



Sharing God's Love and Promise of
Salvation Through Christ

Cross & Crownicle

Volume XXIX Issue 15

December 7, 2011

Refinancing the Mortgage

The Church Council is seeking to refinance our 5% Thrivent loan of \$100,801 for a negotiated rate from personal loans from members or friends by December 15, 2011. If you would like to participate in this refinancing effort, please contact Pastor John.

Christmas Blessings

Dear Members and Friends of Cross and Crown,

It is the season when differences blur, edges soften, and people of many beliefs try to understand each other a little more, forgive a little more, wish for peace a little more. We need this season, like we need fresh air and the stars and EACH OTHER.

We give thanks for each of you and the many gifts of your talents and spirit that you bring to our lives and the community of Cross and Crown. In your honor, we have given a gift through the ELCA Good Gifts Program to provide 14,000 water purification tablets to transform 14,000 gallons of contaminated water into clean drinking water. Purification of water keeps children and families safe from water-borne illness like cholera and typhoid.

We need God's love and grace and each other to share and grow. May the blessings of this season connect us in the spirit of God's love.

Pastor John and Connie



Cross and Crown Celebrates Christmas

May you and your family celebrate the deep and lasting Joy that Christ brings as he is born in the hearts of people of faith.

Christmas Eve, 4:00 p.m. *Christmas message, Holy Communion, Special music, Children's message, Bell Choir, Candle-lighting ceremony.*

Christmas Eve, 6:00 p.m. *Christmas message, Holy Communion, Special music, Children's message, Chancel Choir, Candle-lighting ceremony.*

Christmas Eve, 11:00 p.m. *Christmas message, Holy Communion, Special music, Candle-lighting ceremony*

Christmas Day, 9:30 a.m. *Only one service of worship on this Sunday. Community time follows.*

What is Advent?

Each year, four Sundays before Christmas, the church observes the Advent season. It is the first of six seasons in the church year and is seen as a preparatory season for Christmas.

Advent is a reminder that times are not always feeling the happiness of Christmas Day. However, Advent reminds us that God will not abandon us even when we are discouraged — because we look to the gifts of God we see in the infant Jesus — peace, a right spirit, deep joy, harmony with God, harmony with others. Advent is therefore a season of hope — not a wish for Santa to give us something, but a certainty that God will give us all we need as we put our hearts and minds in God's care.



Bless you with hope deep in your hearts this season

— Pr. John

All In The Family

Congratulations to **Brian Peters** who will graduate from the University of North Dakota on Dec. 16 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Aeronautics with an Air Traffic Control major. He is awaiting placement by the FAA.

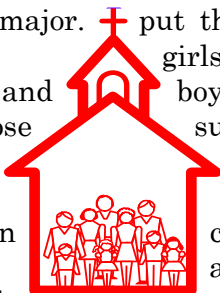
Congratulations to Bethany Johnson and Cory Pierce on the birth of Cambria Rose Pierce-Johnson on November 18, 2011. Proud grandparents are John and Beckie Johnson; proud uncles are Zach and Aaron Johnson.

Diane Lyon of Carpenter's Place sends heartfelt thanks to the Cross and Crown

"kitchen crew" who fed the homeless a hot meal several weeks ago.

Caritas seeks the following donations; you can put them in the barrels at church: Boys and girls clothing size 5 and 6; blankets, infant boys clothing, vegetable oil, flour, powdered sugar.

Our bell choir participated in the Nativity Walk at the LDS church on December 3. Thanks to all the participants and especially those who transported and set up the many tables and bells.



Help A Child At Christmas

Christmas is just around the corner believe it or not! Once again we will be "Adopting an Angel for Christmas" through the Lutheran Social Services of Illinois. Cross and Crown members have found this to be an exciting experience not only for we who purchase the gifts, but also for the child who receives it.

A poster displaying the children's name



and suggested gifts can be found in the church narthex. Select your child and gift category, purchase and wrap the gift, and put the child's name on it. Please bring it to the church entrance area by Monday, December 10. Thanks for your support!

Social Concerns Committee

Appreciated Securities Are a Smart Year-End Gift

As you plan your year-end giving to Cross and Crown Church, take a moment to consider if you have appreciated securities that could fund your gift.

If you own publicly traded securities such as stocks, bonds, or mutual funds held long term (at least one year and a day) and that have appreciated in value, they will provide a charitable deduction for the gift's full market value when given to a charitable organization such as the church. In addition, you avoid tax on the capital gain.

The administration of gifts of securities is handled for Cross and Crown by the ELCA Foundation. Follow these simple steps to make a gift.

Please notify Ms. Shawn Greene, senior gift processing specialist at the ELCA Foundation

[800/638-3522, ext. 2976] in advance of any securities transfers. This enables the foundation to help you through the process and prepare their brokers for the delivery of your gift. You will also need to inform the ELCA Foundation in writing either through an e-mail, letter or FAX the following information:

- The gift designation is Cross and Crown Church
- Number of shares
- Company stock name

The ELCA Foundation address is 8765 W. Higgins Road, Chicago, IL 60631. E-mail is shawn.greene@elca.org. The FAX is 1-773-380-2775. (Continued on Page 3)

Winter Activities

Sunday school and all congregation **Christmas Program** Sunday, December 11, after the first service and before the second. Mark your calendars for a very special treat. This year's program is "Lo and Behold". If you saw HALO on the air last year, you will remember the angels Lo and Behold.

These wonderful bumbling angels lose their way to heaven this year and find their way back through Bethlehem and the baby Jesus. Don't miss this wonderfully written special program performed by Sunday school, confirmation, high school and congregation members. It is a treat you will remember



Jan. 15th — Winter Toboggan & Pizza Party — all ages at Lutherdale, \$7.00 per person. Call Warren for reservations - 815-623-6853.

Sunday, December 18th, our youth will be serving their annual **waffle breakfast** between the two cantata services. Please enjoy this taste of waffles.

Ski – Ski – Ski Cascade on Saturday January 14th. On Saturday, January 14th, our congregation will hold a **family ski outing**. We will arrive at Cascade mountain at 10:00 a.m. and ski until their day session ends. Of course, if you and your family want to stay for the next skiing hours you may. Let us know if you will be part of this fun day of skiing. Everyone is invited. Confirmation youth and Senior High youth may be supervised by our staff without parents. More information will follow regarding the costs.



Ski Sundown in Dubuque Iowa

On February 24th or 25th, our high school youth will be traveling to Dubuque to ski Sundown. Better than that, we will try to stay over with the youth you became friends with on our mission trip. High school youth have off Friday, February 24th, unless they need to make up a snow day. We will meet up with your friends from Dubuque one of those two days. More information will follow on the costs.

Financial Report — January through November 2011

| | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| General Fund: Budget | 253,460 |
| Expenses | 237,388 |
| Income | <u>229,977</u> |
| Short (budget) | 23,483 |
| Bldg. Fund: Expenses | 67,705 |
| Income | <u>55,814</u> |
| Short | 11,891 |
| Mortgage balance: | 100,801 |

Thanks for your generous contributions during difficult economic times. As you can see, the need is still great. Council authorized a Christmas appeal for the general fund: consider a special gift of twice your average Sunday offering.

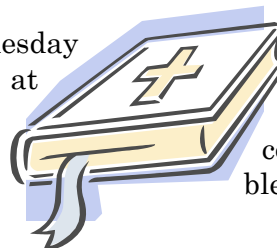
Plans are to refinance the Mortgage at a lower interest rate with a short-term extension.

Calling all WOMEN of Cross and Crown!!!

The Women's Bible (Study) Coffee group is beginning a new study in January!

Our group meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month, from 9:30 to 11:00 AM, at the church.

This new study will focus on **1 John**, which Martin Luther called "...an outstanding epistle, ...so beautifully and gently does it picture Christ to us."



1 John is really a testimony to what makes a true Christian, whose characteristics are right belief, righteousness, and love. If you are curious, please set aside Wednesday, January 4 at 9:30 AM. And come to find out how exciting in-depth Bible Study can be!

Serving the Lord—January, 2012

| | <i>January 1 9:30 a.m. LBW</i> | <i>January 8 8:30 a.m. Old Haugen</i> | <i>January 8 11:00 a.m. Contemporary</i> | <i>January 15 8:30 a.m. W.O.V.</i> |
|-----------------------|--|---|--|--|
| Greeter | Bill & Sally Clemens | Bill & Sally Clemens | Dave & Sandy Nugent | Bill & Sally Clemens |
| Ushers | Linda & Chuck Hanson | Steve Schubert Allan Peters | George Bane Steve Shoudy | John Herring Gary Heideman |
| Acolyte/Cup Collector | Marcus Proctor | Jeffrey Madura | Cassidy Brandt | Riley Landenberger |
| Assisting Minister | Katie Colletta | Rick Paus | | Sharon Olson |
| Message for Children | Puppets | Mitch Olson | Mitch Olson | Warren Jacobs |
| Lector | Joe Colletta | Brent Swanson | Louise Glon | Linda Heideman |
| Communion Setup | | | | |
| Communion Bread | Hilde Magnuson | Ellen Colleta | Louise Glon | Jan Ethington |
| Communion Assistants | Dean & Cindy Snowdon | Cindy & Gary Powalish | Lisa Hoffman Paul Ezop | Gary Heideman Barb Larson |
| Nursery | | | Carley Korte | |
| Coffee Host | | Vere Gambrel | | Dave & Sue Chaney |
| Coffee Cleanup | | | Millie Van Valzah | |
| Bread Delivery | Lisa Albert | Sheila Carey | | Ann Chamberlain |
| Offering Caretaker | Howard Van Valzah | Sheila & Craig Carey | Gary Korth | Dean Snowdon |
| Indoor Plant Care | Sue Chaney | | | → |
| Snow Shoveling | Keller Family | Matt Warneke | | Russ Albert |

If you are unable to serve on your assigned day, please find a replacement and call the church office by Thursday for bulletin changes (623-6853).

Serving the Lord—January, 2012

| | <i>January 15 11:00 a.m. Contemporary</i> | <i>January 22 8:30 a.m. ELW VIII</i> | <i>January 22 11:00 a.m. Contemporary</i> | <i>January 29 8:30 a.m. New Haugen</i> | <i>January 29 11:00 a.m. Contemporary</i> |
|-----------------------|---|--|---|--|---|
| Greeter | Dave & Sandy Nugent | Bill & Sally Clemens | Dave & Sandy Nugent | Bill & Sally Clemens | Bill & Sally Clemens |
| Ushers | Cindy & Greg Loken | Dean & Cindy Snowden | Cheryl & Mike Metcalf | Joe & Ann Chamberlain | Dave & Debbie Keller |
| Acolyte/Cup Collector | Isabella DiGiovanni | Ethan Schubert | Tina Gallagher | Audrey Johnson | Brynn Jacobi |
| Assisting Minister | | Russ Albertt | | Ellen Colletta | |
| Message for Children | Warren Jacobs | Ellen Colletta | Deb Keller | Larry Bauer | Larry Bauer |
| Lector | Dave Keller | Kevin Peters | Cindy Loken | Barb Larson | Lilly Ann Bane |
| Communion Setup | | | | | |
| Communion Bread | Jennifer Ezop | Penni Korte | Lisa Hoffman | Milly Van Valzah | Violet Bane |
| Communion Assistants | Louise Glon Laurel Wright | Craig & Sheila Carey | Steve Shoudy Dave Keller | Russ & Lisa Albert | Greg & Cindy Loken |
| Nursery | Morgan Lacy | | Alyssa Martinez | | Marcus Proctor |
| Coffee Host | | Kristin Frank | | Terri Schubert | |
| Coffee Cleanup | Violet Bane | | Jan Ethington | | Sandy Nugent |
| Bread Delivery | | Lara Hermann | | Penne Korte | |
| Offering Caretaker | Dave Nugent | Keith Irons | Steve Shoudy | Bob Woodard | Mike Metcalf |
| Indoor Plant Care | Sue Chaney | | | | → |
| Snow Shoveling | | | | | |

If you are unable to serve on your assigned day, please find a replacement and call the church office by Thursday for bulletin changes (623-6853).

January 2012

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|---|---|--|-----------|--|
| 1 New Year's Day One Service 9:30 LBW I 10:30 Community Time | 2 Office Closed | 3 6:00 p.m. Social Concerns 7:00 p.m. Book Study | 4 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Coffee 6:30 - 8 p.m. Jr. High 6:30 - 9 p.m. Sr. High | 5 6:00 p.m. Education Committee 6:00 p.m. Spirit Singers 7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir | 6 | 7 7:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast |
| 8 8:30 Old Haugen 9:30 Community Time 9:45 SCS/Cat. 10:00 Adult Enrichment 11:00 Cont. Worship 12:15 Church Council 6:00 Bell Practice | 9 Committee Annual Reports Deadline Newsletter articles due in office | 10 6:00 p.m. Worship & Music 7:00 p.m. Book Study | 11 6:30 - 8 p.m. Jr. High 6:30 - 9 p.m. Sr. High | 12 10:00 a.m. Evangelism Meeting 11:30 a.m. OWLS Pottluck 6:00 p.m. Spirit Singers 6:30 p.m. Finance Committee 7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir | 13 | 14 |
| 15 8:30 WOV 9:30 Community Time 9:45 SCS/Cat. 10:00 Adult Enrichment 11:00 Cont. Worship 6:00 Bell Practice | 16 | 17 6:15 p.m. Building and Grounds Committee 7:00 p.m. Book Study | 18 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Coffee 6:30 - 8 p.m. Jr. High 6:30 - 9 p.m. Sr. High | 19 6:00 p.m. Spirit Singers 7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir | 20 | 21 7:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast |
| 22 8:30 ELW VIII/Communion 9:30 Community Time 9:45 SCS/Cat. 10:00 Adult Enrichment 11:00 Cont. Worship/Comm 11:00 Youth comm. Meeting 6:00 Bell Practice | 23 | 24 7:00 p.m. Book Study | 25 6:30 - 8 p.m. Jr. High 6:30 - 9 p.m. Sr. High | 26 6:00 p.m. Spirit Singers 7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir Campfirmation Staff | 27 | 28 |
| 29 8:30 New Haugen/Comm. 9:30 Community Time 9:45 SCS/Cat. 10:00 Adult Enrichment 11:00 Cont. Worship/Comm Noon Annual Cong. Meeting 6:00 Bell Practice | 30 | 31 7:00 p.m. Book Study | | | | |



| | | | | | |
|--------------------|-----|----------------|------|---------------------|------|
| Curtiss Gerard | 1/2 | Sheri Taylor | 1/9 | Jerry Lindmark | 1/16 |
| Elizabeth Martinez | 1/2 | Cassidy Brandt | 1/10 | Meghan Lichte | 1/17 |
| Randall Wright | 1/3 | Jennifer Loy | 1/11 | Jeanette Nichols | 1/17 |
| Jack Chen | 1/4 | Shelbey Puppe | 1/11 | Meg Lewis | 1/18 |
| Rebecca Johnson | 1/4 | Sheryl Madura | 1/12 | Penny Wirtjes | 1/20 |
| Morgan Lacy | 1/4 | Xia Wah Wu | 1/12 | Hannah Landenberger | 1/23 |
| Jonathon Snowdon | 1/5 | Derek Willging | 1/13 | Nancy Christianson | 1/24 |
| Mark Powalish | 1/6 | Lori Zegunis | 1/14 | Diane Peters | 1/24 |
| Pam Prescott | 1/9 | | | | |

| | |
|--------------------------|------|
| Panos & Tracey Kinigakis | 1/3 |
| James & Shaun Lacy | 1/4 |
| Floyd & Lara Hermann | 1/20 |
| Jim & Cindy Gallagher | 1/29 |



| | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|----------------|------|-----------------|------|
| Sharlene Bauer | 1/1 | Bob Dirks | 1/3 | Sandy Nugent | 1/23 |
| Betty Downing | 1/1 | Diane Peterson | 1/7 | Kylie Duncan | 1/25 |
| John Downing | 1/1 | Larry Bauer | 1/14 | Julie Gerard | 1/26 |
| Kristin Frank | 1/1 | Jan Ethington | 1/14 | Zachary Johnson | 1/26 |
| Dave Nugent | 1/1 | Joshua Wright | 1/17 | Lori Zegunis | 1/28 |
| Nancy Swanson | 1/1 | Jay Kabitzke | 1/20 | Brynn Jacobi | 1/31 |
| Mary Walters | 1/1 | | | | |



Stewardship Projects

As part of the Commitment process at Cross and Crown, the council has authorized that 1% of commitments made for next year — up to \$2,000 — will be given for a special project of outreach. This year we are raising money for a scholarship for a seminary student.

Last year we gave over \$2,000 to Lutheran World Relief for a water project. Our funds are being used to improve access to water for irrigation in 60 acres through the construction of water harvesting structures and establishment of water management systems. This will improve the lives of twenty villages in the Jamui District in Bihar, India (in northeastern India). This area is one of the most densely populated and poorest districts in Bihar. Eighty-five percent of the people depend on agriculture as a source of livelihood. Farming is mostly rain-fed. Lutheran World Relief joins with the Action for Social Advancement non-profit to improve the capacity of one thousand tribal farmers on improved agriculture practices and the construction of water management systems. Also these organizations will organ-

ize one thousand village people into sixty self-help groups and develop their capacity to access capital, fair price agricultural inputs, and marketing services. All this is scheduled to be completed by June 2013.

Your gifts are making these things happen to benefit the lives of over a thousand people! — bringing them from a life threatened by starvation to self-reliant families.

Pastor John and Stewardship Committee of Cross and Crown



Appreciated Securities Are a Smart Year-End Gift (Continued)

If you wish to transfer stock electronically (DTC), inform your broker that you wish for your gift to be sent to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's account as follows:

Wells Fargo Advisors
 DTC Clearing #0141
 FBO Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 Account # 5103-9400

If you wish to make a gift of stock certificates, mu-

tual funds, bonds, or stock held in a dividend reinvestment plan or book entry, please contact Ms. Greene. Because some of these transfers are more complicated, it is advised that you initiate the process as early as possible to be eligible for a 2011 tax deduction. As always, be sure to consult your tax advisor regarding the tax-saving benefits your charitable gifts may qualify for.

Prepared by Pam Prescott
 Finance Committee member

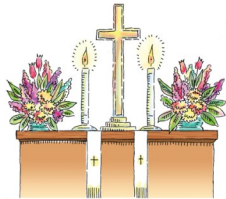
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Website: www.crosscrown.org

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Roscoe, Illinois 61073



The Rev. Dr. John L. Heins



Worship Schedule

Sundays: 8:30 a.m. Traditional
 9:30 a.m. Community Time
 9:45 a.m. Education Hour
 11:00 a.m. Contemporary

Address Service Requested

Coming Events . . .

- Sunday, December 11, 9:30 a.m. — “Lo and Behold” Christmas Program presented by Sunday School and others — followed by a Christmas Celebration and Community Time in Fellowship Hall.
- Wednesday, December 14 — Youth carol at Fair Oaks.
- Friday, December 16, 6:00 p.m. — Young Parents Potluck and Cookie Exchange
- Sunday, December 18, 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. — The Chancel Choir presents the Christmas Cantata.
- Sunday, December 18, 9:30—10:00 a.m.: Free Blood Pressure Screening in the church library.
- Sunday, December 18, 9:30 a.m. — Youth Waffle and Sausage Breakfast — income goes to youth for Workcamp and other youth events. Invite friends and neighbors!
 - Saturday, Dec. 24, Christmas Eve Worship:
 - 4:00 p.m. family worship with Bell Choir, children’s message, candle-lighting, Holy Communion.
 - 6:00 p.m. family worship with Chancel Choir, children’s message, candle-lighting, Holy Communion.
 - 11:00 p.m. night worship with candle-lighting and Holy Communion.
 - Christmas Day Carol Service — 9:30 a.m.
 - New Year Day worship— 9:30 a.m.



Cross and Crown Staff

John L. Heins, Pastor
Warren Jacobs, Dir. of Youth and Family Ministries
Mitchell Olson, Director of Music
Deborah Dunnavan-Moreau, Organist
Sharlene Bauer, Handbell Director
Barbara Peterson, Office Secretary, Receptionist

Cindi Irons, Newsletter Editor and Counter
Leanne & Jerry Upward, Counters
Violet Bane, Custodian
Ed Grob, Webmaster
Jennifer Ezop, Pre-school Director

***Pie Auction
During Community Time
December 18
Please indicate what kind of
pie you will be donating.***