

## Growing Together

January 2023

### Cross Lutheran Church & School

200 Ruppert Street  
Pigeon, MI 48755  
989-453-3330

[www.crosslutheranpigeon.org](http://www.crosslutheranpigeon.org)  
[www.crosslutheranschool.org](http://www.crosslutheranschool.org)

Email:

secretary

@crosslutheranpigeon.org

### Our mission:

**Bring people to  
Christ.**

**Teach Christians  
to be disciples.**

**Send disciples to  
reach the world.**



### Inside this issue:

Preparing for Worship	2
Celebrate	3
School News	4
Memorials	5
Council Minutes	6
Financial	10
Calendar	11

From the Pastor's desk at Cross Lutheran Church-NALC,



*“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be*

*that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.” (Isaiah 55:8-11)*

\* *“I’m dreaming of a White Christmas...”* \*

\* *“Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow!”* \*

\* *“...snowflakes that stay on my nose and eyelashes, silver white winters...”* \*

I love snow, but most of the time when I mention that there will be a chance of snow in the forecast, many responses are, *“Please don’t mention that word around me anymore!”*

I am always amazed at the range of comments I hear when I mention with anticipation of that white fluffy stuff that falls from the sky this time of year. You know, those little geometric shapes that are described as no two are alike. I’m talking about those individual ice crystals that grow in the atmosphere and then by their weight, are pulled down to earth by gravity. And more times than not, during this time of year, they suddenly appear even though the weather report promises clear skies with no chance of precipitation. But please remember that we do live in Michigan, and in the winter, these little white flakes are going to come down and cover us with a blanket of pureness with or without our approval.

*“The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.” (Psalm 19:1)*

I love my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! There have been times when I have shared the Good News of Jesus Christ, and the response has been, *“Please don’t mention those words around me anymore.”* Like those little particles of winter white, the slightest mention of the coming of the Messiah of which the prophets of old foretold, stir uncomfortable emotions in friends, relatives, and neighbors. You know, the Son of God and Son of Man who is like no other. I’m talking about God incarnate, the only begotten Son of God that came down to earth.

*(Continued on page 2)*

The prophet Jeremiah said this to the people who were lulled asleep in their sin, **“Hear this, O foolish and senseless people, who have eyes, but see not, who have ears, but hear not.”** (Jeremiah 5:21) God’s Word in our Bibles announces that Jesus Christ will return one day, no matter who plug their ears and refuse to hear God’s promise. No matter how many voices shout, **“Please don’t mention those words around me anymore!”**

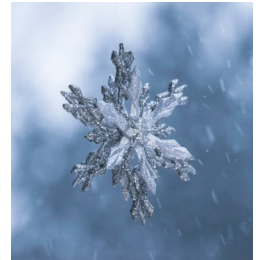
**“I am coming soon. Hold fast what you have, so that no one may seize your crown.”** (Revelation 3:11)

**“And behold, I am coming soon. Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book.”** (Revelation 22:7)

**“Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.”** (Revelation 22:12-13)

**“Surely I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!** (Revelation 22:20)

As sure as the snow will appear during the winter months in Michigan, the Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ will come again. His Word is not a prediction that may or may not occur, it is a proclamation of Truth!



**“Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.”** (Isaiah 1:18)

In Christ, Pastor Glenn

**Preparing for Worship**

**January 1 - First Sunday after Christmas**

1R – Isaiah 63:7-14, P – Psalm 111, 2R – Galatians 4:4-7, G – Matthew 2:13-23

**January 6 - Feast of the Epiphany**

1R - Isaiah 60:1-6, P – Psalm 72:1-11 (12-15), 2R – Ephesians 3:1-12, G – Matthew 2:1-12

**January 8 - Baptism of Our Lord**

1R - Isaiah 42:1-9, P - Psalm 29, 2R - Romans 6:1-11, G - Matthew 3:13-17

**January 15 - Second Sunday after the Epiphany**

1R - Isaiah 49:1-7, P – Psalm 40:1-11, 2R – 1 Corinthians 1:1-9, G – John 1:29-42a

**January 22 - Third Sunday after the Epiphany**

1R - Isaiah 9:1-4, P - Psalm 27:1-9 (10-14), 2R - 1 Corinthians 1:10-18, G - Matthew 4:12-25

**January 29 - Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany**

1R - Micah 6:1-8, P - Psalm 15, 2R - 1 Corinthians 1:18-31, g - Matthew 5:1-12

**Remember Those in Need of Continued Prayer...**

Tom Shupe, Whitney Peyer, John Finneren, Delores Lange, Emilee Osentoski, Lydia Decker, Dorothy Henne, Joe Stodola, Matt Edler, Larry Adams, Al Collison, Rachel Higgins, Michelle Walsh, Anna House, Susan Beller, Hope Kittel, Inez Buchholz, Noah Adams, Kyle Walker, Whitney Peyer, Kayle Thepsourinthone, Kay Schuette, Roberta Danks, Posie Tuckey, Corey Messing, Marvin Trost, Kevin Faupel, Ezra Sturm, Deann Lewis, Robert Krzeszewski, Delores Elftman and Martin Knost.

**Those in Honorable Service Our Country...**


Nathan Schulz, U.S. Marines, sons of Lonnie Schulz & grandsons of Bonnie Schulz, Nicholas Swanson, U.S. Air Force, son of Randy & Suzie Swanson & grandson of Nancy Schuette, Michael Cox, U.S. Navy, son of Kim Sears.



# Celebrate

## BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Lisa Gray
- 3 Phil Schadd
- 4 Paul Schadd
- 5 Shirley Schuette
- 7 Kyle Yackle
- 10 Ken Licht
- Barb Degg
- 11 Michelle Walsh
- Jessica Peterson
- 12 LuAnne Sokolowski
- 14 Anna House
- 17 Karen Anklam
- 19 Dale Schuette
- 20 Denny Smith
- 21 Vickie Forster
- 23 Gene Parsell
- 24 Brenda Smith
- Cordelia Trost
- Greg Yackle
- 26 Lori McKenzie
- Alice Trost
- 28 Heather Koroleski
- 29 Dave Elftman
- Connie Herford
- Tonja Nelson
- 31 Gary Forster



## Ordering the days

God spoke and created all that exists. He separated and ordered his creation. What did God say about all he made?

---

*Directions: Write the correct day of creation next to each clue. Then fill in the circled letters in order below to complete Genesis 1:31, NIV.*

---

	FIRST	SECOND	THIRD	FOURTH	FIFTH	SIXTH
God made wild animals and livestock.					○	_ _ _ _ _
God said, "Let there be light."						_ _ _ _ _ ○
God gathered the waters under the sky into one place.					○	_ _ _ _ _
God made a vault to separate the waters and called it "sky."						_ _ _ _ _ ○
God created plants and trees.						_ _ _ _ _ ○
God separated the light from the darkness.					○	_ _ _ _ _
God made the water teem with living creatures.						_ _ _ _ _
God made the sun and moon.						_ _ _ _ _ ○
God made birds fly above the earth.						_ _ _ _ _
God made stars.					○	_ _ _ _ _
God created mankind in his own image.						_ _ _ _ _

**God \_aw all tha\_ he \_ad ma\_e, an\_ \_t was ve\_y g\_od.**

GENESIS 1:31, NIV

Answer: sixth, first, third, second, third, first, fifth, fourth, sixth, God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.

## ANNIVERSARIES

- 27 Jerome & Marlene Grammentz, 44 yrs.



## From the Desk of...Brian Wright

Our classroom has been busy with 6, 7, and 8th grade science this year. We have been studying biomes and how organisms interact with each other. We have an Anole habitat that we have been studying since the first of October. We also have an aquarium with guppies that the students study as well. We are going to dissect a few organisms in the new year to study their anatomy and physiology.

In November, we took a field trip to Ligrow's Fitness and Athletic Performance Center as well as a concert from "the Friends of Music Series". Overall, it was a great day with fun and learning had by all.

We also started basketball in December and have lots of energy and enthusiasm toward the sport. Keep an eye out for the upcoming schedule. The 3-8th grade players should be fun to watch.

I am blessed and grateful to be teaching in such a wonderful place as Cross. Thank you for the opportunity to teach again. May the Lord bless you and keep you in this wonderful new year!

### January Calendar

1/03	School Resumes
1/13	End of 2nd Grading Period
1/13	1/2 day of school, dismiss at 11 am
1/16	No School



### **"2023 Cross Lutheran School CEA Winter Dinner Auction"**

The CEA is hosting a Winter Dinner Auction on February 11th at the Pigeon Event Center. Doors open at 4:30 pm with a catered dinner at 6:00 pm. The evening will consist of dinner and drinks with a silent and live auction. Proceeds will go to the CEA to help fund the playground equipment project and other educational advancements for our students. Join our Facebook group to stay up to date on the latest developments of this event.

Tickets will be available soon and can be purchased from a Winter Dinner Auction committee member: Rita Herford, Kim Leipprandt, Michelle Walsh or Samantha Bismack. Tickets sales will begin December 19th and are limited so secure yours soon!

Questions please call

Rita at (989) 553-1550 or Kim (517) 490-3418





# memorials & gifts

**These gifts were received to the glory of God in memory or honor of the following people:**

**In memory of Elmer Bussema, for Cross Lutheran School:**

Joyce Bussema

Jack & Pam Sturm

**In memory of Ed & Viola Schuette, for Cross Lutheran Church:**

Dorothy Thuemmel, Dana & Bryan

**In memory of Ed & Viola Schuette, for Cross Lutheran Church:**

Dorothy Thuemmel, Dana & Bryan

**In memory of Harold Deering, for Cross Building fund:**

Shirley Deering

**In memory of M&M Adam Stueck, for Cross Building fund:**

Shirley Deering

**In memory of Janet Schumacher, for Cross Lutheran Church:**

Karen Anklam

Olga Renn

## **INFORMATION ABOUT OFFERING ENVELOPES:**

We will most likely not receive the 2023 member offering envelopes before the start of 2023. A few updates were made to the envelopes and staffing shortages and supply chain distribution issues have all contributed to the delay. You are being asked to do the following: Use any of your previous year's envelopes and put the current giving date on the envelope prior to giving it to the church through the collection plate or outside deposit box. Alternately, you may use a new envelope from home or a pew envelope found at church - you must be sure you have your name clearly visible on your envelope and using checks is most helpful! Any time that you give cash as an offering and desire it to be recorded to your member contribution by the church's counters, you must use an envelope that has your name clearly marked on it. Your help is most appreciated and your giving is so necessary to the mission of the body of Christ at Cross Lutheran Church.

Women's Bible Study will meet on January 4th at 1:30 in the church. The study will be the book, Freedom-Finding Peace in Anxious Times, by Marjorie J. Thompson. We will conclude with session 5-From Life to Death and begin another book in this series in February. Join this small group anytime. We would welcome your input in the study of God's Word. Questions contact Leanne Smith 989-553-4241. Study guides are available at the study.



### **ANNUAL MEETING DEADLINES**

- ◆ Deadline for acct. books for audit - 1/6/23
- ◆ Audit Committee to meet & review books – week of 1/9/23
- ◆ Account books picked-up from office – week of 1/16/23
- ◆ Deadline for all reports – 1/23/23
- ◆ Annual Report available 1/29/23
- ◆ Annual Meeting 2/12/23

# CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

Tuesday, December 13, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Church Council President, Matt Zimmerman, at 7:00 pm

Present: Matt Zimmerman, Kristy Carriveau, John House, Norm Nelson, Jason Shaw, Nancy Schuette, Kim Sears and Pastor Glenn S. Sokolowski. Absent: Dick Koehler

Guests: David Faupel, Jessica Schwartz Phil Schadd, Michelle Walsh, Rita Herford, Kim Leipprandt

**DEVOTIONS:** Pastor shared a devotion and prayer.

**AGENDA:** Approved with clarification- Proposed salary increases for church & school staff of 8%, effective January 1, 2023 *Jason Shaw made a motion to approve the Agenda, seconded by, John House Motion carried.*

**MINUTES:** *Jason Shaw made a motion to approve the Minutes, seconded by John House. Motion carried.*

**GUESTS PRESENTATIONS:** Michelle Walsh, Rita Herford, Kim Leipprandt  
CEA Winter Dinner, February 11, 2023:

- The location is the Pigeon Event Center
- Doors open at 4:30 p.m., Dinner beginning at 6:00 p.m.
- There will be live and silent auctions, also an open bar.
- Ticket sales start 12/19/22 and are \$50.00 per person.

## **STAFF REPORTS:**

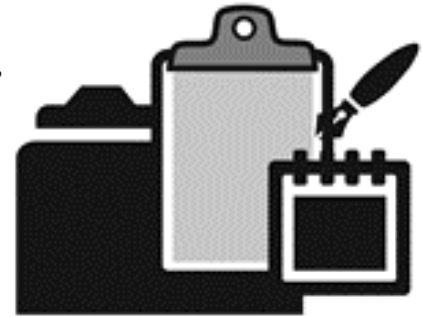
**Cross School:** David Faupel, Principal  
Total students enrolled for 2022-2023: 68  
Christmas Fair was December 9th  
December 20- Christmas Palooza at 1:00 pm & 7:00 p.m.  
Christmas Break-December 22- January 2.  
Robotics team will be competing in Monroe, MI on March 11  
The lunch director position is still open  
Door locks were recently installed

**Daycare:** Jessica Schwartz, Director  
The daycare is fully staffed

## **OFFICER REPORTS:**

Matt Zimmerman, President- Nothing to report.  
Kristy Carriveau, Secretary – NALC letter  
Kim Sears, Treasurer:

Reported that we're under budget, \$20,570.14. *Motion was made by John House to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented, seconded by Nancy Schuette, motion carried.*



Church Council  
Minutes

## **ADVISOR'S REPORTS**

### **PASTOR'S REPORT:**

November 10-Met with Nominating Committee

November 19 & December 10-Michigan Mission District Meeting Online

November 30-Wednesday Advent Services Began

December 9-Baptismal Education

December 11-Christmas Concert

Release of membership. *Motion was made by John House to accept Betty Champagne's release of membership from Cross Lutheran Church, seconded by Al Licht, motion carried.*

### **SCHOOL BOARD REPORT:**

Dick Koehler, School Board President, absent, no report

### **MINISTRY REPORTS – TRUSTEES**

**Property:** Al Licht

All outdoor projects have been completed.

**Music & Worship:** John House

Beth Elston's review was completed

**Stewardship:** Norm Nelson

Nothing to Report

**Mission Outreach:** Nancy Schuette

Move Mission Sunday to September

**Parish Life:** Nancy Schuette

Potlucks for Lent services

Caroling on December 14

**Youth:** Jason Shaw

Sunday school attendance has been up

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Proposed salary increases for church & school staff of 8%, beginning January 1, 2023. November minutes to be amended. *Motion was made by John House to accept the increase, seconded by Jason Shaw, motion carried.*

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Daycare and space- looking to utilize existing space for the daycare

School tuition raise- need to talk to school board

2023 Church Budget- reviewed and motion to present to congregation *Motion was made by John House to accept the motion, seconded by Jason Shaw, motion carried.* Annual budget meeting will take place on January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Nominating committee- looking for more volunteers

Adding classroom in gym

Pastor Glenn will attend NALC Pastor Conference January 30- February 2, 2023. *Motion was made by John House for Pastor to attend the conference, seconded by Jason Shaw, motion carried.*

Pastor vacation February 12-20, 2023

Council meeting in February to be held on 2/7/23

**Next Council Meeting** – Tuesday, January 10, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 8:45pm

Respectfully Submitted, Kristy Carriveau, Secretary

**Cross Lutheran School Board Minutes From:  
December 1, 2022**

(To be approved at January 5 Meeting)



**Members present:** Dick Koehler, David Faupel, Rebecca Yackle, Kevin Trost, Kevin Stachowiak, Eileen Johnson, Pastor Glenn. **Absent:** Michelle Walsh

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Kevin Trost at 5:30 pm. Prayer and Scripture led by Pastor Glenn.

**Agenda:**

A motion was made by Kevin S. to accept the agenda and seconded by Rebecca. It was approved.

**Minutes:**

A motion was made by Kevin S. and seconded by Rebecca to accept the minutes of the October 20, 2022, meeting. It was approved.

**Treasurers' Reports:**

School Balance: \$61,791.02

CEA/PTO Balance: \$13,068.33

Hot Lunch: \$13,522.63

A motion was made by Kevin S. and seconded by Rebecca to accept the reports. It was carried.

**CEA President's Report:**

Rebecca reported for Michelle. The Pancake Breakfast and bake sale went very well, as did the sale of Walsh's meats. There is still an outstanding bill to pay from the balance of CEA/PTO for the meat sales. The Christmas Fair is coming up, information is being collected concerning the playground equipment, and the Winter Event plans are going well.

**Principal's Report:**

Enrollment remains the same at:

**DK/K: 17 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>: 20 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>: 19 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>: 12**

Basketball practice and season begins soon.

Dec. 3 is Robotics Tournament @ Caseville

Dec. 9 is the Christmas Fair

Dec. 20 is Christmas Palooza with performances a 1:00 and 7:00 p.m.

Dec. 22-Jan. 2 is Christmas Break

**Old Business**

Short/Long term plans for growth was discussed briefly and continue later.

There will be a Statement of Faith in the staff and school handbooks next year. The actions of our faith are practiced each week in chapel.

Marcine was granted 15 days of pay by donations of days by staff members. This was



Marcine was granted 15 days of pay by donations of days by staff members. This was accepted in a motion by Kevin S. and seconded by Rebecca. The motion was passed.

The caulking of the school is complete. The portion the school will pay is \$4000. There was a motion by Rebecca and seconded by Kevin S. to pay this amount and was passed unanimously.

### **New Business**

David checked into the purchase of microphones for the gym. Kevin S. made a motion to purchase the microphones for \$700 and seconded by Rebecca. Motion was carried.

There was a discussion on the Dress Policy and will be revisited next month.

There is still a position open for Director/Head Cook.

There was a discussion concerning sharing costs of the School and Daycare use of paper products, utilities, etc. This will be discussed further when more information is available.

Discussion of the playground was tabled.

The security keypads were tabled.

**We closed at 7:15 with the Lord's Prayer.**

**Next Meeting: Thursday, January 5, 2023**



### **HELP NEEDED AT CROSS LUTHERAN SCHOOL**

Cross Hot Lunch Program is creating a list of volunteers to call when help is needed. Kitchen prep work and serving is needed on some days when we are short staffed. Anyone willing to lend a helping hand, please contact Karen in the church/school office or Principal David Faupel.

### **Worship and Music Ministry**

December 6, 2022

\*Final details for the Advent/Christmas concert were discussed. Motion by Mike and seconded by John to give the offering from that event to The Huron County Human Development Commission. Passed.

\*Karen reported on the favorable Musician Review with Beth.

\*Worship and Music will address job descriptions for the various music positions here at Cross. These will be recommended to council for approval.

\* Mission church discussion was tabled until January. We should know better by then what their needs will be.

Next meeting – Tuesday, January 3, 2023 at 3 pm.



brrrrrr!



# January 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Comm. Service 9:30 am <b>1</b>	<b>2</b> NO School	School Resumes <b>3</b> Worship & Music 3pm	Chapel 8:05 am <b>4</b> Women's Bible 1 pm Mission/Outreach 6:30 pm	<b>5</b> Jean Quilts 1pm School Board 5:30 pm Properties 7 pm	Epiphany <b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
Baptism of our Lord Comm. Service 9:30 am <b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Stewardship 5:30 pm Bells 6:30 Choir 7:30	<b>10</b> Council 7 pm	Chapel 8:05 am <b>11</b> Quilters 1 pm	<b>12</b>	End of 2nd Grading Period - 1/2 day of school <b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
Comm Service 9:30 am <b>15</b>	<b>16</b> NO School Bells 6:30 Choir 7:30	<b>17</b>	Chapel 8:05 am <b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Jean Quilts 1 pm	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
Comm Service 9:30 am <b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Newsletter Deadline Bells 6:30 Choir 7:30	<b>24</b>	Chapel 8:05 am <b>25</b> Quilters 1 pm	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
Comm Service 9:30 am <b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Bells 6:30 Choir 7:30	<b>31</b>			