

Cross Currents

Lutheran
Church
of the Cross
2022

June



For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven.

—Ecclesiastes 3:1

Part of God's great design of this earth is the seasons. Typically, this means we experience the seasons of winter, spring, summer, and fall, each with its own characteristics. The seasons allow for planting, growing, harvesting and recuperating. Creation cycles through these seasons each year, and while they are relatively dependable, they sometimes come in unexpected and mysterious ways.

As children of God, we live through seasons of life, too. In these seasons we learn to depend on and come to expect some things, and sometimes they too come in unexpected and mysterious ways. The Bible helps provide some insight to our seasons of life and the experiences we have. In the third chapter of Ecclesiastes, we can perhaps find some clarity around these mysteries of life. When nothing seems to make sense, looking for God's presence in our lives will help us to find real meaning and satisfaction. Life without God is hopeless, but a life lived for God and in acknowledgement of his divine presence is one marked by fruitfulness and significance!

In this chapter, Solomon affirmed the seasons of joys and of hardships, the high and the low seasons -- the valleys of despair and the peaks of honor. This is the ebb and flow of life that we can anticipate. And when we keep God at the center of our lives, we find that purpose emerges and refining of our hearts takes place.

As we move into the month of June, we enter into a season of change here at Lutheran Church of the Cross, as our facility will undergo some modifications. To address any questions you may have, we will hold an informational meeting on June 5th after our 9am worship service. We will answer your questions regarding changes to our facility -- from painting the building to moving Laurie's office, and to our garage expansion.

And regarding another change, one question that I have been hearing a lot is, "Can we call Vicar Michelle as our Associate Pastor?" While the short answer is yes, the long answer is that we have to go through proper procedures before doing so. We have formed a Call Committee with the hope to interview Vicar Michelle (once the synod office has given us the okay.) A letter will then go out that will announce a congregational meeting for the purpose of extending a call to Vicar Michelle.

These are some exciting times in the life of Lutheran Church of the Cross.

To everything there is a season and a time for every purpose under heaven.

I am excited to be on this journey with you all!

Pastor Drew Bakken



Join us June 19th in the Memorial Garden at 10:30 am for the first outdoor worship service of the summer.

Bring your own chair or blanket.

The 9:00 am service will be held in the sanctuary and online as usual.

An update will be given on current plans for LCC facilities including painting the church, relocating the church office, additions to the garage, etc.



Treasurer's Report - Financial Summary 2022 General Fund

			Annual	% YTD of Annual
	<u>April</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Income	\$ 53,995	\$ 228,759	\$ 688,900	33.2%
Expenses	\$ 50,821	\$ 212,549	\$ 688,900	30.1%
Difference	\$ 3,174	\$ 16,211	\$ 0	

**In the month of April our income was greater than our expenses by \$3,174.
Thank you for your continued support.**



BAPTISM

Name: Alice Marie Moore
Born: March 14, 2021
Baptized: May 29, 2022
Parents: Shane & Sadie Moore
Vicar Michelle Ruen, Officiant

FUNERAL

Name: Roger Wulf
Born: November 27, 1930
Died in Christ: April 23, 2022
Funeral: May 6, 2022
Vicar Michelle Ruen, Officiant

FUNERAL

Name: Marilyn Olson
Born: June 9, 1938
Died in Christ: November 16, 2021
Funeral: May 21, 2022
Pastor Drew Bakken, Officiant

Update
your
Information



If you would like to receive weekly eblast notifications, please email the church office at laurie@lccnisswa.org with the email address you wish us to use.

Have you changed your phone number, or no longer use your landline, changed your mailing address, etc.? If so, please let us know so we can update our database.



Lutheran Church of the Cross, Nisswa



Join us for Cross Kids each Sunday during worship
to hear the Gospel “kid-style” this summer—we
have a blast learning about Jesus and
ALL ARE WELCOME!



Cross Kids June 2022
June 5—“Wind and Fire”
June 12—“Holy Spirit”
June 19—“Tantrums”
June 26—“Follow The Leader”

MESSTIVAL!







Celebrating our graduates on May 22—God's Blessings to all of our HS and seminary grads!



SUMMER STRETCH 2022 SCHEDULE

**2022
Dates:**
9AM - 4PM

June 9 - Camp Confidence & Games/Ice Cream
June 16 - Salem West & Holiday Inn to Swim
June 23 - B/B Park Rec & Jack's House Bowling
June 30 - OPBL & Swim @ Pelican or Gull Dam
July 7 - Northland Arb & Movie
July 13 - TWINS GAME (vs. Brewers)

TOP OFF THE SUMMER WITH US AT
on July 20 (\$45) - RSVP by July 8

VALLEYFAIR



Symn of the Month



June 2022

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus (LEMMEL)

1. O soul, are you weary and troubled! No light in the darkness you see?
There's light for a look at the Savior, and life more abundant and free!

Refrain

Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in His wonderful face,
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace.

2. Through death into life everlasting He passed, and we follow Him there;
Over us sin no more hath dominion for more that conqu'rors we are!
3. His word shall not fail you He promised; believe Him, and all will be well;
Then go to a world that is dying, His perfect salvation to tell!

Helen Howarth Lemmel was born in England in 1863, into the home of a Wesleyan minister who immigrated to America when Helen was a child. She loved music, and her parents provided the best vocal teachers they could find. Eventually Helen returned to Europe to study vocal music in Germany. In time, she married a wealthy European, but he left her when she became blind, and Helen struggled with multiple heartaches during midlife.

At age 55, Helen heard a statement that deeply impressed her: "So then, turn your eyes upon Him, look full into His face and you will find that the things of earth will acquire a strange new dimness."

"I stood still," Helen later said, "and singing in my soul and spirit was the chorus, with not one conscious moment of putting word to word to make rhyme, or note to note to make melody. The verses were written the same week, after the usual manner of composition, but nonetheless dictated by the Holy Spirit."

Pastor Doug Goins of Palo Alto, CA, and his parents, Paul and Kathryn Goins, both 82, of Sun City, AZ, knew Helen in Seattle, "She was advanced in years and almost destitute, but she was an amazing person," said Doug. "She made a great impression on me as a junior high child because of her joy and enthusiasm. Though she was living on government assistance in a sparse bedroom, whenever we'd ask how she was doing, she would reply, 'I'm doing well in the things that count.'"

One day, the Goins invited her to supper. "We had never entertained a blind person before," recalled Kathryn, "and it was interesting. Despite her infirmities, she was full of life. I remember how amused we were when, following supper, she said, 'Now if you will lead me to the bathroom, I'll sit on the throne and reign.'"

“But she was always composing hymns,” said Kathryn. “She had no way of writing them down, so she would call my husband at all hours and he’d rush down and record them before she forgot the words.”

Helen had a small plastic keyboard by her bed. There she would play, sing, and cry. “One day God is going to bless me with a great heavenly keyboard,” she’d say. “I can hardly wait!”

Helen Lemmel, who wrote nearly 500 hymns during her lifetime, died in Seattle in 1961, thirteen days before her 98th birthday.

Cathy Taylor, Minister of Music



Wear red on Pentecost Sunday, June 5th!

The main sign of Pentecost in the West is the color red. It symbolizes joy and the fire of the Holy Spirit. Priests or ministers, and choirs wear red vestments, and in modern times, the custom has extended to the lay people of the congregation wearing red clothing in celebration as well.

Grab your walking shoes and join church friends at **Camp Yap-a-Lap!!**
Walk from the church back steps every Tuesday this summer, at 9 am.
We will navigate an easy 2-mile trek from the church. Choose your distance and walk at your own pace (laps) and enjoy lots of fun conversation (yaps).
No sign up – just show up.

Questions? Maureen Schmidt (schmidt@nisswa.net)

Jean Kraft (jean.kraft@icloud.com)



Ponder and Prayer Group

Every Monday during the summer we will meet in the sanctuary from 10:00-11:00 AM for a time of prayer. Come join us for a time of "being still before the Lord". You are welcome to come on any Monday you are available. All are invited.

JOIN US FOR

PIZZA & GAME NIGHT!

Celebration Center

5:30pm

Friday, June 17

Bring your favorite game, your family, friends, and your appetite for fun and fellowship.
All ages welcome.
Weather permitting, we'll do some outdoor games!

WOMEN of the WORD BIBLE STUDY

Our Women of the Word Bible Study will meet on Tuesday, June 7, at 10:00 AM and 7:00 PM. Please join us for a special time of being in God's Word, enjoying some summer treats, and fellowshiping with other women who love the Lord! See you on June 7!



ELCA World Hunger's

Tree of Healing

Come explore what health means and how God invites us to share in the building of a just world where all can enjoy the gifts of His creation.

For kids, PreK (toilet trained) through 4th grade; 5th grade and up are invited to be Crew Leaders.

Adult volunteers are needed, too - let Kari know if you are able to help.

We will be using ELCA World Hunger's program, "The Tree of Healing." The theme centers around recovering from the pandemic and exploring how we can improve health and wellness at home and around the world—how God invites us to share in the building of a world where everyone can enjoy the gifts of His creation.

There are many opportunities to lend a helping hand with this Children, Youth and Family Ministry event....kitchen helper (daily snack prep/serving & Thursday lunch), nursery aide, station leader or assistant (Story Time, Simulation Station, Games, Crafts,

**LCC'S VBX 2022
JUNE 20 - 23, 9AM - 12N**

REGISTRATION LINK:

bit.ly/395wq9u

See Kari with any questions - snack donation bin located in the narthex.

Music), first aid volunteer, etc. We also need helpers to make decorations and help decorate on Saturday, June 18 (we will be working from 9am—3pm that day, and would welcome an hour or two of help if you can spare it!)

You will find that if you give of your time and talents for just a few hours for a few mornings this summer, you will receive many, many blessings in return (as well as lots of hugs and smiles from kids!). We look for this to be a fun-filled and exciting week at LCC, and you would be a welcome addition to our Volunteer Team:-) To join us, simply register online as an Adult volunteer on the LCC website (Upcoming Events Page), return the enclosed postcard, or contact Kari Erickson. For more information or with questions, email cfmkarilcc@gmail.com.



Bible Study–June 15, 2022

Please join Women of the Cross at the monthly Gather Bible Study which will be held at **noon on Wednesday, June 15, 2022** (please note the date change from our normal 2nd Wednesday of the Month Meeting), in our memorial garden weather permitting. Join us as we Gather 'Round the Table sharing a light repast and God's Word. Margaret Sommerfeld will be providing treats, and Dagny Trucano will be presenting the Bible Study.

Our Summer Gather Bible Studies this year are entitled, "Crafted in Christ: A summer of rest and renewal" by the Rev. Katie Hines-Shah. For summer 2022, participants will enjoy a three-session Bible study that uses the concept of quilting to explore rest, renewal and Christian community. We'll discuss Old and New Testament readings as we consider the patterns we follow and how the pieces of our lives and communities are bound together in Christ. While no actual sewing experience is required to complete the study, participants can opt to create a quilting project as a lasting reminder of their time together.

Session 1 for June 2022, is "A summer of rest and renewal." This lesson focuses on choosing patterns and re-assessing the shape of our lives. We find life-giving patterns in worship, Sabbath, and service. What does your life "quilt" look like, who or what influenced your quilt pattern, and do you feel the need to make some changes to your pattern? Come join us to explore these questions and find out what the Bible has to say on how we are bound together through Christ.

Women of the Cross Quarterly Meeting–June 21, 2022

Our Women of the Cross Quarterly meeting will be held on **Tuesday, June 21, 2022 at 1:30 p.m.** We will be discussing our upcoming quarterly Bible Studies, meetings, and events. We will also be filling the remaining officer and event chair positions. We are all united in our mission to study God's word and act as his hands and feet in the world. Please come and join us for a thoughtful discussion of how we can fulfill our mission and be proactive in our support of our community and world.



Women of the Cross meeting May 19th was well attended and many thanks to Gabrielle Ries from Copper Creek for the presentation on waking up your gardens and lawn.





Prime Timers Potluck— **Thursday, June 2, 12:00** at Oscar Kristofferson Park in Baxter. Bring a dish (with serving utensil) to share for a potluck lunch. Please sign up on sheet in the narthex and indicate what dish you will be bringing. Donations will be take to cover the fee for the shelter rental. Beverages, plates, and silverware provided.

Please bring yard or board games you would like to play.

Hosts: Randy & Marsha Thomson, George & Margaret Sommerfeld

If you forget to sign up—please come anyway!

NE MN Synodical Women's Organization
2022 Summer Convention/Gathering
Sugar Lake Lodge near Grand Rapids
Monday, June 6-Wednesday, June 8



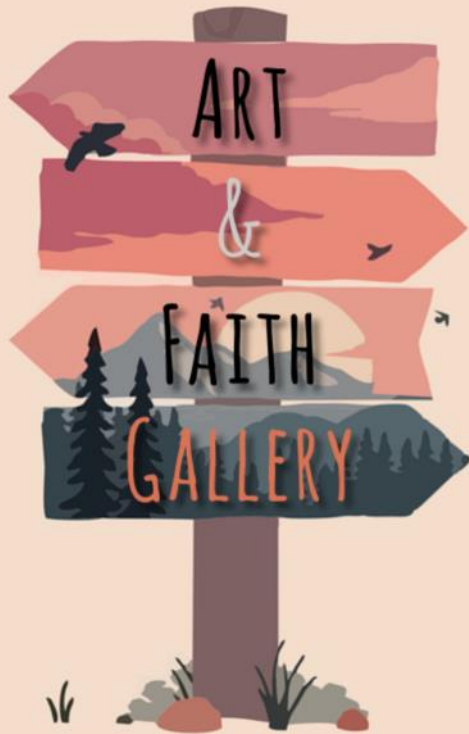
Make a Place at the Table

"Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God." Romans 15:7.NRSV

You are invited and have a "Place at the Table" of the NEMN Synod Women of the ELCA Convention/Gathering being held at Sugar Lake Lodge, Grand Rapids, June 6, 7, and 8. Join your NE MN Synod sisters in Christ for a time of relaxation, renewal, singing and learning by the lake.

The theme for the gathering is "Make a Place at the Table" based on the scripture from Romans 15:7 "Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God."

Registration forms for the gathering and also for the food and lodging are available at <https://www.nemnsynodwomen.org/2022-summer-convention-gathering> (Both forms need to be completed.) On the forms you will see a registration deadline date of May 15 or May 6. Don't worry. If you would like to attend you still can fill out your registration forms and have a place at the table. The lodging registration at this time is based on availability, however in speaking to the food and lodging registrar at Sugar Lake Lodge, there are still a number of rooms available. Gathering registration is readily available for the whole gathering. Or possibly you would like to come for just one of the days and do the meal package! Whatever your decision, there will be a place at the table for you!!



THOSE WERE THE DAYS MY FRIEND...

Our Rural Minnesota, 1930-1960's: an exhibit featuring a series of original paintings by Jerry Raedeke, which celebrates the landscapes and heritage of farms and small towns of rural Minnesota. The artwork illustrates the changes that take place through the seasons and over the years. The scenes are familiar to anyone who grew up in our state. Reproductions of this artwork were made for CENEX and Land 'O Lakes and have been shown across the country.

MAY 22 - JULY 3



Thank you to the Memorial Garden Cleanup Crew for spring cleaning!



A Smile And a Thank You for Volunteering at LCC!



**Volunteer Appreciation Sunday
June 12, 2022**

You are invited to the Celebration Center after worship for muffins,
yogurt bar, and treats for all! Please join us!

GOD MADE VOLUNTEERS

**VERY GIFTED BY GOD WITH
OPEN AND CARING HEARTS
LOVING AND
UNDERSTANDING,
NEVER TOO BUSY TO HELP.
THOUGHTFUL TO OTHERS, AN
EXAMPLE TO ALL.
EVER MODELING YOUR LOVE BY
REMEMBERING OTHERS FIRST.**

THANK YOU LORD, FOR THESE VERY SPECIAL PEOPLE.

Sally Hodgson, Lay Ministries Coordinator



Sun	Mon	Tue	
facility calendar for:			Jun
			1 8:30 Text 9:30 Quil 5:30 Bells
5 PENTECOST 9:00 Worship w/ Communion 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:00 Facilities Informational Meeting	6 8:30 Staff Meeting/Prayers 10:00 Ponder & Prayer 7:00 Suicide Loss Survivor Group	7 9:00 Camp Yap-a-Lap 9:00 Computer Lab 10:00 Women in the Word 7:00 Women in the Word	8 8:30 Text 5:30 Bells
12 VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION 9:00 Worship w/ Communion 10:00 Coffee Fellowship	13 8:30 Staff Meeting /Prayers 10:00 Ponder & Prayer 11:00 Soul Sisters	14 9:00 Camp Yap-a-Lap 9:00 Computer Lab 5:00 Lakes Area Food Shelf Board Mtg	15 8:30 Text 12:00 Fun 12:00 Gath 4:00 Crea 5:30 Bells
19 9:00 Worship w/ Communion 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:30 Outdoor Worship w/ Communion	20 VBX 9am-noon 8:30 Staff Meeting/Prayers 10:00 Ponder & Prayer 7:00 Suicide Loss Survivor Group 7:00 People for Racial Justice	21 9:00 Camp Yap-a-Lap 9:00 Computer Lab 1:30 Women of the Cross Qtr.	22 8:30 Text 5:30 Bells
26 9:00 Worship w/ Communion 10:00 Coffee Fellowship	27 10:00 Ponder & Prayer	28 9:00 Camp Yap-a-Lap 9:00 Computer Lab 10:00 Novel Ideas Book Club 4:00 Crossroads Annual Mtg	29 8:30 Text 5:30 Bells

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
e	2022		
Study ers s of Praise	2 9:00 Operation Sandwich 12:00 PrimeTimers-offsite 7:00 A.A. 	3 9:00 55+ Driver Discount	4
Study of Praise	9 9:00 Operation Sandwich 9:00 Summer Stretch 7:00 Church Council 7:00 A.A. 	10	11 9:00 Lake Hubert Board Mtg 9:00 Cullen Lake Assoc. Board
Study eral: Darlene Painter her Study tion Care Team s of Praise	16 9:00 Operation Sandwich 9:00 Summer Stretch 7:00 A.A.	17 5:30 Pizza & Game Night	18
Study s of Praise	23 	24	25 8:30 Lake Hubert Assoc. Mtg 10:00 Lazy Brook Assoc. Mtg
Study s of Praise	30 9:00 Operation Sandwich 9:00 Summer Stretch 7:00 A.A.		Reminder: Before planning any meeting/event/gathering at church, call the church office for availability and scheduling. Thank you.



1. Kari Erickson, Gale Gordon, Dagne Neale, Renee Schwaller, Kellan Timmons
2. Ella Oelke
3. Nathan Bakken, Ron Whipple
4. Emily Dunphy-Day, Patrick Goff, Faeth Harms, Tyler Hushagen, Hilary Johnson, Alexis Opp, Paul Wermager
5. Josie Taylor
6. Joseph Anderholm, Callista Anderson
7. Riley Pelowski
8. Emmalyn Boesen, Tess Chase, Kathy Kosobud, Michelle Malmquist
9. Megan Fogarty, Amanda Hintz
10. Ron Rusch, Kaden Teasck
- 11.
- 12.
13. Bonnie Anderson, Karen Lenox, Maureen Schmidt
14. Abigail Bakken, Sarah Fogderud, Kaiden Raske, Kacie Wottreng
15. Randy Hahn, Charles Klang
16. Mark Boesen
17. Lois Jensen, Pat Tollefsrud
18. Ashley Eisenschenk, Jeff Horn
19. Dan Halland
20. Sharon Ingvoldstad, Maggie Prahm
21. Riley Fogarty, Brian Hemish, Dorothy Setterholm
- 22.
23. Liz Brandanger, Lenny Hodgson
24. Kevin Egan, Kristen Ingram, Darrell Schreiner, Tony Whipple
25. Randy Avenson, Teresa Carter, Dick Dore, Julie Raymo, Gabe Wilson
26. Michael Bestul, Joyce Pierson
27. Justine Campbell, Anne Kostreba, Mason Kuhn, Brian Stark, Brecken Ubl, Marilyn Walsh
28. Violet Anderson, Whitney Bolt, Shaun Martini
29. Kim Cameron, Brenna Neale
30. Curt Tollefsrud, Alli Whipple



Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen News

If you would like to help, sign up on the Soup Kitchen calendar in the hall by the nursery, or call, email, or text Ann Bergin, at 218-820-5511 / georgiabergin@gmail.com.



OPERATION SANDWICH WILL BE EVERY THURSDAY, STARTING JUNE 2, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1.

How can I help? This is where our folks from LCC shine!!

- Monetary and food donations all summer long. COLLECTION BOX is located in the church narthex. Costco, Cub, Super Valu, Aldi gift cards are used to buy fresh food. Checks designated for Operation Sandwich given through church or sent directly to Bridges of Hope.
- Volunteers to unload food and prep for packing; pack and distribute food bags; clean up, stock and inventory our food pantry.
- Spread the word about Operation Sandwich. Food costs are high and there is a scarcity of food through sources like 2nd Harvest and grocery shelves.

DISTRIBUTION SITES: Nisswa Elementary 12:30-1:00

Our Savior's Lutheran, Pequot Lakes 11:30-noon

Veteran's Park, Jenkins 12:30-1:00

Chamber of Commerce, Pine River 11:30-noon

REQUESTED FOOD DONATIONS INCLUDE: fruit cups, individually packaged Goldfish & trail mix, fruit snacks, chewy & crunchy granola bars, fruit/veggie squeezes. **NO PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY AT THIS TIME.** Always subject to change.

Questions can be directed to: Jean Kraft, Northern Route Coordinator jean.kraft@icloud.com 838-9646

LCC RUMMAGE SALE, APRIL 2022 – DONATION REQUESTS

40% for LCC Internal Ministries =	\$ 6,550.00
30% for State and Community =	\$ 4,910.00
30% for Nation and World =	\$ 4,910.00
Total to Distribute	\$16,370.00

LCC INTERNAL MINISTRIES @ 40% = \$6,550.00	Requested	Suggested	Approved
LCC Children/Youth & Family Ministry			
Camperships for Luther Crest 2022 Bible Camp	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
LCC Scholarship Fund	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Art & Faith Gallery, Nisswa			
Art materials for kid's classes	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
TOTAL LCC INTERNAL MINISTRIES:	\$3,200.00	\$ 3,200.00	\$3,200.00
STATE / COMMUNITY @ 30% = \$4,910.00	Requested	Suggested	Approved
Operation Sandwich (05)			
Due to food scarcity and higher food costs 05 will need to purchase many lunch items, including fresh produce and bread. Increase monetary & product donations are needed to help with increased program usage.	\$1,000.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Mid-Minnesota Women's Center			
General Operation costs and supplies	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00
Mid-Minnesota Women's Center			
Variety of programs: 24 hr emergency intakes for victims of domestic violence, providing safety, advocacy, referral and information.	\$2,500.00	Combined the 2 requests	
Lakes Area Food Shelf			
Five months in 2022, we have already served 3,106 individuals Inflation, high prices at the grocery store, high gas prices, food scarcity –all these make a difference to those we serve. Discount bread stores are closing and 2 nd Harvest Food Bank is offering less food.	\$1,000.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Lakes Area Habitat for Humanity			
Assisting with the building of houses	\$1,000.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Lakes Area Habitat for Humanity			
Supplies for building homes. Most builds now are done with a solar to make them more efficient.	\$3,000.00	Combined the 2 requests	
Central Minnesota Adult /Teen Challenge			
General operating costs and expenses, supplies as needed	\$1,000.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Adult & Teen Challenge – Brainerd			
Rehabilitating people with drug & alcohol addiction. Better success ratio than other treatment centers at a much lower cost.	\$5,000.00	Combined the 2 requests	

Rising Hope Foundation / Freedom Ranch, Hubbard County			
General support for human trafficking for the safe home.	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00
LAMP VBS, Pillager			
VBS supplies Bible for the kids, etc.	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Lakes Area United Way			
Funding the Imagination Library Program, mailing monthly books to are children from birth to 5 years old, 1,500 children currently enrolled (55% of eligible children in Crow Wing & Cass counties). \$5,000 would cover cost for 200 children for one year.	\$5,000.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Toy Makers of the Center			
Purchasing supplies to make toys for deserving Children in Brainerd Lakes area.	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
The Outreach Program of Brainerd Lakes			
Purchase of ingredients to package meals Conduct an onsite meal packaging event at LCC, church members to pack meals. \$5,000 would package 15,151 meals.	\$5,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Breath of Life Adult Day Service	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
TOTAL STATE/COMMUNITY	\$26,850.00	\$5,850.00	\$5,850.00

<u>NATION / WORLD @ 30% = \$4,910.00</u>	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Suggested</u>	<u>Approved</u>
LCC Global Mission Team (Pastor Bradn Buerkle, ELCA Global Missionary)			
Partial payment of covenant agreement for support of ELCA missionary	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
NEMN Synod of ELCA – Together Here Initiative			
Working with native residents	\$1,00.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
NEMN Synod of ELCA – Honduras Ministry			
Support for Pre-K School, operated by companion synod of the NEMN Synod.	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
NEMN Synod, Immigration & Refugee Service Circle of Welcome			
Afghanistan/Ukraine refugee resettlement	\$1,000.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
NEMN Synod of ELCA – India Ministry			
A seminarian scholarship for one year for a student of the companion synod in India	\$1,400.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Lutheran Disaster Response for Eastern Europe Crisis			
The greatest humanitarian crisis in Eastern Europe since WWII	\$5,000.00	\$1,910.00	\$1,910.00
<u>TOTAL NATION/WORLD:</u>	<u>\$9,400.00</u>	<u>\$4,910.00</u>	<u>\$4,910.00</u>

Women of the ELCA (Lutheran Church of the Cross) @ 15% = \$3,776.00

Funds are used for a variety of mission activities such as \$ 3,776.00 \$3,776.00 \$3,776.00

LCC Book Discussion

Gather Bible Study

Quilt Ministry

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Cancer Care Bags

Luther Crest Bible Camp

Offerings for Conference, Synod & Churchwide gatherings

NET RUMMAGE SALE FUNDS (after expenses)	\$25,175.00
LESS DONATION TO WOMEN OF THE CROSS	\$ 3,776.00
LESS GARAGE ADDITION FUND	<u>\$ 5,000.00</u>
TOTAL FUNDS TO DISBURSE	\$16,399.00
LESS ADJUSTED TOTAL OF DONATION REQUESTS DISTRIBUTED	<u>\$13,960.00</u>
REMAINING BALANCE (future sale expenses)	\$ 2,439.00



Thank you to all who donated and volunteered for the LCC Spring Rummage Sale. Fall Rummage sale dates are September 22-24. Mark your calendars to volunteer the week of September 17-24. We will be accepting rummage sale donations beginning **Monday, June 20, 2022**. All soft goods must be placed in plastic bags and hard goods must be placed in boxes or totes with lids. All items need to be in working order. List of items not accepted will be posted on the garage and in the church office.

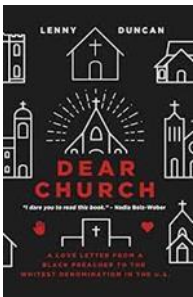


“New” books continue to be added to the library for all ages. Please stop by and check them out - just look for the book shelf labeled “Recent Additions” for the adult books.

Thank you to everyone who has donated books to the library and/or who donated to the April rummage sale. The book area was a great success! A very SPECIAL THANK YOU to the gals who helped out on Wednesday with sorting and arranging the large number of children and youth books that we received. We couldn't have done it without you!

Suggestion forms for books/authors are located on the book return table. Please feel free to complete one of these as a new book order will be placed soon. We have already added “*Jesus for Farmers and Fishers*” by Gary Paul Nabhan, a book suggested by Pastor John Sippola during his May 1st sermon.

We encourage you to join us at the **Novel Ideas Book Club** whether you have read the current book or not. You may hear of a new book that you would like to read, meet other book lovers and of course, enjoy refreshments. (We are Lutherans J) Next meeting is June 28th at 10am in Chapel Hall and we will be discussing the following book:



Dear Church, A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the United States, by Lenny Duncan, a pastor in the Evangelical Lutheran Church In America (ELCA). Duncan was a “free-agent Christian” until he met the ELCA through an open communion table. This revolutionary symbol of grace and welcome later led him to seminary and now guides his ministry at Jehu’s Table in Brooklyn, NY. Shifting demographics and shrinking congregations make all the headlines, but Duncan sees something else at work – drawing a direct line between the church’s lack of diversity and the church’s lack of vitality. The problems the ELCA faces are theological, not sociological. But so are the answers.

This book, and other book club selections, can be found in the library on the shelf labeled, NOVEL IDEAS.

Novel Idea Book Club



A committee of LCC book lovers came up with a list of books that will provide rich discussion. It is the intention this year to keep the attention focused on the current book to keep the discussion timely. We would like to see this book club as an outreach to the community. Please come join us and bring a friend. **You will love the treats!**

Novel Ideas will meet in Chapel Hall at 10:00 am according to the following schedule. Dates may be adjusted as needed during the year.

June 28	<i>Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the United States</i> by Lenny Duncan
July 26	<i>Atlas of the Heart</i> by Brené Brown
August 23	<i>The Great Alone</i> by Kristin Hannah
September 27	<i>Blind Your Ponies</i> by Stanley Gordon West
October 25	<i>The Underground Railroad</i> by Colson Whitehead
November 29	<i>Hiding Place</i> by Corrie Ten Boom
December 27	<i>The Best Christmas Pageant Ever</i> by Barbara Robinson OR <i>The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse</i> by Charlie Mackesy



SAVE THE DATE!

26TH ANNUAL DINNER AND AUCTION

MONDAY, JUNE 20, 2022

Help is needed in many ways:

- ♦ help with making baskets of the donated auction items
- ♦ run around town (Crosslake/Brainerd/Pequot Lakes, etc.) picking up auction items
 - ♦ make phone calls (no cold calls) to arrange picking up items from donors
- ♦ help the day of the dinner, setting up in the morning and cleaning up after the event
- ♦ help with technology the night of the dinner, checking people into our online auction site, helping place bids throughout the night, and then helping people check out and retrieve their auction items
- ♦ taking videos/pictures the evening of the event

If you would like to volunteer, call our office at 218-828-8517.

Lakes Area Habitat for Humanity is one of the ministries that Lutheran Church of the Cross supports. Contact Bonnie Stevens with LCC if you would be interested in helping in any way.



CREATION CARE
















On May 13, 2021, Creation Care Team members helped create and plant one of three **Pollinator Demonstration Plots** on the front lawn of LCC, with the other two at Nisswa Park and Nisswa Elementary School. Made possible by grants from the Crow Wing Soil and Water Conservation District in an effort to create "pollinator corridors" to help struggling bees and butterflies, LCC also received a \$1,000 grant from the **NE MN ELCA Synod EcoFaith Network** for our own plot.

News of these projects have made churches around the state want to do their own plots, so the EcoFaith Network has begun conducting workshops on zoom to help people get started. Your LCC Creation Care Team is highly involved in this effort. The enthusiastic interest by people everywhere, including Wisconsin, South Dakota and Iowa, is exciting and even a bit surprising.

Our Lutheran faith tradition calls us into a holy covenant of *Sacred Trust* that honors our children's right to a livable future. The great German Lutheran theologian, **Dietrich Bonhoeffer**, who sacrificed his life to keep Germany safe from Nazi ideology, recognized that a healthy Earth is essential for human life to thrive: "**The ultimate test of a moral society is the kind of world it leaves its children.**" Keeping alive the pollinators and other living creatures on whose well being our own lives depend is one way we can be accountable to each other and future generations.

What happens next? Share with the LCC Creation Care Team your ideas on how we can make the impact of our Pollinator Demonstration Plot extend even further.

Lutheran Church of the Cross: Plant Key

	Columbine		Butterfly Weed		Whorled Milkweed
	Prairie Smoke		Culver's Root		Meadow Blazing Star
	Prairie Phlox		Leadplant		Stiff Goldenrod
	Junegrass		Black Eyed Susan		New England Aster
	Common Milkweed		Bergamot		Prairie Dropseed

May 2022 LCC Council Highlights

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS Church Council Meeting Thursday, May 12, 2022

We Assemble in God's Name

Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Council President Mike Smith

Present:

Drew Bakken, Mike Smith, Bonnie Stevens, Joanie Swanson, Sara Tietz, Jenny Stubbs, Brian Stubbs, Rachel Gerhartz, Darrell Paske, Rob Norgon, and Colleen Both.

Guests: Bob Beck, Marv Green and Karen Green- members of the Rummage Sale Committee.

Members of the Rummage Sale Committee shared with council the great success of this spring's sale. Net sales were \$25,386 with \$5,000 to be used toward the garage fund. Close to 150 volunteers participated in the sale, which from start to finish, took 11 days! The sale opened Thursday at 8 a.m. but there were people from Hastings waiting by 6 a.m. Many visitors mentioned how they look for LCC's sale each year to buy necessary items for their families. The remaining surplus of the sale was donated to 28 different charities. The committee will be reviewing monetary requests and look forward to allocating sale proceeds to other good causes in our church, community, state, nation and world. The Rummage sale has been blessed to be a blessing!

Announcements:

None

Officer Reports:

Council Minutes by Jenny Stubbs (April 2022)

- Motion to approve Bonnie Stevens; Second Brian Stubbs; Motion Passed

Treasurer's Report by Colleen Both (April 2022)

- Motion to approve Darrell Paske; Second Joanie Swanson; Motion Passed

New Business:

- Pastor Drew would like to have a church informational meeting at the end of May or June to discuss the plans to remove the playground equipment, as well as the move of LCC's office location.
- Pastor Drew has been advised by our Bishop that council should serve as the call committee for Vicar Michelle, who graduated from Wartburg Seminary May 15. Discussion followed concerning meetings and what a timeline would look like with an interview set for May 26. If approved, Vicar Ruen's name could be submitted to the congregation with a congregational meeting set for June 26.
- * Motion made that the council would serve as a call committee for Vicar Michelle by Bonnie Stevens; Second by Colleen Both.

Old Business:

- LCC's Constitution committee continues updates and is making good progress.
- The summer intern position details continue to move forward. Salary will be offered at \$13/hour based on similar pay at area businesses.

Pastors' Reports

Pastor Drew:

- As I reflect back on the month of April one thing that replayed in my mind was that spring never truly came to the month of April. And Yet April was certainly a good month for the Church. Attendance for our Lenten Worship services was strong, along with our Sunday Worship services. Thank you to all of our volunteers who shared their time and talent each and every Sunday to make worship possible.
- We rejoiced on Easter with the sounds of "He is Risen, He is Risen indeed, Alleluia," from a full church. Easter Sunday was our largest attendance since the start of Covid 2 years ago. We worshipped with 614 people between our 3 services. I continue to pray that this is a sign that things are improving.
- Once again I am reminded that we are a serving congregation that reaches out into our community and throughout the world. We once again held a rummage sale with a few changes. We had over 146 volunteers helping out to make this ministry event happen. We were able to raise \$30,000. Thank you to Bob Beck, Marv and Karen Green, the core members of the rummage sale team and to all the volunteers who made this sale happen. Over and over I heard from our guests how happy they were that we were at this sale. The first ones through the doors were there at 6am from Hastings, MN and the doors didn't open until 8am. This is a tremendous ministry for our community and I am looking forward to our Fall sale.
- I continue enjoying my time leading our Wednesday morning bible study, teaching confirmation, leading worship at our nursing homes, meeting with prospective members, walking with family members as they plan the funerals for loved ones, and celebrating with families the baptism of their babies.

Vicar Michelle:

- Thank you to our faithful Nursery attendants this year. Emma Trees, Coleen, Abby, and Rebecca Bakken, Ann and Hannah Hayes, and Karen Raguse provided excellent nursery care on Sunday mornings and made sure our nursery was staffed throughout the entire year. Also, thank you to Gail Goble who happily said yes when I would call for a last minute sub. Thank you so much, Nursery Volunteers! Job well done.
- I witnessed my first LCC Rummage Sale. It was an unbelievable operation. I especially enjoyed being the "bag lady" on the first day of the sale - handing out paper bags and welcoming all the incoming shoppers! Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers and coordinators for making it such a successful and well-received Rummage Sale.
- Holy Week and Easter services were beautiful. I preached on Palm Sunday and Maundy Thursday, was part of the Good Friday Tenebrae service, and presided at the Easter services in the sanctuary with Pastor Drew preaching on Easter Sunday. Thank you to everyone who helped decorate the church for Easter, provided beautiful music, or volunteered in any way.
- I presided at two Celebration of Life services. Beau Michael Hohertz on April 12, 2022 and Roger William Wulf on May 6, 2022.
- Small groups and Bible Studies are going well. I continue to enjoy visiting with members in their homes.
- I graduated from Wartburg Seminary in the Theological Education of Emerging Ministries (TEEM) program for Word and Sacrament on May 15. I have learned so much from both the seminary and my internship here at LCC. Thank you to my Internship Committee who supported and encouraged me as I went through my Internship year. My Internship committee was: Mike Smith-chairman, Connie Peterson, Pam Johnson, Darrell Paske, Bonnie Stevens, and Lyle Amundson. Thank you to Pastor Drew who was first my mentor, and later my Supervisor in the program. Thank you to LCC who allowed me to spread my wings during my Internship year. I am so grateful!

Committee Reports:

Property: Dale Peterson

Property projects continue as reported last month. One comment: To change the color of the church exterior would double the cost of the project, so we are sticking close to the current color.

Stewardship: Rob Norgon

No report

Worship and Music: Brian Stubbs

- The Worship and Music committee will next meet on Sunday, 6/5/22.
- Volunteers are still needed to serve on Altar Guild.
- Holy Week and Easter services were well attended, and went smoothly. Thanks to all who helped those to be so special, from planning to music to participating to leading.
- Pentecost and summer services will be discussed.
- Choirs will stop for the year this May. Summer “pickup choir” will be the first Sunday of each month, June, July and August.
- Bells of Praise will begin shortly, meeting through the summer and participating in our worship services throughout.
- Sound system training is still postponed until Music General has fewer conflicts.
- Committee is currently under budget as compared to years prior.
- No Council action is needed at this time.

Social Concerns and Global Missions: Bonnie Stevens

Lakes Area Food Shelf

From January through March 2021, Lakes Area Food Shelf served 289 families with 11 new families. In January through March 2022, they served 793 with 263 new families.

- In Fall 2021, Second Harvest notified LAFS that foods donated through The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP government program) for distribution would be halved. This food has always been free or extremely low cost to food shelves, and the variety of items available for purchase has been ample. This is no longer the case.
- In addition to inflation raising food costs in 2022, the LAFS budget for food purchases has increased 85% over what it was in 2021.

Bridges of Hope/ Warming Shelter closed for the season on April 29

Operation Sandwich team is preparing for the summer season of getting food into those who rely on school lunch programs. The Northern Route operating out of LCC will begin distribution the week of June 2 and Brainerd/Baxter will start the week of June 6th. A list of donations was printed in the Sunday bulletin and volunteers are needed to fill bags and deliver to the drop-off sites.

Lutheran Church of the Cross has received \$5,425 for Disaster Relief in Eastern Europe as of May 9.

Lutheran World Relief is committed to providing:

- **Emergency cash and vouchers for Ukrainian refugees in Poland.**
- **Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse:** In Poland at distribution sites refugee women and children can safely and easily access protection services.
- **Ongoing support for the Evangelical-Augsburg Church of St. Martin in Krakow, Poland, which has established a hostel for Ukrainian women and children.** Providing essential supplies including milk, energy biscuits, personal hygiene products and room partition panels. NE MN Synod women have provided over 90 personal care kits for refugees and have delivered them to Lutheran Social Services in St. Cloud along with pots & pans, quilts and other necessary household items.

They will also do an ingathering of quilts and kits at their Summer Convention/Gathering on June 6 at Sugar Lake Lodge in Cohasset. There is an urgent need for these items which will be trucked to the Lutheran World Relief warehouse in the Cities.

Children and Family Ministry: Rachel Gerhartz

- We had a successful month of Cross Kids and Cross Kids Connection
- Our Earth Day Art Event was a success and all that were participating and helping them had a great time. We had 16 kids creating projects that were then on display in the narthex and in CC on Earth Day Sunday. It was a great inter- generational event.
- Fourteen kids/parents participated in our First Communion Workshop and Maundy Thursday First Communion. Four of our kids helped with our liturgy at our Good Friday Tenebrae worship service.
- We created quiet busy bags for Easter Sunday and they were a hit—lots of kids in worship that day!
- Route 56, A Time for Us and the Women of the Cross packaged 86 Personal Care Kits to go to Ukraine via our synod. Thanks to Thrivent for a grant that sponsored this event.
- May 15 will be our Blessings Burrito Breakfast - we will serve burritos with our doughnuts that Sunday morning to celebrate the ending of Cross Kids Connection.
- We will continue Cross Kids during worship time during the summer months.
- VBX is set for mornings of June 20-23 using "The Healing Tree," ELCA World Hunger's program.

Youth and Family Ministry: Sarah Tietz

- We completed our Lenten Mentors program with Confirmation students.
- Our Palm Sundaes were a huge hit - received lots of positive comments.
- We held our final Super Roll Sunday on May 1. 15 dozen rolls were sold! Our total funds raised for this year is \$1351. Many many thanks to Jen Henry and Karen Raguse for their assistance with this program!
- May 11 is our last night of Weds. programming for this year.
- On May 18 we will meet for pizza and highway clean up.
- Sr. Recognition Sunday is May 22 - gifts and displays are ready to go, as are yard signs for all of our graduates.
- Summer Stretch registrations are rolling in - due by the end of May.

Congregational Life: Joanie Swanson

- Groups are continuing to get back to normal and meeting monthly.
- We will be honoring our Seniors on Sunday, May 22nd. Beautiful afghans will be presented from the Prayer Shawl Group.
- Check the Newsletter for events happening: just to name a few:
 - Monthly Book Club will meet on Tuesday, May 24th at 10:00 and will be discussing "This Tender Land" by William Kent Krueger.
 - Women's Event on Thursday, May 19th at 6:30 You are invited for a light supper and presentation by Gabrielle Ries from Copper Creek.
- Things are busy, thriving and members of the Memorial Garden will be getting ready to play in the dirt and get things planted and beautiful for Memorial Day.

Personnel: Darrell Paske

Staff performance reviews are complete, with the exception of Pastor Drew. Mike Smith and I will complete that review before the end of May, and all reviews will be done for 2022. No issues or concerns regarding staff. At her review, Sally Hodgson submitted her resignation as Volunteer Coordinator effective June 30th. Sally has filled this position for ten years and 25 years before that as Office Secretary/Manager. We wish her well in her second retirement.

Closing Prayer: Pastor Drew

Meeting Adjourned
Submitted by
Jenny Stubbs, Council Secretary

Next Council Meeting:
Thursday, June 9, 2022

All are welcome at Council meetings. Approved minutes and approved financial reports are available in the church office to any member upon request. If you would like to have something on the Council meeting agenda, please submit it in writing addressed to President Mike Smith and delivered to the office manager in the church office no less than one week prior to the monthly Council meeting, the council meets the second Thursday of the month. If the request is submitted less than one week prior to the next Council meeting it will be addressed at the following monthly meeting.



SCSU'S DRIVER DISCOUNT PROGRAM FOR DRIVERS OVER 55 YEARS OF AGE

8-HOUR CLASS FOR FIRST-TIME STUDENTS

4-HOUR REFRESHER COURSE FOR RETURNING STUDENTS

1-888-234-1294 OR 1-320-308-1400

Classes held at Lutheran Church of the Cross
June 3 (4 Hr Refresher) 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
July 1 (4 Hr Refresher) 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Another school shooting – this one in Texas. The day after it happened, my inbox had several messages from youth ministry organizations and groups that I follow, speaking to helping youth process this recent tragedy. It suggested some resources to utilize – and one of them was praying and singing laments to God. Lamenting is not something that we often practice. It got me thinking about how I tend to avoid it because it makes me feel vulnerable and uncomfortable – I’d much rather praise God than lament to Him! However, when tragedies happen, we need to help each other process what has happened and the feelings that accompany such events. Yes, it can be hard to see God in the midst of a tragedy; it may seem impossible to hold on to God’s goodness when we hear news like this. And when tragedy strikes, it is common to have angry feelings toward God – to question Him and struggle to trust Him.



If you look up *The Lamentations of Jeremiah* in the Encyclopedia Britannica, you will read that ...“laments give a sacred dignity to the emotion we feel when we see injustice and suffering. Through studying Lamentations, we can learn to see lament as an important spiritual exercise that brings our anger, pain, and confusion to God, trusting that He cares about it too.” (Jeremiah wrote Lamentations to express the humiliation, suffering, and despair of the people of Jerusalem following the destruction of the city by the Babylonians.)

Lamenting is a “God-given tool to pray and worship our way through pain and tragedy.” Yes, it can feel raw and awkward reading Jeremiah’s Lamentations or the 65+ Psalms of Lament, but they help give us the language for crying out to God which we might not normally use. Lamenting can be part of the healing process after suffering a tragedy. It can enhance our worship through bringing our humanity before God, who wants ALL of us; He hears us when we cry out and He knows what we are going through. You might try reading Psalm 88 (or Psalms 80, 61, 13, or 10) together with another person or a group. After reading, offer one another the hope of Christ and pray that his re-orienting power would enter the lives of those thrown into trauma and disorientation. Feel the comfort of knowing that God loves you, wants to hear from you both during lament and praise, and walks beside you always. *God sits with us in the places of hardship and empathizes with us.*

It seems timely that a book I ordered arrived this week. It’s entitled, “Psalms for Young Children.” Here’s how author Marie-Helene Delval paraphrases Psalm 88 for children:

God, please listen to me. I am full of sadness, I am crying. I feel lonely and scared. Do you really love me? I’m calling you, God. Please comfort me!

Isaiah 41:10

Don’t worry—I am with you. Don’t be afraid—I am your God. I will make you strong and help you. I will support you with my right hand that brings victory.

Blessings, — Kari Erickson

Lutheran Church of the Cross

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Web: lccnisswa.org
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CURRENT RESIDENT OR

Address label here

Welcoming all people into
discipleship

STAFF

Pastor	Drew Bakken	218-961-2014
Vicar	Michelle Ruen	218-961-2013
Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministry	Kari Erickson	218-961-2012
Director of Music Ministry/Organist	Cathy Taylor	218-961-2053
Financial Secretary	Karen Wiele	218-961-2016
Lay Ministry Coordinator	Sally Hodgson	218-961-2052
Senior Choir Director	Brian Stubbs	
Organist	Laura Raedeke	
Bell Choir Director	Cheryl Karlgaard	
King's Kids	Carol Smith	
Custodian	Todd Whipple	218-963-2564
ELCA Global Missionary	Bradn Buerkle	
LCC Office	Laurie Hemish	218-961-2011

2022 CHURCH COUNCIL

President	Mike Smith	Social Justice/Global	Bonnie Stevens
Vice President	Darrell Paske	Worship & Music	Brian Stubbs
Treasurer	Colleen Both	Youth	Sarah Tietz
Secretary	Jenny Stubbs	Stewardship	Rob Norgon
Cong. Life	Joanie Swanson		
Children/Family	Rachel Gerhartz		
Properties	Dale Peterson		

