

First of all, I want to thank everyone from the bottom of my heart for the opportunity to be a part of the mission and ministries of Cross of Peace, to facilitate our worship together, and to preach the gospel. Your warm & enthusiastic words of welcome and encouragement, your hugs, and the conversations (and coffee!) we've shared these past weeks have been sure signs of God's amazing grace in my life.

One of the major milestones on our journey as a congregation, and one of the major milestones on my vocational journey, will occur on March 22 at the 11:00 worship celebration. At that service, I will be both ordained to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament and installed as Associate Pastor at Cross of Peace. Bishop Craig Johnson of the Minneapolis Area Synod will preside over the ordination and installation, and Dr. Kurt Hendel—one of my beloved professors from the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago—will be our guest preacher. This service will be an excellent opportunity to witness and participate in the ministry of the larger church of which Cross of Peace is a part. And...a potluck party will follow!!

I love the rhythm of the Church calendar. We journey with Christians throughout the world through the seasons of the church year, each season bringing a new opportunity to focus together on a specific aspect of our faith life while continuing to celebrate and savor the good news God has for us in Jesus Christ. Lent is one of my favorite seasons of the church year (along with Easter, "Ordinary Time," Advent, Christmas and Epiphany!). Lent was originally a time of preparation for baptism. For us, it is a time to focus inward, to reflect on and confess our human brokenness and our complete dependence on God's ever-flowing grace. The color of the season is Purple, which is associated with both mourning and royalty. Purple reminds us of both the crucifixion and resurrection, reminds us of Christ's suffering and Christ's reign.

This Lenten season, we continue our tradition of gathering together for fellowship and worship on Wednesday evenings. Soup is served in the gathering area starting at 5:30, and worship begins at 7:00.

Again, it is a joy to be here serving alongside you all! I look forward to getting to know everyone as our shared faith journeys unfold before us.

Yours in Christ,

Laila Barr

pastorlaila@gmail.com

Assisting and Serving ... Hospitality Ministry

March 1, 2009 *Assisting Ministers* *Communion Servers* *Ushers* *Worship Preparation / Counters*

8:30 a.m.	Jenny Montean	Chad & Laurie Gearey	Dianne & Steve Schanhaar	Mic & Shelly Tjosaas Family
9:45 a.m.	Jessica Wilson	Open/Open	Natazzin Thorsen	Counters
11:00 am	Sara Bartling	Open/Open	Deb Zitek & Chris Bartling	Bill & Deb

March 8, 2009

8:30 a.m.	Dean Koehler	Dave Milligan/Bob Weinberger	Rick & Linda Salden	Rick & Linda Salden
9:45 a.m.	Bridget O'Connor-Monson	Steve & Joni Swam	Scott & Peggy Kelly	Counters
11:00 am	Scout Sunday	Scout Sunday	Scout Sunday	Dale & Ron

March 15, 2009

8:30 a.m.	Avis Paulson	David Gohl	Dale Kangas	Harland & Ruth Lipker
9:45 a.m.	Gina Mitchell	Mary Lee Reiner	Jon Carlson	Counters
11:00 am	Dorothy Wolf	Joan David	Open	Amy & Bridget

March 22, 2009

8:30 a.m.	Janet Freudenstein	Marta Knick	Steve & Jody Gunderson	Steve & Jody Gunderson
9:45 a.m.	Trent Stern	Joan Olsen	Tom Foust	Counters
11:00 am	Installation Sunday	Installation Sunday	Installation Sunday	Chris & Ruth/Dianne & Steve

March 29, 2009

8:30 a.m.	Laurie Gearey	Deb Smith	Clay, Jill & Scott Smith	Clay & Deb Smith Family
9:45 a.m.	Gaylan Anderson	Open	Shirley & Doug Waldenvogel	Counters
11:00 am	Dave Card	Patty Schmieg	John & Becky Sheehan	Roger & Patty

If you are not able to assist on the Sunday or service schedule, please contact another worship ministry member and make arrangements for a replacement. If possible contact the church office by the Wednesday prior to your schedule time with any changes. We understand emergencies do come up, please feel free to leave a message on the answering machine at church (952)445-5479. If you are unable to continue serving for the worship hospitality ministry and would like to be removed from the schedule please let the church office know. Thank you all for your service to worship hospitality, this ministry allows you and our congregation to grow as a community of faith welcoming all those who enter Cross of Peace. If you are interesting in participating in our Hospitality Ministry Team or if you have any questions please contact the church office (952)445-5479.

March Social Justice and Red Basket Emphasis

Hunger:

The physical and mental condition that comes
From not eating enough food due to insufficient economic,
Family or community resources. Hunger exists in families
Where members take turns eating or eat smaller
Meals to make food last longer.

Our Social Justice and Red Basket emphasis for the month of March is the Minnesota Food Share. For over 26 years, Minnesota Food Share has worked with food shelves to organize the largest food and cash drive to help feed the hungry in the state of Minnesota: the March Campaign. It is responsible for more than half of all food distributed at food shelves in the state of Minnesota. More people than ever before were forced to turn to their local food shelves for help and at least half of those receiving help from food shelves were children. Hungry kids have difficulty learning and have more medical problems and absenteeism than children with adequate nourishment.

Fill a grocery bag for a hungry family. Some non-perishable food items suggested are: Canned Fruit, Peanut Butter, Baked Beans, Black Beans, Cereal, Canned Tuna, Macaroni and Cheese and Rice. A few suggested household items are: Bar Soap, Diapers, Laundry Detergent, Shampoo, Toilet Paper and Toothpaste.

What is the Goal for 2009? Our goal this year is 10 million pounds and dollars. Our largest goal to date, set to meet the growing need in our state. There has been a 13 percent increase in visitors to Minnesota food shelves and less than a three percent increase in food donations. The need is rising but the donations aren't keeping up. In 2008, the March Campaign surpassed its goal, we can do it again, but we need your help. No campaign is too small, if every Minnesotan gave just two dollars we would surpass our goal again!

Every year, thousands of Minnesotans work very hard to fill their local food shelves. Please join the Minnesota Food Share March Campaign by donating to your local food shelf during the month of March.

For more information visit the website at
www.gmcc.org/foodshare/marchcampaign

Congregation News

CONGRATULATIONS to Sue & Dale Kangas on the birth of their granddaughter Chloe Lou Erickson born to Tamara & Peter Erickson.

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY to Gerry & Ione Anderson on the death of their daughter-in-law Ruth Anderson. Please member the Anderson family in your prayers during this time of grief.

CONGRATULATIONS to Aunt Karena Langehaug on the birth of her niece Evangeline Elizabeth Langehaug. She was born on February 5th at 5:20 am to her brother Joe and his wife Krista. Welcome baby Evangeline!

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY to Kari and Andrew Shellenbarger on the death of Ellie Willeart, Andrew's 5 year old niece. Please remember the Willeart/Shellenbarger family in your prayers during this time of grief.

Easter Flower Order Form

We would love to fill our worship area with the colors and fragrances of the season. We are ordering flowers again this year to decorate our sanctuary for Easter, and now is the time. You will be able to place a plant in celebration of Easter, in memory of a loved one, or in celebration or honor of an anniversary or other special memory. You may take your plants home after the Easter morning 11:00 am worship celebration, or you may leave the plant to decorate our sanctuary during the Easter season. Please attach your check to this order form, and make it payable to Cross of Peace with Easter Flowers in the memo. You can place your order in the offering baskets, or leave it in the church office. **THANK YOU!**

Easter Lilies (5 or more flowers)	\$7.25 each	Quantity _____
Tulips (Assorted Colors).....	\$6.75 each	Quantity _____
Mums (Assorted Colors).....	\$8.00 each	Quantity _____
Hydrangea (Pink).....	\$11.00 each	Quantity _____

Name: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

Our final order will be placed on Sunday March 29, 2009

An insert will be included with the names of those these flowers are place in memory, honor and celebration of in our Easter Bulletins. Please include the information you would like published:

This plant is placed in memory of _____

This plant is placed in celebration of _____

This plant is placed in honor of _____

This plant is placed in celebration of Our Risen Lord! _____

This plant is given by _____

Please contact Marie Markgraf in the church office with any questions 445-5479.

March Youth Newsletter!



Karena



Youth Minister

“And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to Him and He saw the Holy Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on Him. And a voice from heaven said, ‘This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased’.” ~Matthew 3:16-17

The above verse mentions all three parts of the trinity, being in the same place at the same time. This concept of a triune God has been hard for people to understand for centuries. How can three separate things be completely separate yet be the same one thing? I like to think of our triune God as H₂O. We know that H₂O can be liquid (water), gas (water vapor), and solid (ice). Just as H₂O is one element, in three forms, God is one being in three, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

In March, St. Patrick's Day is celebrated by many around the world. Typically, it's celebrated by people of an Irish background, but I've heard it said that on St. Patrick's Day everyone is Irish! Saint Patrick (the reason this holiday is celebrated) lived from 385-461 AD, and believe it or not, was a Roman born in Britain, not Ireland. However, when he was about 16 years old, he was captured by the Irish and taken into slavery for six years. He escaped, but later went back to Ireland as a Missionary.

He, too, had trouble explaining the idea of the trinity, almost 1700 years ago! So, St. Patrick looked around Ireland and saw... you guess it... clovers! Contrary to popular belief, most clovers have three leaves on them, so St. Patrick used this common clover to explain the trinity, each leaf representing one part of the trinity. Since the average clover has three leaves, the idea of a four leafed clover being lucky, comes from the idea that they are rare, so if you can find one, you sure are lucky.

This small story of one thing that St. Patrick did makes me think that if he can explain the trinity by something that he saw on the ground, I should be able to explain my faith and beliefs by things I see every day too. This month I challenge you to talk about faith with your friends, and family. You can use little things that you see everyday or moments when you've felt God's presence to start a conversation about faith. As you embark on this faith discussion, “May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind always be at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face, and rains fall soft upon your fields. And until we meet again, May God hold you in the palm of His hand.” ~ An Old Irish Blessing

Upcoming Events!

Mar. 14: FUNdraiser, for our youth going to the National Youth Gathering and Camp! Meet at St. John's for our second fundraising blitz, from 9:00am-4:00pm. This fundraiser really is fun, and includes competitions and a pizza party!

Mar. 20-22: Youth Quake!!! Watch for a flyer in the mail with specific information about what time we will leave, return, etc.

Mar. 29: National Youth Gathering Meeting! Meet at Cross of Peace after the last service (about 12:00 noon), in the library. We will be discussion more about our mission trip to New Orleans and the theme of the youth gathering. Parents are welcome to come, but do not need to attend.

Looking forward ... Upcoming events

LAILA'S ORDINATION/INSTALLATION is scheduled for Sunday, March 22 at our 11:00am worship celebration. Everyone is welcome to join us in the celebration. Following the worship service we will have a potluck in the Fellowship Hall! A sign up sheet is in the gathering area for help with setup - Saturday, March 21st at 9:00am and kitchen help and tear down on Sunday, March 22nd.

SOUP & BREAD SUPPERS— begin on Ash Wednesday February 25h. We are looking for volunteers to make soup and bring bread and dessert as well as set up or cleanup. We need your help to make these evenings a success. A sign-up sheet is in the gathering area.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! Green Lake Day Camp hosted by St. John's Lutheran Church. June 28-July 2. Registration takes place in March. Questions? See Marta Knick.

MPLS AREA SYNOD ASSEMBLY We have two openings for Cross of Peace at the upcoming Mpls Area Synod Assembly on May 29-30, 2009. If you would like to attend this assembly with Pastor Tom please contact the church office at 952-445-5479.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE MEETING A meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 3rd from 6:30-7:30 pm for the library committee. Anyone who is interested in joining this committee or becoming a volunteer in our library is welcome to join us for the meeting. If you have any questions please contact Avis Paulson at 952-496-9113.

SUPPORT OUR YOUTH Cross of Peace and St. John's youth are selling coupon cards to raise funds for our summer camp programs and our mission trip to the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans. We will be selling coupon cards Sunday, February 22nd and March 1st at church. Each card has 12 coupons on it that have unlimited use for a whole year!

SCOUT SUNDAY - MARCH 8TH AT 11:00AM SERVICE On Sunday, March 8th we will be celebrating Scout Sunday at our 11:00am worship celebration. If you are a Boy or Girl Scout and would like to participate in this service please contact the church office at 952-445-5479.

SOUTHERAN VALLEY ALLIANCE FOR BATTERED WOMEN is in need of additional volunteers to answer its 24-hour crisis line, facilitate women's support groups and provide childcare for those groups. Free training for crisis line and group facilitation volunteers will begin April 4th. No training is required for childcare volunteers. For more information, please call Lori or Martha at 952-873-4214.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY Please join us on Sunday evenings for a bible study. We will meet from 5-7pm and will be using a new curriculum from Augsburg Fortress called Opening the Book of Faith. A sign up sheet is in the gathering area. If you have any questions please see Pastor Tom.

CARING HANDS provides short-term help when you are in need. (meals, light housekeeping, rides, childcare, shopping, laundry, yard work, companionship, etc) Fill out a form or call the church office (952) 445-5479. We are also looking for volunteers to help build our caring hands team. Please fill out a form or call the church office. Forms can be found in the gathering area.

Giving and Growing ... Stewardship News

All operating fund amounts are year-to-date (January 1—January 31, 2008)

<u>Operating Funds</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Budget</u>
General Funds	\$ 14,493.67	\$ 17,010.26	\$ 18,540.00
Bldg Mortgage/Loan	2,757.00	3,190.00	3,190.00
Youth Activities Fund	227.61	910.00	625.00
Restricted Funds	596.41	583.41	0.00
Building Project	<u>91.42</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Totals	\$ <u>18,166.11</u>	\$ <u>21,693.67</u>	\$ <u>22,355.00</u>

Restricted funds include World Relief, Disaster Relief, Food Shelf, World Hunger, Hymnal Fund, etc.

Youth Activities Fund includes youth camping, and other offsite youth activities.

Total expenses, through January 31, exceed total receipts by \$3,527.56. Thank you to all who have contributed your time and financial donations to Cross of Peace.

Remember to mail in your contribution if you are out of town for sign up for the Simply Giving Program

Thank You!

THANK YOU Assisting Ministers, Ushers, Greeters, Communion Servers, Acolytes and Crucifers during the Month of February.

THANK YOU for the SUPER response to our soup collection. We will be delivering 288 cans to our local food shelf. Congratulations to Gayle Godfrey for winning the raffle for the cookbook.

THANK YOU to our Mobile Meals drivers and packers for the week of January 26-30, 2009. Betty & Lee Markgraf, Donna & Ron Harcy, Dorothy Wolf, Ruth Lipker, and Vi Ackermann.

FROM THE MOM'S CLUB OF SHAKOPEE - Just a little note of thanks...for a whole lot of thoughtfulness. We also received a donation of \$100 for the club. Thanks!

Cross of Peace Lutheran Church

1506 Wood Duck Trail
Shakopee, MN 55379

952-445-5479
Crossofpeace@msn.com



**Worship
Schedule**

- 8:30 a.m. Worship
- 9:45 a.m. Worship
- 9:45 a.m. Education & Fellowship
- 11:00 a.m. Worship

Fellowship with refreshments, takes place each Sunday morning following the 8:30 worship celebration. Come join us as we gather together in worship and celebration!

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March

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| <p>1 Worship Celebrations 8:30, 9:45 & 11:00am
Education/Fellowship 9:45am
God & Family 12pm -1pm
Gethsemane Church 1:00pm</p> <p>2 Joint Youth Board Meeting 7 pm</p> <p>3 Adult Study Group Perkins 6:30am
Girl Scouts 6-8 pm
Library Committee Meeting 6:30 pm
Gethsemane Church 7pm</p> <p>4 Lent Soup Supper 5:30pm
God & Me 5:30 -6:30pm
Confirmation 6pm
Wednesday Service 7pm
Choirs</p> <p>5 Adult Study Group Café 9:30am
Gethsemane Church 7pm</p> <p>8 Worship Celebrations 8:30, 9:45 & 11:00am
Daffodil Sunday
Scout Sunday - 11am service
Education/Fellowship 9:45am
Gethsemane 1:00pm
Cub Scouts 5:30 pm</p> <p>9 Staff Ministries Meeting 6pm
Stewardship Committee Meeting 7pm
Worship Committee Meeting 7pm</p> <p>10 Adult Study Group Perkins 6:30am
Knitting for Peace 6:30pm
Gethsemane Church 7pm</p> | <p>11 Lent Soup Supper 5:30pm
Confirmation 6pm
Wednesday Service 7pm
Choirs</p> <p>12 Adult Study Group Café 9:30am
MOM's Club 9:30am
Knitting for Peace 10:45am
Education Committee Meeting 6:45pm
Gethsemane Church 7pm</p> <p>15 Worship Celebrations 8:30, 9:45 & 11:00am
Baptism: Evan Michael Syverson 11 am
Education/Fellowship 9:45am
Gethsemane Church 1:00pm
Adult Study Group 5-7pm</p> <p>17 Adult Study Group Perkins 6:30am
Book Club 6:30pm
Girl Scouts 6-8 pm
Gethsemane Church 7pm</p> <p>18 Lent Soup Supper 5:30pm
Confirmation 6pm
Wednesday Service 7pm
Choirs</p> <p>19 Adult Study Group Café 9:30am
Gethsemane Church 7pm</p> <p>20 Youth Quake 20th - 22nd
MOM's Club Prior Lake 5-8pm J. Bounds</p> <p>22 Worship Celebrations 8:30, 9:45 & 11:00am
Baptism: Hope Marie Wandersee 9:45 am
Ordination/Installation Laila Barr 11 am
Potluck - following service
Education/Fellowship 9:45am
Gethsemane 3:00pm</p> <p>23 Church Council Meeting 7:00pm</p> | <p>24 Adult Study Group Perkins 6:30am
Knitting for Peace 6:30pm
Gethsemane Church 7pm</p> <p>25 Lent Soup Supper 5:30pm
Confirmation 6pm
Wednesday Service 7pm
Choirs</p> <p>26 Adult Study Group Café 9:30am
Knitting for Peace 10:45am
Gethsemane Church 7pm</p> <p>29 Worship Celebrations 8:30, 9:45 & 11:00am
Education/Fellowship 9:45am
Gethsemane Church 1:00pm
Adult Study Group 5-7pm</p> <p>31 Adult Study Group Perkins 6:30am
Gethsemane Church 7pm</p> |
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Cross of Peace Staff

Pastoral Minister	Tom Reiner
Word & Sacrament Minister	Laila Barr
Pastor Spt. Minister:	Tom Fredudenstein
Youth Minister:	Karena Langehaug
Education Minister:	Marta Knick
Worship & Music Minister:	Ruth Lipker
Administrative Minister:	Marie Markgraf
Nursery Care Minister	Jennifer Flatten