

# Cross Currents

Lutheran  
Church  
of the Cross  
2020



## “Gratitude”

Dear LCC Family,

Our Monday morning staff meetings begin with devotions; last week Sally led a devotion entitled, *Gratitude*. We explored how, in the midst of everything that COVID-19 has taken away or changed in our lives, one thing has not changed; *God’s love for us*.

As we reflect on the past year, we as a congregation and staff have risen above the fear and anxiety caused by COVID-19 and we have much to be grateful for:

- This summer we packaged and delivered over 10,000 meals through Operation Sandwich, providing area families with food.
- We completed the parking lot/bell tower and lighting project, (and were able to do it within budget thanks to donations from Mark Hallan with WSN, Eric’s Excavating, and Rardin’s Construction. Several individuals also donated time and talents toward the cause.)
- We are very close to meeting our fundraising goal for our new church sign, due to very generous donations. We are still accepting donations to help us in providing our church with a whole new look and more visible presence.
- Financially, we are doing well. Thanks to your contributions to our ministry here, we continue to fulfill our benevolence to local and worldwide ministries. If not for your generosity, we would be unable to pay our staff or our bills, and our financial obligations to area ministries would go unpaid. However, our expenses during the last six months did not include the compensation of an associate pastor (AP) and we look to put out a call for an AP in the near future.
- We have returned to in-person ministry in a safe manner, thanks to the coordinated efforts of our Synod, Council, staff, and congregation. LCC has met challenges with cooperation and grace, as worship services have continued throughout the COVID-19 mandates, restrictions, and phases.

For all of these things and more - we are grateful, even in the midst of the uncertainty of COVID-19 life. We as a church have prevailed in our mission to *welcome all people into discipleship with Jesus Christ through Prayer, Scripture Reading, Worship, Service in Christ’s Name, Stewardship, and Hospitality*.

As we look to the future of Lutheran Church of the Cross, we acknowledge the needs of the facility, such as exterior painting, installation of handicap accessible doors and security equipment, and updates to the sound and video systems. We will also be calling another Associate Pastor in the coming year. Your continued help is needed for us to meet these needs.

Stewardship is about gratitude between God and His people, for no one can tell us what we are to give. So what does God say? Throughout Scripture God is consistent, giving us the tithe (10% of our income) as the

guideline we should follow. God emphasized the tithe because when we share the gifts that we each receive, it is life-giving to us. Christian stewards are encouraged to move toward a tithe- therefore, the following chart is provided to assist you on that journey. **Find your place . . . and grow** - consider 1 or 2% growth from last year. You'll be glad you did!

| Annual Income | Weekly Gift |         |         |         |         |          |          |          |          |          |
|---------------|-------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
|               | 1%          | 2%      | 3%      | 4%      | 5%      | 6%       | 7%       | 8%       | 9%       | 10%      |
| \$10,000      | \$1.92      | \$3.85  | \$5.77  | \$7.69  | \$9.62  | \$11.54  | \$13.46  | \$15.38  | \$17.31  | \$19.23  |
| \$20,000      | \$3.85      | \$7.69  | \$11.54 | \$15.38 | \$19.23 | \$23.08  | \$26.92  | \$30.77  | \$34.62  | \$38.46  |
| \$30,000      | \$5.77      | \$11.54 | \$17.31 | \$23.08 | \$28.85 | \$34.62  | \$40.38  | \$46.15  | \$51.92  | \$57.69  |
| \$40,000      | \$7.69      | \$15.38 | \$23.08 | \$30.77 | \$38.46 | \$46.15  | \$53.85  | \$61.54  | \$69.23  | \$76.92  |
| \$50,000      | \$9.62      | \$19.23 | \$28.85 | \$38.46 | \$48.08 | \$57.69  | \$67.31  | \$76.92  | \$86.54  | \$96.15  |
| \$60,000      | \$11.54     | \$23.08 | \$34.62 | \$46.15 | \$57.69 | \$69.23  | \$80.77  | \$92.31  | \$103.85 | \$115.38 |
| \$70,000      | \$13.46     | \$26.92 | \$40.38 | \$53.85 | \$67.31 | \$80.77  | \$94.23  | \$107.69 | \$121.15 | \$134.62 |
| \$80,000      | \$15.38     | \$30.77 | \$46.15 | \$61.54 | \$76.92 | \$92.31  | \$107.69 | \$123.08 | \$138.46 | \$153.85 |
| \$90,000      | \$17.31     | \$34.62 | \$51.92 | \$69.23 | \$86.54 | \$103.85 | \$121.15 | \$138.46 | \$155.77 | \$173.08 |
| \$100,000     | \$19.23     | \$38.46 | \$57.69 | \$76.92 | \$96.15 | \$115.38 | \$134.62 | \$153.85 | \$173.08 | \$192.31 |

With gratitude to our God, our church, and you,

LCC Stewardship Committee



## SCHEDULE CHANGE

Beginning October 4th, we will be moving to ONE worship service on **Sunday mornings at 9am**. This service will be held in Celebration Center and will be in-person worship; it will also be available via video streaming (on our LCC website and Facebook page).

Our Kids of the Cross Worship Service will also be held at **9am** on Sunday mornings in the Sanctuary. This service will be in-person only.

***Wednesday schedule will remain the same:***

Worship begins at 6:20 in Celebration Center; Route 56, Confirmation & High School Youth Group meet immediately following the service.

## Treasurer's Report - Financial Summary 2020 General Fund

|            | <u>August</u> | <u>YTD</u> | <u>Budget</u> | Annual<br>Annual   |
|------------|---------------|------------|---------------|--------------------|
|            |               |            |               | % YTD of<br>Annual |
| Income     | \$ 41,190     | \$ 411,711 | \$ 672,326    | 61.24%             |
| Expenses   | \$ 39,923     | \$ 401,101 | \$ 672,326    | 59.66%             |
| Difference | \$ 5,267      | \$ 10,610  | \$ 0          |                    |

In the month of August our income was more than our expenses by \$5,267.



### FUNERAL

Eugene Loya

Born: June 6, 1937

Died in Christ: Sept. 3, 2020

Funeral: September 12, 2020

Lutheran Church of the Cross

Pr. Drew Bakken, Officiant

### FUNERAL

Mark Westberg

Born: August 15, 1972

Died in Christ: Sept. 4, 2020

Funeral: September 11, 2020

Lutheran Church of the Cross

Pr. Drew Bakken, Officiant

### FUNERAL

Colleen Anderson

Born: July 26, 1984

Died in Christ: August 22, 2020

Graveside: September 5, 2020

Private & Evergreen Cemetery

Pr. Drew Bakken, Officiant

### INTERMENT

Lester Tangen

Born: September 3, 1926

Died in Christ: January 17, 2020

Internment: Sept. 3, 2020

LCC Memorial Gardens

Pr. Drew Bakken, Officiant

### FUNERAL

Eleanor Foy

Born: November 8, 1927

Died in Christ: Sept. 12, 2020

Funeral: September 16, 2020

Lutheran Church of the Cross

Pr. Drew Bakken, Officiant

### BAPTISM

Thea Kay Strother

Born: February 23, 2020

Baptized: September 13, 2020

Parents: Amy Peeters & Clinton Strother

Pr. Drew Bakken, Officiant

### BAPTISM

Bode Matthew Owen

Born: March 1, 2020

Baptized: September 12, 2020

Parents: Michael & Melissa Owen

Pr. Drew Bakken, Officiant

# CHILDREN & FAMILY ministry



Wednesday evening programming has begun—6:20pm—7:30pm! Pastor Drew gives us a teaching sermon during worship, then we meet afterwards to make connections and get to know each other. Remember that ALL 5th and 6th graders are welcome to join us. We meet in Chapel Hall immediately following worship—don't

forget to bring your bible and complete a worship experience sheet..



Tucker crashed Drive Thru Communion in August, wanting a blessing from Pr. Drew.....and Pr. Drew obliged!

Bring your pets to October Drive Thru Communion on the 11th from 10am—12noon. Come to the front parking lot this time, and keep your pets in the vehicle. Pr Drew will serve communion to the pet parents, and give each pet a special blessing!

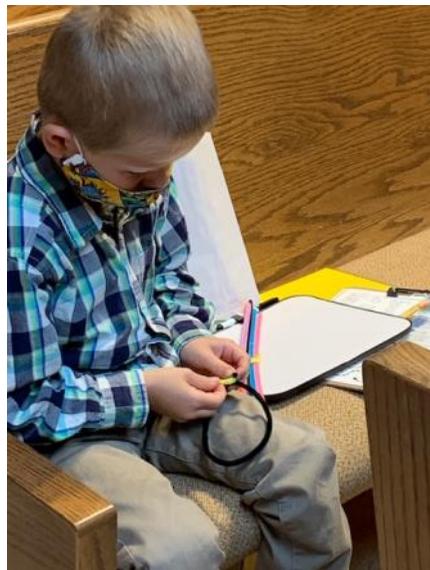


# KIDS OF THE CROSS WORSHIP

SUNDAYS  
9:30am in the Sanctuary

Check us out each Sunday!  
—for kids in Kind. thru Gr. 6:

- Wear a mask
- Find a yellow spot in a pew
- Sit quietly
- Breathe and prepare



## FROM ZACH'S DESK:

Yesterday, the Brainerd High School Decided closed up shop for a few weeks.

It's hard. This is hard. The year is going to be hard.

We were hitting a stride. Things were making sense. It was a new vibe. A new time. Then we hit this new brick wall. It may be the first time something like this happens, but it won't be the last.

We had to once again start calling hard decisions. Going back online on 9/23 was one of the hardest decisions I have been a part of since COVID began. Most decisions are made for us. We had to make this one on our own.

I wanted to be outside. I wanted to worship outside. I wanted small groups or maybe even kickball outside. Some tricky internal factors that day ended up helping us make the decision to go online. It seemed like the best choice.

At 6:20pm, worship started. It looked ominous outside. At 6:40 lightning started filling the Celebration Center with light as we were streaming worship. At 7:00 I joined the Zoom Chat, with rain pelting my windows and lightning behind me.

I kinda felt like Martin Luther that day. "Ok God, I see you!" While making the decision to go online was tough, it was better than trying to do worship at 6:20 in a thunderstorm or kickball in the dark mud.

God is showing up. God always shows up. As we love to look for God and share about our experiences in Confirmation. I invite you to share with your loved ones, where have you seen God lately in the September month of Covid?

These conversations were often had in the beginning of Covid. We had John Krasinski's *Some Good News*. Sermons were littered with God sightings (at lots of churches). Windows were covered in hearts. But September has been harder. We seem to have lost the comradery.

It's important to take a moment to pause and see what God is up to in your life and the life of your loved ones, and maybe those who you struggle with. We all have God inside us, and therefore the ability to see God in this world.

So, where have you seen God lately?

Peace,  
Zach

Where *I*  
have you seen  
God  
*I* today?

### **NOT-Dish and a Show!**

Hot Off the press! Our annual fundraiser is evolving in this Covid time. Join us on November 14th at 7pm for an evening of entertainment. This socially distant talent show will feature some of your favorite acts from previous years and a new few as well! We will have 10 acts (approx. 50 minutes). 100 seats. RSVP on the Youth Bulletin Board, or call in to the office. No big tickets this year; donate as you wish.

There will be no food served this year (hence the clever name). Feel free to eat your favorite hotdish before you join us.

### **Fall Colors Hike**

Join us for what I hope is a new annual tradition: a big fall hike! We will explore the veterans trail in Jenkins and climb the Pequot Fire Tower. Meet at LCC on Sunday, October 11th at 12:30. Please eat lunch beforehand.

### **Join us for the Middle School Gathering!**

Covid adaptations here are big, but I love them! We will host our own Middle School Gathering here at LCC on Saturday Nov. 21 from 1pm-5pm (provided it is still safe). All 7th-9th graders should gather for an afternoon of worship, games and more! We really get to make this an event that works for us. Shoutout to the 8th Grade Girls who made a quick video for the Synod worship video for this event!

### **Kart Kountry Pic**

We had the opportunity to drift some Go-Karts at Kart Kountry on Sep 27th. Check out how much fun we had!



# Music Notes

October 2020

“All Creatures of Our God and King” (LASST UNS ERFREUEN)

Text: St. Francis of Assisi; Music: from *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Cologne

The text for this hymn was actually written by St. Francis of Assisi in the year 1225, the music is a German Easter hymn written by Friedrich Spee in 1623 and published in the hymnal *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, translated from German meaning “Spiritual Church Chants”

Sunday, October 11, we are inviting you to our drive through communion and Blessing of the Animals, so bring your pets.

I thought this hymn so appropriate because St. Francis of Assisi is known for loving nature and all animals.

This story comes from the book “Then Sings My Soul”, by Robert J. Morgan.

So many stories have arisen around St. Francis of Assisi that it’s difficult to separate truth from fiction. We know he was born in 1182 in central Italy, son of a rich merchant. After a scanty education, Francis joined the army and was captured in war. He came to Christ shortly after his release, renounced his wealth, and began traveling about the countryside, preaching the gospel, living simply, seeking to make Christ real to everyone he met.

Francis loved nature, and many stories spotlight his interaction with animals. Once as he hiked through Italy’s Spoleto Valley, he came upon a flock of birds. When they didn’t fly away, he decided to preach them a little sermon: “My brother and sister birds,” he reportedly said, “you should praise your Creator and always love Him. He gave you feathers for clothes, wings to fly and all other things you need. It is God who made your home in thin, pure air. Without sowing or reaping, you receive God’s guidance and protection.”

The flock, it is said, then flew off rejoicing.

That perspective is reflected in a hymn Francis composed just before his death in 1225, called, “Cantico di fratre sole”---“Song of Brother Sun.” It exhorts all creation to worship God. The sun and moon. All the birds. All the clouds. Wind and fire. All men of tender heart. All creatures of our God and King.

Though written in 1225, an English version didn’t appear until 1919, when Rev. William H. Draper decided to use it for a children’s worship festival in Leeds, England.

But is it sound theology to exhort birds and billowing clouds to lift their voices in praise? Yes! “All Creatures of our God and King’ simply restates an older hymn---Psalm 148---which says:

*Praise Him, sun and moon; Praise Him, all you stars of light...  
You great sea creatures and all the depths; Fire and hail, snow and  
clouds;  
Stormy wind, fulfilling His word; Mountains and all hills;  
Fruitful trees and all cedars; Beasts and all cattle;  
Creeping things and flying fowl...Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
For His name alone is exalted...Praise the LORD!*

1. All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
O burning sun with golden beam and silver moon with softer gleam:  
Oh, praise him! O praise him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
2. Let all things their Creator bless and worship God in humbleness.  
Oh praise him! Alleluia!  
Oh, praise the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit, Three in One,  
Oh, praise him! O praise him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Oh, praise him! Alleluia!



Cathy Taylor, Director of Music



**Update your  
contact info!**

**If you would like to receive weekly eblast notifications, please email the church office at [laurie@lccnisswa.org](mailto: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.**



**Thank you to all who have donated funds for our new church sign!**

We will continue fundraising efforts for the new sign, which will be installed in October.

If you are interested in contributing to the cost, please mail your donation to LCC at PO Box 29, Nisswa (*LCC New Sign* in the memo line.) Please call or email the church office with any questions.

We have currently raised over \$15,500 of the \$24,550 needed.

Lutheran Church of the Cross - Nisswa



*Drive Through*  
**COMMUNION**

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**Sunday, October 11**  
10:00am - 12:00pm  
LCC front parking lot

Follow signs and directions of staff to get in line to receive the sacrament. Pr. Drew will be wearing a mask and gloves—*we ask that all those in your vehicle wear a mask and remain in the vehicle.* Pr. Drew will also do the Blessing of the Animals, so bring your pets. Pets must also remain in the vehicle.

*The table of our Lord is set for all those who need grace, forgiveness, strength, and wisdom for ministry and mission to the world.*

## GATHER WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

We met for the first time in several months on Wednesday, September 9th. There were six in attendance and it was such a joy to "gather" together. All women at LCC are invited to attend when they are able; we would love to have you join us! We will be meeting the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 10 AM in Chapel Hall.



The lessons are found in the *Gather* magazine. (Some copies are available at church, but subscriptions can be ordered at the *Gather* website; the price is very reasonable and the whole magazine is excellent!)

Our priority is to remain safe. When we meet we will ask everyone to wear a mask, sit apart, and sanitize our hands. Chapel Hall will be sanitized both before and after we meet.

We look forward to “gathering together in person” with you!

### **Fall 2020: “Holy time” by Meghan Johnston Aelabouni**

In this three-session Bible study, the Rev. Meghan Johnston Aelabouni invites us to remember the past, recognize the present and reimagine the future.

These topics are so timely now as we are navigating a global pandemic. Particularly during these days we need frequent reminders that God loves us and even now is creating us into the people He intended us to be.

#### **Session 1: Holy time: Remembering the past**

Scriptures: Deuteronomy 21:10-25:19, Luke 22:18-20, 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

Themes/Questions: What is faithful memory? How do we remember the past—good and bad? How do we embody memory in our worship through Word and Sacrament, and why is this important? How does faithful memory put us back together (re-member us) as faithful people?

#### **Session 2: Holy time: Recognizing the now**

Scriptures: Mark 14:3-9, Luke 4:16-21, Luke 12:54-56, 2 Corinthians 6:1-10

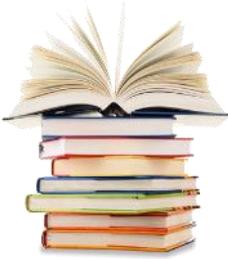
Themes/Questions: How do we grasp the times we are living in? How did Jesus, the woman who anointed him, and Paul all recognize “kairos” time—and what is it? What does it mean to recognize our calling to “be present”?

#### **Session 3: Holy time: Reimagining the future**

Scriptures: Isaiah 55, Revelation 21-22

Themes/Questions: How do we faithfully look to the future? What does it mean to reimagine the future in light of the promises of God’s reign? How do we live now in hope and active expectation, and how does this open us (individuals, churches, communities) to transformation?

# BOOK DISCUSSION UPDATE



In October Pastor Drew will lead a discussion on *White Fragility* by Robin DiAngelo, which will meet weekly.

*See Pr. Drew's note below:*

## October Book Study

The Summer of 2020 has inspired family discussions on COVID-19, as well as roused questions about the protests that were happening in downtown Minneapolis, which spread across the world. In the news we hear about Black Lives Matter, All Lives Matter, white privilege, and the tearing down of confederate statues. So how do we as parents, grandparents, teachers, citizens and churches talk about all this in a healthy manner?

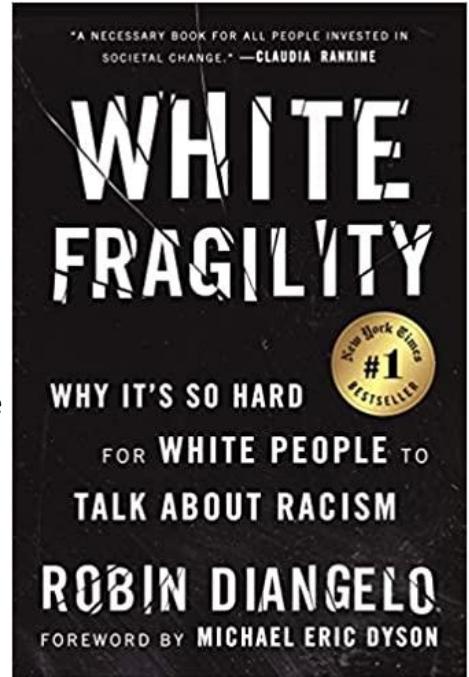
In response, we will be reading and discussing the book "White Fragility" by Robin DiAngelo, a New York Times #1 best seller. Weekly book discussions will begin on Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

To summarize the book Claudia Ranke wrote,

'White Fragility' brings language to the emotional structures that make true discussions about racial attitudes difficult. With clarity and compassion, DiAngelo allows us to understand racism as a practice not restricted to 'bad people'. In doing so, she moves our national discussions forward with new 'rules of engagement.' This is a necessary book for all people invested in societal change through productive social and intimate relationships.

I hope that you can attend our book study. We will be having an online discussion on this book as well. Please sign up by calling or emailing Laurie at the church office. Books can be ordered online through Amazon; there will be limited copies for sale in the church office for \$10.50.

***Pastor Drew***





to the folks who helped spread dirt and grass seed on September 10th to add finishing touches around the new parking lot and bell tower.



**Become  
Part of  
*Our*  
Church  
Family**

**New Member Gathering (October 22nd at 7:00 pm)**

**New Member Sunday (October 25th at 9:00 am)**

Are you interested in learning more about Lutheran Church of the Cross? The New Member Committee will be hosting a New Member Gathering on Thursday, October 22nd at 7:00 pm in the Celebration Center. You will be introduced to the staff, meet others who are joining LCC, and learn more about this community of faith.

If you have any questions, please call the church office at 963-2564 or speak with Pastor Drew.



## OCTOBER VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to all who volunteered in September as we opened up the church to in-person worship. Halleluiah!

For our Sunday and Wednesday Indoor Worship Services (which are held in the Celebration Center), I will be calling for volunteers on a weekly basis instead of monthly. So on Mondays, I will be calling for that week's Wednesday and Sunday services.

One thing that we added is a Sanitation Crew each week. After the 9:00 am service each week, the chairs in Celebration Center will need to be sanitized. We will need approximately 4 people each Sunday from about 9:30 to 10:00 a.m. If you would be willing to help with this, please give me a call at 963-6250. All supplies (gloves, face masks, cleaning spray and cloths) will be available.

Library Volunteer Opportunity is still open! We extend our thanks to Faeth Harms who has faithfully kept our LCC Library in operation for the past several years! Pat Tollefsrud is the other Library Volunteer, and she will be available and willing to train. This is approximately one hour per week. If you are interested in helping in this capacity, please give me a call at 963-6250.

**Blessings,**  
*Sally Hodgson, Lay Ministries Coordinator*

| Sun                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Mon                                                                                                                                                  | Tue                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| facility calendar for:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                    |                                                                                                                                   | 20                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <p><b>4 3RD GRADE BIBLE PRESENTATION</b></p> <p>9:00 <b>Worship &amp; Online Worship</b><br/>           9:00 <b>Kid's Worship</b><br/>           7:00 HSYG—ZOOM</p>                                                                                          | <p><b>5</b></p> <p>8:30 Staff Meeting/Prayer<br/>           10:00 Facebook Devotions<br/>           7:00 Suicide Loss Survivor Group</p>             | <p><b>6</b></p> <p>9:00 Computer Lab<br/>           10:00 Facebook Devotions<br/>           7:00 Book Study: White Fragility</p>  | <p><b>7</b> 8:30 Text<br/>           9:00 Lake<br/>           10:00 Face<br/>           12:00 MN<br/> <b>6:20 Wor</b><br/>           7:00 Rout<br/>           7:00 Conf<br/>           7:00 Adul</p> |
| <p><b>11</b></p> <p>9:00 <b>Worship &amp; Online Worship</b><br/>           9:30 <b>Kid's Worship</b><br/>           10:00 <b>Drive Thru Communion &amp; Blessing of the Animals</b><br/>           12:30 Fall Colors Hike<br/>           7:00 HSYG—ZOOM</p> | <p><b>12</b></p> <p>8:30 Staff Meeting/Prayer<br/>           10:00 Facebook Devotions<br/>           11:00 Soul Sisters<br/>           7:00 MOPS</p> | <p><b>13</b></p> <p>9:00 Computer Lab<br/>           10:00 Facebook Devotions<br/>           7:00 Book Study: White Fragility</p> | <p><b>14</b></p> <p>8:30 Text<br/>           10:00 Face<br/>           10:00 Gath<br/> <b>NO WORSH</b><br/> <b>P</b></p>                                                                             |
| <p><b>18 STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY</b></p> <p>9:00 <b>Worship &amp; Online Worship</b><br/>           9:00 <b>Kid's Worship</b><br/>           7:00 HSYG—ZOOM</p>                                                                                                   | <p><b>19</b></p> <p>8:30 Staff Meeting/Prayer<br/>           10:00 Facebook Devotions<br/>           7:00 Suicide Loss Survivor Group</p>            | <p><b>20</b></p> <p>9:00 Computer Lab<br/>           10:00 Facebook Devotions<br/>           7:00 Book Study: White Fragility</p> | <p><b>21</b></p> <p>8:30 Text<br/>           10:00 Face<br/>           4:00 Crea<br/> <b>6:20 Wor</b><br/>           7:00 Rout<br/>           7:00 Con<br/>           7:00 Adul</p>                  |
| <p><b>25 NEW MEMBER SUNDAY/ REFORMATION</b></p> <p>9:00 <b>Worship &amp; Online Worship</b><br/>           9:00 <b>Kid's Church</b><br/>           7:00 HSYG—ZOOM</p>                                                                                        | <p><b>26</b></p> <p>8:30 Staff Meeting/Prayer<br/>           10:00 Facebook Devotions<br/>           7:00 MOPS</p>                                   | <p><b>27</b></p> <p>9:00 Computer Lab<br/>           10:00 Facebook Devotions<br/>           7:00 Book Study: White Fragility</p> | <p><b>28</b></p> <p>8:30 Text<br/>           10:00 Face<br/> <b>6:20 Wor</b><br/>           7:00 Rout<br/>           7:00 Conf<br/>           7:00 Adul</p>                                          |

| Wed                                                                                                                                                    | Thu                                                                                                                                                                              | Fri                                                                                                                                | Sat                                          |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| <p>2020</p>                                                                                                                                            | <p><b>1</b></p> <p>8:30 Thursday Morning Prayer<br/>10:00 Facebook Devotions<br/>7:00 A.A.</p>  | <p><b>2</b></p> <p>10:00 Facebook Devotions</p>                                                                                    | <p><b>3</b></p>                              |
| <p>Study<br/>Area Food Shelf Mtg<br/>Facebook Devotions<br/>Driver's Training<br/><b>ship</b><br/>te 56<br/>firmation &amp; HSYG<br/>t Bible Study</p> | <p><b>8</b></p> <p>8:30 Thursday Morning Prayer<br/>10:00 Facebook Devotions<br/>12:00 MN Driver's Training<br/>7:00 Church Council<br/>7:00 A.A.</p>                            | <p><b>9</b></p> <p>9:00 MN Driver's Training<br/>10:00 Facebook Devotions</p>                                                      | <p><b>10</b></p> <p>8:00 Council Retreat</p> |
| <p>Study<br/>book Devotions<br/>er Bible Study<br/><b>SHIP OR</b><br/><b>PROGRAMMING</b></p>                                                           | <p><b>15 MEA WEEKEND</b></p> <p>8:30 Thursday Morning Prayer<br/>10:00 Facebook Devotions<br/>7:00 A.A.</p>                                                                      | <p><b>16</b></p> <p>10:00 Facebook Devotions</p>  | <p><b>17</b></p> <p>→</p>                    |
| <p>Study<br/>book Devotions<br/>tion Care Team<br/><b>ship</b><br/>e 56<br/>firmation &amp; HSYG<br/>t Bible Study</p>                                 | <p><b>22</b></p> <p>8:30 Thursday Morning Prayer<br/>10:00 Facebook Devotions<br/>7:00 New Member Gathering<br/>7:00 A.A.</p>                                                    | <p><b>23</b></p> <p>10:00 Facebook Devotions</p>                                                                                   | <p><b>24</b></p>                             |
| <p>Study<br/>book Devotions<br/><b>ship</b><br/>e 56<br/>firmation &amp; HSYG<br/>t Bible Study</p>                                                    | <p><b>29</b></p> <p>8:30 Thursday Morning Prayer<br/>9:00 White Pine Villa Assoc.<br/>10:00 Facebook Devotions<br/>7:00 A.A.</p>                                                 | <p><b>30</b></p> <p>10:00 Facebook Devotions</p>                                                                                   | <p><b>31</b></p>                             |



- 1.
2. Ethan Paulson, Logan Verville
3. Dick Cowger, Finnegan Fogarty, Zach Henke
4. Scott Lanz, Ruth Quisberg, Andrew Fiebelkorn, Christopher Moddes
5. James Natwick, Verna Miller, Collin Reed, Mia Green
6. Mark Smith, Jay Rardin, Phil Meyers, Tim Meierding, Hayley Jaeche
7. Alison LeBlanc, Chad Hiles, Keira Gibson, Morgan Eckes, Isabell Thompson
8. Jim Kraft, Lorrie Anderson, Jesse Clausen, Carter Reed, Carter Erickson, Avery Eisenschenk
9. Dennis Morris, Cindy Aakhus, Noah Johnson, Nancy Doering
10. Marty Sapletal, David Jabas, Chris Helsene, Betsy Egan, William Taylor, William Schmitz, Caden Townsend
11. Dwight Lindberg, Emily Lueck
12. James Kostreba, Pamela Mailand
13. Bill Whiteman, Uldis Birznieks
14. Susan Natwick
15. Chad Boesen, Don Gunderson, Bonnie Stevens, Jonas Raske, Jackie Knutson
16. Matt Erickson, Jeanne Anderson, Kristel Schamber, Maren Pelowski
17. Bruce Anderson, Kimberly Rardin
18. Allan Loney
19. Margaret Sommerfeld, Emily Stunek, Ned Aga
20. Robert Norgon, Gannon Raguse
- 21.
22. Mark Sandelin, Steve Stoxen, Bonnie Brandon, Clara Gromer
23. Barbara Wenschlag, Ray Arveson, Zach Malecha
24. Cheryl Swanson, Jace Anderson, Chad Knutson
25. Paul Melby, Chuck Sather, Marvel Pelkey, Nancy Wangstad, Theresa Glendening
26. Angela Andrist, Vicki Edminster
27. Cassandra Erickson, Dennis Brandanger, Stacy Grothem, Teddy Nelson
28. Randy Oestreich, Cole Smith
29. Richard Haeg, Arabelle Boesen, Anne Ogren
- 30.
31. Jacob Niggeler, Dick Rickbeil, Dagny Trucano, Mary Cram

# Thursday Morning Prayer



## PRAYER AGAIN

Lutherans pray! And when we pray, we do it with a focus on God and a desire to strengthen our relationship with Him. The “reward” we receive from God in prayer is the change God works within us. All are invited to join us for Thursday morning prayer. We meet every week in the sanctuary at 8:30 AM. In these times of fear and

insecurity we come together for support and fellowship, taking the time to quiet our hearts, and focus on our relationship with God.

*If you have questions contact Candi Barnack: 963-6059, or Carol Smith: 829-8142.*

### Survivors of Suicide Loss Support Group

First and third Mondays of each month from 7:00 to 8:30 pm at LCC.

Our goal is to provide a safe environment to share our stories, and to provide support and education to those who have lost a loved one to suicide.

\*please note that we are a group for adults only

\*\*contact Jeri Borgwarth at [jeriborg@hotmail.com](mailto:jeriborg@hotmail.com) with questions

YOU'RE  
not alone



## WELCOME, OCTOBER!

**O**ffer your heart, mind and soul to the lord

**C**onfess all your misstates and sins. Praise God that

**T**oday He will provide and protect you and your loved ones.

**O**utpouring of His love and grace claim it with thanksgiving

**B**lessings will overflow through you so you can be a blessing to others too

**E**very day be grateful that God works in you to

**R**estore and renew your life for His glory. Amen.





In person Sunday and Wednesday worship resumed in September! At our September 13 service, the congregation was tapping their

toes and humming along to bluegrass favorites with our musicians. All are welcome as we social distance and safely join together once again. One Sunday service will be held at 9:00 am in October.



Wednesday worship is at 6:20pm—all services in Celebration Center. Streaming video and Facebook Live broadcasts will now be at 9:00 am on Sundays on our website and on Facebook Live.

Special thanks to Cathy Taylor and the LCC Bluegrass Band:

Cathy Taylor, Murry Holmstrom, Kris Smith, Jim Natwick, Kevin Lattu, and Erica Bjelland.





Our LCC Kindergarteners through 6th graders received a Back to School Blessing packet this September. Lola Chase was kind enough to share one of her coloring pages, pictured at left. Each packet included a kit for making the backpack tag pictured below, along with faith building activities, blessings, prayers, bible verses, and a pencil case with a few supplies. Please keep all of our school students, workers, teachers, and administrators in your prayers this school year.



**Our third graders will be receiving their bibles on Sunday, October 11** at our 9am worship service. Join us in worship as the kids and their parents receive a blessing from the congregation along with their bible:

*Kyle Christianson*

*Kolten Hiles*

*Aliana Lind*

*Oliver Martinson*

*Dagne Neale*

*Ally Oium*

*Maggie Prahm*

*Jonah Schwanke*

*Emily Smith*

*Kaden Teasck*

*Bennett Wottreng*





**2020 Confirmands** (listed in alphabetical order):

Ella Anderson, Jayley Andresen, Nathan Bakken, Lucille Boche, Bailey Clausen, Brea Eckes, Nicholas Evanson, Andrew Grell, Hannah Hayes, Tyler Hushagen, Logan Knutson, Riley Larson, Annie Lindholm, Grant Loge, Maci Martini, Isabelle Olson, Vaughn Petersen, Joshua Stark.

Also pictured: Zach Malecha and Pastor Drew Bakken

God be with you.



While Confirmation was different this year, it still had the many great things that make this day special.

Our Faith Statements were phenomenal, filled with deep thoughts, laughter and feelings. We had a wonderful service with great music, socially distant blessings, and something that felt deeply personal. The Holy Spirit was at work!

Pictured at left, Tyler H shares his faith statement.

# FAMILY FAITH FORMATION



**Wednesday Night Programming Update— Family Faith Formation Nights for 2020-2021 are on the books.** They were a highlight last year. We will gather with all of our 5th - 12th graders and their families on November 4th, December 2nd, January 6th, and February 3rd at 6:20pm in the Celebration Center. These nights offer faith building for the whole family as well as how to live out our faith in today's world. Our topics this year are: *Implicit*

*Bias and Race, Mental Health, Camp!*, and *Meet Our New Bishop, Amy Odgren*. Families—mark your calendars so you don't miss this continued adventure in our Children, Youth and Family Ministry Program at LCC!

**November 4—*Implicit Bias and Race*** - Colleen Bernu will lead us in introspective and meaningful self work in today's tough contexts. Colleen works at the synod level with the *Together Here* campaign, which engages in learning, listening and relationship building between diverse people groups and communities within the NEMN Synod.

## Operation Sandwich Wrap Up

Operation Sandwich was a phenomenal success. We look forward to serving our community during Christmas Break and next summer as well. Thank you again to our volunteers, listed in last month's newsletter. We couldn't have done this without you. We served just over 10,000 meals from our location. Please continue to keep these hungry members of our community in your prayers. Here is a pic of our socially distant wrap up picnic with volunteers.



## A Message from our ELCA Global Missionary

### *Russian Correspondent*

#### ***Course for Lay Preachers on the Bible (Ufa)***

The last “live” event that we were able to hold this spring was our annual seminar to educate lay preachers in south-central Russia. Every year Seminary President Anton Tikhomirov and I have traveled to Ufa, where good facilities and even better people (both local and from the neighboring - 5+ hours’ drive away! - Orenburg-area), make for a great learning environment. The theme this year was “Scripture,”

the 3rd of 6 courses that aim to give lay leaders the central knowledge and skills they need to independently lead the day-to-day life of a congregation. The goal of this particular course was to solidify in participants a Lutheran theological approach to the Bible (mostly on Anton), to provide models of Bible study methods and a better understanding of each of the major sections of Scripture (mostly on me). This particular seminar has proven to be one of the most challenging for many participants, whose faith commitments tend to see anything other than literal reading as an expression of doubt. Together, though, through careful reading, it became clear that the Bible’s many voices are a gift of grace that allows God to speak to us, comfort us, correct us, and guide us in our various circumstances.



*Your brother in Christ, Bradn*

#### **The basics....**

I am a pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America serving through the Evangelical Lutheran Mission of Lower Saxony (ELM) in the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Russia, where I am in charge of the “Equipping for Service” educational project and serve as Dean of the Far East. If you have any questions for me, please feel free to write to me at: [bradnbuerkle@gmail.com](mailto:bradnbuerkle@gmail.com). I am open for conversations over Skype, Zoom, etc.



## AGRICULTURE AND CLIMATE CHANGE — Carol Tack

Most of us are horrified to see the devastation that wildfires are causing out west. My own state of Iowa just had a huge storm with winds up to 110 miles per hour that destroyed homes and ruined acres and acres of crops. We wonder what can be done to increase our world's resilience to climate change.

One positive idea is **regenerative agriculture**. What is that? Basically it is a conservation and rehabilitation approach to farming that **focuses on topsoil regeneration and increasing biodiversity**. It recycles farm waste and adds compost material. We can also do this in our small garden plots. On a larger scale, science and policy experts have said that climate friendly sustainable farming practices could **eliminate a significant amount of emissions and massive amounts of carbon could be sequestered**. Farmers and foresters are able to get paid for these practices through the private sector but it currently is difficult for them to access the carbon markets. So a bill, called THE GROWING CLIMATE SOLUTIONS ACT, has been introduced by several senators to help farmers and foresters access these carbon markets. This bill is **supported by both Republicans and Democrats** and could significantly help farmers and foresters get paid for implementing sustainable practices that would regenerate their soil, reduce carbon emissions and sequester carbon.

LET'S SUPPORT our Senators as they try to help conserve God's creation.

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## DISASTERS AND CLIMATE CHANGE— Laura Raedeke

Meteorologist Paul Douglas and U of M Climatologist Dr. Mark Seely warn that **warming temperatures due to climate change have dried out vegetation, caused drought in the U.S. West, and enabled the pest infestations that have killed millions of trees leading to the burning of more than five million acres on the West Coast**. Government spending on fighting wildfires has **more than tripled since the 1990s, to an average of \$1.8 billion annually**.

At the same time, warming temperatures are linked to **more frequent storms such as hurricanes, with the current season being one of the most active on record**. Climate change enables the atmosphere to **hold more water vapor, thus slowing down the storms long enough to gather more destructive power**. Federal dollars cover much of the rebuilding costs in flooded areas, meaning that the **U.S. taxpayer is increasingly on the hook for the billions of dollars in damage and reconstruction**.

## September 2020 LCC Council Highlights

**LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS**  
**Church Council Meeting**  
**Thursday, September 10, 2020**

### **We Assemble in God's Name**

Devotion: Dale Peterson

### **Call to Order**

Meeting called to order by Council Vice-President Jaime Boesen

### **Present:**

Jamie Boesen, Vice President; Colleen Both, Treasurer; Darrell Paske, Secretary; Pastor Drew; Dale Peterson; Mike Smith; Pam Johnson; Jen Henry; Craig Fink

### **Officer Reports:**

Council Minutes by Darrell Paske

- Motion to approve Craig Fink; Second Pam Johnson – Motion Passes
- Treasurer's Report by Colleen Both
- Motion to approve Darrell Paske; Second Mike Smith – Motion Passes

### **New Business:**

PPP – No action taken

- Motion by Pastor Drew; Second by Jamie Boesen to accept and approve the 2020 Class of Confirmands – Motion Passed

### **Old Business:**

Rummage Sale Core Meeting Update – No Fall Rummage Sale. Discussion will continue regarding Spring Sale. There is approximately \$10,000.00 proceeds from mini sale and donations. Distribution of funds will occur in October.

### **Pastor's Reports**

#### **Pastor Drew:**

As I sit and reflect upon this summer I would have to say that it has been the summer of preparations. We as a staff, Smart team, and council have been discussing how to best open the church come September. I have appreciated every ones comments and suggestions. We opened to in person worship over labor day weekend and between both services we had 54 at our 8:15 service and 33 at our 9:30 service. We as a staff were pleased to see that all our preparations had paid off as we were able to clean the celebration center and bathrooms within 15 minutes. I know that we will see an increase in attendance next Sunday and I feel confident that we can make the

environment safe for everyone. This past Wednesday we started our 6:20 worship talking about Baptism and we had 44 people in attendance that night.

We know that we will see an increase in attendance once confirmation and route 56 begins. Special thank you for the staff who have worked hard to make our in person worship go smoothly and safely.

It is hard to believe that it has been six months since we were last together for in-person worship. I don't know what I would have done without Cathy, our musicians and our video and sound techs. They deserve a big thank you for their ongoing ministry. Without their help we would not have been able to provide the quality of worship that we have. As we complain about the situation with Covid-19 a new ministry and friendships bloomed out of it. Please join me in thanking them for all their hard work and dedication to the church.

As we look forward to the remainder of the month we will be affirming the faith of 19 our 10<sup>th</sup> graders on September 20<sup>th</sup> at 11:40 am. This service will be for just our confirmands and their families as we will be limited to the size of attendance. As per our constitution we need a motion to receive our confirmands as adult members of our church. They are Vaugh Peterson, Isabelle Olson, Brea Ecks, Jayley Anderson, Lucille Boche, Riley Larson, Joshua Stark, Nathan Bakken, Grant Loge, Bailey Clausen, Nicholas Evanson, Ella Anderson, Hannah Hayes, Maci Martini, Logan Knutson, Andrew Grell, Maxwell Roby, Annie Lindholm, Tyler Hushagen, and Ella Anderson. These confirmands have completed our confirmation program and will be affirming their faith on September 20, 2020.

## **Committee Reports:**

### **Property: Dale Peterson**

- Lighting in the LCC new parking lot continues to be tweaked.
- The new LCC monument sign was approved and plans are underway for installation late this fall. The old sign will then be relocated to the north entrance road from Crossroads.
- Outside yard work was started September 10th. Black dirt was spread on the lawn areas around the new parking lot. Plans are to continue next week and to seed the areas.
- Landscaping of LCC church grounds is a planned 2021 project. The sprinkler system will be part of the landscape plan.
- Also planned for 2021 is painting of the exterior of the church.

### **Stewardship: Craig Fink**

No Report

### **Worship and Music: Mike Smith**

- We discussed the possibility of the Senior Choir rehearsing for half hour rehearsals with masks and social distancing. The choir could possibly sing for special services (Reformation, Thanksgiving, Christmas) by leaving the Celebration Center, singing in the sanctuary, and piping in the music to the Celebration Center.
- Additional microphones are needed for worship services. Approval was given to purchase four additional mics at a cost of approximately \$400.00. \$200 would come from a grant or gift to the church and \$200 would come from the W & M budget.

### **Social Concerns and Global Missions: Jason Martinson**

No Report

### **Children and Family Ministry: Pam Johnson**

- There weren't any kids at the first in-person Kids of the Cross Worship, but Kari is ready! Dagny has agreed to help with this and any other adult/teen volunteers are welcome and appreciated. No preparation is needed. We're hoping as families settle in to the first weeks of school, attendance will pick up at this service. Kari will be sending out a postcard to families with more information.
- Kari has fun activity booklets she will be mailing out to preschool through 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> graders. There are three different booklets for different age groups.
- Route 56 will be kicking off on the 16<sup>th</sup>. A welcome letter went out to all Route 56 families.
- With the restrictions in place because of COVID, we will not be hosting a Trunk or Treat this year. Kari is working on some ideas for a take home bag of goodies to be passed out at church prior to Halloween.

### **Youth and Family Ministry: Jen Henry**

- Confirmation had a successful orientation this week with 7th grade. We are looking forward to 9th grade next week and going full time after that! We are implementing best COVID safe practices in our program as we meet in person. An online option has been developed as well for students who choose.
- 9th grade confirmation will evolve this year and join High School Youth Group as their curriculum. It is important for their longevity of their faith to join this group

while it is an expectation so they can get a real feel as to what this group is like. We are looking forward to implementing the Synod Journey bible study as well.

- High School Youth Group is taking a two pronged approach this year. Online on Sunday evenings and in person on Wednesday evenings. Wednesdays will have a community focus while Sunday will remain as they are - bible focused.
- Tuesday Afternoon Gaming continues to thrive.
- Community events will be planned about a month out at a time this year. We will go Go-Karting on Sep 27 at 12:30.
- Confirmation Sunday is on Sep 20, with the reading of the faith statements the night before. We are excited to confirm 19 of our amazing youth! We are so proud of the young adults they are becoming.

### **Congregational Life: Hilary Johnson**

No Report

### **Personnel: Jamie Boesen**

No Report

Meeting Adjourned

Submitted by Darrell Paske, Council Secretary

Next Council Meeting: October 8, 2020

Annual Council Retreat October 10, 2020

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 Grell 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.

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*Whenever you do not understand what's happening in your life, just close your eyes, take a deep breath and say "God, I know it's your plan. Just help me through it".*

*By the Grace of God*



**The Reverend Amy Jo Odgren**

*is called as the fourth bishop of the*

**Northeastern Minnesota Synod**

*of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.*

She will be installed at a Service of the Word on

**Saturday, October 17, 2020 at 2:00pm**

**The Reverend Elizabeth A. Eaton**

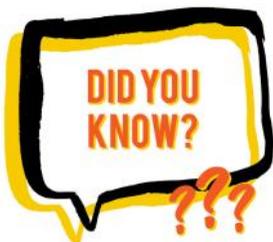
**Presiding Bishop**

*of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

*will preach and preside.*

*You are invited to join us for the digital procession.*

*The color of the day is red.*

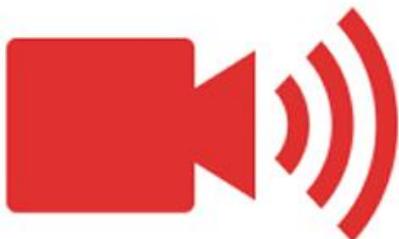


THRIVENT provides its members with a unique opportunity to help support LCC through Thrivent Action Teams. All Thrivent members are eligible to apply for two ACTION TEAM GRANTS and receive \$250 in funds (per grant) to help with a fundraiser, service activity or educational event.

*See one of our staff members if you belong to Thrivent and would like to apply!*

**thrivent**<sup>®</sup>

# LIVESTREAM WORSHIP



Live worship broadcasts will continue on Sundays in October at 9:00am via the LCC website and our LCC Facebook page. Prayer requests may be texted via Facebook Live during the service—if you haven't tried this yet, we encourage you to do so.

Our Wednesday evening worship will be streamed on our website, as well. All worship videos on the website are archived and can be viewed both live or at your convenience.

<http://www.lccnisswa.org/live-video-streaming-worship.html>

**WHEN YOU GO THROUGH  
DEEP WATERS, I WILL BE  
WITH YOU.**

**ISAIAH 43:2**

## Lutheran Church of the Cross

PO Box 29  
5064 County Road 13  
Nisswa, MN 56468

Main Phone: 218-963-2564

Web: [lccnisswa.org](http://lccnisswa.org)

E-mail: [lcc@lccnisswa.org](mailto:lcc@lccnisswa.org)

**CURRENT RESIDENT OR**

Address label here

# Welcoming all people into discipleship

### STAFF

|                                          |               |              |
|------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Pastor                                   | Drew Bakken   | 218-961-2014 |
| Pastor                                   |               |              |
| Director of Youth and Family Ministry    | Zach Malecha  | 218-961-2015 |
| Director of Children 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                      | Judy Rickbeil |              |
| King's Kids                              | Carol Smith   |              |
| Custodian                                | Clint Baker   | 218-963-2564 |
| ELCA Global Missionary                   | Bradn Buerkle |              |
| LCC Office                               | Laurie Hemish | 218-961-2011 |

### 2020 CHURCH COUNCIL

|                |                |                       |                 |
|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| President      | David Grell    | Social Justice/Global | Jason Martinson |
| Vice President | Jaime Boesen   | Worship & Music       | Mike Smith      |
| Treasurer      | Colleen Both   | Youth                 | Jen Henry       |
| Secretary      | Darrell Paske  | Stewardship           | Craig Fink      |
| Cong. Life     | Hilary Johnson | LCC Foundation        | Dan Halland     |
| Education      | Pam Johnson    |                       |                 |
| Properties     | Dale Peterson  |                       |                 |

