

5/04/2025

Shadow of the Cross
Lutheran Church

Rev. Brian C Dupre
Pastor

THE CROSS CHRONICLES



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Readings for the week of May 4, 2025

First Reading Acts.9:1-22

Epistle –Rev. 5: 8-14

Holy Gospel –John 21:1-14

**Ctrl+Click this link for the Shadow of the
Cross website:**

SHADOWOFTHECROSSLC.ORG

and this link for secure electronic giving:

Worship service livestream:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCM0cM0gle1sMO4AbuYc5I7Q>

Worship Service: Sunday 9:45 am **Holy Communion** every Sunday.

Prayer Journey: 2nd and 4th Saturdays 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm 1-425-436-6395 dial
341-364 #

Fellowship hour with refreshments will follow the service.

Pastor Dupre's Sunday Bible study begin at 11:00 am.

Aaron Clark has created a SOTC YouTube channel and will be streaming the service. Please direct all questions to the church office 248 474-0675, Mon – Friday, 9:45 am – 2:00 pm. Thank you. Tuesday Bible Study is at 11:00 am. You can also join us via Zoom, contact the office for the information.

Do Not Be Deceived"

Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. –Galatians 6:7-8 ESV

We live in a crazy world. It's hard to image it can get any worse than it already is. And maybe that is a good thing; maybe it is a sign that the Last Day is close at hand. You know you can't call a thing what it is anymore without being labeled as "out of touch", "intolerant", "ignorant", or "politically incorrect." Whatever we are called, we who speak the truth are somehow in the wrong. It seems people want to live in a fantasy world where anything goes as long as it doesn't affect anyone else. In other words I can do whatever I want, be whoever I want to be, without having to be responsible for the consequences of my decisions. After all, how dare you judge me!

If you don't see it, let me make it clearer for you. Men are not women, even if they want to be and have surgery or hormone therapy to make them appear that way. Likewise, women are not men for the same reasons. And no single person is a "we" or "they" even if that's what that person wants to be identified as. Yet many people still fight to change who God made them to be physically; maybe because the grass appears green on "the other side", or maybe because they are not comfortable in their own skin or feel inadequate for whatever reason. This has led many of people to think they can "correct God's mistake" and change who they are by changing their appearances. But the truth is, changing our appearances doesn't change who God made us. It only masks the truth and deceives ourselves.

Friends, this is called self-deception and is one of the greatest tricks Satan has put upon us. Regardless of what we look like or try to appear to be on the outside, a man is a man, and a woman is a woman on the inside; and none of us are plural in existence; just as God determined. A man cannot think and feel in the same way a woman can and neither can a woman think and feel as a man, no matter how badly we may want to. God made male and female differently purposefully. The women in my life have given me many insights that never would have occurred to me had they not shared their thoughts with me. Likewise, I have had the same impact on these very same women. If we are going to be offended by anything, why not be offended by the very idea that we know ourselves better than God, who created us?

Do not be deceived; God WILL NOT be mocked by our callous love of self and our desires. He Will Not be mocked by our callous disrespect for whom He made us to be. These are GREAT sins! If we are feeling inadequate with ourselves, why not call upon the one who created us to bring about understanding or a change of heart, which only the Holy Spirit can do? Why put our trust in and rely on the surgeons or the doctors, who are just as sinful and fallible as we are to create something we call better in us? Here is our warning, when we rely on the flesh, from the flesh we will reap corruption. But when we rely on the Spirit, from the Spirit we will reap eternal life. God bless you all in Jesus' name! -Pastor Dupre

see the error in their ways. The moral decline will continue here and elsewhere in the world unless the Christian army stands united against the common foe of the new tolerance. We must learn to love again without conditions or value judgments. Most importantly, we must continue to share the good news of Jesus Christ with everyone. In

doing so, the Holy Spirit will join the battle. We must stress the importance of having a Christ-centered society and take the emphasis off ourselves and our selfish desires.. God's peace be with you all. -Pastor Dupre

The peace of the Lord be with you -Rev. Brian Dupre, Pastor, SOTC

SOTC Zoom Account

Any chairperson needing to use the Zoom account for their ministry, please contact the Church office. There is a sign-up sheet in the office to reserve your date and time.



**JOIN US FOR
SUNDAY SCHOOL Online**

Sunday school is back, and we are meeting in person on Sundays at 9:45 a.m. Our adult Sunday school will continue Saturdays at 10:00 a.m. on Zoom and we hope to see you there. If you have any questions regarding our Sunday school, please feel free to call any of the Sunday school staff, Dawn Kivimaki, Lori Smith, Lainia Burk, Shirley Bowden, Myita Davis, Roderick McClure, Barbara Profit or the church office 248-474-0675. The Zoom link will remain the same until further notice.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83332323924525750?pwd=Rzdpd09PU05CWYZCU1NR0E14bll5dz09>

Meeting ID: 83332323924, **Passcode:** 525750



Sirloin Tips and Mushrooms

Ingredients:

- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 ½ pounds beef sirloin steak, cut into cubes
- 1 (16 ounce) can mushrooms, with liquid
- 1 (8 ounce) can tomato sauce
- ¾ cup red wine, or more to taste
- salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste

Gather all ingredients.

- Heat oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Add beef and sear until browned on all sides, 5 to 7 minutes.
- Stir in garlic and cook until fragrant, about 1 minute.
- Add undrained mushrooms, tomato sauce, red wine, salt, and pepper.
- Simmer until beef is tender, about 30 minutes, adding a little more wine if desired. An instant-read thermometer inserted into the beef should read 140 degrees F (60 degrees C) for medium.
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- This sirloin beef tip recipe features beef sirloin cubes browned with garlic, then simmered in tomato sauce and red wine until tender. It's great over buttered noodles.

HOLY HUMOR

If Jesus was from Alabama

A little girl from Alabama went to church for the first time ever when she was visiting her grandparents in Michigan. When the pastor announced it was time for the Lord's Supper, she was excited—and hungry. The congregation filed up to the altar rail, and the child watched in confusion as her grandparents received a wafer and small plastic cup of wine. She could hardly wait to get back to the pew to tell her grandma that Jesus wasn't from Alabama.

"How do you know that, dear?" asked her grandma.

"Because that was the poorest meal I've ever seen," she said. "Mama would've at least given everybody some corn bread and sweet tea."

A Backyard Neighbor Funeral

Mr. Green peered over his fence and noticed that the neighbor's little boy was in his backyard filling in a hole. Curious about what the youngster was up to, Mr. Green asked, "What are you doing, Jimmy?"

Tearfully, little Jimmy replied, "My goldfish died, and I've just buried him."

"That's an awfully large hole for a goldfish, isn't it?" Mr. Green said.

Patting down the last bit of earth, little Joey replied, "That's because he's in your cat!"

A man died and went to heaven. He was met at the Pearly Gates by St. Peter who led him down the golden streets. They passed stately homes and beautiful mansions until they came to the end of the street where they stopped in front of a rundown cabin. The man asked St. Peter why he got a hut when there were so many mansions he could live in. St. Peter replied, "I did the best with the money you sent us."

Bible Trivia Questions

Question: How old was the Biblical figure Methuselah?

A. 969, B.88, C.622, D. 369

Answer: A. 969

Explanation

Methuselah is known as the longest-lived human figure in the Bible, living for a remarkable 969 years. This information is derived from the genealogical records in the Book of Genesis. Methuselah's extreme age is often used to symbolize longevity and the passing of time in biblical narratives.

Question: What animal is mentioned exactly 14 times in the King James version of the Bible?

A. Dog, B. Lion, C. Goat, D. Lamb

Answer: A. Dog

Explanation

In the King James version of the Bible, the animal mentioned exactly 14 times is the dog. Dogs are mentioned in various contexts throughout the Bible, including as symbols of loyalty and companionship, as well as in negative connotations. The number 14 may not hold any specific significance, but it simply represents the number of times the word "dog" appears in this particular version of the Bible.

Question: "All things are ____ to him that believeth."

A. Possible, B. Affordable C. Attainable D. Available

Answer: A. Possible

Explanation

The phrase "All things are possible to him that believeth" is a well-known quote from the Bible (Mark 9:23). It means that with faith and belief, anything can be achieved or accomplished. In this context, "possible" is the correct answer as it aligns with the meaning conveyed by the quote.

Question: "And you will know the truth, and the truth will make you ____."

A. Free, B. Whole, C, Think D. Rich

Answer: A. Free

Explanation

The phrase "And you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free" is a well-known quote from the Bible (John 8:32). In this context, the word "free" refers to freedom from ignorance, falsehood, and the bondage of sin. Knowing the truth can lead to liberation and a sense of freedom in one's thoughts, beliefs, and actions. Therefore, the correct answer is "free."

Question: Who was the king of Israel that consulted a witch at Endor to summon the spirit of the prophet Samuel?

A. Saul, B. David, C. Jeroboam, D. Solomon

Answer: Saul

1 Samuel 28, King Saul consulted the Witch of Endor to summon the spirit of the prophet Samuel because he was desperate

Question: 2 Corinthians 6:14 says "Do not be yoked together with ____."

A. Unbelievers B. Liars C. Thieves D. Gentiles

Answer: A. Unbelievers

Explanation

The correct answer is "unbelievers." In this verse, the apostle Paul is advising the Corinthians not to form close partnerships or relationships with unbelievers. This could refer to individuals who do not share the same faith or have different beliefs. The reason behind this advice is to avoid being influenced or led astray by those who do not follow the same spiritual path. It is important for believers to surround themselves with like-minded individuals who can support and encourage their faith.

“The purpose of life
is not to be happy.
It is to be useful,
to be honorable,
to be compassionate,
to have it make
some difference
that you have lived
and lived well.”

~Ralph Waldo Emerson~

Publisher's note: If you have information, prayer requests, something you would like to share with your church family, a poem, a song, a scripture, a picture of something that puts a smile on your face, please send it to Veronica's email

sotclutheran.officemanager@gmail.com or Dawn's email
sotclutheran.secretary@gmail.com

Information for the Newsletter, please submit by the 20th of each month for the following month's publication. Thank you and Blessings!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Shadow of the Cross is now live streaming the Church Services again. Please join us.

Please do not remove any of the books from the pulpit shelf. Pastor uses them.

Financial Information Financial Information as 03/31/25 YTD Actual Revenues Received \$252,600.00 and YTD Budgeted Expenses \$253,760.00 under Budget (\$1,160.00)

******ONLINE GIVING & DONATIONS******

Some of you may not be aware but SOTC has an easy and convenient way to make one time or recurring donations to the church on our website. You can use a credit card, checking or saving account to make donations just go to our home page @ www.shadowofthecrosslc.org and click on donate in the upper right corner. It's super easy! If you have questions, contact the office.

The Board of Elders invite guests to fill in the welcome cards on the back of the pews. Please place them on the plate during the collection of offerings. Thank You.

BodySoulSpirit Blood Pressure is taken the 4th Sunday of the month strictly confidential.

Pastor Dupre will be on vacation May 15,2025 thru May 21,2025.

National Day of Pray May 1,2025.

The Unity Ministry is asking all members to resume their monthly gift-giving towards the SOTC Fundraiser. We are thankful for the many Spirit-filled gifts we have already received, as we continue to grow and share God's Word.

"SAFE FOR ALL" LINE DANCE CLASS, Tuesday 12:45pm to 1:45pm. Cost \$2.00. Taught by Sydney Rose Burwell, Semi-retired Registered Nurse (RN

Sewing Circle meet every Thursday 10:00am to 12:00pm please come join us. We are making pillowcase dressing for little girls in Africa. Please join us. (Donations of new or gently used pillowcases are welcome.) Contact MaryAnn Otsuji

City of Farmington Hills Cultural Arts: Margo Dupre has two artworks on loan to the City of Farmington Hills for two years: 2024 -2025. Please visit the city hall main floor on Eleven Mile and Orchard Lake anytime over the next two years.

Andrea Ballantine plays in two orchestras and invites you to attend! Symphony concerts are FREE! Mark your calendars for concert on dates are, May 18, and the outdoor concert on June 24 at St James Presbyterian Church, 25350 West Six Mile, www.redfordsymphony.org

Royal Oak Symphony Orchestra is the winner of the Detroit Music Award for Best Outstanding Community Orchestra in 2020 and 2022! All ROSO concerts are at Royal Oak Middle School (Dondero Auditorium). Another concert is on May 9.

www.royaloakorchestra.com

JUNE 7, 2025, is Spring Cleaning Day at SOTC. From 9 am to 1 pm all the help is needed.

BD. OF PROPERTIES June 7,2025 is spring cleaning day 9 am to 1 pm please Join us.

VIOC meeting on 4th Saturday at 10:30am.

YOUTH DEPARTMENT

THE ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM WILL BE HELD SUNDAY, JUNE 8, 2025, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING MORNING SERVICE

THE TOPIC FOR THE ESSAY COMPETITION WILL BE: "BEING A CHRISTIAN IN A CHAOTIC WORLD"

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ESSAYS

COLLEGE GRADS 300 words or more with 2 Bible verses – AWARDS \$200-\$400

Continuing college students 300 words or more with 2 bible verses – AWARDS - \$200-\$300

High School Grads – 250 words or more with 2 Bible verses – AWARDS \$100-\$200

High School Students – 150 words or more with 2 Bible verses – AWARDS - \$100-\$150

Elementary/Middle School Students – 100 words or more with 1 Bible verse - AWARDS \$25-\$50

Sponsors: Board of Parish Education

REGISTRATION HELP is available for the Best Practices Conference in Frankenmuth August 10-12. Also, SOTC is organizing a one-day (August 11) bus trip to the conference for SOTC. The price for transportation via motor coach will be \$60.00 PER PERSON \$30.00 dollars due by May 1, 2025. Balance Due by June 30, 2025 – Make checks payable to Shadow of the Cross Lutheran Church. Can be mailed or dropped off FILL IN FLYER on table in *narthex* contact Margo Dupre or Barbara Profit.

Kroger's Community Rewards Program. Each must enroll individually. Once you have enrolled, every time you use your Kroger card, a portion of the money is rebated to SOTC. We have been assigned the following NPO (Non-Profit Organization) number: **QA495.**

The Food Pantry. Please help us to fill up the food pantry. Place food donations in the room next to the stage in the gym.

PRAISE CHOIR: Meet on the 1st and 2nd Tuesday, in May, at 5:30 pm!

SOTC CHOIR Meet Tuesday at 7:00 pm. Men's CHOIR Meet after Sunday church.

Cathleen Flinchum and Gloria Marchand are still collecting bottles and cans this time for audio upgrade for the church we need your support thanking in advance.

BD. OF PROPERTIES are in need of help with the work around the building. They meet on Mondays @ 6pm. Work night for Trustee 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm on Tuesday.



2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
				National Day Prayer Sewing Center. 10am to 12:00pm		10:00am Adult Sunday School ZOOM
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9:45am Worship w/communion & Sunday School. 11:00am Bible Study Zoom.	Bd of properties 5:45pm Trustee meeting Elders 7pm meeting Cinco de Mayo	Pastor11:00am Bible Study Line dance 12:45-1:45 5:30 pm Praise Choir 7pm SOTC Choir		Sewing Center. 10am to 12:00pm		Women League Meeting 9:00am 10:00am Sunday School Adults Zoom 1 TO 2 Prayer Journey
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Mother's Day 9:45am Worship w/communion & Sunday School. 11:00am Bible Study Zoom.		Pastor11:00am Bible Study Line dance 12:45-1:45 5:30 pm Praise Choir 7pm SOTC Choir	7pm. Finance meeting	Sewing Center. 10am to 12:00pm7:00pm Leadership Mtg. PASTOR VACATION	PASTOR VACATION	10:00am Sunday School Adults Zoom Bd PROP SPRING Ar PASTOR VACATION med Forces Day
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:45am Worship w/communion & Sunday School. 11:00am Bible Study Zoom. PASTOR VACATION	PASTOR VACATION	Pastor11:00am NO Bible Study Line dance 1:45-1:45 7pm SOTC Choir PASTOR VACATION		Sewing Center. 10am to 12:00pm		10:00am Sunday School Adults Zoom Vioc bstudy 10:30- 1 pm 1 to 2 Prayer Journey Noon properties cleaning
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
9:45am Worship w/communion & Sunday School. 11:00am Bible Study Zoom. Blood pressure check		Pastor11:00am Bible Study Line dance 12:45-1:45 7pm SOTC Choir		Sewing Center. 10am to 12:00pm		

SOTC Youth Center Dedication

by Barbara Hatcher

“Do not let anyone look down on you because you are young; but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity.” 1 Timothy 4:12.

Shadow of the Cross has set aside the 5th Sunday of a month as a special day of worship, praise, service and fellowship assistance with and for Youth Fellowship members and friends.

On the March 30 Youth Sunday, our congregation dedicated the newly arranged Youth Center for the use of our young Christians. The dedication program began with the last hymn of the worship service - “This Little Light of Mine.” Congregation members then processed to the Youth Center singing “Lord Prepare Me.” Pastor Dupre offered a prayer to dedicate the Center, then the ceremonial ribbon was cut, and everyone entered the room to celebrate and view the Center.

This Youth Center, located in room #103, features a comfort zone, along with desks, chairs, games, a television, computer and a small library. There are also numerous pictures of our SOTC Sunday School students, events and programs since 2019.

Members are encouraged to partner with our young members in the Youth Center by sharing skills. For offsite events, volunteers are also needed to serve as chaperones and drivers.

Please check out our calendar, invite your youth to consider confirmation, to carry the cross during worship services, and to serve as an acolyte or usher.

Youth meetings are held on the 1st Sundays or on the 5th Sundays of each month. The Youth Fellowship is supported by the Board of Parish Education, the Unity Ministry team, and the Board of Elders liaison.



Many thanks to everyone

who helped make the Shadow of the Cross 2025 Easter Victory Cross such a beautiful commemoration of our Lord's magnificent victory: *"Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?"* I Corinthians 15:54b-55.

