Cross Currents

Lutheran Church of the Cross 2022



The Year of Invitation: 2022

Be hospitable to one another without complaining. 1 Peter 4:9

Hospitality is a spiritual gift. It is given by the Holy Spirit, by God's grace, and it's used to serve others. It's being friendly, welcoming, and neighborly. For LCC, the gift of hospitality means we are friendly, welcoming, and neighborly without expecting anything in return. We serve others without need for an exchange, and we do so with joy!

Two years ago we had a consultant from the ELCA take a look at our facility and she offered some suggestions for us to consider, *looking through the eyes of visitors*. A strong recommendation was to examine our main entrance and be sure visitors are warmly welcomed with a greeting. Considering this, our church council and staff have discussed that relocating the Main Office to the library area would allow for Laurie, our Office Manager, to have a clear view of both the main doors and back entrance. This makes for not only a more welcoming atmosphere, but also makes the church safer, as it allows Laurie to know who enters the building. You may have noticed that as a result of this, the Library has been moved into Chapel Hall. The shelves fit perfectly, and it really warms up the space. It is a first step to moving the main office, which will happen after Easter.

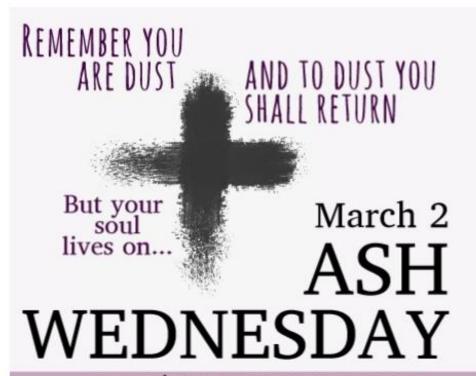
This move will have a domino effect: Kari has already begun the process of moving into the youth office; when Laurie moves to the new main office, Vicar Michelle will move into what is now the main office and Cathy will move into Vicar Michelle's office. Kari and Cathy's former office will become a work room that our staff dearly needs; instead of using the Fireside Room for work projects, it will once again function as a conference room at all times.

What is happening during Lent this year? We will be offering (drive thru) *Ashes to Go* on March 2 from 12noon to 1pm just outside the front of the church. We will have Ash Wednesday worship at 6:20pm in the sanctuary following our Youth Fund Raiser Baked Potato Bar Supper starting at 5:30pm in the Celebration Center. We will once again use *That You May Have Life* by Marty Haugen for our Lenten services, and Vicar Michelle and I will be doing a sermon series on "Sensing the Gospel: A Five-Part Series of Meditations for Lent." We invite you to join us for Soup Supper and worship Wednesday nights in person or online. Lenten Mentors will meet immediately following worship each Wednesday (note that Route 56 will not meet during Lent.) This year we urge you to join us for Palm "SUNDAE" for Super Rolls and yogurt parfaits. Holy Week will include Prayer Stations and Labyrinth Walk in Celebration Center on Wednesday all day; Maundy Thursday First Communion worship at 6:20pm; and Good Friday Tenebrae service, also at 6:20pm. Then join in our Easter Sunday Celebration at one of three Easter worship services - 7:30am and 9:00am in the sanctuary and 10:30 drive in service in our parking lot.

As you can see, amazing things are happening at LCC in 2022, and we *invite you* to join us on this remarkable journey.

Blessings,

Pastor Drew



...LET THE LENTEN JOURNEY BEGIN...

Drive-Through ASHES & COMMUNION 12noon - 1pm

Worship w/ ASHES & COMMUNION 6:20pm

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS, NISSWA

Treasurer's Report - Financial Summary 2022 General Fund

% YTD of

	<u>January</u>	YTD	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Income	\$ 71,424	\$ 71,424	\$ 688,900	10.4%
Expenses	\$ 49,222	\$ 49,222	\$ 688,900	7.2%
Difference	\$ 22,202	\$ 22,202	\$ 0	

In the month of January our income was greater than our expenses by \$22,202.

Thank you for your continued support.



BAPTISM

Name: Gianna Natalie Darnauer

Born: August 18, 2021 Baptized: February 19, 2022 Parents: Luke & Taylor Darnauer

Pr. Drew Bakken, Officiant

BAPTISM

Name: Tayton Lynn Wermager

Born: July 18, 2012

Baptized: February 13, 2022

Parents: Tonya Wermager & Codey Schellin

Pr. Drew Bakken, Officiant





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 fun activities, video, & music to start your week off on a great note!





Lent is observed as the six weeks before Good Friday. It is preceded by Mardi Gras or Fat Tuesday, the day on which observers eat the last of their fatty, rich foods so that they don't go to waste during the fasting season of Lent. The first official day of Lent is Ash Wednesday (March 2) then there are 40 days of fasting and 6 celebration days (Sundays). The timing reflects the 40 days Jesus spent in the desert, hungry and tempted by Satan.

Any family can talk about Jesus' sacrifice and celebrate his resurrection, no matter what they choose to eat on Fridays or whether they fast or give something up during Lent. It doesn't have to be an all or nothing proposition!

Lenten Projects

BAKE SOME EASY HOT CROSS BUNS!

HoT cross buns are a traditional Lenten recipe that are seasoned with spices such as cinnamon and nutmeg. They are always marked with a cross on the top. Sometimes this is dough or icing that is piped onto the bun, but sometimes the cross is simply etched in the top of the buns. They

usually have raisins or currents inside. There are many legends surrounding these buns including protecting sailors at sea, keeping evil spirits away, and never going stale or bad if they were actually baked on Good Friday. The buns were also believed by some to have healing powers. The buns are marked with a cross on the top to symbolize the crucifixion of Christ, and also the sign of the cross. The spices inside the buns represent the spices that were used during the burial process during the time of Jesus.

Ingredients Needed For Easy Hot Cross Buns:

- canned flaky biscuits
- raisins
- 2 Tablespoons melted butter
- pumpkin pie spice
- orange juice (a few tablespoons)
- powdered sugar (about 1/4 cup)

Preheat your oven to the temperate it recommends on your can of biscuits. Start by putting parchment paper into a 9×13 baking pan.

The flaky biscuits are easy to separate in the middle. Peel the top layer back about 2/3 of the way. Then place about 6-8 raising in the middle. Place the biscuit in the pan. When you have all of your biscuits with the butter and raisins, Sprinkle a bit of pumpkin pie spice inside. Fold the top of each biscuit closed, and bake according to your package directions. Fold the top of each biscuit closed, and bake according to your package directions. Take your buns out of the oven when they are golden brown. Now you should be ready to brush them with the orange glaze—mix the pwdr sugar and orange juice and brush buns with the glaze. Allow the biscuits to cool for a few minutes. Take some white cookie icing—like the kind that comes in a tube (or make your own!) make crosses with the frosting across the top of the biscuits.



Paperwhites—chase away the winter blues with some fresh green!! Grow something. Get a copy of The Parable of the Lily which is a wonderful explanation of how something wonderful can grow from something dead and ugly. There are lots of spring bulbs and seeds in stores already, so you should be able to get some paperwhite bulbs.

Find a tall clear glass container and add a 2" layer of small stones, glass pebbles or aquarium gravel. For a 6" diameter vase, use 4-5 bulbs. Place the bulbs on top of the pebbles and add water so that it comes up ONLY to the base of the bulbs (replenish as needed). Place your vase in a 60-70 degree sunny spot in your house. You should see roots within 2-3 weeks and flowers in four to six, just in time for Easter!



5pm - 6pm

Fresh, hot, fluffly baked potatoes - you add your favorite toppings - butter, sour cream, cheese, chili, brocolli, ham, chicken alfredo.

Come and support this Children, Youth, & Family Ministry Fundraiser for camperships!

FREE WILL OFFERING

ALL YOUTH SHOULD SIGN UP TO WORK A SHIFT AT OUR BAKED POTATO BAR ON ASH WEDNESDAY. WE NEED ADULT HELPERS, TOO. Pr. Drew and Kari would love to see our youth come together for this service event. By putting yourself out there and helping out, you are showing appreciation to your church family who loves and supports you so much. There are two shifts to choose from and the sign up sheet is on a tripod on display.





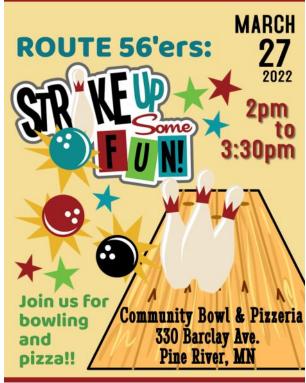
Our 8th grade team will be baking and serving cinnamon/caramel rolls on SUPER ROLL SUNDAY, March 6 in Celebration Center. All 8th graders invited to help!

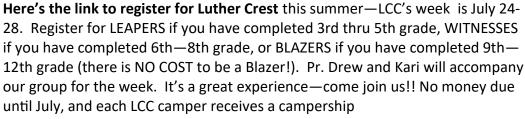
But there's also this, it's not too late—
GOD's personal Message!
—"Come back to me and really mean it! Come fasting and weeping, sorry for your sins!"

Joel 2:12, MSG

ROUTE 56 NEWS!







https://www.luthercrest.orguploads/8/0/5/9/8059210/2022 registration form.pdf

Symn of the Month

March 2022



O God, You Search Me (O GOD YOU SEARCH ME) from "All Creation Sings"

Text and music: Bernadette Farrell

I am always looking for new or old (but new to us) hymns for our congregation to sing. The criteria for me is that they are meaningful, scripture-based, and singable for a congregation. I sometimes find a good one, and sometimes they don't work as well as I would like! But I keep trying.

Last year, Augsburg came out with a new supplemental hymnal called "All Creation Sings". There are some good hymns, and some not so good, meaning hard to sing. One of the better hymns that really spoke to me is called "O God, You Search Me". It is a beautiful hymn written by Bernadette Farrell based on the Psalm 139.

Bernadette is a British hymn writer and composer of Catholic liturgical music. One of the hymns that she wrote that is in our red hymnal is "Christ Be Our Light". She studied at King's College in London and the Guildhall School of Music. All of her writings are based on scripture.

Lent is a time for us to reflect on ourselves and our relationship to God. Psalm 139 puts a lot of things in perspective for me. Psalm 139 has been one of my favorite of the psalms since I heard it at a memorial service several years ago. It is a perfect psalm that describes God's personal knowledge of each and every one of us. He created and knows everything about us. I am so awed and humbled at how he knows my every thought and deed, good or bad and still loves me. He made us in his image for us to worship and thank him. His knowledge of me is too much for me to understand or grasp the magnitude of. When I feel the weight of this world, I go to this psalm and it reminds me that God is in total control. He's got this. I know nothing of his plan for me and I would be silly to presume that I did.

A portion of Psalm 139.

O Lord, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away. You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely. You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it....For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well. How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! I try to count them—they are more than the sand; I come to the—I am still with you.

The text for "O God, You Search Me"

- 1. O God, you search me and you know me. All my thoughts lie open to your gaze. When I walk or lie down you are before me; ever the maker and keeper of my days.
- 2. You know my resting and my rising. You discern my purpose from afar, And with love everlasting you besiege me; in every moment of life or death, you are.
- 3. Before a word is on my tongue, Lord, you have known its meaning through and through.
 - You are with me beyond my understanding: God of my present, my past, and future, too.
- 4. Although your Spirit is upon me, still I search for shelter from your light. There is nowhere on earth I can escape you: even the darkness is radiant in your sight.
- 5. For you created me and shaped me, gave me life within my mother's womb. For the wonder of who I am, I praise you: safe in your hands, all creation is made new. I hope you find meaning in this beautiful hymn.

Cathy Taylor Director of Music

 $University\ of\$ The University of Jamestown Concert Choir will be touring Minnesota from March 5th-11th, 2022. UJ Concert Choir has a long-standing tradition of excellence. Students from all academic disciplines

participate in the choir. In order to achieve its mission, each member demonstrates unwavering dedication to the musical goals through exemplary attendance, rehearsal discipline, and individual vocal development.

The Concert Choir has distinguished itself in performances throughout the United States and Canada, the People's Republic of China, and in several tours throughout Europe – most recently to Italy during the summer of 2018.

The University of Jamestown Concert Choir is directed by Dr. Aaron McDermid who is the Director of Choral Activities at University of Jamestown. In addition to conducting Concert Choir and Chapel Choir, McDermid teaches applied voice, conducting, ear training, and other related classes. McDermid is also an active composer, having written 25 commissioned works for ensembles throughout the United States, including the National Lutheran Choir and The Dale Warland Singers.

The UJ Concert Choir will be performing at Lutheran Church of the Cross on March 7th, 2022 at 7:30pm.





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 every Tuesday afternoon in the old Youth room for coffee, cookies, and conversation. Come any Tuesday that you are able!



PIZZA AND GAMES - FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 5:30-7:30 PM

Come for a free dinner - Pizza and Fixin's & Dessert and Beverages - and lots of fun games! There's sure to be a game you will enjoy! Or bring your favorite game! The fun starts at 5:30 PM and ends at 7:30 PM. See you on Friday, March 18! (We had to cancel in February because of the snow, so let's hope for a great turnout in March.)

WOMEN of the WORD BIBLE STUDY

March 1 at 10 AM or March 3 at 7 PM

Join us for the March Women of the Word Bible Study on TUESDAY, March 1 at 10:00 AM in Chapel Hall or THURSDAY, March 3, at 7:00 PM in the Old Youth Room. Come for tasty treats and fun fellowship as we look at God's Word together. No preparation needed. Just come. Invite a friend - this is the Year of the Invitation! See you on Tuesday, March 1, at 10 AM or Thursday, March 3, at 7 PM!.





Thank you to Darrell Barnack, Marv Green, and Todd Whipple for the heavy lifting to move the library shelves into Chapel Hall. Thanks to Jean Olson and Lori Olson for moving/re-shelving the books. Be sure to check out the new library location in Chapel Hall!



You are invited to join other women March 9th at 10am in Chapel Hall for brunch and the Winter 2022 Gather Bible Study "The Kingdom of God" by Rev. Mark Allan Powell

March Study Theme: Eternal Life (Kingdom of God) Expression in the Gospel of John

In the fourth Gospel Jesus uses the expression "eternal life" to talk about what he calls the "kingdom of God" in the other Gospels. The phrase does not just refer to life that is eternally long, but also (indeed, especially) to life that is eternally deep and life that is endless in value and meaning. We will look at some popular passages, including John 3:16 and the story of Jesus and the woman at the well (John 4:4-26) to discover how our lives can be marked by love and purpose.

Future LCC Women of the ELCA Ministries, Events and Income Brainstorming Events March 15th and 21st

Lutheran Church of the Cross Women of the ELCA will be holding two brainstorming sessions on Tuesday, March 15, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. and Monday, March 21, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. If you are a woman and a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America you are part of Women of the ELCA. We are asking for everyone's input on how we can move forward in both our study of God's Word and God's ministry in our community and beyond. We are inviting all women to attend one of these two meetings. We'd like to grow our outreach into the community and world, and we need your ideas on how to best accomplish that goal. We are looking for all of your ideas-from one-day events to long-term, multi-year plans, and everything in between. We are also looking for your ideas on monthly meeting dates and times and how those gatherings should be structured. With your great ideas, we can further our calling to be God's hands and feet in our world.

We look forward to you joining us! Monthly copies of the Gather magazine, purchased by LCC Women of the ELCA, are available in the narthex.

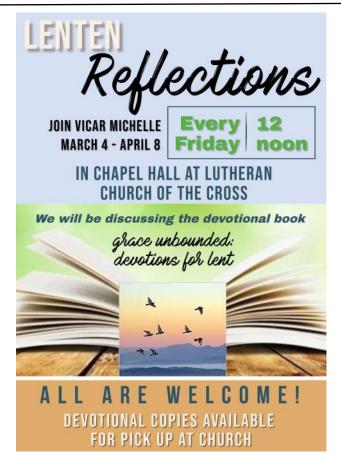


Prime Timers Meeting Thursday, March 3, 12:00 in the Celebration Center. Bring your own bag lunch; dessert and beverages will be provided.

Hosts: Ray & Betty Arveson, Mark & Judy Swenson



Our speaker will be Dan Davidson, Academic Advisor at Central Lakes College. Mr. Davidson has worked in the Admissions and Academic Advising fields for over 20 years at Central Lakes College. Mr. Davidson has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Bemidji State University as well as certification as a Master Resilience trainer through the University of Pennsylvania. He is also certified as an Emergency Manager in the State of Minnesota. Dan will be focusing on programs and classes that are available to us as students.



Lenten Reflections
begins on March 4 and
will be held each Friday
at 12noon in Chapel Hall
during Lent. Pick up a
devotional book at
church (no charge) and
bring it with you each
Friday as we go through
the week's devotions

March is MN FoodShare month.

The largest grassroots food and fund drive in the state, the MN FoodShare March Campaign brings together various community organizations, businesses, and faith communities to help stock nearly 300 food shelves statewide. To date, MN FoodShare has distributed over \$18 million to



March Campaign participating food shelves via its FoodFund. MN FoodShare envisions a MN where all residents have access to healthy food and no one struggles with food insecurity. The March Campaign addresses these issues directly and they have invited us to join their efforts and advocate for long-term solutions to food insecurity and poverty in our communities. Our local facility, the Lakes Area Food Shelf, is facing challenging times with increased food insecurity and COVID related food supply shortages. Kathy Adams is their new director and they have made some renovations to the facility and their procedures. You are encouraged to go up and tour the Food Shelf; volunteer time there if you are so moved.

We are sponsoring PACK THE PEWS and Noisy Offering on Sunday, March 20 and Wednesday March 23. You are invited to fill a bag with the most-needed items for the Lakes Area Food Shelf and bring it to church, along with your spare change:

- Tea Bags
- Ensure-type beverages for seniors
- Coffee
- Juice
- Canned Meats
- Packaged meals (Hamb. Helper, etc.)
 Tomato Sauce

- Sugar & Brown Sugar
- Spices
- Canned or packaged soups
- Cereal
- Taco Kits

We are also sponsoring a "TOILETREE" during March, collecting needed toiletry items for the Lakes Area Food Shelf:

- Toilet Paper
- Kleenex (big need)
- Body Wash/Soap
- Toothpaste & Toothbrushes
- Feminine Hygiene Items

- Paper Towels
- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Disposable Razors
- Antiperspirant/Deodorant
- Laundry Detergent

In addition, LAFS has many requests for blankets, sleeping bags, snow pants and coats.









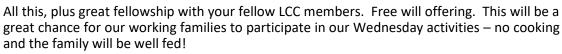


MM, MM GOOD!

Faith, family and fellowship— We will be offering a good hearty meal at 5:45 pm for you to enjoy before the Lenten Service at 6:20 pm. Lenten Meals

Here's what's on the menu:

- Healthy Salad & Dressings
- Savory Soups
- Meat & Cheese Choices w/ Dinner Rolls
- PB & J for the kids
- Cookies for dessert
- Lemonade, Milk & Water



Groups Serving Suppers:

March 2: Children, Youth, & Family: Ash Wednesday Potato Bar @ 5:00 pm

March 9: A Time For Us @ 5:45 pm March 16: Church Council @ 5:45 pm March 23: Music Ministry @ 5:45 pm March 30: Creation Care Team @ 5:45 pm Church Staff April 6: @ 5:45 pm

Sunday, April 10

9:00 AM

Palm Sunday Worship with Holy Communion

Thursday, April 14

6:20 PM - Maundy Thursday Worship with Holy Communion (First Communion)

Friday, April 15

6:20 PM - Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Sunday, April 17

7:30, 9:00 and 10:30 AM

Easter Sunday Worship with Holy Communion











All Lenten and Holy Week services will be live streamed and can be viewed via our website: lccnisswa.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	
facilit	y calenda	r for:	Ma
		9:00 Computer Lab 10:00 Women in the Word 2:00 Men's Fellowship	2 ASH WED 8:30 Text 12:00 Drive 5:00 Bake 6:20 Ash
9:00 Worship w/ Communion 10:00 Cross Kids Connection 10:00 Coffee Fellowship/Youth Rolls 11:30 Cornhole Tourney—Route 56 1:00 Piano Recital	8:30 Staff Meeting/Prayers 10:00 Ponder & Prayer 1:00 Prayer Shawl Group 7:00 JamesTown College Choir 7:00 Suicide Loss Survivor Group	9:00 Computer Lab 2:00 Men's Fellowship 5:00 Lakes Area Food Shelf Board Mtg	9 8:30 Text 10:00 Gath 5:45 Lent 6:00 King 6:20 Lent 7:00 Lent 7:00 Sr. C
13 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS 9:00 Worship w/ Communion 10:00 Cross Kids Connection 10:00 Coffee Fellowship	8:30 Staff Meeting /Prayers 10:00 Ponder & Prayer 10:00 Nisswa Garden Club Board 11:00 Soul Sisters 1:00 Prayer Shawl Group	9:00 Computer Lab 10:00 WELCA Brainstorm Event 2:00 Men's Fellowship	8:30 Tex 9:30 Qui 4:00 Cre 5:45 Len 6:00 Kin 6:20 Len 7:00 Len 7:00 Sr.
20 PACK THE PEWS 9:00 Worship w/ Communion 10:00 Cross Kids Connection 10:00 Coffee Fellowship	8:30 Staff Meeting/Prayers 10:00 Ponder & Prayer 1:00 Prayer Shawl Group 7:00 WELCA Brainstorm Event 7:00 Suicide Loss Survivor Group 7:00 People for Racial Justice	9:00 Computer Lab 10:00 Novel Ideas Book Club 2:00 Men's Fellowship	23 PACK T 8:30 Te: 5:45 Le 6:00 Kii 6:20 Le 7:00 Sr
9:00 Worship w/ Communion 10:00 Cross Kids Connection 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 2:00 Bowling & Pizza	8:30 Staff Meeting/Prayers 10:00 Ponder & Prayer 1:00 Prayer Shawl Group	9:00 Computer Lab 2:00 Men's Fellowship	8:30 Text 5:45 Len 6:00 King 6:20 Len 7:00 Len 7:00 Sr. 0

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
rch	2022		
NESDAY	3	4	5
Study e Thru Comm./Ashes d Potato Supper Wed. Worship	10:00 Toning with a Purpose 12:00 PrimeTimers 7:00 Women in the Word 7:00 A.A.	9:00 55+ Driver Discount 12:00 Lenten Reflections	Private Piano Festival
Study her Study ten Supper ts Kids ten Worship ten Mentors Choir	10:00 Toning with a Purpose 7:00 Church Council 7:00 A.A.	11 12:00 Lenten Reflections	11:00 Private Baby Shower
t Study Iters ation Care Team Mtg ten Supper g's Kids ten Worship ten Mentors Choir	17 10:00 Toning with a Purpose 7:00 A.A.	12:00 Lenten Reflections 5:30 Pizza & Game Night	19
HE PEWS	24	25	26
ct Study nten Supper ng's Kids nten Worship nten Mentors . Choir	10:00 Toning with a Purpose 12:00 Garden Club 7:00 A.A.	12:00 Lenten Reflections	
Study ten Supper g's Kids ten Worship ten Mentors Choir	9:00 MOPS 10:00 Toning with a Purpose 6:30 New Member Gathering 7:00 A.A.	March	Reminder: Before planning any meeting/event/gathering at church, call the church office for availability and scheduling. Thank you.



- Martin Baker, Mickie Deline, Judy Heslop, Bode Owen, Lyle Thell
- 2. Kinley Obe, William Winegar
- 3. Lola Chase, Mike Cowger, Jeremiah Eisenschenk, Claire Loge, Oscar Prahm
- 4. Adison Gorr
- 5. Jan Halligan, Ethan Johnson, Joshua Stark
- 6. Jeanyne Hess
- 7. Doris Bergersen, Hannah Hayes, Aiden Hernandez, Phyllis Hill, Jean Olson, Linda Van Vliet
- 8. Duane Blanck, Eric Johnson, Jed Klein, Nancy Phillips
- 9. Nick Evanson, Connie Meyers, Linda Rasinski
- 10. Dennis Hins, Abe Mrosla
- 11. Dave Endicott, Al Larson
- 12. Heather Jaeche, Jim Kottke, Marie Olness, Michael Rude, Norah Ulrich
- 13. Jackie Kottke, Karen Lara
- 14. Jeff Aga, Carol Heidmann, Diana Heikkila, Brenda Myers, Steve Osmera
- 15. Walter Prahm, Jessica Teasck, Hannah Ulrich
- 16. Emily Bachman, Eileen Holland, Tracy Olson
- 17. Harvey Anderson, Mark Hahn, Dirk Henry, Dylan Paulson, Allison Timmons

- 18. Tom Anderson, Renee Boesen, Stephanie Marquardt, Jim Swanson
- 19. Ramona Stumvoll, Olivia Trosdahl
- 20. Maria Clarine, Dawn Maine, Peter Nistler
- Drew Bakken, John Erickson, Mark Hallan, Sandy Hins, Roger Johnson, Pete Mogensen, Jerry Raedeke, Carrie Taylor, Randy Thomson, Louise Warden
- 22.
- 23.
- 24. Gail Anderson, Sharon Endicott
- 25. Chuck Carlson, Kevin Kosobud, Valdean Lueck, Judith Swenson
- 26. Karen Clarine, Sharon Holland, Linda Larson
- 27. Avery Gorr
- 28. Ella Anderson, Carol Campbell, Charlee Sullivan
- 29. Landen Brill, Judith Kuusisto, Sophie Schamber
- 30. Carolyn Blanck, Bryan Trees, Mira Van Vliet
- 31. Nancy Fischer, Krista Fogarty



RUMMAGE DONATIONS ACCEPTED STARTING FEBRUARY 1



GLADLY ACCEPTING:

SOFT GOODS:

Clean/gently used clothing, coats, bedding, towels, linens, shoes, boots, purses, belts, scarves, hats and mittens. *Please place soft goods in plastic bags*.

HARD GOODS:

Home decor, housewares, small appliances, electronics (including flat screen TVs/computer monitors), CDs/DVDs, crafts/yarn, toys, games, books, tools, sporting goods, bicycles, office supplies, bath items, pictures/artwork, funiture, lamps, lawn/garden items, outdoor items, pet supplies, etc.

Hard good should be placed in boxes or totes with lids. Items must be in working order.

NOT ACCEPTING:

Soiled or broken furniture, sofa beds, mattresses or box springs, car/booster seats, cribs, used carpet, doors/windows, tube TVs or computer monitors, encyclopedia sets, reference or text books.

WE APPRECIATE YOUR DONATIONS!

Large items or significant amount? Call Marv @ 218-537-0522 Electronics donations? Call Lyle @ 218-330-5110

A Message from our ELCA Global Missionary Russian Correspondent

Pastoral Care Seminar in Omsk

"Dear brothers and sisters! Our seminar came in handy today. I was wearing my clerical collar when a woman, a social worker for the elderly, approached me. She was worried about the health of relationships in the family of one of her clients; at one point this client asked for prayer and they prayed together using an Orthodox prayer book. She wanted to know if she did the right thing. I listened to her attentively, followed her movements and tried to understand what I was feeling. My heart didn't tell me anything ... perhaps because it was right after worship; people were still walking around, and I found it distracting.... I thought about what I should do and then remembered - the goal is not to bring her to God or to solve her problem, but to maintain a trusting relationship with her, to allow her to speak freely with another person of faith. I listened carefully and offered her words of support. She clearly felt more at peace afterwards." This note (part of a group chat in WhatsApp) illustrates one aspect of the effect of a recent seminar on pastoral care held in the ELCUSFE. Licensed Clinical Pastoral Education supervisors Anna Christ-Friedrich and Kurt Schmidt once again came to Russia to lead a seminar, where they worked with a mixed group of lay people and clergy interested in increasing their skills in pastoral counseling. The topic of the seminar was meant to be everything related to addiction, but since many of the 18 participants had little experience in pastoral care, the seminar for some served as an intense, practical introduction to this kind of ministry.



Each day's schedule was structured the same - morning prayer in the church in Omsk, breakfast, warm up, case-study discussion, theory of pastoral care, thematic group discussion, and individual consultations. Each aspect of the day was useful to participants in a different way, and they flowed naturally, one from the other.

Some quotes from the course evaluations help to demonstrate its impact:

- I have learned how important it is to listen carefully and to pay attention to facial expression, gestures, and your own feelings.
- I learned not to form an opinion of the other person so quickly and not to be so quick in my judgment of others.
- I learned that listening is better than talking and giving advice. Most of the time I don't have to (and cannot) solve another person's problems... and that's a good thing.
- It's good that we discussed very practical cases. Role-playing as a method of learning fascinated me.
- My expectations of the course were exceeded by far. There was an atmosphere of trust in which anyone could speak openly. I liked the humor and laughter.
- Though I am exhausted now, I am sorry the course has ended. I really want to learn more about psychology and communication. Anna and Kurt gave us much warmth.
- For me this week of the course was like therapy. I encountered so much kindness and friendliness in the group. God gave me this course at the right time.

LCC FOUNDATION

Go in Peace- Serve the Lord!!

The Foundation provides a way for us to witness, support and demonstrate our loyalty to the Church of Jesus Christ. The Three Mission Paths of the Foundation are Lutheran Seminaries, Feeding Hunger, and The Church. In addition the foundation serves as a fiduciary for the Remembrance and Scholarship Funds.

In 2021, Due to Covid the LCC Foundation was unable to meet and carryout it's mission. We did payout 3 scholarships to LCC Youth.

The Church Mission Path recognizes that the need for much needed "Seed Capital Funding" for short and long-term Projects and Missions as needed and addresses LCC's core values of Worship, Prayer, Stewardship, and Scripture Reading.

The Foundation remains committed to support a scholarship for an **ELCA Seminary Student** supporting him/her through their Master of Arts Seminary Education. There is an approved grant for the benefit of Vicar Michelle that will be contributed to the Seminary upon approval and acceptance.

The Foundation also will continue to support **Feeding Those Who Hunger** with support Local, National and Global hunger efforts.

The Current Balance in the Foundation is approximately \$177,000 and invested with the Brainerd Lakes Area Community Foundation.

If you have any questions about the Lutheran Church of the Cross Foundation, the Mission Paths, or how to make contributions today or through Long -Term planning, please see either Pastor or a Committee Member. A special thank you to Bob Olson and John Erickson for their many years of service to the foundation. John was one of the original committee members responsible for the formation of the Foundation with Bill Nemitz.

Thank you for your support!

JOSHUA 24:15

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



**Feb. 22 rescheduled to Feb. 28th at 10 am in Chapel Hall

Novel Ideas Book Club—March 22nd at 10:00 am, Chapel Hall

This book is grounded in meticulous research and written with a reverential approach to Jesus's life that focuses on his humanity, *The Book of Longings* is an inspiring, unforgettable account of one woman's bold struggle to realize the passion and potential inside her, while living in a time, place and culture devised to silence her. It is a triumph of storytelling both timely and timeless, from a masterful writer at the height of her powers.

ON THE MOVE

The library has moved! You'll now find the bookcases, books and materials from the library on the east wall of Chapel Hall and the book return basket on a small table across from there in the hallway. The "old" library location will become Laurie's new office at some point and time in the future.



Please bear with us as we work through this new arrangement to make the library welcoming for our members of all ages. As always, we are open to any and all suggestions that you may have.

Thank you,

Jean and Lori





Quilters will start meeting again beginning March 16th at 9:30 in the conservatory. Will continue to meet the first and third Wednesday of each month.

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.



Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen News

A huge Thank You to Marie Olness and crew for serving at the Soup Kitchen in January and to David and Julie Anderholm for serving in February. The Soup Kitchen is serving between 850-900 guests a month.

We are also providing around 150 breakfast/lunch bags, a month, to those staying at the new warming shelter. Each guest receives a bag as the leave in the morning. Each bag has the soup kitchen mealtimes on it so they know where to go for another meal. We are extremely thankful for Bridges of Hope for heading up the warming shelter project giving those facing homelessness in our community a warm place to sleep for the night.







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





CREATION CARE



February 2022 LCC Council Highlights

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS Church Council Meeting Thursday, February 17, 2022

We Assemble in God's Name

Devotion: Dave Endicott

Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Council President David Endicott

Present:

Mike Smith, Colleen Both, Darrell Paske, Pastor Bakken, Vicar Ruen, Dale Peterson, Bonnie Stevens, Rachel Gerhart, Jenny Stubbs.

Absent:

Brian Stubbs, Sarah Tietz, Joanie Swanson.

Guests:

Guests were to be from WELCA for proposal discussion, but were unable to attend February's meeting. A motion was made for a change in the agenda to include council discussion of WELCA's submitted written proposal.

- •Motion to approve by Mike Smith; Second by Bonnie Stevens; Motion Passed.
- •As a meeting with WELCA in regards to its proposal was postponed, a motion was made for council to advance approximately \$1,000 to the rummage sale committee so they may have the funds necessary to begin the groundwork for the upcoming Spring Rummage Sale.
- •Motion to approve by Bonnie Stevens; Second by Darrell Paske; Motion Passed.

Officer Reports:

Council Minutes by Darrell Paske (January 2022)

- Motion to approve Mike Smith; Second Dale Peterson; Motion Passed Treasurer's Report by Colleen Both (January 2022)
 - Motion to approve Bonnie Stevens; Second Dale Peterson; Motion Passed

New Business:

- Church Council will serve the March 16 Lenten Supper.
- Church Council members able to serve March 3 at the Soup Kitchen coordinate with Bonnie Stevens.
- A task force will be formed to create up to date council member job descriptions.

Old Business:

- *Library has been moved to Chapel Hall. Main church office will move to that space, allowing greater accessibility and visibility for safety and hospitality reasons.
- *Constitution Update Committee is fully formed and will begin work mid March.

Pastors' Reports Pastor Drew:

• We started out the new year with our new church theme "The Year of Invitation". For the last two years we have been asking people to stay home and stay safe. As we continue to live with the COVID virus we are also learning about necessary precautions and also how much we have missed and our need for community. This year we are asking our congregation to intentionally invite those that they

- have not seen to come back to church whether it is for in-person worship, activities, and checking in on friends that they have not seen in a while. Just like our youth missed and needed their school community, we need our church community to be together once again.
- As we look into the new year, I have been in discussion with Deacon Colleen Berneau, our synod director of emerging ministries, to be a part of the Vital Congregation Reboot. I will be gathering a group of 3-5 people to watch a series of videos that have come out of the ELCA and to answer some questions about our congregation and our ministry. We will then become a part of a group of churches that will form the NEMN Synod Vitality Network. Through the network, we will continue the work of building a congregational community grounded in mission and ministry so that we all can experience congregational vitality.
- After nearly 2 years of interruption I feel that it would be a good idea to reflect on where we have been and to help give us a direction to the future. As we all know things have changed in our lives and we need to re-evaluate what we have done and what we are called to do in the future. I am looking forward to these conversations and to the future ministry here at LCC. We have had a wonderful start to the new year. Thank you all for your help, prayers and support.

Vicar Michelle:

- Joanie Swanson (Congregational Life church council rep), Sally Hodgson (volunteer coordinator),
 Carol Smith (small group leader), and I met in January to talk about Congregational Life &
 Fellowship, Small group, Servant, and Interest Group offerings for winter/spring of 2022. We shared
 about the happenings that are going on now, and possible future ideas. It was a great discussion. The
 Winter/Spring brochure is being updated and will be put on the bulletin board on the hallway bulletin
 board.
- In honor of 2022 being **The Year of Invitation** at LCC each group will give a Temple Talk at the beginning of the church service in the coming months to share with Sunday worshippers and online worshippers what their group offers, how to become involved, and an invitation to join in.
- The *A Time For Us* group, parents of confirmation and Route 56 students, continues to meet on Wednesday evenings. We will be serving dinner and cleaning up on March 9 during Lent. It's a great group of parents.
- Pastor Drew and I will be tag-teaming Wednesday night services during Lent, which will be held in the sanctuary, using a series based on the five senses during the Lenten journey. I will preach on Ash Wednesday, March 2.
- During Lent, I will be facilitating Lenten Reflections on Fridays at noon in our chapel hall (our new library area). This is in lieu of Stonehouse Fridays. Because of covid, it was decided people could spread out more in the chapel hall. Come and join us on Fridays at 12:00, March 4 April 8. The sanctuary will be open afterwards on Friday afternoons for a time of personal and quiet meditation for anyone interested.
- The Novel Idea Book Club has picked out books for the rest of the year. Stop by the office, look in the newsletter, or check out the bulletin board for upcoming dates and titles of books, so you can read ahead. Come join us.
- The Visitation ministry is going well. I continue to visit with parishioners in their home. Everyone I meet, visit with, share communion with, etc. has been so endearing. LCC is a church filled with wonderful people!
- I am in my final two classes of seminary *The Gospels and Lutheran Confessions*. Both are online and on ZOOM. They involve much reading and writing but are awesome classes that I am enjoying.
- Thank you again to Pastor Drew, the church council, and the good people of LCC for this wonderful opportunity to serve you during my Internship.

Committee Reports:

Property: Dale Peterson

No report

Stewardship:

No report

Worship and Music: Brian Stubbs

Committee met last Sunday 2/6/22

Sound system training is being requested from the crews, who now have enough experience to know what questions to ask. There was talk about 6 weeks of training/support and we are in hopes that it can still be utilized, as a rep only came to help during services about 3 or 4 times.

Lent and Holy Week discussions, as well.

Questions from committee about service times on Easter Sunday and afterwards. Will relay concerns to pastoral staff for review.

Social Concerns and Global Missions: Bonnie Stevens

LCC has received a thank you from ELCA Global Missions for our support of Pastor Bradn Buerkle.

Children and Family Ministry: Rachel Gerhartz

- Religious Release Packs for Eagle View
- Cross Kids on Sundays thanks so much to Pr. Drew for taking the kids on the Sunday when Kari was out of town the kids loved it!
- Our Youth Parking Event for the fishing tourney was a success thanks to Pr. Drew and some very dedicated adults and kids.
- Super Roll Sundays continue to be successful. We've been able to collect \$275 or more each Sunday.
- Our CFM Team has served Weds. night meals.
- Route 56 continues to meet each Weds. and we are having great discussions. Will tackle the Lord's Prayer after our Care Package prep night.
- Looking for Lenten Mentors for our Confirmation Students. All Council members are cordially invited to participate:-))
- Kari redesigned the 9th Grade Confirmation Outcome project we're calling it "Walking Wet". It's the basis for the kids' presentations before they Affirm their Baptism.
- We continue to have more baptisms which is wonderful!!
- Camp Sign up is going well early bird deadline is Feb. 14. We hope to get at least a dozen kids to go with us again.
- Started Baked Potato Bar preparations and have materials all prepped for Lenten Mentors, which
 includes a Prayer Wall activity for the entire congregation.
- Held Game Day Afternoon and it was very fun had great conversations with moms and a possible new family:-))
- Got our mailer for Summer Stretch developed and ready to go will be meeting with Brainerd area youth directors/pastors on Thursday morning.
- Pr. Drew and Kari attended the Pequot church/school meeting on Tues.
- LCC serves the lunch at Chat and Chow this Friday at Gloria Dei hope to get some kids to attend. So far, there has been no participation.
- During Holy Week Kari has materials prepped for our Labyrinth prayer stations "Stations of the Seven Last Words of Jesus". Each station includes a manipulative for folks to take with them so that they can recreate the experience at home as a preparation for Easter Sunday.

- Pastor Drew and Kari got letters in the mail to targeted youth inviting them to become part of our Youth Leadership Team.
- Thanks to staff members Laurie Hemish and Cathy Taylor, we got the wallpaper border removed from the youth office in preparation for painting which will happen in the coming weeks.
- The CFM team will be participating in the rotation of serving Soup and Sandwiches during Lent.
- Kari just received the new ELCA World Hunger VBS materials. This year's theme is "Tree of Healing". This program allows kids to consider what health means and how God invites us to share in the building of a just world where all can enjoy the gifts of God's creation it offers a broad understanding of health and wellness. Features are environmental health, mental health, healthy grieving, different abilities and health justice. Kari would suggest that we offer evening sessions much like we did last year. She also still has units from Compassion Camp that we can look at organizing as well.

Youth and Family Ministry: Sarah Tietz

No Report

Congregational Life: Joanie Swanson

- An update of the Warming Shelter needs was obtained and may be placed in collection bins located in the hallway outside the Celebration Center. (if you have questions, please ask Pastor Drew, church office, Bonnie Stevens or myself for this list.)
- Met with Vicar Michelle, Sally Hodgson and Carol Smith to go over The Small Groups brochure for corrections or additions going forward of the various groups and bible studies that were listed on the fall 2021 Edition.

Personnel: Mike Smith

No report

Meeting Adjourned Submitted by Jenny Stubbs, Council Secretary

Next Council Meeting: March 10, 2022 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.



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.

Welcome to Saint Cloud State University's **Driver Discount Program**

For Drivers Over 55 Years of Age

GET 10% OFF YOUR CAR INSURANCE! FOR 3 YEARS!

8-HOUR CLASS FOR FIRST-TIME STUDENTS 4-HOUR REFRESHER COURSE FOR RETURNING STUDENTS

TO REGISTER FOR THESE OR OTHER CLASSES IN YOUR AREA CALL THE NUMBER BELOW OR VISIT WWW.DRIVERDISCOUNTPROGRAM.COM!

Lutheran Church of the Cross: Masks required

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

Minnesota Highway and Safety Research Center 1-888-234-1294 1-320-308-1400

Minnesota Highway and Safety Research Center 1805 US HWY 10 S Saint Cloud, MN 56304 1-888-234-1294

1-320-308-1400

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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 legib	ply
# plants donated at \$15 = _	<u>\$</u>
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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

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Welcoming all people into discipleship

STAFF

Pastor Drew Bakken 218-961-2014 Michelle Ruen 218-961-2013 Vicar 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

Organist

Bell Choir Director

King's Kids

Bell Choir Director

Cheryl Karlgaard

Carol Smith

Custodian Todd Whipple 218-963-2564

ELCA Global Missionary Bradn Buerkle

LCC Office Laurie Hemish 218-961-2011

2022 CHURCH COUNCIL

President Dave Endicott **Bonnie Stevens** Social Justice/Global Vice President Mike Smith Worship & Music **Brian Stubbs** Treasurer Sarah Tietz Colleen Both Youth Darrell Paske Secretary Jenny Stubbs Stewardship

Cong. Life Joanie Swanson
Children/Family Rachel Gehartz
Properties Dale Peterson

