

Cross Currents

Lutheran
Church
of the Cross
2023

November



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

God gives us blessings that most of us take for granted. Every morning we are able to breathe is because God ordains it. The Word says to be thankful for everything and to daily remember the magnificent things God's grace has given us. When we praise God for all he has done for us, we are to do it in the name that is above all names: that of our precious Savior, Jesus Christ. What are you most thankful for today?

Lutheran Church of the Cross has much to be thankful for this Fall:

A Fall Rummage Sale that blessed our community and raised almost \$40,000 for world and local charities and church ministries. Thank You, God for the Rummage Sale leaders and the volunteers who were Your hands and feet this Rummage Sale.

Will Steger, a formidable and world renowned voice calling for care of the Arctic and the earth, spoke on October 7 to a community gathering of over 300 people at Lutheran Church of the Cross hosted by our Creation Care Team. Thank You, God, for your beautiful creation and for our Creation Care Team who made this possible.

Our Fall programming has begun with Fellowship groups, Bible Studies, Book Clubs, Small Groups, Servant Groups, Senior Choir, King's Kids, & Bell Choir, Parent groups, Cross Kids, Route 56, and Confirmation. Please take a Small Group brochure to see what we are offering this year at LCC. Thank You, God, for opportunities to fellowship together as we worship and serve You.

A handicapped ramp will be installed in the back of our church, along with new doors. Thank You, God, for the generous donors who gave to this worthy project so that our fundraising goal has already been met.

We had sixteen people who joined our Lutheran Church of the Cross family in October. Thank You, God, for our wonderful new members and we ask that they will be blessed and nourished here - blessed to be a blessing.

See you in church!

Thanksgiving Blessings,

Pastor Michelle Ruen



FALL BACK

Turn your clocks back one hour at bedtime Saturday night and get an extra hour of sleep for worship on **Sunday, Nov. 5th!** Test and replace batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.



All Saints Sunday, November 5th at 9:00 & 10:30 am. Join us as we remember those who have died in Christ this past year and are now held in our Lord's Easter promise. While the prelude is playing, you may go forward and light a candle in honor of a saint who has gone before you.

In observance of Veteran's Day, we will honoring our veterans of US Armed Forces during worship on Sunday, November 12th.



YEAR END GIVING

For those of you considering year-end giving which involve retirement accounts (ie: IRS's, 401K's, etc); the normal process can take up to several weeks to convert funds. We suggest you contact your financial institution early December. Please use the correct mailing address: LCC P O Box 29 Nisswa, MN 56468 All giving dated 12/31/2023 will be credited to statements if received by 1/02/2024. Please be aware the Postal Service has indicated there will be up to a five day delay in receiving 1st Class mail.



Treasurer's Report - Financial Summary 2023 General Fund

	<u>September</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Budget</u>	Annual Annual
Income	\$ 37,964	\$ 509,623	\$ 699,490	72.86%
Expenses	\$ 56,255	\$ 530,309	\$ 699,490	75.81%
Difference	(\$ 18,290)	(\$ 20,686)	\$ 0	

**In the month of September our income was less than our expenses by (\$18,290).
Thank you for your continued support.**



FUNERAL

Name: Rosalie Gulbrandson
Born: December 31, 1930
Died in Christ: September 25, 2023
Funeral: October 1, 2023
Brenny Funeral Chapel
Pastor Drew Bakken, Officiant

FUNERAL

Name: Vonnie Strand
Born: July 20, 1932
Died in Christ: October 1, 2023
Funeral: October 5, 2023
Lutheran Church of the Cross
Pastor Drew Bakken, Officiant
Pastor Michelle Ruen, Officiant

FUNERAL

Name: Steve Lienke
Born: January 17, 1953
Died in Christ: September 4, 2023
Funeral: October 6, 2023
Lutheran Church of the Cross
Pastor Michelle Ruen, Officiant

BAPTISM

Name: Landon Joseph Gorton
Born: August 7, 2014
Baptized: October 1, 2023
Parents: Travis & Simone Aune
& Tyler Mortenson
Pastor Michelle Ruen, Officiant
Pastor Drew Bakken, Officiant

BAPTISM

Name: Weston Jay Aune
Born: November 26, 2021
Baptized: October 1, 2023
Parents: Travis & Simone Aune
Pastor Michelle Ruen, Officiant
Pastor Drew Bakken, Officiant

BAPTISM

Name: Oakley Forest Aune
Born: May 26, 2023
Baptized: October 1, 2023
Parents: Travis & Simone Aune
Pastor Michelle Ruen, Officiant
Pastor Drew Bakken, Officiant

Salt and Light by Kari Erickson

The holiday season is fast approaching, and for many of us, it means perhaps resuming most of our family traditions that had been modified or cancelled during the pandemic. It may require effort to not get caught up in the frenzy that comes with this time of year.

A good way to start out is by reminding our children just what the holidays are all about. Sharing what this time of year means to you can go a long way in setting the tone. Children are very perceptive, and usually can identify someone in their class or school who may benefit from a boost during the holidays. Perhaps it's as simple as asking them along for a holiday event, or simply inviting them over for supper or a play date. Each time you reiterate that a kind gesture and giving is the reason for the season, you are helping instill a habit that children will develop.

Continue or bring back traditions to stress the importance of family at holiday time. Be sure to include some family nights with no devices or TV – play games, start a jigsaw puzzle, bake cookies, or make your own pizzas!

As you gather as a family – at mealtimes, perhaps – stress that Thanksgiving and Christmas are much bigger than any gifts we can receive. Discuss ways to help others in need and help your children develop a sense of perspective that not all children live in the same environment. Be open and honest and consider volunteering together with your children during the holiday season. Have them help to brainstorm ways you can reach out to others. Stress that ***giving at this time of year especially – can be even more rewarding than receiving.***

Here's an idea I found that I thought was really neat: hang a plain white stocking alongside all of the decorated ones. During the holidays, add slips of paper to the stocking; on the slips of paper, write down things you are grateful for, or perhaps something someone did for you that was kind (Christ-like), or where you saw God that day. Then, on Christmas Eve, have an adult take the stocking down and read through the notes. As you read through them, discuss how these things are our gifts to Jesus, and that He is the greatest gift of all.



Ever wonder what it's like to be a teenager in today's world? Here's a list of some of the things today's teens face from the *American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry*:

- School demands and frustrations
- Negative thoughts or feelings about themselves
- Changes in their bodies
- Problems with friends and/or peers at school
- Unsafe living environment/neighborhood
- Separation or divorce of parents
- Chronic illness or severe problems in the family
- Death of a loved one
- Moving or changing schools
- Taking on too many activities or having too high expectations
- Family financial problems

Remember the promises we made to our Confirmands a few weeks ago? As a church family, part of our responsibility in upholding those promises is to support our teens in developing coping skills that they can use to feel more in control of their emotions. This will serve them well as we help them prepare for adulthood. Not only will they do better in school, but coping skills will help build self-esteem and self-motivation. Remember that their brains are still developing – and when you throw in physical changes and higher emotions, it can result in a perfect storm of sorts. Over the last couple of months, I have written about the importance of relational ministry with our youth. How having an adult or adults in church with whom they build a relationship is vital to their faith formation. In building these mentoring relationships, it's natural to discuss feelings now and then. Here's some tips to use in discussing difficult topics with teens:

Help them to name the feeling or emotion they are feeling.

Recognize and validate the intensity of the feelings.

Acknowledge positive and negative emotions.

Discuss how their reaction and response can have both short- and long-term outcomes.

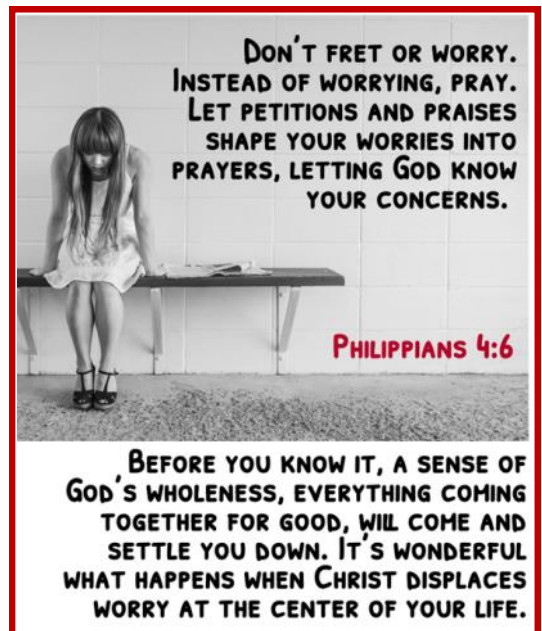
Offer up some healthy coping skills or activities, and remind them that both physical and mental exercise is appropriate.

Be sure they know that you have their back and that asking for help is okay.

Share ways that you have used your faith to help in coping with stress.

It has always been hard to be a teen, but dealing with social media and the pandemic have made it even more of a challenge. By reaching out and supporting our teens, we can help them build some coping skills to put into their toolboxes. We can help foster resilience and overall well-being.

<https://www.salteffect.com/coping-skills-for-teens-how-to-manage-stress-and-emotions/>



Thanksgiving Praise and PIE!

Lord, you are my God, and I thank you. My God, I praise you! Praise the LORD because he is good. His faithful love will last forever. Psalm 118:28-29

- What does it mean to say, 'I praise you'?
- What does forever mean to you?
- How does it make you feel to know that God's love lasts forever?
- What Thanksgiving traditions do you have at home to thank God?
- In what ways can we remember to continually give thanks to God?



Read the psalm and discuss the questions above. Then get ready to make some...

...PRAISE PUMPKIN PIE

Use pre-made graham cracker mini crusts for this recipe. You will also need canned pumpkin pie mix, marshmallow crème and whipped cream.

For each pie, mix together 2 T. pie mix, 2 T. marshmallow crème, and 1 T whipped cream. Gently mix together and spoon into crust. Refrigerate for 15 min., top with a dollop of whipped cream, and enjoy.

ALL SAINTS DAY

The day after Halloween, celebrated in worship on November 5. All Saint's Day is a day to remember those who have gone before us and now live in heaven. A "hallow" was a saint or holy person – that's why the day BEFORE All Saints Day was called "All Hallows Eve," later known as "Halloween."

It is important to get together with our church family to remember those who have gone before us, as it helps us in our faith formation. It helps us remember that all people are saints, that we don't forget them and how their lives taught us how to live for God, and that our lives matter. During worship on November 5, everyone will be invited to come forward and light a candle for someone who has passed away. Candles signify the light of Christ – that even though loved ones have passed away, the light of their spirit still burns in us.



"We are part of God's endless creation; each of us a strand of yarn. God knits us together to create beauty, warmth, protection, and comfort in the world as we walk through life alongside one another. Not one of us is left out. Celebrating All Saints' Day [teaches us that we], too, are a strand in God's ongoing masterpiece."



At our last meeting on October 16, we checked out another location for our playground and received an update on some recent donations for this relocation project. It is heartwarming to know that our congregation is willing to invest in our younger families and children. As for location, Pastor Drew suggested the area behind the Celebration Center. There is an unused area next to the sidewalk that leads to the dumpsters that is currently filled with landscaping rock. We also discussed using one parking space (farthest from the road toward the sidewalk) and removing the landscaping bushes that are against the building. We will be looking into the possibility of relocating the dumpster and recycling bins to the back doors near the kitchen, too. We will contact Drey Loge to get his opinion/suggestions. The concrete pad that the dumpster currently sits on could possibly be used for some sort of seating for adults accompanying/supervising kids while they play, and would provide a place for plowed snow in the winter. Locating the playground to this area would give us a roughly 30' x 30' space for equipment. Jon Henke will reach out to his designers to come up with a new plan for this new space and size. We will still keep our natural theme and be sure to include manipulative installations that can be enjoyed by kids of all abilities. Since it is adjacent to the parking lot, we will look into fencing for this installation as well. This particular location is desirable, as it is easily accessible via the Celebration Center back door, and is also visible from the road so that people will know that we are kid and family friendly/welcoming. A concern was brought up that we would likely have to add some sort of window in the door to increase visibility. At this time, we have approximately \$25,000 accrued to get this project started (many thanks to generous donors and the Rummage Sale Committee), which we expect will not exceed \$50,000 total, and our goal is to begin work in the spring. Our next meeting will be on November 6 at 5:30pm.

Playground Task Force Members include Jon Henke, Kari Erickson, Pastor Drew, Todd Whipple, Maureen Schmidt, Laura Raedeke, Dale Peterson, Danae Anderson, Sherry Pape, Alanna LeBlanc, Julie Helsene, & Jean Kraft.



November 26 is a special day in the church year – it's Christ the King Sunday! Now, we all know that Kings wear royal robes, a crown and carry a scepter, and all of these things represent power and authority. Kings also have lots of treasure – gold and jewels. BUT WAIT A MINUTE – that does not describe Christ at all! He did not look or act like the kind of king described above...

Jesus wore a simple robe and sandals, and his crown was one of thorns. He didn't carry a scepter, He carried a cross. He didn't have

lots of gold and jewels, either. But what Jesus DID have was US – our love and our hearts – something much more valuable than gold and jewels.

Jesus is the King of:

- ◇ Heaven
- ◇ Love
- ◇ Sacrifice

Jesus is the BEST kind of King, who wants to give us forgiveness, love, heaven, and eternal life. So this year on November 26, let's all thank God for sending us Christ the King!

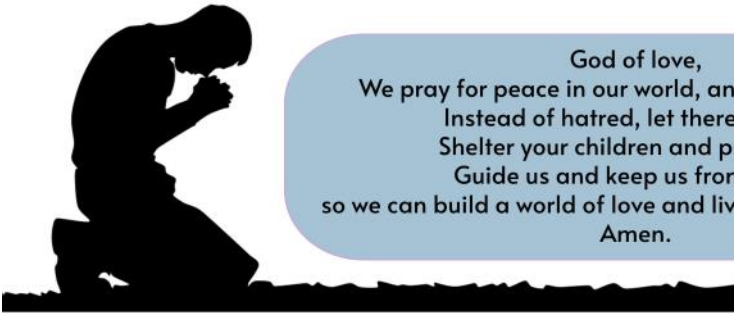
Dear God, thank you for being the kind of King who doesn't want gold and power and treasure, but a King who wants our hearts and love. Thank you for being a King who wants to give everything that is good to his people, and to us, his little children. Thank you for having Christ the King go to the cross for each one of us, to wash away our sins. And thank you for the home is preparing for us in heaven. Amen

<https://sermons4kids.com/sermons/christ-the-king-sunday>

Nov. 5	Rebecca Bakken & Emersyn Sullivan	Graham Johnson & Noah Johnson
Nov. 12	Bennett Wottreng & Jude Anderson	Emmet Wilson & Jemma Anderson
Nov. 19	Sam Andrist & Mac Chandler	Eli Hayes & Claire Loge
Nov. 26	Kolten Hiles & Lauren Scott	Lola Chase & Addy Gorr
Dec. 3	Kolby Clarine & Peyton Clarine	Kolten Hiles & Jacob Hernandez
Dec. 10	Graham Johnson & Noah Johnson	Anthony Nelson & Alex Pape
Dec. 17	Maggie Prahm & Walter Prahm	Luke Merseth & Eli Martini
Dec. 24	Hazel Schwanke & Jonah Schwanke	
Dec. 31	Isaac Trees & Kellan Timmons	Emily Smith & Soren Nordby



**ACOLYTES
FOR
NOVEMBER
AND
DECEMBER**



God of love,
 We pray for peace in our world, and an end to war.
 Instead of hatred, let there be love.
 Shelter your children and protect us.
 Guide us and keep us from harm,
 so we can build a world of love and live our lives in peace.
 Amen.

The GREATEST COMMANDMENT: Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength; and love your neighbor as yourself. This love is one that looks like listening, keeping God's commandments for the sake of personal and communal wellbeing. It is also a love that looks like kindness, generosity, and respect for our neighbors — and in particular, it looks like letting go of "vengeance" and "bearing grudges." Our heart is our affection. Our soul is our spirit, our conscience - it's what makes us alive. Our mind is our brain, the part that thinks things through. Our strength is our will, our desire and commitment. All these things must be devoted to God.

As a bloody, heartbreaking war breaks out in Israel and Gaza, and as a divisive election season in the United States heats up, this kind of love is worth underscoring.

Let's face it, the Bible boils down to LOVE.

1 Corinthians 16:14 - "Do everything in love."

Loving God with all we've got takes paying attention to Him and KEEP paying attention to Him. Sometimes we are easily distracted. But worshiping with others in church helps us stay focused - we help each other practice paying attention so that it becomes easier for us to focus on God when we do have distractions. We need to encourage and support each other. Just keep practicing and you will get better at it!

ALL CROSS KIDS are invited to be a part of our Christmas Pageant, A Reader's Theater Christmas Story, read by our older youth. We will present it as part of our Musical Extravaganza on December 10 at our 10:30am worship service in Celebration Center. No rehearsals required—just come up when Kari calls you and you will make all of the wonderful animal sounds and get a front row seat for all of the wonderful performances. You will get an extra-special Take Home Faith Bag that day, too!

Music Notes



November 2023 Hymn of the Month

Let Us Enter In (LET US ENTER IN)

Text and Music: Ray Makeever (b. 1943)

1. Let us enter in to the song of thanksgiving and freedom.
Let us enter in to the long line of people in need.
Let us enter in to the strong mind that God is still living.
Healing, forgiving—Let us enter in.
2. Let us enter in to the place where our God has preceded.
Let us enter in to the face of the fear and the pain.
Let us enter in to the grace of the love when it's needed.
Death is defeated! Let us enter in.
3. Let us in to the heart of a world that is broken.
Let us enter in to the start of a hope we can share.
Let us enter in to the part where we call one another
Sister and brother. Let us enter in.

Ray Makeever©1983 Augsburg Fortress; OneLicense#A-704268

Let Us Enter In is a hymn that I found in the newest hymn supplement, *All Creation Sings*. It is found in the section for “Sending” hymns, but I think it is also very appropriate as a Gathering hymn. I also think that it is a wonderful hymn for November when we take time to thank our living God for family, church creation, and everything else we are given.

Ray Makeever, the author and composer of this hymn, was born in Joliet, Illinois and grew up in Ottawa. He studied at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa and Luther Northwestern Theological Seminary in St. Paul. Since 1972 he has been a Lutheran campus pastor at the University of Minnesota, a Consultant for Men’s Issues for the American Lutheran Church, an associate for worship and music at Augsburg College in Minneapolis, and music director at Westwood Lutheran Church in St. Louis Park and Trinity Lutheran Congregation in Minneapolis. He left pastoral ministry to spend time as a song leader and songwriter. He still performs in leading worship and in concerts. He currently lives with his wife in Minneapolis.

My prayer for you is that you all have a blessed November and especially Thanksgiving. Give thanks to God.

“Be filled with the spirit, as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.” Ephesians 5:18b-20

Cathy Taylor, Director of Music Ministries



Thursday, November 9th at 12:00 Noon

November PrimeTimers will meet on **Thursday, Nov 9, at 12:00 NOON**. Bring a sack lunch and we will provide the dessert and coffee/lemonade. We will discuss programming for 2024 and then, have a fun time with those that would like to stay to play cards. Put your thinking cap on and bring any and all ideas for next year's programs. Bring your lucky deck of cards.

Drey Loge with Waste Partners gave an excellent program on recycling at the October PrimeTimers. Thank you, Drey.



Festival of Tables
12-1-2023
Let's kick off the Christmas season with food and fellowship
Ticket sales begin on November 4, and cost \$15 per person.
Speak to Stacy Grothem if you have questions or would like to host a table.

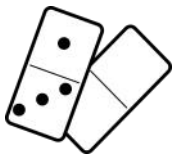
WOMEN in the WORD Bible Study

Join us for a special time in **Bible Study on Tuesday, Nov. 7**, at **10:00 AM and 7:00 PM**. Come for tasty treats, good coffee, and thoughtful conversation as we look deeper into God's Word. No homework or preparation needed. Come join in the fun with wonderful sisters-in-Christ. See you on November 7 in the Chapel Hall for Bible Study!



Men's Breakfast

Come join the guys for breakfast and a short Bible Study on Thursday mornings at Side Track restaurant on #371 every **Thursday at 8:15 AM**. All men are welcome. Come when you can.

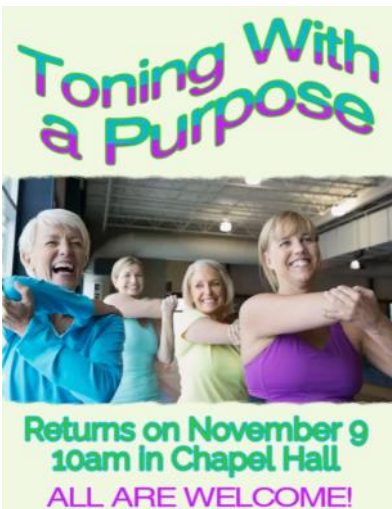


Grub and Games - Friday, November 17

Do you like to play cards and games? Lots of games and fun and good food on **Friday, November 17, 5:30-7:30 PM**. It all takes place in the Celebration Center. Join in the fun.

A Time For Us for Parents - Wednesdays - 7:00-8:00 PM

A Time for Parents began a Book Study, *Parenting - Fourteen Gospel Principles that Can Radically Change Your Family* by Paul David Tripp, on October 25. Includes a book, short video, and discussion guide. We meet on Wednesdays from 7:00-8:00 PM during Confirmation and Route 56 in the Old Youth Room/Conservatory. Led by Pastor Michelle.



Toning with a Purpose begins on Thursday, **November 9th**, at **10:00am**. Join us every Thursday from **10:00—11:00am** in Chapel Hall for an hour of toning using bands and weights as we work on our core and balance. You are welcome and encouraged to work at your own intensity level. All women and men are welcome! Instructor and Lead Teacher: Gloria Thomas.



Women of the Cross/Women of the ELCA Quarterly Meeting November 14, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. Please plan on attending this important quarterly business meeting on Tuesday, November 14, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. where we will be discussing our upcoming events, distribution of charitable donations, and election of 2024 officers. All women are invited to attend.

Gather Bible Study—November 22, 2023 @ 10:00 a.m. in Chapel Hall

Please join us on Wednesday, November 22, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. for session 3 of “*Holy places,*” a three-session Bible study by the Rev. Dr. Meghan Johnston Aelabouni. In this Fall 2023 Gather Bible study, written by an ELCA missionary living in Jerusalem, we’ll explore what holy places mean, not only for the Holy Land of the Bible, but for each of us, wherever we may be. In session three, “*Holy Places: Pilgrimage,*” we will discuss that pilgrimage, a journey to a sacred place, is a spiritual practice with a long history in Christianity (and many other religions). In the Bible, pilgrimage is not only about the destination, but also about the “holy place” of the journey itself. Considering the journey of the Magi, the walk to Emmaus, and Jesus’ arrival in Jerusalem, we’ll ponder how pilgrimage can inspire, challenge, and transform our faith and our lives. Pastor Michelle will be leading this timely Bible Study, and Joan Roberts will be providing treats. All are welcome, and no advance preparation is necessary.

DONATIONS NEEDED

Local School Personal Care Supplies

With school back in session in the area comes a great need for **travel-size** (NOT HOTEL SIZE) personal care items: shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, deodorant, and soap as well as **full-size** toothbrushes and feminine regular size pads (not tampons). Please bring to our Gather Bible Studies, our November Quarterly meeting, or leave in the church office.

Christmas Trees of Sharing

The Christmas Trees of Sharing will begin the Sunday after Thanksgiving. Please prayerfully consider taking one or more ornaments to help someone in need. There is more need in our community than ever.



Women’s Christmas Party – Baby Care Kits

The annual Women’s Christmas Party is December 16, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. We are collecting donations for our layette kits to be prepared that day. We are asking for donations of **NEW**: (1) diapers, (2) t-shirts (no onesies); (3) gowns without feet, (4) dark-colored hand towels, and (5) **bath-sized** bars of Ivory Soap. A drop-off will be located in the Narthex, or you may bring them to our Gather Bible Studies or our November quarterly meeting.



Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen News

If you would like to help me at the soup kitchen the first Thursday of every month serving on behalf of LCC, call or text me at 218-820-5511.

Ann Bergin, LCC Soup Kitchen coordinator

LCC's week at the Shelter October 1 to October 8 went well. The empty slots were mostly Friday and Saturday. Thank you to those who filled the volunteer slots. A Huge plus for the staff this year is the on-site washer and dryer.

The next volunteer week for Lutheran Church of the Cross is December 2 to December 10. Please watch the bulletin and newsletter for the link to Who Can Be There. Morning shifts are 6:30 to 8:30. Evening shift is 6:45 to 10.

Needs include coffee cups, Ramen and oatmeal in packets.



THANK YOU to our church family who have stepped up to fill our donation baskets with lots of healthy food for the friends and neighbors using the Lakes Area Food Shelf. Usage continues to grow. This Fall the food shelf saw a record-setting 57 families in one day. But it was topped with 70 households just a couple weeks later. The LAFS has seen 317 new families since the beginning of the year. Keep donating breakfast cereal, canned meats, vegetables and fruit, and peanut butter. We also like to include low sodium, low sugar, and gluten-free products on the shelves. Please consider including a couple extra items in your grocery cart for the Lakes Area Food Shelf.

Monetary donations through your church giving or by going online are also appreciated.

Jean Kraft

LAFS Board Member

Update
your
Information



If you would like to receive weekly eblast notifications, please email the church office at laurie@lccnisswa.org with the email address you wish us to use. Have you changed your phone number, or no longer use your landline, changed your mailing address, etc.? If so, please let us know so we can update our database.



Enjoy time with your church family as the holidays begin

Please sign up to lend a hand - we will need some help with pie and coffee - two shifts:

- > 5:45pm - 6:15pm to set up (4-5 people)
- > 7:00pm - 8:00pm to serve and clean up (4-5 people)

SIGN UP SHEET IN THE NARTHEX

See or call Todd will any questions.

612-810-2201

Thank you to our autumn clean up crew!

After a rain delay requiring rescheduling, we ended up with a beautiful day to be outside and clean up the grounds.

Many thanks to ALL for being the Hands and Feet of Jesus!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Nov
facility calendar for:			Nov
			1 8:30 Tex 9:30 Qui 5:30 Bell 5:45 Sup 6:00 King 6:20 Wo 7:00 Con 7:00 Sr.
5 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY/ Daylight Savings Ends 9:00 Worship w/ Communion 10:00 Coffee Fellowship w/ Youth Rolls 10:30 Worship w/ Communion	6 10:00 Nisswa Garden Club 1:00 Prayer Shawl Group 5:30 Playground Mtg	7 8:30 Staff Meeting & Prayers 9:00 Computer Lab 10:00 Women in the Word 10:00 Coffee Clutch 4:00 Lakes Area Food Shelf Board 7:00 Women in the Word	8 8:30 Tex 5:30 Bel 5:45 Sup 6:00 King 6:20 Wo 7:00 Co 7:00 Sr.
12 9:00 Worship w/ Communion 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:30 Worship w/ Communion	13 1:00 Prayer Shawl Group	14 8:30 Staff Meeting & Prayers 9:00 Computer Lab 10:00 Coffee Clutch 1:30 Women of the Cross/ Qtrly Mtg	15 8:30 Tex 9:30 Qui 4:00 Cre 5:30 Bell 5:45 Sup 6:00 Kin 6:20 Wo 7:00 Con 7:00 Sr.
19 9:00 Worship w/ Communion 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:00 Annual Mtg Part 1 10:30 Worship w/ Communion	20 11:00 Soul Sisters 1:00 Prayer Shawl Group 5:30 Playground Mtg 7:00 People for Racial Justice	21 8:30 Staff Meeting /Prayers 9:00 Computer Lab 10:00 Coffee Clutch	22 8:30 Text S 5:00 Bells o 6:20 Thank 7:00 Pie So
26 CHRIST THE KING 9:00 Worship w/ Communion 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:30 Worship w/ Communion	27 9:30 MOPS 1:00 Prayer Shawl Group	28 8:30 Staff Meeting & Prayers 9:00 Computer Lab 10:00 Coffee Clutch 10:30 Novel Ideas Book Club	29 8:30 Text 4:00 Cre 5:00 Bell 5:45 Supp 6:00 King 6:20 Hold 7:00 Con 7:00 Sr.

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
ember	2023		
t Study lters s of Praise pper g's Kids orship w/ Comm. nfirmation/Route 56 Choir/ A Time for Us	2 8:15 Men's Breakfast 7:00 A.A. 	3	4
xt Study ls of Praise pper g's Kids orship w/ Comm. nfirmation/Route 56 Choir/ A Time for Us	9 8:15 Men's Breakfast 10:00 Toning w/ a Purpose 12:00 PrimeTimers 7:00 Church Council 7:00 A.A.	10	11
t Study lters ation Care Mtg s of Praise pper g's Kids orship w/ Comm. nfirmation/Route 56 Choir/ A Time for Us	16 8:15 Men's Breakfast 9:00 Toning w/ a Purpose 7:00 A.A.	17 9:00 55+ Driver Improvement Class 5:30 Grub & Game Night 	18 Youth Gathering →
tudy f Praise sgiving Eve Worship cial	23 OFFICE CLOSED  7:00 A.A.	24 OFFICE CLOSED	25
t Study ation Care Mtg s of Praise pper g's Kids en Worship w/ Comm. nfirmation/Route 56 Choir/ A Time for Us	30 8:15 Men's Breakfast 9:00 Toning w/ a Purpose 7:00 A.A.		<i>Reminder: Before planning any meeting/event/gathering at church, call the church office for availability and scheduling. Thank you.</i>

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1. Eric Bolt, Carly Maine, Ethan Troisdahl
2. Colt Jenkins, Barbara Thell
3. Mike Baker, Keaton Brill, Alexander Hernandez, Janet Horn, Allyson Smith, Eunice Wiebolt
4. Janet Bedard
5. Eugene Schroeder, Dennis Skjod
6. Roger Johnson, James Kuusisto
7. Joe Milli, Lori Nistler, Nash Tietz
8. Sheree Hansen, Pamela Johnson, Jeff Olson, Jonah Schwanke
- 9.
10. McKenna Anderson, Betty Huseby, Eva Oium, Jody Rasinski
11. Joe Winegar
12. Lowell Carlson, Mac Chandler, Jane Johnson, Dennis Lueck
13. Sharol Rude, Amy Strother
14. Carter Loge
15. Peggy Beck, Roger Salfer, Rachel Sullivan, Claudette Tollefsrud
16. Violet M Anderson, Rick Skogen
17. Loni Hiles
- 18.
19. Daniel Fiebelkorn, Brad Henry, Gavin Johnson
20. Bob Burns, Michelle Nelson
21. Tami Evanson, Alexander Jones, Greg Nygren, Jerrett Tietz
22. David Pederson, John Wallin, Brian Wermager, Garrett Westin
23. Deborah Fiebelkorn
24. Connie Nelson
25. Aron Anderson, Taena Evanson, Taunya Loge, Lee Oseland
26. Westin Aune
27. Diane Anderson, Marcie Hofmann, Jan Peterson
28. Sarah Baker, Russ Doering, Cooper Jacobs
29. Nancy Buckley, Meriel Park
30. Ruby Dirkes, Chris Hedtke, Brent Schoon





Thank you for your support of our Ramp It Up fund drive. Due to your generosity, this project is now fully funded - hooray! Handicapped Accessible doors will be installed this fall and the ramp project will begin in the spring of 2024. This is just one more example of how the LCC family is living out the gospel.

Philippians 2:3-4: *In whatever you do, don't let selfishness or pride be your guide. Be humble, and honor others more than yourselves. Don't be interested only in your own life, but care about the lives of others too.*

Did You Know?

From the "People for Racial Justice" Group
Submitted by Marty Halvorson

Even in the 21st Century, the U.S. government does not give tribal courts the power to prevent rape. In 2013 when Congress was reauthorizing the Violence Against Women Act, Republicans in Congress resisted the idea of giving Tribes the power to prosecute non-Native men who assault women (a majority of the violence suffered by Native women is at the hands of non-Natives) nearly tanking the whole bill. Congress seems to want to give Native Tribes autonomy but on many of the crucial issues restricts the Tribal courts power. For example, the standard of practice for juvenile offenders in the U.S. is to provide programming for rehabilitation. However, Juvenile offenders in the native community are typically imprisoned because commensurate funding is not available by government mandate.



Steve & Deana Harder



Dave Barstad



Ardis Wulf



Pam Krawchuk & Ron Evenson



Terry & Laurie Dahl



Brent Schoon



Luther & Lori Swenson

Nate & Trish Reilley
Claire & Allie



LCC September 2023 Rummage Sale Donation Distributions

LCC Internal Ministries	\$9,250
State / Community	\$15,150
National / World	\$8,000
Women of the Cross/WELCA	\$6,600
TOTAL	\$39,000

LCC INTERNAL MINISTRIES

LCC Children Youth & Family	Playground Fund	\$1,000
LCC Children Youth & Family	Camperships for Luther Crest	\$2,500
LCC Children Youth & Family	Scholarships for Graduating Seniors	\$2,000
LCC Foundation	seminary scholarships, grants A matching grant for ELCA NE MN	\$1,000
LCC Creation Care Team	Synod Eco Faith Network	\$200
LCC Kitchen	New freezer	\$1,500
LCC Office	costs of supplies of the rummage sale	\$350
Novel Ideas Book Club	Purchasing books	\$700
TOTAL LCC INTERNAL MINISTRIES		\$9,250

COMMUNITY / STATE

Adult and Teen Challenge	Women's program starting in the area	\$2,000
Breath of Life	Sponsorship for Adult Day Service	\$1,000
Bridge on 7th	Help maintain the shelter season	\$2,000
Central Lakes College Food Pantry	Helping to support the food pantry	\$750
DAV - Disabled American Veterans	Assisting needs for the disabled vets Purchase 2 childrens beds for family coming out of homelessness	\$500
Down Home		\$500
Lakes Area Food Shelf	provide necessary food for the area.	\$1,000
Let's Go Fishing Brainerd Chapter	Help with operating and equip costs	\$1,000
My Neighbor to Love Coalition	Help with housing for homeless	\$2,500
Salvation Army - Emerg Dispatch	To purchase pots and utensils	\$400
The Outreach Program of Brd Lakes	Purchase ingred. for meal packaging. Help families who have lost their jobs or unable to work due to sickness	\$2,000
The Society of St Vincent de Paul		\$1,500
TOTAL COMMUNITY / STATE		\$15,150

NATIONAL / WORLD

Augusta Victoria Hospital	Healthcare , education, and emergency relief for Palestinians in the West Bank & Gaza Strip	\$1,500
Global Health Ministries	Supporting the shipping costs of medical supplies to third world countries and helping to furnish solar well water pumps	\$1,000
He Intends Victory	Helping to pay for teachers for 63 AIDS affected children in Uganda	\$1,200
LCC Global Mission Team	Supporting Pre K school at LaCanada, Honduras which is part of the ELCA MnNE Synod companion synod in Honduras	\$500
LCC Global Mission Team	Seminary Scholarships for ELCA MnNE Synod companion synod in India. This program is supported by several different congregations in our synod.	\$1,750
LIRS Refugee Agricultural Program	LIRS of ND spearhead a project to help new Americans establish self-sufficiency as they carved out a new future - teaching how to grow their own food	\$750
Lord of Life Lutheran Church	Supplies, equipment repairs and a vacuum unit for a dental mission trip to the Dominican Republic	\$300
Missionary Flights International	Fuel for flights that deliver supplies and missionaries to Haiti as needed.	\$1,000
TOTAL NATIONAL/WORLD		\$8,000

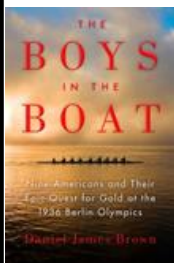
NOTE: ESTIMATED NET RUMMAGE SALE INCOME:	\$43,789
LESS WOMEN OF THE CROSS/WELCA (15%)	-\$6,600
LESS GARAGE ADDITION PAYMENT	-\$5,000
PLUS THRIVENT CARDS	\$1,419

TOTAL AVAILABLE FOR INTERNAL MINISTRIES, STATE/COMMUNITY, & \$33,608

Thank you to all who contributed time, donated and shopped the Rummage Sale. Donations are planned to be accepted beginning November 1, 2023. Donations will not be accepted from December 1st - January 15th.

Guidelines used were: Internal Ministries = 35%, Community/State = 25% + 15% most needed, National/World = 25%, Women of the Cross/WELCA = 15% of adjusted net profit.

NOVEL IDEAS BOOK CLUB



The dramatic story of the American rowing team that stunned the world at Hitler's 1936 Berlin Olympics.

Drawing on the boys' own diaries and journals, their photos and memories of a once-in-a-lifetime shared dream, this is an irresistible story about beating the odds and finding hope in the most desperate of times—the improbable, intimate story of nine working-class boys from the American west who, in the depths of the Great Depression, showed the world what true grit really meant.

Tuesday, November 28th

10:30am

Chapel Hall

Please join us for Discussion, Treats & Fellowship

As a special added feature, we will be exploring the new online catalogue of the LCC Library.

We hope to see you & welcome questions.

The Library Committee is thankful for ---

- ◆ The many members who check out books from the library.
- ◆ The suggestions we receive.
- ◆ Those who have donated books to the library and rummage sales.
- ◆ The rummage sale committee and all the volunteers who help make the sales easier and so successful.



A few books in the library that remind us to be thankful for all He has given us:

Small Graces: The quiet Gifts of Everyday Life by Kent Nerburn

Deep Woods, Quiet Waters, a memoir by Douglas Wood

A Man Called Ove by Fredrik Backman

Like Me: A story about disability and discovering God's image in every person by Laura Wifler

Wishing for a Snow Day: Growing up in Minnesota by Peg Meier

Teaching Kids to Love the Earth by Marina Lachecki

CREATION CARE



“Legendary Polar Explorer, Educator, and Environmental Ambassador Will Steger packed LCC’s Celebration Center on Saturday, October 7. Around 325 people came to hear Steger’s PowerPoint presentation and to ask questions about his adventures and the drastic effects of climate change that he has observed firsthand on the glaciers at both Poles.

Steger has led teams of some of the most significant polar expeditions in history, but told the audience that none of them could be done today, due to a changing climate. Many of his expedition firsts will also go down in history as the last.

Born and raised in Minneapolis, Steger moved in 1970 to the wilderness north of Ely, Minnesota, where he blended adventure-based environmental education with cutting-edge technology that has allowed him to reach millions of followers and students. In 2013 he began building the Steger Wilderness Center, to which he contributes 100% of his speaking fees.



Steger’s message doesn’t focus on “doom and gloom,” but instead appeals to people’s hearts to help generate the love for our Earth that is needed to help our planet thrive. Facts and data don’t move the heart, Steger says, but wanting a livable world for our grandchildren does. Each of us has a “sphere of influence” in which we can help to make the changes that all of us working together can make.

Looking out at the audience, Steger said, “There is a real sense of community here. I can feel the goodness in the room.”

DVDs of Steger’s presentation are being made. You can also watch his 2021 movie “After Antarctica” at Amazon Prime.



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS
Church Council Meeting
Thursday, October 12, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

We Assemble in God's Name

Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Council President Mike Smith

Present:

Pr. Drew Bakken, Pr. Michelle Ruen, Colleen Both, Dean Dalzell, Rachel Gerhartz, Darrell Paske, Dale Peterson, Mike Smith, Bonnie Stevens, Brian Stubbs, Jenny Stubbs, and Lyn Underdahl.

Devotion: Darrell Paske

Officer Reports:

Approval of Last Month's Minutes (September 2023): Jenny Stubbs

- **Motion to approve by Brian Stubbs; Second by Lyn Underdahl. Motion passed.**

Treasurer's Report (September 2023)

- **Motion to approve by Bonnie Stevens; Second by Dean Dalzell. Motion passed.**

New Business:

1. Replacing Defibrillator

- **Motion to take an email vote once a recommendation can be made by Dr. Macy, with a cost not to exceed \$2,400 for a new defibrillator.**

2. Nominating Committee

Darrell Paske and Pr. Drew will contact nominating committee members to begin work on upcoming council positions needing to be filled in January.

3. Youth & Family Ministry council position replacement

Sarah Tietz is unable to continue in this position, so a replacement for the rest of 2023 is needed. Pr. Drew will visit with Kari Erickson about a recommendation and proceed from there.

Old Business:

1. Stewardship Sunday, October 15.

Dean Dalzell reported that all seems to be ready for the upcoming breakfast, with council members helping out at the service and breakfast. Food and supplies are in place and Chef Shane Moore will be preparing the food.

2. Playground Project- Donations continue toward the project. Committee will be meeting next week,

regrouping and preparing for a proposal to be ready by the Annual Meeting in January. Several congregation members have approached council members, expressing their hopes for this project to come to fruition, underlining LCC's commitment to its families and young members.

Pastors' Reports

Senior Pastors' Report; Pastor Drew:

- What a great way to begin the Fall. Between moving to 2 services on Sunday and the start of our Wednesday evening worship, we are seeing the average worship attendance at 400 with at least 200 views from our online viewers. We are certainly a church alive with the Holy Spirit. A special thank you to everyone who attends worship, volunteers, welcomes guests, and attends Bible studies and fellowship events. Thank you for being a witness to your faith.
- What an amazing year we had with our LCC Rummage Sale. A special thank you to all our volunteers who put in so many hours behind the scenes presorting, organizing, welcoming and helping our guests at this great ministry event. Also, many thanks to Marvin and Karen Green, Liz Brandanger, Connie Peterson and Bob Beck for your leadership in organization. Through this rummage sale, we were able

to receive almost \$48,000 to be used for local, national and international ministry. Thank you for being God's hands and feet. I can't help but think of an old hymn, "Truly, the Presence of the Lord is in this Place."

- For the last couple of years, I have been blessed with taking a week long continuing education class sharing ideas amongst church leaders about what is going well in our churches and looking at the continual changes in our society regarding church attendance. For the last 2 years, this week has been vital for me to be fed and to glean from other leaders in the church. Thank you for making this possible.
- As I look ahead to the fall, I am excited to see where the Spirit will lead us as we continue to grow our three worship services, Confirmation, Children Youth and Family, adult education and our outreach ministries. Thank you for being on this journey with me.

Associate Pastor's Report; Pastor Michelle:

- The Fall has brought a fun return to church and school year schedules. As much as I love summer, I always look forward to programming in the Fall. Carol Smith and I have been working on a new Small Group brochure that will be available on Stewardship Sunday. It will introduce the offerings for the Fall/Winter of 2023-2024. Interest groups, Servant groups, Prayer groups, Fellowship groups, Healthy Body and Soul groups, Bible Studies, and Small Groups will all be highlighted. There are so many wonderful opportunities for our church members to get involved in and to connect with others!
- A Visitation Ministry is being formed this Fall. Deb Cranny has volunteered to help me with the administration of this new ministry. A friendly visit is an anticipated joy for many people. Please reach out if you would appreciate a visit or know of someone who would.
- I will be leading a Book Study on the book, *Parenting: 14 Gospel Principles That Can Radically Change Your Family*, by Paul David Tripp on Wednesday nights from 7:00-8:00 PM during *A Time for Us*. It includes a great book, a short video, and a discussion guide. Thank you to Rachel Gerhartz for recommending this book. I hope this will be a wonderful resource and talking point for parents, and grandparents, too.
- We had fifteen new members join us on October 8. They all bring wonderful talents and experiences. We pray that our church will bless and feed them in their spiritual walk and faith journeys. Welcome, new members! We are so glad to have you join our church family!

Committee Reports:

Worship and Music: Brian Stubbs

- W&M needs to meet this month.
- All of our teams are adjusting to the 2 services and seem to be running smoothly thus far. (Altar Guild, Video/Audio Booth, Volunteer Coordinator, Music Ensembles) Services seem to be staffed with volunteers.
- Attendance is stable. Now that Weds. nights are up and running, we are interested in comparing all service attendance data.
- Altar guild had a resignation for the month of Oct., but volunteers have stepped up to assist Darrell.
- Music is up and running with the Senior Choir, King's Kids, Bell Choir continues and Wednesday worship band.
- Donations of over \$6,000 to LCC's music ministries were given in memory of Kathy Kline...details as things get sorted out.

Stewardship Ministry: Dean Dalzell

All is ready for the upcoming Stewardship Sunday service and breakfast.

LCC Property Report: Dale Peterson

- Last week I met with another contractor for the new handicap accessible ramp at the north entrance. Removing the existing concrete steps and constructing a heated ramp with new railings will be completed early next year. The new handicap accessible doors have been ordered and will be installed this fall.
- The irrigation systems were blown out today in preparation for winter.
- A fall clean up day is scheduled for Wednesday, October 18th from 10 to 2:30. All volunteers are welcome and lunch is provided.

Social Concerns & Global Missions: Bonnie Stevens

- **The Bridge on 7th**
LCC's week at the Shelter went well. The empty slots were mostly Friday and Saturday. Thank you to those who filled the volunteer slots. Huge plus for staff this year is the washer and dryer onsite. No more trips to the laundromat! Needs are Ramen, Oatmeal packets, real sugar, creamer and coffee cups. Ann Hunnicutt has reached out to Shelter volunteers to assist with the MN Homeless study. **Wilder Research conducts surveys** to compile the Minnesota Homeless Study. Interviews will be **the night of Thursday, October 26**. If you are interested, YOU MUST attend a training which is scheduled for Wednesday, October 25 from 1p.m. until 2:30 p.m. Training will be done as a team at the shelter.
- **Central Lakes College Food Pantry**
Working with Kari and Route 56, we'll again do the Treat boxes for the College in early December and would like to do a Food drive here at LCC to be delivered along with the boxes of treats. A Thrivent Action Team grant will be used for supplies.
- **Rummage Sale** wrap up meeting Monday, October 16 at 10 am here at church. The September 2023 Rummage Sale was an amazing event that brought in almost \$47,000! The largest sale. After deducting the \$5,000 garage payment and appropriate expenses, about \$39,000 will be distributed to requested ministries and organizations in need. Thank you Church Council for your support and making the garage addition come to life. It has proved, and will continue to prove, that LCC's Rummage Sale events will run more productively and efficiently because of its existence. Congratulations to Mike Smith. He had the cleanest tent prior to take down! What a salesman! Not one Christmas tree was left-over at the end – a first to our knowledge! Way to go Mike!
- **Synod Quilt Auction to End World Hunger October 10 to 14-** Quilts and Marketplace items are available in an on-line auction or a link from the Synod webpage (NEMNSynod.org). Walking Together event at Zion Lutheran in Grand Rapids on Oct 14. NEMNquilts23.givesmart.com to view and bid.
- **Women of the Cross**
Diane Wermager and Margaret Sommerfeld will make the Synod Women's Convention Quilt to be displayed at the Convention June 10 and 11, 2024 at Zion Lutheran Church in Grand Rapids. The quilt then goes to NE MN Synod to be auctioned for World Hunger. 2024 is the 50th Anniversary of ELCA World Hunger.

Congregational Life: Lyn Underdahl

There are no special requests for this past month. The life of the congregation continues to be busy in small groups.

- New Member Committee – Met with some of the new members on the 5th and they group joined last Sunday the 8th. Wonderful meeting with the addition of new members.
- LCC Gardeners: Fall Grounds Clean up is Wednesday, October 18 (10 a.m to 2:30)
- Prime Timers: Meeting Thursday, Oct 12 at noon – program on recycling by Drey Loge from Waste Partners

Personnel: Darrell Paske

No Report

Youth & Family Ministry/ Children & Family Ministry: Sarah Tietz & Rachel Gerhartz

- Wednesday night programming is going well!
- Our Confirmation Guides this year are: Pam Sandelin & Julie Domino, Allison Van Vliet and Jenny Oseland, Bryan Trees & Lisa Martini, and Angie Andrist and Shawna Williams. We have a total of 35 youth participating. Betty Arveson is assisting Kari with Route 56 and we have a total of 22 kids.
- We had our first Super Roll Sunday and it went very well - we modified our procedure and had lots of adult and youth help that made it a very successful event. Amount brought in was just under \$300. Cross Kids continues to do well – Kari is averaging 20 kids per Sunday (with more when King's Kids sing) and am sending home a GIFT bag devotion each week. Kari has switched to plastic ziploc bags to reduce the crinkling noise when the kids return to worship. She has lesson materials ready through December, and Alanna LeBlanc will take over on the first Sunday of each month so Kari can help with Super Roll Sundays.
- Kari hosted Kari's Koko Korner on Sunday for the first time and the kids enjoyed it. She will keep tweaking it as needed. Allie Whipple was a huge help with this and she is also helping with Cross Kids at the 9am service. The kids really enjoyed having their own little seating area. Kari found a neat kid-sized table and chairs that she is fixing up to add to our picnic tables and will also add a couple of 4' short tables with chairs, too.
- All of the food for Stewardship Sunday was ordered and Dean has a great crew lined up so we look for this to be a good event with Shane Moore volunteering his chef skills. Sally Hodgson will be helping Kari with table decorations for it, with the theme from 1 Peter 4:10: *God has shown you his grace in many different ways. So be good servants and use whatever gift he has given you in a way that will best serve each other.*
- Bibles were presented to our third graders on Sept. 24. In the future, when we have presentations like this, Kari will schedule them at the 10:30 service to avoid the 9am service running long.
- Lyle has helped set up a gaming TV for our Wed. evenings hang out room. This room will be available prior to worship and then closed for the remainder of the evening.
- Chat and Chow started last Friday and we will be serving our first meal on Nov. 17.
- Kari will be reserving our spots at Luther Crest for next summer, as she received an email from Renae at Camp suggesting we do so now.
- Kari is sending out postcards to all 7th - 12th graders about the upcoming All Youth Gathering at Cragun's in November.
- Kari created a new *Cuppa & God* devotion to send out to our moms this fall and am working on a Bible Journaling Workshop for this winter that Danae will help me with.
- Our new acolyting scheduling system seems to be working well and the families are doing a great job of arranging for substitutes on their own as well as showing up to serve.
- Carol Ricklefs dropped off 25 baptism blankets for us to give and they are beautiful!! We are very thankful for her continued commitment to this ministry.
- Playground Task Force meetings will resume in October, as per Jon Henke's schedule. Our next meeting is October 16.
- Children, Family and Youth Team meetings have been set for the year: Oct. 25, Nov. 16, Dec. 6, Jan. 17, Feb. 22, Mar 14, Apr. 10. We will be serving Wed. Meal Ministry on Oct 11, Nov. 1, Dec. 13, and Apr. 3.
- Kari will be meeting with our new NEMN Synod Youth Director, Taryn on October 17. She reached out and since she will be in the area that week, she wants to meet so we can get to know each other and she can see our facility and offer support and guidance.
- Todd and Kari received their certification as Food Protection Managers after taking the ServSafe class at CLC last week.
- Our next event is Trunk or Treat and you are all invited to participate!

Closing Prayer: Pr. Michelle Ruen

Meeting Adjourned.

Next Council Meeting: Thursday, November 9, 2023, 7 p.m.

Devotions: Jenny Stubbs

Submitted by Jenny Stubbs

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 Mike Smith 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.



ANNUAL
CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING

ANNUAL MEETING PART I

November 19: the meeting is called for the purpose of electing people to Lutheran Church of the Cross Council, Heartland Conference, Synod Assembly, Nominating and Memorial Garden committees. The annual meeting will be held in the Celebration Center at 10:00 am.



Thanksgiving Prayer

Dear Lord,
Today we give thanks for our many blessings,
As we pray for those in need, we give thanks
For our family and friends as we pray for those who are lonely.
We give thanks for our freedoms as we pray for those who are oppressed.
We give thanks for our good health as we pray for those who are ill.
We give thanks for our comfort and prosperity as we share our blessings with others.
On this day of Thanksgiving, may the love of God enfold us,
The peace of God dwell within us and the joy of God uplift us. Amen.
Happy Thanksgiving from the staff of LCC

PARENT'S DAY OUT

An afternoon of
fun for the kids
and free time for
the parents!

**Sat.,
Dec. 2** • **3pm -
6pm**

**ALL KIDS, BIRTH THROUGH
GRADE FOUR are welcome and
invited for an afternoon of
games, devotion, crafts,
stories and activities,
including supper.**

**Lutheran Church
of the Cross**

**REGISTER AT:
<https://tinyurl.com/5bvkfkc>**

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

2023 CHURCH COUNCIL

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

