

Cross Currents

Lutheran
Church
of the Cross
2022

August



Dear LCC family,

What a beautiful summer! A wonderful combination of hot sun, pleasant rain, warm days, cool nights, green grass, and bright flowering plants. Our Sunday services have been well-attended and filled with Spirit-filled worship. Coffee hour is buzzing with excitement. Running out of coffee and donuts one Sunday was a sweet and wonderful sign of the enthusiasm taking place here at LCC! YOU are a vital and important member of this church body! Thank you, thank you!

God specializes in things fresh and firsthand. Consider this day a new beginning. Consider it a fresh start, a renewed opportunity to serve your Creator with willing hands and a loving heart. God's plans for you this year may outshine those of the past. *Then the One seated on the throne said, "Look! I am making everything new."* Revelation 21:5

Plan on attending LCC's **Rally Day Kick-Off** and **Ministry Fair** on Sunday, **September 11**. We are excited to kick off the new school year with a special coffee & fellowship time. We will be highlighting LCC ministries, Small Groups, and opportunities to become involved in. It would be a great morning to invite friends and visitors. Please come and see what is happening at LCC this year!

Thank you again for calling me to Lutheran Church of the Cross. I look forward to walking with you and serving as your Associate Pastor. I would be honored if you could attend my **Ordination and Installation** service on Sunday, **August 28**, at 9:00 AM. Bishop Amy Odgren will be presiding. A special service and reception are being planned. Thank you so much!

Enjoy the month of August and be blessed!

Yours in Christ,

Vicar Michelle





Join us August 21st in the Memorial Garden at 10:30 am for last 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.

Welcome to all singers and players of music this fall!

We have musical opportunities for all who would like to volunteer their time and talents.

Bell Choir - Cheryl Karlgaard, director - has been practicing and playing for church all summer. They will continue into the fall with rehearsals on Wednesday evenings at 5:30-6:30. They play for church once a month.

Senior Choir – Brian Stubbs, director – will resume rehearsals on Wednesday, September 7 at 7:00-8:00. They sing for church twice a month.

King's Kids – Carol Smith, director – will resume rehearsals on Wednesday, September 7 at 6:00-6:30. They sing for church once a month.

Wednesday worship musicians: I am always looking for people, singers and instrument players alike to assist in our Wednesday night worship. We practice around 5:30, then service starts at 6:20 and done by 7:00.

Please contact Cathy Taylor, cathy@cathysmusicstudio.com or 763-607-4282 for more information. I look forward to hearing from you!

Cathy Taylor, Director of Music Ministries



Treasurer's Report - Financial Summary 2022 General Fund

	Preliminary*		Annual	% YTD of Annual
	<u>*June</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Income	\$ 45,026	\$ 319,437	\$ 688,900	46.4%
Expenses	\$ 54,597	\$ 322,324	\$ 688,900	46.8%
Difference	(\$ 9,571)	(\$ 2,887)	\$ 0	

**In the month of June our expenses were greater than our income by \$9,571.
Thank you for your continued support.**



BAPTISM

Name: Rosemary Lee Scrimgeour
 Born: February 9, 2022
 Baptized: July 9, 2022
 Parents: Bill & Sarah Scrimgeour
 Vicar Michelle Ruen, Officiant

RENEWAL OF VOWS

Name: Joseph & Denise Broadbent
 July 5, 2022
 Pastor Drew Bakken, Officiant
 Lutheran Church of the Cross

FUNERAL

Name: Wilfred Stoxen
 Born: September 4, 2022
 Died in Christ: June 14, 2022
 Funeral: July 29, 2022
 Pastor Drew Bakken, Officiant

BAPTISM

Name: Robert Allen Salfer
 Born: September 8, 2021
 Baptized: June 30, 2022
 Parents: Ryan & Kaitlyn Salfer
 Vicar Michelle Ruen, Officiant

BAPTISM

Name: Henry Scott Henderson
 Born: March 7, 2022
 Baptized: July 24, 2022
 Parents: Brandon & Kayla Henderson
 Pastor Drew Bakken, Officiant

WEDDING

Name: Michael & Molly Tiffany
 July 9, 2022
 Pastor Drew Bakken, Officiant
 Grand View Lodge

Gather 'Round on Rally Day! Sept. 11 9am

Let's gather together for Cross Kids during worship and Cross Kids Connection following worship. We will explore the stories of the Lost Coin and the Lost Sheep, focusing on the REJOICING that comes with finding them! *One of the reasons we gather together each week is to remind each other that we are NOT*

lost—that we belong to God and each other. We look forward to seeing you on September 11 for 9am worship. All children are welcome!



Luther Crest 2022: BOUNDLESS *I want you to know all about Christ's love, although it is too wonderful to be measured. Ephesians 3:19 CEV*

If you see any of these youth around church, please ask them about their week at Camp.

- Jace Anderson
- Kaden Fillbrandt
- Abby Bakken
- Hannah Hayes
- Callista Anderson
- Violet Anderson
- Rebecca Bakken
- Avery Gorr
- Eli Hayes
- Graham Johnson
- Noah Johnson
- Alex Pape
- Hazel Schwanke
- Emily Smith
- Josie Taylor
- Allie Whipple
- Walter Prahm
- Jonas Raske
- Kaiden Raske



*Our youth and chaperones had a great day at the **VALLEYFAIR** amusement park! Thanks to Pr. Drew & Colleen Bakken, Pam Johnson, and Todd Whipple for providing transport and accompanying them:-)*



10th graders who will be confirmed in September and their mentors must attend our Affirmation of Baptism Workshop on Weds., August 17. Meet in Celebration Center at 5:30 for a quick supper. We will make stoles and put final touches on our Faith Statements.



CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY EVENTS

AUG. 19

PIZZA & GAME NIGHT

5:30pm - for ALL AGES. We provide the pizza and meal - you enjoy the food, fun and games. Bring your favorite game along!

AUG. 28

ORDINATION EVENT

At 9am, Vicar Michelle will be ordained and installed as our Assoc. Pastor. Reception follows in Celebration Center.

SEPT. 4

BACKPACK BLESSING

Bring your backpack to worship at 9am and you will receive a special Back-to-School blessing.

SEPT. 11

RALLY DAY

Cross Kids Connection resumes at 10am in the Treehouse - music, video, crafts, and activities - grab a donut and join us!

SEPT. 16

PIZZA & GAME NIGHT

5:30pm - for ALL AGES. We provide the pizza and meal - you enjoy the food, fun and games. Bring your favorite game along!

SEPT. 21

CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION, GUIDE TRAINING & ACOLYTE TRAINING

Meet in the Sanctuary at 7pm - it's also Rummage Sale Week.

SEPT. 28

WORSHIP ON WEDNESDAY RESUMES

Supper starts at 5:45;
Kings Kids at 6pm;
worship at 6:20pm,
Route 56 &
Confirmation at 7pm.

**GATHER
'ROUND
WITH
US!**

Hymn of the Month



August 2022

ELW 782 My Shepherd, You Supply My Need

Text: Isaac Watts, based on Psalm 23; **Music:** from *Southern Harmony*

I have loved this melody with text based on Psalm 23 for many years. It is surprising that I have chosen it so few times for our congregation to sing. We'll have to change that!

Many of our hymns in the "cranberry" hymnal use the text of Psalm 23, among them being #502 The King of Love My Shepherd Is, #780 Shepherd Me, O God, #778 The Lord's My Shepherd, and #789 Shepherd, Like a Shepherd Lead Us.

The tune is a North American tune from Southern Harmony. Southern Harmony is a shape note hymn and tune book compiled by William Walker in 1853. It is unknown who exactly composed this tune, so it is supposed that it has been handed down through many generations and probably changed from its original form. I love this tune because it is very meditative and gentle in style. It reflects the character of the soothing words of Psalm 23.

Isaac Watts, the text writer, was born in Southampton, Hampshire in England in 1674. His father was a committed religious nonconformist which put him in jail twice for his views. Isaac wanted to go to school at Oxford or Cambridge but was unable because of his father's and now his nonconformist views – these universities were restricted to Anglicans only. He became an English Christian minister (Congregational), a hymn writer, and theologian. He was credited with some 750 hymns and known as the "Godfather of English Hymnody".

Isaac Watts wrote the actual text for this hymn, using the words of Psalm 23. His words are most lovely and tender, reflecting the music. One of his aims was to inject the Psalms with New Testament theology as "David would have done had he lived in the days of Christianity". The first verse is based on Psalm 23:1-3. *The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters, he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.*

The second verse is based on verses 4 and 5. *Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.*

The last verse is from verse 6. *Surely good and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.* One of my favorite parts of this verse is the last line that Watts wrote: *No more a stranger or a guest, but like a child at home.* It is such a reminder of the peace that we will have when we go home to our Savior.

This is the actual text that Watts wrote.

ELW 782 My Shepherd, You Supply My Need

1. My Shepherd, you supply my need; most holy is your name.
In pastures fresh you make me feed, beside the living stream.
You bring my wand'ring spirit back when I forsake your ways,
And lead me, for your mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.
2. When I walk through the shades of death, your presence is my stay;
One word of your supporting breath drives all my fears away.
Your hand, in sight of all my foes does still my table spread;
My cup with blessings overflows, your oil anoints my head.
3. The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;
Oh, may your house be my abode and all my work be praise.
Here would I find a settled rest, while others go and come;
No more a stranger or a guest, but like a child at home.

Public Domain

I surely believe that you will love this hymn as we sing it in August.

Blessings and peace to you.

Cathy Taylor, Ministry of Music Director



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 (schmidtm@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.

WOMEN of the WORD BIBLE STUDY

Come join us for Women of the Word Bible Study on **Tuesday, August 2**, at **10:00 AM** and **7:00 PM**. Join us for a fun study in God's Word, tasty treats, and good coffee. Bring your Bible and a friend. No preparation needed. See Vicar Michelle with questions. Come join us!

A photograph of a board game board, likely a board game like Monopoly or a similar one. The board is light-colored with various colored circular markers (yellow, red, green, blue) scattered across it. Several wooden pawns are visible, some in the foreground and some in the background. The text is overlaid on the image in a stylized, bold font.

GAME NIGHT
Friday,
August 19
5:30pm
Celebration
Center

*All ages welcome for supper,
games and Fellowship*



**BY THE GRACE OF GOD AND
THE CALL OF THE CHURCH**

Michelle Anne Ruen

**WILL BE ORDAINED AND INSTALLED INTO THE
MINISTRY OF WORD AND SACRAMENT**

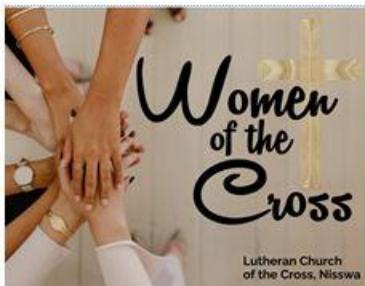


**SUNDAY, AUGUST 28 AT 9:00AM
LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS
5064 CO. RD. 13
NISSWA, MN 56468**

**BISHOP AMY ODGREN OF THE NORTHEAST MN SYNOD
PRESIDING AND PREACHING**

The color of the day is red
Clergy invited to process
Live streaming available at www.lccnisswa.org
Reception to follow in Celebration Center



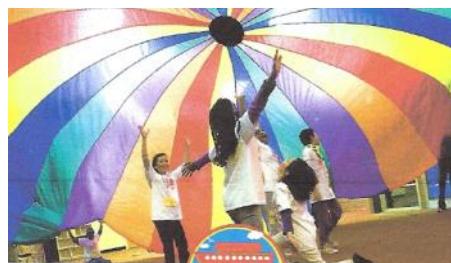


Gather Bible Study – August 10, 2022, at NOON in the Celebration Center

Gather Bible Study will be held on **Wednesday, August 10, 2022, at noon** in the **Celebration Center**. We will be using Session Three of Gather Magazine's "Crafted in Christ" series. This third and final session is entitled "Ties that Bind." It focuses on the final stage of the quilting process: binding the quilt together. We will explore the quilt's assembly, where a top is attached to batting and backing. Keeping in mind our "Crafted in Christ" metaphor and the hymn "Blessed be the Tie that Binds," we will discuss choosing our life's pattern, cutting out some parts, and piecing things together how they lead us to consider how we bind ourselves to this new way of life, living lives with communities that are bound together that are beautiful, useful and warm. Marie Olness will be our Bible study leader and is also coordinating the food. Please come and join us in this last installment of a wonderful Bible study series by Katie Hines-Shah.

CAMP NOAH

Camp Noah is a day camp for children whose communities have been impacted by disaster. Camps are held in disaster-affected areas in cooperation with local partners. Camp Noah is open to elementary-age school children. Every child at Camp Noah receives a tied fleece blanket to use and take home at the end of camp.



Building Resiliency • Restoring Hope • Changing Lives

Women of the Cross are collecting materials for fleece blankets for Camp Noah. The blanket size is 60 inches by 72 inches. Each blanket consists of 2 pieces of 60" x 72" fleece. Fairness is important to children, so we ask that **all blankets be as close to this size as possible**. Please use youth appropriate fabrics, typically toward the older end of the childhood spectrum. Bright gender-neutral fabrics work the best, and please stay away from specifically themed prints (e.g. sports teams, Disney, hunting, etc.). Campers range in age from 6 to 11. We would welcome either fleece in complimentary colors/patterns in the size listed above or completed blankets. Please contact Jodi Milli at jodiamilli@gmail.com if you need a copy of the blanket assembly instructions.



PrimeTimers enjoyed a FUN time at Camp Ripley July 14th!



Join Prime Timers **Thursday, August 11th at noon** at LCC to learn more about Hoopla, Flipster, book club in a bag and more!! Our Brainerd public library speaker Sherri DeLaHunt is full of a variety of ways to use your library card!! Bring your reading devices (kindle, tablet, etc) and she will get you started on hours of free fun!! Any questions, please contact Marie Olness at 218-234-1205.

Bring your own lunch (beverages & dessert provided).



OPERATION SANDWICH IS EVERY THURSDAY THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1.

In late July OPERATION SANDWICH met its biggest challenge. We packed for our largest pack, to date, totaling 66 area families and 343 individuals! Thank you to LCC members and friends who donated food, especially the urgently needed peanut butter. Distribution continues until September 1 so keep the peanut butter and other items coming. Other critical needs include individually packaged trail mix and crunchy granola bars. Local stores have food shortages, as do regional food pantries like Second Harvest. You are the “unexpected heroes” for many of our neighbors in need. Additional thanks to the 25 folks comprising Teams A and Z who pack and distribute; another 15 or so who sub for regulars; amazing prep, food inventory and hauling people. Cheerful help from the church staff and Bridges of Hope round out an awesome group of God’s helpers. Monetary donations and Cub/Costco gift cards are also most appreciated!

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



Dear LCC Friends,

Thanks ever so much for the warm welcome you have given me these last few weeks and your willingness to volunteer for the variety of requests I have made. What a wonderful congregation! We are fortunate to have such happy hearts and willing hands to accompany us on our ongoing faith journey.

“Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!” 2 Corinthians 9:15

I was asked to share a little bit of bio info with you. I am the proud mother of four children and absolutely tickled grandmother of seven grandchildren. I live in the metropolis of Jenkins and have been a member of LCC since 2016. I love to read and have just started going back to the movie theatre. (I am a big rom-com fan!)

Looking ahead, we will have lots of opportunities for service work. Todd Whipple, LCC Custodian, will have some ongoing projects on the grounds and Bob Beck and Marv Green will need help with the new rummage sale garage that has been approved by congregational vote. Vicar Michelle’s ordination is scheduled for August 28th and that will be a marvelous celebration!

I’ll be checking in with you to see what kinds of service work you enjoy, so be thinking about that. After all, just a few weeks ago I thought I was retired and then I got a call from the church.....

Blessings,

Sheri McSherry



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
facility calendar for:			
			Aug
	1	2	3
	10:00 Ponder & Prayer 7:00 Suicide Loss Survivor Group	8:30 Staff Meeting/Prayers 9:00 Camp Yap-a-Lap 9:00 Computer Lab 10:00 Women in the Word 7:00 Women in the Word	8:30 Text 9:30 Quil 5:30 Bells
7	8	9	10
9:00 Worship w/ Communion 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:00 Sharing Market	10:00 Ponder & Prayer 11:00 Soul Sisters 12:45 Creation Care Field Trip	8:30 Staff Meeting /Prayers 9:00 Camp Yap-a-Lap 9:00 Computer Lab 5:00 Lakes Area Food Shelf Board Mtg	8:30 Text 12:00 Gath 5:30 Bells
14	15	16	17
9:00 Worship w/ Communion 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:00 Sharing Market	10:00 Ponder & Prayer 7:00 People for Racial Justice	8:30 Staff Meeting/Prayers 9:00 Camp Yap-a-Lap 9:00 Computer Lab	8:30 Text S 9:30 Quilts 4:00 Creat 5:30 Bells 5:30 Affirm V
21	22	23	24
9:00 Worship w/ Communion 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:00 Sharing Market 10:30 Outdoor Worship w/ Communion	10:00 Ponder & Prayer	8:30 Staff Meeting/Prayers 9:00 Camp Yap-a-Lap 9:00 Computer Lab 10:00 Novel Ideas Book Club	8:30 Text 5:30 Bells
28 ORDINATION SUNDAY	29	30	31
9:00 Worship w/ Communion & Ordination & Installation 10:00 Coffee Fellowship & Reception 10:00 Sharing Market	10:00 Ponder & Prayer	8:30 Staff Meeting/Prayers 9:00 Camp Yap-a-Lap 9:00 Computer Lab	8:30 Tex 9:30 Lak 5:30 Bel

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
August	<h1>2022</h1>		
Bible Study Prayers Songs of Praise	4 9:00 Operation Sandwich 5:00 CFM Team Mtg 7:00 A.A. 	5 9:00 55+ Drivers Discount Program	6
Bible Study Prayer Bible Study Songs of Praise	11 9:00 Operation Sandwich 12:00 PrimeTimers 7:00 Church Council 7:00 A.A.	12 	13 9:00 Cullen Lakes Annual Mtg 9:00 Lake Hubert Board Mtg
Bible Study Prayers Mission Care Team Songs of Praise Annunciation of Baptism Workshop	18 9:00 Operation Sandwich 6:30 Playground Task Force 7:00 A.A.	19 5:30 Pizza & Game Night	20
Bible Study Songs of Praise	25 9:00 Operation Sandwich 7:00 A.A.	26	27
Bible Study Cullen Lakes Area Food Shelf Songs of Praise			<p>Reminder: Before planning any meeting/event/gathering at church, call the church office for availability and scheduling. Thank you.</p>

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



1. Laurie Hemish, Robert Moody, Emmett Wilson
2. Tim Hernandez, Anne Oium, Bennett Wottreng
3. Patrice Maier
4. Alice Carlson
5. James Bailey, Derrick Chase, Bonita Dunker, Max Roby, Emersyn Sullivan
6. Keith Both, Michelle Ellis, Marlow Strand, Tony Trucano
7. Gregg Day, Renee Johnson, Cory Olson
8. Jodie Hiles
9. Randy Hansen, Allison Van Vliet
10. Gary Boche, Beverly Goff, Char Oraskovich
11. Gisela Borgwarth, Pete Christofferson, Jacob Heinlen
12. James Brandon, Marvin Green, Jerry Leese
13. Patti Pluth, Gavin Stallard
14. Karen Green, Pat Maccabee, Dale Peterson, Thea Ude
15. Laiklyn Day, Byron Huseby, Nate Merseth, Pam Osmera
16. Colleen Both, Gail Goble, Jean Meyer
17. Sarah Ciardelli, Bruce Domino, Gary Johnson, Deb Rottschafer, George Sommerfeld
- 18.
19. Jon Fogarty, Duane Heikkila, Jen Pelowski
20. Brian McAllister, Ron Reph
21. Elizabeth Knutson
22. Jean Larson, Steve Panzer, Kirk Tietz
23. Kate Henke
24. Travis Aune, George Martin, Tonya Wermager
25. David Clausen, Grant Loge
26. JoAnne Dayton, Kathy Kline, Roger Miller, Reese Schamber
27. Arlene Brodeur, Janet Erickson
28. Carol Carlson, Marlene Larson
29. Lukas Lind
30. Sheila Avenson, Don Karlgaard, Bailey McMahon, Abby Pelowski
31. Mark Erickson, Marj Holmstrom, Joan Roberts, Wyatt Verville



Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen News



The mission of the Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen is to demonstrate the love of Christ by providing meals to the hungry of our community.

In May the Soup Kitchen fed 958 guests and in June the Soup Kitchen fed over 1022 guests. They also give out over 120 lunch bags a month to "Our Place", a drop-in center.

A HUGE Thank You to Tom Groen who made a delicious dinner of pulled pork, coleslaw, mac and cheese, and baked beans for the LCC's July dinner. Another huge thank you goes out to Mary Klang, and Bob and Teri McClean for helping to serve and clean up.

Did you know that LCC has been making and serving a Soup Kitchen meal, the first Thursday of EVERY month, for over 20 years? Yup! AND, most volunteers only give up 2 hours of their time to do it.

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



The work has begun on the garage addition. Many thanks to the hardworking crew for countless hours removing the playground and prepping the site.

Help is needed the first week of August to construct the addition. Please contact Marv Green at 218-537-0522 if you are willing to help. Thank you.

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS

Church is not
something you go to,
it's a family
you belong to.



Gather 'Round

Sept. 11 9am
on Rally Day!

Our Ministry Teams will have information and materials on display during Fellowship Hour. Cross Kids Connection will resume- all are welcome.

We should keep on encouraging each other to be thoughtful and to do helpful things. Some people have given up the habit of meeting for worship, but we must not do that. We should keep on encouraging each other... Hebrews 10:24-25

MINISTRY TEAMS: In this LCC's YEAR OF INVITATION, Ministry Teams are asked to provide staff and materials for this GATHER 'ROUND Rally Day event. Each team will occupy a table in Celebration Center during Fellowship Hour. In an effort to continue encouraging each other, we urge you to engage members in conversation and Q and A at this event. Extend invitations to those who are interested in working with you on your Ministry Team. If you need help with promotional materials, just see Kari Erickson (ASAP, please:-) and she can help you get them ready.



Our last Summer Stretch activity was a trip to the TWINS GAME!
Thanks again to our wonderful kids for their service and devotion this summer.



A Message on our ELCA Global Missionary

Russian Correspondent– Bradn Buerkle

Good Friday Reflections

It is 3:42 a.m. I can't sleep. Yesterday fatigue rolled over me like a wave, and I fell asleep quickly. Just before that I heard bombers flying over us again, crossing the border into the neighboring country. The sound is strange, blood-chilling. You can't mistake it for anything else...

I just had a nightmare. In it, I saw a young kitten, bloody, surrounded by broken glass. It is a scene I saw in real life about 20 years ago. My husband and I were on the way to our bus stop, headed for a friend's birthday party. On the way we saw a small kitten which boys had put in a glass jar and thrown off a high-rise. I saw no way to help this poor animal, and our friends were already irritated at us for being late... I kept on walking, hating those boys, a storm of anger raging inside me.

Holy Week is about to begin; a week that plays a special role in the life of every Christian. Having read the passage for the day from the Gospel of Luke 23.32-49, I tried to determine where I am among the characters in the story. At first, I associated myself with the "good criminal" who, hanging on a cross, asked for forgiveness for his deeds. How wonderful it would be to go directly to heaven, to be right next to Jesus there... Certainly I'm not like the other criminal, the one who mocked the Son of Man? I'm not so heartless, or simply indifferent... No, no it can't be!?! I have not done anything wrong. I have always tried to help the elderly, children, relatives, neighbors. I am a good citizen. But something inside tells me that perhaps I behaved this way when it was beneficial to me, protecting my own inner paradise, not allowing myself to think about the people in the neighboring country have been suffering all the while. For 8 years, I silently guarded my own paradise. And if I hadn't been silent, maybe there wouldn't be so many innocent victims now...

In every story in the life of Jesus, we find the most pleasant place for ourselves in order to preserve the tranquility of our inner paradise. We judge other people's children for treating animals so badly. We judge other people for taking the wrong position regarding the war. And only the Lord himself knows us. He himself determines our place in the terrible story of the crucifixion of Christ.

Lord, help, protect the innocent and those who are not innocent. Our heavenly Father, protect the lives of the living and, in the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord, even if we once passed by suffering, now we ask You, help! Do not leave our bloodied hearts in broken glass jars, we pray to You...

(Congregation member from Crimea that wishes to remain anonymous)

In Christ,
Bradn



Today is **BOOKED**.

The LCC Library has books of all genres for all types of readers....are you a guy who enjoys a good book? Do you enjoy Christian literature, nature & gardening, hunting & fishing, American & World history, Biographies/Memoirs, or secular fiction? Try out some of the titles below:

God's Promises for Men

Jesus for Farmers and Fishers

Quiet Strength

A Wretched Man

Little Minnesota in World War II

Waiting for White Horses

The 100-Year Old Man Who Climbed Out The Window and Disappeared

Fall to Grace

All are welcome to come browse, sit in our comfy chair and review some titles. REMINDER: use the card in the book pocket to check it out. Return it when you are finished. And as always, thanks for using the LCC Library! --Jean, Lori & Susan

Novel IDEAS BOOK CLUB

Our August title is "The Great Alone" by Kristin Hannah. A desperate family seeks a new beginning in the near-isolated wilderness of Alaska only to find that the unpredictable environment is less threatening than the erratic behavior found in human nature.

Copies of this title are available for check out from the LCC Library. Join us for stimulating discussion, coffee, and treats on TUESDAY, AUGUST 23 at 10am in Chapel Hall. Join us even if you haven't been able to read the book!

Novel Idea Book Club

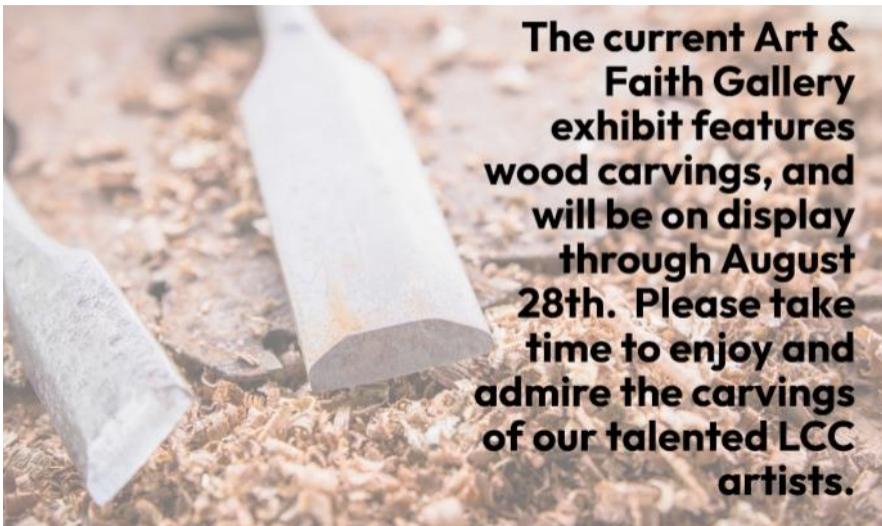


A committee of LCC book lovers came up with a list of books that will provide rich discussion. It is the intention this year to keep the attention focused on the current book to keep the discussion timely. We would like to see this book club as an outreach to the community. Please come join us and bring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

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

ART & FAITH GALLERY



The current Art & Faith Gallery exhibit features wood carvings, and will be on display through August 28th. Please take time to enjoy and admire the carvings of our talented LCC artists.



CREATION CARE



The Creation Care Team Sharing Market Every Sunday following the 9:00 am service in the Narthex.

Do you have PERENNIALS you no longer want or need? Are you baking COOKIES or MUFFINS or SCONES or ROLLS and want to plate up four of them to share? Do you have HOMEMADE JAMS OR PRESERVES that you can bring to the table? Are you good at creating bouquets of CUT FLOWERS? Do you have USED GROCERY BAGS to donate to the Sharing Market? All of the above are welcomed at our Sharing Market table on Sundays, and YOU will be helping us raise money so badly needed at the Food Bank.



**Mark your calendar for Monday, August 8
and join our Creation Care Team for a
field trip - ALL ARE WELCOME!**

We will travel to Balsam Moon Preserve in (Bungo Creek) Pine River for an enlightening and fun afternoon. Caretaker Doug Weiss will welcome us with a presentation followed by a tour of the 20 acre Preserve, which features alternative energy sources, a deep winter greenhouse, wood-fired barrel oven, stream-fed pond, hiking trails, woodland labyrinth, organic gardens and simple overnight accommodations. Caretaker Barb Mann will treat us to homemade bread and refreshments.

Please RSVP to Carolyn Blanck (963-7660) by August 1 if you wish to attend. Plan to meet at church at 12:45pm for a 1pm departure. We expect to return by 5pm.

Balsam Moon Preserve has been recently featured in "Lake Country Journal" and "Her Voice".

JULY 2022 LCC Council Highlights

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS Church Council Meeting Thursday, July 7, 2022

We Assemble in God's Name

Devotion: Darrell Paske

Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Council President Mike Smith

Present:

Mike Smith; Michelle Ruen, Joanie Swanson, Sara Tietz, Jenny Stubbs, Brian Stubbs, Rachel Gerhartz, Dale Peterson, Darrell Paske, Rob Norgon and Colleen Both.

Announcement: Huge thanks to the Bakkens for hosting tonight's potluck meeting!

Officer Reports:

Council Minutes by Darrell Paske (June 2022)

- Motion to approve Pr. Bakken; Second Sarah Tietz; Motion Passed
No Treasurer's report this month.

New Business:

- Pr. Drew shared that in the fall, we would start having congregational small group conversations to begin work on a five year plan for LCC.
- Pr. Drew was contacted by the Lion's Club for permission to use LCC's kitchen and Celebration Center, Sunday, September 25, as a base for its community fundraiser for cancer patients and their families. They would be selling a chicken dinner, prepared off site by a caterer, and would be disbursing the meals only, with LCC as the pick up site. Since the meals are prepared elsewhere, and the fundraiser begins at 11:00, it should not conflict with Rally Day at LCC.
 - Motion made to allow the Lions Club to come in and use the Celebration Center for their cancer fundraiser, Sunday, September 25 by Pr. Drew Bakken; Second by Darrell Paske.
Motion approved.
- Discussion by council on when an additional Sunday service may be warranted. Pr. Bakken stated that an average attendance of 200+ consistently attending would warrant another look at this. Currently, LCC's one service is well attended and energetic.

Old Business:

- Update to the LCC's Constitution continues; next meeting is 7/19. Committee is getting close to the end of the first run through.
- The garage construction update and congregational approval meeting will be held this Sunday (7/10/22). Congregation will be asked to approve an interest free loan for approx. \$30,000 from the church to the garage sale committee, to be paid back \$5,000 each year, from the rummage sale proceeds.

Pastors' Reports

Pastor Drew:

- What a great way to end the month of June. We have officially Called Michelle Ruen as our Associate Pastor here at Lutheran Church of the Cross. It was truly an amazing day filled with joy and the Holy Spirit as we unanimously voted to extend a call to Michelle. I, personally, am looking forward to working with Michelle. Michelle's ordination and installation will happen on August 28th during our 9am service.

- The month also ended with a High Adventure trip with our High School Youth as we canoed to the Apostles Island. What a joy it was to spend a week with such amazing youth from our congregation. We played a lot of Uno, making friendship bracelets, late night talks in the hammocks, and walking with God in morning and evening devotions.
- I am so excited to see the repair work and painting of our church building. Thank you all for our support and financial support to the ministries here at Lutheran Church of the Cross to make sure that we keep this building looking its best.
- As we thanked Sally for her years of ministry we also said hello to Sheri McSherry as our new volunteer coordinator. She has been here for two weeks now and fits right in with the staff. Thank you all for coming up to Sheri at worship or your phone calls offering your support and introducing yourselves to her.
- I truly believe that great things are happening here at Lutheran Church of the Cross. Thank you all for your continued support and prayers as we work together in proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ.

Vicar Michelle:

- I thank you for your vote of confidence and the standing ovation on June 26. I am thrilled to be called to Associate Pastor at Lutheran Church of the Cross Nisswa. I feel very blessed to be a part of such a vibrant congregation and Spirit-filled church. I look forward to serving Christ and walking with each of you through this journey called life. Thank you again to our church council, Pastor Drew, my Internship committee, and the wonderful people of LCC.
- Four members of PrimeTimers and myself met and brainstormed programs for the rest of 2022. We each took a month to check on the availability of speakers, etc. We will meet again to finalize programs, so that we can put out a posting with the dates and programs for the rest of 2022 in order for people to get it on their calendar much earlier. PrimeTimers will meet on the second Thursday of the month instead of the first Thursday of the month for the remainder of the year.
- I led services in June at Edgewood Vista nursing homes and Northern Lakes while Pastor Drew was out with covid and/or with our youth at Amnicon.
- I baptized Robert Allen Salfer, great-grandson of Roger and Donna Salfer, on June 30 at the Salfer home.
- Our Bible Studies, Ponder and Prayer, Novel Idea, and Pizza and Games are continuing to meet during the summer months.
- We said **good-bye to Sally Hodgson** and **hello to Sheri McSherry** in the role of Volunteer Coordinator. Both are beautiful and capable women! Thank you, Sally and Sheri! And thank you to all our members who say “yes” when they are called to serve.

Committee Reports:

Property: Dale Peterson

Here's an update of the major LCC Property projects currently underway:

1. Painting of Church Building exterior
 - a. Needed repairs are wrapping up
 - b. Painting of the church building and bell tower is well underway. For the most part the weather is cooperating.
 - c. Lower Styrofoam areas will be repaired and painted late summer/early fall
 - d. Volunteer work crews will paint the garage and 2 storage sheds following the garage addition
2. Addition to Garage
 - a. Property survey is complete and favorable
 - b. Building permit from City of Nisswa on July 12th

- c. Playground equipment to be removed mid-July
- d. Cement work scheduled late July
- e. Materials have been ordered
- f. Structure build planned early August
- g. Garage doors installed early September
- h. Ready for rummage sale mid-September
3. Install new Underground Wiring to the Garage
 - a. Planned for early July
4. Remove playground equipment and fence
 - a. Removal is planned for mid-July
 - b. Playground is closed and the gate is locked.
5. Landscaping (south side of Sanctuary)
 - a. Planned to start as painting project allows.
 - b. Redo landscape borders.
 - c. Remove old roots, select and plant new bushes.
 - d. Plant flowers/bushes under the LCC Monument sign and add drip Irrigation.
 - e. Spread black dirt and seed lawn areas as needed.
6. Relocation of Church Offices
 - a. Scheduled for late-summer
 - b. Install opening, window, and door in new church office space.
 - c. Relocate staff as offices are available. LCC staff will coordinate moves.
7. Seal Cracks in the Parking Lot
 - a. Planned for early fall.

Stewardship: Rob Norgon

No written report. Verbal report: Committee met 7/6. Work for a 5-year plan for LCC will begin. An LCC Time and Talent fair is in the plans for fall to highlight all of the great work and opportunities there are to contribute (and receive!) at LCC. An October pancake breakfast is in the planning stages.

Worship and Music: Brian Stubbs

The Worship and Music committee has not met since the last report.

- Committee is currently under budget as compared to years prior.
- Planning retreat to organize the next church year will occur this July/August.

No Council action is needed at this time.

Social Concerns and Global Missions: Bonnie Stevens

- **Operation Sandwich** provides meals weekly to students facing summer hunger with grocery bags that include 5 days' worth of food for pick-up once per week. Because of rising food prices and increasing demand for food sources, Operation Sandwich is counting on your support to raise \$25,000 to meet the needs of kids and their families in 2022. In addition to the growing need for meals during the summer months, costs per lunch are projected to increase by nearly 20% in summer of 2022.
- **Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen** Groups are needed to cook and serve in LCC's slot the first Thursday of each month. Please consider organizing a group of people to cook and serve or order something to serve and interact with a number of people you may not come in contact with in your everyday life. Dates are open for September 1, October 6, November 3 and December 1. Ann Bergin gives great tips on this vital ministry in the Lakes Area. Please give her a call to volunteer. 218-820-5511. Or sign up on the sheet next to the Fireside room.

Children and Family Ministry: Rachel Gerhartz

- VBX went very well!

Youth and Family Ministry: Sarah Tietz

- No written report. Verbal report: 25 kids are consistently involved with Summer Stretch and it has been going well.

Congregational Life: Joanie Swanson

- No written report. Verbal report: Kudos to Jean Kraft and her work with Operation Sandwich. They have great volunteers and it is well organized.

Personnel: Darrell Paske

No Report

Meeting Adjourned

Submitted by

Jenny Stubbs, Secretary

Next Council Meeting:

Thursday, August 11, 2022, 7:00 pm

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.

Congregational Meeting

Sunday, July 10, 2022

10:20 a.m.

Meeting called to order by Council President Mike Smith at 10:20 a.m.

A quorum was present.

Motion:

Lutheran Church of the Cross congregation will vote on council's motion to fund the remainder of the garage sale project not currently funded by rummage sale proceeds. The garage sale committee has approximately \$25,000.00 currently. It is proposed that the balance, approximately \$30,000, would be loaned to the garage sale committee interest free, by LCC and repaid to LCC at the rate of \$5,000.00 from the gross proceeds of each future rummage sale until paid in full.

The motion was seconded by Dave Olness.

Discussion:

Question from the floor about plans to replace the old playground. There have been no recent requests by Children & Family Ministry for money toward new equipment. A past fundraiser for such a purpose was mentioned, questioning the location/allocation of approx. \$4,000 raised. Treasurer Colleen Both said there is currently no line item for such funds and that they would have been in Children and Family Ministry funds. Members spoke about the importance of having a church playground for our young members and their families. Pr. Drew asked that concerned members stay after the meeting, and a committee would be formed to work on this issue. As discussed in a previous informational LCC meeting, the current playground equipment is over 20 years old, in disrepair, and is considered a liability and insurance issue. Garage Project member Bob Beck stated that the new garage will be 42' by 32' and will be adjacent to the existing garage. He thanked the generosity of LCC's members in donating, hosting and working past rummage sales. A sign up sheet for volunteer workers on the new garage was passed around. Volunteers will help keep costs down considerably and all levels of skill can be put to use!

Vote:

The motion was approved unanimously by congregation members present.

LCC FALL RUMMAGE SALE

Donation Guide

SOFT GOODS (clean/gently used)

- place in plastic bags

Clothing, coats, scarves, mittens, hats, towels, linens, blankets, shoes, boots, purses, belts.

HARD GOODS (must be in working order)

- place in boxes with closed flaps or totes with lids

Furniture, lamps, home decor, housewares, toys, electronics, DVDs/CDs, jewelry, crafts/supplies, books, pictures/artwork, office items, tools, bicycles, sporting goods, lawn/garden items, pet supplies, misc.

NOT ACCEPTING:

Badly soiled or broken furniture, Hide-A-Beds, Mattresses/Box Springs, Child Car Seats/Booster Seats, Cribs, Tube TVs, Tube Computer Monitors, Doors/Windows, Used Carpet, Reference or Textbooks, Encyclopedia Sets.

Donations are greatly appreciated!

QUESTIONS? Call Marv (218-537-0522) or Bob (612-751-3782)
Electronics questions? Call Lyle (218-330-5110)



Fall

RUMMAGE SALE

A colorful illustration of various household items including a lamp, a bicycle, a vacuum, a toaster, and a coffee maker, representing items for sale.

Mark your calendars for the fall rummage sale.

Sale dates are September 22-24. We need volunteers the entire week of September 18-24.

If you are interested in volunteering or have questions, please contact Liz Brandanger at 612-849-1500 or brandliz@outlook.com.

Thank you for your generous donation of time and items.

The Red Cross blood mobile will be at LCC **Tuesday, Sept. 6th** from 12 noon to 6:00 PM. Questions or if you are willing to volunteer, please call Jim or Cheryl Swanson at 218-963-3999.

Donors please sign up for an appointment at redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS or the church office at 218-963-2564.

**The need is constant.
The gratification is instant.
Give blood.**



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
August 5 (4 Hr Refresher) 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
September 2 (4 Hr Refresher) 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM**

**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

PO Box 29
5064 County Road 13
Nisswa, MN 56468

Main Phone: 218-963-2564
Web: lccnisswa.org
E-mail: lcc@lccnisswa.org

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	Sheri McSherry	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		

