

Cross Connection

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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Growing together

September 2020

Message from Pastor Glenn

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



Each year we wish that summer could last a little longer, but for many in the Upper Midwest, fall is their favorite time of the year. I must confess that I am included in that group. Maybe it is the sights and smells of an abundant harvest. I love the smell of ripened fruit and the fragrances of canned goods from the kitchen. I enjoy cleaning up the garden and turning the compost pile over one last time before the snow arrives. The cool air, the musky smell of earth and woods, and the early setting of the sun once again prepares the earth for another season of rest.

Also, as fall approaches, the summer shorts and sandals will be put away to wear another year and out comes the fall clothing. Our clothes closets prove that we have a specific wardrobe for each of the four seasons. This time of year, heavier jackets, long sleeved shirts, boots, and stocking hats begin to reappear and are welcomed like old friends.

As the pastor at Cross Lutheran Church, I'm looking forward to the change of the church seasons. For the body of Christ, it means that the church will be shifting into a higher gear of activity. Cross Lutheran School will once again open its doors inviting teachers and students. Confirmation classes will begin for the 7th and 8th grader. New member and baptismal classes will also soon begin presented in various instructional modes. Adult Bible Studies will soon appear once again.

As each passing month will slowly turn into another new year, I encourage you during this change of seasons to be bold, seeking new opportunities in Christ's service. Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve. (Matt. 20:28, Mark 10:45) We are also called to walk in the light of Christ and to serve our neighbors. Take that first step in faith just as Peter did when he walked on the water toward Jesus on that stormy night on the Sea of Galilee. We have all taken first steps in our faith and God has always been and continues to be with us. ***“For He has***

(Continued on page 2)

Preparing for Worship at Cross

Sept. 6—14th Sunday after Pentecost

1R – Ezekiel 33:7-9, P – Psalm 32:1-7, 2R – Romans 13:1-10, G – Matthew 18:1-20

Sept. 13—15th Sunday after Pentecost

1R – Genesis 50:15-21, P – Psalm 103:1-12, 2R – Romans 14:1-12, G – Matthew 18:21-35

Sept. 20—16th Sunday after Pentecost

1R—Isaiah 55:6-9, P – Psalm 27:1-9, 2R – Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30, G – Matthew 20:1-16

Sept. 27—17th Sunday after Pentecost

1R - Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32, P – Psalm 25:1-10, 2R – Philippians 2:1-4(5-13)14-18, G – Matt. 21:23-27(28-32)

(Continued from page 1)

said, I will never leave you nor forsake you.” (Hebrews 13:5b)

There are many opportunities at Cross Lutheran for its members to become involved, helping serve others in the light of Christ. At this point in time, weekly ministries include ushering, opening and preparing the church before worship services, and closing the church at the end of worship services. Also, offering counters are needed to keep finances in order. Another ministry to consider in the next few months is to become a member of the Cross Lutheran Church Council.

Covid-19 has definitely changed our way of worshiping and serving this year at Cross Lutheran Church and it doesn't seem as it will be disappearing as quickly as it appeared. On Sunday, March 22, 2020, Cross Lutheran Church did not hold a face-to-face worship service, but an Online worship service was provided on the Cross Website, www.crosslutheranpigeon.org, for the first time that same weekend and continues to be a ministry each Sunday for our parishioners and many around the world. Yes, there have been changes during this time, but just think of the new possibilities that have yet to be explored. I encourage all church ministries to begin meeting again regularly while observing social distancing rules. We've taken somewhat of a short break during these last five months, but now with the change of seasons, it is time to reevaluate and explore the many responsibilities that we have been entrusted as people of God.

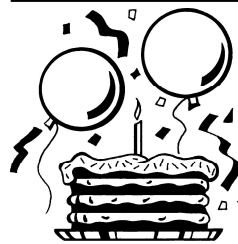
I urge you to prayerfully consider volunteering in renewed service to the church. This is a wonderful time of the year to experience new growth in your faith. Even if you have been involved in certain areas of church life for many years, I encourage you to be bold and seek a new direction. Just when we have become comfortable during the pandemic, God lovingly continues to guide us onto newer paths of service and ministry to let the light of Christ shine through us before others. It begins with the first step toward Christ...

“Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone.” (1 Corinthians 12:4-5)

In Christ, Pastor Glenn



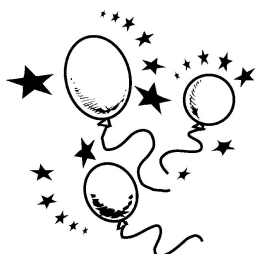
Celebrate



Birthdays &
Anniversaries
This Month!

BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Ken Schulze
- 5 Kristi Krohn
Janis Elftman
- 8 Kevin Trost
- 14 Jack Sturm
- 18 Allison Yackle
Norm Nelson
- 19 Inez Buchholz
- 20 Elizabeth Higgins
- 21 Beth Elston
Andrew Trost
- 23 Lori Smith
- 24 Richard Mead
- 26 Tim Schuette
- 27 Kirsten Shupe
- 28 Victoria Yackle
- 29 Violet Messing
- 30 Laken LePage
Erica Kish



ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Mike & Connie Eden, 42 years
- 2 Ken & Betty Licht, 53 years
- 3 Al & Peggy Licht, 37 years
- 5 Clark & Barb Eidt, 61 years
- 6 Bill & Jan Love, 51 years
- 11 Steve & Patty Schulze, 49 years
- 14 Bill & Muriel Hurdelbrink, 68 years
- 20 Alex & Patty Cucinello, 34 years
- 25 Chris & Marcie Papkey, 21 years



WOMAN'S BIBLE STUDY

will meet on Wednesday, September 9th at 1:00 pm in the Family room at church. The study will be from the series Walking Together-The Importance of Fellowship in our Lives as Disciples of Christ. This lesson is "Serving One Another". Readings are from Mark 10: 43-45, John 13:3-17, and Galatians 5: 13-15,25-26. We are wearing masks and using our church social distancing guidelines. If you are able to join this small group I do have a few study guides left or if you are unable to join and want a study guide Contact Leanne Smith at 989-553-4241. Hope to see you there!



Remember Those at Home...

Elaine Licht, Martin Knost, Eunice Richmond.

We Lift Up in Prayer...

Ray Licht, Marvin Trost, Clark Eidt, Marilyn Bauer, Muriel Hurdelbrink, Kay Schuette, Bill Gray, Allen Koehler, Mary

Champion, Kevin Faupel, Ezra Sturm, Kim Edler, Deann Lewis, Hope Kittel, Marilyn Blunt, Margaret McBride and Robert Krzeszewski

Serving of Our Country...

Nathan Schulz and Ryan Schulz, U.S. Marines, are sons of Lonnie Schulz & grandsons of Bonnie Schulz. Nicholas Swanson, U.S. Air Force, the son of Randy & Suzie Swanson & grandson of Nancy Schuette.

From the Desk of...David Faupel

Cross Lutheran teachers and staff are gearing up to begin school on September 8! Our school theme this



year is "**Choose Joy!**" Even though there may be many disheartening things happening in our world right now, and it is easy to become frustrated, we still have many reasons to be **JOYful**. Our theme verse is 1 Thessalonians 5:16-19, "Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus."

It is a **JOY** to share with you that we are adding some wonderful people to our school staff! Nicole Shupe will be working as an aide in the DK/ Kindergarten classroom in the mornings. We have also hired new music and band teachers, as Mrs. Elston will be taking a leave of absence from teaching these classes this year (Don't worry, she will still be teaching preschool!). Don Starks will teach band for 5th-8th grade students, and Lisa Keim will be teaching music classes to DK-5th graders and piano to our junior high students. Lori London has been hired to help daily in the kitchen. We are so **JOYful** to have such a wonderful team of staff members!

Our classrooms have received a needed make-over the summer. The project included insulation, drywall, fresh paint, and new carpeting. Everything is fresh, clean, and a **JOY** to work in. All that we need now is our students! Thank you for all of your prayers and support of Cross Lutheran School and our students, families, and staff. We are looking forward to starting the school year and are going to have an amazing year as we choose to **REJOICE** in Jesus!

September Calendar

- 9/1 Open House appts
- 9/2 Open House appts
- 9/7 Labor Day - NO School
- 9/8 1st day of School
Opening Chapel 7:50 am
- 9/18 1/2 day of School
- 9/23 Picture Day



David Faupel - Principal/ Grades 6-8

Gwynne Barry - Grades 3-5

Carrie Ward - Grades 1-2

Karen Brown - DK-Kindergarten

Nicole Shupe - DK-K Aide

Susan Hass - Title 1 Tutor

Lisa Keim, Music Teacher

Don Starks - Band Teacher

Sarah Brooks - Childcare Director

Beth Elston - Preschool Teacher

Jessica Schwartz - Preschool
Teacher

Robbi Shaffer - Preschool Asst.

Becky Ruth - Lead Toddler Teacher

Mackenzie Roestel - Lead Infant
Teacher

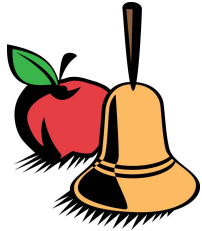
Haley Miller - Caregiver

Abby Talaski - Caregiver

Jessica Viers - Caregiver

Veronica Steinhorst - Caregiver

CROSS LUTHERAN SCHOOL UPDATE



Beginning Tuesday, September 8, the Church Overflow Area will be used for band classes on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 8:45 am to 11:15 am. The Choir Room will be used for piano classes on Mondays and Fridays from 10:00 am to 11:15 am. In the case of a funeral, other arrangements will be made. If a church group would like to use these spaces at other times, we hope you do so (with approval from Pastor and in coordination with the church office). Thank you for your flexibility and understanding in sharing church space!

David Faupel, Principal

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER UPDATE

Considering our current growth, the Early Childhood Center will be moving the infants into the Family Room sooner than earlier anticipated. The Family Room will be prepared over Labor Day weekend. Children will be welcomed on September 8.

Thank you,

Sarah Brooks, Director



CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES: July 7, 2020

The meeting was called to Order by Church Council President, Michael LePage, at 7:05 p.m. Present were: Nancy Heck, Gretchen Roestel, Krisie Fritz, Pastor Glenn S. Sokolowski, Nancy Schuette, Norman Nelson, Kent McKenzie, and Steve Schulze. Corey Messing was absent. Guest present was David Faupel.

DEVOTIONS: "Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. He who has ears to hear, let him hear." (Matthew 13:8-9). *Pastor read the weekly SOLA Devotion for Sunday, July 12, 2020.*

AGENDA: Norman Nelson made a Motion to approve the Agenda as presented, seconded by Kent McKenzie. Motion carried.

MINUTES: Gretchen Roestel made a Motion to approve the June Minutes as presented, seconded by Kent McKenzie. Motion carried.

OFFICER REPORTS:

Mike LePage, President gave his report as follows: David Faupel appeared and presented some discussion points at the Executive Committee Meeting earlier this evening as follows:

Executive Committee recommends to Council that the Church purchases a carpet cleaner in the amount of \$600.00 and new vacuum in the amount of \$300.00 for the Church and School, amount not to exceed \$1,000.00.

Nancy Heck made a Motion to purchase the carpet cleaner and new vacuum for the Church and School for an amount not to exceed \$1,000.00, seconded by Kent McKenzie. Motion carried.

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Executive Committee recommends to Council that of the \$500.00 Archery Check received, \$250.00 should be paid to Rachel Higgins for the additional cleaning that she performed during COVID.

Nancy Schuette made a motion to pay Rachel Higgins \$250.00 from the \$500.00 Archery Check for the additional cleaning that she performed during COVID, seconded by Nancy Heck. Motion carried.

School Board Vacancies - The Vice President and the Treasurer seats are vacant. Council is responsible to appoint someone to fill the vacancies. Gretchen Roestel will bring names to Executive Committee to appoint.

Steve Schulze made a Motion to have Gretchen Roestel search and appoint two individuals to the School Board, seconded by Nancy Schuette. Motion carried.

Krisie Fritz, Secretary - Communication was received from Nancy Trost Mellendorf, thanking Cross Lutheran Church, Pastor Sokolowski, for allowing her son Paul to be buried with his grandparents at the cemetery.

Nancy Heck, Treasurer - Nancy gave her report as presented.

Motion was made by Kent McKenzie to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, seconded by Krisie Fritz. Motion carried.

GUEST PRESENTATIONS/REQUESTS:

David Faupel gave his School Report as follows:

- New Hires: Nicole Shupe has been hired as the DK/K Aide. Melissa Thompson has been hired to assist in the kitchen.
- The school has received a grant from the Huron County Community Foundation for \$750. The money will be used for classroom technology.
- Work will begin on the classroom walls July 20. New carpeting will be laid as the project progresses.
- The first day of school is scheduled for August 17. Staff are working on plans to implement required safety protocols.
- At this time we have 47 students registered/confirmed for 2020-2021! Praise God that we are growing! We need to begin making some short and long term plans to accommodate continued growth.

Sarah Brooks gave her **Early Childhood Center Report** as follows:

- Sarah received a \$500.00 grant, this money will be used for a possible stroller.
- Sarah is concerned regarding additional space for infants, 2 parents are expecting. Request was to use the Family Room as a possible location. Discussion was held, and the Trustees, President, Pastor, David, and Sarah will explore possibilities within the church and school. Council will send a letter to the congregation informing them of the space to be used and hold a possible congregational meeting regarding this issue.
- Shannon McCain provided Council with a written 2020 Expansion Proposal for Cross Lutheran Childcare Center.

ADVISOR'S REPORTS:

Pastor's Report: (4) Online services, (4) In-Person Worship Services, (1) Wedding rehearsal and Wedding, (2) Hospital visits, (1) Funeral Service, (1) Cemetery Committee meeting, (1) Worship and Music Committee Meeting, continued weekly local delivery of audio CDs and video DVDs of recorded Worship Services, continued phone calls and conversations. Pastor Glenn also informed the council of his upcoming surgery and his plans for services during this time.

School Board Report: No report was given by Gretchen Roestel.

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MINISTRIES REPORTS – TRUSTEES:

Property: Corey Messing was absent, Report given by Steve Schulze as follows:

- Air conditioner at Parsonage was giving Pastor a problem. Air conditioner was restarted and has been working since.
- Pastor gave a list of completed repairs to Steve Schulze.

Worship & Music: Kent McKenzie/Pastor Sokolowski – Music committee has not met.

Stewardship: Norman Nelson – no meeting held.

Mission Outreach: Nancy Schuette – no meeting held.

Parish Life: Nancy Schuette – no meeting held.

Youth & Education: Steve Schulze - no meeting held.

OLD BUSINESS:

Sound System Update - Steve met again with Jesse Klaska and Jesse will be giving Council an additional bid for a few add-ons. Numbers will be given at a later date.

Cemetery Committee – Steve Schulze, Cemetery Sexton, reported that Lonnie Schulz and Kevin Trost have agreed to be on the committee, as well as the Pastor and President. Money for Plots will be paid to the treasurer and the treasurer will be responsible to give the individual(s) a signed receipt for the plot(s) purchased.

NEW BUSINESS:

- New Member Approval – Pastor requested for the approval to install and accept new members Clark and Barb Eidt and Lonnie Schulz.
- Steve Schulze made a Motion to install and accept new members Clark & Barb Eidt and Lonnie Schulz, seconded by Gretchen Roestel. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS:

None

Next Council Meeting – No meeting to be held in August. Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 8, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 9:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Krisie Fritz, Secretary



**CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL
SPECIAL COUNCIL MINUTES
Sunday, July 12, 2020**

The special meeting was called to Order by Church Council President, Michael LePage, at 11:05 a.m. Present were: Nancy Heck, Gretchen Roestel, Krisie Fritz, Pastor Glenn S. Sokolowski, Nancy Schuette, Norman Nelson, Kent McKenzie, Steve Schulze and Corey Messing.

Following topics were discussed:



Day Care Space - Discussion was to use the Family Room on a temporary basis while other areas in the Church/School are being addressed. **Steve Schulze made a Motion to use the Family Room on a temporary basis while the Committee reviews other space within the Church/School, this will allow Sarah Brooks to order items needed for the Day Care expansion, seconded by Gretchen Roestel. Motion carried.** Discussion followed, a letter will be sent out for a congregational meeting for August 2, 2020, immediately following the service to update the congregation regarding the need for additional Day Care space.

Sound System – There is an additional need for a Computer Processor to run the Sound System, which the total quoted prior and the processor will be under \$20,000.00. **Corey Messing made a Motion to bring Sound System Update to congregation, seconded by Kent McKenzie. Motion carried.**

Furnace/Air Conditioner – Corey will obtain quotes to replace the old furnace/air conditioner.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer at 11:38 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Krisie Fritz, Secretary

 <p>These gifts were received to the glory of God in memory or honor of the following people:</p> <p>In memory of Joycelynn Blome, for Cross Lutheran School, Hot Lunch: Sheila Yackle Doreen Schnitker Jim & Jill Reithel Cynthia Engelhard Dorothy Thuemmel Harry & Louise Swartzendruber Elaine Gayari Ruth Elston</p>	<p>David & Sheila Fuerst MM Doug Elston Gary & Deann Protzman Steve & Barb Prah</p> <p>In memory of Paul Mellendorf, for Cross Lutheran School: Jack & Pam Sturm</p> <p>In memory of Paul Mellendorf, for Cross Lutheran Church: Lydia Decker</p> <p>In memory of Ron Schulz, for Cross Building fund: Bruce & Marilyn Baur</p> <p>In memory of Geraldine Edler, for Cross Building fund: Nancy Schuette</p>	<p>In memory of Elsie Trowbridge, for Cross Lutheran Church: Ruth Schuette</p> <p>In memory of Ruth Schuette, for Cross Lutheran Church: Dave & Margaret McCormick</p> <p>In memory of Ruth Schuette, for Cross Building fund: Nancy Schuette family Tim & Shirley Schuette</p> 
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September 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		School open house appts 1	School open house appts 2	Jean Quilts 1-4:30 pm 3 CEA 4:45 pm School Board 5:30 pm	4	5
Comm. Service 9:30 6	Labor Day 7	1st day of school Opening Chapel 7:50 am Exec. 6 pm Council 7 pm 8	Quilters 1 pm Women's Bible 1 pm 9	10	11	12
Comm. Service 9:30 13	14 Music Rehearsals TBD 6:30-8:30	15	Chapel 8:15 am 16	Jean Quilts 1-4:30 pm 17	1/2 day of School 18	19
Comm. Service 9:30 20	Newsletter deadline 21 Music Rehearsals TBD 6:30-8:30	22	Chapel 8:15 am 23 Picture Day at school Quilters 1 pm	24	25	26
Comm. Service 9:30 27	28 Music Rehearsals TBD 6:30-8:30	29	Chapel 8:15 am 30			

Ministers - The People of Cross

Officers, Ministries & Committees

Pastor – Glenn Sokolowski
Music Director - Beth Elston

Church Council

Mike LePage, President
Gretchen Roestel, V P
Krisie Fritz, Secretary
Nancy Heck, Treasurer
Gretchen Roestel, School Bd.
Kent McKenzie, Trustee
(Worship & Music)
Norm Nelson, Trustee
(Stewardship)
Nancy Schuette, Trustee
(Parish Life
Mission/Outreach)
Cory Messing, Trustee
(Property)
Steve Schulze, Trustee
(Youth)

Advisors

Paul Schuette, Constitution Rep.

Ministry of Properties

Corey Messing, Chair
Mike Eden
Paul Schuette

Ministry of Worship & Music

Barb Degg, Chair
Peg McCrimmon
Beth Elston
Karen Schuette
Mike Sting

Ministry of Mission / Outreach

open, Chair
Krisie Fritz
Connie Eden
Rachel Messing
Kay Schuette
Tonja Nelson
Nancy Heck
LuAnne Sokolowski
Lorraine LePage

Ministry of Stewardship

Norm Nelson, Chair
Carol Diener
Raylene Henkelmann
Paul Schuette
June Sturm
Cindy Buchholz

Ministry of Education

Jean Sturm, Chair
Gretchen Roestel
June Sturm
Kim Delpiere

Ministry of Youth

Tim & Michelle Fritz, Chair

Ministry of Parish Life

Nancy Schuette, Chair
Betty Grimaldi
Pam Sturm
Alice Trost
Paul Schuette
LuAnne Sokolowski

Audit Committee

Donna Schuette
Denny Smith
Raylene Henkelmann
Dorothy Thuemmel
Mike LePage
Connie Herford

Nominating Committee

Rachel Higgins
Lori McKenzie
Trevor Carriveau
Eileen Johnson
Betty Grimaldi
Barbara Degg

Synod Assembly Rep –

Norm & Tonja Nelson

School Board

Gretchen Roestel, President
Kevin Trost, Vice-President
Robbi Shaffer, Secretary

open, Treasurer
April Rujan, CEA President

C.E.A

April Rujan-President
Lori Trost-Vice President
Marcine Moore -Secretary
Nicole Shupe -Treasurer

Handy Helper Ministry

Karen Anklam	551-8265
Marilyn Baur	550-8875
Patty Cucinello	453-3589
Barbara Degg	856-2678
Delores Elftman	453-2679
Pat Elston	453-2409
Carol Forster	375-2754
Vickie Forster	553-3875
Rachel Higgins	975-0668
Peggy Licht	975-1963
Lori McKenzie	553-3582
Marcine Moore	550-9405
Carol Schadd	550-5150
Donna Schuette	375-4328
Karen Schuette	453-2744
Nancy Schuette	453-3969
Bonnie Schulz	453-3116
Alice Trost	453-2279
Laura Trost	453-3209
Brigid Trowbridge	453-3990
Donna Wheeler	453-3712
Sheila Yackle	453-2589

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**Please let the office know of any changes to these Ministries and Committees.**

*Updated 6/3/2020*

*(Officers, Ministries & Committees)*