



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS



2025 S. Goebbert Road, Arlington Heights, IL 60005
847-437-5141 . office@sharegodslove.org
www.sharegodslove.org

MARCH 2009
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:00 a.m. Traditional

10:30 A.M. Blended

March 4, 11, 18, 25, and April 1

Lenten Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Lent Worship at 7:30 p.m.

9:20 p.m. Sunday School

(after Children's Sermon)

11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Confirmation Class

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday: April 5,
9:00a.m. and 10:30a.m.

Maundy Thursday: April 9
7:30 p.m.

Good Friday: April 10
7:30 p.m.

Easter Prayer Vigil: April 10 to 12

Easter Celebration: April 12

7:30 a.m. Breakfast

9:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship

Message from Pastor Scott Johnson

"We miss you!"

—Father, Son and Holy Spirit

This is what our Triune God might be saying. Attendance has been down the last few months, not just at our church but many churches throughout the nation. Generally, this can be attributed to inclement weather and a declining economy. Another possibility might be because people have lost their jobs or have had a cut in income, their giving is limited and they might feel uncomfortable in coming to church. Don't worry about it, we understand – come anyway!

Now more than ever we need to support one another in the community of faith. This is one of our tag lines in our purpose statement:"To strengthen the spiritual lives of all people," and that includes us. We are to be that beacon of hope for others and for those who are struggling in our midst. We always talk about reaching out to others, and while that is a vital component of the church we need to also realize the importance of strengthening each other.

Paul's letters to the churches in Asia Minor were primarily of encouragement. Yes, he had struggles with those churches from time to time; those who would fight among themselves or begin to follow false teachings. But he would always remind them of the truth of the gospel – that God loves us and the sacrifices Jesus made were for us so that we could receive new life through Him.

We have begun our Lenten journey and we are excited about the services we've scheduled. Our midweek service (after our fellowship meal) will feature the drama series, "Christ On Trial." A number of "actors" from our own congregation will play various roles. Sundays will explore a preaching series entitled, "The Benefits of Sin." It will explore how we experience God's grace in our lives – in the midst of sin. So come to church. God misses you and so do I.

In God's peace and love,

Pastor Scott

In this issue

Message from Pastor Scott Johnson	1
News & Events	2-4
Worship Assistants	5
Events/ Announcements	6-7
Calendar	8
Special Event	9-10

NEWS & EVENTS

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.

Lay Reader Volunteers

It is time to update the list of Lay Reader volunteers! If you want to share your reading talent, please contact Ryann Uden at ryann@uden.org to be added to the reader rotation.

Bible Study every Thursday, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the LCC.

Book Study at 6:30pm on Wednesdays. Book Study will resume after Easter, April 12.

Children Sunday School right after Children's Sermon (appx. 9:20 a.m.)

Confirmation Class at 11:30am to 12:30pm right after second service.

Nursery 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.

Fellowship Sunday, coffee, juice and treats will be provided after the first service.

READ TO LEARN

Literacy / Volunteer Program Spring 2009 Schedule

March	3, 10, 17, 31
(No Class on 24 Spring Break)	
April	7, 14, 21

LENTEN DINNERS AND WORSHIP

March 4th Worship and Music
(Chicken Dinner)

March 11th Esther Circle
(Soups and Salads)

March 18th Rebecca Circle
(Subway Sandwiches)

March 25th Klaus and Gail Schuetze

April 1st Christian Education

Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m. followed by
7:30 p.m. Lent Service.

Services in Lent

Wednesdays, 7:30pm

"Christ On Trial"

This is a drama series in which court is in session to determine who Christ is. The gavel sounds, the trial starts - all must confront this silent One who claims to be God's only Son.

Worship on Sundays

9:00 am and 10:30am

"The Benefits of Sin"

A sermon series to help us grasp God's grace in our lives. Sin is sin, but sin may be the only thing driving someone to have an encounter with Jesus. Join us on Sundays in Lent as we explore the benefits of sin; encounters with Christ.



W.E.L.C.A.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

WE LEARN . WE LOVE . WE SERVE

MARCH SCHEDULE

Tuesday, 10th, 7:30p.m. (Rebecca Circle)

Meet at Lynnea Semasko : 1506 S. Kennicott, Arlington Heights, 847-253-3540

Sunday, 8th, Treats: Peg, Phyllis, Muriel

Hosts for Lenten Dinner on March 18th

Wednesday, 11th, 7:00p.m. (Esther Circle)

Hosts for Lenten Dinner on March 11th

*Sunday, March 15th, Treats

W.E.L.C.A. Committee Members:

Financial Committee: Phyllis Olson, Jill Kummer, Myrna Salazar, Muriel Tripp, Lynnea Semasko, Debbie Paddack. Communication Coordinator: Lynnea Semasko.

Please join us: See Lynnea Semasko, Jill Kummer or Myrna Salazar.

SPECIAL ACTIVITY

Save your junk for the Spring Rummage Sale in April!



Adult Education 2009 March 8, 15, 22, 29 at 10:15 a.m.

March 8th:

Religions of the World: Hinduism

We just purchased this incredible DVD series on various world religions. We chose to review Hinduism first because it is probably the least understood of those religions featured in this series. Come learn with us all about this fascinating ancient religion of Asia.

March 15th:

The Lutheran Handbook: How to Tell the Difference Between a Sinner and a Saint

Whichever way you slice it, the New Testament portrays the believer as righteous and sinful all at once ... in Latin its *simul iustus et peccator*. Join us for another session of two-handed thinking and stimulating discussion.

March 22nd: To be announced

March 29th:

The Lord's Prayer

We say this prayer in every church service and at the conclusion of most of our church meetings. But have you ever dissected it and thought about what each part really means? Luther did. Join us for a discussion on one of the world's most famous prayers.

School-Age Care Program



First, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all who have given their support and encouragement these past two and a half years as this program finally becomes a reality. The School-Age Care Program at Lutheran Church of the Cross is now licensed to operate.

Getting our program off to a good start when school reopens is now my top priority. I would be very grateful if anyone in the congregation who knows a family whose children attend Forest View Elementary, Holmes Middle, or John Jay Schools to give them one of our coupon flyers. The flyers are located on the entrance table in the Fellowship Hall. Please feel free to take as many as you need.

Sharon R. Stephan

Director

Upcoming Events of LCC

March 13	LCC Ladies Night, Food Drive and Movie
April 3	Family Bunco Night
April 24 & 25	Rummage Sale
May 9	Mother's Day
June	Hunger Walk
June 21	Father's Day
July 6 to 10	Vacation Bible School
August 9	St Matthew Birthday Party
October 2	Family Bunco Night
November 13	Family Bunco Night
And more ...	

How to Lower Your Risk of Cancer

- Do not use tobacco
- Eat healthy foods
- Keep moving—30 minutes a day for starters
- Protect yourself from the sun
- Get immunized
- Avoid risky behaviors that can lead to infections that can increase your cancer risk
- Get screened for certain cancers

*Timeless God, my time is limited.
Strengthen my resolve to make wise choices so that I can experience fully this life you have given me. Amen.*

/ref: Advocate Health Care

SAVE THE DATES!



Ministries at Lutheran Church Of The Cross

Adult Education

Chapel Service at Friendship Village

Christian Education

Drama Team

Evangelical Team

Fellowship Team

Helping Hands

Home Communion Team

Outreach Team

Prayer Ministry

Small Group Bible Study

Social Ministry

Worship and Music



Thank you Lynnea Semasko for this wonderful "Church Sign."



MARCH 2009 WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	1st	8th	15th	22nd	29th
COMMUNION SETUP	Dick Bukowski	Bob Lempkowski	Greg Paddack	Anne Wurfel	Joey Pacay
and ASSISTANTS	Myrna Salazar	Lynnea Semasko	Carl Malin	Dick Bukowski	Carolyn Ohman
ACOLYTES	Christine Lekas	Nicole Lekas	Ron Ecklund	Brad Ecklund	Mandy Ehler
	Danielle Lekas				
GREETERS	Ken Ahlgren	Greg Paddack	Sue Miller	Phyllis Olson	Laurie Johnson
	Helen Ahlgren	Debbie Paddack	Doris Olson	John Teppen	
	Greta Kob	Joanne Szukala		Mary Teppen	
EXIT GREETERS					
NORTH	Greg Paddack	Carolyn Ohman	Jody Check	Don Finney	Jean Hineman
SOUTH	Eric Knox	Greg Paddack	Don Finney	Jody Check	Stacy Uden
LAY READERS	Eric Knox	Alex Knox	Carolyn Ohman	Anita Lambert	Jean Kinder
LITURGICAL ASSIS-	Jean Hineman	Carolyn Ohman	Lynnea Semasko	Carl Malin	Bob Lempkowski
COUNTERS	Tom Gnoyke	Marilyn Anderson	Klaus Schuetze	Greg Paddack	Tom Fedro
	Greg Rabus	Carolyn Ohman	Phyllis Olson	Joyce Johnson	Jill Kummer
USHERS	Ernest & Anne Wurfel	Don Finney	Jim Lagerhausen	Klaus and Gail	John and Mary
	Janice Fedanzo	Tom Fedro	Jody Check	Schuetze	Teppen
		Greg Paddack	Joanne Szukala	Jean Hineman	Karl Becker
FELLOWSHIP	Pancake Breakfast	Rebecca Circle	Esther Circle	Jean Hineman	

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!



Thank you to all who supported the Signing Valentines. Five youth, along with the two leaders and four adult volunteers, delivered 85 valentines and raised \$322 for our New Orleans Youth Gathering Fund. For those recipients that we sang to in person, not voicemail, they seemed to really enjoy the valentines. We even had one person call us back because they hung up before they realized what we were doing.

We still have a long way to go (approximately \$6,000). Watch for our future fund raising events, which will include:

- World's Finest Chocolate candy sale in March
- Easter Basket Raffle
- Easter Breakfast
- Youth Silent Auction (Rent a youth for a minimum of 4 hours and \$50. This will be a silent auction with the highest bidders to be announced at the Spaghetti Dinner in late April, early May)
- Spaghetti Dinner with Youth made dessert auction (Early May)
- Bake sales and car washes (TBD)
- Plant sale

We also will accept donations of any denomination. A poster with the pictures and bios of each youth (including why they want to attend the National Youth Gathering), will be available in early March. Donations should be made out to Lutheran Church of the Cross, and placed in an envelope marked "New Orleans Gathering" or "NOG". You can put these in the offering plate, or give directly to Ellen Gnoyke or Karl Becker.

PRAYER VIGIL

Friday, April 10 – Sunday to Sunday, April 12, 2009

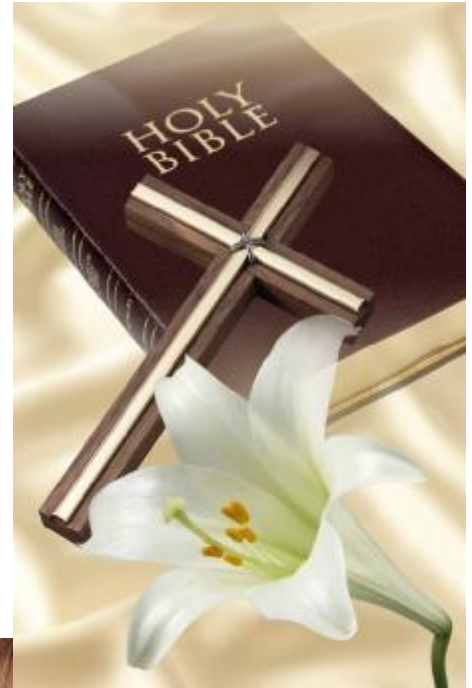
35½ Hours of Prayer, and Contemplation

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 awake 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.

Watch for the sign up sheet.



MARCH 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Pancake Breakfast 9:00 AM Traditional Worship 9:20 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Adult Ed 10:30 AM Blended Worship 11:30 AM Confirmation Class 1:00 PM Disciple Church	2 6:30 PM Chicago Bronze	3 9:00 AM Food Pantry 5:30 PM Worship & Music 6:00 PM Music Team 7:00 PM Writing Team 7:30 PM Bell Choir	4 6:30 PM Lenten Supper 7:30 PM Lenten Worship 8:00 PM Disciple Church	5 6:00 PM Bible Study 7:30 PM Choir	6 8:00 PM Disciple Church	7 10:00 AM SDA Church
8 9:00 AM Traditional Worship 9:20 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Adult Ed 10:30 AM Blended Worship 11:30 AM Confirmation Class 1:00 PM Disciple Church	9 6:30 PM Chicago Bronze	10 9:00 AM Food Pantry 7:30 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Rebecca Circle-Meet at Lynnea Semasko's	11 6:30 PM Lenten Supper 7:30 PM Lenten Worship 8:00 PM Disciple Church	12 6:00 PM Bible Study 6:00 PM Music Team 7:30 PM Choir	13 7:00 PM LCC Ladies Night Party 8:00 PM Disciple Church	14 10:00 AM SDA Church
15 9:00 AM Traditional Worship 9:20 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Adult Ed 10:30 AM Blended Worship 11:30 AM Confirmation Class 1:00 PM Disciple Church	16 6:30 PM Chicago Bronze	17 9:00 AM Food Pantry 6:00 PM Music Team 7:30 PM Bell Choir	18 6:30 PM Lenten Supper 7:00 PM Council Meeting 7:30 PM Lenten Worship 8:00 PM Disciple Church	19 6:00 PM Bible Study 7:30 PM Choir	20 8:00 PM Disciple Church	21 10:00 AM SDA Church
22 9:00 AM Traditional Worship 9:20 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Adult Ed 10:30 AM Blended Worship 11:30 AM Confirmation Class 1:00 PM Disciple Church	23 6:30 PM Chicago Bronze	24 9:00 AM Food Pantry 7:30 PM Bell Choir	25 10:30 AM Chapel Service Friendship Village 6:30 PM Lenten Supper 7:30 PM Lenten Worship 8:00 PM Disciple Church	26 6:00 PM Bible Study 6:00 PM Music Team 7:30 PM Choir	27 8:00 PM Disciple Church	28 10:00 AM SDA Church
29 9:00 AM Traditional Worship 9:20 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Adult Ed 10:30 AM Blended Worship 11:30 AM Confirmation Class 1:00 PM Disciple Church	30 6:00 PM E-Team Meeting 6:30 PM Chicago Bronze	31 9:00 AM Food Pantry 6:00 PM Music Team 7:30 PM Bell Choir	1 6:30 PM Lenten Supper 7:30 PM Lenten Worship 8:00 PM Disciple Church	2 7:30 PM Choir	3 8:00 PM Disciple Church	4 10:00 AM SDA Church

Friday the 13th of March ---How can anything go wrong if you are surrounded by your best friends?

"Note: Scroll all the way down, there is an insert embedded in the text. You might have to hit control and click on the link at the same time. Try clicking on the link first.

- ü Do you want to have fun- rid the bad by doing good? Well here's a deal for you read the items below and open the attachment.
- ü Come and invite all your best friends to a Mamma Mia Sing-along Super size plus event to support the Food Pantry serving families in the Northwest suburbs.
- ü This movie which is one of the highest grossing films of 2008, is the story of Donna (Meryl Streep) facing a special time in her life surrounded by her closest girlfriends.
- ü What makes this Super size?
 - o You'll sing with the movie
 - o Dance with the movie
 - o Participate in other surprise events you can donate to and a raffle
 - o Imbibe in "girly" cocktails and treats
- ü Because of the economy, needs are at all time high--so why not help and enjoy a great evening with your best friends as well. It will be the "feel good" event to chase away the winter doldrums and help fellow citizens.

Price of admission: Bring cans of food. In keeping with the setting of this movie, the Greeks love their food and we want to share an abundance with our local community in need. So think super size!!!!!!!
Bring a snack or hors d'oeuvres to share. There will be a few other events you can donate dollars to as well.

Location: Lutheran Church of the Cross -2025 S. Goebbert Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois

Time: 7-11pm

Note: This event is not just limited to LCC members. We want to encourage you to invite girlfriends from other parts of your life as well.

Contact for more information: Pam Harris at 847-530-7516 , Boilerfanforlife@yahoo.com

Hit Control and click the link below at the same time to open

Pam Harris Has a Smash Hit for You! Click to see it.

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE ←-CARD](#)

MAMMA MIA! The movie musical starring Meryl Streep and Pierce Brosnan

Social Ministry 2009 Fund Raising Activities

Pancake Breakfast	First Sunday of the Month: February, March, April (Youth Sponsored), May, June
Bunco Party	Friday, April 3 at 6:30 p.m. Adults \$7 . Guests \$6 . Members with Guests \$6 Students \$5 . Children 5 and under FREE
Rummage Sale	Friday, April 24 from 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m. Saturday, April 25, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Volunteer Fest	Saturday, May 2 (time to be announced) At Forrest View School. Event guests will be brought to LCC for a food pantry full set up demonstration.
Postal Food Drive	Saturday, May 9 (time to be announced)
Hunger Walk	(Date and time to be announced) Sponsored by the Greater Chicago Food Depository
Bunco Party	Friday, October 2 at 6:30 p.m.
Bunco Party	Friday, November 13 at 6:30 p.m.
Jewel-Osco Shop & Share Program	(Dates to be announced)

Our Food Pantry, more than ever needs your support for these events. For our volunteers, some are more work than fun, others are more fun than work. For our participants, it's all fun. We welcome your participation, contributions and your ideas on how to keep this LCC Outreach Ministry viable. The numbers continue to grow. On Tuesday, February 17 we distributed food to 155 families which is double from what we have given previously. The Food Pantry is made possible from the support of this community and you, the LCC family. For the Food Pantry, as always, thank you for sharing God's love,

Walker Reach, Social Ministry