



The Cross Word

From Janie Hague

Greetings friends at Lutheran Church of the Cross!

I am so excited to be with you all very soon! I wanted to write to you all and tell you a little about myself. I was born and raised in the Bismarck/Mandan area, attended college at the University of Mary, and will be starting my last year of seminary this fall online at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN to become a Deacon. I have been working in ministry since 2007. I spent many summers at Camp of the Cross on staff, a Youth Director at Faith Lutheran Church and Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Bismarck.

My call to work in ministry started at a young age; when I would come home from Sunday school I would line up all my dolls on our church pew bench and would preach to them what I learned that day in class. I have a strong passion for faith formation of people of all ages but especially faith formation in the home.

I love to go camping, fishing, gardening, canning, boating, and trying new things. I will see you all starting July 9th. Stop in the church and say Hi! I love a good cup of coffee and would love to brew you a cup of coffee in my office or meet you for coffee at a coffee shop!

Blessings!
Janie<><

Lutheran Church of the Cross

July
2018

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Office Hours:

The office hours are changing over the summer months. They are as follows: Monday—Friday 9-1pm effective June 1—August 31. Call the office to schedule any needed afternoon activities.

Wednesday Worship Schedule for Summer

During the summer, we will have worship (informal and outside as weather permits!) each second Wednesday following a picnic! Two picnics left: July 11, and August 8. Picnic is at 5:30 and worship follows at 6:30. Each worship time during the summer will be planned differently. Extra children's activities were held after worship including a scavenger hunt, Smores and a bouncy house. Teen Challenge will be here in July.

Dancing on Sunday Afternoon

By Linda Cardello

Reviewed by Shirley Grondahl

Cara got a call from her mother to go to Italy. Guila, in her 90's, had gone to Italy to be by the bedside of her sister who was dying. After her sister died Guila fell and broke her hip. Cara was told to bring a cigar box from the bottom drawer of bed linens. While Guila was recuperating from her hip surgery Cara read all the letters to her from Guila's first husband; Paola. They tell about her hard life when she got to America. Paola was Cara's grandfather. The main story is about her life in America and her love for Paola including the dancing. She lived a very hard, stressful life.

Cara spent about two weeks in Italy and brought Guila back home again. Guila told Cara she could do whatever she wanted to with the letters. "They are for you alone." They were never mentioned again. Guila got back into her own home and died about a year later.

Altar Focus

July's Altar Focus continues to be the Baby Care Kits. Please refer to June's newsletter for the requirements.

Schedule

Book Report

Altar Focus

Stewardship of our leisure time

I commend enjoyment, for there is nothing better for people under the sun than to eat, and drink, and enjoy themselves, for this will go with them in their toil through the days of life that God gives them under the sun. Ecclesiastes 8:15

Busy-ness keeps us from living with joy and peace in today's 24/7 world, but Scripture reminds us that this is hardly new. Ecclesiastes was written some 2,500 years ago! Ecclesiastes does not give license for mindless pleasure-seeking, but rather affirms that our hard work should be balanced with time for relaxation and enjoyment with friends and family.

Saints and mystics have long touted the need for rest and renewal. In the monastic tradition it's referred to as *otium sanctum* - Holy Leisure. Not just wasting our free time, but using it for renewal. As steward/disciples, we aim to use our leisure time wisely. Here are some ideas:

Keep the Sabbath: God actually *commands* us to stop working one day per week, as Exodus 20:8-11 makes clear. It's one of the Top Ten! Though we are prohibited from *working* on the Sabbath, there is no prohibition against leisure. (Why else would God give us a day off?)

Plan your vacation: Even if you're taking simple STAYcation, *plan* your time for maximum rest and enjoyment. Visit local museums or historic places. Take day trips to local parks, mountains or waterways. Invite friends or family over. Select books to read, movies to stream and games to play.

Manage your schedule: Are you a slave to your appointment book, driven by *other people's* priorities? Put yourself first - scheduling in time for leisure. Even if it's just 30 minutes here and there, make - and take - time for yourself!

Find an activity you like: What do you do just for you? Exercise? Read? Scrapbook? Play an instrument? Walk? Fish? Discover - or REdiscover - what brings you joy, then make time to do it.

Socialize: Friends and family make life enjoyable. Spend time with them. Ideas: a hike, a picnic, a meal on your deck, drinks under the stars, a game of cards or a board game.

Invest, don't waste, time: Many activities pass the time but don't give back much in renewal or refreshment. Choose activities wisely.

God expects us to work, but not work ourselves to death. Sabbath and leisure time provide means for us to find balance in our life, as well as friendship, love, renewal and purpose.

--Rob Blezard

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Stewardship
and
Generosity

Why We Give

"We give to the Church as we feel it a privilege to share what we have been given in life through faith in our Lord and Savior. We also give to the church once a month through Thrivent's Simply Giving. Using Simply Giving allows us to feel that we are giving even when we are not able to be in attendance."

-Mike and Kim Humann

The impact of your giving to the church not only supports the general operations of Lutheran Church of the Cross, but also helps us support many people, places, and activities within our church walls as well as out in the community and world. In an effort to promote stewardship and giving at Lutheran Church of the Cross throughout the year, the Church Council is sharing church members' thoughts, statements and stories on why they give to the church.

As we move through the year, working to remain fiscally responsible with the decisions impacting the church's budget, the Council also encourages you to think about *why* you give to the church and the impact of this giving.

Angels Among Us

Have you met our angel this month, Barb Norby? She is often found on Sundays sitting in the last row, just right of center aisle with her daughter and grandson. Frankly, worship would not run nearly as smoothly without Barb! She is the master organizer of all of the Scripture readers, ushers and communion assistants - key people in our worship services! - so we hope you'll answer her calls with a resounding yes. (If you're not yet on her list and would like to be, let us know!) Barb serves as the secretary of the worship and music team, has helped plan Holy Week and other worship services, has played piano for worship, and during Lent trains and guides our confirmation youth as ushers for Lenten worship. Help us thank Barb - give her a high five next time you see her, and a word of thanks. LCC is better with you, Barb!

We Need You: Church School Teachers and Volunteer Coordinator

As we look to the next school year, there is a great need and opportunity to volunteer as a **Church School Teacher** at LCC. Before September, it is hoped at least a dozen or more teachers (a minimum of six teachers for Sunday School and six teachers for Wednesday School) will be in place to allow for a team teaching approach. This will allow those teaching to alternate instruction days with another teacher and allow for more flexibility for those teaching. We encourage parents of the youth in Sunday School, as well as all church members with a desire to impact the youth of our church, to consider becoming a Church School Teacher for the 2018-2019 school year or the volunteer Church School Coordinator, please contact Kylie Blanchard (kylie.blanchard@hotmail.com or 391-0373).

Why We
Give

Angels
Among US

Church
School
Teachers

Lutheran Church of the Cross
"Making Jesus Known by Sharing Our Gifts"
Council Meeting Minutes
June 12, 2018

Meeting was called to order by President Tom Harris at 6:32pm

Attendance: Pastor Lisa, Kylie Blanchard, Jon Hanson, Tom Harris, Brian Johnson, Heather Martin, Jeff Thomas, Ken Will, Connie Werner, Art Wheeler

Devotions: Mark 4:21-25 A Lamp Under A Bushel Basket, "Let anyone with ears to hear, listen."

Approval of May 8th Minutes – Brian J motion/Heather M second/APPROVED

Change to Treasurer's Report in May minutes, per Art Wheeler. "Regarding QuickBooks, the Pro Advisor portion of \$503 was paid last year and it is good until May of 2020. The only payment this year is the 3-yr. plan for Payroll service, that came to \$1704 which included tax. It was billed to me and the church has reimbursed me the \$1704."

Worship and Music will continue to meet throughout the summer, no formal C2 meetings are scheduled and committees will meet as needed.

Calendar – Reviewed upcoming events in June, July, August

Lunch at Trinity Lutheran Church, Saturday, June 30th, 11-2 p.m., LCC is hosting, volunteers are needed and Cheryl Moore is the lead. This was not budgeted for in our 2018 budget, needs to be accounted for in 2019.

Summer picnics June 13, July 11 and August 8 will begin at 5:30 with a service at 6:30, outdoors weather permitting.

Council Meetings will continue to be the second Tuesday at 6:30. C2 will not be held during the months of June, July and August.

Pastor Lisa

Vacation Bible School went well! Could have used more volunteers, need to promote more next year since LCC is hosting, possibly in August versus June.

Pastor Lisa, Ken Will and Art Wheeler went to the special meeting for Camp of the Cross new construction. Lack of funds was discussed, and it was proposed that their Endowment Fund be used as collateral. \$350K to borrow another \$350K, this would finish the kitchen and bathrooms. There was an unanimous vote of yes to proceed.

Janie Hague has accepted the position of Director of Discipleship and will start on July 9th.

Bismarck Larks are hosting a fund raiser for Camp of the Cross on July 17th. P. Lisa proposed that LCC purchase 30 tickets for \$600 and advertise with announcements, there will be a sign-up sheet in the Gathering Space. Attendees have the option to donate the cost back to the church.

Jeff T motion/Kylie B second/APPROVED

Area churches are wanting to establish a Campus Ministry. This would require the establishment of a governing board with one (1) representative from each congregation. P. Lisa would like input for representatives from our church. We would then raise money to send our representative. Recommend we include a budget line item for this activity in 2019.

Rally Day, we would like to recognize our charter members with cake and coffee after the service. Invites will be sent to members and their families.

Rally Day, one idea is to invite Highland Acres Elementary school and United Church of Christ to participate in a blood drive, hosted at LCC. This would be one of our "service projects" and would be held on Saturday, September 8th. Other ideas are welcome and will focus on the ELCA "God's Work, Our Hands", with t-shirts, June 9th and 12th.

Worship and Music will be ordering 25 additional hymnals, cost will be covered by memorials that have been received in the past few months.

P. Lisa will be on vacation from June 27th to July 5th. Pastor Bloom will be preaching, and Pastor Heaton will be assisting.

A recap of the Western ND Synod Assembly was provided by P. Lisa and President Tom.

Treasurer's Report – Jon H motion/Brian J second/APPROVED

All bills and statements as of May 31st have been paid.

A 2018 prepaid income general journal entry was made for \$1,525.00.

May bank statements have been reconciled and registries are correct.

Total income for April was \$23,661.29, which exceeded expenditures of \$21,833.12 by \$1,828.17. However, the total income was less than the budget of \$30,319 by \$6,657.71.

Total income for the year is \$148,303, which as of May 31st, leaves us short of the budget goal by \$3,292. We must hope that the summer shortfall doesn't accelerate during the next three months.

Janie Hague is enrolled in Portico as of July 1st. Her ending date with Lord of Life has moved up to July 2nd and current insurance is ending on June 30th.

Remain vigilant with our budget and encourage additional giving!

Council Member Portfolio Discussion

Ken Will – Generosity Action Team (Handout)

Heather Martin – Worship and Music, a strong group that deals with multiple issues. Continued work needs done clarifying duties and duty descriptions in all areas.

Old Business:

Planning for Janie Hague's arrival.

She is looking for a desk and will be reimbursed or use one that is donated (so far, that has not happened).

Computer will be updated and a larger monitor has been donated.

Office will be painted next week (Jon).

Welcome party at the July picnic on July 11th and on Sunday, July 15th.

New Business:

Think about fall planning events and 2019 budget.

Security and Safety Facilities Review. Tabled until July meeting.

Barb Thomas has volunteered to pain the boulevard sign, thank you!

Request from Cherie Krueger for the "Bismarck-Mandan Newcomers Club" to meet at the church. They meet once a month from Sept thru May, except December and January, 1st Tuesday of the month with a board meeting from 6-7 p.m. and general member meeting from 7-9 p.m.

Jon H motion/Jeff T second/APPROVED

Next Meeting: July 10th, 6:30pm

President Tom adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Thank you for what you do for Lutheran Church of the Cross!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 1 July 2018 9:00 Worship Team Practice 10:00 Worship 11:00 Potluck	2 Needlework Group 1:30pm@ Miller's home	3	4 Office Closed	5 8p AA Mtg.	6	7
8 9:00 Worship Team Practice 10:00 Worship/Baptism 11:00 Potluck	9 Janie's first day! Needlework Group 1:30pm	10 Church Council 6:30p	11 Church Picnic 5:30 Worship Service 6:30 Teen Challenge	12 8p AA Mtg.	13	14
15 9:00 Worship Practice 10:00 Worship/Baptism 11:00 Coffee Hour	16 Needlework Group 1:30pm	17 Larks Game COC 6:05 food 7:05 game	18	19 8p AA Mtg.	20 Newsletter deadline	21
22 9:00 Worship Team Practice 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee	23 Knitting for Others 1pm Needlework Group 1:30pm	24	25 6:30am MM Bible Study	26 8p AA Mtg.	27	28 Strong Bond Workshop National Guard
29 9:00 Worship Team Practice 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee Hour	30 Needlework Group 1:30pm	31		8p AA Mtg.		Altar Focus: Baby Care Kits

Lutheran Church of the Cross
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E-NEWS

Worship Times:

Wednesday Worship 6pm
during school year
2nd Wed. during summer
5:30 picnic /6:30 service

Sunday Worship
The River Service 10:00am

Lisa Ahlness, Pastor

Office Hours:

M -TH 8-4pm

Fri. 8-noon School Year

Summer Hours 9-1

Lutheran Church of the Cross

2018 Church Council

Tom Harris, President	390.9421
Ken Will, Vice President	258.7127
Jon Hanson, Secretary	391.3416
Jeff Thomas	955.3632
Brian Johnson	391-0872
Kylie Blanchard	391.0373
Heather Martin	202.8316

The Church Council meets once a month; the second Tuesday at 6:30pm. The Council meetings are open to the congregation and all are encouraged to attend a meeting or to visit with a Council member if you have questions or concerns regarding the church.

Making Jesus Known by Sharing our Gifts