

Cross Currents

Lutheran
Church
of the Cross
2021



As I write this month's front page, I am currently sitting on the deck at Luther Crest Bible Camp, listening to the laughter of our youth as they move from one activity to another. The joy on our youths faces as new friendships are made and their relationship with Jesus grows is heartwarming. I am reminded of my own time at camp. Those same emotions that they are feeling and experiencing are running through my head as they decide on what bunks they should choose or what snacks they should choose from the canteen.

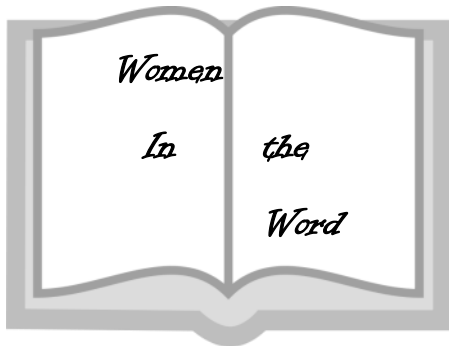
This camp will change everything in their lives. They will learn new skills, like learning how to communicate with each other. They will learn how to lean on one another and to ask God for help, and through it all they will see the face of God in the beauty of creation and they will see God in the faces of the people they are with.

I wish everyone could experience camp at some point in their lives. Sometimes God feels as far away as the camps we once attended, where we know about it but have not experienced God. The power of God's word is that it is the same today and it was 2,000 years ago. God's word is the living word where it still speaks to us. We hear God's voice as we come to worship through music, through the readings, the preaching, our confession and in the forgiveness that can only come from God. God's word Changes our lives. It changes how we relate to one another, creation, and our relationship to God.

The one thing that I appreciate about camp is that it makes worship a priority. We start each morning with worship and end each day with worship. This month I invite you to make worship a priority. Come and join us on Sunday mornings for worship at 9:00 am in the Celebration Center and online and at 10:15 am in the Memorial Garden.

Blessings,

Pastor Drew



Women in the Word Bible Study

Looking for an evening Bible Study? Come for food, fellowship, and a special time of being in the Word. Led by Vicar Michelle. No homework. No stress. Just come and be blessed! The next Women's Bible Study will meet in the Chapel Hall **Tuesday, August 3**, at **10:00 AM OR 7:00 PM**. Invite your friends and neighbors! All are welcome!

Thursday Prayer Morning Group

Our prayer group will not meet in August. We will start again in September with a new format. Keep your eyes open for more information in the September newsletter about our new **Ponder and Prayer group**.



Giving Thanks For Summer

Father, Creator of all, thank You for summer!

Thank you for the warmth of the sun
and the increased daylight.

Thank You for the beauty I see all around me
and for the opportunity to be outside and enjoy Your creation.

Thank You for the increased time I have to be with my friends and family,
and for the more casual pace of the summer season.

Draw me closer to You this summer.

Teach me how I can pray
no matter where I am or what I am doing.

Warm my soul with the awareness of Your presence
and light my path with Your Word and Counsel.

As I enjoy Your creation, create in me
a pure heart and a hunger and a thirst for You.

- *Author Unknown*

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, returned from a warmer location, etc.? If so, please let us know so we can update our database.

Treasurer's Report - Financial Summary 2021 General Fund

	<u>June</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Budget</u>	Annual Annual
Income	\$ 44,569	\$ 324,248	\$ 679,929	47.69%
Expenses	\$ 50,821	\$ 285,349	\$ 679,929	41.97%
Difference	\$ (6,252)	\$ 38,899	\$ 0	

In the month of June our expenses were more than our income by \$6,252.
Thank you for your continued support.



BAPTISM

Name: Gavin Longren
Born: February 2, 2020
Baptized: July 3, 2021
Parents: Alex & Kary Longren
Pr. Drew Bakken, Officiant

FUNERAL

Eugene Jaster
Born: October 12, 1930
Died in Christ: June 18, 2021
Funeral: July 2, 2021
Pr. Drew Bakken, Officiant

FUNERAL

B.E. "Jack" Warden
Born: March 9, 1932
Died in Christ: April 12, 2021
Funeral: July 24, 2021
Pr. Drew Bakken, Officiant



August 25, 6:20pm
LCC Back Parking Lot

Join Pr. Drew, Vicar Michelle and Kari - we'll make backpack tags, do a fun family relay, sing camp songs and have a short blessing devo.

ALL ARE WELCOME - bring your backpacks!!

Route 56 is starting up again SOON!!

A letter will be sent out to all 5th and 6th graders and their parents that will include details and our programming schedule for 2021-2022. We meet each Wednesday evening following worship (at 7pm). ALL ARE WELCOME—this year your leaders will be Kari Erickson, Betty Arveson, and John Wallin. We look forward to being together with you again—come get to know each other through fun and fellowship. Our orientation will be on September 15 at 7pm and is for all 5th and 6th graders along with a parent(s)/caregiver(s). New to this year's orientation will be an introduction and training in ACOLYTING. This year, the 5th, 6th and 7th graders will be fulfilling this role in worship. It's a milestone in your faith to serve your church family in worship in this way!



SEE YOU THEN!!

For Preschool through
Grade Four -
Grades 5 and up: we need
you as Crew Leaders!

BACKYARD BONANZA!

August
9 - 11
6-7:30
pm

LOVINGKINDNESS

Lutheran Church of the Cross - Nisswa

REGISTRATION LINK:
<https://bit.ly/LCCBBCC>

REGISTER TODAY!!!!

This three-evening program is where kids will explore what it means to have compassion for ourselves, others, and the world.

We will learn:

- What compassion is.
- How to recognize opportunities to practice it.
- How to be compassionate with ourselves
- How to be compassionate with our neighbors

Activities will include Music, Bible story, Creating, and Movement, all focusing on the idea of directing the feeling of loving-kindness to the world around us.

We will explore the Bible stories of Miriam, Elijah in the wilderness, and the Parable of the Good Samaritan.

Any questions, or if you are interested in helping out, just contact Kari Erickson.



SUMMER STRETCH

July 1—cleaned along the Paul Bunyan Trail with Pr. Drew, then Pirates Cove fun in the afternoon.

July 8—helped with Operation Sandwich and yardwork in the morning followed by pizza and yard games with Clint. Vicar Michelle joined the fun. Thank you all!



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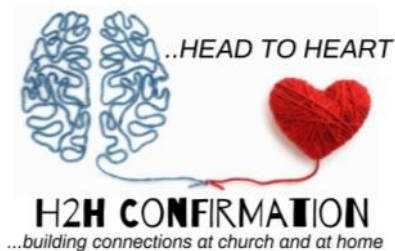


NEW THIS FALL!

Confirmation will have a new look and feel as we introduce “Head to Heart,” a program that helps confirmation students connect knowledge to personal faith. An important part of this program is building connections at church and at home. It provides us with an opportunity as a church family (whatever our age!) to build connections with our youth.

Curious as to how you can be involved?

Contact Pr. Drew and ask about becoming a Confirmation Guide, working with a small group of youth to help them get to know each other better and discuss the lesson—minimal prep required. You will find that the rewards are great in comparison to the time commitment (adults of all ages are welcome!).



WORSHIP ON WEDNESDAYS IS BACK!

After a challenging year dealing with the pandemic, we look forward to once again be together on Wednesday evenings at LCC. Think of it as a **welcome home**—a time to gather with your own family as well as your church family to share a meal, worship, and then join in youth programming or choir practice. Our schedule will resume with supper served at 5:45pm, worship at 6:20pm, and programming/rehearsals at 7pm.

Join us for our fall HOMECOMING on September 15 in the Celebration Center!

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**

- August 25, 6:20pm—Backpack Blessing Bonfire
- September 1, 7-8pm—Confirmation Guide Training
- September 8,, 7-8pm—7th Grade Orientation
- September 12, - Rally Sunday
- September 15—Route 56 & 9th Grade Orientation
7th & 8th Grade Activity
- September 18, 6:30pm—Confirmands
Dessert & Sharing
- September 19, 11:20am—Affirmation of Baptism

August 2021 Hymn of the Month

ELW 681 We Plow the Fields and Scatter (WIR PFLÜGEN)

This month we will celebrate God's creation with this hymn "We Plow the Fields and Scatter". It is based on Psalm 104 which tells us of how God made everything in creation – all plants, animals, humans, skies, the seasons, etc. – for us to enjoy and to nourish ourselves. It describes all aspects of our lives in creation and how everything is so intricately made to work together.

This hymn is written by Matthias Claudius (1740-1815), a German poet, as a portrayal of the idyllic life in country living. It was originally written with 13 stanzas and Jane M. Campbell (1817-1878) translated it from German to English with 3 verses and a thankful refrain. The poem was not originally written as a hymn, however it showed up in the *Evangelisches Gesangbuch* with Martin Luther's explanation of the fourth petition of the Lord's Prayer - God gives daily bread, even without our prayer, to all sinful people; but we ask in this prayer that God would help us to realize this and receive our daily bread with thanksgiving."

The tune name WIR PFLÜGEN is also known as CLAUDIUS and appeared in Johann A. P. Schulz's *Lieder in Volksten* a group of melodies for public schools. He is also famous for composing the children's Christmas hymn, "O Come, Little Children".

1. We plow the fields and scatter the good seed on the land,
But it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand,
Who sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain,
The breezes and the sunshine, and soft refreshing rain.

Refrain

All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above,
We thank you, Lord, we thank you, Lord, for all your love.

2. You only are the maker of all things near and far.
You paint the wayside flower, you light the evening star.
The winds and waves obey you, by you the birds are fed;
Much more to us, your children, you give our daily bread.
3. We thank you, our creator, for all things bright and good,
The seedtime and the harvest, our life, our health, our food.
No gifts have we to offer for all your love imparts,
But what you most would treasure—our humble, thankful hearts.

"Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my God, you are very great...O Lord, how manifold are you works! In wisdom you have made them all...may the glory of the Lord endure forever...Bless the Lord, O my soul. Praise the Lord!" Psalm 104:1, 24, 31, 35

Praise the Lord!

God's blessings to you this August and always.

Cathy Taylor, Director of Music Ministries

Choir Notes

Great news!! We will resume Senior Choir and King's Kids this fall. It has been a long time since we have been blessed by our choirs in our worship services and we know you are all looking forward to this.

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 this fall, we are just not sure of the dates as of this newsletter. We will keep you informed.

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)



Prayer Shawl Group will once again meet Mondays at 1:00 pm beginning September 13th in the Fireside Lounge. Any questions, call Colleen Both at 963-4903.

"To knit or not to knit. Now, that's just a silly question."



Carol Campbell and family thank all of the Lutheran Church of the Cross members for your wonderful support, prayers and memorials made to honor Bill's life.

He loved the church and was thankful for all of your prayers. We have been truly blessed and continue to feel the love and support, and I will always treasure the faith and works of Lutheran Church of the Cross.



Gather Summer 2021 Study: Just Love, Part 2

Welcome to the “Just Love Part 2: Just L.I.F.E. (Liberation Is For Everyone!)” *Gather* Bible study by Angela Khabeb. This three-session summer Bible study series is inspired, in part, by Jesus’ proclamations: “If the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed” (John 8:36) and “I came that they might have life, and have it abundantly” (John 10:10)

Session 1, “Just Wisdom,” delves into how God can open our hearts and minds to a spiritual understanding that is not bound by our human comprehension. Just Wisdom comes to us through reverence for our awesome God. Our key verse for the first session informs us: “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom” (Proverbs 9:10). Together we will consider our faithful response to Wisdom’s invitation.

Session 2 explores “Just Truth.” We will travel with Paul on the road to Damascus and experience his life-changing transformation. We will also take a closer look at how our Savior chose to share difficult truths with God’s people, and we will witness his boldness in speaking truth to power.

Session 3, “Just Hope,” looks at our role as the body of Christ. How are we called to be co-creators with God in transforming our communities into a more just society? Filled with resurrection hope, we’ll look to the prophet Ezekiel and his miraculous encounter in the valley of dry bones, and we’ll share how God’s amazing activity continues to unfold in our own lives. Angela Khabeb is a pastor of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Minneapolis.

She has an amazing husband, Benhi, and three spectacular children, Konami, Khenna and Khonni. More information on this study will be available soon. In the meantime, check out Khabeb’s presentation on “just love” from [Women of the ELCA’s “Just love: A virtual preview.”](#)

Session 1: Wednesday, June 9, 2021 at 10:30 AM

Session 2: Wednesday, July 14, 2021 at 10:30 AM

Session 3: Wednesday, August 11, 2021 at 10:00 AM

Gather magazines are available at LCC if needed.

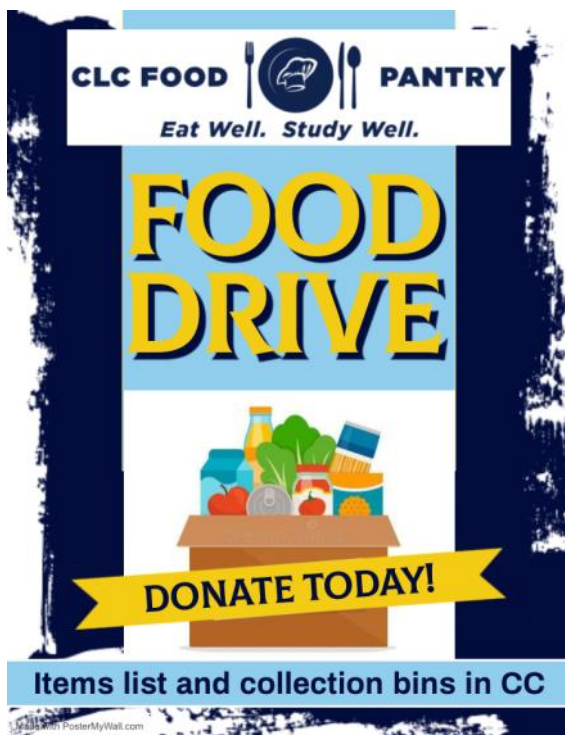
We will meet at the LCC Pergola near the LCC Community Garden, weather permitting. In inclement weather we will meet indoors at LCC. Watch for additional information. We look forward to you joining us this summer! If you have any questions, call Carolyn Blanck at 963-7660.

Gather Study is a ministry of LCC Women of the ELCA

Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen News

Mission: To demonstrate the love of Christ by providing meals to the hungry of our community.

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.



August means back to school for many of our area students, including those at Central Lakes College. Food scarcity can be an issue for college students, some of whom may be single parents and/or may not have access to refrigeration or cooking facilities. To address this issue, the Brainerd and Staples campuses have Food Pantry facilities available on a daily basis. Students can drop in to pick up basic food items, most of which are provided through Second Harvest. There is also a need for specialty items that are often unavailable. We can help by collecting donations of these items, like:

- Spices: salt, pepper, cinnamon, garlic powder, Italian Seasoning & Taco Seasoning
- Shelf-stable microwavable meals & pasta/rice sides
- Canned veggies and fruit with tab tops
- Laundry detergent
- Deodorant, toothpaste & brushes, feminine hygiene products
- Diapers & baby food
- New/gently used hats and gloves

Collection of these items will begin on August 1st. Containers are available outside the Celebration Center. Cash donations are also welcome, with checks payable to LCC - CLC Food Pantry on the memo line.

For more information, visit <http://www.clcmn.edu/clc-food-pantry/>



A big thank you to the Nisswa Lions for their generous donation of \$2,000 for Operation Sandwich.



For more information contact Jean Kraft at jean.kraft@icloud.com or 218-838-9646. Check out the Operation Sandwich Facebook page or church eblasts for on-going information and needs. Our last packing date for the summer will be Thursday, September 2, 2021. Thank you for your continued support and time for this ministry. We truly are a serving congregation.



VOLUNTEERS AT LCC



AUGUST OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday Coffee & Donuts People – please sign up on the board outside of Celebration Center. There are easy instructions in the kitchen. Ask a friend or neighbor to join you!

Family Worship Assistants – We would love to have the entire family help at one of our Worship Services this summer! Young people can pass out communion at the door while the parents hand out the bulletins. Great experience for the entire family!

Moving Assistance each Sunday – This is not a big time commitment (maybe 10-15 minutes) but a much appreciated task! Altar stand, music stands and speakers need to be brought down to the Memorial Garden for Worship each Sunday after the 9:00 service.

If you are available and wanting to be one of our amazing LCC volunteers, please give me a call at 218-838-5765 (cell) or 963-6250 (home).





Blessings,

Sally Hodgson, Lay Ministry Coordinator

Why Volunteer?

- “Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on Earth.” — Muhammad Ali
- “Volunteers don’t get paid, not because they’re worthless, but because they’re priceless.” – Sherry Anderson
- “Remember that the happiest people are not those getting more, but those giving more.” — H. Jackson Brown Jr.
- “The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.” — Mahatma Gandhi
- “The smallest act of kindness is worth more than the grandest intention.” – Oscar Wilde
- “No one is more cherished in this world than someone who lightens the burden of another.” – Author Unknown
- “The only people with whom you should try to get even are those who have helped you.” – John E. Southard
- “We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” — Winston Churchill
- “How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.” –Anne Frank

Sun	Mon	Tue	Aug
<h1>facility calendar for:</h1>			
1	2	3	4
<p>9:00 Worship w/ baptism 10:00 Donuts & Coffee 10:00 Sharing Market 10:15 Outdoor Worship</p>	<p>8:30 Staff Meeting /Prayers 10:00 Facebook Devotions 7:00 Suicide Loss Survivor Group</p>	<p>9:00 Computer Lab 10:00 Facebook Devotions 10:00 Women's Bible Study 7:00 Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>8:30 Text S 10:00 Faceb</p>
8	9	10	11
<p>9:00 Worship w/ Communion 10:00 Donuts & Coffee 10:00 Sharing Market 10:15 Outdoor Worship w/ Comm.</p>	<p>8:30 Staff Meeting/Prayers 10:00 Facebook Devotions 11:00 Soul Sisters 6:00 Compassion Camp</p>	<p>9:00 Computer Lab 10:00 Facebook Devotions 6:00 Compassion Camp</p>	<p>8:30 Text 10:00 Face 10:00 Gath 6:00 Com</p>
15	16	17	18
<p>9:00 Worship 10:00 Donuts & Coffee 10:00 Sharing Market 10:15 Outdoor Worship</p>	<p>8:30 Staff Meeting/Prayers 10:00 Facebook Devotions 7:00 Suicide Loss Survivor Group</p>	<p>9:00 Computer Lab 10:00 Facebook Devotions</p>	<p>8:30 Text 10:00 Face 4:00 Crea</p>
22	23	24	25
<p>9:00 Worship w/ Communion 10:00 Donuts & Coffee 10:00 Sharing Market 10:15 Outdoor Worship w/ Comm.</p>	<p>8:30 Staff Meeting/Prayers 10:00 Facebook Devotions</p>	<p>9:00 Computer Lab 10:00 Facebook Devotions</p>	<p>8:30 Text 10:00 Face 4:00 Crea 6:20 Fam</p>
29	30	31	
<p>9:00 Worship 10:00 Donuts & Coffee 10:00 Sharing Market 10:15 Outdoor Worship</p>	<p>8:30 Staff Meeting/Prayers 10:00 Facebook Devotions</p>	<p>9:00 Computer Lab 10:00 Facebook Devotions</p>	

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
August	2021		
Study Book Devotions	5 9:30 Operation Sandwich 10:00 Facebook Devotions 10:00 PrimeTimer Planning 3:30 Staff at Soup Kitchen 7:00 A.A. 	6 10:00 Facebook Devotions LCC Family Camping →	7
Study Book Devotions Her Bible Study Passion Camp	12 9:30 Operation Sandwich 10:00 Facebook Devotions 7:00 Church Council 7:00 A.A.	13 10:00 Facebook Devotions 	14 10:00 Cullen Lakes Annual Mtg 3:00 Private Wedding
Study Book Devotions Mission Care Team	19 9:30 Operation Sandwich 10:00 Facebook Devotions 4:00 Rummage Sale Planning 7:00 A.A.	20 10:00 Facebook Devotions	21
Study Book Devotions Mission Care Team Family Campfire/Blessing of Backpacks	26 9:30 Operation Sandwich 10:00 Facebook Devotions 7:00 A.A.	27 10:00 Facebook Devotions	28 11:00 Private Baptism
			



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

1. Laurie Hemish, Kristin Lindholm, Robert Moody, Emmett Wilson
2. Tim Hernandez, Bennett Wottreng
3. Patrice Maier
4. Alice Carlson, Kade Kitzman
5. James Bailey, Derrick Chase, Bonnie Dunker, Mattie Lueck, Max Roby, Emersyn Sullivan
6. Keith Both, Marlow Strand, Tony Trucano
7. Renee Johnson
8. Jodie Hiles
- 9.
10. Gary Boche, Char Oraskovich
11. Gisela Borgwarth, Pete Christofferson, Jacob Heinlen
12. James Brandon, Jerry Leese
13. Patti Pluth
14. Karen Green, Pat Maccabee, Dale Peterson, Thea Ude
15. Byron Huseby, Nate Merseth
16. Colleen Both, Gail Goble, Jean Meyer
17. Bruce Domino, Gary Johnson, Deb Rottschafer, George Sommerfeld
- 18.
19. Jon Fogarty, Duane Heikkila, Jennie Pelowski
20. Rowan Lindholm, Ron Reph
21. Elizabeth Knutson
22. Jean Larson, Steve Panzer, Kirk Tietz
23. Kate Henke, Jo Zaiser
24. Travis Aune, George Martin
25. David Clausen, Grant Loge, Marvel Ring
26. JoAnne Dayton, Roger Miller, Reese Schamber
27. Arlene Brodeur, Janet Erickson
28. Carol Carlson, Marlene Larson
29. Kyan Kitzman, Lukas Lind
30. Sheila Avenson, Don Karlgaard, Bailey McMahon, Abby Pelowski
31. Mark Erickson, Marj Holmstrom, Joan Roberts, Ethan Sannes, Wyatt Verville



Calling all Blood Donors and Volunteer Helpers!

The Red Cross blood mobile will be at LCC **Thursday, Sept. 2nd** from 12 noon to 6:00 PM. We need about 10 volunteers for 2 to 3 hour shifts for greeters, registration, and canteen. If you can help, please call Jim or Cheryl Swanson at 963-3999.

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.



**American
Red Cross**



RUMMAGE SALE Update

Mark your calendars! Fall Rummage Sale will be held **September 16-17** (new this fall is Thursday sale day!) The sale will be outdoors only in the east parking lot by the garages and playground. We are NOT accepting donations at this time. Volunteers will be needed September 13-17 for setup and sale days.

A planning meeting will be held **Thursday, August 19th at 4:00 pm** in Chapel Hall. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Where can you buy a ruler that is three feet long?
-At a yard sale.

Did you hear about the garage sale at the boathouse?
-It was quite an oar deal.

Not all those who wander are lost. Some are just looking for yard sales.....



A Message from our ELCA Global Missionary

Russian Correspondent

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Nina Dmitrieva, one of the key lay leaders of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Vladivostok, thought of the words to this classical hymn when reflecting upon the arrival of their new pastor, Vitaly Mohr. They came to her during Vitaly's installation, as she heard the text for the day, Isaiah 55.8-9: "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts." She thought of the congregation's surprising history. Founded in the late 19th century as a spiritual home for ethnic minorities

that found themselves living in the Far East, St. Paul's was closed (as were all Lutheran churches) by the early 1930s. Yet that was not the end; the next chapter started in 1992, when Pastor Manfred Brockmann arrived from Germany to help re-establish the congregation and to reclaim their beautiful home in the historical church building, which had been converted in the Soviet period into a Navy history museum.

As was the case with most Russian congregations, the 1990s was a time of vibrant rebirth and wave after wave of emigration, changing the character of the church from one that was focused on ethnic minorities to one that offered a special vision for Christian life; at St. Paul's, that vision has included a focus on an ecumenical openness, an intellectual cultural climate, and classical music.

Pastor Brockmann is almost two decades into his retirement by now, though, and it is important that the congregation have new leadership to move forward.

Finding the right person to take the call took quite a long time. Nina points out that God was the congregation's help as it went through various struggles – "We love our church, we thank God that He preserved it through the times of godlessness, and helped to restore it." She is now confident that their church can "now bring in more and more people in need of spiritual nourishment, consolation and salvation."

Adapting to a new leader won't be easy, but Nina's attitude toward this change is summarized in her short prayer: "Give us wisdom to accept our new pastor with love and obedience, respect and help in his ministry for the spiritual growth of your church."



Your brother in Christ, Bradn

LCC FAMILY CAMPOUT GIMME S'MORE JESUS



AUGUST 6-7

For youth who have completed
5th grade and up -
plus their parents &/or family

REGISTER at: <http://bit.ly/LCCfamcamp>

We'll meet up at Dave & Esther Endicott's alpaca farm in Jenkins, *SERENITY NOW*. We'll pitch our tents and enjoy games, devotions, good food, campfires and s'mores with our church family. Bring Bibles, tents and sleeping stuff (don't forget a toothbrush!!)

Book Ends Club

Attention Book Ends Girls in grades 3 and 4! Watch for an email from Kari as we will commence meeting in August.

If you would like to join, email cfmkarilcc@gmail.com





Yahoo! PrimeTimers are back in business! We will kick off the season on **Thursday, August 5, at 10:00 AM** in the Celebration Center. **Please come** to a planning meeting to help brainstorm ideas for the upcoming year. Coffee, donuts, and cookies provided. See you there!

Steering Committee

Ron and Sue Whipple

Darrell and Candi Barnack

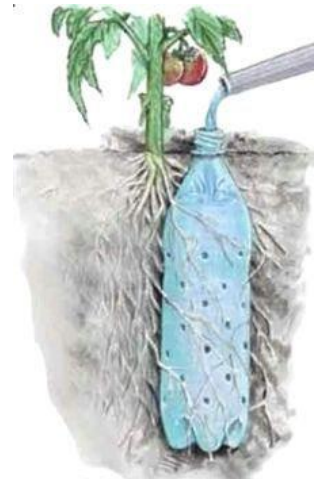
Marv and Karen Green

Mark and Judy Swenson



Making a Plastic Bottle Irrigator for Plants

Making a plastic bottle irrigator is a pretty simple project. All you need is a plastic bottle, something to make small holes (such as a nail, ice pick, or small drill), and a sock or nylon (optional). You can use a 2-liter or 20-ounce soda bottle. The smaller bottles work better for container plants. Punch 10-15 small holes all over the bottom half of the plastic bottle, including the bottom of the bottle. You can then place the plastic bottle in the sock or nylon. This prevents soil and roots from getting into the bottle and clogging up the holes. The soda bottle irrigator is then planted in the garden or in a pot with its neck and lid opening above the soil level, next to a newly installed plant. Thoroughly water the soil around the plant, then fill the plastic bottle irrigator with water. Some people find it is easiest to use a funnel to fill plastic bottle irrigators. The plastic bottle cap can be used to regulate the flow from the soda bottle irrigator. The tighter the cap is screwed on, the slower the water will seep out of the holes. To increase flow, partially unscrew the cap or remove it altogether. The cap also helps prevent mosquitoes from breeding in the plastic bottle and keeps soil out.



Read more at Gardening Know How: DIY Slow Release Watering: Making A Plastic Bottle Irrigator For Plants <https://www.gardeningknowhow.com>

CREATION CARE



WILL FAKE MEAT LOWER OUR CARBON FOOTPRINT AND SAVE EARTH'S CLIMATE ?

Faux burgers produced by companies such as Impossible Foods and Beyond Meat, as well as the growing of meat from animal cells in vats, are touted as the solution to the huge carbon emissions of industrialized feedlots and CAFOs (confined animal feedlot operations). Yet the same industrial grains used to feed these animals are grown over many acres with pesticides, the intense use of fossil fuels for machinery and fertilizer, and then transported long distances to become a highly processed faux meat product.

According to a Minnesota-based Land Stewardship Project study, plant-based burgers are a concoction of industrialized grains highly processed in expensive, high-tech facilities. A key ingredient for flavor is often a molecule called "heme," which is produced in tanks of genetically modified yeast. It turns out that highly processed foods of all types have a **massive carbon footprint**, given the amount of energy and ingredients required. And in general, the more processed a food product is, the less healthy it is.

A Michigan State University study has also found that when cattle were raised in a managed rotational grazing system that allowed pasture grasses to develop deep roots, the soils could **sequester enough carbon** to compare favorably with the carbon footprint of the energy, tillage and chemicals used to produce the vast quantities of corn fed in feedlot systems and then processed into faux meats.

Regenerative agriculture seeks to grow food in a way that works with nature, and the plains that can no longer grow grain crops can be transformed into healthy grasslands with the help of grazing animals, whose dung and hooves pressing into the soil create beneficial microbial life underground. Enriched soil helps to **solve climate change** by absorbing and holding water, drawing down carbon out of the atmosphere and keeping it in the ground where it belongs.

A big Thank You to Dick Carlson for the new Community Garden sign!



The Creation Care Team Sharing Market Sundays between services.

Tables will be located in the hall across from Chapel Hall by the small kitchen and outdoors by the Memorial Garden. Bring baked goods, preserves, flowers, and produce for the table. Share your bounty! Be as generous as possible when purchasing items.

July 2021 LCC Council Highlights

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS Church Council Meeting Thursday, July 15, 2021

We Assemble in God's Name

Devotion: Colleen Both

Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Council President David Endicott

Present:

David Endicott; Colleen Both; Darrell Paske; Pastor Bakken; Vicar Ruen; Dale Peterson; Mike Smith; Kristin Lindholm; Craig Fink; Joanie Swanson

Officer Reports:

Council Minutes by Darrell Paske

- Motion to approve Craig Fink; Second Dale Peterson; Motion Passed
- Treasurer's Report by Colleen Both
- Motion to approve Mike Smith; Second Joanie Swanson; Motion Passed

Old Business:

1. Sound Room
2. Flooring
(See Property Chair Report)
3. Update on contacts toward:
 - Audit – Target date to occur is October
 - Personnel – Meeting Monday regarding Youth Director Vacancy
 - Constitution Update – No Report

Pastors' Reports

Pastor Drew:

- One thing that continues to amaze me each year, is that even in when the school year is done the ministry of the church does not slow down. We had a wonderful week of VBX in June, where we learned about ELCA World Hunger and what they do for our brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the world. A special thank you to Kari for her leadership in this great ministry for our youth, and to all the many volunteers that helped make it happen. I had the wonderful opportunity to participate and help in the skits each day.
- I did manage to get some much needed vacation time with my family. A Special thank you to Vicar Michelle and all the staff for ensuring me this opportunity to reflect and re-center myself on the North Shore.
- Summer Stretch has been a great success this summer. I am so proud of our middle school youth and their willingness to work hard around the church and in our community each week. It has also been great to share in some fun after the hard work each week. On July 22nd we will be ending our Summer Stretch program with a trip to Valley Fair. Myself, another parent, and 13 of our youth will make the trip to Shakopee. What an amazing group of youth we have in our church! Thank you to Clint, Sally, and Kari who helped out with Summer Stretch on the days I was unable to be there.
- Kari and I are currently putting together our Confirmation and youth schedule for 2021-2022. We will

be using the Faith Inkubators confirmation material. It is one that I have used for many years. It is an interactive learning model that focuses on the head and the heart.

- Cathy, Brian and I met to discuss worship and choir for this coming Fall. We are all looking forward to moving back into the sanctuary for worship. Special thank you to Dale for coordinating the renovation project. A letter will be going out soon to ask for donations toward this renovation project.

Vicar Michelle:

- I continue to meet the wonderful people of LCC, either by phone or in person. Thank you to everyone who has made me feel so welcome!
- It was great to be a part of VBX June 21-24, and to get to know our young children and youth helpers. I had the privilege to teach in the Bible Lesson room/station and I loved it! Thanks, Kari. Looking forward to being a part of Compassion Camp August 9-11.
- Our first Women's Bible Study began on July 13 with both a morning and evening time. We had 24 wonderful women attend our first Bible Study and had a fruitful discussion. I taught about Saul being blinded on the Road to Damascus, and the role of Ananias as the messenger. Going forward we will be meeting on the first Tuesday of every month at 10:00 AM or 7:00 PM time. No homework. Just come with your Bible for fellowship, food, and a wonderful discussion. Hope to see you on August 3!
- PrimeTimers will begin meeting in September. I have spoken with several people who have been involved in the past. We hope to meet in the near future to begin preparations and scheduling for the next year. If you were involved in PrimeTimers in the past, look for a call or notification from myself or someone else as we schedule for a new year. Feel free to call me at 961-2013 if you would like to be a part of the planning committee.
- I have led worship at Edgewood Vista Brainerd and Baxter on two different occasions to fill in for Pastor Drew. I thoroughly enjoyed it! I look forward to helping out Pastor Drew with this in the future.
- On July 21, Carol Smith and I will be leading a Small Group meeting, as we prepare to provide opportunities for adults to gather post-covid starting in September. Thank you to the people who are helping us brainstorm small group ideas. If you have an idea for a small group, feel free to share it with Carol or myself.
- Pastor Drew and I have been sharing preaching duties. I've been preaching approximately every other Sunday. Thank you, Pastor Drew, for this opportunity. I will be on vacation in Houston, TX the week of July 24-31 with my family.

Committee Reports:

Property: Dale Peterson

- Monument Sign: Landscape blocks were installed around the LCC monument sign. Black dirt and plantings will be added after the irrigation is installed.
- Landscaping: Front of the church landscaping is planned this year. In early August the old bushes will be removed from both sides around the Sanctuary entrance. New plantings will be selected and installed after irrigation is complete.
- Irrigation: Contract has been signed. The irrigation system will be installed in August on both sides of the Sanctuary entrance and on the south side of the parking lot.

- Sound Room: Contract has been signed and the sound room remodel project is planned to be completed in August. This remodel is in conjunction with the installation of new sound equipment.
- Sanctuary Flooring: Contract has been signed and flooring materials have been selected and ordered. Testing of the glue on the old floor is underway. Flooring is scheduled to be installed in August. Volunteers will be needed to move pews during installation.
- Handicap Accessible Doors: The doors on the Sanctuary entrance will be equipped with handicap openers. Estimate has been received and this project will be scheduled soon.
- Five-Year Plan: Will be discussed and updated after current projects are completed.

Stewardship: Craig Fink

- We will be sending a letter to the congregation to outline the fundraising campaign for the sound room and sanctuary flooring.

Worship and Music: Mike Smith

- We are working with the Personnel Committee to fairly compensate Cathy Taylor for her work as Music Coordinator. She is presently working approximately 20 hours a week. We will try to adjust her compensation to follow Synod guidelines. We certainly appreciate all of the additional work she has done to make the music in our services varied and worshipful during this time of Covid.
- L & M Steel is making the supports for the new banners to be installed at the entrance to the church. Jerry Raedeke has designed banners for each season of the church year. There will be four identical banners, two on either side of the front outdoor entrance. The hope is to have them up for Rally Sunday in September.
- The W & M Committee will be meeting in August to plan for worship services in the Sanctuary.

Social Concerns and Global Missions: Bonnie Stevens

- To date, \$950 has been received through LCC offerings designated for Global Health. Additional money is being given to make the \$1,000 available to equip and send a trained nurse or health care worker to a remote village with a focus on COVID-19 relief and improving general health care.
- Operation Sandwich. With the addition of Jenkins, Operation Sandwich operating out of LCC now provides lunches to over 60% of those served by Operation Sandwich/Bridges of Hope in the Lakes Area. Efforts to raise \$25,000 for Operation Sandwich have brought in over \$18,000 to date. Jean Kraft stated OS has lots of great and enthusiastic volunteers.
- Habitat for Humanity. Walls are now up on the Svoboda house. This week help in putting trusses is needed. Volunteers can contact Cathy Wells at Habitat.

Children and Family Ministry: Pam Johnson

- In July, so far, Kari took some time off to spend time with her kids and grandkids.
- Kari has mostly been working on preparing for our Route 56 School Back - Pack. We have supplies to make 40 LWR kits, which we will leave with the WELCA for the next time they send out kits. Members have been very generous in their donations for this project! We will also do backpacks for Forestview and for the Pequot Middle School - 8 for each. We will start with pizza and when we are finished with the kits and if weather permits, we will have a water balloon activity.

- Am prepping Confirmation with Pr. Drew and have re-organized the cinnamon roll youth fundraiser, and will be working on acquiring Confirmation Guides for this year.
- July Olympics Sunday School packets are going out tomorrow to all SS kids.
- Summer Bible Break packets went out to all 7th - 11th graders.
- Working on Compassion Camp - kids signing up already.
- Working on advertising for CLC Pantry collection.
- Looking forward to Luther Crest week!!
- Need to get Book Ends together again.

Youth and Family Ministry: Kristin Lindholm

No report

Congregational Life: Joanie Swanson

No report

Personnel: Sarah Fogderud

No report

Meeting Adjourned

Submitted by

Darrell Paske, Council Secretary

Next Council Meeting:

August 12, 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.



On June 20th, the Congregational Vote on the \$95,000 Sanctuary Project was approved plus an additional 10% for outreach programs. Consider this:



- The church sanctuary is approximately 4,500 square feet.
- Each floor tile covers approximately 1.5 square feet
- Our projected use is 3,000 tiles,
- Cost of each tile is approximately \$35.00

If you would like to donate at this time, be sure to include Sanctuary Project on the memo line of your check.

VALLEYFAIR TRIP



Fun was had by all! Thank you chaperones:
Pastor Drew, Rena Bolt & Stacey Gorr



LCC YOUTH PRESENTS



NEW!!
Order to
go by the
dozen

**First Sunday of the
Month starting
October 3**

**FRESHLY BAKED
CINNAMON ROLLS**

**...more info to come in September
Cross Currents**

**Served during Fellowship Hour
FREEWILL OFFERING**

Lutheran Church of the Cross, Nisswa

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		

