c-cold while taking part in a live nativity scene. Her church was the first in her town to do the live nativity, complete with very c-c-cold animals!

Karen Vogt recalls as a child, eating 'Bullet Soup' – basically meatballs in a broth. She misses a treasure box of traditional German pastries which her mom used to send especially to her when Karen's family didn't appreciate fruit cake, anise and mincemeat goodies.

Deanna Deutscher thought about the times that she and eleven cousins would be outside playing basketball at midnight on Christmas Eve.

Claudia Howell remembers eating a Danish cookie, 'oostakaka' (spelling ?), then going to the church Christmas service or program. When the family arrived home, Santa had visited, left gifts, but was gone.

Gerald Yoachum's family included 9 children and when the extended family gathered for Christmas, it was wall-to-wall people, "Must have been about 50 folks."

Robert Nunn stated that their family always enjoyed roast duck, stuffed with sauerkraut----which they still enjoy, "You should try it, it's delicious." Their family played Bingo. Winners chose a wrapped gag gift, supplied by Mom & Dad; at the end of the game, every player was a winner (some gifts were traded).

Vicki Nunn carries out a German tradition of hiding a 'pickle' ornament on the Christmas tree. Children hunt for the pickle to receive a special gift. The 1st year she did this, Vicki forgot the special gift and improvised with a hug. The next year the kids said, "No hugs! We want a real gift!"

Lydia Evans reads the Christmas scripture before opening gifts. As a child, she remembers her mom making new matching outfits for her and sister Alice (Yoachum) and singing in the Christmas church program. At home, with no electricity, they lit the candles on the tree and sang songs. Their gifts were at their places on the dinner table.

Kris & Lisa Atcheson tell the woes of selecting, bringing home and setting up live Christmas trees, "We always choose a too-big tree." Kris recalled as a boy cutting down a stickery cedar and dragging it home with help from his Shetland pony. He said as the tree dried, the tree became very much more stickery, but his folks honored his effort.

Clark Sholts tells of always being invited to the neighbor's home for cookies. When they went home, Santa had visited, eaten milk and cookies, left gifts and was gone.

"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation!" *
Isaiah 52:7

When Jesus was born, angelic messengers broke the still calm of a Judean night to sing joyously and proclaim, "This very day in David's city a Savior is born for you—God's Promised One, your Lord." Glad tidings of great joy! Common shepherds were the first and heartiest heralds of the promised Savior's arrival then, and today the joy in Jesus' birth fills every corner of this season.

Admittedly sometimes in modern America the commercial clatter and cultural clutter of the season seem to overtake the angels' song and the shepherds' joyous news. But such a majestic message of God's salvation cannot be silenced. Some loudly lament that the world will not listen to the Gospel message, but in this season so many beckon, "Christians, sing with us. Bring your songs of Christmas, of Jesus." A few may shush you, just as there were those who would later attempt to silence Jesus and his message of God's remarkable, revolutionary mercy, even to the point of crucifixion.

If so, then that is all the more reason to enter into the commotion and clutter, to let go of your inhibitions, to join the angels in singing and the shepherds in exulting with unashamed joy: Jesus, the Savior is born!

"Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy." "See, your salvation comes." Isaiah 52:8; 62:11

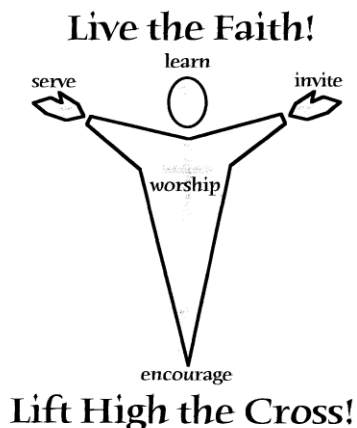


Mark S. Hanson
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

RESURRECTION LUTHERAN CHURCH
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HAYSVILLE KS 67060



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Financial Secretary Evelyn Clark
Nursery Supervisor Holly Gonzales
Music Director Evelyn Clark
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Secretary Barry Schroeder
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Ruth Albertin
Darrin Deutscher
Robert Nunn
Ray York

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SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 AM
SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:00 AM
MIDWEEK WORSHIP 7:00 PM
(second Wednesday of the month)