



# LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS

Volume 3, Issue 2  
February 2010

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## Message from Pastor Scott Johnson

Ash Wednesday Service  
on February 17th,  
at 7:00 p.m.

February 24, March 3,  
10, 17, 24,  
Lenten Dinner at

6:30 p.m.

Worship at  
7:30 p.m.

Sunday Worship

9:00 a.m. Traditional

10:30 a.m. Family

9:20 p.m. Sunday School

He said, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by.' Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' — 1 Kings 19:11-13

In our homes we can have an awful lot of background noises – TV, dishwasher, stereo blasting, etc, and then on top of it all someone tries to speak to you above the noise. Maybe it's because I'm getting older, but I find myself saying, "what" too often – especially when trying to talk on the cell phone when driving.

Suddenly it becomes imperative to tune everything out in order to hear the person speaking.

In the same way, when we're listening for God's direction, we need to tune everything else out...in order to tune in!

In the above passage, God had something to say to Elijah. He first allowed some powerful and noisy manifestations; those things might have easily been mistaken for His voice. Then, a strong wind – so strong in fact, that it tore the mountain apart right before Elijah's very

eyes. After that, an earthquake followed, and if that wasn't enough, a fire! I would say by the time these massive events had passed, Elijah might have been a little distracted – don't you think?

But the Lord wasn't in any of them. Then, God spoke to Elijah.... in a still, small, voice.

I believe that God still speaks in that still small voice today. But are any of us able to hear Him with all the craziness around us? It is so necessary to tune out the noise so we can hear Him! When God has our full attention, not only can we come to know Him better, but we can receive the direction we've been longing for! May God speak to each one of us individually and as a church in 2010.

*Blessings,*

*Pastor Scott*

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## FEBRUARY 2010 WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR SUNDAY

	7 <sup>th</sup>	14 <sup>th</sup>	21 <sup>nd</sup>	28 <sup>th</sup>
COMMUNION SETUP AND ASSISTANTS	Julie Malin Myrna Salazar	Laurie Johnson Jean Hineman	Greg Paddack Lynnea Semasko	Carl Malin Julie Malin
GREETERS	The Knox Family Debbie Paddack	Sue Jay Doris Olson	Phyllis Olson June Hanson Joanne Szukala	Carol Campbell Greta Kob Laurie Johnson
EXIT GREETERS	Jody Check Eric Knox	Jean Hineman Greg Paddack	Jody Check Carolyn Ohman	Jean Hineman Don Finney
LAY READERS	Joey Pacay	Greg Paddack	Muriel Tripp	Ryan Uden
LITURGICAL ASSISTANTS	Bob Lempkowski	Dick Bukowski	Carolyn Ohman	Ken Miller
COUNTERS	Ken Miller Jim Sosnowski	Bob Lempkowski Ernie Wurfel	Greta Kob Sue Jay	Tom Gnoyke Greg Rabus
USHERS	Jean Hineman Carl Becker	Janice Fedanzo Tom Fedro Jody Check	Klaus & Gail Schuetze Greg Paddack	Don Finney Ernie Wurfel Joanne Szukala
FELLOWSHIP HOSTS	Pancake Breakfast	Peg, Muriel and Phyllis	Jean Bukowski	TBD

If you are not able to serve on these dates, please call another member or youth to trade with, and notify the church office of the change. Tel: 847-437-5141 Thanks!

**WEDNESDAY EVENINGS IN LENT****Ash Wednesday - February 17th**

Worship and distribution of ashes - 7:00PM

**Wednesday Services for February 24 thru March 24**

Suppers will be at 6:30pm followed by Worship at 7:30pm.

**Please sign up for suppers in the Fellowship Hall:**

February 24th - Worship and Music Committee - Chicken Dinner

March 3rd - TBA

March 10th - Esther Circle - Soup and Breads

March 17th - TBA

March 24th - Rebecca Circle - Subway sandwiches

FEBRUARY 2010						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1 6:30 PM Chicago Bronze	2 5 AM – 8 PM Polling Place 9:00 AM Food Pantry 6:00 PM Worship Team Rehearsal 6:00 PM Music Team 7:30 PM Bell Choir	3 8:00 PM Disciple Church	4 2:45 PM Daisy Troop 6:00 PM Bible Study 6:00 PM Bell Practice 7:30 PM Choir	5 3:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 203 8:00PM Disciple Church 8:00PM Narcotics Anonymous	6 10:00AM Disciple Church
7 <b>9:15 AM Sunday School</b> <b>9:00 AM Traditional Service</b> <b>10:30 AM Family Service</b> <b>11:00 AM Pancake Breakfast</b> <b>1:00 PM Disciple Church</b>	8 6:30pm Chicago Bronze	9 9:00 AM Food Pantry 6:00pm Worship Team Rehearsal 6:00PM Music Team 7:00 PM Read to Learn 7:30pm Bell Choir	10 8:00PM Disciple Church	11 6:00pm Bible Study 6:00pm Bell Practice 7:30PM Choir	12 8:00PM Disciple Church 8:00PM Narcotics Anonymous	13 10:00AM Disciple Church
14 <b>9:15AM Sunday School</b> <b>9:00 AM Traditional Service</b> <b>10:15 AM Adult Bible Study</b> <b>10:30 AM Family Service</b> <b>11:30AM Confirmation Class</b> <b>1:00PM Disciple Church</b> <b>6:00 PM Bowling</b>	15 6:30pm Chicago Bronze	16 9:00 AM Food Pantry 6:30PM Confirmation Mtg 7:00 PM Read to Learn 7:30pm Bell Choir	17 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service 8:00PM Disciple Church	18 2:45 PM Daisy Troop 6:00PM Bible Study 6:00pm Worship Team Rehearsal 7:30PM Choir	19 8:00PM Disciple Church 8:00PM Narcotics Anonymous	20 9:00 AM Bell & Choir Practice 10:00am Disciple Church 1:00 PM Girl Scouts 40240- 40176
21 <b>9:15AM Sunday School</b> <b>10:00AM Traditional Service</b> <b>10:15 AM Adult Bible Study</b> <b>10:30AM Family Service</b> <b>11:30AM Confirmation Class</b> <b>1:00PM Disciple Church</b>	22 6:30pm Chicago Bronze	23 9:00 AM Food Pantry 6:00pm Worship Team Rehearsal 6:30PM Confirmation Mtg 7:00 PM Read to Learn 7:30pm Bell Choir	24 10:30 AM Chapel Service 6:30 PM Lenten Dinner Worship & Music 7:30 PM Lent Service 8:00PM Disciple Church	25 6:00PM Bible Study 6:00pm Worship Team Rehearsal 7:30PM Choir	26 8:00PM Disciple Church 8:00PM Narcotics Anonymous	27 9:00 AM Bell & Choir Practice 10:00am Disciple Church
28 <b>9:15AM Sunday School</b> <b>10:00AM Traditional Service</b> <b>10:15 AM Adult Bible Study</b> <b>10:30AM Family Service</b> <b>11:30AM Confirmation Class</b> <b>1:00PM Disciple Church</b>						

**We need your help in keeping the church calendar updated. Please send your calendar items to the church office no later than the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month. Thank you. [office@sharegodslove.org](mailto:office@sharegodslove.org)**

## BATTLE OF THE BANDS

On Sunday, February 28 at 4:00 pm , there will be a “ Battle of the Praise Bands” at Walther Lutheran High School , 900 N. Chicago Avenue, Melrose Park, IL. Church praise bands will battle for your votes and bragging rights as the “Best Praise Band”. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door, and can be ordered by calling Belinda at 708-594-7924 or by emailing her at

[battle\\_of\\_the\\_band\\_tickets@yahoo.com](mailto:battle_of_the_band_tickets@yahoo.com). Ticket pre-order deadline is Sunday, February 21. All proceeds will benefit the Scholarship Programs at Grace Lutheran School , 4106 W. 28<sup>th</sup> Street, Chicago. Come join us for an afternoon of food, music and fun!

If you have any problems or questions, please drop me a line. I will be sending out flyers and other information closer to the event.

Thanks for your help in getting the word out!

Belinda Bjorklund

Development Coordinator

Grace Lutheran School

4106 W. 28th Street

Chicago, IL 60623

HM:708/594-7924

[gracelutheran\\_pr@yahoo.com](mailto:gracelutheran_pr@yahoo.com)

## Ministries at Lutheran Church Of The Cross

Adult Education

Chapel Service at Friendship Village

Christian Education

Vacation Bible School

Drama Team

Evangelical Team

Fellowship Team

Helping Hands

Home Communion Team

Outreach Team

Prayer Ministry

Small Group Bible Study

Social Ministry

Food Pantry

Worship and Music



**Finance Committee**

Phyllis Olson, Jill Kummer,  
Myrna Salazar, Muriel Tripp,  
Debbie Paddack,  
Lynnea Semasko

**Communications**

Lynnea Semasko

WELCA REMINDS EVERYONE  
Continue saving items for St  
Mathews. Small items such as  
soap, decks of cards, postage  
stamps, stationery, long neck-  
laces, small stuff animals, etc.  
are appreciated. Please place  
items in the box above the mail-  
boxes in the Fellowship Hall

**ESTHER CIRCLE**

7:00 PM February 10th  
Katherine Ehlert  
201 S. WaPella  
Mt Prospect

**REBECCA CIRCLE OUTING**

7:00 PM on February 9th  
Peg Teske at the Moorings  
Bridge Health Center  
761 Old Barn Lane Rm 121-1

**SAVE YOUR GOODIES  
FOR OUR SPRING  
GARAGE SALE**

**REBECCA CIRCLE**  
Sunday, February 14  
Treats  
Peg, Muriel and Phyllis

**KITCHEN CARE:**

Front Kitchen—Esther Circle  
Back Kitchen—Rebecca Circle

Isn't it great that our WELCA circles  
take such good care of our kitch-  
ens...Keeping them stocked and  
keeping them clean!  
Your service does not go un-noticed  
and is much appreciated!  
Thank you!

## NEWS & EVENTS

**READ TO LEARN**  
 Literacy / Volunteer Program  
 2010 Schedule  
 February 9 to April 13  
 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. every Tuesday

### Food Pantry

Sign Up to Help Pantry push 1st Sunday of the month. All food donations welcome!

### Helping Hands Ministry

Just a reminder that we frequently have members of our church family who need assistance with rides, meal delivery or small chores. Accomplishing these tasks can seem insurmountable especially to those who are recovering from hospitalization. If you can help by cooking or providing a "helping hand" in another way, please sign up on the poster in the fellowship hall.

### Nursery

The nursery is located down the North hallway is open to infants and toddlers during worship services. If you find it necessary to leave the Sanctuary, there is also a speaker system in the Narthex for your convenience.

### The diakonia Program

Diakonia includes a whole new way of thinking and doing, of perception and reception, of defining and redefining our lives and purpose for living. The focus is no longer on ourselves, our fears, trials and tribulations, but on what God would have us say and do in the midst of those fears, trials and tribulations. God's call to ministry amidst the daily struggles of life is our call to Christian discipleship. For further information about this two-year theological program for lay people, please contact Pamela Marino at 773-763-0605 or go to the [www.thediakoniaprogram.org](http://www.thediakoniaprogram.org) website.

### Girl Scout Troop

**#40240 and #30176**

**Meet in the Fellowship Hall**

**On Saturday**

**1:00—2:30 PM on the**

**following dates**

**1/23/10, 2/20/10, 3/13/10**

**4/10/10, 5/15/10 and 6/12/10**

**Troop 203 meets on Friday 3:30—6:30**

**February 5, March 5, April 16**

**Daisy Troop meets on Thursday 2:45—4:00**

**February 4 and 18**

**March 4 and 18**

**April 1 and 15**

**May 6 and 20**

### Fellowship Hosts

Fellowship Hosts are needed for after the 9AM Sunday services. Please find a date that you can bring goodies. The coffee and juice will be set-up for you. Sign up sheet is in the Fellowship Hall.

### Daily Devotionals

January, February, March Daily Devotionals (Portals of Prayer) are now available in the back of the church. These have been purchased and donated by Esther Circle.



### Food Pantry

Thank you for your continued support of this community outreach ministry, so that we may continue to...

“Share God’s Love”

Walker R. Reach, Chairman

## Adult Education

February 7 :

Pancake Breakfast --- No Adult Education

February 14: How Lutherans Interpret the Bible

This second session is entitled --- “What Lutherans Say About the Bible”. We will view a DVD of Pastor Mark Allen Powell’s lecture on the topic and then have an interesting discussion. The first session went over really well. We encourage everyone to try to attend, even if you did not come to the first session.

February 21 and 28 (and March 14): The Faith Club

We are going to try something different for a Sunday AM session ---- a book discussion. You don’t need to buy the book (unless you want to) and there will be no homework. In each session we will read selected portions of the book and discuss.

The Faith Club is about 3 women, a Christian, a Muslim and a Jew. They were asked to write a children’s book, after 9/11 that would address interfaith issues. When they started the project, however, they found that they had much to learn about each other’s faith before they could do the children’s book justice.

The Faith Club is the story of their journey of exploration, understanding and acceptance. It is lovely and we hope that you all join us.

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## PRAYER VIGIL

Friday, April 2—Sunday, April 4, 2010  
36<sup>1/2</sup> Hours of Prayer, and Contemplation.  
Please join your fellow members, and  
friends of Lutheran Church of the Cross as  
we pray continuously in our Sanctuary from  
the close of our Good Friday Service until  
our Easter Celebration. You ask, why do we pray?



***Then Jesus went back to his followers, and found them asleep. He said to Peter, “Simon, are you sleeping? Could you not stay aware with me for one hour? Stay awake and pray for strength against temptation. The spirit wants to do what is right, but the body is weak.” Mark 14:37-38***

Need I say more? Then, let us pray that God’s will be carried out in this congregation, for all the concerns and needs of our members and friends. There are many in our congregation who need our prayers. We hear the names of many each week during our services. There are more whose names we never hear, but are no less needful of prayer.

## THANK YOU FROM ESTHER CIRCLE

Esther Circle would like to thank all of you for your generous donations of gifts for the residents of St Matthew Center for Health (Nursing Home). We distributed gifts to 9 residents having January birthdays and played bingo with about 60 residents, making sure that everyone received a prize. After bingo we sang Happy Birthday and then everyone enjoyed having cake. We would especially like to thank all our helpers who cut and served cake, helped the residents play bingo and distributed bingo prizes. We were fortunate this year to have 7 children from our church helping out. A special thank you to Sarah & Isabella Schirmer, Amanda Loeb, Mandy, Jessie & Luke Ehlert, and Christie (Luke's friend). We enjoyed being entertained by Sarah playing the violin, Mandy & Jessie dancing and Mandy singing a solo. We are so blessed to have such talented and helpful children at LCC.

We always enjoy having the children with us. You all helped make this a happy and special day!

Remember, Esther Circle will again be visiting St Matthew's on August 8, 2010 to celebrate the August birthdays. Please keep us in mind next time you are passing by that Dollar Store. We keep a box marked St Matthew above the mail slots for anyone wishing to donate items. The residents of St Matthew really do appreciate someone remembering them on their birthday. Of course, a day of bingo is always fun and who doesn't like cake!

Hope you can join us on August 8, 2010.

Thank you

Esther Circle

## HELPING HAITI

### Thrivent Financial members invited to join in \$3 million Helping Haiti effort

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans members who want to make a financial contribution to support disaster response efforts in Haiti can have their donations to one of four Lutheran relief agencies multiplied by the fraternal benefit society.

To participate, visit [www.thrivent.com/helpinghaiti](http://www.thrivent.com/helpinghaiti) and make a contribution to one of the following:

Lutheran World Relief

ELCA Disaster Response

LCMS World Relief/Human Care

WELS Committee on Relief

Thrivent Financial will add \$1 to every \$2 its members donate, up to a total Thrivent Financial contribution of \$1 million. That means a potential of \$3 million or more to support relief efforts: \$2 million + from its members and \$1 million added by Thrivent Financial.

For questions or alternative ways to donate through this program, please call 800-236-3736. When promoted, say "directory" and enter ext. 83003.