

Cross Currents

Lutheran
Church
of the Cross
2021



September

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you. Genesis 28:15

Our Rally Day Theme this year is “Homecoming.” We are looking forward to gathering everyone once again in our beautiful sanctuary on September 12th. Our new worship times are 8:30am and 10:30am. On this Rally Day Homecoming Sunday we will rededicate our worship space. In between services we will have live music, coffee, donuts, and special treats down in Celebration Center. It has been 18 months since we last gathered together in our Sanctuary for worship and we hope that you will be able to join us. Wednesday worship, dinners and programing will begin on September 15th.

You may have many questions regarding the new Covid strain and what it means to us as a church. Many of us would agree that during 2021, we often felt as though we would take one step forward and two steps back; it has not been an easy time for any of us. We want a sense of normalcy -we want to go back to the way things were. But the reality is that we have changed over the past 18 months of living with Covid-19. We now watch reports from the Minnesota Department of Health and CDC like we watch the weather reports. I wish I could answer the questions that you are asking with a definitive answer regarding our fall programing. However, what I have learned from these 18 months is that we need to take it a day at a time.

So what does that mean for the church? While we will still be in stage 4 of our reopening plan, we have added an addendum, 4b, which will allow us to resume Wednesday dinners and reopen the church nursery. *We will require that all people not vaccinated wear masks.*

We as a church and staff are keeping a close watch on the Covid numbers in the area. No decisions are made without consultation with our Congregation Council, Northeast Minnesota Synod, and health care providers. Thank you for your prayers and support as we walk this journey together.

Blessings,

Pastor Drew Bakken

Worship Schedule

Starting Sept. 12, 2021

SUNDAYS

**8:30am & 10:30am
in the Sanctuary**

Holy Communion on 2nd and 4th Sundays

- **Cross Kids Connection
9:30am - 10:15am
in Celebration Center**
- **Coffee Fellowship
9:30am - 10:15am
in Narthex**

Lutheran Church of the Cross - Nisswa

Treasurer's Report - Financial Summary 2021 General Fund

	<u>July</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Budget</u>	Annual Annual
Income	\$ 55,525	\$ 379,773	\$ 679,929	55.85%
Expenses	\$ 51,908	\$ 337,257	\$ 679,929	49.6%
Difference	\$ 3,617	\$ 42,516	\$ 0	

**In the month of July our income was greater than our expenses by \$3,617.
Thank you for your continued support.**



BAPTISM

Name: Nollie Jaymes Loge
 Born: February 6, 2021
 Baptized: August 1, 2021
 Parents: Drey & Autumn Loge
 Pr. Drew Bakken, Officiant

BAPTISM

Name: Dakota Kai Snyder & Sky Brody Snyder
 Born: October 14, 2020
 Baptized: August 3, 2021
 Parents: Katherine Snyder
 Pr. Drew Bakken, Officiant

BAPTISM

Name: Hogan John Dale
 Born: July 8, 2021
 Baptized: August 15, 2021
 Parents: Jonas & Emily Dale
 Pr. Drew Bakken, Officiant

FUNERAL

Moriah Ann Benz
 Born: March 23, 1992
 Died in Christ: August 6, 2021
 Funeral: August 20, 2021
 Pr. Drew Bakken, Officiant

BAPTISM

Name: Wyatt Michael Baker
 Born: May 4, 2021
 Baptized: August 28, 2021
 Parents: Michael & Chloe Baker
 Pr. Drew Bakken, Officiant

WEDDING

Daniel Guderjohn & Elizabeth Sawdey
 Date: August 14, 2021
 Pr. Drew Bakken, Officiant

CHILDREN

Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong.

This 13th verse of First Corinthians chapter 16 was our theme for our week at Luther Crest Bible Camp in Alexandria. We had an absolutely awesome week filled with Bible study, activities, water fun, games, worship/singing, campfires, fellowship and food. Kari and Pastor Drew took a dozen of our kids to Camp in late July, and even though Luther Crest had to make some adjustments for COVID safety, it was a great experience. The counselors and staff outdid themselves, and our campers handled themselves with grace and love. Thanks to the generosity of our congregation, LCC kids are able to attend for \$150 for the week. It is well worth it—a true investment in our young people! Be sure to get signed up when 2022 Camp Sunday rolls around—you will be glad you did!





Kari and the Children & Family Ministry Team are gearing up for our fall programming year and it's going to be good!!

This year we will be encouraging families to attend worship together on Sunday mornings. After the Hymn of the Day, Kari will invite any kids to join her in Chapel Hall for our **Cross Kids Worship** where they will hear the Children's Message, Confession & Forgiveness, Creed, and songs. Afterwards, kids will return to the sanctuary to join their families for the Words of Institution, Communion, and the remainder of the service. This will happen at both the 8:30 and 10:30 worship services.

Between services (from 9:30—10:15am), we will host **Cross Kids Connection** in the Treehouse where we will have activities, crafts and music.



WE HAD A FANTASTIC THREE DAYS OF COMPASSION CAMP—THANKS FOR JOINING US!!



Attention 5th and 6th graders and parents/caregivers:



Route 56 will start meeting on September 15 following 6:20pm worship. We will meet in the Choir Room.

Please bring your bible and complete a worship experience sheet—bring both with you. We will have an orientation meeting and do acolyte training. Please join Kari, John Wallin, and Betty Arveson. Hope to see you!

We are looking forward to once again hosting LCC's **TRUNK OR TREAT**—so get your thinking caps on and come up with a theme for your trunk. Let's make it a great **REFORMATION DAY** by celebrating our kids.

This year our event will run from **3:00pm to 4:30 pm** in the front parking lot on **October 31**. If you plan to host a trunk, please provide lots of treats (don't forget to have some allergy-friendly non-food treats, too!)

The entire event will be held outdoors to keep it as safe as possible. You may want to consider wearing a mask since many of our trick or treaters will not yet be vaccinated.





Relentless Grace

LCC YOUTH PRESENTS

Thank you to the youth and their families who have volunteered to be on ROLL TEAMS. If you are still considering it, please send back your postcard or let the church office know that you are willing to serve on a team.

Jen Henry will be our Head Baker, keeping records and inventory for us.

Sign up sheet for To Go orders will be available on Rally Sunday.

Thanks for continuing to support this Youth Ministry Project!



First Sunday of the Month starting October 3

NEW!
Order to go by the dozen

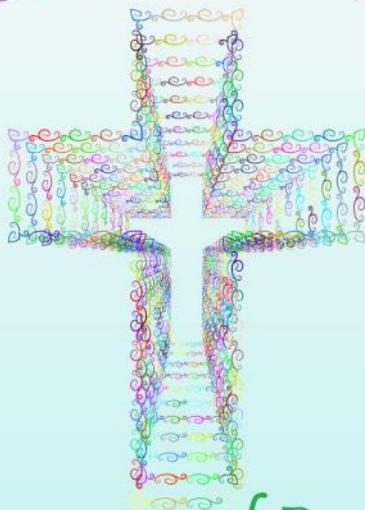
To go rolls will be neatly boxed and ready for you to take home or to someone special!

FRESHLY BAKED CINNAMON ROLLS

Served during Fellowship Hour
FREEWILL OFFERING

Lutheran Church of the Cross, Nisswa

SEPTEMBER 19, 2021



*Affirmation of Baptism
11:30am, Sanctuary*

*Scarlett Anderson, Vanessa Anderson,
Clay Erickson, Logan Fogarty, Ryan Gerlich,
Weston Hiles, Aron Hushagen, Elizabeth
Knutson, Landon Kubesh, Kelsi Martini,
Jake Merseeth, Payton Scott, Charlee Sullivan,
Will Taylor, Ethan Thomas, Martin
Timmons, Logan Verville, Maggie Wolter*

COMING UP: Please Note Changes Below

September 8, 7-8pm—Confirmation Guide Orientation

September 12, Rally Sunday

September 15, Route 56 & 7th—9th Grade Confirmation Orientation

September 18, 6:30pm—Confirmands Dessert & Sharing

September 19, 11:30am—Affirmation of Baptism

September 2021 Hymn of the Month “God’s Work, Our Hands” (EARTH AND ALL STARS)

Music Notes

September is always a welcome back month after a summer of many activities. School starts for many and for many of us we get back on a “normal” schedule. It is also a time for some of us to finish harvesting our gardens, rake leaves and enjoy the beautiful cooler weather of fall.

The music for the hymn I have chosen for this month is a very familiar tune. It is the same tune as “Earth and All Stars” that we have sung many times. The text is written by Wayne L. Wold. The text is new to us and published in the new *All Creation Sings* of 2020.

Wayne L. Wold was born in Fosston, MN and earned his Bachelor of Music degree from Concordia College in Moorhead, MN. He then went on to a Master of Sacred music from Wittenberg University in Springfield, OH and Doctor of Musical Arts from Shenandoah Conservatory in Winchester, VA. He is a retired professor, college organist and chair of the Music Department at Hood College in Frederick, Maryland. He currently is Director of Music Ministry at First Lutheran Church in Ellicott City, MA. He continues to compose music, is an author, performer, church musician and clinician. Wold is also composer of the Advent hymn “Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah.”

The tune used for this hymn, like I mentioned earlier, is a very familiar one to us, EARTH AND ALL STARS. It was composed by David N. Johnson, then for the text written by Herbert Brokering. Johnson (1922-1987) was former music department chairman at St. Olaf College. He published some 300 compositions, mostly for church use. His best known vocal/choral work is “The Lone, Wild Bird” using a melody from *The Sacred Harp*.

God’s Work, Our Hands

1. God’s work, our hands: working together, building a future, repairing the world,
Raising up homes, planting new gardens, feeding the hungry and sheltering the cold,
Bless, God, our hands as we work in our name, sharing the good news of your gospel.
2. God’s work, our feet: traveling together, following Jesus to places unknown,
Walking as friends, marching for freedom, running the race with God’s future the goal.
Bless, God, our feet as we follow your way, Sharing the good news of your gospel.
3. God’s work, our voice: singing together, praising, proclaiming to all who will hear,
Praying for peace, shouting for justice, claiming God’s love for the lost and the least.
Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name, sharing the good news of your gospel.
4. God is at work in and around us: seedlings are sprouting and bread’s on the rise!
Washed and set free, humbled and honored, gifted by grace, we respond in God’s love.
Bless, God, our lives as we answer your call, sharing the good news of your gospel.

This hymn reminds of all the wonderful things you, our congregation, have been a part of through your monetary generosity, or willing hands, or fervent prayer – Operation Sandwich, Brainerd Lakes Outreach, Food Shelf, Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen, and many, many more.

Enjoy the rest of your summer and God’s blessings to you all.

Cathy Taylor, Director of Music

Choir Notes

Senior Choir will resume rehearsals starting Wednesday, September 8 at 7:00. Brian Stubbs will continue as our choir director. I know he is planning on the choir singing for Rally Sunday, which is Sunday, September 12, so we will practice a piece that can be worked up quickly.

King's Kids will start on September 15th at 6:00 pm. Meet in the choir room. Any questions, contact Carol Smith at 829-8142.

Singers, whether you have sung in choir before or not, please consider joining us for an exciting new season of singing and leading our worship services.

Thank you!

Cathy Taylor (Music director), Brian Stubbs (Senior Choir) and Carol Smith King's Kids)

More Music Notes

Judy Rickbeil has been our wonderful bell choir director for a number of years and has decided to retire from that position. We want to thank her for all of her hard work and leadership in directing our bells. Under Judy's leadership, the *Bells of Praise* have added so much to our worship services.

The *Bells of Praise* will continue to ring as Cheryl Karlgaard has graciously agreed to direct the bell choir this fall. We will be sure to give more details on rehearsal start up and time soon.

Again, we thank you, Judy, for your dedication to the bell choir and for enhancing our worship services.

Cathy Taylor – Director of Music



Choir for
kids in
grades 1 - 4.
Directed by
Carol &
Mike Smith



Rehearsals start on September 15, 2021. Meet in the Choir Room at 6pm - ends at 6:30pm.

We sing in church on the second Sunday of each Month at the 10:30am worship service.

Wednesday suppers and worship in the Celebration Center starts on Sept. 15. Supper at 5:45pm, King's Kids at 6pm, Worship at 6:20pm, Programming at 7pm.



For info/questions, contact Carol or Mike at dmcsmith@charter.net

Ponder and Prayer Group- New day and format!

Join us for an hour of **Ponder and Prayer** on **Monday** mornings from **10:00-11:00 AM** beginning on **September 20**. We will begin with a few minutes of fellowship in the Narthex and then will move into the Sanctuary for a time of pondering and praying. Come when you can for a new and non-threatening way to experience prayer! Any questions, call Vicar Michelle @ 961-2013.



Women in the Word Bible Study



Our next **Women in the Word Bible Study** led by Vicar Michelle is on **Tuesday, September 7**, at **10:00 AM** or **7:00 PM**. Come for coffee, treats, fellowship, and a noteworthy study. September's theme is "friendship", so bring a friend and come for a low stress, engaging, and fun time in God's Word! Come, I know you will be blessed!
Any questions, call Vicar Michelle @ 961-2013.

Men's Fellowship is back!! **Tuesdays at 2:00 PM**

Calling all men...Meet with Lyle and other LCC men for a time of laid back laughs, good coffee, cool water, "freezer raid" goodies, and stimulating conversation in the Conservatory, ie. the last room down the hall across from the technology room **every Tuesday** afternoon at **2:00 PM** beginning on Tuesday, **Sept 21st**.

Any questions contact Lyle Amundson at 218-330-5110.



As our floor and sound room project nears completion, 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.)

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.



**Look what's
happening at
LCC - starting
Sept. 15!!**

Worship on Wednesday

5:45 Supper

6pm King's Kids

6:20 Worship Around the Table

7pm Confirmation, Route 56, Sr. Choir

**Sign up for Midweek Meal Ministry
outside the office door!**

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.

September-Session 1: Spirit of God: Revealer and Resource will be held at LCC on Wednesday, September 8th at 10am in Chapel Hall. Please Join us!

The Holy Spirit might be the most misunderstood or mysterious member of the Trinity, but the Spirit of scripture is not shy. Together we'll uncover the bold, truth-telling Spirit active in our lives. After a quick review of the mystery of the Trinity, we'll read parts of Jesus' farewell discourse, and hear how the Spirit continues to reveal the truth of Jesus to us and to the world. We'll discuss how the gift of the Holy Spirit is a resource for God's people, giving us power we need to do God's work.

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. Financial support comes from individual and group offerings and gifts. 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.

Upcoming Women of the ELCA Events

LCC Fall 2021 Gather Study "The Gift of the Spirit" Session 1 September 8th @ 10am
NEMN Synod Women ELCA Gathering- Sept. 11th, 2021-1-3 pm - Zion, Gr. Rapids. Foster Kits are being collected. Many kids enter the foster care system with whatever personal items they can quickly gather, carried around in a garbage bag. **Heartland Conference** has been assigned the **Elementary Foster Care Kits**. *A kit contains a backpack, throw blanket, pajamas, socks, underwear, toothbrush/toothpaste, comb/brush, stuffed animal, small toy and a book.* Any assistance in obtaining these kit items would be greatly appreciated. A box for kit donations will be located in the LCC Narthex or hallway outside of Celebration Center.

Together, with the Lord's help, we will assist kids in need. Thank you!

Heartland Women of the ELCA Gathering, Oct. 9th, Our Saviors, Pequot Lakes 1pm

2021 N.E. MN Women of the ELCA Summer Convention/Gathering

Saturday, September 11, 2021—1:00-3:00pm

Check in Begins at 12:30 pm

Zion Lutheran Church, 2901 US Highway 169, Grand Rapids, MN



All the Faithful Women

Together Again

*What has changed for Women in Ministry
over the years?*

"Perhaps she was made for such a time as this" Esther 4:14

Presenters: Liz Branum, Pr. Karen Bockelman and Pr. Sarah Fike-Ingathering of Kits - Free Will Offering with proceeds going to Churchwide Women of the ELCA and the WISE Scholarship, which provides scholarships to women in NE MN Synod who are attending seminary-All are Welcome!

(For further information regarding Women of the ELCA events, please contact Carolyn at 963-7660)



OPERATION SANDWICH completed a successful summer of feeding its neighbors. Our Northern Route, with distribution sites in Nisswa, Pequot Lakes, Jenkins and Pine River, provided lunch kits to an average of 40 families weekly, some as far away as rural Backus and Nevis. Over 50 volunteers, mostly from LCC, were involved in some way with our Operation. Our congregation blessed us with food and monetary donations, as did Our Savior's Lutheran Endowment Fund, Breezy Point Women's Club, Lakes Area Food Shelf and the Nisswa Lions. Along with the Brainerd/Baxter program, 26,730 lunches were provided, with 282 different families served. (totals as of 8/19/21)

THANK YOU to everyone who supported this ministry this summer.

Matthew 25:40 (NLT) "And the King will say, 'I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!"

Jean Kraft

Northern Route Coordinator



BEST VOLUNTEERS AROUND!

September will be an exciting time for our LCC congregation – LCC Blood Drive, Rally Homecoming Sunday, return of our LCC Choir, Fall programming, Rite of Confirmation and our modified LCC Rummage Sale! We look forward to seeing all of you here in September! Please consider giving of your time during these Fall months when volunteers are needed. There are many opportunities to be involved in your church family.

Sunday Worship – each Sunday we need volunteers to usher, assist with communion, prepare communion, read lessons and prayers, serve coffee and be worship coordinators. If you are interested in helping with Sunday services, please give me a call (218.838.5765).

Wednesday Worship – Usher and communion assistants are needed each Wednesday for our worship in Celebration Center. Please help when you can! There will be signup sheets available for you to volunteer each Wednesday.

Midweek Meal Ministry – With many of our young families attending church on Wednesday evenings, this Midweek Meal Ministry is very important! This meal enables our young families to come and eat together, have fellowship, and worship together as a family before Confirmation and Route 56. We want our young families coming through the doors of LCC! We are hoping for 6 teams that would serve 4 Wednesday night meals during the school year. Each team could be 4-8 people. Teams would purchase the food (all to be reimbursed), cook and serve the meals. We would ask parents of confirmation kids to help with the clean up. You can sign up on the poster outside of the church office or by calling me at 963-6250 (home) or 218.838.5765 (cell). Thank you in advance for considering this ministry!

LCC Library – Thank you to our new Library volunteers: Lori Olson & Jean Olson who have stepped up to help Pat Tollefsrud in our church library – appreciate you both!

Thank You to our August Volunteers

Sunday mornings – Everyone's help was appreciated on Sunday mornings: musicians, ushers, worship coordinators, sound room techs, coffee servers, sharing market volunteers, and all who moved musical equipment out to the Memorial Garden for worship. Many thanks!

Sanctuary tiles – what a huge job of removing tiles and moving pews that was accomplished by so many of you willing and hard- working volunteers! Thank you to each of you!!

Operation Sandwich – Amazing work has been accomplished here at LCC's Operation Sandwich this past Summer! A huge THANK YOU to Jean Kraft who has headed this project and to all the wonderful and dedicated volunteers!

*Fall Blessings to all,
Sally Hodgson, Lay Ministry Coordinator*

Sun	Mon	Tue	
facility calendar for:			Sept
			1 8:30 Text S 10:00 Faceb
5 9:00 Worship 10:00 Donuts & Coffee 10:00 Sharing Market 10:15 Worship	6 LABOR DAY/ OFFICE CLOSED 10:00 Facebook Devotions 7:00 Suicide Loss Survivor Group	7 8:30 Staff Meeting /Prayers 9:00 Computer Lab 10:00 Facebook Devotions 10:00 Women's Bible Study 7:00 Women's Bible Study	8 8:30 Text S 10:00 Faceb 10:00 Gathe 7:00 Conf. 7:00 Sr. Ch
12 Rally Day Sunday 8:30 Worship w/Communion 9:30 Cross Kids Connection 9:30 Coffee Fellowship 9:30 Sharing Market 10:30 Worship w/ Communion	13 8:30 Staff Meeting/Prayers 10:00 Facebook Devotions 11:00 Soul Sisters 1:00 Prayer Shawl Group Rummage Sale Setup	14 9:00 Computer Lab 10:00 Church/School Mtg 10:00 Facebook Devotions 1:00 Nisswa Garden Club Board	15 8:30 Text 10:00 Face 4:00 Crea 5:45 Wed 6:00 King 6:20 Wed 7:00 Conf 7:00 Sr. C
19 8:30 Worship 9:30 Cross Kids Connection 9:30 Coffee Fellowship 9:30 Sharing Market 10:30 Worship 11:30 Affirmation of Baptism Worship 1:00 Private Baptism 3:00 Outdoor Adventures	20 8:30 Staff Meeting/Prayers 10:00 Facebook Devotions 10:00 Ponder & Prayer 1:00 Prayer Shawl Group 7:00 Suicide Loss Survivor Group	21 9:00 Computer Lab 10:00 Facebook Devotions 2:00 Men's Fellowship	22 8:30 Text 10:00 Face 5:45 Wed 6:00 King 6:20 Wed 7:00 Con 7:00 Sr. C
26 Third Grade Bibles 8:30 Worship w/ Communion 9:30 Cross Kids Connection 9:30 Coffee Fellowship 9:30 Sharing Market 10:30 Worship w/Communion	27 8:30 Staff Meeting/Prayers 10:00 Facebook Devotions 10:00 Ponder & Prayer 1:00 Prayer Shawl Group	28 9:00 Computer Lab 10:00 Facebook Devotions 2:00 Men's Fellowship	29 8:30 Text 10:00 Face 5:45 Wed 6:00 King 6:20 Wed 7:00 Conf 7:00 Sr. C

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>ember</h1>	<h1>2021</h1>		
Study Book Devotions	2 9:30 Operation Sandwich 10:00 Facebook Devotions 12:00 Red Cross Blood Drive 7:00 A.A. 	3 10:00 Facebook Devotions	4
Study Book Devotions Bible Study Guide Orientation Choir Practice	9 9:00 Toning with a Purpose 10:00 Facebook Devotions 7:00 Church Council 7:00 A.A.	10 9:00 Driver Discount Program 10:00 Facebook Devotions	11 11:00 Funeral: Vickie Reph
Study Book Devotions Mission Care Team Supper Kids Worship Orient./Route 56 Choir Practice	16 9:00 Toning with a Purpose 10:00 Facebook Devotions 4:00 Rummage Sale Planning 7:00 A.A. Rummage Sale →	17 10:00 Facebook Devotions 	18 9:00 Rummage Sale Clean up 10:00 Internment 6:30 Confirmation Dessert & Sharing
Study Book Devotions Supper Kids Worship w/ Comm. Confirmation/Route 56 Choir Practice	23 9:00 Toning with a Purpose 10:00 Facebook Devotions 7:00 A.A.	24 10:00 Facebook Devotions	25
Study Book Devotions Supper Kids Worship Confirmation/Route 56 Choir Practice	30 9:00 Toning with a Purpose 9:00 MOPS 10:00 Facebook Devotions 7:00 A.A.		



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1. Brent Campbell, Donald Nelson
2. Maci Martini, Luke Merseeth, PJ Overvold
3. Kari Alcock, Allison Ogren
4. Brian Aune, Janet Barsness, Ellen Maier
5. Clarence Carlson, Macayla Green, Clark Zard
6. Rebecca McMenimen, Gabbie Smith, Penny Stumvoll
7. Gregg Gerhartz, Lexi Roby, Isaac Trees
8. Kristi Nelson
9. Superior Bachman, Bryan Ogren
10. Jennifer Bassett, Rebecca Bakken, Logan Knutson, Thomas Lewis, Michael Oseland, Kaitlin Ubl
11. Candace Barnack, Dawn Meierding, Carol Moddes, Alexander Rude
12. Jodi Gerlich, Becky Hahn, Daniel Hemish
13. Melissa Bestul, Vivian Bolt
14. Anthony Nelson
15. Wyatt Fink, Roland Johnson, Aurie Smith, Clinton Strother
16. Emily Aga, Diane Baker, Serenity Kottke, Ally Oium, Dennis Ricklefs, Marty Schwab
17. Sally Hodgson, Matthew Mailand, Caroline Rasinski, Sandy Strom-Gieseke
18. Mindi Brill, Alanna LeBlanc, Fern Schmidt
19. David Maccabee
20. Carl Boeder, Stephanie Nelson
21. Clark Fillbrandt, Lisa Martini
22. Cedi Boche, Pauline Gustafson, Jan Halvorson, David Smith
23. Alicia Green, Erik Hansen
24. Zaundra Cowger
- 25.
26. Dawn Bjerkness, Steve Dean
27. Ann Bergin, Craig Peterson
28. Alexander Andrist, Rachel Mrosla, Judy Schuna, Hazel Schwanke
29. Dana Anderson, Julie Fillbrandt, Raegen Miller, Elvera Pelkey
30. Stacy Germundson, Aron Hushagen





SEPTEMBER 13-18, 2021

Sept. 13 - 15: Set Up & Display, 9am - 4:30pm

Sept. 16: SALE DAY, 8am - 7pm

Sept. 17: SALE DAY, 8am - 6pm

Sept. 18: Clean Up, 9am until done

Sign up sheets will be posted on 8/29.

We are accepting furniture donations ONLY for this sale on Sept. 14 & 15 - NO PICKUP AVAILABLE. There will be no clothing at this sale, which will be held outdoors in the east parking lot.

A Message from our ELCA Global Missionary

Russian Correspondent



Grant for Health and Safety from the ELCA

The leadership of the ELCR in Moscow and I worked together during the winter to submit an application to the ELCA for equipment that would help make congregational spaces safer for both members and visitors. The grant was approved, and thanks to it we were able to provide the air filters and antiseptic dispensers that have become ubiquitous in most public places here, making

everyone who visits church space (whether it be for worship, a concert, an AA meeting, or for a social service ministry) feel more comfortable and able to concentrate on the reason for being there. More than 20 congregations benefited from this grant; their leaders express deep thankfulness to all ELCA members whose donations went toward protecting the lives of those who come to our congregations.

Renewal of International Men's Ministry Seminars - Kyrgyzstan

One of the areas of mutual interest as a missionary tool for Lutherans in the former Soviet Union is men's ministry. This is in no way to say that men are more important than women; rather, it speaks to the obvious imbalance due to the absence (sometimes almost total) of men among our active parishioners. In this way we hope to form an environment where *entire* families will participate in the life of our congregations.

This year for the third time, then, I worked together with the Dean of Siberia Vladimir Vinogradov to organize a seminar in various "hubs" of church life - the Omsk, Siberia (2018), Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan (2019) and Bishkek (2021). Assisted by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America "Equipping for Service" grant, this annual seminar provides skills for the development of this ministry in the field. This year we focused on men's ministry as outreach to those outside the church. By the end of the week, small groups had proposed a whole series of event outlines, now available online, to be used and adapted to local needs.

Among the 19 participants from five countries was Alexander Ilyin from Belarus. He wrote the following in an article about the seminar: "Despite the fact that I knew none of the other participants, almost immediately I had the feeling that I had known these people for more than a dozen years." He continues: "the seminar itself was run at the highest level. ... There was clearly a lot of effort invested in preparing for the workshop. The whole team was like one cohesive machine or mechanism, but each part with its own ideas and suggestions. In addition to the main topic of the seminar," how to attract new people to the church through men's ministry, "the issue of fatherhood was also touched upon, and this caught my attention just as much." Summarizing his experience, Alexander says: "at the seminar itself, I gathered a huge amount of useful information, both on the topics of the seminar and in personal interaction with other representatives of congregations from different countries and cities. It is simply impossible to convey everything in words in a short report about the event. It would be a treatise on more than a dozen pages, and maybe even hundreds... The impression was that after we had to part with this team, united by a common idea and common goals, the very chain that was created during the entire seminar would break. But this is not the case. God is with us, we have a common goal."

There are some kinds of educational-spiritual activities that are most suited for in-person meetings, and it seems that gender-specific ministries might be one of these. Alexander's experience witnesses to that. At the same time the quarantine experience has taught us that we have more tools available to us for keeping connected than we might have imagined, and so our in-person activities are now being supplemented by regular online meetings, where we can continue to support each other's efforts.

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 \$15. If you have a dietary need, feel free to bring your own bagged

lunch. 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. Watch for the sign-up sheet in the hallway outside Celebration Center. 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!



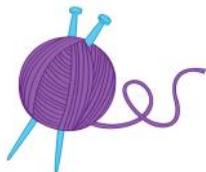
Toning with a Purpose is back beginning September 9th! Join us weekly on Thursday mornings at 9:00 am usually in Chapel Hall (may change rooms if necessary). Be sure to bring hand weights and/or bands. Any questions, see Gloria Thomas. Donations go to SmileTrain.

The Red Cross blood mobile will be at LCC **Thursday, Sept. 2nd** from 12 noon to 6:00 PM. Questions, please call Jim or Cheryl Swanson at 963-3999.

Masks required to be worn regardless of vaccination status.

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

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



Our Prayer Shawl Ministry will start up again on September 13th. All our welcome to join our knitters each Monday at 1:00 pm in the Fireside Lounge. Any questions, call Colleen Both at 963-4903.



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



On August 5th, LCC Staff served taco salad, beans, rice, and ice cream to hungry folks at the Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen. 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.



On September 12 we will start our fall worship schedule with two services on Sundays, at 8:30 and 10:30am. In between services join us in the Celebration Center for live music, concessions, coffee and donuts and Homecoming activities. All are welcome!!

Our Sanctuary Remodel project has included many moving parts (and has required moving of pews.) When the need arises and we call for help, people show up—just look at the hard working crew pictured below. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

So far, the west side of the Sanctuary flooring is installed and the east side of the sanctuary is being prepped for completion. Music General and Nor-Son have been working hard on the sound room and video/audio system as well.

We plan to re-dedicate our sanctuary worship space on Rally Day Homecoming Sunday on September 12.



LCC Solar Array Update *from the Creation Care Team*

From its installation in May of 2016 through July of 2021, LCC's solar system has produced just over 52,000 kilo-watt hours (kWh) of clean electricity from the sun. This averages out to 8.6% of our total electricity use and has saved our church just under \$6,000 on electricity costs using conservative estimates. We can all be proud of the environmental benefits our system has had since its installation. By transferring a small portion of our electricity from coal-fired generation to solar, we have reduced our carbon footprint by just under 40 tons (the equivalent of planting 941 trees) in 5 years!

According to Minnesota Power, the average Minnesota home uses around 715 kWh of electricity per month or 8,580 kWh per year. On average, LCC's solar system produces just under 10,000 kWh per year – more than enough to power the average home. Look at your utility bill next month. How many kWh does your home consume each month? Set an electricity use goal and see what small changes you can make to reduce the amount of electricity you use. Or better yet, see what a solar system could look like at your home. Solar installers often provide free or very low-cost solar assessments. You may be surprised at how affordable solar is becoming and how much of an impact even a small system could make for your home and for the environment.

For questions about LCC's solar array or if you are interested in joining our Creation Care Team, please contact Sarah Fogderud or Laura Raedeke.

CREATION CARE

Electricity & Solar Array Statistics							
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Total
Days in Service	223	365	365	365	365	212	1,895
Total Electricity Produced (kWh)	5,887	10,227	10,362	8,575	10,248	6,804	52,103
Average Daily Production (kWh)	26	28	28	23	28	32	27
Total Electricity Used by LCC (kWh)	88,527	157,876	133,970	101,992	72,672	51,967	607,005
Average Daily Electricity Use (kWh)	397	433	367	279	199	245	320
Solar Percent of Total	6.6%	6.5%	7.7%	8.4%	14.1%	13.1%	8.6%
Estimated Savings	\$ 647	\$ 1,028	\$ 1,347	\$ 943	\$ 1,127	\$ 748	\$ 5,840
Carbon Offset (tons)	4.5	7.8	7.9	6.6	7.8	5.2	39.8
Carbon Offset (trees planted)	106	185	187	155	185	123	941

How Much Energy Produced?	
Average MN Home	5.9 years
Energy Star Refrigerator	86 years
LED Light Bulb	595 years
Eiffel Tower	21 nights



The Creation Care Team Sharing Market is available each Sundays between services.

Tables are located in the hall across from Chapel Hall by the small kitchen. Members are encourage to bring baked goods, preserves, flowers, produce, and more for the table. Shoppers are encouraged to be as generous as possible as proceeds to go to the Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen.



August 2021 LCC Council Highlights

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS Church Council Meeting Thursday, August 12, 2021

We Assemble in God's Name

Devotion: Joanie Swanson

Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Council President David Endicott

Present:

David Endicott; Sarah Fogderud; Darrell Paske; Pastor Bakken; Vicar Ruen; Dale Peterson; Mike Smith; Pam Johnson; Bonnie Stevens; Craig Fink; Joanie Swanson

Officer Reports:

Council Minutes by Darrell Paske

- Motion to approve Bonnie Stevens; Second Mike Smith; Motion Passed
- Treasurer's Report by Colleen Both
- Motion to approve Craig Fink; Second Pam Johnson; Motion Passed

New Business:

- Motion by Bonnie Stevens to appoint Jen Henry to fill vacant Youth and Family Position through the end of calendar year 2021. Second Pam Johnson. Motion Passed
- Motion by Mike Smith to change service times to 8:30 and 10:30 effective September 12, 2021, Rally Sunday with a return of services in the Sanctuary. Second by Bonnie Stevens. Motion Passed.
- We will continue with Stage 4 Covid Protocol into the Fall with the modification of adding Wednesday Night Suppers.

Old Business:

- Sound Room – See Property Report Below
- Sanctuary Flooring – See Property Report Below
- Updates:
 - Audit: Tentatively Scheduled for 10-19-21 to 10-31-2021
 - Personnel: See Personnel Report Below
 - Constitution: Preliminary Discussions Had. Committee to be put together.

Pastors' Reports

Pastor Drew:

- Here at the church we are all excitedly getting ready for Fall. We are in the process of getting our Fall programming underway, with Confirmation, Sunday School and Route 56 letters all in the mail. The flooring, sound room and sound system are being delivered and installed. Fall wedding season is beginning and I have enjoyed meeting lots of new couples. It has also been a summer of lots of baptisms. It has been a true joy getting to know each of these young families, and be a part of their faith journey. While I was in the Boundary Waters last weekend, I reflected at how alive and serving our church continues to be. It is so wonderful to see our church continue to thrive, and to see the people return as our activities have begun again. It has been great to see our worship attendance grow again as well.

- I had a fantastic time at Luther Crest Camp with our youth in July. I have also been invited to be a part of a visioning board, for land the camp owns on Upper Gull. I am honored to be a part of this board, along with Dave Endicott and David Grell from our church. It is fun to think about and envision the ministry opportunities for our youth and our churches.
- On August 19th I will be meeting with our youth ministry team to discuss calendar events, and next year's summer's trip. I am excited to begin to be a part of this ministry team. We have some great events planned and I can't wait to share it with you.
- As the season of Fall is upon us, we will be hosting a new members class and receiving new members this October. I have already met with some new members over the summer, they are excited to call LCC home.
- I want to extend a big thank you to our entire congregation, and to everyone who has helped us make it through this tough year. Together we have kept each other's faith strong, by sharing our faith with those around us. I don't know what the future has in store for us, but I do know that God will continue to be with us.

Vicar Michelle:

- Women of the Word Bible Study met on August 10 with 23 women in attendance. We read Acts 12 and looked at Peter's miraculous release from prison, and the power of a praying church. We meet on the first Tuesday of every month at 10:00 AM or 7:00 PM time in the Chapel Hall. Our next Women of the Word Bible Study will be on September 7. Come join us.
- Gather Bible Study met on August 11 and looked at the Promise of Hope. Carolyn Blanck led the Women of ELCA meeting and I led the Bible Study. The Gather Bible Study meets the second Wednesday of every month in the Chapel Hall. The next Gather Bible Study will be on September 8. Come join us.
- PrimeTimers met on August 5. Thank you to the Steering Committee of Ron and Sue Whipple, Mark and Judy Swenson, Marv and Karen Green, and Darrell and Candy Barnack. PrimeTimers will meet on the first Thursday of each month with the hosts/hostesses deciding what the program and luncheon format will be. Our first meeting will be on October 7. The author of 100 Things to do in Minnesota Northwoods, Julie Jo Larson, will be the speaker on October 7. Watch for a sign-up.
- MOPS would like to start up again at LCC this Fall on Thursday mornings. Kari and I met with Kerri Vrey, the lead person. Watch for volunteer opportunities.
- A Small Groups meeting was held on July 21, with Carol Smith, Pam Johnson, Sarah Fogderud, Dawn Maine, and Vicar Michelle in attendance. Many ideas for interest groups/fellowship groups/small groups were shared. A new brochure is being put together highlighting previous and new programs beginning this Fall. If you have an idea for a small group, please share it with Carol Smith or myself. I'm excited about the opportunities and new groups forming. Two of the new groups are listed below.
- Outdoor Adventures is a new group that is beginning in September and is open to everyone-young and old, skilled and unskilled. Our first Outdoor Adventures activity will be on Sunday, September 19, at 3:00 at Cuyuna Range bike trails. Meet at Miner's Mountain Rally Center. Singles, families, couples - all are welcome to come and use bike trails of varying skill levels - beginning to advanced, and also, use the walking paths. For more information, contact: Pam Johnson @218-330-5207
- Ponder and Prayer is a new prayer group forming and meeting every Monday morning at 10:00 AM beginning on September 13. Come join us.
- I continue to make home visits to shut-ins and congregational members. I've been preaching approximately every other Sunday.

Committee Reports:

Property: Dale Peterson

- Landscaping: Front of the church landscaping is planned for this fall after irrigation is complete.
- Irrigation: The irrigation system will be installed in late summer in front of the church and on the south side of the parking lot.
- Sound Room: The sound room remodel project is scheduled to start the week of August 16th. The installation of new sound equipment and wiring is coordinated with this project.
- Sanctuary Flooring: Thanks to an excellent turnout of very hard-working volunteers, all of pews were moved and all of the old tile was scraped off and hauled out. The new tile has been delivered and moved inside. Flooring is scheduled to be installed in August.
- Handicap Accessible Doors: The doors on the Sanctuary entrance have been equipped with handicap openers. They will be functional as soon and the electrical work is completed.
- Five-Year Plan: Will be discussed and updated after current projects are completed

Stewardship: Craig Fink

- No Report

Worship and Music: Mike Smith

- Worship and Music Committee will be meeting on Monday, August 23, to plan for the new church year.
- The poles for the banners outside of the front entrance to the church have been made.

Social Concerns and Global Missions: Bonnie Stevens

- Central Lakes College Food Pantry is the focus of LCC's August Food drive. Two students from Kevin Lattu's Upward Bound spoke at worship Sunday on the CLC Food Pantry and their view of Food scarcity for the student population. The Collection item display is in the hallway outside the celebration center and this food drive will go through August. Monetary donations can be made through LCC with CLC Food Pantry in the memo.
- Global Missions
From the Financial report you can see the \$1,000 that was raised through member donations for Global Health to fund a trained medical person to reach remote villages and provide basic healthcare. Sincere thanks to LCC for supporting Global Health and this specific ministry. The Global Mission Team continues their contact and support of Pastor Braden Buerkle, the ELCA missionary in Russia.
- Operation Sandwich
Jean Kraft spoke to the Central Area Rotary Club & Breezy Point Women's Club (\$50 donation). \$2000 was received from Nisswa Lions and \$500 in a food donation from Our Savior's Endowment Fund. To date, Operation Sandwich has utilized about 50 volunteers this summer. Operation Sandwich is especially grateful to LCC staff for their continued support and assistance.
- Habitat for Humanity
Work continues on the Svoboda house as sheetrock and taping started last week. Volunteers can contact Cathy Wells at Habitat. We continue to ask people to pray for this family and this Faith Build home.

Children and Family Ministry: Pam Johnson

- We had a fantastic week at Luther Crest.
- Before we left, Kari prepared documents/files for Super Roll Sundays, Acolyting, Confirmation Intro letter/docs and Route 56. - all Fall programming letters have been mailed out.
- Now working on Backpack Blessing.
- Just had three evenings of Compassion Camp and we had a blast!!!

- Planning for Rally Day theme of Homecoming with a "halftime concert" between services - Cathy has agreed to help with this.
- Just generally prepping for fall programming - will be meeting with MOPS leadership to see if that will get going again.
- CFM team will meet in the coming weeks - thinking the 24th or 25th.
- We plan to take the kids out of worship at Children's Message time to Chapel Hall for Confession and Forgiveness, Creed and kids message/song, then return to Sanctuary for Communion.
- Between services, we will meet in Chapel Hall or Treehouse for activities based on message, ending at 10am. All kids would attend at this time.
- This way, families can come to early service, stay for activities until 10am and go home; OR come for activities at 9:15, come to Chapel Hall for Children's Worship and then return for Communion and go home following worship.

EXAMPLE:

8:30 or so: 1st session of Children's Worship in Chapel Hall - (return kids to Sanctuary for Communion)

9:15: Children's Worship Activity Time in Treehouse or CC

10:30 or so: 2nd session of Children's Worship (repeat of 1st session) in Chapel Hall - (return kids to Sanctuary for Communion)

Youth and Family Ministry: Jen Henry

No report

Congregational Life: Joanie Swanson

No report

Personnel: Sarah Fogderud

The committee met on July 19. We updated the Youth Director position description and will be working on updating other position descriptions after getting input from staff members through some one-on-one conversations. The Youth Director position has been posted with the synod and we are reaching out to various camps and other organizations to post the position as well. The committee will be moving forward with forming a hiring committee soon and setting up interviews for the Youth Director position once we have received some applicants. We thank those in advance who agree to serve on the hiring committee when called.

Meeting Adjourned

Submitted by

Darrell Paske, Council Secretary

Next Council Meeting:

September 9, 2021 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.

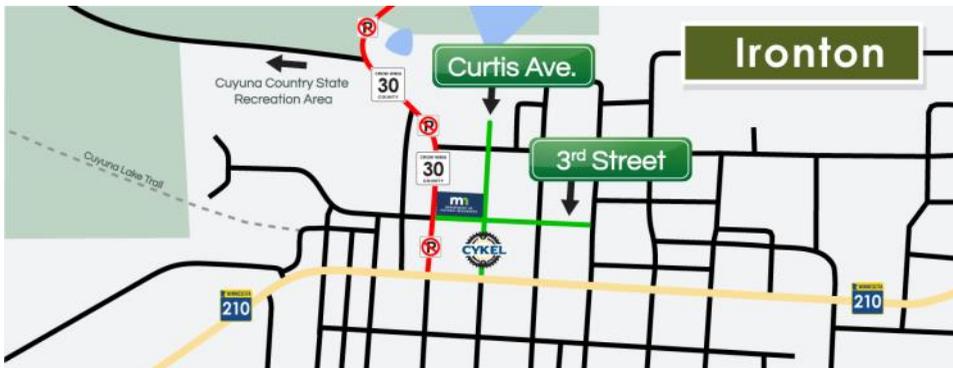
Outdoor Adventures

Outdoor Adventures is a NEW group starting up at LCC this year. Throughout the year, this group will offer a variety of outdoor activities led by our own members; there are so many fun and intriguing adventures to do right in our own back yard.

Our first Outdoor Adventure will be held at the Cuyuna Lakes Bike Trails on Sunday afternoon, September 19, from 3:00 PM (til 5:00 app). This is open to everyone - singles, families, couples, young and old, beginners, intermediate, and expert bicycle riders. There are walking trails available for non-bike riders, too. Guests are welcome! Invite a friend or two and come! Hope to see you there!

Contact person: Pam Johnson @ 218-330-5207.

- Meet at Miner's Mountain Rally Center in Ironton (off County Road 30) in the 3rd parking lot by the picnic table shelter. (Google Maps will take you there.) Meet at 3pm and the Johnson family can point you in the right direction based on experience/comfort level.



- You can download free apps avenza or trailforks for trail maps on your phone
- mountain biking trails for all levels from beginner to expert, paved trails, swimming, kayaking, paddle boarding, scuba diving
- A state park permit is required to park at the Rally Center - they do check and will ticket vehicles without a permit.
- \$7 for a daily permit
- \$35 for an annual permit
- MN State Parks passes are available to "check out" at some local libraries for one week at a time
- Bring a helmet, closed-toe shoes, & water bottle.
- The trails are closed in rain or when wet.

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5064 Co Rd 13; Nisswa, MN

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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

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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		
King's Kids	Carol Smith	
Custodian	Clint Baker	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	Sarah Fogderud	Worship & Music	Mike Smith
Treasurer	Colleen Both	Youth	Kristin Lindholm
Secretary	Darrell Paske	Stewardship	Craig Fink
Cong. Life	Joanie Swanson		
Education	Pam Johnson		
Properties	Dale Peterson		

