

Cross Currents

Lutheran
Church
of the Cross
2021



Dear Friends,

Much of life as we knew it came to a sudden halt as COVID-19 took hold of our local and global community; most workers and students were sent home, and many businesses closed. We term *social distancing* became commonplace, and it became imperative to wear masks; yet the ministry of Lutheran Church of the Cross did not come to a stop, not for a single day. Our worship services and most of our other ministries swiftly and seamlessly moved online. Our ministries of caring for our own members and serving our neighbors in need expanded. Our programs for children and youth, and our adult small groups continued to offer experiences of connection and spiritual nurture. Whether we gathered for worship inside our sanctuary, in our parking lot, or online, *we continued to be the body of Christ through our ministries, our witness, and our care for one another.* And now, the ministry of Lutheran Church of the Cross is more essential than ever.

God calls us to navigate the uncertainty of the year ahead with boldness and with faith. It is in this spirit that we chose the theme for this year's stewardship campaign: "Now More Than Ever: Receive Hope, Be Hope, Share Hope." God calls us to receive, embody, and share with others the hope that is ours in Christ. This is not a time to pull back in fear, but to support one another, love our neighbor, and lean into the promises of God - like never before. "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." (Hebrews 11:1)

We will observe Stewardship Sunday on October 17. Join in the celebration of being part of a legacy of great benevolence in the support of the life and work of Lutheran Church of the Cross, abundantly giving of your time, energy, faith, and financial resources to sustain and grow our work and ministries. Now more than ever, we ask you to generously contribute to support our life and ministry.

We are mindful that for some of our members have lost their jobs, and other factors are now present that may prevent you from giving in the manner that you would like. For some, this has been a year to re-examine and reflect on our lives and our blessings, resulting in a new perspective of gratitude. For everyone who is able to give, we invite you to give generously, joyfully, and more boldly than you have ever given before, so that our ministry will continue to thrive. Our goal at LCC is to grow our ministry, grow our caring, and grow our outreach. That can only happen with your abundant involvement and participation.

Pledge sheets were mailed out last week, if you did not received one, they are available at church.

As we look toward 2022 with faith and with hope, may God deeply bless you in your moments of giving, as well as in your moments of receiving.

With joyful thanks to you and to our loving God!

Pastor Drew Bakken

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS, NISSWA
INVITES YOU TO JOIN US FOR OUR

Stewardship Breakfast

October 17th
9:15 - 10:15am

Includes:



Pancakes
Scrambled Eggs
Sausage
Coffee & Juice

Served by our
Stewardship Committee



All
Are
Welcome!

Treasurer's Report - Financial Summary 2021 General Fund

	<u>August</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Budget</u>	Annual Annual
Income	\$ 41,002	\$ 420,775	\$ 679,929	61.89%
Expenses	\$ 49,363	\$ 386,620	\$ 679,929	56.86%
Difference	\$ (8,362)	\$ 34,155	\$ 0	

In the month of August our expenses were greater than our income by \$8,362..
Thank you for your continued support.



FUNERAL

Vickie Reph
Born: May 22, 1947
Died in Christ: December 12, 2020
Funeral: September 11, 2021
Pr. Drew Bakken, Officiant

BAPTISM

Name: Archer Sean Nokken
Born: March 25, 2020
Baptized: September 19, 2021
Parents: Sean & Kelly Nokken
Pr. Drew Bakken, Officiant

WEDDING

Perry Clark & Nancy Phillips
Date: September 5, 2021
Pr. Drew Bakken, Officiant

BAPTISM

Name: Jensen Karl John Gehrman
Born: June 30, 2021
Baptized: September 25, 2021
Parents: Tyler & Kristine Gehrman
Pr. Drew Bakken, Officiant

WEDDING

Jordan McGrew & Caroline Rasinski
Date: September 18, 2021
Pr. Drew Bakken, Officiant



We are having a blast in Cross Kids Connection on Sunday mornings!! Join us in the Tree-house at 9:30am for music, crafts, storytime, fellowship, and FUN—all are welcome, Preschool through Grade 4!

The poster has an orange background. At the top, the words "TRUNK OR TREAT" are written in large, bold, white letters with a black outline. Below that, "LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS" and "FRONT PARKING LOT" are written in smaller white letters. A black rectangular box contains the date "OCTOBER 31, 2021" in large white letters, followed by "3:00 - 4:30PM" and "5064 CO. RD. 13 - NISSWA, MN" in white letters. Below the box, the words "LOTS OF TREATS" are written in large, bold, white letters. At the bottom, there is an illustration of an orange car with "allergy friendly" written on its trunk. The car is surrounded by Halloween-themed items like a pirate, a witch, a pumpkin bucket, and various candies.

On Sunday, September 26, our 3rd graders received their Bibles during our 10:30am worship service. We spent an hour together prior to the worship to get to know our Bibles with our parents.

KIDS' GUIDE TO USING YOUR BIBLE

Each year, LCC presents our third graders with Lutheran Study Bibles—the ones that we use for Sunday School and Confirmation. It's a faith milestone as you continue on your faith journey.

From Genesis to Revelation, you will find tons of wisdom, poems, songs, stories, advice, guidance, and more (the book of Proverbs even talks about dog vomit!!)

- So dive in! A grubby fingerprint or Cheeto or Dorito dust smear here and there are fine as long as it means you are reading and using this amazing book. Leaf through it, and mark pages that are your favorites.
- Make notes or doodles in the margins, dog-ear important pages, or even press a pretty flower between it's pages—you can tuck meaningful notes, prayers, song lyrics—perhaps a friendship bracelet or two- in it, too.
- Bring it with you to Bible camp, on retreats or to Sunday School. Sometimes simply having it nearby will bring you comfort.
- It's yours to keep and use for the rest of your days—a little piece of LCC to will go along with you wherever life leads.
- Your Bible will always be there, ready to be cracked open when you are ready for the bounty of words and memories it contains.
- Let your Bible become the storybook of your relationship with God. You have the power to make it the start of a wonderful conversation between the two of you—much more than simply a book!!



CHILDREN &

FAMILY
ministry



October 10:

9th—12th graders meet with Pr. Drew at 12noon for pizza and information about our 2022 MISSION JAMAICA TRIP. Come find out more about how you can be a part of it!

At 1pm, 7th and 8th graders will join the group for HIGHWAY CLEANUP.



Our 8th grade team will be baking and serving cinnamon/caramel rolls on our first SUPER ROLL SUNDAY, October 3 in Celebration Center.

Special thanks to Jen Henry (Roll Queen), Karen Raguse (Frosting Queen) and Sarah Tietz (Prep Queen).



OCTOBER 13:

Confirmation Students, please bring a package of treats for COLLEGE CARE PACKAGE NIGHT along with \$10 for postage. We will send treats off to our college students to remind them that they are special to us!



Friendly reminder to 7th—9th graders to complete the online Confirmation Registration form that was emailed out to parents. 7th graders please sign up for acoolyting, too! Any questions, contact the church office.

Congratulations to our 2021 Confirmands



Scarlett Anderson
 Vanessa Anderson
 Clay Erickson
 Logan Fogarty
 Weston Hiles
 Aron Hushagen

Elizabeth Knutson
 Landon Kubesh
 Kelsi Martini
 Jake Merseth
 Payton Scott
 Charlee Sullivan

Will Taylor
 Ethan Thomas
 Martin Timmons
 Logan Verville
 Maggie Wolter



OCTOBER 31 is not only Reformation Sunday, it's TRUNK OR TREAT day, and a day for you to participate in this important service project!!

All LCC 5th—12th graders are invited to be a part of this event. We will host outdoor carnival-type games for our trunk or treaters! You'll have a ton of fun and get a few treats, too!!

"Be strong. Take courage. Don't be intimidated. Don't give them a second thought because God, your God, is striding ahead of you. He's right there with you. He won't let you down; he won't leave you."

Deuteronomy 31:6



October 2021 Hymn of the Month ACS 1043 Spirit, Open My Heart (WILD MOUNTAIN THYME)

Refrain

Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.

As you love, may I love, in receiving and in giving. Spirit, open my heart.

1. God, replace my stony heart with a heart that's kind and tender.
All my coldness and fear to your grace I now surrender.
2. Write your love upon my heart as my law, my goal, my story.
In each thought, word, and deed, may my living bring you glory.
3. I live May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of friend and neighbor.
As from day to day, love will be my finest labor.

I love the text to this hymn. It refers to the joy but also the pain of living in this world, the two things we all experience on a day to day basis. We are called to love, as God loved us first, it is because he loves us that we can love. We pray that our hearts will be open to love all people, regardless of who they may be. We are called to be in fellowship with all, sharing joys as well as difficulties. It is in this sharing that we all can see God through each other. We pray that all in all our living we do it to honor God and give God all glory.

The tune of this hymn is an Irish folk tune, also called "Will Ye Go Lassie, Go", a song about summer time coming and wild mountain thyme of the Irish hills blooming around the heather. It is a beautiful song.

Ruth C. Duck wrote the text that was put to this tune for this hymn. She is an internationally renowned hymnwriter using over 150 hymn texts and Psalms as her basis. Her hymns have appeared in supplemental hymnals in the United States, Canada, Hong Kong, Australia, Scotland and England. She was born in Washington D. C. and her education was at Southwestern University, Chicago Theological Seminary, University of Notre Dame and Boston University School of Theology. She is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ. She was professor of Worship at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary teaching congregational song, healing and reconciliation, and worship and the arts.

A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. Ezekiel 36:26

We love because God first loved us. 1 John 4:19

Soli Deo Gloria – Glory to God Alone, used by Johann Sebastian Bach on his compositions

God's blessings to you this beautiful October and always.

Cathy Taylor, Director of Music Ministries

A vibrant background of colorful musical notes, including treble clefs, bass clefs, and various note values in shades of red, blue, yellow, and green, scattered across the top section of the poster.

"Songs My Father Taught Me"

*presented by
the Teie Family Singers and Players*

Featuring Ernie, Paul, and Dave Teie,
Jenepher Piper, Cathy Taylor, and Laura
Raedeke. Join them for a bit of Bach to
Broadway!

*October 16, 3PM
Celebration Center*

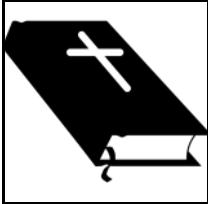
Donations will be accepted for the LCC
Scholarship Fund.

Lutheran Church of the Cross, Nisswa

A vibrant background of colorful musical notes, including treble clefs, bass clefs, and various note values in shades of red, blue, yellow, and green, scattered across the bottom section of the poster.

Ponder and Prayer Group- Every Monday 10:00 -11:00 AM in the Sanctuary

Come for a quiet time of meditating on God's word, followed by non-threatening prayer around the table. Join us at 10:00 AM every Monday. All are welcome. Contact Vicar Michelle @ 961-2013 with questions.



Women in the Word Bible Study

First Tuesday of every month - 10:00 AM or 7:00 PM

Join us in the morning or the evening **this Tuesday, October 5**, in the Chapel Hall for a time of good food, fun fellowship, and studying the Word together. Bring a friend. All are welcome. 10:00-11:30 AM or 7:00-8:15 PM. Led by Vicar Michelle.

Men's Fellowship - Every Tuesday at 2:00 PM

Join Lyle and the guys in the Conservatory (the old youth room) for coffee, tasty treats, good conversation, and chuckles beginning on October 4, every Tuesday at 2:00 PM. Let's see how many guys we can fit around the table! Led by Lyle Amundson



A Time for Us - Every Wednesday, 7:00 PM; Parents, this is for you!

Parents, wondering what to do while you wait for your child in Confirmation or Route 56?? This group is for you! Come for a fun time of getting to know other parents, a little Bible, a little learning, and a lot of fun! Led by Vicar Michelle, call 961-2013 for more information.

Outdoor Adventures

A **big thank you to Pam and Roland Johnson and family** for leading Outdoor Adventures at the **Cuyuna Bike Trails** on Sunday afternoon, September 19. It was a beautiful day! The sun was shining, the trails were exhilarating, and the views were breath-taking! If you have an idea of a fun adventure in the local area, let Anne and Josh Hayes or Sara or David Smith know. Look for the next upcoming Outdoor Adventure!

PIZZA & GAME NITE

3RD FRIDAY OF
THE MONTH -
5:30PM IN
CELEBRATION
CENTER

Bring a deck of
cards &/or your
favorite game!

ALL AGES WELCOME

OCT. 15 - NOV. 19 - DEC. 17



Gather Study Fall 2021: The gift of the spirit



Celtic Christians likened the Holy Spirit not to a dove, but to a goose. In the three sessions (September-October-November) of the fall *Gather* Bible study, the Rev. Sara Olson-Smith, associate pastor at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Davenport, Iowa, will lead us on our own divine Wild Goose chase. We'll track the Holy Spirit's actions throughout the Bible and throughout our lives. We'll explore how the Spirit moves God's people into adventures and lives we would never dare risk on our own.

October-Session 2: Breath of God, Reviver and Reformer will be held at LCC on Wednesday, October 13th at 10am in Chapel Hall. All are Welcome! Please Join us!

In this month's Gather Study we'll take a Divine Wild Goose Chase through scripture to track the Holy Spirit's actions as reviver and reformer. The Spirit of God, who breathed the breath of God into the first human, also moves in our lives today to reform, revive and reveal to us the working power and teaching of Jesus. As the spirit works in our lives and communities to revive, reconcile and reform us it gives us real life and shapes us into people who listen, hear and understand each other more fully so together we can bring the hope of God to his people near to us and all around the world.

Gather Studies are Bible studies published by the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in their magazine called "Gather". Each issue of the magazine contains a Bible Study and stories of hope and comfort from voices throughout the ELCA to help guide women as they live and experience faith in their everyday lives. Monthly copies of the Gather magazine, purchased by LCC Women of the ELCA, are available in the narthex.



Mission Statement

Mobilizing women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ

Women of the ELCA is the women's ministry organization of the **ELCA**. It is financially independent and responsible for its own financial affairs. This ministry connects with women of all ages through the articles and Bible studies in *gather* magazine, e-newsletters and apps such as **Bold Café** and **Daily Grace**, and downloadable topical resources to improve the spiritual life and support the faith of women of the ELCA on their life's journey.

**LCC Women of the ELCA Sub Party/Discussion
Wednesday, October 13th, 12 Noon at LCC
(following our October Gather Study)
All are Welcome - We need your input!**

"Join us for subs, fellowship and discussion about how we can serve our brothers and sisters in Christ here at Lutheran Church of the Cross, in our community, our state, our nation and throughout the world. Bring your thoughts regarding future LCC Women of the ELCA Ministries and Events. Hope to see you at the sub party!"



"Let your hope keep you joyful, be patient in your troubles, and pray at all times." Romans 12:12

Heartland Conference Women of the ELCA
Fall Gathering
All the Faithful Women: Together Again

**Saturday, October 9, 2021 – 1:00-3:00 p.m.
Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Pequot Lakes, MN
(Masks Required in Compliance with COVID 19 recommendations)**

Presentations : Afghanistan Refugees by Bonnie Stevens
Freedom Ranch by Clarice Renschler
Salem West/Mustard Seed by Jadell Horner

The afternoon will also include: Fellowship, Music, Devotions, Communion Service, Business Meeting and Love/Gathering Offerings. Bring your own mug, water and cookies will be available. Registrations are Preferred. For more information or to register please contact Carolyn Blanck at 963-7660 by October 1st.

MIDWEEK MEAL MINISTRY

We couldn't do this ministry without these fantastic volunteers! Hats off to all of them for stepping up and being willing to serve our young families on Wednesday nights. Each team will purchase food, prepare and serve the meal four times during our 2021-22 school year. Our confirmation families will help out after the meal with clean up and dishwashing.

Team 1

Children's Ministry Team
Kari Erickson
Gregg & Rachel Gerhartz
Dagny Trucano
Sherry Pape
Merseths

Team 2

Bonnie Stevens
Pat Bohnet
Dean Maier
Steve Heslop
Judy Heslop
Karen Taylor

Team 3

Terry Frovik
Pauline Gustafson
Ray Arveson
Betty Arveson
Dick Rickbeil
Judy Rickbeil
Mark Swenson
Judy Swenson

Team 4

Margaret Sommerfeld
George Sommerfeld
Jerry Leese
Sharon Leese
Kate Carlson
Dick Carlson

Team 5

Jim Kraft
Jean Kraft
Marv Pelkey
Elvera Pelkey

Team 6

Chuck Klang
Mary Klang
Connie Meyers
Phil Meyers
Tim Bergin
Ann Bergin



When you see these people, give them a pat on the back for their service here at LCC!

They deserve a HUGE THANK YOU!

TOO MANY TO COUNT!!

I can't even begin to count ALL of the fabulous volunteers that were here in the church during the month of September!

Pew movers	Tile Scrapers	Coffee Servers
Pew cleaners	Sharing Market workers	Hymnal movers
Communion Assistants	Altar movers	Greeters
Parament changers	Worship Coordinators	Sound Room Techs
Confirmation Guides	Wednesday Meal servers	Altar Guild workers
Sunday Ushers	Sunday Greeters	Wednesday Ushers
Wednesday clean up helpers	Sunday Musicians	Wed. night singers
Choir Members	Library workers	Landscape weeders
Operation Sandwich workers	Bell choir ringers	Maintenance workers
Rummage Sale refreshments	Funeral luncheon workers	Nursery cleaners
Red Cross Blood Drive workers	Rummage Sale set up workers	King's Kids singers
Coffee maker cleaners	Rummage Sale cleanup crew	Wed. night dishwashers
Sunday Scripture readers		

AMAZING!! Good and wonderful things happen when we all work together – THANK YOU!!

One area where additional help is needed is Worship Coordinators for Sunday services. The 8:30 Worship Coordinators arrive about 7:45 and unlock doors, turn on all lights, turn on coffee urns, make sure all worship assistants have arrived, and put out bulletins. The 10:30 Worship Coordinators makes sure all worship assistants have arrived, locks all doors and turns off all the lights in the building after the 10:30 service. Worship Coordinators are also “on call” to help with anything that might come up before or after the service.

Our coffee sign up chart is set up in Celebration Center where coffee & fellowship will be shared starting October 3rd. If you would like to help serve coffee on any given Sunday, please sign up, and I will contact you with any directions you made need. We have tried to simplify our Sunday coffee schedule to make it as easy as possible for everyone!



Fall Blessings,
Sally Hodgson, Lay Ministries Coordinator

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
facility calendar for:			October
<p>3 NEW MEMBER SUNDAY</p> <p>8:30 Worship 9:30 Cross Kids Connection 9:30 Coffee Fellowship 10:30 Worship /New Members</p>	<p>4</p> <p>8:30 Staff Meeting/Prayers 10:00 Ponder & Prayer 1:00 Prayer Shawl Group 7:00 Suicide Loss Survivor Group</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:00 Computer Lab 10:00 Women's Bible Study 1:00 Matter of Balance 2:00 Men's Fellowship 7:00 Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>6 8:30 Text 9:30 Quil 5:30 Bells 5:45 Wed 6:00 King 6:20 Wed 7:00 Con 7:00 Sr. C 7:00 Time</p>
<p>10</p> <p>8:30 Worship w/Communion 9:30 Cross Kids Connection 9:30 Coffee Fellowship 10:30 Worship w/ Communion 12:00 Mission Jamaica 1:00 Hwy Cleanup</p>	<p>11</p> <p>8:30 Staff Meeting /Prayers 10:00 Ponder & Prayer 11:00 Soul Sisters 1:00 Prayer Shawl Group</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:00 Computer Lab 1:00 Matter of Balance 2:00 Men's Fellowship 3:00 White Pine Villa Assoc. 7:00 Church Council</p>	<p>13 8:30 Text 10:00 Gath 5:30 Bells 5:45 Wed 6:00 King 6:20 Wed 7:00 Con 7:00 Sr. C</p>
<p>17 STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY</p> <p>8:30 Worship 9:30 Cross Kids Connection 9:30 Stewardship Breakfast 10:30 Worship w/ Baptism 2:00 Bowling & Pizza</p>	<p>18</p> <p>8:30 Staff Meeting/Prayers 10:00 Ponder & Prayer 1:00 Prayer Shawl Group 6:30 Novel Ideas Book Club 7:00 Suicide Loss Survivor Group</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9:00 Computer Lab 1:00 Matter of Balance 2:00 Men's Fellowship</p>	<p>20 8:30 Text 9:30 Quil 4:00 Crea 5:30 Bells 7:00 Sr. C</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NO WORSHIP Etc.</p>
<p>24</p> <p>8:30 Worship w/ Communion 9:30 Cross Kids Connection 9:30 Coffee Fellowship 10:30 Worship w/Communion</p>	<p>25</p> <p>8:30 Staff Meeting/Prayers 10:00 Ponder & Prayer 1:00 Prayer Shawl Group</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9:00 Computer Lab 1:00 Matter of Balance 2:00 Men's Fellowship</p>	<p>27 8:30 Text 5:30 Bells 5:45 Wed 6:00 King 6:20 Wed 7:00 Con 7:00 Sr. C</p>
<p>31 REFORMATION/ WEAR RED</p> <p>8:30 Worship 9:30 Cross Kids Connection 9:30 Coffee Fellowship 10:30 Worship 3:00 Trunk or Treat</p>			

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
October	2021	1 9:00 55+ Driver Discount	2
Study ters s of Praise d. Supper 's Kids d. Worship firmation/Route 56 Choir Practice for Us	7 12:00 PrimeTimers 7:00 A.A. 	8 5:00 American Foundation for Suicide Pop-Up	9
Study her Bible Study & Sub s of Praise d. Supper 's Kids d. Worship w/ Comm. firmation/Route 56 Choir/Time for Us	14 9:00 MOPS 7:00 A.A.	15 5:30 Pizza & Game Night 	16 3:00 Teie Family Concert
Study ters tion Care Team s of Praise Choir Practice BAPTIST or Confirmation	21 8:00 Good Samaritan Seminar 7:00 A.A.	22	23
Study s of Praise d. Supper 's Kids d. Worship w/ Comm. firmation/Route 56 Choir/ Time for Us	28 7:00 A.A.	29	30
			



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

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





A very successful **Outdoor Only Fall Rummage Sale** was held September 16th & 17th with sales of over \$10,500. Thank you to the numerous volunteers!

We are currently **NOT accepting** donations at this time. Stay tuned for updates.



A Message from our ELCA Global Missionary

Russian Correspondent

Spiritual Formation in Crimea

Insofar as our Western calendar usually does not coincide with that of the Eastern Orthodox Church, our congregational members can sometimes feel lonely as they celebrate Holy Week and Easter earlier (some years, like this one, much earlier) than the majority of the population. Limited access to transport also means that coming together for services in the evening is usually not realistic. As a result, small congregations frequently miss out on the special experience of marking the days leading up to Easter. To respond to this situation I decided to offer to organize a seminar/retreat for our congregational members who could put aside their normal activities for a few full days and make a deep dive into this most important period of the Christian year.

Such an event is particularly well suited to areas that are compact geographically; by Russian standards that means that the circle of congregations are no more than 2-3 hours away from one another. One such region is the Crimean Peninsula, where intern Rustem Nafikov is the main minister responsible for congregational life. He and I co-led the event, made up of around 20 participants. It was filled with three intense days of Bible study, theology, history, prayer and (for many) unfamiliar liturgical forms.



Stations of the Cross on Good Friday in the Krasnoperikopensk (Crimea) congregation

The natural growth and development of the Crimean congregations have been stunted in the past due to upheaval in the church and especially in wider society. Some congregational members are rather depressed and feeling hopeless, while others are excited about how their congregations might move into the future. A survey that we conducted at the end of the retreat confirmed what Rustem and I already felt - that our common experience of Holy Week together brought about new connections between life and faith, whatever the circumstances of one's congregation. As participants left back home for Easter in their home congregations, they felt prepared to celebrate the resurrection with sincere joy and were already thinking to the future – when and how we might come together for such spiritual nourishment again.

Your brother in Christ, Bradn



PrimeTimers is ready to roll! Our first event will be **Thursday, October 7 at 12:00 noon** in the Celebration Center. *Valerie Ann's* will be providing a delicious boxed lunch for \$12. If you have a dietary need, feel free to bring your own bagged

lunch. Sign up for boxed lunch deadline is **Sept. 30th**. The program will be Julie Jo Larson, who is the author of *100 Things to do in Minnesota Northwoods Before You Die*. She will be discussing her book and all the interesting things we have to do in northern Minnesota. It is sure to be a wonderful presentation that you won't want to miss. Thank you to our hosts, Mark and Judy Swenson & Ron and Sue Whipple. Let's start a new year of PrimeTimers with a bang. Come for a wonderful time of food and fellowship!



Toning with a Purpose has been postponed until November 4th. It will be held weekly on Thursday mornings at 10:00 am usually in Chapel Hall (may change rooms if necessary). Be sure to bring hand weights and/or bands. Any questions, see Gloria Thomas. Donations will go to SmileTrain.



Clint Baker received a standing ovation from the congregation as we bid him farewell as LCC's custodian for the past 16 years. Blessings on your new adventure.

Godspeed!



Novel IDEAS

BOOK CLUB

**For men and women - we will
take turns choosing books and
leading the discussion.
Meets on the third Monday of the
month at 6:30pm in Chapel Hall.**

**Sign up on clipboard outside of
church office door.**

**First meeting is October 18. Book
title is, "Running With Sherman," by
Christopher McDougall.**

See Kari Erickson with any questions.



Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen News

If you would like to help LCC with their volunteer commitment of the First Thursday of every month, contact Ann Bergin at 218-820-5511 or georgiabergin@gmail.com.

Wow! What a summer of feeding our neighbors. The FINAL TALLY of Operation Sandwich shows 30,005 individual lunches were made available throughout Brainerd/Baxter and the Northern route of Nisswa, Pequot Lakes, Jenkins and Pine River. This includes 164 families on the Brainerd/Baxter route and 125 families served out of LCC. Comments received from participants were very positive and demonstrated that Operation Sandwich helped supplement their summer meals. Our volunteers provided not only lunch kits, but amazing smiles and encouragement to families in need.



Operation Sandwich will have a presence during the school year, as well. Food bags will be available during selected school breaks and vacations in many area schools. Your monetary donations will be channeled for this purpose. The program will also be gearing up for another incredible summer in 2022. Look how you can become involved. There are exciting ideas about expanding to more distribution locations and serving even more families!

Jean Kraft

Northern Route Coordinator

2021/22 Supper Club. New Supper Club groups are now forming. We hope you will enjoy good food, good fun and good fellowship together. Sign up by October 3rd. Signing up for supper club means you are committed to hosting one supper at your home with everyone in your group providing part of the meal. Questions? Please call Kate Carlson at 218-851-1277 or Margaret Sommerfeld at 218-825-0576.



Quilting is starting up again



We will be meeting on the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays starting October 6th at 9:30 am in the Conservatory Room (old youth room). If you would like to be involved but the dates don't work for you, donation of fabric or finished tops (measuring 64"x84") for us to tie and ship would be greatly appreciated. All are welcome. If you have any questions, call Carol Christofferson at 218-963-2335.



Our Sanctuary Remodel dedication was held Sunday, September 12th. Thank you to all the many volunteers who made this possible. Thanks also to Danae Anderson with ID Your World, Nor-Son Construction, Music General and Jim's Electric. Many thanks to Dale & Connie Peterson who did a lot of work behind the scenes as well as during the entire project. We are blessed.



Although our floor and sound room project is nearly complete, we are still in need of donations to cover the costs. A big thank you to those who have generously donated to this project.

Donations are still being accepted. (be sure to include *Sanctuary Project* on the memo line of your check.)



CREATION CARE



The Nature Conservancy has published its "Biodiversity Almanac" with interesting **Nature Sustains Us** facts. Here are some of them:

- More than 75% of food crop types rely on insects and animals for pollination
- More than 70% of cancer drugs are derived from nature
- Coral reefs buffer shorelines against 97% of energy from waves, storms and floods
- 75% of lands have been severely altered by human actions
- More than 3.4 billion acres of forest have been lost in the last 300 years
- More than 1/3 of the Earth's land surface is devoted to agriculture
- Average global sea level has risen by more than 6 inches since 1900
- Industrial fishing fleets operate across more than half the ocean

The Nature Conservancy urges us to:

- reduce energy consumption at home and on the road
- use less plastic
- make smart seafood choices
- opt for pollinator-friendly gardens
- support organizations, leaders, and policies that aim to protect 30% of our lands and waters by 2030



Sharing Market is now done for the season. Thank you for all your generous donations of produce and money.

If you have extra fresh produce from your garden, items may be donated to the Lakes Area Food Shelf during business hours Tuesday & Thursday from 9am until Noon. Located at 29316 Patriot Avenue, Pequot Lakes.

Call with questions: 218-568-8474

September 2021 LCC Council Highlights

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS Church Council Meeting Thursday, September 9, 2021

We Assemble in God's Name

Devotion: Jen Henry

Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Council President David Endicott

Present:

David Endicott; Colleen Both; Pastor Bakken; Vicar Ruen; Dale Peterson; Mike Smith; Pam Johnson; Jen Henry; Bonnie Stevens; Craig Fink; Joanie Swanson; Brian Stubbs

Officer Reports:

Council Minutes by Darrell Paske

- Motion to approve Bonnie Stevens; Second Joanie Swanson; Motion Passed
- Treasurer's Report by Colleen Both
- Motion to approve Craig Fink; Second Bonnie Stevens; Motion Passed

New Business:

- Motion by Colleen Both to appoint Mike Smith to fill vacant Vice President Position; second Pam Johnson, Motion Passed
- Motion by Colleen Both to appoint Brian Stubbs to fill vacant Music and Worship Position; second Pam Johnson, Motion Passed
- Motion by Bonnie Stevens to continue with the Portico Gold Plan medical insurance; second Mike Smith; Motion Passed
- Tom Anderson provided an update on Stewardship Breakfast on Sunday October 17th.
- Clint Baker, LCC custodian has submitted his resignation effective September 15th, to pursue a career opportunity with family. Reception of appreciation will be on Sunday, September 19th, between services.

Old Business:

- Sanctuary Project – See Property Report
- Audit – No fixed date, should be around the end of October

Pastors' Reports

Pastor Drew:

- This past month has all been about preparation: preparing for new sanctuary flooring and new sound system/video equipment, preparing for Rally Sunday, choir rehearsals, Bells of Praise, Confirmation, Sunday School, Route 56, small groups, bible studies etc. We now find ourselves ready for a great homecoming here at Lutheran Church of the Cross! Special thank you to our staff and all the great volunteers who helped move pews, scrape up tile, clean the nursery, and finally put the sanctuary back so we can be ready for Rally Sunday.
- As wonderful as it will be to worship in the Sanctuary on Sunday, we are also excited to resume our Worship on Wednesdays. We are grateful to Karin Wolter's many years of planning, preparing, and serving our Midweek meals. She has decided to take some time off, so this year we have 6 teams who

will be helping with Wednesday suppers. Thank you to Sally for organizing this and to the volunteers who are willing to make our Midweek Meal Ministry possible.

- Clint Baker, our wonderful custodian, has decided to leave LCC to go work with his son. Clint's last day of work at LCC is September 15th. At 9:30am on September 29, we will host a gathering to celebrate his years of service at LCC. And though Clint is changing jobs, he and Sarah will remain members here at LCC. Please join me in thanking Clint for his many years of service here at Lutheran Church of the Cross and wish him well at his new venture.
- I continue to lead worship at Edgewood in Baxter and Brainerd; unfortunately, with the increase in the Delta variant, they have suspended worship until all residents have received their booster shots. I look to return to leading worship upon receiving word that the residents have all been vaccinated.
- I continue to perform private baptisms due to Covid, but I hope that will change and we will be celebrating them in worship once again. I also had the privilege to preside over the wedding of Nancy and Perry Clark. And I have two more wedding ceremonies to conduct in the coming month.
- Thank you all for your continued prayers and support.

Vicar Michelle:

- It was a wonderful summer to get to know the great people of LCC. I was able to participate and preach in Sunday worship services, both inside and outside in the Memorial Gardens.
- I continue to make phone calls and visit people in their homes. I've enjoyed filling in for Pastor Drew to lead services at Edgewood Brainerd and Edgewood Baxter when needed.
- Carol Smith and I have worked closely to set up a new year of opportunities for worshippers and visitors to become involved in. These include Small Group Ministries, Fellowship Groups, Interest Groups, Bible Studies, Prayer opportunities, and Servant Groups. We are excited to offer 24 different opportunities to build connections with one another in groups that will hopefully meet different needs and open the door to new and deeper friendships. A Small Group brochure will be inserted in the Sept. 12 and Sept. 15 church bulletins and will also be displayed in the narthex bulletin board. Each Sunday this Fall a different group will be highlighted with a short Temple Talk by a lay person/contact person to give exposure and hopefully increase participation. Please consider becoming involved in one or more of these great opportunities!
- Our new Women of the Word Bible Study is going strong. We had 28 participants in August. It is offered at both 10:00 AM and 7:00 PM on the first Tuesday of the month.
- On Wednesday evenings I will be leading a new group titled This Time is For You. This is an opportunity for younger adults who attend Wednesday night church and/or parents who are waiting for their children who are involved in Route 56 and/or Confirmation. Come join us!
- Ponder and Prayer is moving to Monday mornings from 10:00-11:00 AM, beginning on Sept 20 in the Sanctuary. Come when you can for a new and non-threatening way to experience prayer. Come check it out.
- Men's Fellowship is back. It's a time for the guys to share laughs and conversation, and will begin on Tuesday, Sept. 21. It meets every Tuesday afternoon at 2:00 PM. Contact person is Lyle Amundson.
- Outdoor Adventures is a new opportunity to promote the great outdoors in our area. This is open to all - young and old, skilled, and unskilled, singles and families. Our first Outdoor Adventure is Sunday, September 19 at 3:00 at the Cuyuna Range Bike Trails. A big thank you to Pam Johnson and

family for leading our first Outdoor Adventure. The Outdoor Adventure contact persons are Josh and Ann Hayes and David and Sara Smith.

- I will be attending Wartburg Seminary through ZOOM this Fall semester. My classes are Systematics Theology 2 and History of Christianity. I also have an October weekend class, Worship and Liturgy. My summer classes went very well.
- Thank you again for this wonderful opportunity!

Committee Reports:

Property: Dale Peterson

- Landscaping: Front of the church landscaping continues. New bushes will be planted in the spring.
- Irrigation: The irrigation system is complete in front of the church and on the south side of the parking lot. The water pressure from the well pump is being addressed.
- Sound Room: The sound room remodel project is complete. The new roll-down window is delayed due to supply issues and will be installed as soon as possible. The installation of new sound and video equipment and wiring is coordinated with this project and will be complete before Rally Sunday.
- Sanctuary Flooring: The new sanctuary flooring is now complete. Special thanks to all the very hard-working volunteers who moved all the pews twice and removed all the old tile. And special recognition to Clint Baker for all his extra efforts throughout all these projects.
- Handicap Accessible Doors: The doors in the Sanctuary entrance have been equipped with handicap openers and the electrical work is now completed.

Stewardship: Craig Fink

- Planning for October Stewardship Breakfast on October 17th.
- Volunteer request for Stewardship Breakfast.
- Theme and planning for 2022 pledge campaign. Now More Than Ever – Receive Hope. Be Hope. Share Hope – Hebrews 11:1

Worship and Music: Mike Smith

- The Worship and Music Committee would like to thank Ron Whipple, Marv Green, Chuck Trucano, and Dave Jabas for installing the posts for the new banners at the front entrance to the church. This installation is the culmination of a five-year project that began with Jerry Raedeke designing five sets of banners representing the colors and symbols of the church year. These banners will greet worshippers as they enter the church. Thanks to the many people who donated money to this project.
- With fellowship between services occurring in the narthex, the W & M Committee would like to recommend that the church purchase four bistro tables so that people can have a place to put down their coffee/donut, cookie while enjoying this time of fellowship. The cost for a 24” round black laminate tabletop with 22” x 22” bar height base (Item # BFDH-24KRD-BAR-TDR from Restaurant Furniture 4 Less) is: \$86.99 - Total Cost for four tables: \$347.96

Social Concerns and Global Missions: Bonnie Stevens

- Central Lakes College Food Pantry, the focus of LCC’s August Food drive collected a van full of items. Monetary donations totaled \$145 and can be made throughout the year (this is a year-round Food Pantry). Please make checks to LCC with CLC Food Pantry in the memo.

- The Operation Sandwich Bread of Life fundraiser raised \$28,000 to feed hungry kids in the Brainerd Lakes area. This summer over 30,000 lunches were provided and more than 289 families in the Lakes Area had access to healthy options for lunch. Thank you to our LCC volunteers, donations from churches, individuals, and grants. Operation Sandwich is planning to help feed kids during school breaks as well.
- Habitat Faith Build—Work continues on the Svoboda home. Walls and ceilings were painted, and ceramic tile was installed in the handicapped bathroom. Please continue to pray for this family of 8 as the Faith Build continues. To volunteer, please contact Cathy Wells at Habitat by email - cathy.wells@lakesareahabitat.org or calling her at 218-828-8517.
- Reminder: LCC Council serves Sharing Bread Kitchen October 7.

Children and Family Ministry: Pam Johnson

- Kari is ready to go for the first Wednesday fall programming night on Sept 15 - will do orientation and acolyte training for Route 56. Kari has a devo/study on "M & Ms and Christians" that we will do if time permits.
- Rally Day – Kari has all materials and decorations, and Sally is helping with the 7Up cans. We decided at our staff meeting NOT to have any extra snacks served - just cookies and donuts. We will set up some tables in the Treehouse area.
- We have families signed up for all the Super Roll Teams, so we are ready to start on October 3. New this year will be orders for dozens of rolls to go - we will have folks sign up ahead of time and have the rolls all packaged and ready to go. Kari has been in contact with Jen Henry, and we will be contacting team members soon.
- Kari has been helping Pr. Drew with organizing Confirmation for the fall, as well as the Dessert and Creed Sharing next Saturday for Affirmation of Baptism.
- Kari has designed and ordered a banner with our new worship schedule to be hung outside on the new sign – it will arrive this week.
- We had our CFM team meeting which went well, considering we have to stay flexible on so many things!!
- The CFM Team has signed up to be one of the Midweek Meal Ministry teams and will be serving the meal on Sept. 15.
- We are ready to start our new Sunday Children's routine. This Sunday we will bring kids into Chapel Hall and see how spacing works.
- Kari re-did the Youth bulletin board between Chapel Hall and the Nursery to thank the kids for a great summer - check out the pictures :-)
- We will be cleaning and preparing the Nursery on Thursday, as well as prepping the Sanctuary for the Saturday funeral. Vicar Michelle is organizing Nursery worker schedule.
- Prime Time Press Fall edition is printed and ready to go - Sally will help with the mailing/distribution.
- Kari will be working on a Fall Family Fun & Fellowship packet to be mailed to all SS kids - CFM team recommended to keep reaching out with the packets but cut back to quarterly.
- Third Grade Bibles are here, and Dagny will be highlighting verses in them to prepare them for distribution on Sept. 26 during 10:30 worship.

Youth and Family Ministry: Pastor Bakken/Jen Henry

- We looked over the yearly calendar of events which included High School and confirmation events along with the lesson topics for the year.
- We discussed the new Confirmation program and how we will be implementing it for the year and looking at expectations and how we will keep track of it.
- We also looked at next summer's big youth trip. We will be headed to Jamaica to work at two Orphanages. The tentative dates will be June 14th to 21st. We know that there will be a lot of Fund raising for this trip, but we feel this is a great opportunity for our youth.
- Great things are on the horizon for our youth here at Lutheran Church of the Cross and we are looking forward to the future.

Congregational Life: Joanie Swanson

- A Small Group Brochure listing 24 opportunities to become involved in the life of LCC will be inserted in the bulletin on September 12th and 15th.

Personnel: Mike Smith

- Personnel Committee has posted the Youth Director position with the synod.
- Personnel Committee will be looking at custodial possibilities.
- Church Council will be serving at the Brainerd Lakes Soup Kitchen on October 7th.

Meeting Adjourned

Submitted by
Darrell Paske, Council Secretary

Next Council Meeting:
October 14, 2021 7:00 pm (later changed to Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at 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 David Endicott 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.

**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.**

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BEHIND THE WHEEL TESTS!

8 HOUR CLASS FOR THE FIRST TIME STUDENTS

4 HOUR REFRESHER FOR THE REPEAT STUDENT

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AREA CALL THE NUMBER BELOW OR
www.mnsafetycenter.org

Lutheran Church of the Cross

5064 Co Rd 13; Nisswa, MN

Oct 1 (4 Hr Refresher) 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Nov 5 (4 Hr Refresher) 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

TOLL FREE

1-888-234-1294

1-320-308-1400



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 Youth and Family Ministry		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	Cheryl Karlgaard	
King's Kids	Carol Smith	
Custodian		218-963-2564
ELCA Global Missionary	Bradn Buerkle	
LCC Office	Laurie Hemish	218-961-2011

2021 CHURCH COUNCIL

President	Dave Endicott	Social Justice/Global	Bonnie Stevens
Vice President	Mike Smith	Worship & Music	Brian Stubbs
Treasurer	Colleen Both	Youth	Jen Henry
Secretary	Darrell Paske	Stewardship	Craig Fink
Cong. Life	Joanie Swanson		
Education	Pam Johnson		
Properties	Dale Peterson		

