

Growing Together

May 2023

Cross Lutheran Church & School

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

www.crosslutheranpigeon.org
www.crosslutheranschool.org
Email: secretary@crosslutheranpigeon.org

Our mission:

Bring people to Christ.

Teach Christians to be disciples.

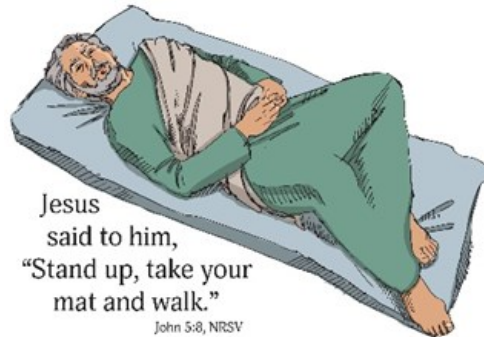
Send disciples to reach the world.



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



² Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Aramaic called Bethesda, which has five roofed colonnades. ³ In these lay a multitude of invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed. ⁵ One man was there who had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. ⁶ When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had already been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be healed?" ⁷ The sick man

answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am going another steps down before me." ⁸ Jesus said to him, "Get up, take up your bed, and walk." ⁹ And at once the man was healed, and he took up his bed and walked. (John 5:2-9)

Each time I read this story in the Bible I reflect on the response of the sick man speaking to Jesus. "[Jesus] said to him, "Do you want to be healed?" The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am going another steps down before me." Jesus asks the sick man a question that should require a simple yes or no answer. Yet instead of simply responding with "yes," the man's faith focused on a dirty public pool of water where the sheep may have been washed before entering the temple sanctuary. It was a popular location where the disabled gathered because the water in the pool was believed to have healing powers. After being an invalid for thirty-eight years, Jesus' question should have attracted this man's attention, but he still focused on the pool. Maybe he hoped that Jesus would carry him to the water. After all, he had no one else to help carry him there. But the source of this man's healing was not in a disappointing pool of water just beyond his reach, but in Jesus, the man who stood directly in front of him.

The Biblical account does not tell us how long the man had been at this pool, but Jesus "*knew that he had already been there a long time.*" Day after day, week after week, and quite possibly, year after year he waited, hoping for a miracle of healing, but each day, week, and year produced a similar result. Yet on this special day, Jesus provides the sick man healing in a way that is most unexpected! His word alone has the power to change thirty-eight years of suffering into a new day of rejoicing!

"Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place. Afterward Jesus found him

(Continued on page 2)

in the temple and said to him, “See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse may happen to you.” (John 5:13-14)

Reverend Bo Giertz of the Church of Sweden shared, *“There is something worse, something much more serious than any disease that may threaten our physical lives. Being separated from God is the real disaster.”*

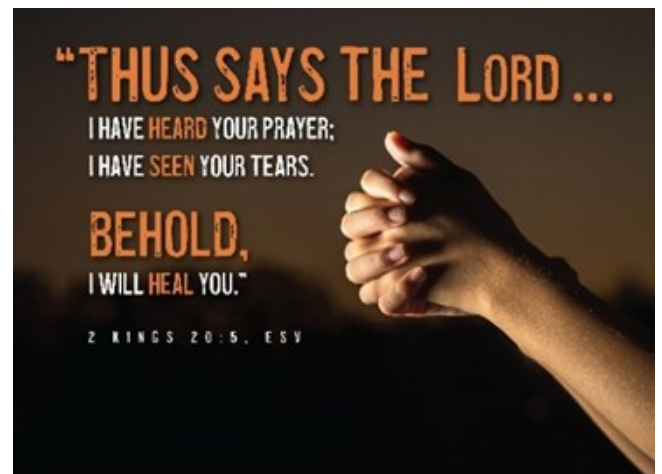
God may not answer us in ways that we expect or even as quickly as we want Him to act. That is when we grow impatient with God. We quickly act by taking matters into our own hands without first praying for God’s guidance and waiting for Him to guide us. Some would rather crawl into a dirty pool of water and possibly contract more disease than look to the One who can restore health to someone who has given up hope. God is the source of our faith and without Him, we have nothing. Without faith, we will never recognize God’s help for us even when He is standing right in front of us!

As Jesus asked, **“Do you want to be healed?”** may we have the boldness to speak to others with the same love and concern for their eternal life. We can tell them about the One who can. We can tell them about the One who can care for them in their time of need. And we can pray for them! We can pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs. The Psalmist is our example!

***“O Lord my God, I cried to you for help,
and you have healed me.”*** (Psalm 30:2)

*Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we
pray trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus
Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the
Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

In His service,
Pastor Glenn



Preparing for Worship

May 7 - Fifth Sunday of Easter

1R – Acts 6:1-9; 7:2, 51-60, P – Psalm 146, 2R – 1 Peter 2:2-10, G – John 14:1-14

May 14 - Sixth Sunday of Easter

1R - Acts 17:16-31, P – Psalm 66:8-20, 2R – 1 Peter 3:13-22, G – John 14:15-21

May 18 - Ascension of Our Lord

1R - Acts 1:1-11, P - Psalm 47, 2R - Ephesians 1:15-23, G - Luke 24:44-53

May 21 - Seventh Sunday of Easter

1R - Acts 1:12-26, P – Psalm 68:1-10, 2R – 1 Peter 4:12-19, 5:6-11, G – John 17:1-11

May 28 - Pentecost

1R - Numbers 11:24-30, P - Psalm 25:1-15, 2R - Acts 2:1-21, G - John 7:37-39

Celebrate



- 1 Iver Krzeszewski
- 2 J.B. Barry
Michelle Richmond
- 3 Andrea Herrygers
Andrew Licht
- 4 Peg McCrimmon
- 5 Patty Schulze
- 6 Jody Blaszczyk
- 8 Kelson Smith
- 10 David Shupe
- 11 Brittany Richmond
Isaac Elston
Carol Schadd
- 13 Linda Gardy
Corey Trost
Dale Schulz
- 14 John Trowbridge
- 15 Jan Love
- 17 Kayla Smith
Carter Walsh
- 19 Trevor Carriveau
- 20 Bob Tate
Breanna Smith
- 21 Roger Fritz
Dawn Rosenthal
- 22 Jordan Trost
Paul Schuette
Jonah Yackle
- 23 Emma Smith

- 25 Matt LePage
- 27 Cole Walsh
- 28 John Smith
Johnathon Higgins
- 29 Zachary Kretschmer
- 30 Carol Diener
Dorothy Henne
Donna Wheeler
- 31 Leanne Smith



- 15 Jim & Brenda Smith, 19 yrs.
- 23 John & Brigid Trowbridge, 36 yrs.
- 27 Duane & Karen Peterson, 34 yrs.
- 30 Mike & Jeanne Sting, 36 yrs.

THOSE IN NEED OF CONTINUED PRAYER

Terry Sturm, Clark Elftman, Hannah Britt, Dave Licht, Cordelia Trost, John Finneren, Tom Shupe, Whitney Peyerck, Dorothy Henne, Joe Stodola, Matt Edler, Larry Adams, Al Collison, Rachel Higgins, Anna House, Susan Beller, Hope Kittel, Inez Buchholz, Noah Adams, Kyle Walker, Kay Schuette, Roberta Danks, Posie Tuckey, Corey Messing, Marvin Trost, Kevin Faupel, Ezra Sturm, Deann Lewis, Kayle Thepsourinthone, Robert Krzeszewski, Dolores Elftman, and Martin Knost.

THOSE IN THE HONORABLE SERVICE OF OUR COUNTRY

Nathan Schulz (U.S. Marines), Nicholas Swanson (U. S. Air Force), Michael Cox (U. S. Navy), and Alex Moyer (U.S. Marines)



Our congratulations to Greta Elston who graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Business Administration from Saginaw Valley State University. Greta is the daughter of Jeff & Beth Elston.

From the Desk of...Brian Wright

It has been a great year of teaching and learning. I can't believe that in another month it will be summer. I have really enjoyed my teaching assignment this year, and am looking forward to next year. What a blessed place for students to learn.

Our classroom is diving into genetics, and trying to figure out why we look the way we do. We are also doing an experiment on plants and how light affects their growth and health. We will finish up that experiment in a week or so.

Last week we studied the structure and function of an eye. We did a drawing and even did a complete dissection of a lamb's eye. The students were surprised and most were a bit excited!

The week before we studied a frog's anatomy and also completed a dissection experiment. We compared the similarities and differences between frog anatomy and human anatomy. We are all just God's creations after all.



May Calendar

5/11	Music & Art Extravaganza
5/19	Picnic/Field Day
5/21	Students sing in Church
5/26	Last Day of School - Closing Chapel, dismissal at 11 am
5/29	Memorial Day



OCC at Cross Lutheran 2023



Spring has arrived and before we know it, the seasons pass and it will be shoebox collection time again. We would like to encourage you to think of shoebox collection all year long.

Watch for reduced items, sales and clearance items all year long! I keep a box in my closet at home and every time I find some items, into the box it goes! Here is a small list of items that could be purchased: T-shirts, shorts, flip-flops, sandals, slippers, shoes, socks, underwear, small toys and stuffies, toothbrushes, washcloths, hair ties, balls, games, cars, dolls, coloring books, crayons, school supplies, bar soap, combs, hairbrushes, nail clippers, small tools, hats, gloves, flashlights, cups, bowls, silverware, etc. If you have any questions, please contact a member of the Mission/Outreach ministry. Remember, all items must be new (to go through customs) and no liquids or war related items are acceptable! Thanks in advance, you will be blessed by your involvement. - Lori Smith

Gifts & Memorials

In memory of Janet Konen for Cross Lutheran Church:
David & Joyce Jarvis

In memory of Crystal Otto for Cross Lutheran Church:
Carol Diener

In memory of Crystal Otto for Cross building fund:
Bonnie Schulz & family
Roger & Pat Ewald & family
Michael & Kathy Swackhamer
Mike & Jeanne Sting

In memory of Pearl Fitzpatrick for Cross Church:
Mike & Jeanne Sting

In memory of Ruth Brenner for Cross Building Fund:
Shirley Deering



**Save the date for Cross VBS
June 12th thru 15th**

Cross Fish Fry Report 2023

Let us all join, praising and thanking God for His many blessings He has done great things!



Thank you to over 90+ volunteers serving in a variety of ways to make the 13th annual Cross Fish Fry a success. With the support of the congregation and community, we served 500 takeout orders as drive thru only. There was a net income of \$7,267.14 Special thanks to you, all the people who pull together and make this project a joy to be a part of!!

This fundraiser would not be a success without all the donors and **many anonymous** gems, who have contributed to this event along with businesses, thanks for your dedication:

- Bay Port State Bank
- Caseville Family Market
- Meijer' of Bad Axe, CD Sandblasting
- Cooperative Elevator Co.
- Main Street Family Restaurant
- Huron Propane Gas LLC
- Kevin Sturm
- Krzyszewski & Sons Masonry
- Thrivent Financial
- Thumb Bank & Trust,
- Wallace Stone Quarry
- Walsh Packing
- Winsor Fire Department,
- and Zimmerman Electric

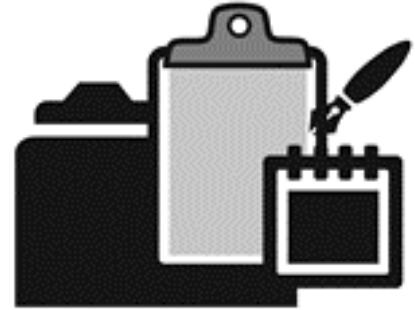
O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever. 1Chronicles 16:34.

Joy in the Journey,
Leanne Smith

CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

Tuesday, April 11, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Matt Zimmerman at 7:00 pm
Present: Matt Zimmerman, Kristy Carriveau, Kim Sears, John House,
Norm Nelson, Jason Shaw, Nancy Schuette, Al Licht, and Pastor Glenn S.
Sokolowski. Absent: Dick Koehler, Jessica Schwartz
Guests: David Faupel



Church Council
Minutes

DEVOTIONS: Pastor shared a devotion and prayer.

AGENDA: Approved with additions Jason Shaw *made a motion to approve the Agenda, seconded by Kim Sears, Motion carried.*

MINUTES: *AL Licht made motion to approve the Minutes, seconded by Nancy Schuette. Motion carried.*

STAFF REPORTS:

Cross School: David Faupel, Principal

- The lunch director position is still open
- Chess club starting
- Gwynn Barry retiring at the end of the year
- The search for two full time elementary teachers and one part time junior high teacher will begin

Daycare: Jessica Schwartz, Director, no report

OFFICER REPORTS:

Matt Zimmerman, President- Nothing to report.

Kristy Carriveau, Secretary – Nothing to report.

Kim Sears, Treasurer:

- Reported that income is under budget by \$7,200. *Motion was made by Jason Shaw to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Kim Sears, motion carried.*

PASTOR'S REPORT:

- April 15, 2023, Michigan Mission District Mtg
- Completed a Virtual Night Class through the NALS (4) sessions
- Bible Study for five additional Wednesday nights, ending May 10th
- Sunday, May 7th, Confirmation Sunday: Zachary Trost, Emily Sturm, Cameron Schuette. *Motion was made by Kim Sears to accept the confirmands as church members, seconded by John House, motion carried.*
- Sunday, May 21st High School Recognition: Kyle Briggs, Rylee Fritz, Chandler Rosenthal, Grace Trost.
Cross Lutheran School 8th grade Graduates: Ryan Kim, Nicholas Rujan, Zachary Trost

SCHOOL BOARD REPORT:

Dick Koehler, School Board President-no report

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MINISTRY REPORTS – TRUSTEES

Property: Al Licht

- Nothing to report

Music & Worship: John House

- New white paraments will be ordered. Green paraments will need to be ordered but are on hold.

Stewardship: Norm Nelson

- Benevolence is picking up with the arrival of new envelopes

Mission Outreach: Nancy Schuette

- Mission Festival in September, more info to follow

Parish Life: Nancy Schuette

- Coffee Hour will continue

Youth: Jason Shaw

- Committee is brainstorming ideas for future youth events

OLD BUSINESS:

- New school classroom location is being explored

NEW BUSINESS:

- Cross Lutheran School Teacher, Gwynne Barry retiring after 41 years
- Lawn care contract continuing with Mike Fritz
- Pastor's vacation: May 22nd- June 2nd

Next Council Meeting – Tuesday, May 9, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 8:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Kristy Carriveau

Cross Lutheran School Board Minutes

April 14, 2023 (To be approved at May meeting)

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

The meeting was called to order by President Dick Koehler at 5:30 pm. Prayer was led by David Faupel

Agenda: A **motion** was made by Michelle to accept the agenda, seconded by Kevin T. and **carried**.

Minutes: A **motion** was made by Rebecca, seconded by Michelle to approve the minutes of March 9, 2023. The motion **passed**.



Guests: No Guests

Treasurers' Reports:

School Balance: \$ 83,431.63

CEA/PTO Balance: \$51,593.26

Hot Lunch: \$6,760.64

A motion was made by Kevin T. and seconded by Rebecca to accept the Treasurers' Reports.

The motion was carried.

CEA President's Report:

Michelle reported there will be a Mom to Mom sale Saturday, April 15. The Trampoline Field Trip was a great success. There will be an upcoming Field Day.

Jeremy and Nicole Licht have volunteered and gotten permission to run a concession stand at the Elkton Soccer Field each Saturday.

Principal's Report:

- Students Registered for 2022-2023 is now 66.
DK/K: 16 1st and 2nd: 19 3rd-5th: 19 6th- 8th: 12
- A Chess Club has started.
- The Washington DC trip for 2023-2024 for 7th and 8th grade students was discussed.

Old Business:

- Statement of Faith-Pastor has a copy of tentative statement and will give it back to the board to review.
- Dress Policy for faculty, students, and visitors-no update
- Michelle made a **motion** to give the Robotics Coach a stipend of \$1750 to be paid from grant and school funds. It was seconded by Kevin T. and **passed**.
- There will be postings for 2.5 teachers for 2023-2024 due to student numbers, Mrs. Barry's retirement and Mr. Wright moving to the PE position. Michelle made a **motion** that the postings take place, it was seconded by Rebecca, and **carried**.

New Business

- Due to Church finance struggles, Michelle made a motion that the school will pay staff lunches for the remainder of the school year retroactive to April 1, 2023. This was seconded by Kevin S. and the **motion was carried**.
- The Church Council has decided to post both the custodial and the head kitchen positions for 2023-2024. There is a kitchen contract in place, but there is a need for a custodial contract. David Faupel and Kevin S. will serve on a committee with a Church Council member to develop a contract for custodial services and revise the kitchen contract.
- David will work the other teachers to find a Sexuality Education/Curriculum to be used next year.
- A motion was made by Kevin S and seconded by Rebecca to approve the 2023-2024 calendar.
The motion was passed.

A motion was made by Kevin T. and seconded by Kevin S. to adjourn at 6:45. **Motion carried.**

The meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.

The date of the May meeting will be May 4, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

Mission Outreach Ministry
April 5, 2023

The meeting of the Mission Outreach was called to order by Krisie Fritz. Those in attendance were Krisie Fritz, Tonja Nelson, Kay Schuette, Sandie Haley, and Trustee, Nancy Schuette.

A prayer was given by Krisie Fritz.

Secretary's report was read. Kay Schuette made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Sandie Haley.

No treasury report was given.

The Mission Sunday service was discussed and the group decided it will be held in September this year. The date has not yet been finalized, but will be the 17th or 24th. We hope to have the school children sing. A speaker or some other type of program is being looked into for that day and a coffee hour will be held following the service. Gift cards from Lowes, Home Depot, or Walmart will be asked for instead of supplies. We would like to use the scrip program that the school has to let people who want to donate utilize this. Purchases would then benefit the school.

The garage sale is set for June 8-10. Tonja Nelson will apply for the scrip card from Thrivent. Flyers will need to be printed out and distributed around the area in May.

Easter cards were sent out.

Krisie Fritz reported on the food pantry meeting she attended. The group packed 33 boxes to distribute to people in our area. On April 8, a birthday party was held for Norma King to celebrate her 90th birthday. Norma has been a dedicated volunteer for the food pantry for many years. They are looking for more volunteers to help with this project.

The next Mission Outreach meeting will be Monday, May 15th at 6:30 pm.

With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted, Tonja Nelson

Worship and Music Ministry
April 11, 2023

Motion to recommend to Church Council ***to approve job descriptions for Music Director, Organist, Bell Choir Director, and Choral Director***, by LuAnne and seconded by Peg. Passed. We will present this to council in May after we have considered a **Covenant Agreement** to be discussed at our May meeting.

Holy Week and Easter Sunday "recap" – Worship attendance at Maundy Thursday – 45; Good Friday – 75; Easter – 190. Discussed usher responsibilities at larger attended worship services.

Upcoming Dates:

May 7 – Confirmation

May 21 – 8th grade and High School Graduation recognition and
School children sing

May 28 – Pastor gone

Next Meeting – Tuesday, May 2, 2023 at **4:00 pm**

Motion by John and seconded by Peg to adjourn. Passed. Adjourned with The Lord's Prayer
Respectfully submitted by Karen Schuette



Women of Faith Devotional/Bible Study

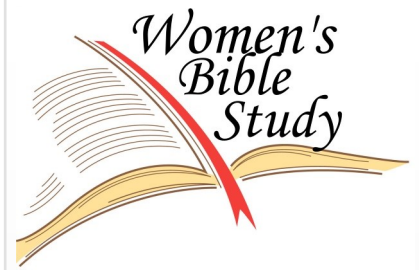
Women of Faith will be meeting on
Saturday, May 20th at 9:30 am as we study
"God Hears Her".

You are welcome to join us at any time.
Any questions, contact Dawn Hendricks.

Cross Church Family Garage Sale June 8th - 11th



Start collecting now!



Women's Bible Study will meet from 1:30 to 3:00 pm on May 3rd in the church. We continue the study of *"Identity - Finding Myself in God"* by Chris Pritchett and insights from Henri Nouwen. Join this small group anytime, study guides are available.

Any questions, contact Leanne Smith at 989-553-4241.



***This note of thanks was received by the Cross Lutheran Disaster Quilter group. *
The quilts that are referenced in the thank-you note were quilts we sent in 2022.
We continue to make quilts and layettes for the
NALC Disaster Response Warehouse.
Since January 2023, we have shipped 77 quilts and 20 layettes.***

Dear Cross Lutheran Disaster Quilters:

We here in Southeastern Kentucky wanted to send out a "Special Thank-You" to everyone there that took out of their time to sit down and sew all of those beautiful quilts for our Mountain People. These quilts were sewn out of Love for God's Creation and sent to total strangers that were in desperate need of everything because of the loss of their Homes, their Vehicles and even the Loss of their Loved Ones (so many lives were lost in this flood and still to this very day there is still 1 person missing that has never been recovered despite all the search parties that have went out numerous of times looking for her, prayers appreciated for this beautiful family having to live with this daily without having closure).

This Disastrous Flood of July 2022 will always be remembered for so much devastation and loss. People of the Mountains that have worked so hard all of their lives to have nice things and to have the very essentials of life watched as it ALL was taken away from them in One Big Swoop down the rivers and creeks, looked where it all had sat at one time and now it was gone almost in the blink of an eye but "IN GOD WE TRUST" as none of us are exempt from anything as God's Holy Bible tells us in the Book of Matthew 5:45 ... „That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.. ... but then God sends along Compassionate People just like you all to send in help in time of need to those people that were without and your ails quilts were such a Blessing to many.

I've just tried to imagine in my own mind those people wrapping up in your ails quilts this Winter staying warm because you took out of your time to sew many, many quilts for others and for this reason our people are so very thankful for each and every stitch that was sewn in love for them and we are very appreciative for your Quilters Group for reaching out to our people of Southeastern Kentucky and we pray that God in Heaven will always Bless You and Keep You in the hollow of His Hands as you continue on in your Quilt Ministry reaching out to God's Children in their times of need.

Again we Thank-You and Appreciate your Quilt Ministry that has been shared with our Mountain People.

Sincerely, Pam
County Line Community Church
Located @:
12639KY-15
P.O. Box214
Bonnyman, KY 41719

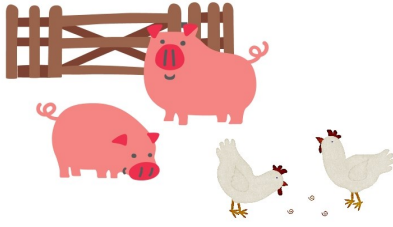


Currently the ladies in the Cross Quilters group include:

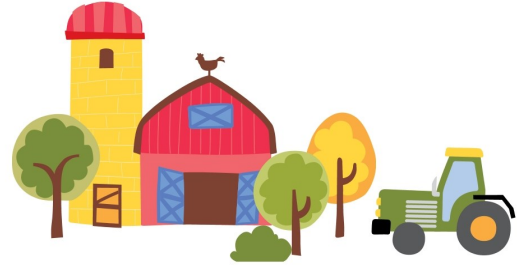
Eileen Johnson, Meg Grammentz, Linda Fietzer, Nancy Schuette, Bonnie Schulz, and Jeanne Sting. Dolores Elftman has been cutting squares at home. If you want more information about the quilters and to contribute in some way to the mission they share, please feel free to talk with any of them.

To contribute to the NALC Disaster Response fund online:

[NALC Disaster Response - North American Lutheran Church \(thenalc.org\)](http://thenalc.org)



May 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Bells 6:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm	2 Worship & Music 3 pm	3 Chapel 8:05 am Women's Bible 1:30 pm Bible Study 6:30 p	4 Jean Quilts 1 pm School Board 5:30 pm Properties 7 pm	5	6
7 Comm. Serv. 9:30 am	8 Stewardship 5:30 pm Bells 6:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm	9 Council 7 pm	10 Chapel 8:05 am Quilters 1 pm Bible Study 6:30 p	11 Music & Arts Extravaganza 1 pm & 7 pm	12	13
14 Comm Serv. 9:30 am Mother's Day	15 Mission Outreach 6:30 pm Bells 6:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm	16	17 Chapel 8:05 am	18 Ascension of Our Lord Jean Quilts 1 pm	19 Picnic/Field Day 11:30 - 2 pm	20 Women of Faith 9:30 am
21 Comm Serv 9:30 am Students sing High School Grads honored 8th gr students recognized	22 Newsletter Deadline Bells 6:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm	23	24 No Chapel Quilters 1 pm	25 Preschool Graduation & Picnic 11:15 am	26 Last Day of School Closing Chapel dismiss at 11	27
28 Pentecost Comm. Serv. 9:30 am	29 Memorial Day Office Closed	30	31 