

# 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

March 2021

## Message from Pastor Glenn

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



It has been well over a year since I've been able to visit many members of Cross Lutheran in their homes and in local health care facilities. I miss those visits. One morning while looking out my office window watching the snow fall, I fondly remembered one of those special visits of the past...

I had recently taken the opportunity in my weekly schedule to stop for a brief visit with a very good friend who at the time was 91 years old. The visit had been long overdue. At the assisted living center, I found her in the large dining room, and having just finished lunch, she suggested that we go to her apartment to chat. She asked if I would be so kind as to push her in her wheelchair. Now I've had my driver's license for many years and I've always tried to be a safe defensive wheelchair driver, so this time should not have been any different.

As we traveled down the hallway, I asked her if I was doing okay and she responded, *"You are doing just fine, except you are going too slow! Can we kick it up a bit? I want to get there before we have to turn around and head back for supper!"* Only a very good friend would feel that comfortable and safe to speak that honestly to their pastor!

Speeding up a bit (but not too much), we finally arrived at her apartment. I set the brakes and helped her to get into her favorite chair. *"Just park the wheelchair over by the door,"* she said. After the wheelchair was placed in its proper parking spot, I headed toward a comfortable looking chair and was eager to drop into it, as I looked forward to our visit together.

*"Hold on just a minute! You're not done!"* she said. *"Now you need to roll my walker over here and leave it next to my chair. Without my walker, I'll be held prisoner in this chair until someone finds me! I need it to walk!"* By the teasing tone of her voice, I knew that we would have another wonderful visit together!

One of the many blessings of ministry is the ability to visit with people in their homes. Even in those first years of ministry, I began to believe that there is a sermon topic, or at the very least, the start of a great message in every

(Continued on page 2)

## Preparing for Worship at Cross

### Mar. 7—Third Sunday in Lent

1R – Exodus 20:1-17, P – Psalm 19, 2R – 1 Corinthians 1:18-31, G – John 2:13-22 (23-25)

### Mar. 14—Fourth Sunday in Lent

1R—Numbers 21:4-9, P – Psalm 107:1-9, 2R – Ephesians 2:1-10, G – John 3:14-21

### Mar. 21—Fifth Sunday in Lent

1R - Jeremiah 31:31-34, P – Psalm 119:9-16, 2R – Hebrews 5:1-10, G – Mark 10:(32-34) 35-45

### Mar. 28 - Palm Sunday



*Worship  
Schedule*

3/07	Third Sunday in Lent	w/ HC	9:30 a.m.
3/14	Fourth Sunday in Lent	w/HC	9:30 a.m.
3/21	Fifth Sunday in Lent	w/HC	9:30 a.m.
3/28	Palm Sunday	w/HC	9:30 a.m.
4/01	Maundy Thursday	w/HC	6:30 p.m.
4/02	Good Friday		6:30 p.m.

(Continued from page 1)

conversation. This visit would be no different.

***“But I say, ‘walk by the Spirit...if we live by the Spirit,  
let us also keep in step with the Spirit.’”*** (Galatians 5:16a, 24)

At that time, my current visitation list consisted of approximately 20 people, so there was always an opportunity for ministry somewhere. Yes, there were days (and still are days) when my soul is weary, and my spiritual cup seems close to empty. It is during those times that I have been guided out of my office chair and sent out, packing my Bible and Holy Communion kit.

With each home visit, personal memories are frequently shared which include precious family history and personal stories. While it is always a time for laughter, it is also a time to share our faith in Christ. It is an opportunity for us to share our trust in the Lord knowing that God is always with us. ***“For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”*** (Matthew 18:20)

It is true that as the pastor I am the messenger sent out to bring the life-giving Word and Sacrament to them, but I also receive the peace of the Lord through these visits. When we are gathered together, I am able to witness first-hand the faith, hope, love, and joy that God provides to those who walk with God.

*“O soul, are you weary and troubled...Turn your eyes upon Jesus.”* (Hymn: “Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus,” Helen Howard Lemmel, 1922, Public Domain)

Gathering together in Word and Sacrament, as brothers and sisters in Christ, is a wonderful opportunity to satisfy a weariness that only God can replenish. It is a wonderful opportunity for the Spirit to fill our empty cups to overflowing. To strengthen and sustain us. It is a precious blessing to receive Christ’s mercy, forgiveness, and

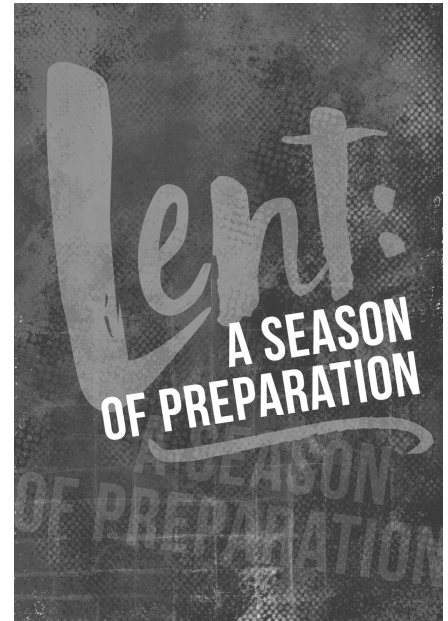
# Celebrate

## MARCH



- 1 Robin Buschlen
- 3 Al Licht
- 4 Mark Fritz
- Larry Smith
- 5 Bonnie Schulz
- 6 Joshua Barry
- Peggy Licht
- Kevin Ohlrogge
- 7 Leanne Schuette
- Aaron Smith
- 8 Ben Smith
- Chad Sturm
- 9 Eleanor Schadd
- 12 Henry Lange Jr.
- 13 Joshua Kunisch
- 16 Kolton Smith
- Haidyn Krzeszewski
- 17 June Sturm
- 20 Jena Zimmerman
- 21 Raylene Henkelmann
- 22 Alissa Peterson

- 24 Gary Schulz
- Emily Sturm
- 25 Emalee Fritz
- Wesley Trowbridge
- 26 Terry Collison
- Greg Prill
- 27 Nicholas Trost
- Robin Krzeszewski
- 28 Lonnie Schulz
- 29 Martin Knost
- 29 Jim Licht
- 30 Jeff Buchholz
- Roberta Danks
- Olga Renn
- Kobain Smith



### NO Anniversaries in March

**Remember Those at Home...**  
 Elaine Licht, Martin Knost,  
 Eunice Richmond.

**We Lift Up in Prayer...**  
 Joyce Starkweather, Noah  
 Adams, Kyle Walker, Whitney  
 Peyerk, Kayle  
 Thepsourinthone, Leanne  
 Schuette, Kay Schuette, Karen  
 Schuette, Florence Iddings,  
 Roberta Danks, Posie Tuckey,  
 Corey Messing, Marvin Trost,  
 Clark Eidt, 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, sons of  
 Lonnie Schulz & grandsons of  
 Bonnie Schulz. Nicholas  
 Swanson, U.S. Air Force, son  
 of Randy & Suzie Swanson &  
 grandson of Nancy Schuette.

*God  
 Answers  
 Prayers*

## From the Desk of...Carrie Ward

Winter Greetings to all!

I think I speak for all of the teachers when I say we are so happy and blessed to be able to teach our students here at school. God has been so good to us and has kept us healthy and together for this school year, and for this I am very thankful. My students and I have been enjoying our time together and have been making the most of this year. There have been art projects, science experiments and observations, checking out library books, math games, spelling centers, and more. Not to mention the excitement of all the snow to play in and build with at recess!

We've been learning how to dribble and shoot on the basketball court, reading SO many books, singing songs with Mrs. Keim, and even managing to squeeze a little Valentine party in too! It is so nice to know that even with all the craziness going on in our world right now, there is a peace and a regularity in our lives with being able to come together each day and learn and grow together in the classroom.

It is a blessing, for sure, to be able to speak truth into the lives of my students and teach them what God says about life and who is truly in control. To teach them each day about the Word and help them to understand how it applies to their lives. To pray with them and hear them reciting, singing, and memorizing the words of our Lord is a great privilege.

Thank you again for the opportunity to teach in this wonderful school.

***"May the Lord bless you and protect you. May the Lord smile on you and be gracious to you. May the Lord show you his favor and give you His peace."*** (Numbers 6:24-26 NLT)

## March Calendar

3/1 thru 3/5 Lutheran Schools Week

3/26 End of 3rd Marking Period

3/29 thru 4/2 Spring Break



# memorials & gifts

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

**In memory of Marilyn Baur, for Cross Lutheran Church:**

Bill & Cindy Lutz

John & Barbara Gunn

Betty Miller

Leslie Drury

Mike & Lorene Zagata

Linda Fietzer

Bob & Verneda Kuhl

Bill & Joy Armstrong

Lisa DiCamillo

Mike Fritz & family

**In memory of Marilyn Baur, for Cross Building fund:**

Jack & Pam Sturm

Terry & June Sturm

**In memory of Marilyn Baur, for Cross Lutheran School:**

Jean Sturm

**In memory of Dick Dufty for Cross Lutheran School:**

Denny & Leanne Smith

**In memory of Nancy Mellendorf for Cross Lutheran School:**

Jean Sturm

In memory of Paul Mellendorf, for Cross Lutheran School:

Jean



Sturm

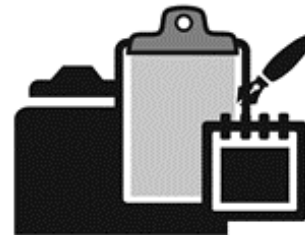


## CROSS SLEDDING TRIP 2021!!!



# CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL COUNCIL MINUTES

Tuesday, January 12, 2021



Church Council  
Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Church Council President, Michael LePage, at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Gretchen Roestel, Nancy Heck, Krisie Fritz, Pastor Glenn S. Sokolowski, Nancy Schuette, Kent McKenzie, Matt Zimmerman, Norman Nelson, and Steve Schulze. Guests: David Faupel and Sarah Brooks.

## DEVOTIONS:

**1 Corinthians 12:27** - *“Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.”* What a witness when church members share their unique gifts and work together harmoniously for their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! Pastor Glenn followed with prayer.

**AGENDA:** Kent McKenzie made a Motion to approve the Agenda as presented, seconded by Steve Schulze. Motion carried.

**MINUTES:** Kent McKenzie made a Motion to approve the December Minutes as presented, seconded by Matt Zimmerman. Motion carried.

## OFFICER REPORTS:

**Mike LePage, President** gave his report as follows:

Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 14, 2021, immediately following the service.

Received word from the Federal Government that the PPE loan and interest has been forgiven.

An electric scooter was donated to Cross Lutheran by Clark Eidt. Kent McKenzie will ask his daughter, Kristy McKenzie to put it on Marketplace, etc. to be sold.

Mike recognized Pastor and LuAnne for their hard work on the order of service input program going through to the monitors.

Carol Diener is retiring at the end of the Church’s first quarter. If we are unable to find anyone willing to take the position within our church family, will need to look in using a local accountant firm. Mike LePage and Nancy Heck will lead this project to locate someone and work with Carol Diener. Discussion followed.

**Krisie Fritz, Secretary** – Communications: None

**Nancy Heck, Treasurer** – Nancy gave her report as presented.

**Motion was made by Steve Schulze to approve the Treasurer’s Report as presented, seconded by Kent McKenzie. Motion carried.**

## GUESTS PRESENTATIONS AND REQUESTS:

**David Faupel** gave his School Report as follows:

Basketball will begin if COVID-19 rules are lifted. No leagues, just making teams within our school.

Semester ends on Friday, January 22, 2021.

At the last School Board meeting, the non-member board position was filled.

Archery Practice – Lyle Gascho requested to use the gym as he has in the past. Discussion followed. It was decided that all participants will need to enter through the gym doors and will need to follow the school policy of mask wearing. Whatever the amount we receive, half will be paid to Marcine and the other half to be added to the Building Maintenance Fund for expenses.

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

The Early Childhood Center received a grant of \$30,000.00. A bonus was given to staff for being on the front-line.

Sarah is continuing to be aware of any grants, specifically looking for a grant to update playground equipment.

### **ADVISOR'S REPORTS:**

#### **Pastor's Report:**

Attended an Online NALC Michigan Mission District Meeting.

Attended a NALC Pastor's Funeral Service in Manistee.

Christmas Eve 4:00 pm and 8:00 pm services. Christmas Day 9:30 am service. CD and DVD delivery.

Pastor and LuAnne are presently creating Worship Bulletins and PowerPoints.

Pastor, Church Council, and Congregation Evaluations (no evaluations of Pastor Glenn were received since the last council meeting)

Ash Wednesday Service, February 17 at 6:30 pm. (no ashes will be distributed)

**School Board Report:** Gretchen Roestel reported everything was covered under David Faupel's report.

### **MINISTRIES REPORTS – TRUSTEES:**

**Property:** Matt Zimmerman gave his report as follows:

Cass Lee requested that a non-member be buried at Cross Cemetery. Discussion followed. Cross denied the request due to non-membership.

Received a letter from Worship and Music. Need 6 to 10 trained volunteers for sound booth. Also, we need to have ushers to arrive earlier for services. Kent McKenzie will take care of training the ushers with new policies due to COVID-19. Pastor will train the Confirmation Class including the parents for sound booth duties. Pastor will include this as part of the acolyte's duties.

New phone system will be installed shortly.

Half of the mailboxes will be taken down so there is room for a monitor to be hung. The fixture will be stored in storage shed.

**Worship & Music:** Pastor Sokolowski gave his report as follows:

Pastor is selecting the music, including some new hymns.

**Stewardship:** Norman Nelson gave his report as follows:

The year end is looking good.

**Mission Outreach:** Nancy Schuette – no meeting held.

**Parish Life:** Nancy Schuette – no meeting held.

**Youth & Education:** Steve Schulze – no meeting held.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Telephone System from Richmond Brothers** - Steve Schulze will install once Todd Roestel delivers the equipment.

**Day Care Project** – Mike LePage contacted Clint Braun and he is working with Pat Azarovitz on permits.

Sarah Brooks wants to be involved with the flooring needs. Raylene Henkelmann requested that she be present when her equipment and supplies need to be moved to another location. Sarah requested to be informed of the progress on a regular basis so she can keep the State informed.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Laptop for Church Council Secretary** – Krisie informed the council that there was no need at this time.

**Nominating Committee** – Pastor will gather the Nominating Committee to meet.

**Audit Committee Meeting** – Mike LePage will gather the Audit Committee to meet.

## Worship and Music Ministry

Minutes of February 2, 2021 Meeting

Members present: Barb Degg – Chair, Pat Azarovitz, Peg McCrimmon, Mike Sting, Pastor Glenn, Karen Schuette. Absent: Beth Elston

Meeting opened with devotion and prayer by Pastor Glenn.

Reviewed the minutes of January meeting which opened a continued discussion concerning music and hymnal selection for worship.

### OLD BUSINESS

\*Mike Sting reported that he and Beth met, virtually, with the Leek Company concerning the present state and future upgrading of our organ. Mike asked the Leek people for suggestions. Four companies have been contacted to date and it seems that Leek and Fowler and Ebert are the best for our needs.

\*Discussion was opened up again concerning storage space. Remodeling for expanded day care will begin soon. Options were discussed.

\*Discussion on the opening and closing of church on Sunday mornings was opened again. It was suggested that the ushers should be the ones to take on this responsibility rather than the various ministries.

\*Mike Sting gave an update on the running of the sound and video booth.

\*Ash Wednesday worship is February 17 at 6:30 pm with Holy Communion but no imposition of ashes.

\*Palm Sunday worship is March 28 with Holy Communion.

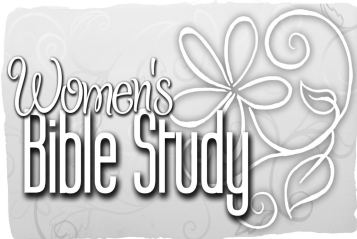
\*Maundy Thursday worship is April 1 at 6:30 pm with Holy Communion and the stripping of the altar.

\*Good Friday worship is April 2 at 6:30 pm – no Holy Communion.

\*Easter worships are April 4 at 7 am and 9:30 am with Holy Communion.

Pat Azarovitz moved to adjourn the meeting and Mike Sting seconded. Motion carried.

Adjourned with the Lord's Prayer



Woman's Bible Study will be gathering on Wednesday, March 3rd, at 1:30 pm.

This is the last session in the Walking together Bible Study. Our studies started with trust one another, continued with forbear, serve, comfort, teach, stir up, pray, forgive one another. We conclude the study with Love One Another. The readings are from John 13:31-35, and 1 Corinthians 13:4-7. Join us in the church overflow as we continue to Walk Together. Looking for ideas for next study, bring ideas or suggestions with you!

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God...In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son





# March 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> <b>Lutheran Schools Week</b> 	<b>2</b> Music & Worship 3 pm Childcare Bd 5 pm	<b>3</b> Chapel 8:15 am  Women's Bible 1:30 pm	<b>4</b> CEA 4:45 pm School Board 5:30 pm Properties 7 pm	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> Comm. Serv. 9:30 am	<b>8</b>  Stewardship 5:30 pm	<b>9</b>  Council 7 pm	<b>10</b> Chapel 8:15 am	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> Comm. Serv. 9:30 am  Daylight Savings Time begins	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Chapel 8:15 am	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> Comm. Serv. 9:30 am	<b>22</b> Newsletter deadline	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Chapel 8:15 am	<b>25</b>  Music Palooza 7 pm	<b>26</b>  End of 3rd grading period <b>Full day of            school</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> Palm Sunday Comm. Serv. 9:30 am	<b>29</b> NO SCHOOL Spring Break	<b>30</b> NO SCHOOL Spring Break	<b>31</b>		<i>lets fly a kite</i>	

**Officers, Ministries & Committees**

**Pastor** – Glenn Sokolowski

**Music Director** - Beth Elston

**Church Council**

Mike LePage, President

Dick Koehler, VP

Krisie Fritz, Secretary

Nancy Heck, Treasurer

Pat Azarovitz, Trustee  
(Worship & Music)

Norm Nelson, Trustee  
(Stewardship)

Nancy Schuette, Trustee  
(Parish Life  
Mission/Outreach)

Matt Zimmerman, Trustee  
(Property)

Steve Schulze, Trustee  
(Youth/Education)

**Advisors**

Paul Schuette, Constitution Rep.

**Ministry of Properties**

Mike Sting, Chair

Matt Zimmerman

Neil Herford

Steve Schulze

Mike Eden

Pat Azarovitz

Paul Schuette

**Ministry of Worship & Music**

Barb Degg, Chair

Peg McCrimmon

Beth Elston

Karen Schuette

Mike Sting

Pat Azarovitz

**Ministry of Mission / Outreach**

Krisie Fritz

Connie Eden

Rachel Messing

Kay Schuette

Tonja Nelson

Nancy Heck

Lorraine LePage

Lori Smith

Kim Delpiere

**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**

Dick Koehler, President

Kevin Trost, Vice-President

Robbi Shaffer, Secretary

Kevin Stachowiak, nonmember rep

Rebecca Yackle, CEA Treasurer

April Rujan, CEA President

**C.E.A**

April Rujan-President

Lori Trost-Vice President

Marcine Moore -Secretary

Rebecca Yackle -Treasurer

**Handy Helper Ministry**

Karen Anklam 551-8265

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



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

*Updated 2/19/2021*

*(Officers, Ministries & Committees)*