

Cross Currents

Lutheran
Church
of the Cross
2022

September



Give Thanks

"Are you always so busy? Every time we drive by, there are always cars in the parking lot!" I have heard this comment over and over again this summer from visitors to Lutheran Church of the Cross on weekdays. And they are right - we are a church that is alive and active! That's why each Sunday I remind us all that we are a serving congregation that consistently reaches out into our community and around the world.

The ministry that happens at Lutheran Church of the Cross does not just happen on Sundays, it happens every day of the week. As I sit and write this *Cross Currents* article I am reminded of Dan Moen's song, "Give Thanks."

Give thanks with a grateful heart

Give thanks to the Holy One

Give thanks because He's given

Jesus Christ, His Son

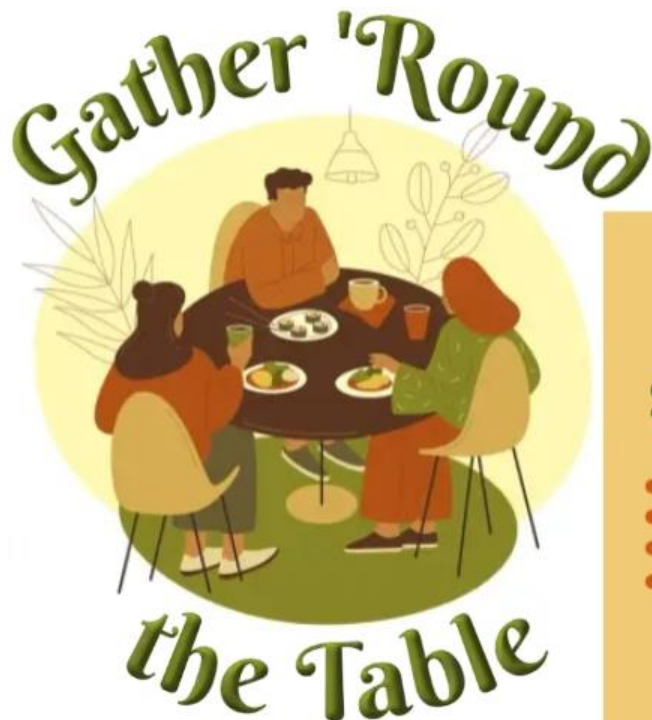
As summer winds down, let us give thanks for the ministry that we share:

- We give thanks for our Creation Care Team for the Community Gardens and Sharing Table, and we give thanks to Jean Kraft and the 74 volunteers who helped with Operation Sandwich. Between Brainerd and Nisswa, 40,000 meals were served this summer, due in part to your donations and support.
- We give thanks for our Children, Youth and Family Ministry for the work that they do with our youth. Events like the Apostle Island High Adventure trip, Summer Stretch, and VBX. We give thanks for the volunteers who helped make these events happen and for the support and prayers of our congregation.
- We give thanks to Marv Green and his crew for the construction of the new garage. Thank you to our volunteers who have helped with building, painting, and providing lunches for the workers.
- We give thanks for Women of the Word, Women of the Cross, Wednesday Morning Bible Study, Family Game Night, Prime Timers, all the lay ministry volunteers who make Sunday worship possible.
- We give thanks to Bill Bergerson for his painting services on our facility, Dale and Connie Peterson for the landscaping in the front of the building, and for an anonymous member of the church for repairs to the siding on the church and the remodel of our office area.

"Give thanks for a grateful heart, Give thanks to the Holy One, Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son"

At LCC, our work and ministry is not done, but we are making an impact! I invite each of you to join us this year as we continue to gather in worship, fellowship, and in service to our community.

Blessings, Pastor Drew



**Worship on
Wednesdays
begins on
September 28.**

- Supper from 5:45 - 6:15pm
- King's Kids at 6pm
- Worship at 6:20pm
- Cross Kids Connection, Rte. 56, Confirmation, & "A Time For Us" at 7pm

Midweek Meal Ministry

Our Midweek Meal Ministry team is looking for volunteers to help with this important part of our Wednesday night worship opportunity. If you would like to help with shopping, food preparation, and/or food service on Wednesdays this fall, you can sign up outside of the church office, attend the planning meeting on September 7th at 6:30 pm, or call Sheri McSherry at 218-831-1936.

A poster for an "Ice Cream Social" event. At the top, the text "FOOD SHELF CHALLENGE" is written in yellow, all-caps, sans-serif font. Below this, on the left, is a photograph of a glass ice cream sundae with three scoops of ice cream (vanilla, chocolate, and pink), a cherry on top, and a chocolate sauce drizzle. The sundae is on a white plate with a blue floral pattern. To the right of the photo, the text "ICE CREAM Social" is written in large, white, sans-serif font, with "Social" in a yellow, cursive font. Below this, the text "SEPTEMBER 4, 1:00 PM" is written in white, all-caps, sans-serif font. At the bottom, the text "OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH" is written in yellow, all-caps, sans-serif font. At the very bottom, the text "30985 Front St, Pequot Lakes, MN" is written in white, all-caps, sans-serif font.

Treasurer's Report - Financial Summary 2022 General Fund

	<u>July</u>	<u>YTD</u>	Annual <u>Budget</u>	% YTD of Annual <u>Budget</u>
Income	\$ 57,892	\$ 377,328	\$ 688,900	54.8%
Expenses	\$ 51,414	\$ 373,738	\$ 688,900	54.3%
Difference	\$ 6,478	\$ 3,590	\$ 0	

**In the month of July our income was greater than our expenses by \$6,478
Thank you for your continued support.**



LCC will be holding a **New Member Gathering** on Thursday, September 15th from 6:00 –7:30 PM. At this gathering, you will be introduced to other new members, meet our church council and staff. Childcare will be provided and a light supper will be served.

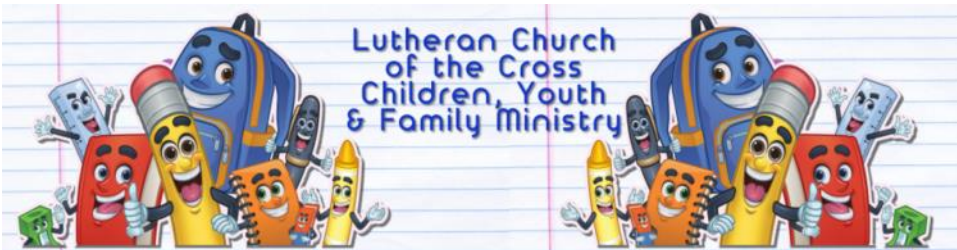
New Member Sunday is Sunday, September 25th at the 9:00 am service. You will be welcomed as new members into our church family during this worship service.

Please RSVP to Laurie Hemish at laurie@lccnisswa.org to confirm your attendance at these events.

If you have any questions, contact Pastor Drew or Pastor Michelle by calling 218-963-2564. See you in church!

Let's gather 'round and smell the donuts on RALLY DAY!! We will join together in service projects, prayer station, activities, carnival games, and more!!

Help us celebrate the start of a new programming year!!



Lutheran Church of the Cross Children, Youth & Family Ministry

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

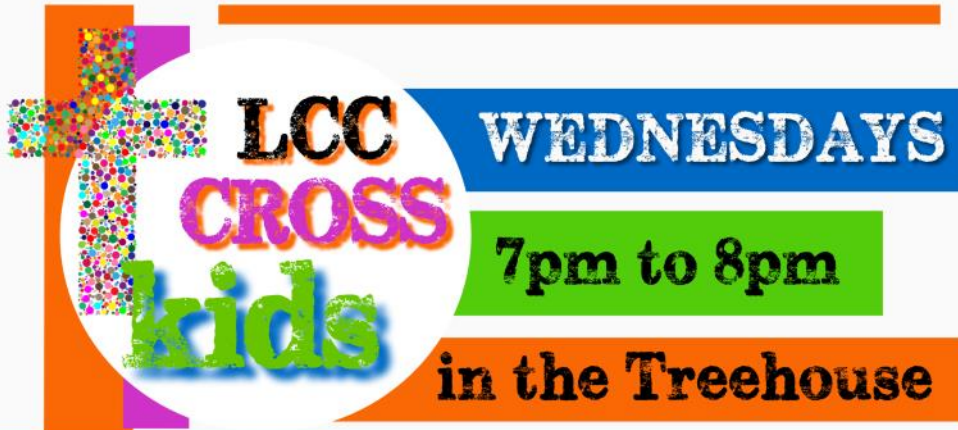
Please donate the following:

- backpacks pencils pens markers
- colored pencils crayons rulers highlighters
- blunt tip scissors notebooks pencil case
- composition books index cards glue sticks
- pocket folders large pink erasers

Please bring to the bin in the narthex by Sept. 10

Volunteers for our Wednesday night programming are needed. If you are willing to give an hour of your time to help provide this ministry, please let Kari know. All materials will be prepared and ready for you, so no prep needed. If you will be here on Weds. Night waiting for a Route 56 or Confirmation student, consider it—no need to make a long term commitment.

NEW THIS FALL!



After Worship on Wednesday, school-age children are welcome to join us in the Treehouse for Cross Kids Connection. Kids will enjoy a message, liturgy and prayer, plus further exploration of the Gospel through video, song, activities and crafts.

Note that Weds. Cross Kids will be a repeat of the previous Sunday Cross Kids and Cross Kids Connection.



REMINDER:

Worship on Wednesday
begins September 28

- Supper at 5:45pm
- King's Kids at 6:00pm
- Worship at 6:20pm
- Rte. 56 at 7pm
- Confirmation at 7pm

Lutheran Church of the Cross PRESENTS

September PIZZA & GAME NIGHT

Friday, September 16
5:30pm in Celebration Center

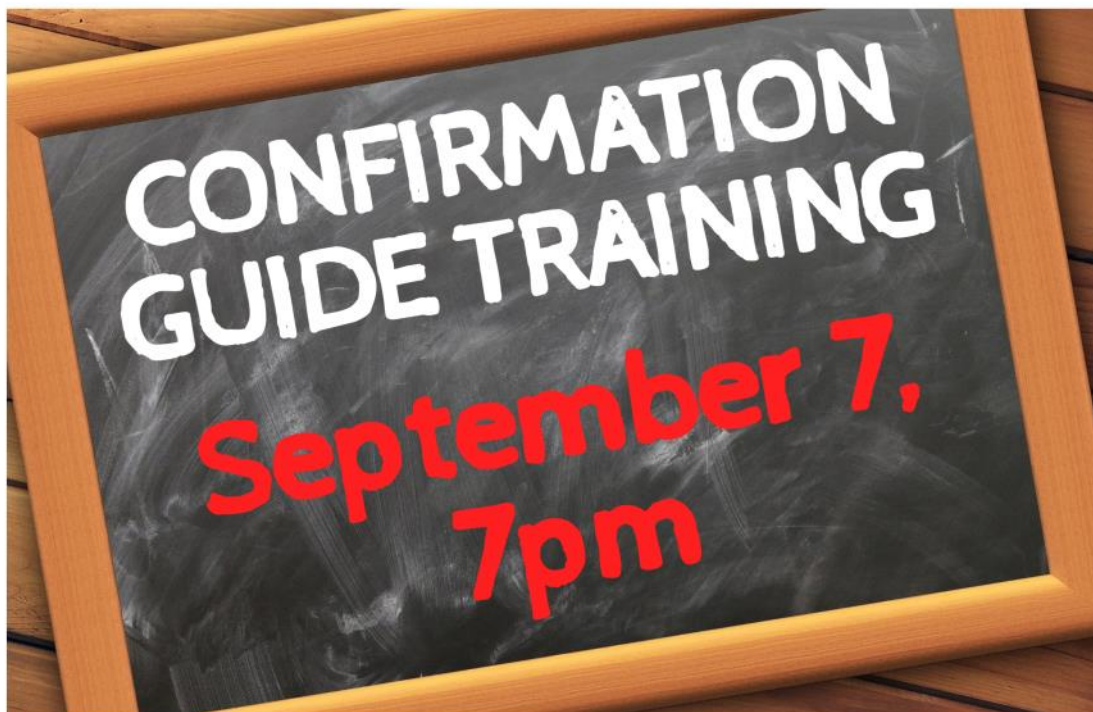
ACOLYTE TRAINING for
5th and 6th graders on
September 21,
7pm.



The following youth will be participating in our Affirmation of Baptism Service on September 18 at 11:30am:

- Kaya Anderson
- Abigail Bakken
- Alexander Andrist
- Landen Brill
- Gaje Germundson
- Carter Loge
- Michael Oseland
- Hunter Oelschlager
- Jerrett Tietz

**Dessert & Faith Statement Sharing on Sept. 17, 6:30pm
in Celebration Center**



Hymn of the Month



September 2022

O Beauty Ever Ancient (ANCIENT BEAUTY)

Text: Shirley Erena Murray; Music: Alfred V. Fedak

Welcome to fall! September always marks the end of summer, but the beginning of autumn and our worship and programming schedule back in full swing. I chose this hymn this month because of the refrain “In gratitude, in worship my being sings to you!” We are truly grateful for our worshipping community and our worship space.

This hymn is found in a supplemental hymnal called “All Creation Sings”. We have found a few great hymns from that hymnal and this is one. The music is written by Alfred V. Fedak, born in New Jersey and has degrees in Organ performance and Music History. He holds the American Guild of Organist Choirmaster Certificate. He is widely known for his over 300 choral and organ works and for numerous hymn tunes printed in hymnals. He currently is organist at First Reformed Church of Scotia, New York.

The text is written by Shirley Erena Murray. She was a New Zealand hymn writer. Her hymns have been translated into numerous languages and can be found in more than 140 hymnals. Two of the hymn lyrics that she has written are “Touch the Earth Lightly” and “In the Singing” both found in our red hymnal.

ACS 1100 O Beauty Ever Ancient

1. O beauty ever ancient, O beauty ever new,
Divine and Holy Presence, my being sings to you,

Refrain

In gratitude, in worship my being sings to you!

2. O beauty in creation, in world of sound and sight,
O beauty in the silence, in darkness as in light,
3. O beauty that I movement in liquid line of grace,
O beauty that is stillness in lovely form or face,
4. O beauty of the Spirit where love is shining through,
O beauty ever ancient, O beauty ever new,

Contributors: Tune-Alfred V. Fedak; ©2007 Selah Publishing Co.; Text-Shirley Erena Murray ©2000 Hope Publishing Co. OneLicense#A-704268

We will sing this hymn a couple of times in September and beyond. I hope it becomes a favorite of yours.

Blessing to you this fall!

Cathy Taylor, Director of Music Ministries

KING'S KIDS CHILDREN'S CHOIR

We invite all students grades 1 through 4 to participate in King's Kids Children's Choir.

The choir is led by Carol and Mike Smith, both former educators in the Brainerd Public Schools. The mission of the choir is to provide our young students with an opportunity to serve, to praise God, to learn how to use their voices properly, and to have fun while doing it. They sing in church on the second Sunday of each month.



King's Kids will meet in the Choir Room at LCC beginning on Wednesday, September 7th from 6:00 to 6:30 PM. Although suppers at church do not begin until Wednesday, September 28th, when they do start families are invited to eat supper in the Celebration Center at 5:30 and then send their children to the Choir Room by 6:00. Choir students may go to the front of the food line even if they arrive late. After choir, all students are encouraged to join their parents at the church service which is held in the Celebration Center. Now that many of the COVID protocols have been discontinued we will rehearse without masks.

If students are involved in sports activities at the beginning of the school year we will warmly welcome them in October when the outdoor sports end. Also, if there are any outgrown T-shirts at your home we could use them. Bring them to the Choir Room anytime. Thanks. If you have questions, call us at 218--829-8142. We look forward to a great year!



Welcome to all singers and players of music this fall!

We have musical opportunities for all who would like to volunteer their time and talents.

Bell Choir - Cheryl Karlgaard, director - has been practicing and playing for church all summer. They will continue into the fall with rehearsals on Wednesday evenings at 5:30-6:30. They play for church once a month.

Senior Choir – Brian Stubbs, director – will resume rehearsals on Wednesday, September 7 at 7:00-8:00. They sing for church twice a month.

Wednesday worship musicians: I am always looking for people, singers and instrument players alike to assist in our Wednesday night worship. We practice around 5:30, then service starts at 6:20 and done by 7:00.

Please contact Cathy Taylor, cathy@cathysmusicstudio.com or 763-607-4282 for more information.

I look forward to hearing from you!

Cathy Taylor, Director of Music Ministries



Every Tuesday **Camp Yap-a-Lap** walked from the church steps for a 2 mile hike. Over the summer we had 7 folks join in during the various weeks. Every week concluded in LCC's Memorial Garden. See you next summer!



Ponder and Prayer Group—New Date and Time starting in September

Ponder and Prayer will meet on **Thursday mornings** from **9:00 - 10:00 AM**. We have been meeting on Mondays in the past, but our first **Thursday** prayer time will be on **September 8**, and every week thereafter. Come join us. We meet in the narthex and move to the sanctuary for a time of quiet and heartfelt prayer. Silent and out loud prayers are welcome. We believe that God hears prayers!

WOMEN of the WORD BIBLE STUDY

Our Women in the Word Bible Study is **Tuesday, September 6** (the day after Labor Day) at 10:00 AM and 7:00 PM. Please join us for a special time in God's Word led by Pastor Michelle, fellowshiping with sisters-in-Christ, and enjoying yummy treats and coffee! Last month we had a wonderful study on the Book of Ruth. Come see what the September study will be! No preparation needed. Just come and bring a friend!

Pizza and Games

Pizza and Games will be held on **Friday, September 16, from 5:30-7:30**. If you have never joined us, please consider coming for a free dinner and two hours of non-competitive fun! Great for singles, couples, and families! In the past, we have played Apples to Apples, Play Nine (like golf), Nerts, Pit, CandyLand, Sequence, Sorry!, different adult card games, and sometimes a combination of several. Bring your own favorite game if you'd like or join in on a game. Or come for supper and watch! See you Friday, September 16!

Men's Breakfast

Yay!!! We have a Men's Breakfast forming! It begins on **Thursday, September 8!** Come to The Side Track every Thursday at 8:15 AM. There will be a short Bible Study led by Pastor Drew, and a longer time of coffee and breakfast. Stay as short or long as you want. In case you haven't heard, the breakfasts are delicious, plenteous, and reasonably priced! Or, you are welcome to just have coffee and sit with the guys! Let's get a huge turnout to this! Sorry, Ladies. This is **just** for the guys!



Backyard Birding will be the program for Prime-Timers on **Thursday, September 8, at 12:00** Noon in the Celebration Center. Judd Brink with *MN Backyard Birds* will speak about birdwatching, birdfeeders, the joy of backyard birding, and preparing birds for a change in season. **Come to a great program on Backyard Birding! Invite a friend!** Bring a bag lunch if you desire. Coffee, lemonade, and dessert will be provided. Keith and Stacy Grothem will be our hosts. See you on Thursday, September 8!



FALL Small Group Brochure

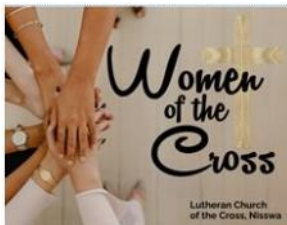
The Fall Small Group brochure listing all of LCC's Fall adult activities, ministries, Studies, and fellowship opportunities is coming out in September! Look to see what you would like to be a part of this Fall and join in the fun! A big thank you to the Small Group committee of Carol Smith, Joanie Swanson, Sheri McSherry, Sally Hodgson, and Pastor Michelle who have been working all summer to hit the ground running this Fall. There is something for everyone! If not, let us know!

LCC Landscapers

This Fall we are starting a new group called LCC Landscapers. LCC Landscapers is for people who like to play in the dirt! This would involve weeding, pruning, and possibly planting to keep the **front** of the church near the highway looking tidy and inviting. We have people who will explain more at the LCC Landscapers table on Stewardship Sunday October 9. Come, play in the dirt at LCC! Thank you!

LCC LIFT

LCC LIFT is for people who would be willing to occasionally pick up someone and bring them to church. What a beautiful way to serve the church, help others, and make a new friend! Could this be you? Call the office or let Vicar Michelle know if you would be willing to help drive, or call if you would like or need a ride to church. We would be happy to pair you with a driver. Let LCC LIFT give you a lift to church!



**Women of the Cross Quarterly Meeting –
Tuesday, September 13, 2022, at 1:30 p.m.—Chapel Hall**

We will be discussing donation requests, upcoming Bible Studies, quarterly meetings, and events, including World Day of Prayer and our Christmas event. We are all united in our mission to study God’s word and act as his hands and feet in the world. Please come and join us for a thoughtful discussion of how we can fulfill our mission and be proactive in our support of our community and world.

Gather Bible Study—Wednesday, September 14, 2022, at NOON

We will be beginning a new three-part Bible Study written by Rev. Sara Olson-Smith entitled, “Jesus and Nature: Teachers of Faith.” Rev. Olson-Smith writes, “Jesus often turned to the natural world in teaching, opening our eyes to see creation not just as something to be cared for, but as our teacher and kindred. It is no mistake that Jesus, who lovingly spoke of soil and plants, was thought to be a gardener that first Easter morning. This three-session Bible study will shift our perspectives and allow nature to be our teacher, through the words of Jesus and other parts of Scripture. The trees, the soil and the creatures will offer us new perspectives on the character of God and challenge us to deepen our stewardship of God’s precious creation.

Session 1: “Trees,” will tap into Biblical images of trees and explore why planting and protecting trees is important, while rooting us in models of interdependence and mutuality.”

Candy Barnack will be leading the Bible Study and Jodi Milli will be providing treats. We are blessed to live in an area where we can commune in nature, for some of us, but simply walking out the door. I think you will find this study extremely thought-provoking, and the scriptures will be germane to your life today.

**Women of the ELCA Heartland Conference Fall Gathering
Light of the Cross Lutheran Church
Garrison, Minnesota
Saturday, September 24, 2022**

Nurturing Cultural Diversity Today and Tomorrow

Psalm 32:8 “I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you (who are willing to learn) with My eye upon you”

Speaker: Sarah Lancaster,

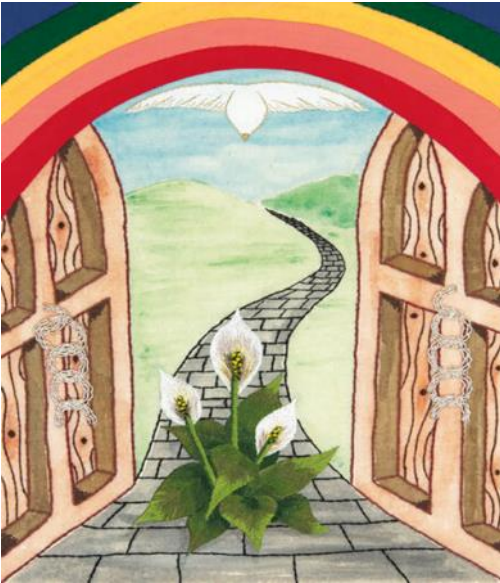
Minnesota Teacher of 2022, Onamia, Minnesota



Registration 8:30 - 9:30 -- Cost is \$10 (lunch included)

Worship service, Communion, Fellowship blessings

We are inviting our guests to bring school supplies of their choice to be given to our speaker for her school. There will be a Silent Auction with proceeds going to support the Triennial Gathering (Suggested items could include crafts, watercolors, seasonal vases, preserves, baskets with theme such as Kitchen or Bath consumables, etc.) There will be a prize given for the most creative auction item.



World Day of Prayer at LCC
Sunday, October 2, 2022
I Know the Plans I Have for You!
Jeremiah 29:1-14

**Join Us at 9:00 a.m. for Worship,
Fellowship, and Study**

*Brought to us by the World Day of Prayer
Committee o England, Wales and
Northern Ireland*

- Worship at 9:00 a.m. with Special Music
- Traditional Irish Dancers at Worship and During Fellowship
- Learn more about the countries and experience their traditional foods in the Celebration Center following Worship
- Participate in the Jeremiah Bible Study led by Pastor Michelle Ruen on hope and a future which is particularly relevant for today as well!

STAY TUNED FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THIS WONDERFUL
ALL-CONGREGATION WORSHIP AND STUDY OPPORTUNITY
ALL ARE WELCOME



**All 1st - 4th graders
welcome to join our
youth choir, King's Kids!**
**Rehearsals will be on
Weds. evenings at 6pm
in the Choir Room. See
Carol Smith with
questions.**

Carol Smith, Director

**YOUTH OF ALL AGES
ARE WELCOME TO
JOIN THE KING'S
KIDS FOR A SPECIAL
PERFORMANCE
DURING THE
WORLD DAY OF
PRAYER SERVICE.**

QUESTIONS?

**Contact Carol Smith
or Carolyn Blanck**





OPERATION SANDWICH IS EVERY THURSDAY THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1.

Operation Sandwich has been working hard & serving many during August. We saw all time high numbers of families served-including 84 families in one week! The program has also been blessed with volunteers from Our Savior's Lutheran, Pequot Lakes & utilize their church pavilion for distribution. Our member volunteers also bring along visiting grandchildren & their enthusiasm & packing power has been much appreciated!

Questions can be directed to: Jean Kraft, Northern Route Coordinator jean.kraft@icloud.com 838-9646



Dear LCC Friends,

We are in the midst of preparations for our fall schedule and are so very excited about these new opportunities to share this next part of our faith journey.

Watch for sign-up sheets for our Wednesday evening suppers. We will also be providing new Time and Talent surveys for you to complete so you can let us know your favorite ways to volunteer.


I am still amazed every single day by the way you all show up here to build, to ponder and pray, to study, to cook, to brew, to care for our buildings and grounds, to teach, to sing, to play, and to be God's hands and heart here in this beautiful part of the world.

Thanks for all you do!

Peace,

Sheri McSherry
Lay Ministries Coordinator



Sun	Mon	Tue	Sept
facility calendar for:			
			
<p>4 Backpack Blessing</p> <p>9:00 Worship w/ Communion 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:00 Sharing Market 10:30 Private Baptism</p>	<p>5 OFFICE CLOSED</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>7:00 Suicide Loss Survivor Group</p>	<p>6 Blood Drive 12-6pm</p> <p>8:30 Staff Meeting/Prayers 9:00 Camp Yap-a-Lap 9:00 Computer Lab 10:00 Women in the Word 7:00 Women in the Word</p>	<p>7 8:30 Text 9:30 Quilt 2:30 Rummage 5:30 Bells 6:00 King's 6:30 MM 7:00 Conf. 7:00 Sr. C</p>
<p>11 RALLY DAY</p> <p>9:00 Worship w/ Communion 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:00 Sharing Market 10:15 Cross Kids</p>	<p>12</p> <p>10:00 Nisswa Garden Club Board 11:00 Soul Sisters 1:00 Prayer Shawl Group</p>	<p>13</p> <p>8:30 Staff Meeting /Prayers 9:00 Computer Lab 1:30 Women of the Cross Qtr 5:00 Lakes Area Food Shelf Board Mtg</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8:30 Text 12:00 Gath 5:30 Bells 6:30 King 7:00 Sr. C</p>
<p>18</p> <p>9:00 Worship w/ Communion 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 10:00 Sharing Market 10:00 Worship & Music Committee 10:15 Cross Kids 11:30 Affirmation of Baptism Rummage Sale Setup Week</p>	<p>19</p> <p>7:00 People for Racial Justice</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21q</p> <p>8:30 Text S 4:00 Creat 5:30 Bells 6:00 King's 7:00 7th G & 7:00 Sr. C</p>
<p>25 NEW MEMBER SUNDAY/ THIRD GRADE BIBLE</p> <p>9:00 Worship w/ Communion & 10:00 Coffee Fellowship & Reception 10:00 Sharing Market 10:15 Cross Kids 11:00 Lions Chicken Dinner</p>	<p>26</p> <p>1:00 Prayer Shawl Group</p>	<p>27</p> <p>8:30 Staff Meeting/Prayers 9:00 Computer Lab 10:00 Novel Ideas Book Club</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8:30 Text St 5:30 Bells of 5:45 Supper 6:00 King's K 6:20 Worship 7:00 Conf./ 7:00 Sr. Cho</p>

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
ember	2022		
	1 9:00 Operation Sandwich 7:00 A.A. 	2 9:00 55+ Drivers Discount Program	3 11:00 Funeral: Don Anderson
Study ers mage Sale Info Mtg of Praise s Kids M Mtg Guide Trng choir Rehearsal	8 8:15 Men's Breakfast 10:00 Ponder & Prayer 12:00 PrimeTimers 5:30 Playground Task Force 7:00 Church Council 7:00 A.A.	9	10 9:00 Cullen Lakes Board Mtg 9:00 Lake Hubert Board Mtg
Study er Bible Study of Praise 's Kids choir	15 8:15 Men's Breakfast 10:00 Ponder & Prayer 6:00 New Member Gathering 7:00 A.A.	16 5:30 Pizza & Game Night 	17 6:30 Faith Statements Sharing & Dessert
Study ion Care Team of Praise s Kids grade Ortn., Accolyte & Guide Trng choir 	22 RUMMAGE SALE 8:00 AM —6:00 PM 7:00 A.A.	23 RUMMAGE SALE 8:00 AM —6:00 PM	24 RUMMAGE SALE 8:00 AM—NOON Sale cleanup until done
Study Praise Kids Tip w/ Communion Route 56/Time for Us ir	29 8:15 Men's Breakfast 10:00 Ponder & Prayer 7:00 A.A.	30 4:00 Wedding Rehearsal	Reminder: Before planning any meeting/event/gathering at church, call the church office for availability and scheduling. Thank you.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1. Brent Campbell, Donald Nelson
2. Maci Martini, Luke Merseeth
3. Kari Alcock, Kari Rihm
4. Brian Aune, Janet Barsness, Jeremy Moddes
5. Macayla Green, Clark Zard
6. Rebecca McMenimen, Gabbie Smith, Penny Stumvoll
7. Gregg Gerhartz, Mervin Jensen, Isaac Trees
8. Kristi Nelson
9. Superior Bachman
10. Rebecca Bakken, Jennifer Bassett, Logan Knutson, Thomas Lewis, Michael Oseland, Kaitlin Ubl
11. Candy Barnack, Dawn Meierding, Carol Moddes
12. Jodi Gerlich, Becky Hahn, Daniel Hemish
13. Vivian Bolt
14. Anthony Nelson
15. Roland Johnson, Clinton Strother
16. Emily Aga, Serenity Kottke, Ally Oium, Dennis Ricklefs, Marty Schwab, Todd Whipple
17. Sally Hodgson, Sandy Strom-Gieseke
18. Mindi Brill, Alanna LeBlanc, Fern Schmidt
19. David Maccabee
20. Stephanie Nelson
21. Clark Fillbrandt, Lisa Martini, Wayne Van Vliet
22. Ceci Boche, Pauline Gustafson, Jan Halvorson, David Smith
23. Alicia Green
24. Zaundra Cowger
- 25.
26. Dawn Bjerkness
27. Ann Bergin, Craig Peterson
28. Alexander Andrist, Judy Schuna, Hazel Schwanke
29. Dana Anderson, Julie Fillbrandt, Elvera Pelkey
30. Stacy Germundson, Aron Hushagen



Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen News

Big Thank You to Keith and Stacy Grothem, David and Marie Olness, Ron Reph, Barb Pisani, Peter Mann, Mary Tyler, and Arlene and Mike Brodeur for cooking and serving a meal on behalf of LCC August 4th.

In the month of July, the Soup Kitchen served over 1000 meals to guests and made over 100 lunch bags for “Our Place” drop-in-center.

Other news is that the apartment above the SK had been renovated by volunteers and now has a renter to add income to the SK budget.

If you would like to help, sign up on the Soup Kitchen calendar in the hall by the bathrooms, or call, email, or text Ann Bergin at 218-820-5511 or georgiabergin@gmail.com.



The Nisswa Lions will be hosting a Childhood Cancer Luncheon at LCC on **Sunday, September 25, 2022**, from 11 am – 1 pm in the Celebration Center.

All proceeds from this luncheon will benefit families in the Lakes area that have a child (19 years or younger), living with cancer.

The cost for the meal is \$10; and includes Chicken, mashed potatoes, veggie, roll and dessert. Meals are available for dining in or take out.

There is a limited number of tickets available. Please contact Shawn Hansen 218-232-3528 to reserve your tickets today.

The Red Cross blood mobile will be at LCC **Tuesday, Sept. 6th** from 12 noon to 6:00 PM. Questions or if you are willing to volunteer, please call Jim or Cheryl Swanson at 218-963-3999.

Donors please sign up for an appointment at redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS or the church office at 218-963-2564.

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





Team “Rummage Sale” Needs You.

Fall Sale is September 22 – 24!

Volunteers needed Sunday, September 18 through Saturday, September 24.

An Informational Meeting is planned for **Wednesday, September 7th at 2:30 p.m.** in Chapel Hall. Whether you have a few hours or a few days, your time is appreciated. Your help is needed ... moving boxes, sorting, displaying, cashiering, food preparation, etc. Plan to laugh, get to know others and enjoy fantastic lunches! Fun times! The camaraderie is awesome! Sign-up sheets will be available in the Celebration Center hallway beginning Tuesday, September 6. Donations will be accepted through noon on Tuesday, September 20th.

Questions regarding volunteering - contact Liz Brandanger @ 612-849-1500. Donation questions – contact Bob Beck @ 612-751-3782 or Marv Green @ 218-537-0522.

THANKS TO ALL!



**Ordination &
Installation of
Pastor Michelle
Ruen
8-28-2022**



A Message on our ELCA Global Missionary

Russian Correspondent– Bradn Buerkle

30th Anniversary of St. Paul's Lutheran in Vladivostok

The Sunday after Ascension Day is special for the congregation in Vladivostok. It was this Sunday on the church calendar on May 31, 1992, when, after many years of oblivion and ignorance, Pastor Manfred Brockmann invited Russian Germans (and whomever else was interested) for the first service in the re-born congregation.

Worship took place outside, next to the walls of the congregation's historic building. At that time the building belonged to the Pacific Fleet of the Russian Navy; it housed museum exhibits inside, with military weapons in the courtyard.

Thanks be to God that the church, built on a piece of land purchased for its construction at the expense of the parishioners, was not destroyed and has survived to the present day, although the building suffered significant damage because of many years of misuse and neglect.

The restoration of the church of St. Paul became an integral part of the history of the revival of the congregation. Many years passed before the building was returned to the congregation for its use; many years of hard work of employees, volunteers, partners were required to implement plans for the restoration of the building, a historical monument. The main leader of the restoration work was Lyudmila Pedyash, a builder by education, and an experienced, persistent worker.

From the day of the first worship service the revival of the spiritual life of Lutherans in Vladivostok began. Ordinary worship services were held on Sundays in a library. Major holidays were celebrated in other places that could accommodate a large quantity of guests and expanding the circle of friends of the congregation.

A major event was the return of the church building to the congregation on September 16, 1997. After that, people were more willing to go to church. The congregation had the opportunity to carry out not only restoration work, but also social ministry, educational work, musical and various other ministries.

For a long 28 years, the spiritual leader and pastor of the community was its founder and spiritual leader, Pastor Manfred Brockmann. Today the congregation is well served by a new pastor, Vitaly Mohr. There are authorized lay leaders in the congregation who hold services in the absence of the pastor and help him in his ministry. The main activities of the resurgent congregation was and remains spiritual and educational work: worship services, Bible studies, classes with confirmands and those wishing to be baptized. Theological seminars of the Far East Deanery are held annually; representatives from around the deanery, across Russia and from partners in such places as Germany, America and Slovakia, take part. The Church of St. Paul has become a center of the cultural life of Vladivostok. Sacred music concerts held in it attract residents of the city, regardless of religion. Young couples wish to have their wedding ceremonies in a church - an attractive historical and religious building in the city center on the shores of the Golden Horn Bay.

We always remember the date of the revival of the community – the Sunday after Ascension. On this special day we remember how God heard our prayers and answered us...God continues to lead, guide, accompany, protect, and help us in every way.

The year the celebration fell on May 29th, and we marked the 30th anniversary of the rebirth of the congregation. Participants shared their memories from that time. It was important that the gathering was intergenerational, so that young parishioners will later be able to tell others the story of the congregation's rebirth. And in the house of the Lord, let the living Word of God and the unceasing praise of God's Name never cease! *Nina Dmitrieva*





Reminder: Please return any checked out library books in a timely manner so the next person may enjoy them. Thank you.

Books are being added to the library quite frequently thanks to donations from members, the Novel Ideas Book Club books and also from some rummage sale books that we've recently been able to go through. ***Be sure to check out the "Recent Additions" shelves!*** Grab a book and look through it as you sit in the comfortable wing backed chair now in Chapel Hall.



Can you spare an hour or even part of a day to help out during Rummage Sale week? We welcome anyone who is willing to help go through boxes, sort books, get them shelved and/or to help customers during sale hours. No experience necessary! Watch for the signup sheets or just show up during setup days 😊
Thank you!

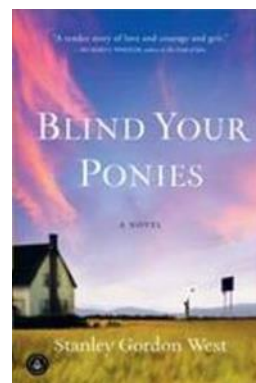
Jean Olson, Lori Olson and Susan Boulka

NOVEL IDEAS BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, September 27th at 10am in Chapel Hall

Join us for fellowship, coffee and treats even if you haven't read the book. Two copies have been made available in the library.

Willow Creek, Montana. When Sam Pickett comes to the quiet little village to hide from the violence and madness that have shattered his life, he discovers buried and shadowed stories fraught with aching regret, human wreckage, and heartrending bravery - people silently bearing their broken dreams and unbearable sorrows. Can they be aroused by the most unexpected and least likely source in their midst? Encouraged and uplifted to embrace life for all its worth? Out of these utterly ordinary lives, West brings forth a startling glimpse into the hidden places of the human heart and characters who will stay with you like old friends long after you've turned the last page.



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.

September 27	<i>Blind Your Ponies</i> by Stanley Gordon West
October 25	<i>The Underground Railroad</i> by Colson Whitehead
November 29	<i>Hiding Place</i> by Corrie Ten Boom
December 27	<i>The Best Christmas Pageant Ever</i> by Barbara Robinson OR <i>The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse</i> by Charlie Mackesy



Great Volunteers for Ordination Reception!

It was a great morning at LCC on August 28th for the Ordination & Installation of Pastor Michelle! The reception following the service was a wonderful celebration in her honor. Many thanks to a great food prep crew on Saturday: Lori Olson, Carol Christofferson, Mary Klang, Dorothy Setterholm and Mary Panzer. Thank you also to those who helped set tables and decorations: Vickie Edminster, Mary Wnuk, Jerry & Sharon Leese, and Jan Burns. Special thanks to all the LCC Church Council and staff who served and did all clean up duties. We also appreciate John Wallin for photographing the entire mornings event!



CREATION CARE



The Creation Care Team Sharing Market Every Sunday following the 9:00 am service in the Narthex.

Do you have PERENNIALS you no longer want or need? Are you baking COOKIES or MUFFINS or SCONES or ROLLS and want to plate up four of them to share? Do you have HOMEMADE JAMS OR PRESERVES that you can bring to the table? Are you good at creating bouquets of CUT FLOWERS? Do you have USED GROCERY BAGS to donate to the Sharing Market? All of the above are welcomed at our Sharing Market table on Sundays, and YOU will be helping us raise money so badly needed at the local Food Shelf.

**PRAYER
SHAWL
ministry**

Resumes on September 12
We meet each Tues. at 1pm in
the Fireside Room.

**If you knit or crochet,
you are welcome for
this time to work and
be together.**

Note that we
will not meet on
Sept. 19

August 2022 LCC Council Highlights

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS Church Council Meeting Thursday, August 11, 2022

We Assemble in God's Name

Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Council President Mike Smith

Present:

Mike Smith, Michelle Ruen, Drew Bakken, Joanie Swanson, Jenny Stubbs, Rachel Gerhartz, Dale Peterson, Darrell Paske, Bonnie Stevens, and Rob Norgon.

Devotion: Joanie Swanson

Announcement: Council read a thank you card from Sally Hodgson for her retirement gift from LCC.

Officer Reports:

Council Minutes (July 2022)

- **Motion to approve by Dale Peterson; Second by Darrell Paske**
Treasurer's report included July as well as August.
- **Motion to approve July & August reports by Pr. Drew; Second by Bonnie Stevens**

New Business:

- Dates for the next budget and Annual meetings are set. November 20th will be part one of the Annual Meeting. Nominations will be presented for open council positions. January 22nd will be the second part of the Annual Meeting.
- Following the Stewardship meeting Oct. 9, Colleen Both (treasurer) will begin work on the 2023 budget. Budget will be presented at a congregational meeting January 15th and then voted on at the second part of the Annual Meeting set for January 22. The new constitution will be presented at the January 22 meeting as well, for a year's worth of review and discussion.
- Christmas Eve services have been set for 2p.m, 4 p.m and 6 p.m. No outdoor worship will be scheduled. Easter services will be 7 a.m., 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. At this point, there will be no Easter breakfast due to youth numbers able to serve, however, a light breakfast of rolls and fruit is being discussed as an alternative.
- LCC staff plan to create a new church directory beginning this fall, using submitted photos from families. Specific photo requirements will be announced and upon completion, families can purchase, at a nominal fee, a new directory. Last directory was in 2017 by LifeTouch. Involved staff believe self-publishing its directory will provide greater control and flexibility in developing a better end result.
 - **Motion to authorize LCC staff to create a new church directory by Bonnie Stevens; Second by Rachel Gerhartz.**

Old Business:

- Committee will be meeting August 25 for continued work on By-laws.

Pastors' Reports

Pastor Drew:

- One phrase that I often heard growing up at church camp was "God is good all the time..." and the kids would reply "all the time God is God." The month of July at Lutheran Church of the Cross has shown over and over again that God is good. We have had a wonderful July! Our attendance at church

has been strong, and we are seeing lots of visitors coming in and asking to join. My heart just soars as I hear the energy of the congregation, as we sing our hymns and respond with such conviction in our liturgy. The conversations during fellowship hour in our Celebration Center remind me how strong a community we are. Thank you all for your energy and love that you have for our Lord and Savior and for each other.

- We have had an outstanding summer in regards to our youth ministry. We have had 25 of our middle school youth involved in Summer Stretch. We had 16 go to Valley Fair, and 25 attend Luther Crest summer camp. I am in awe of the generosity of the members of our church who have provided scholarships for our youth to attend camp, thank you for helping to make an impact in our youths lives. Also, a special thank you to the Rummage Sale Committee who makes sure that after every sale that they provide scholarships to camp.
- As we look forward to the ordination and installation of Michelle Ruen as our next associate pastor it has come to our attention that it has been 5 years since our last church photo directory. We as a staff feel that it is time to compose a new church directory. If council approves this, we are going to ask our members to drop off family pictures to the church with updated information. We will then compose a new directory, and charge a minimal fee to each family. This would enable us to add pictures to our in house directory as well.
- I have had the privilege of performing two weddings this July, a baptism, and also a funeral for Will Stoxen. I continue to meet with families who are interested in joining Lutheran Church of the Cross, Wednesday Morning Bible Studies, and working on Fall ministry programs.
- *Verbally added at meeting: Pr. Drew also spoke of the lack of retired clergy to help with community pulpit supply and so he may help with that when possible, if asked by another congregation in need.*

Vicar Michelle:

- I met with Carol Smith, Sheri McSherry, Sally Hodgson, and Joanie Swanson to brainstorm small group opportunities, studies, and fellowship groups we will offer in the Fall. I am very excited about the offerings we are lining up! These will be highlighted at Ministry Tables on Stewardship Sunday, October 9. A Fall Small Group brochure will be made and distributed in September to highlight Fall offerings here at LCC. I hope everyone will find something that they would like to become a part of!
- Two of the new offerings I would like people to think about are: LCC Landscapers, and LCCLift. LCC Landscapers is for people who like to play in the dirt. This would involve weeding, pruning, and possibly planting to keep the front of the church looking inviting and pleasing. LCCLift is for people who would be willing to occasionally pick up someone and bring them to church. What a beautiful way to serve the church, help others, and make a new friend! Could this be you?
- I am enjoying the great array of visitors and guests we have had this summer. We are excited about all the new people who have asked to join LCC. Our New Member Sunday will be September 25th, with a “getting to know each other” session on Thursday, September 15. Bible Studies, Novel Idea, PrimeTimers, and activities this summer have been well attended. Thank you.
- I am looking forward to my Ordination and Installation on August 28 at the 9:00 service! Thank you to everyone who is helping with this.
- *Verbally added at meeting: Other small group offerings being discussed are a grief support team, a New Member committee, a Men’s Breakfast and scripture study at Side Track as well as a “Beer and Hymns” gathering at a local brewery happening quarterly.*

Committee Reports:

Property: Dale Peterson

Here’s an update of the major LCC Property projects currently underway:

1. Painting of Church Building exterior
 - a. Needed repairs are now complete
 - b. Painting of the church building and bell tower is nearing completion

- c. Lower Styrofoam areas will be repaired and painted late summer/early fall
 - d. Volunteer work crews will paint the garage and 2 storage sheds following the garage addition
2. Addition to Garage
 - a. Property survey was completed
 - b. Building permit was received from City of Nisswa on July 12 th
 - c. Playground equipment was removed mid-July
 - d. Cement floor work was completed in late July
 - e. Materials have been ordered/received
 - f. Walls, trusses, and roof panels are complete
 - g. Siding, roof removal (old garage) and roofing are underway
 - h. Kitchen crew is providing coffee and lunches to volunteers
 - i. Garage doors will be installed in early September
 - j. Plan to be ready for rummage sale mid-September
 3. Install new Underground Wiring to the Garage
 - a. Completed in July
 4. Remove playground equipment and fence
 - a. Removal was completed in mid-July
 5. Landscaping (south side of Sanctuary)
 - a. Currently underway as painting project allows
 - b. Redoing landscape borders
 - c. Removed old roots, selected, and planting new bushes
 - d. Planting flowers/bushes under the LCC Monument sign and adding drip irrigation is underway
 - e. Spreading black dirt and seeding lawn areas as needed are underway
 6. Relocation of Church Offices
 - a. Scheduled for late-summer
 - b. Install opening, window, and door in new church office space
 - c. Relocate staff as offices are available. LCC staff will coordinate moves.
 7. Seal Cracks in the Parking Lot
 - a. Planned for early fall.

Stewardship: Rob Norgon

I have collected the names of former members and I have/will be contacting them.

I talked to Tom Anderson who oversaw the pancake breakfast last year. He is out of town this week and I will meet with him next week. He has written notes and information for me.

Talking with Karen Weiee I found out how the breakfast was financed. Also, that they have two cases of syrup left, so we have syrup for the next couple of years! She also indicated that the breakfast was funded by a Thrivent action team grant of \$250. I have been in contact with the local agent and have a brochure coming with details.

I have completed an application for a \$250 Thrivent Action Team grant, and supplies to help promote the project. I will receive a package from Thrivent within 14 days.

My next steps are to meet with the committee and make arrangements for use of the facilities and kitchen. Also, to contact all committee chairpersons and group leaders to provide information about their committees and group activities that congregants might take advantage of or provide help and support.

Worship and Music: Brian Stubbs

- The Worship and Music team met in July and went over the entire upcoming church year. We look forward to some really great experiences in the future as we dream about possibilities in the LCC worship services.
- Our nearest celebration will be the installation and ordination of Vicar Michelle on August 28. We are so excited to have Vicar Michelle become PASTOR Michelle!

- We will be meeting regularly on the 3rd Sunday of each month. Committee members are always open to thoughts and comments from our congregation about worship.

Social Concerns and Global Missions: Bonnie Stevens

- **Operation Sandwich – from Jean Kraft**
Operation Sandwich had a successful fundraiser at JLE North Consignment in Pequot Lakes. They contacted us about offering customers 75 percent off of summer clothing and accessories Aug. 1-6. Raised about \$260 and also food donations. Last week was the highest family count (72). Good collaboration with Our Savior's and Pine River Family Center/food shelf. Amazing volunteers from our congregation. Employees of Bridges of Hope also assist on a weekly basis. Will be hosting an end of summer Brunch & Blessings for all our helpers on the last two Thursdays – Aug. 25 & Sept. 1 – at 9:00 a.m. before packing.
- **Bridges of Hope – Warming Shelter**
- A Warming Shelter Collaboration Meeting has been called by Ann Hunnicutt, current director of the shelter. Sherry McSherry, our LCC Volunteer Coordinator, and I will be attending the meeting on Monday, August 15 to hear and discuss volunteer opportunities and how shelter guests can receive assistance this winter.
- **Pastor Bradn Buerkle** and his family have been reunited and are safely in Germany.
- **Eastern Europe Crisis-** (from the report to the Churchwide Assembly)
As of June 2022, Lutheran Disaster Response raised over \$10 million, \$4.36 million of which has been contributed to the Lutheran World Federation, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Hungary, and others to provide immediate and long-term assistance to Ukrainian refugees arriving in Poland, Slovakia, Moldova, Hungary, Romania, and the Czech Republic. Implementing partners provide food, temporary shelter, cash assistance, hygiene kits, medical care, and pastoral counseling to recent arrivals.

Children and Family Ministry: Rachel Gerhartz

- Postcards have gone out to all families with August and September events list and description.
- Blessing of the Backpacks will occur on Sept. 4 during worship.
- September 11th - Rally Day theme is "Gather 'Round" with doughnuts as the decor/theme. We will have a "Donut forget to Pray" station, a donut activity/craft station, Hygiene kit station for KY flood victims, blanket tying station for Camp Noah, and a couple of carnival type games for fun. The Women of the Cross will be helping with Rally Day stations. Along with donuts that day for coffee fellowship, we will have mini bagels and flavored cream cheese. A banner advertising rally Sunday will be up next week.
- We agreed at our CYFM meeting that we will start up Cross Kids Connection during Wednesday programming time. It will be a repeat of the previous Sunday's Cross Kids and Cross Kids Connection and will be open to school age kids. We will ask for volunteers to run this. Kari will invite our 10th - 12th graders to help out as well.
- Our yearly calendar of youth and family activities is completed and the staff meets Wednesday, Aug. 10 to do calendar work, as well. We will make a concerted push for Family Pizza and Game Nights this year.
- *Verbally added at meeting: August 18, the Playground Committee will meet to discuss location, cost, etc. of creating a new playground for LCC*

Youth and Family Ministry: Sarah Tietz

- We had a GREAT summer and good participation in Summer Stretch. Pr. Drew has reached out to Stephen at OSLC about doing "Summer Stretch North" next year with them and CLLC. He seemed interested, so we will pursue this.

- Our week at Luther Crest was wonderful and the kids had a blast. I will work on incorporating the theme throughout the fall
- Our Affirmation of Baptism Workshop will be on August 17 - we will make stoles and finish up with mentor/confirmand faith statement presentations. Affirmation of Baptism service will be on Sept. 18 at 11:30am. Faith Statement sharing and dessert will be on the evening of September 17. Still haven't heard if we can borrow robes from Trinity again. I will reach out to Pr. Sarah again tomorrow.
- Pr. Drew and I have the schedule for Confirmation classes and groups all set for the programming year. We start on September 28 and the fall sessions will focus on the Lord's Prayer. Still waiting to hear on small group leaders, but we do have most groups covered.
- We have plans/food/decor all set for Vicar's ordination and installation. Sally, Sheri and I have all the supplies here at church and organized together.

Congregational Life: Joanie Swanson

- Thanks to Pastor Drew for last month's meeting at his home. Good food and good discussion!
- Events remain busy and thriving.
- Operation Sandwich is in full swing and Team A and Team Z meet on alternating Thursday mornings. We continue to welcome the subs/helpers to help the teams. Serving over 60 families in Pine River, Jenkins, Pequot Lakes and Nisswa.
- Carol Smith, Sally Hodgson, Sherri McSherry, Vicar Michelle (soon to be Pastor!) and I met to continue the discussion on updating the Small Groups Brochure for the upcoming season. Additions discussed and times and days for existing meeting times that may need changing.
- Sept. 15th will be a New Member get-together with New Member Sunday on September 25th. Excited to meet them!!
- An exciting time yet this month? On August 28th at our 9:00 a.m. service will be the Ordination and Installation of Michelle Ruen as our Associate Pastor! Reception following to welcome her!
- Check out the weekly bulletin and take them home so you don't forget to join in on the fun! There is something for everyone!!

Personnel: Darrell Paske

No Report

Meeting Adjourned/Closing Prayer: Vicar Michelle
Respectfully submitted by Jenny Stubbs, Secretary

Next Council Meeting:
Thursday, September 8, 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 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.

**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.



*Bring your
backpack or
book bag to
worship - for
all ages!*

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

4-hour refresher course for returning students

Classes held at Lutheran Church of the Cross

September 2 (4 Hr Refresher) 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

October 7 (4 Hr Refresher) 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

1-888-234-1294 or 1-320-308-1400

Lutheran Church of the Cross

PO Box 29
5064 County Road 13
Nisswa, MN 56468

Main Phone: 218-963-2564

Web: lccnisswa.org

E-mail: lcc@lccnisswa.org

CURRENT RESIDENT OR

Address label here

Welcoming all people into discipleship

STAFF

Pastor	Drew Bakken	218-961-2014
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
Lay Ministry Coordinator	Sheri McSherry	218-961-2052
Senior Choir Director	Brian Stubbs	
Organist	Laura Raedeke	
Bell Choir Director	Cheryl Karlgaard	
King's Kids	Carol Smith	
Custodian	Todd Whipple	218-963-2564
ELCA Global Missionary	Bradn Buerkle	
LCC Office	Laurie Hemish	218-961-2011

2022 CHURCH COUNCIL

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

