

Cross Currents

Lutheran
Church
of the Cross
2022

April



Dear LCC Family,

HE IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED! Throughout this Lenten season we have been journeying with Jesus to Jerusalem and the cross. We hope it has been a time for you to reflect, ponder, and listen to God. Soon we will be celebrating Jesus rising from the grave. Soon we will be shouting, "Hallelujah! He is risen!". Actually, every single day of our lives we can be shouting, "Hallelujah! He is risen!". Every day we know God's love, forgiveness, and grace. Every day we know God's acceptance and joy. Hallelujah!

A PRAYER VIGIL FOR UKRAINE will be held in our sanctuary on **Friday, April 8**, from **8:00 AM - 8:00 PM**. We hope to always have at least one person/people in the sanctuary throughout the twelve hour period. There will be prayers to pick up in the narthex for you to pray if you so desire, or feel free to pray whatever God puts on your heart. Many people have felt helpless over the situation in Ukraine. Prayer is something we all can do. There will be a sign-up sheet with 30 minutes slots. You are encouraged to come and pray, even if you did not sign up for a time slot. Thank you!

The Lutheran Church of the Cross **SPRING RUMMAGE SALE** is April 28, 29, and 30th. This is a community outreach event. Thank you to the many volunteers that make our Rummage Sale run so smoothly. We anticipate needing 100 volunteers a day. We will be accepting donations through Tuesday, April 26. Any questions, call 218.537.0522.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY - April 10, Sunday, 9:00 AM - Palms for everyone, Caramel/Cinnamon Rolls & Yogurt Sundaes afterwards

MAUNDY THURSDAY - April 14, Thursday, 6:20 - 7:00 PM

GOOD FRIDAY - April 15, Friday, 6:20 - 7:00 PM; Tenebrae service

EASTER - **He is risen! He is risen indeed!** - April 17, Sunday, 7:30 AM & 9:00 AM in the Sanctuary, 10:30 AM in parking lot outside

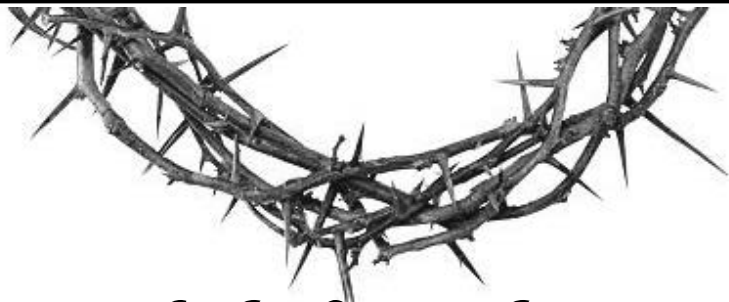
Easter Greetings!

Yours in Christ,

Vicar Michelle



"I shall pass this way but once; any good that I can do or any kindness I can show to any human being; let me do it now. Let me not defer nor neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again." Stephen Grellet, a Quaker Missionary



Holy Week & Easter Schedule 2022

April 14 Maundy Thursday

*6:20 pm worship in the Sanctuary with
First Communion & online*

April 15 Good Friday—Tenebrae Service

6:20 pm worship in the Sanctuary & online

April 17 Easter Sunday Communion at all services

7:30 am worship in the Sanctuary

9:00 am worship in the Sanctuary & online

10:30 am Drive In worship—back parking lot

87.9 FM


Thank you to our dedicated LCC decorating crew for creating an Easter Garden in the Sanctuary—it makes for a glorious way to celebrate our risen Savior!

If you purchased an Easter Lily, you may pick up your plant(s) after worship on Sunday, April 24th through Wednesday, April 27th. On April 28th any remaining plants will be removed.

Treasurer's Report - Financial Summary 2022 General Fund

	<u>February</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Budget</u>	Annual Annual
				% YTD of Budget
Income	\$ 47,970	\$ 119,394	\$ 688,900	17.33%
Expenses	\$ 45,020	\$ 94,242	\$ 688,900	13.68%
Difference	\$ 2,950	\$ 25,152	\$ 0	

**In the month of February our income was greater than our expenses by 2,950.
Thank you for your continued support.**



**May the blessings of the Lord
Guide you, protect you and
Surround you in all the days of
Your life.**

Happy Easter

from the staff of LCC

**Pr. Drew, Vicar Michelle, Cathy, Sally,
Kari, Karen, Todd, Laurie**

Church Office will be closed Monday, April 18

New Member Sunday, April 3rd

If you or someone you know would like to join Lutheran Church of the Cross, please contact Pr. Drew at church at 218-963-2564. We will have the New Member Gathering on Thursday, March 31st at 6:30 pm.



**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**



Lutheran Church of the Cross, Nisswa

Join us for *Cross Kids* each Sunday during worship to hear the Gospel “kid-style” - then join us after church for fn activities, video, & music to start your week off on a great note—we have a blast learning about Jesus!



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS, NISSWA

First COMMUNION Workshop

APRIL 2, 2022 1pm - 3:30pm

CELEBRATION CENTER

led by Pr. Drew and Kari Erickson

Email Kari at cfmkarilcc@gmail.com to register



All Cross Kids are invited to join
CYFM and Creation Care for a
morning of Earth Day art
projects - parents are welcome!

**APRIL 9, 9:30am
Celebration Cntr**

**For Pre-K thru Gr. 6
Pre-K should be accompanied
by an adult**

We will make some easy and cool projects that will be on display at church on Sunday, April 24. You will also make a project to take home!

We will focus on the importance of bees and butterflies and have some healthy snacks available (and coffee and tea for the parents & adults:-)

REGISTER AT: www.lccnisswa.org

upcoming events:



- April 6 - last night of Lenten Mentors
- April 9 - Earth Day Event Service Opportunity
- April 10 - Palm Sundaes and Rolls
- April 13 - Labyrinth & Prayer Stations
- April 14 - Maunday Thursday
Worship and First Communion
- April 15 - Tenebrae Worship
- April 17 - EASTER WORSHIP
7:30am, 9:00am, and
10:30am outdoor worship
- April 20 - Confirmation/Rt. 56 resume
- April 28 to 30 - Rummage Sale
Service Opportunities



It's all hands on deck for Palm Sunday—if you need a service opportunity, join us at 7:45am for prep, and stay for coffee fellowship after worship. Let Kari know if you can help.



SUMMER STRETCH 2022

FOR YOUTH ENTERING GRADES 6-9

9am - 4pm (BYO LUNCH)

THURS., JUNE 9, 16, 23 & 30

WEDS., JULY 13

SERVICE
DEVOTION
FUN

\$65 (scholarships available)

REGISTRATION INFO COMING SOON!

ROUTE 56 NEWS!

Be sure to attend on April 20 as we host another Thrivent project—making Personal Care Kits for the Ukraine. The Women of the ELCA will be joining us for this event. If you are able, bring a couple of items to add to the kits: individually wrapped bars of soap and toothbrushes, nail clippers, sturdy hair combs, bandages/



MARCH SUPER ROLL CREW!!



Hymn of the Month



April 2022

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (HAMBURG)

1. When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss and pour contempt on all my pride.
2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the death of Christ, my God;
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.
3. See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?
4. Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

“But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.” Galatians 6:14

After Isaac Watts finished his college studies and returned home to Southampton, he wrote many of his now-immortalized hymns for Above Bar Congregational Church. In 1696, Isaac, twenty-two, left home for London to become a tutor.

All the while, he was feeling a clear tug toward ministry. On his twenty-fourth birthday, July 17, 1698, Isaac preached his first sermon. The following year, he became assistant pastor of London's Mark Lane Church.

In March of 1700, Isaac received a long letter from his brother, Enoch, urging him to publish the hymns he had written at Southampton. The letter said:

Dear Brother, in your last letter you mentioned an inclination to oblige the world by showing it your hymns in print, and I heartily wish...that you were something more than inclinable thereunto...I am very confident whoever has the happiness of reading your hymns (unless he be either sot or atheist) will have a very favorable opinions of their author...There is...a great need of a pen, vigorous and lively as yours, to quicken and revive the dying devotion of the age... Yours now is the old truth, stripped of its ragged ornaments, and appears, if we may say so, younger by ages in a new and fashionable dress.

Isaac, however, hesitated. He had other obligations on his time. On March 8, 1702, he became Mark Lane's pastor. The next year, 1703, the church chose Samuel Price of Wales to assist Isaac, due to the latter's fragile health. Under the preaching of these two, the old, dying church revived. The building grew too small for the crowds, and a new house of worship was built down the street.

Finally in 1707, Watts published his hymns, selling the copyright to a Mr. Lawrence, the publisher, for then pounds. This volume was an instant success. It was enlarged and republished in 1709.

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” appeared in his 1707 book of hymns. Inspired by Galatians 6:14, it was originally titled, “Crucifixion to the World, by the Cross of Christ.” Many consider it the finest hymn in English church history, and Charles Wesley reportedly said he would rather have written it than all his own.

From “Then Sings My Soul, Book 2” Robert J. Morgan

Blessings to you on this Lent and Easter Season

Cathy Taylor, Minister of Music



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Rummage sale volunteers needed April 24 – 30!

From unpacking donations to displaying merchandise, and from assisting customers to cashiering, there is a rummage sale opportunity for everyone! Enjoy a lunch

meal on setup days and the camaraderie of others every day! Signup sheets will be on a table in the hallway of the Celebration Center entrance beginning Sunday, April 3. Donations accepted now until noon on Tuesday, April 26. Thank you all!

Thank you to our church family who sent cards, memorials, and offered kind words when Mom passed away at the glorious old age of 100. We are grateful for all the love and support!

Jean & Jim Kraft



Quilters meet at 9:30 in the conservatory the first and third Wednesday of each month.



Lenten Reflections continue Friday, April 1st & 8th from noon to 1:00 in Chapel Hall. Join Vicar Michelle in discussing the devotional book: *Grace Unbounded*.

Ponder and Prayer Group-

Join us every Monday morning from 10:00-11:00 AM for a quiet time of meditating on God's word in the sanctuary, followed by a time of conversation and prayer. Please join us or let Vicar Michelle know if you have any prayers you would like our group to pray for. We would consider it a privilege and an honor to lift your prayer request up to the Lord. *For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them. Matthew 18:20*

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP - EVERY TUESDAY AT 2:00 pm

Join Lyle and the guys for casual conversation, cookies and coffee at 2:00 PM every Tuesday in the old youth room. Join in the fun. Welcome back to the snowbirds!

PIZZA AND GAMES

Our next PIZZA AND GAMES will be on May 20th from 5:30-7:30! Come for pizza, games, and lots of fun!!! We will skip April because of Easter weekend. See you in May!



WOMEN of the WORD BIBLE STUDY

Our Women of the Word Bible Study will be held on **Tuesday, April 5th**, at 10:00 AM or 7:00 PM. Reserve one of these times to come for tasty treats, good coffee, and fun fellowship as we dig into God's Word in a fun and non-threatening way. There's many women who attend and no need to speak if you don't feel so moved. This is a Bible Study for women who want to get into the Word of God and apply it to our lives today. Join us and invite a friend. This is the year of the invitation!

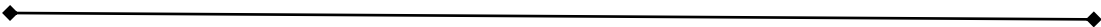
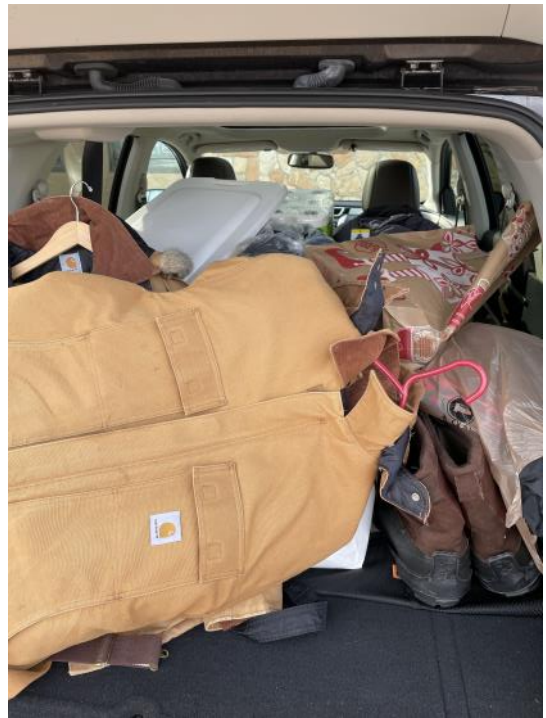
A PRAYER VIGIL FOR UKRAINE AT LCC ON APRIL 8, FRIDAY 8:00AM - 8:00PM

Please join us in doing the holy work of lifting up our brothers and sisters in Ukraine and around the world, our nation, and community in prayer on Friday, April 8. We hope to have at least one person in the sanctuary at all times throughout the day. If you would like, we will have prayers printed off for you to pray. Or maybe you will choose to just sit quietly and pray as you feel moved. Either way, please put Friday, April 8th on your calendar. Look for more information to come in the days ahead.





Thank you LCC members for your donations to the Brainerd Warming Shelter and to Brad & Joanie Swanson for delivering all the donations.



Drive Through Communion & Imposition of Ashes was held Ash Wednesday, March 2nd from noon until 1:00 pm in the front parking lot.

Remember you are dust and to dust you shall return.





**April Gather Study - The Kingdom of God:
Looking into the Future by Mark Allan
Powell 10 am April 13th in Chapel Hall!
We'll talk about what the future of
eternal life might be like.
We hope you'll join us!**

The Kingdom of God: Looking into the Future
What will it be like to be perfect people in a perfect world,



Heartland Women of the ELCA Gathering-April 9,2022 Zion Lutheran, Milaca
Theme Verse: Ps.107:1 "O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His
steadfast love endures forever. If you would like to go, please contact
Carolyn at 963-7660.

NEMN Synod Women ELCA Summer Gathering- June 6-8, 2022 Sugar Lake
Lodge, Grand Rapids, Theme: Make a Place at the Table Theme Verse Romans
15:7 "Welcome one another just as Christ has welcomed you," Hymn: All are
Welcome In Kind Focus: LSS Toiletry Kits

Luther Crest Women's Week June 26-30

Luther Crest Women's Week-June 26-30 - Register for
Sunday-Thursday or go with a carload for 1 day! Every
day there'll be great speakers, entertainment, goodies,
Christ-centered devotion/discussion with separate
programming for your kids or grandkids in the beautiful
lake atmosphere at Luther Crest!!! Watch for more
information!





Prime Timers Meeting **Thursday, April 7, 12:00** in the Celebration Center. Bring your own bag lunch; dessert and beverages will be provided.

Hosts: Darrell & Candy Barnack, Lee & Nancy Wangstad. Program will begin at 12:30. Come join us and learn more about Pastor Drew and Vicar Michelle and their faith journey. We are grateful to them for being our guest speakers at this months Primetime gathering.



Thank you to PrimeTimer's March 3rd speaker Dan Davidson, Academic Advisor at Central Lakes College. Dan's presentation focused on programs and classes that are available at CLC.



You are invited to Join us for our upcoming May Gather devotional where we will all be encouraged to step outside our generation and bring the wonder of who we are to someone of another generation! We are women of many ages, places and experiences – We are surrounded by generations (those among us, those who came before us and those who will come after us) – Watch for more information coming soon!

May Intergenerational Women's Event Coming to LCC



Thank you to all who donated to the Lakes Area Food Shelf. Pews of food, tower of toiletries, and well over \$4,000 of money was collected for this very important ministry.



Thank you to Jim & Jean Kraft for hauling load #1 to the food shelf.





AN INVITATION FOR APRIL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

MAUNDY THURSDAY AND GOOD FRIDAY 6:20 PM SERVICES – If you would be willing to help by being a greeter, usher, worship coordinator, acolyte, reader or communion assistant at the services, please give me a call at 218.838.5765.

EASTER SUNDAY 7:30, 9:00 AND 10:30 A.M. SERVICES – Please help us welcome visitors on this special Sunday! We know we will have many visitors coming to these services, and we want them to feel welcome here at LCC. If you can help by being a greeter, usher, worship coordinator, acolyte, reader or communion assistant at any of the services, please give me a call at 218.838.5765. There will also be a sign-up chart in the narthex beginning April 3rd. Your help is very much appreciated!


S.O.S. FUNERAL HELP – Our lists of people willing to help with funerals are very outdated. We would like to invite anyone (men and women) who are willing to come in and assist with the luncheons for funerals to sign up in the narthex. Maybe you're just willing to bake a pan of bars. Maybe you're just willing to wash dishes. Maybe you're just willing to make sandwiches and cut bars. Maybe you're just willing to do the shopping. Whatever works for you, please sign up if you would like to be a part of this very important ministry. Sign up charts will be available in the Narthex after Easter.

MANY THANKS TO OUR MARCH VOLUNTEERS!

LENTEN SUPPERS – It takes many people to come together and make things happen! We couldn't have enjoyed these meals and fellowship without all the volunteers doing their part. Thank you to the shoppers (Dan Olson, George and Lori Olson, Dale and Connie Peterson), to the prep teams (Mary Wnuk, Marilyn Wottreng, Jan Geiger, Carol Christofferson, Gail Goble, Nancy Peltier, Vicki Edminster, Marty Sapletal, Judy Rickbeil, Pam Osmera, Arlene Brodeur, Judy Heslop and Karen Taylor) and to the serving teams (LCC Youth, A Time For Us Group, LCC Church Council, LCC Music Ministry, LCC Creation Care and LCC Church Staff). You are all a blessing here at LCC!

Easter Blessings to you,

Sally Hodgson, Lay Ministry Coordinator

Sun	Mon	Tue	Apr
facility calendar for:			
<p><i>Reminder: Before planning any meeting/event/gathering at church, call the church office for availability and scheduling. Thank you.</i></p>			
<p>3 NEW MEMBER SUNDAY</p> <p>9:00 Worship w/ Communion 10:00 Cross Kids Connection 10:00 Coffee Fellowship</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 in the Word 2:00 Men's Fellowship 7:00 Women in the Word</p>	<p>6</p> <p>8:30 Tex 9:30 Qui 5:30 Len 6:00 King 6:20 Len 7:00 Len 7:00 Sr.</p>
<p>10 PALM SUNDAY</p> <p>9:00 Worship w/ Communion & Baptism 10:00 Cross Kids Connection 10:00 Coffee Fellowship/Youth Rolls & Sundaes Celebration</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>8:30 Lakes Area Food Shelf 9:00 Computer Lab 2:00 Men's Fellowship 5:00 Lakes Area Food Shelf Board Mtg</p>	<p>13 Labyrinth</p> <p>8:30 Tex 10:00 Ga 7:00 Sr.</p> <p>No meal</p>
<p>17 EASTER</p> <p>7:30 Worship w/ Communion 9:00 Worship w/ Communion 10:30 Drive In Worship w/</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.5em;"><i>He is Risen</i></p>	<p>18 OFFICE CLOSED</p> <p>7:00 Suicide Loss Survivor Group 7:00 People for Racial Justice</p>	<p>19</p> <p>8:30 Staff Meeting/Prayers 9:00 Computer Lab 10:00 Novel Ideas Book Club 2:00 Men's Fellowship</p>	<p>20</p> <p>8:30 Tex 9:30 Qu 4:00 Cre 5:45 Su 6:00 King 6:20 W 7:00 Co 7:00 Sr.</p>
<p>24</p> <p>9:00 Worship w/ Communion 10:00 Cross Kids Connection 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 11:30 Babinski Petstival? 1:00 Hwy Cleanup</p> <p>RUMMAGE SALE SETUP</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 2:00 Men's Fellowship</p>	<p>27</p> <p>8:30 Text 5:45 Sup 6:00 King 6:20 We 7:00 Con 7:00 Sr.</p>

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
il	<h1>2022</h1>		
		<p>1</p> <p>9:00 55+ Driver Discount 12:00 Lenten Reflections</p>	<p>2</p> <p>1:00 First Communion Workshop</p>
<p>t Study ilters ten Supper g's Kids ten Worship ten Mentors Choir</p>	<p>7</p> <p>10:00 Toning with a Purpose 12:00 PrimeTimers 7:00 Church Council 7:00 A.A.</p> 	<p>8</p> <p>8:00 Prayer Vigil 12:00 Lenten Reflections</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9:30 Earth Day Art Event 11:30 Scavenger Hunt & Hike?</p>
<p>th 8:30-4:30</p> <p>t Study ther Study Choir</p> <p>or worship</p>	<p>14 MAUNDY THURSDAY</p> <p>9:00 MOPS 10:00 Toning with a Purpose 6:20 Worship & First Comm. 7:00 A.A.</p>	<p>15 GOOD FRIDAY</p> <p>6:20 Good Friday Worship</p> 	<p>16</p> <p>11:00 Private Bridal Shower</p>
<p>t Study ilters eation Care Team pper g's Kids ed. Worship nfirmation/Route 56 Choir/Time for Us</p>	<p>21</p> <p>7:00 A.A.</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9:00 Crow Wing Energized</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>Study per g's Kids d. Worship nfirmation/Route 56 Choir/Time for Us</p> <p>→</p>	<p>28</p> <p>RUMMAGE SALE 8AM—6PM</p> <p>7:00 A.A.</p> 	<p>29 SYNOD ASSEMBLY</p> <p>RUMMAGE SALE 8AM—6PM</p> 	<p>30 SYNOD ASSEMBLY</p> <p>RUMMAGE SALE 8AM—NOON</p> 

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

1. David Grell, Jill Hunter, Elsie Neale, Kurt Nelson, Brian Peltier, Mike Smith, Sophie Stubbs
2. Wade Brill, Aliana Lind, Sutton Sullivan
3. Todd Dunlap, Julie Helsene, Cheryl Karlgaard, Marcus Mailand, Connie Peterson
4. Jayley Andresen, Ron Halligan, Carol Johnson, Doug Miller, Christy Winegar
5. Lyle Amundson, Ryan Gerlich, Marty Urban
6. Pat Birznieks
7. Ann Johnson, Karen Johnson
8. Lyle Barsness, Darrell Barnack, Heather Carey, Austin Domino, Ellen Germundson, Tyler Larson, Michael McMenimen, Claire Oseland, Vaughn Petersen, Mark Swenson
9. Sarah Aga, Everett Gromer, Pam Sandelin, Thomas Teasck
10. Evan Bolt, Mason Fritz, Heidi Larson
- 11.
12. Brighton Bachman, Vienna Dean, Dan Olson, Gloria Thomas, Pamela Utter
13. Barbara Elmquist, Ivan Kraemer, Rick Pratt
14. Dan Bzdok, Elijah Hayes, Daniel Neale, Carol Ricklefs
- 15.
16. Mary Lienke
17. Tim Bergin, Peyton Clarine, Joanie Swanson
18. Wes Anderson, Jana Campbell, Lyn Luick, Mark Moran, Arlene Rice
19. Kristen Moran
20. Jonathan Aga, Riley Johnson, Judy Rickbeil
21. Diane Eitrheim, William Erickson,
22. Shane Lueck, Jodi Milli
23. Steve Aakhus
24. Joshua Chandler, Melissa Owen
25. Chloe Opp-Baker
26. Bruce Burke, Bill Schmidt
27. Betty Arveson, Jonathon Bassett, Jon Wennberg
28. Jack Barsness, Brea Eckes, Carolyn Schley
29. Karen Taylor
30. Jon Henke, Lori Olson, Chip Taylor, Lindsay Taute



Lutheran Church of the Cross

RUMMAGE SALE

5064 County Road 13, Nisswa, MN

(Highway 371 and County Road 13 - Schaefer's Corner)

Thursday, April 28: 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Friday, April 29: 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 30: 8:00 a.m. - 12 noon

Half price on Saturday!



Furniture, Clothing, Coats, Shoes,
Home Décor, Collectibles, Jewelry,
Housewares, Electronics, Toys, Books,
Small Electrics, Linens, Blankets,
Crafts/Yarn, Pictures/Artwork, Tools,
Sporting Goods, Lawn/Garden,
Outdoor Items and much more!

Proceeds Benefit Charitable Organizations

Questions? Call 218-537-0522 or 612-751-3782

A Message from our ELCA Global Missionary

Russian Correspondent— Bradn Buerkle

Latest update LCC was made aware of:

Pastor Bradn and family are currently refugees in Istanbul, Turkey.

They still await getting a visa for his wife in order to travel to the USA, eventually.

(Although, in a previous posting Pr. Bradn was not sure where they will be when the war is over. They may return to Russia.)

Prayers are needed and much appreciated.



LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE EASTERN EUROPE CRISIS RESPONSE

MARCH 2022

[ELCA.org/disaster](https://www.elca.org/disaster)

On Feb. 24, Russian forces invaded Ukraine, launching land, sea and air attacks. Airports are now shut, and few railway lines are operational. Civilians fleeing the violence are heading toward Ukraine's western districts and such neighboring countries as Poland, Moldova, Slovakia, Romania and Hungary. Hundreds of thousands of people are seeking refuge in neighboring countries. There are major humanitarian concerns for both internally displaced people and refugees. Many of these Ukrainians fleeing their homes need shelter, basic necessities and pastoral care.

Lutheran Disaster Response is accompanying our companions in Ukraine, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia, as well as such ecumenical partners as Lutheran World Federation and Church World Service, in their humanitarian responses to the crisis. These partners provide refugees with immediate support and supplies such as food, blankets, water and hygiene kits.

Your gifts designated for "Eastern Europe Crisis Response" will be used entirely (100%) to provide support for people impacted by conflict in the region.

LCC Church Council made motion to designate \$500 from Lutheran Disaster Relief, \$500 from Global Missions and \$2,000 from LCC funds, for a total of \$3,000, to be designated for Lutheran Disaster Response, 100% which will go to the Eastern European crisis. The Congregation has been asked to match or even go beyond. Donation forms are available in the church office. (Make checks payable to LCC in order to be included on your giving statement.) Thank you.

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

8-HOUR CLASS FOR FIRST-TIME STUDENTS

4-HOUR REFRESHER COURSE FOR RETURNING STUDENTS

To register, call MN Highway and Safety Research Center
1-888-234-1294 OR 1-320-308-1400

Classes held at Lutheran Church of the Cross
April 1 (4 Hr Refresher) 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
May 6 (4 Hr Refresher) 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS, NISSWA

2022

THE LAST WORDS OF JESUS

REMEMBERING HOW HE LIVED AND DIED

**WEDS,
APRIL
13**

All are welcome to walk our labyrinth and journey through our prayer stations, "The Seven Last Words of Jesus" on the Wednesday of Holy Week.

**8:30am - 4:30pm
in Celebration Center**

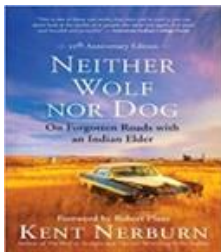
Novel Idea Book Club



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

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

January 24	<i>Paris Library</i> by Janet Skeslien Charles
February 22- 28	<i>Where the Crawdads Sing</i> by Delia Owens
March 22	<i>The Book of Longings</i> by Sue Monk Kidd
April 19	<i>Neither Wolf Nor Dog</i> by Kent Nerburn
May 24	<i>This Tender Land</i> by William Kent Krueger
June 28	<i>Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the United States</i> by Lenny Duncan
July 26	<i>Atlas of the Heart</i> by Brené Brown
August 23	<i>The Great Alone</i> by Kristin Hannah
September 27	<i>Blind Your Ponies</i> by Stanley Gordon West
October 25	<i>The Underground Railroad</i> by Colson Whitehead
November 29	<i>Hiding Place</i> by Corrie Ten Boom
December 27	<i>The Best Christmas Pageant Ever</i> by Barbara Robinson OR <i>The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse</i> by Charlie Mackesy



Novel Ideas will meet Tuesday, April 19 at 10 AM, in Chapel Hall. We are reading “*Neither Wolf Nor Dog*” by Kent Nerburn, There is a copy in the Library (Biography/Memoir section). Please join us whether you have read the book or not. You are sure to learn something! Coffee and treats provided. Questions? Contact Jean Olson (763-234-9445).

Lent – a season of reflection and preparation

If you haven't been in to see the library since it moved to Chapel Hall, we invite you to do so. Perhaps you'll find a book of prayers or meditations to read during this Lenten season. Also browse through the large selection of adult books and the colorful children's section where you will find books of the Easter Story.



SPRING CLEANING?



Don't forget about donating to your church library and spring rummage sale!

BOOKS and DVDS

- The library is always looking to add these items for all ages and genres.
- Please be sure they are appropriate, relevant and in good condition.
- (No ripped pages or covers and not musty or smelly)
- Please place your items in the blue donation basket in the library.
- Any donations that are not a good fit will be placed on the next rummage sale.
- Rummage sale books need to be boxed & dropped off during setup days. **NO** magazines, encyclopedia sets, reference or textbooks will be accepted.


Thank you!

Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen News

A huge Thank You to Bonnie Stevens, Dale & Connie Peterson, and Darrell Paske for serving at the Soup Kitchen in March. Menu was scalloped potatoes with ham, broccoli, french bread, lettuce salad, Ambrosia salad and pineapple upside down cake. If you would like to help, sign up on the Soup Kitchen calendar in the hall by the nursery, or call, email, or text Ann Bergin, at 218-820-5511 / georgiabergin@gmail.com.



HOLY WEEK 2022 WORSHIP SERVICES, 4/10 - 4/17



Toning with a Purpose is held weekly on Thursday mornings at 10:00 am usually in Chapel Hall (may change rooms if necessary). April 14th will be the last meeting until fall. Be sure to bring hand weights and/or bands. Any questions, see Gloria Thomas. Donations will go to SmileTrain.

To mark the ending of Lent and to celebrate the rejuvenation of the year and the promise of spiritual renewal and redemption, be sure to wear your Easter Bonnet to church on Easter Sunday!!





CREATION CARE

Save the Date

BLESSING OF THE PLANTS AND SEEDS

SUNDAY, MAY 1 at 9AM

The LCC Creation Care Team is hosting our annual Blessing of the Plants and Seeds (Rogate Sunday) on May 1. We are offering our complementary plant seedlings at tables as you come in for worship service.

Pr. Jerry Raedeke will officiate at this service, and we are pleased to welcome our guest preacher, **Pr. John Sippola** retired pastor, member of First Lutheran in Duluth and on the Leadership Team of the EcoFaith Network.

Following the service, please stay for a forum presented by Ron Meyer, Director of the Pine River Watershed Alliance.

“Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates’ *Up the Creek Meats Program* works to encourage sustainable practices in agriculture to support water conservation in Minnesota. Farm runoff is a primary contaminant of surface water, and has long term consequences for lake and river health and water quality. By partnering with Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates, producers in the Up the Creek Meats Program are encouraged to make the changes necessary to protect water quality, and are uplifted by consumers who care about the impact of agriculture on the natural environment.”



Attention Community Gardeners:

Thinking about the joy of gardening is hopefully a warm thought during the recent frigid cold. Soon it will be spring and time to bring new life to our Community Garden. The Creation Care Team would like to know if you plan to retain your current garden plot or if you would like to be a new gardener this summer. Plots will again be \$25 per plot payable by April 22 to the church office. Each gardener is asked to sign an application form and return with payment. For questions, please contact Paula West, westcom@brainerd.net or 218-838-5010. Think spring. Forms available in the church office.

March 2022 LCC Council Highlights

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS Church Council Meeting Thursday, March 10, 2022

We Assemble in God's Name

Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Pr. Drew Bakken

Present:

Drew Bakken, Mike Smith, Bonnie Stevens, Michelle Ruen, Joanie Swanson, Sarah Tietz, Jenny Stubbs, Brian Stubbs, Rachel Gerhartz, Dale Peterson, Darrell Paske, and Colleen Both.

Guests:

Lynda Lochner, Diane Wermager, Jodi Milli, and Carolyn Blanck.

Topic: Proposal by the WELCA regarding the transfer of rummage sale assets to LCC.

A presentation was made by Synod WELCA president Lynda Lochner regarding WELCA's origins, mission and purpose, as well as its relationship to our congregation. Jodi Milli presented the agreement between LCC and LCC WELCA to transfer and relinquish control of the garage sale assets to be placed in appropriate dedicated LCC accounts to be financially supervised by the church. Carolyn Blanck spoke of the long and faithful work of LCC's WELCA and the incredible mission and outreach that has happened over the years. Total distribution of Rummage Sale proceeds (to state & community; nation & world; LCC internal ministries; and LCC WELCA) between 2008-2021 has been \$478,476! Mike Smith thanked Carolyn and WELCA on behalf of council and LCC for its long and faithful work with the Rummage Sale and the incredible mission and outreach that it has accomplished over the years. LCC continues to move forward with this ministry as the Rummage Sale committee prepares for our spring sale.

- A motion to accept and sign the amended agreement between LCC WELCA and LCC made by Pr. Drew Bakken; Second by Dale Peterson.

Announcements:

Council will help serve the Lenten supper Wednesday, March 16, starting at 5 p.m.

Officer Reports:

Council Minutes by Jenny Stubbs (February 2022)

- Motion to approve Brian Stubbs; Second Darrell Paske; Motion Passed

Treasurer's Report by Colleen Both (February 2022)

- Motion to approve Bonnie Stevens; Second Sarah Tietz; Motion Passed

New Business:

- Council accepted the resignation from Dave Endicott as Council President, thanked him and wished him well.
- Motion to accept Mike Smith as Church Council President. Motion by Brian Stubbs; Bonnie Stevens, Second.

Council

- Darrell Paske will fill the Church Council Vice President position.
- Summer Youth Intern discussion tabled until next meeting.

- Letter from Duane Blanck read regarding a response to the Ukrainian conflict.
 - Motion to use \$500 from Lutheran Disaster Relief, \$500 from Global Missions and \$2,000 from LCC funds, for a total of \$3,000, to be designated for Lutheran Disaster Response, 100% which will go to the Eastern European crisis. Congregation will be asked to match or even go beyond, at upcoming services.
 - Motion to accept, Darrell Paske; Second by Colleen Both.
- 2022 Church Council members will be installed at Sunday, March 13 service.

Old Business:

- A meeting date will be set in March for the committee to begin work on updating LCC's Constitution.
- Pr. Drew, Darrell Paske, Mike Smith and Jenny Stubbs will meet at the end of March to begin work on a document defining church council roles for future reference.

Pastors' Reports

Pastor Drew:

- We have now begun the season of Lent in the life of Lutheran Church of the Cross. A special thank you to the staff for all their help on Ash Wednesday. 28 people received Ashes at our Ashes to Go drive thru. We served 203 at our Ash Wednesday Potato Bar dinner. Thank you to all the youth and adult who helped to make this event happen. We also had 208 people at our Ash Wednesday service plus over 100 watching online. It was great to see a full church.
- Vicar Michelle and I will be leading a sermon series on "The Senses of the Gospel". Each week we will be talking about one of the 5 major senses and how they relate to the gospel lesson during this season of Lent. So grateful to all the volunteers who are helping with our soup and sandwich meals on Wednesday night.
- One thing that I have enjoyed this year was being an intern supervisor to Vicar Michelle as she has grown to be a wonderful minister. I have really appreciated that the congregation has taken on this ministry as we raise leaders up in the church. I would like to propose that we take this a step farther and look towards hiring a college age youth to be a youth intern during this summer months. This will give our youth an opportunity to think about a calling in the church profession. They would be helping both Kari and me as we plan VBX, Youth Adventure trip, Summertime stretch and other activities. I think that we could look at hiring a youth part time during the summer to learn and experience the church in a new way. I hope that the council and congregation would prayerfully consider this ministry aspect.
- As for pastoral duties, I continue to meet with new members; I have performed a funeral for the Brandanger family, several baptisms, teaching confirmation, adult Wednesday bible study, numerous meetings, leading worship at the local nursing homes, and hospice visits.

Vicar Michelle:

- Pastor Drew and I will be preaching every other Wednesday evening during Lent using the Lenten series, Sensing the Gospel. We will focus on walking to the cross through our 5 senses. The sermon will be different on Wednesday than Sunday. Please join us on Wednesday evenings at 6:20 PM for church.
- A Time For Us, our Wednesday evening parent group, served the Lenten supper on March 9. Thank you to all the parents who were able to help prepare, serve, and/or clean up!
- I'm leading Lenten Reflections, a time during Lent to reflect on the Lenten devotional Grace Unbounded. We meet on Fridays from 12:00-1:00 from March 4 - April 8 in the Chapel Hall. All are welcome.
- Novel Idea had a good turn out in February. The next one will be on March 22 at 10:00 AM and we will be discussing the book, The Book of Longings by Sue Monk Kidd.

- We had to cancel February Pizza and Games because of the snowstorm. We will meet again on March 18. Come and join us for a free supper and a fun time of games!
- Women of the Word Bible Study continues to grow. We meet the first Tuesday of every month in the Chapel Hall. It's a wonderful time to be in the Word with good friends and no pressure. Just a thoughtful discussion, wonderful women, and tasty treats.
- The Women of ELCA hold the Gather Bible Study the second Wednesday of every month. It's led by the women of LCC. Recently we are in a great study written by Mark Allen Powell on the Gospels. March will be the fourth study in a 4 part series.
- I will be attending the Heartland Conference at Bethel Lutheran church in Little Falls on Sunday afternoon, March 13. And also, the Synod Assembly on April 29, April 30, and May 1.

Committee Reports:

Property: Dale Peterson

No report

Stewardship: Darrell Paske

No report

Worship and Music: Brian Stubbs

No Report

Social Concerns and Global Missions: Bonnie Stevens

- Thank you to Darrell Paske and Dale and Connie Peterson for their assistance serving Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen on March 3. Any individuals are welcome to form a group to serve. There are many dates still available for 2022. LCC is responsible for the first Thursday of each month, but other days are available. Please contact Ann Bergin 218-820-5511.
- **ELCA LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE**
Lutheran Disaster Response is working with Lutheran World Federation and Church World Service in humanitarian efforts to provide immediate support and supplies to the Eastern Europe Crisis. Gifts designated for the Eastern Europe Crisis will be used entirely (100%) to provide support for those impacted by the conflict. Gifts can be made to LCC or sent directly to Lutheran Disaster Response.
- **LUTHERAN IMMIGRATION & REFUGEE SERVICES**
More than **2 million refugees** have escaped to neighboring countries—**half of whom are children**. LIRS is closely monitored and stands in solidarity with Ukrainian neighbors. Dedicated to supporting Ukrainian refugees and immigrants, they are working to continue their long history of supporting refugees from Eastern Europe and around the world. Over the last decade, they've resettled nearly a quarter of all Ukrainian refugees who have been welcomed into the U.S.

Children and Family Ministry: Rachel Gerhartz

Report combined with Youth & Family Report

Youth and Family Ministry: Sarah Tietz

- We began preparations for Kari moving into the office down the hall. Now that Lent is here, she will have more time to spend finishing up the painting and organizing.
- Chat and Chow at Gloria Dei keeps rolling along - since we now have kids attending, it's a fun ministry to be a part of. We serve again on March 18 and will be serving the leftover chicken taco meat from the Jamestown Choir supper.
- Summer Stretch is ready to go - tomorrow Kari has another meeting with the BLA youth leaders to finalize and further discuss plans for a joint summer youth choir with all churches participating. The choir will be called, *With One Voice*.
- Lenten family devotion packs were completed and have been available since Ash Wednesday, as are scratch-off daily prayer sheets for children/youth. Since there are 40 days in Lent, the booklet became

too large to send out to families. . Kari also customized the Lenten Devotion pack for Prime Timers and it is also available for pickup.

- Lenten Mentors are ready to go - we are working hard at completing our list of mentors/mentees...it's been a bit difficult due to the last couple of years meeting via Zoom, but we are getting there.
- Part of the Lenten Mentors program that we are extending to the congregation is a prayer ribbon sign - we will ask folks to tie a ribbon onto the chicken wire on the sign. Ribbons are color coated to the following categories: He is Lord; He is Stronger; He is Faithful; He is Healer; He is Enough The sign will be placed outside by the main entrance on Easter Sunday.
- Cross Kids and Cross Kids Connection continues to work very well with good attendance from our-families - we seem to be having many new families attending and checking us out, too!
- We held our Baked Potato Bar Fundraiser on Ash Wednesday, but we didn't make much money. Perhaps next year we ask for donations of supplies and/or suggest a donation amount. Many kids came to help and we served just over 200. It was great to see so many folks back in the Celebration-Center, and with a little re-organization, we avoided blowing electrical breakers - food serving, prep and clean-up went very smoothly. Thank you notes went out to all who helped out.
- Super Rolls continue to be a success (thanks to Jen and Karen!) with donations totalling over \$30each Sunday. We have also seemed to eliminate the issue of leftover rolls by offering boxed rolls togo.
- Route 56 is taking a break during Lent - we have had some amazing discussions in this group during these winter months - and we are learning how to use our Bibles. What great kids! Betty Arveson is an excellent support person, as well.
- We are collecting toilet paper and toiletries for the LAFS and have quite a tower of TP already ! Wehad a noisy offering on Souper Bowl Sunday and will also host "Pack the Pews" and another Noisy Offering on March 20.
- We have 20 campers signed up to attend Luther Crest this summer:-))
- Postcards for First Communion Workshop were sent out, and so far we have 3 kids and parents interested in attending our April 2 Workshop. Kari also followed up with a more detailed email to parents letting them know what would be included so that they can make a comfortable decision onwhether their child is ready or not.
- Scholarship letters went out to HS Seniors in February and we have already received one letter of application. Kari also emailed all Senior parents to let them know the date of Sr. Recognition Sunday, along with a request for a Sr. picture and gave them a list of deadlines that the kids have received.
- We will once again do our yard signs and prayer shawls during worship on May 22, and have thekids greet people at a reception in the Celebration Center afterward. Hopefully we can have a poster up for each student as well.
- Letters went out requesting members for our newly formed Youth Leadership Team and so far we have 4 youth interested and 1 adult interested. Kari will try to make personal contacts with more kids during Lenten Mentor time to see if we can get a few more to join.
- The Creation Care Team reached out and asked CYFM to work with them to host a Kid's Art Day honoring Earth Day. We will gather on April 9 in the morning to do some crafts that center around the Earth Day Theme for 2022 and use some of the materials from Interfaith Power and Light. Then on Sunday, April 24 we will have the kids show their artwork, along with a display illustrating the importance of bees and butterflies. We have a great group of CFM team members and CC Team members volunteering to help out with this project.
- Kari has had a request for another Parent's Time Out, so we may have to look at the calendar tosee if we can do one yet this spring.
- Dates for VBX will be June 19-23, but we have yet to determine what our format will be. We will use the ELCA World Hunger curriculum, *The Healing Tree*.

Congregational Life: Joanie Swanson

- A new brochure for the winter/spring 2022 edition for Small Groups has been completed and circulating. So many ways to be involved, one or all of them will fill your hearts. New posting for the books for the coming year for the Book Club. Fantastic selections!
- So many of the Groups are getting back into the swing of things after Covid restrictions. Fellowship with our Church family is something so many of us have been waiting to do. Still being careful as we are not completely out of the woods. I do believe that the absence we all experienced showed us all that fellowship is a needed thing for our mental health and stability.
- Lenten Reflections have started and meet on Fridays at noon in Chapel Hall with Vicar Michelle. The daily reflections are amazing! Come join us!
- I will be attending the Heartland Conference Assembly on Sunday, March 13th in Little Falls at Bethel Lutheran.
- In a time when things can seem so grim and we are an immediate witness to the horrors happening in the Ukraine, it seems hard to find joy when others suffer. Grace and Peace along with our prayers to the people of the Ukraine as they struggle daily to find their way to shelter and food to sustain them through these hard times.

Personnel: Mike Smith

No report

Closing Prayer: Vicar Michelle

Meeting Adjourned

Submitted by

Jenny Stubbs, Council Secretary

Next Council Meeting:

Thursday, April 7, 2022 (Note: meeting moved up one week as regularly scheduled meeting falls on Maundy Thursday)

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.***



EASTER GARDEN

Please fill out the order form below to donate to the Easter Garden to help decorate our church and to memorialize or honor loved ones during this season. Your gifts will be listed in the Easter Sunday bulletins. The cost is \$15.00 per tribute. You may drop your form and payment in the offering plate or bring it to the church office **by April 13, 2022**. Please write "Easter Garden" on the check memo line.

Thank you!

Your Name: _____

Please print legibly

_____ # plants donated at \$15 = ____ \$ _____

_____ in memory of _____

_____ in honor of _____

Lutheran Church of the Cross

PO Box 29
5064 County Road 13
Nisswa, MN 56468

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

CURRENT RESIDENT OR

Address label here

Welcoming all people into discipleship

STAFF

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

2022 CHURCH COUNCIL

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

