

Mount Cross Lutheran Church

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# 2010 Stewardship Resources

## Mount Cross' Mission Statement

*To know God through care, compassion and creative worship.*

### **CORE VALUES:**

Intimacy with God  
Inspiring Worship  
Nurturing the Next  
Generation

Compassionate Outreach  
Caring Community

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## 1. A PIGSTY STORY

When the translators of the Bible from Latin into English were looking for a word to translate οἰκονομίαν (oiknomian - see Luke 16:2), they looked out the window into the English countryside and said: AHA! There it is; just what we need for our word! And what they were looking at was the pigsty, of all things! Centuries ago when the survival of a community was often in danger if the crops failed or could not produce due to weather or circumstance, a person was chosen to care for another resource of food, the pigs. This Sty Ward(en) would take good care of the pigs so that the household and community could have a certain and sure food supply, so that there would not be starvation, so that everyone would have access to the food table. The sti-ward (steward) was a critically important person in the community. And so for us, 'steward' is a critically important understanding for our lives. We too are caretakers of someone else's property (God's), and it is our 'stewardship' to see that God's economy works here on earth: that everyone has access to God's table, that there are no human barriers for any of God's children to the necessities of human life. Such is our work as stewards, to which we signed on at our baptism.

## 2. A TREE AND ITS LEAVES

A church is like a tree and its members are like leaves. Leaves make food for the tree, using water, light, and carbon dioxide. Without all three of these things, the tree cannot grow or even live. A church, without constant donations of time, talent and treasure, will suffer and may not survive. However, with careful stewardship, the church will flourish. And like a healthy tree, it will benefit others. It can be a source of food, shelter and inspiration, too. Remember this as you decide how you can provide your time, talent and resources to make the "tree" flourish."

*"Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers; but their delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law they meditate day and night. They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper."*

Psalm 1:1-3

## 3. GIVING AND PLEDGING

There is a difference between giving and pledging? They are both important words and they are related to each other, of course. Pledging is a special way of organizing and planning your financial giving to the church. So let's start with giving.

## 4. YOU NEED TO GIVE

There is a famous lake in Israel called the Dead Sea. It is dead because while water flows into it from the north, nothing flows out of it. If a lake only receives, it dies. It is like that with people, too. In Christ, through the Holy Spirit, God continuously sends blessings in your direction. But if a believer only receives, they die. When it comes to God, we can never "pay it back." So we need to give, we "pay it forward."

## 5. FOUR BIG WORDS

There are four very important words that should guide you in your giving? They are right, proportionate, sacrificial and planned.

## 6. RIGHT GIVING

The first word is *right*. Right as in not left, as in left over. Many people give to God and God's work after they have given to their other needs and wants. When they do this, they find that God gets the **left-overs**. What is **right** to give is the first portion. We are taught to give off the top—the Bible calls it "first

fruits giving.” We love and thank God by giving first...before the mortgage or rent, the car payment, even food. Giving first, whenever we receive income, is a sign of trust that is even more important than how much we give.

*“Honor the LORD with your substance and with the first fruits of all your produce.” Proverbs 3:9*

### 7. PROPORTIONATE GIVING

You need to give proportionately. There is no “right” amount for your regular offering, but there is a Biblical way to give. We are to give in proportion to what we receive. The Biblical guideline is tithing (10%), but the percentage itself is less important than the commitment to give proportionately. If you’re new to proportionate giving, you can use the percentage chart on the other side of this card to determine a place to start.

*“All tithes of herd and flock, every tenth one that passes under the shepherd's staff, shall be holy to the LORD.” Leviticus 27:32*

### 8. PROPORTIONATE GIVING CHART

Weekly Incomes	Weekly Giving = 1 <sup>%x</sup>	3 <sup>%</sup>	5 <sup>%</sup>	7 <sup>%</sup>	10 <sup>%</sup>	12 <sup>%</sup>	15 <sup>%</sup>
\$200	\$2	\$6	\$10	\$14	\$20	\$24	\$30
\$400	\$4	\$12	\$20	\$28	\$40	\$48	\$60
\$600	\$6	\$18	\$30	\$42	\$60	\$72	\$90
\$700	\$7	\$21	\$35	\$49	\$70	\$84	\$105
\$800	\$8	\$24	\$40	\$56	\$80	\$96	\$120
\$1,000	\$10	\$30	\$50	\$70	\$100	\$120	\$150
\$1,250	\$12 <sup>50</sup>	\$37 <sup>50</sup>	\$62 <sup>50</sup>	\$87 <sup>50</sup>	\$125	\$150	\$187 <sup>50</sup>
\$1,500	\$15	\$45	\$75	\$105	\$150	\$180	\$225
\$1,750	\$17 <sup>50</sup>	\$52 <sup>50</sup>	\$87 <sup>50</sup>	\$122 <sup>50</sup>	\$175	\$210	\$262 <sup>50</sup>
\$2,000	\$20	\$60	\$100	\$140	\$200	\$240	\$300

### 9. SACRIFICIAL & PLANNED GIVING

The one and only sacrifice that was able to restore a right relation between God and the world was made for us by Jesus on the cross. All of our giving is marked by thanksgiving for all the benefits we have received because of Christ.

*“Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind. And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices, and tell of his deeds with songs of joy.” Psalm 107:21-22*

### 10. PLANNED GIVING WORKSHEET

1. Current weekly giving: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

2. Divide by weekly income: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

3. Equals **current** percentage: \_\_\_\_\_%

Consider **growing** by at least 1 %

Enter new percentage here: \_\_\_\_\_%

6. Use the Proportionate Giving Chart to determine your new weekly giving amount: \$\_\_\_\_\_
7. When you receive your new Plan for Giving card, enter this new dollar amount.

### **11. DIFFERENT WAYS TO GIVE**

When you have decided the right way you need to give (first fruits) and planned a proportionate amount, where do you put your money? One choice is to place cash in the offering in the plate. This kind of anonymous giving honors the fact that what you give is between you and God. Another choice is to use the offering envelopes that our church provides its members. Those who use envelopes for their giving receive quarterly reports of their giving that help when calculating charitable giving deductions on income tax forms. These reports also help those who pledge keep track of how they are doing during the year (more on pledging on the next card).

*“With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you; I will give thanks to your name, O LORD, for it is good.” Psalm 54:6*

### **12. PLEDGING IS IMPORTANT TO YOUR CHURCH**

Try to imagine this: you start a new job and you are told that you will be receiving a salary. You ask, “How much?” and are told, “Don’t worry about how much, you’ll get your money.” And when you ask when you will get paid you are told, “Don’t worry. You’ll get your money.”

This is a little like the situation in which the leaders of your church find themselves from time to time. The people of Mount Cross have been good and generous givers; you only have to look around at the facilities and programs we have to know this is true. But the leaders of our church sometimes have to use guesswork to plan for the financial future of the church.

When people choose to pledge, they are letting the church’s leadership know of their giving intentions for the coming year. With these pledges from the congregation in hand, a budget can be prepared and plans made to accomplish the mission Christ has given to us.

### **13. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT PLEDGING**

#### **• What if I cannot keep the promise I made on my pledge card?**

A pledge card is not a promissory note. It is your estimate of your best intentions. But we know that people’s situations change and their ability to give changes, too. Your church understands this.

#### **• If I fall behind on my pledge, will someone call me?**

Everyone who pledges receives a quarterly report of their giving. It shows the amount they intended to give during the year and the amount given-to-date. You can use this to keep track of how you are doing. But no one is ever contacted personally about the status of their giving.

#### **• What if the whole congregation is falling behind?**

If this happens, we will send out a letter to the *whole* congregation, letting *all* of Mount Cross know that we are behind in our commitments. But we never single anyone out.

#### **• What if the pledges the congregation makes are not enough to meet the budget?**

On occasion we have asked the members of the church to pledge a second time to make up the difference.

## **14. GUIDE TO THE *TIME & TALENT REPORT***

### **WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE**

#### **Greeter**

Welcomes people (especially visitors) on the way into worship, and stands with the pastor after worship to guide visitors to meet other members on the patio.

#### **Usher**

Duties include handing out worship folders and guiding people to seats, collect and bring forward Sunday offerings, guide people forward for Communion, record attendance, and certain opening and lock-up procedures.

#### **Reader**

Usually reads one or two lessons during one of the Sunday services. May be called to serve for special services, too.

#### **Acolyte**

This job is usually done by young people in the 1st and 2nd year Confirmation classes, although older youth can serve, too. Main duties include lighting and putting out candles; receive offering; helping with Communion.

#### **Communion Assistant**

Helps Pastors and Assisting Minister give wine during Communion.

#### **Assisting Minister**

Serve at the traditional services. Duties include leading various parts of the service, preparing the altar before and after Communion, and giving bread or wine during Communion. NOTE: it is not necessary to be able to chant (sing) the service.

#### **Media Tech**

Monitor the microphone and speaker levels, control the tape recording of the service, and monitor the other electronics, including the devices that assist the hearing impaired.

#### **Worship Assistants Coordinator**

Prepare the monthly Worship Assistant list. Keep track of the scheduling.

#### **Altar Guild**

Monthly teams prepare the sanctuary for worship (Sundays and special services), including setting up for Communion, changing the altar cloths, candles, water in baptismal font, and checking the pews for supplies.

#### **Clean/press altar linens**

If you like to do laundry, this is the job for you! The altar linens, and the many linens used for Communion need regular care.

#### **Contemporary Service: projectionist**

Operate laptop computer and video projector to display the words for the songs during worship.

#### **Worship & Music Committee Member**

Interested in serving as a member of the Worship & Music Committee.

### **MUSIC MINISTRIES**

#### **Sanctuary Choir**

Sanctuary Choir rehearses every Wednesday evening, beginning at 7:30 PM. They present musical offerings at the traditional services as well as other special music events like *The Hanging of the Greens*.

#### **Bell Choir**

The Mount Cross English Handbell Ensemble rehearses Wednesday evenings, beginning at 6:20 PM. They present musical offerings at the traditional services as well as other special music events like *The Hanging of the Greens*.

#### **Contemporary Service: singer**

Sing with the worship team that provides support for the songs the congregation sings.

**Contemporary Service: instrument**

Guitar, drums, keyboard,?

**Children's Choir**

If there is enough interest and we find the right person we maybe able to revive the children's choir program  
*Praise Kids.*

**Soloist**

From time to time there is a need for solo voices during special musical or worship events, as well as for funeral or wedding music.

**Men's or Women's Chorus**

Would you like to sing in one of these ensembles? Let us know.

**Play an instrument**

From time to time there is a need for instrumental music for special musical or worship events (such as brass instruments on Easter morning).

**FINANCE COMMITTEES**

**Serve on Audit Committee**

The financial book of the whole church must be checked each year. A committee of three is selected to a three-year term, one member replaced each year.

**Endowment Committee**

Help manage the Mount Cross Endowment Fund.

**Budget & Finance Committee Member**

Interested in serving as a member of the Budget & Finance Committee.

**CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

**Help with annual Back-To-School Night barbecue**

One of the biggest events of our school year is our famous tri-tip dinner followed by a special speaker. We need a lot of help with set up and take down of tables, decorating, etc.

**Child Development Center Board Nominee**

The CDC Board advises the director and helps to set policy for our preschool. Most members of the Board are required to be church members.

**EVANGELISM COMMITTEE**

**Evangelism Committee Member**

Interested in serving as a member of the Evangelism Committee.

**Visitation Team**

When someone visits Mount Cross for the first time, we try to make a personal contact with them within 48 hours.

**Sponsor new members**

When new members join Mount Cross, each one is assigned a sponsor. This informal duty includes making sure that the new people know about some of the appropriate and enjoyable fellowship and recreational opportunities (for example, not everyone automatically knows what a *Flinke Handed* is, or what one wears when invited to a *Bonkers* event). Sponsors might make a point of inviting new members to an event such as *Make It/Bake-It* and showing them the ropes.

**CARING COMMITTEE**

**Angel Hands**

Help people who need simple assistance. Can you fix simple household problems or direct people that need assistance in the right direction?

**Call (Shut-ins, hospitalized, inactive members)**

Several members of Mount Cross are not able to regularly participate in the life of the church the way most of us take for granted. If you would like to call those who are spending time in the hospital or convalescent homes, please circle this item.

**Child care**

We get calls in the office quite frequently from people who are looking for one-time, occasional or regular child care. Let us know if and how you can help.

**Home care for elderly or those convalescing**

Some people have the gift of compassion and the freedom to be able to help in short or long-term situations.

**Participate in telephone/email prayer chain**

When there has been a death, a surgery, or a reason to praise, this chain is activated to surround those in need with the power of prayer. If you would like to be added to this chain, check this item.

**Deliver Sunday flowers to homebound or hospitalized**

When those who provided the flowers for Sunday worship choose not to take them, we would like to have a few people available to deliver them to people who will enjoy them.

**Drive non-drivers to worship and fellowship.**

Give a ride to someone who may not be driving to worship or other church events.

**Write cards/make calls to homebound or hospitalized**

Join with others in helping some of our members continue to feel connected to the rest of their church family.

**Distribute Communion to homebound or hospitalized**

After training, take the bread and wine from the altar after worship out to homes and hospitalized.

**Serve on Caring Committee**

Interested in serving as a member of the Caring Committee

**Provide emergency meals**

When someone has been in the hospital or there has been a death in a family and it would be a great help not to have to worry about cooking, it is usually through the efforts of ladies of the church that a good meal arrives at the door. If you would be willing to cook from time to time to meet this need, circle this item.

**Serve at Funeral Services & Receptions (Helping Hands)**

When there is a reception following a funeral or memorial service, we need help with serving the food, setup, etc. after the service.

**Provide food for funeral receptions**

Even if you can't serve the food, would you prepare some?

**Good Grief Group**

Support network for men and women who've been widowed or suffered a catastrophic loss.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Knitting or crocheting a prayer shawl as you pray for someone who has lost a loved one or is recuperating from a serious illness.

**Provide Meals for New Moms**

Prepare a meal for a family that has had a recent new arrival.

**STEPHEN MINSTRY**

**Send information about becoming Stephen Minister**

Stephen Ministers are trained to be caring friends for those going through times of crisis or just needing someone who will listen and walk with them through a tough stage of life's journey. Stephen Ministers receive 50 hours of training.

**Send information about becoming Stephen Leader**

Stephen Leaders are sent away for a week of extensive training and return to help lead the Stephen Ministry at Mount Cross.

**HOUSE MISSIONS/BIBLE STUDIES****At-home Bible study & fellowship group**

Participate in an at-home Bible study. Please specify what night you are available.

**Lead an at-home Bible study**

Lead an at-home Bible study. Please specify what night you are available.

**Tuesday Women's Bible Study**

Once a month on Tuesday, the Women's Bible study meets at a member's home at 1:00 PM. The Bible study is based on an article that appears each month in *Lutheran Women Today* magazine.

**Women's Bible Study**

Lead a Women's Bible Study for a 6-8 week time period. Choose the material and organized the study.

**Participate in a New Study**

Participate in a new Bible Study.

**Participate in the Men's Breakfast/Bible Study**

Participate in a every other week Men's Bible Study that meets at 6:30 AM at Denny's Restaurant in Camarillo. The study is based on the readings that will be used in church service in two weeks.

**Sunday Morning Bible Class**

Participate in the Adult Bible Class that is offered on Sunday Mornings at 9:30 AM on the church patio or in Pastor Erik's office.

**STAFF SUPPORT COMMITTEES****Personnel Committee Member**

Interested in serving as a member of the Personnel Committee.

**Mediation Board nominee**

In the event of a dispute between staff members, or between church and staff, the mediation board seeks a resolution. This board has never met, but it is important that it be in place in advance of need.

**Mutual Ministry Committee**

Provides support to the pastors, helps them develop ministry goals and continuing education plans. Also monitors the mutual ministry of pastor and congregation.

**STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE****Stewardship Committee Member**

Interested in serving as a member of the Stewardship Committee.

**YOUTH**

### **Adult Volunteer for Senior High**

Sometimes the Pastor needs some extra eyes to keep track of the growing number of young people attending our activities. Like to help? Circle one or both of these items.

### **Provide rides for outings**

With our growing youth group, transportation is sometimes a challenge. Let us know if we can call you now and then. You don't have to have a big van to be needed.

### **Confirmation Guide /Adult Volunteer for Jr. High**

A Guide is an adult who spends a school year serving as a mentor for a small group of Confirmation kids. They participate in a three-part process with the students: learning, serving and playing. New guides are needed at the start of every school year.

### **I can tutor**

Let us know if you feel confident to tutor in a subject or subjects.

### **I need a tutor**

Let us know if you need help in a certain subject.

## **LEARNING COMMITTEE**

### **Sunday School Coordinator**

We have an active and growing Sunday School with a large staff. We need one (or more than one) person to oversee the program. If two people were interested, they could share this job and divide its responsibilities between them.

### **Sunday School (S.S.) Teacher**

We offer classes for children ages 4 (those able to attend preschool) through adult. Our usual needs for teachers are in the primary grades (through sixth). We try to provide each class with a **minimum** of two teachers (some grades have more) so that teachers are able to teach on an alternating schedule. Training is available.

### **Sunday School Teacher Assistant**

Participate in Sunday School class room by helping teachers either every week or every other week.

### **Sunday School Substitute Teacher**

To teach a Sunday School class on an occasional basis as needed.

### **Sunday School Opening Assistant**

To assist the opening leader in either singing, accompanying music on an instrument, or moving equipment.

### **Will play an instrument for Opening**

It is nice to have the assistance of a piano or guitar or other instrument as we sing our songs before going to class.

### **Sunday School Craft Coordinator**

Plan and organize craft to compliment lesson for the younger grade classes each week. The teachers will implement craft.

### **S. S. Special Projects**

Willing to coordinate special projects for Sunday School such as Easter, Father's & Mother's Day, etc.

### **Sunday School Snacks**

Coordinate the receiving and serving of snacks.

### **Vacation Bible School Coordinator**

During the first week of August, Mount Cross presents Vacation Bible School (VBS) to the church and community. To make it a good week requires the effort of a lot of people, and they need to have the guidance of the Coordinator. Training is available.

### **VBS Teacher**

Classes are offered for children from preschool age through sixth grade. Like our Sunday School, we try to provide each grade with at least two teachers. This is a great way to test the waters for teaching Sunday School.

### **VBS Classroom helper**

Every teaching team can use extra help with crafts, snacks and other activities. This is a great way for youth to serve. These folks also help with snacks.

**VBS Snack helper**

Help with serving of snacks the week of Vacation Bible School.

**VBS Music Leader**

Music is a very important part of the Bible School experience. The music leaders) work with the children during a portion of each morning, teaching them the songs that go with their lessons.

**VBS Crafts Coordinator**

For many kids, Bible School is synonymous with the crafts they make and take home. Craft leaders help the children make a variety of lesson related crafts.

**VBS Recreation**

After a hard day singing and painting and listening to Bible stories, it feels good to play some games. We need people to lead this recreation time, too.

**Sunday Morning Library Coordinator**

Scheduling the Library Aides and coordinating the church's library.

**Sunday Morning Library Aide**

Take out and display library carts on the patio between services on Sunday mornings and check out and receive returns of books, music & videos.

**Fun With Faith Participant**

Students in first to sixth grade wanting to deepen their faith, enjoy activities, service, outings, and recreation.

Meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday afternoons from 4:00-5:30 p.m.

**Fun With Faith Leader**

Adult willing to organize the events or outings for students.

**Fun With Faith Craft Coordinator**

Adult willing to organize the crafts for Fun With Faith.

**Fun With Faith Teacher**

Adult willing to participate in teaching for Fun With Faith. Curriculum provided.

**Learning Committee Member**

Interested in serving as a member of the Learning Committee.

**SERVICE & MISSION COMMITTEE**

**CROP Walk Coordinator**

Coordinate Mount Cross participation in the annual walk for hunger usually held in March.

**CROP Walk**

Every year many people walk a 6.2 mile course to raise money to fight hunger and disease. Some of the money touches lives in other countries, but some of it stays home and helps needs in Camarillo. Let us know if you would like to be contacted about the next CROP Walk, which is usually held in March.

**Blood Drive Coordinator**

Mount Cross used to be a regular stop for the Bloodmobile, but the number of donors dropped off. If you would be willing to help recruit donors, perhaps we could serve our community by bringing the Bloodmobile back to our parking lot.

**Blood Donor**

Giving blood or blood products (platelets) is one of the easiest ways there is of helping in a significant way. From time to time we learn of special blood needs. Let us know if we can call you.

**Habitat for Humanity**

If you would like to participate in one of the projects that take place around the county from time to time, circle this item.

**Coffee Project Coordinator**

Coordinate the Coffee Project effort. Coffee from Lutheran World Relief is sold the first Sunday of every month.

**Help on Sunday mornings with the Coffee Project**

Help at the Coffee Project table the first Sunday of the month.

**Hickory House**

Hickory House is a low-income nursing home. People are needed to visit, bring simple programs and distribute gifts.

**Relay for Life Coordinator (American Cancer Society)**

Coordinate the Annual walk sponsored by the American Cancer Society. Organize a team to walk for a 24-hour period at a local high school.

**Relay for Life Participant**

Participate in an annual walk that is sponsored by the American Cancer Society and join the Mount Cross team that participates every year. Walk for one hour at a local high school.

**Hurricane Rebuilding Mission Trip (LDR)**

Be part of a trip to the Hurricane devastated area in the south and participate in a building project. We would need a coordinator and a person with some knowledge of construction to assist in the building process.

**Tijuana Mission Trip**

This would require a family weekend in Tijuana to help with building facilities for families in need and to help bring Christ to people in Tijuana through our caring and helping hands. We would need a coordinator and a person with some knowledge of construction to assist in the building process.

**Interested in World Missions**

Help to do more to build awareness of the work done by our missionaries in other parts of the world.

**Lutheran Social Services Projects**

Participate in projects sponsored by Lutheran Social Services.

**Service & Mission Committee Member**

Interested in serving as a member of the Service & Mission Committee.

**LEADERSHIP**

**Serve On Church Council**

Church Council members look after the month to month leadership of the ministry of the congregation. Each Committee has at least one representative to the church council. Council members are elected for two year terms. The council meets every Second Tuesday of the month to take care of the church's business between annual meetings and chart the course for the future. Next election will take place in January 2005.

**Nominating Committee Member**

Help to seek out people to serve on church council, boards, and committees.

**Synod Assembly voting Member**

Attend the annual meeting of our synod, usually at the end of May.

**PROPERTY COMMITTEE**

**Property Committee Member**

The Property Committee meets once a month to keep track of the many maintenance and improvements needed in our facility. They organize regular work days throughout the year that call many members together, especially to clean. The list below represents some of the skills that are needed from time to time:

Painting, Carpentry, Electrical/lighting, Computer/networking/web design, Electronics/sound system, Plumbing, Gardening/Landscaping/sprinkler system, Help on church workdays.

**FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE**

### **Adult Fellowship**

Some of the regular activities include an annual table hockey tournament, card night, and Bonkers tournament. The group is striving to be self-leading, that is, one or two from the group agree to organize one event, then the responsibility passes to some others, and so on.

### **Family Fellowship**

Go fly a kite. An afternoon at the beach. A hike planned with shorter legs in mind. If you would like to participate in activities for adults **and** their children, mark this one.

### **CROSSBEAMS**

Crossbeams is for adults who are able to get together during the day. Many are retired, but that is **not** a prerequisite for this group. Activities have included museum trips and regular pot luck lunches and programs at church. Group meets the first Friday of every month with the exception of July & August.

### **Set up for Crossbeams**

Assist members of Crossbeams with set up for their monthly lunches the first Friday of the month.

### **Flinke Handed**

No one is really sure what *Flinke Handed* means, but this is one of the most active groups in the church. They meet twice a month (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday) in the mornings (9:30 AM). Sewing, needlepoint, embroidery...whatever you are working on or want help with. And, of course, don't forget the good conversation that weaves it all together.

### **Cook's Club**

The Cook's Club prepares many of the meals that Mount Cross members have come to enjoy. The fellowship that happens while cooking and serving is an important ingredient in this group.

### **Food and other preparation for major events**

If you like helping with the big events: planning, inviting, decorating, etc. let us know.

The Cook's Club handles many but not all of the cooking for church events. If you would like to cook once in awhile, mark this item.

### **Bread Breakers**

Every other month small groups gather to share a meal (dinner, brunch, breakfast, a picnic) and get better acquainted. Singles, families, seniors, members, visitors—all are welcome.

### **Bread Breakers — Host a Meal**

Host a Bread Breakers meal either at your home, a restaurant or other location. Coordinate the meal for that day and call the participants and assign them something to bring.

### **Bread Breakers: Help Coordinate**

Help coordinate a monthly Bread Breakers. Divide the people that sign up into groups and designate a host for each small group. Instruction and help is available if needed.

### **Church picnic**

Help in the coordination and preparation of our annual picnic.

### **Sunday Morning Hospitality: Coordinator or Host a Sunday**

The time spent on the patio before and especially after worship is crucial to connecting people to the body of Christ. A cup of coffee or tea can be the means by which someone is greeted and friendships formed. If you would like to coordinate the schedule of those who host each week's hospitality center, or if you would like to take a turn hosting, please let us know.

### **Softball**

Mount Cross currently has Co-Ed and Men's teams in leagues run by the Pleasant Valley Recreation and Parks. They offer Spring, Summer and Fall leagues. Circle this item and check the area of interest. Also indicate your best night to play.

### **Bonkers Group**

Bonkers is a fast paced dice and card game that also happens to be a great way to meet a lot of people. This women's get-together is every 3rd Tuesday evening at 7:00 PM.

### **Ladies/Young Ladies Luncheon: Coordinator**

Coordinate the annual Ladies/Young Ladies Luncheon held sometime close to Mother's Day. Find volunteers, coordinate a menu, and find entertainment for the day.

**Ladies/Young ladies Luncheon: Help with Event**

Help with the Ladies/Young ladies Luncheon in some capacity. Set-up, decorations, program, etc.

**Thanksgiving Pie Social: Organize and set-up event**

Organize our annual Pie Social that takes place on Thanksgiving Eve following the service. Pie and coffee, tables set-up and take down, and cleanup.

**Thanksgiving Pie Social: Donate a pie**

Donate a pie for the annual Thanksgiving Eve Pie Social.

The following sports or activities aren't currently active, but they could be if we learn that there are some people who would like to be involved: **Book Club, Camping, Volleyball, Bowling, Golf, Tennis, Bridge, Cycling & Mountain biking, Snow skiing, and Water skiing**

**Fellowship Committee Member**

Help keep the fellowship life of our congregation strong.

**OTHER SERVICES OR INTERESTS**

**Enter data into computer**

Occasionally we have a need for someone to sit and enter names or other data into one of the computers.

**Make telephone calls**

Occasionally we need help calling members of the church to let them know of a certain important event or collect information.

**Fill in for secretary during vacations**

When our secretary is away, we need a few people to answer phones, sign for packages from UPS, etc.

**Help with copying/ mailing newsletter & other projects**

The annual report and the booklet you are reading right now are examples of assembling, stapling and preparing to take to the post office.

**Make copies of audio tapes for distribution to shut-ins**

We have a machine that will make three copies of the Sunday service tape in just a few minutes. We need someone to make those copies so they can be distributed starting on Monday.

**Christmas, Lenten & Easter Decorating Teams**

Christmas Team responsibilities include the purchase, set up and decorating of the tree, garland, wreaths, etc.

Lenten Team responsibilities include decorating with palms for Palm Sunday. Easter Team responsibilities include the flower cross.

**Make posters/banners**

Do you have artistic ability that we could use from time to time for designing publicity posters, or even T-shirts?

**Provide childcare – church events**

Provide childcare for church activities such as dinners, special events, luncheons, etc., as needed.

**Photograph or video tape church events, new members, etc.**

If you like to be behind the camera, we could use you from time to time.

**Work in nursery, Sunday morning & special events**

We provide continuous nursery care for young children from 7:45 AM until after the third service ends. If you would like to be on the roster of those who help, circle this item. This is a paid position.

**Own pick-up truck that can be used for special needs**

When we have the next work day or another parking lot sale, we'll need you if you have a truck and can help us haul stuff.

**Own van that can be used for church trips**

Sometimes we need to transport members to church events or activities.

**Participate in drama**

Once in a while a short play or skit is needed for worship or at other times. Circle this item if we can call on you to help.

#### **15. A MESSAGE FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE:**

**\*To save on postage, we will send reminders via the e-mail whenever possible. With postage at .41, it adds up quickly. If you check your e-mail regularly, the church staff would like you to consider receiving reminders via the e-mail. Reminders for "All Church" --** Receive reminders for church activities, funerals, etc. ***E-mail reminders are available for Youth Activities:*** Sunday School, Fun With Faith, Confirmation, High School. ***Reminders for Worship Assisting:*** Lector, usher, acolyte, etc. If you select this, the readings/prayers will be sent via the e-mail and will be in MS word.

#### **16. SIMPLY GIVING**

Simply Giving® is an automated giving program designed to help you conveniently and consistently contribute to a Lutheran congregation. Through Simply Giving®, your gifts are made through a pre-authorized withdrawal from your bank account. You determine the frequency of your automatic gift—weekly, semi-monthly or monthly—the option is yours. Your gift or payment is deposited into the recipient's bank account on the same day it is withdrawn from your account—at no cost to you or the recipient.

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans offers Simply Giving® to further its mission of serving Lutheran congregations and institutions.

Simply Giving® benefits to you and to your congregation. Simply Giving® is a reliable, safe way to move your stewardship plan into action. It allows you to share your gifts through planned giving and activates your generosity into ongoing stewardship. Because your gift is given consistently, you won't need to play "catch-up" at year-end or worry about forgotten checkbooks or missed Sunday offerings.

But you're not the only one that benefits. Your congregation benefits from steady, more predictable revenues throughout the year, more efficient bookkeeping and greater confidence in meeting its financial commitments

If you are interested in participating, please indicate on your pledge card.

**NOTE TO THOSE ALREADY PARTICIPATING:** When you increase your weekly giving amount, new paperwork will need to be sent to Thrivent to direct a new withdrawal amount. Contact the financial secretary, Jenny Christensen, for help with this.