

Growing Together

**October
2025**

Cross Lutheran Church & School

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Our mission:

***Bring people to
Christ.***

***Teach Christians
to be disciples.***

***Send disciples to
reach the world.***

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Inside this issue:

Preparing for Worship	2
Celebrate	3
School News	4
Memorials	5
Council Minutes	6
Financial	12
Calendar	13

Listening for the Promise

Weekly Devotional

"This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth."

- 1 Timothy 2:3-4 -

Is God Knowable or Mysterious?

A survey asked, "Is God knowable or mysterious?" The problem with this question is that God is not either/or, He is both. We know God because He revealed Himself as He spoke everything into existence. He revealed Himself to Adam and Eve, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, the judges, prophets and kings throughout the ages. He revealed Himself in the Law. He revealed Himself in the deliverance of His people. He revealed Himself through the promises, and then He finally revealed Himself in Jesus Christ.

We know God because He came to dwell among His people. Jesus Christ was the embodiment of the divine in the body of a man. God's character was made manifest as Jesus lived and breathed among mankind. Jesus revealed God's love and mercy and grace as He preached the Good News, healed the sick, and set free those who were bound by all manner of things. We can know God personally, we can even call Him Abba or Daddy, because of Jesus.



Despite being knowable, God is a mystery. He is the Creator of heaven and earth. He is the Deliverer who saved His people. He is the

Redeemer who sets His people free. He is living and active in our world, just as He was in the beginning when He brought light out of darkness and order out of chaos. He still creates and recreates His creation and gives us all we need to join Him in the work of His Kingdom.

That is the greatest mystery. Why would the Creator, Deliverer, and Redeemer of the world give authority and power to people like you and me? God saves, but He calls us to share the Gospel with others. God's Word brings peace, but He puts His Word in our mouths. He has promised great things to those He loves and is faithful to us despite our inability to be faithful to Him. He does all the work, but uses water, bread, wine, and people to share His grace with others. The Lord God Almighty is truly a mystery and yet He sent His Son to teach us how to reveal His truth so that everyone will know Him and be saved.



Preparing for Worship

October 5 - Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4 Psalm 62 2 Timothy 1:1-14 Luke 17:1-10

October 12 - Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Ruth 1:1-19a Psalm 111 2 Timothy 2:1-13 Luke 17:11-19

October 19- Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 32:22-30 Psalm 121 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5 Luke 18:1-8

October 26 - Reformation Sunday

Revelation 14:6-7 Psalm 46 Romans 3:19-28 John 8:31-36

Celebrate

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Rachel Messing

Rebecca Yackle

4 Laura Trost

6 Suzanne Swanson

7 Don Heck

Crystal Hill

9 Rachel Higgins

Joyce Jarvis

10 James Schuette

11 Jennifer Sturm

Cole Heck

17 Jullia Stachowiak

19 Cooper LePage

20 Marcine Moore

Todd Roestel

23 Krissie Fritz

24 Marvin Trost

Lois Decker

Justin Kunisch

Archie Thepsourinthone

26 Kacey Peterson

Jonathan Lepage

Joshua LePage

Jill Hill

28 Ann Buschlen

Carole Mead

30 Emily House

Ava Gardy

31 Austin Schuette

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

2 Brian & Kim Delpiere, 32

7 Dan & Deb Papkey 47

10 Travis & Kimberly Roestel 5

11 Corey & Rachel Messing 17

13 Larry & Gina Smith 46

22 Tim & Shirley Schuette 9

23 Randel & Maureen Reibling
49

24 Terry & June Sturm 55

THOSE IN NEED OF CONTINUED PRAYER

Carol Diener, Dawn Hendricks, Bernice Shupe, Connie Eden, Beth Elston, Gene Parsell, Tim Voss, Mike Eden, Terry Sturm, Clark Elftman, Hannah Britt, John Finneren, Tom Shupe, Whitney Peyerck, Joe Stodola, Matt Edler, Larry Adams, Al Collison, Susan Beller, Hope Kittel, Noah Adams, Kay Schuette, Corey Messing, Kevin Faupel, Ezra Sturm.

CROSS CHURCH SHUT INS

Vivian Buschlen, Cordelia Trost, Roberta Danks, Marvin Trost. Please keep them in your prayers.

THOSE IN SERVICE OF OUR COUNTRY

Nicholas Swanson (US Air Force)



We are thankful for the support of our church family on Mission Festival Sunday, which led to a collection of \$1858.00 for Bishop Jordan Long's NALC mission in South Sudan.

Please pray for his ministry in this country!



From the Desk of Mrs. Shupe....

Greetings from the 3rd and 4th grade! It is hard to believe that we have already been in school for a whole month! Everyone is learning the new procedures and getting into the routine of the school. It has been a great start!

Our classroom has been reviewing our skills from last year and beginning to build new ones. We were able to attend a field trip to Project R.E.D. It was a beautiful day and the children enjoyed learning new things about agriculture and our farming community. We learned about animal nutrition, flying drones, how to use a compass, P.T.O. safety, horses, sugar beets, and dairy farming. Thank you Huron County Farm Bureau and Huron County Fair for such a great day!

October Calendar

10/8 CEA parent meeting 6 pm

10/24 STEAM Day (3-8th Grade)

10/26 Students Sing in Church

10/29 No Chapel

10/31 Grandparents Day

Chapel @ 10 am

1/2 day of School

M - Robotics - until 4 pm

M/Th - Cross Country - Until 4 pm



After school activities have also begun. Grades 3-8th are beginning to build their robots in hope of another trip to the state competition. The cross county team has been practicing hard to be ready for their first race as well.

Continue to pray for our students and their families! We are all "Running the Race", but we all need people cheering from the stands to encourage us and push us on in our faith.

Nicole Shupe





**In memory of Kurt Richmond
for Cross Lutheran School:
Cordelia Trost**

Denson & Leanne Smith

**In Memory of Delores Elft-
man**

For Cross Lutheran School:

Myrna Born



Every year we collect shoeboxes (cardboard & plastic) along with filler gifts for needy children around the world. Since 1993, 232 million shoeboxes have been filled and distributed by Operation Christmas Child in 170 countries. This project not only delivers the joy of what, for many kids, is their first gift ever, but also gives them a tangible expression of God's love. Each year, Cross sends 200+ filled shoeboxes full of love to the national headquarters to join in this international distribution! Please bring your donations to church anytime now and put them in the marked tubs in the entrances. We also need to send \$10 per box for shipping fees and educational materials for the child. Our official kick off will be October 12 and packing Sunday will be November 9 following our service. We hope you will all plan to attend! The coffee hour collection on 10/12 will be to help purchase extra filler items for the boxes and the offering at coffee hour on 11/9 will be to help with shipping costs. Additional donation checks should be made out to the church with OCC in the memo line. This money will also be used for shipping. There are so many items that could be included in the boxes, and all of us who have been involved with this project for years have been blessed richly.



We appreciate and are thankful for our Church family and community, who showed overwhelming support for our church barbecue! We sold out!

We are blessed to have numerous volunteers who contributed to our dinner! Thank you and may God's blessings be upon you.



Won't you join us this year?

CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

Tuesday, August 12, 2024



Present: J. Smith, K. Sears, K. Delpiere, K. Fritz, J. Trowbridge, Shupe, P. Schadd, K. Stachowicz, A. Licht, D. Faupel

P.

Absent: J. Barry, M. Thick

No Guests

CALL TO ORDER and DEVOTIONS : Pres. John Smith delivered with reading of Gospel, Luke 12: 22-34

AGENDA: *Approval for Agenda, Kim D. 1st and 2nd by Kim S. Motion approved by counsel*

July Council Minutes: 1st motion for approval made by Kevin S, 2nd by Al L. Motion for July minutes approved by Council.

PRESIDENTS REPORT: John S. reported he had a conference call with Jess Abbott from NALC. New member classes have been completed and looking for a Sunday date to have them join.

John read retirement letter from Karen Kunisch. She will stay on to help train a new secretary. Interview of 4 possible replacement for secretary has been done. Offer of position was made to one candidate. Waiting on answer. A rate of \$20. Per hour for Karen to help train new employee. 1st motion Pete S., 2nd Kim S. Motion approved by Council.

Also asked by David F., for church to cover Leslie Eberly \$4800. Wage Balance for school year after grant runs out. 1st motion John T, 2nd Kim D., Motion approved by Council.

Retirement gift for Karen Kunisch, a gift card for appreciation of years of service. 1st motion John T., 2nd Al L., motion approved by council.

SCHOOL STAFF REPORTS: David F., Thank you for baby gift.

62 enrolled for the 2025-2026 school year as of August 12th. Kindergarten has 11 and is at full. Preschool has room for 9 more students.

Aug. 21 Open house for school, Aug 26 start of 2025-2026 school year, Aug 29-Sept 1 Off for Labor Day Weekend. Theme for this school year is Run the Race.

Closet works space is coming along good. Shelves have been put in classrooms and look real good. They were paid, for by the CEA.

New staff member Rebecca Yackle has been hired for DK-KDG grade for part-time support teacher.

Cross Lutheran School Staff Members for 2025-2026

Full Time

Principal/ 7th-8th grade teacher: David Faupel

5th-6th grade teacher: Kelly Gebauer, 3rd-4th grade teacher: Nicole Shupe,

1st-2nd grade teacher: Carrie Ward

Church/ School Secretary: vacant at this time Karen Kunisch retiring

Head Cook/Custodian: Marcine Moore, Kitchen/Custodian Assistant: Lynn Ventimiglia

Part Time

1st-2nd Grade Support teacher: Beth Maurer, DK-KDG grade Support teacher: Rebecca Yackle

School counselor: Justin Kuhl

Shared Time (paid by Laker Schools)

DK-KDG teacher: Leslie Eberly, Music teacher: Leslie Eberly

Piano teacher: Jenna Maust, Band teacher: Don Starks, PE teacher: Brian Wright

Art teacher: Jenny Turner, Title I teacher: Beth Maurer

Preschool in need of 4 benches for restroom waiting. Preschool is paying for them. 1st motion Kevin S., 2nd Kim S. Approved by council.

TREASURER REPORT: K. Sears gave budget report for July 2025.. We are below budget, for the month by \$25,613.10.

SCHOOL BOARD REPORT:

Kevin S., David F. covered all info. Kevin will be working on 5 yr. school plan and give a report in Dec.

MINISTRY REPORTS – TRUSTEES

Property: Al L. No new business

Music & Worship: John T., he's getting a Pipe organ fundraising group together. He has 3 members but would like one or two more. Peg McCrimmon has ordered new hymn numbers for wall. Looking forward to September 21 when Pastor Jordan Long will speak on his time as missionary in the Congo.

Stewardship: Peter S., no new business

Mission Outreach: Kim D., stated they are working on Welcoming kits for new members and visitors. Children's choir will be singing on Sept. 21 when Pastor Jordan Long is speaking from the Congo. Oct 8 Fall decorating of sanctuary. Oct. 12 is the start of Operation Christmas boxes. Nov. 9 will be the day for packing the boxes. Outreach is working on sewing kits for the Christmas boxes. After last meeting they took donations to the Pigeon Food Pantry. Sept. 3 is next meeting.

Parish Life: Kim D. stated no recent meeting

Youth & Education: Joshua B. absent. Report made by John S. and Kim D. Sept. 7 Sunday School Opening, Kayak and snacks at the Stings. 4:30-6p Kids and adults invited
Oct. 4, Flashlight corn maze at Kuhl farm, Bay Shore Splash

Old Business: John S. Call Committee Update, Pastor Little has turned down our call at this time. Due to family reasons. Cemetery sign has been redone by Goats Graphic, looks very nice. School staff lunches will be paid for by the church, 1st motion for vote made by Kim D., 2nd by Peter S. Motion approved by council. Parsonage loan pay off with current general funds will be done immediately. Motion made 1st Kim S., 2nd by Kim D. Motion was approved by council.

New Business: John S., Expenses for Pastor Jordan Long Sept. 20-21 (Mission Festival). John asking for expenses of travel, lodging and meals to be paid for by church. 1st motion made by Kevin S., 2nd by Al L. Motion approved by council. Trost/McArdle 8/30 wedding, Pastor Garish will be doing the ceremony.

Phil S., asking about paying deductible of garage door damage done by our shed Aug. 27, last year. Homeowner is asking. Was decided to pay the deductible for a good neighbor deed.

Council picked Sept. 7., Coffee hour. Motion made 1st Kim S., 2nd Kim F. Motion approved by council

Dave's Glass came today, August 12th to look at East entrance of Gym doors to estimate a replacement of rusting doors.

Entrance rug in need of replacing Kim D. going to ask Outreach to cover the cost of replacing it.

Next Council Meeting – 2nd Tuesday of September which is the 9th at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Kim Fritz



Galatians 6:9-10 ***So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.***

I have been attending events that my own family, my school family, and my church family are participating in this fall. When I watch cross country runners and soccer players, I think...oh my, what stamina! When I watch volleyball players dig and football players clash, I think....Ouch! But they all keep going...they do not give up. They do not seem to grow weary.

What an example for us! Do not grow weary. Do not give up. When you have the opportunity to work for the good of all....do it! There are so many ways to serve our family of faith. Visit. Call. Serve on ministries. Read. Teach. Sing. Play. Sew. Cut. Build. Fix. Pray. Oh, the list is much longer than this. Which will you choose to do in serving our mighty God and His family?

A calendar of events for our Middle School/High School youth has been developed. Our October events are the Kohl's Flashlight Corn Maze on October 11. We will meet at Cross at 6:30 PM. Bring a flashlight! Youth from Cross Lutheran Church and School are encouraged to participate. Friends are always welcome! On October 26, eighteen youth and parents will be attending Ignite 2025, a Christian Band Concert at Dow Center in Saginaw. Embedded in all of our gatherings are opportunities to serve, learn, and have fun in the name of Jesus!

At this time, Sunday School is being held every Sunday for PS-6th grade. There were 15 at our first gathering! We begin at 8:45 AM in the gym. Many thanks to all who have volunteered to teach. More volunteers are needed! As a reminder, teachers' materials are in the files near the Pastor's office. I encourage the parents who bring their children to SS to enjoy time before the service to have fellowship, a devotion time, pray together, share your week's stories, etc. Would someone be a facilitator for that time? Adults....there is also Bible Study at 6:00 on Wednesdays! Building relationships is important as we grow in His word.

Parents of children in 4th grade and above who desire their child(ren) participate fully in the Lord's Supper should speak directly to me. There will be 3-4 times this fall that we will meet learning about this precious gift. We would then celebrate their first communion at a Sunday service.

Giving up may seem like the easy route to take and I probably would be tempted if I had to **run** for any length of time, but I would remind myself that I could walk some of the time! We are called as members of the body of Christ to serve. Don't give up. Choose joy and do it! Prayerfully consider where God is calling you to serve at Cross Lutheran Church and School. The fields are wide open and the harvest is ready.

In His love - Gwynne Barry

Cross Lutheran School Board Minutes from:

September 4th, 2025

(To be approved at the October meeting)

Members present: David Faupel, President Kevin Stachowiak, Vice President Eileen Johnson, Secretary Rebecca Yackle, Treasurer Nicole Licht, CEA Rep. Katie Wilson and Non-Member Rep. Rita Herford

The meeting was called to order by Kevin Stachowiak at 5:30pm. David Faupel led us in an opening prayer.



Agenda: A motion was made by Rita Herford and seconded by Eileen Johnson to accept the agenda. The motion passed.

Minutes: There was an amendment made to the August minutes; 1 spelling error. A motion was made by Eileen Johnson and seconded by Nicole Licht to approve the amended minutes from August 14th, 2025. The motion passed.

Guest Presentations: None

Treasurers' Report:

School Balance: \$76,522.67

CEA/PTO: \$30,375.95

Hot Lunch: \$12,185.27

A motion was made by Rita Herford and seconded by Katie Wilson to accept the Treasurers' Reports. The motion carried.

CEA President's Report: The school open house went well, we are discussing plans for the softball/kickball night and are working on the calendar of events for the school year.

Principal's Report:

2025-2026 Enrollment: 62

DK: 3 KDG:11 1st:4 2nd:8 3rd:7

4th:8 5th:7 6th:6 7th:4 8th:4

Calendar: September 17th - Picture Day and September 25th CEA Family Softball/Kickball Night

Old Business: Cross Lutheran Logo/Apparel was discussed and we are close to having a final design.

The school budget continues to be looked at and is being monitored well with what is coming in and going out.

New Business:

*School T-Shirts: It was discussed and decided that the school board will pay for all students and staff to have a free t-shirt and the funds will come from the Annual Fund. Rita Herford made the motion and was seconded by Nicole Licht. The motion passed.

*Parent-Teacher Conferences: discussed an addition to be added in the future to the policy. Will discuss more next month.

*Title 1/Support Teacher Hours: There was a mix up in hours given to Lakers who pays this position at our school. CEA is going to pitch in to cover the amount still needed.

Other Business: 5-Year Goals/Plans were discussed and are continuing to be worked on. Tabled till next month.

Katie Wilson made a motion and was seconded by Rita Herford to adjourn the meeting at 6:44pm We ended with the Lord's Prayer.



Worship and Music Ministry Meeting Report September 8, 2025

Members present: Mike Sting, Peg McCrimmon, John Trowbridge – Trustee, John Smith – Council President, Karen Schuette – Chair.

*Pipe organ fundraising – Discussed the committee members meeting with Mike and Beth to give them foundational information concerning the pipe organ, its continuing maintenance, and projecting its use to our congregation in the future. Over time, their job is to evaluate all this information, discern recommendations for its future use, and put together a fundraising plan as needed.

*Planning for Worship and Music – October and November – Discussed Communion Sundays including Reformation, All Saints, and Christ the King. Choirs will start Monday, September 15. Sunday School Children will sing on September 21 and will offer singing when ready at other times. Note – Cyndy Engelhardt – organist on August 31.

*All Saints Recognition – Sunday, November 2 – Remembering all our people who have passed away this past year. Karen will contact the Secretary to begin the process.

*Head Set – Mike had already purchased a set, but it cannot be used at the same time as the existing set. Additional equipment is needed. We may see times when two sets could be used at the same time. Mike will check into the cost for the proper equipment.

*Bulletin covers – Mission Outreach will stand the expense of purchasing covers for use through the rest of the year.

NEXT MEETING – TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2025 AT 5:30 PM

Mission Outreach Ministry

September 3, 2025

The meeting of the Mission Outreach Ministry was called to order by President, Krisie Fritz.

Those in attendance were Krisie Fritz, Tonja Nelson, Nancy Heck, Lori Smith, Lorraine LePage, Kim Delpiere, Laura Trost and guest, John Smith.

A prayer was given by Nancy Heck. The secretary's report was handed out and read. A motion was made by Kim and seconded by Lorraine to accept the minutes. Motion passed.

The treasurer's report was given by Lorraine. A motion was made by Kim and seconded by Lori to accept the treasurer's report. Motion passed.

A thankyou card from the Edler family and a semi- annual report from the Michigan Disaster Warehouse in Owosso, Michigan was read. The Michigan Mission District Convocation will be held September 27, 2025 at St Thomas Lutheran Church in Trufant, Michigan for those interested in attending. Contact Pastor Jess Abbot to register if you will be attending.

Sunday, September 21 will be Mission Festival. A motion was made by Tonja and seconded by Lorraine to make a gift basket to give to our speaker. The basket will include snacks and a monetary gift to help with his expenses while here. A door donation at the church on Sunday will also take place. A breakfast brunch will take place after the service for the congregation. Mr. Faupel's upper grade class will set up the chairs for this on Friday, September 19.

Operation Christmas Child will kick off on October 12, 2025. Donations can be brought to the church.

The Fall decorating will be on October 8 at 10:30, with lunch following at a restaurant.

The food pantry donations will continue with boxes near the entrance doors for people to put their items in. It will be delivered each month after our meeting.

The Mission Outreach group was asking John if a different electronic sign or updating it, is still being considered by the council? The old one is not meeting the needs of our church. The council is aware and a committee will be formed to further check into this.

The church bulletins were discussed. John Smith will bring to the council that the Mission Outreach group would like to purchase new bulletins on a trial period and see how the congregation responds to them. Our group would pay for the bulletins during this time period which would be until the end of 2025. A motion made by Lorraine and seconded by Nancy to spend up to \$500.00 for the bulletins during the time frame was made. Motion carried. We are looking into the Concordia Supply Company for the bulletins but other companies may also be looked into. The new member packets will be worked on. A committee will meet at 1:00 on September 17th to decide what we want to include in the packet. All members are welcome to come to the meeting.

Lori is still working on the card ministry. If you know anyone who could use a card let Lori know. Coffee hours for our group will be on September 21, October 12 and November 9.

Our next meeting will be October 1, 2025 at 1:00.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Tonja Nelson





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Chapel 8:05 am	2 Jean Quilts 1 pm School Board 5:30 pm	3	4
5 Comm. Service 9:30 a.m. S.S. 8:45 am	6	7	8 Chapel 8:05 am CEA/Parents 6 pm	9 Quilters 1 pm	10	11 Youth: Corn Maze Kohl Farms- Meet at Church at 6:30 pm
12 Worship Service 9:30 am S.S. 8:45 am	13 Hand Bells 5:30 pm Chior 6:30 pm	14 Council Meeting 7 pm	15 Chapel 8:05 am	16 Jean Quilts 1 pm	17	18
19 Comm. Service 9:30 am SS. 8:45 am	20 Hand Bells 5:30 pm Chior 6:30 pm	21	22 Chapel 8:05 am	23 Quilters 1 pm	24 Steam Day 3-8th Grade	25
26 Comm. Service 9:30 am S.S. 8:45 am Students Sing Ignite 2025- 7pm REFORMATION SUNDAY	27 Hand Bells 5:30 pm Chior 6:30 pm Newsletter Deadline	28	29 No Chapel	30	31 Chapel 10 am Half Day of School Grandparents Day	End of marking first marking period