

The CROSS Currents

Worship

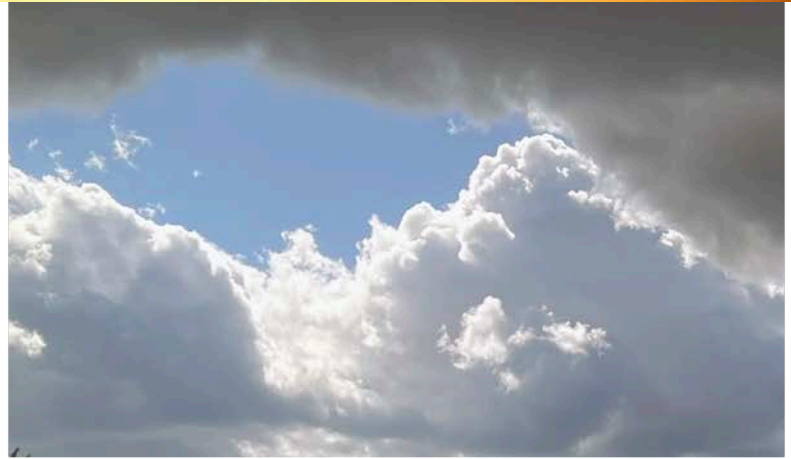
Cross Lutheran worships every Sunday morning at 9:30 am. Worship is also live-streamed via our facebook page and on our YouTube channel. Please join us.

Faith Formation

Adult education and Sunday School for children have resumed. There's something for everyone.

Pastoral Care

If you have a pastoral care concern or request, please email Pastor Scott at: pastorscott@crosslutheranchurch.org or phone direct 612 859 1134



October Skies

Last night I went with our confirmation students to Our Redeemer Lutheran Church and helped distribute food through their Wednesday night food ministry. This particular outing was part of this year's confirmation program, which we are doing in collaboration with Our Redeemer. In total, our nine students (four from Cross and five from Our Redeemer) will meet about every week for study, service, fellowship, and formation. I am delighted to be collaborating with Pastor Karsten Nelson at Our Redeemer on this program.

After we had finished, our group was walking to the parking lot East of the church. The sun was beginning to set, and Katie Brynildson (one of the members of our Board of Faith Formation who is also a confirmation mom and helping with the program) stopped and said something to this effect: "Look at





We Pray For:

This week we pray for: Sharon, Caroline, BettyLu, David, Ray and Clara, Brady, Andrew, Sheree, Kennedee, Kenny, Judy, Marv, Marya, Robin, Yvonne, Hailey, and Dottie.

We also pray for the Anderson, Brynildson, Buck, Hastings, and Mulry families.

If you have a name to add or remove from this prayer list, please contact Pastor Scott or Katie Tomek, Admin. Assistant.

that sky. The way the golden sun lights up the tops of the trees against the blue and white... I love this time of year and time of day.”

(Katie was likely much more poetic than this... but you get the gist, I hope).

As I drove West towards home, I could not help but notice the sun hidden behind a cloud, and how it cast a stunning halo of yellow and orange into the darkening sky. And as I write, I am accompanied by billowy clouds lazily meandering north, glowing at the edges with brilliant white light. There’s a bit of chill in the air... and I can feel and anticipate that the change in season is finally at hand. The long hot dry summer is gone and the rhythms and smells and sounds of Autumn are emerging.

Personally, I love the robust fullness of the seasons in Minnesota. And I particularly love the days and nights of transition from one to another. The timing of this year’s Summer to Autumn transition reminds me that one of the most overlooked and possibly under-appreciated segments of the church year is at hand. Soon we will celebrate Reformation Sunday, All Saints, and Christ the King... those Sundays where we focus on the fruits of the Kingdom of Christ which is already here and always coming, and where we take time to remember those who have gone before us into the light of God’s everlasting love.

May it be a time of renewal and refreshment, and remembering, the many blessings we have been given.

May God’s light continue to shine in your lives and in our community. And may we be faithful in answering and following God’s call into the coming days.

Pax,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott R. S." followed by a horizontal line.

Pastor Scott

FAITH FORMATION

Confirmation: The confirmation class is planning to attend the National ELCA Youth Gathering next summer in New Orleans. We will be joining youth from other synod congregations. Anticipated cost is about \$1500/student (includes registration, lodging, travel, and meals). We will be sharing more about raising funds for the trip in the next few months. So please stay tuned for details.

We are also excited to announce that our confirmation youth have joined with confirmation students at Our Redeemer for a combined program lead by Pastor Scott and Pastor Karsten Nelson of Our Redeemer. In addition to participating in the larger Deep Dive confirmation activities (which involve 8 other congregations), we are alternating bi-weekly learning sessions at Cross and Our Redeemer on Sundays around noon. We are also planning a two night lake retreat for the students on MEA Weekend, as well as some service opportunities and more. On the days we host, please take time to welcome our partners from Our Redeemer.

Book Club: You are invited to read “Katharina and Martin Luther: the Radical Marriage of a Runaway Nun and a Renegade Monk”, the story of Katherine and Martin Luther. This book is available from [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) or may be purchased by the Board of Faith Formation. You need not have read the book prior to coming to the meeting. However, we will meet during Adult Education hour on **October 29** to discuss the book.

Adult Education: In addition to book club meetings on October 29 and December 10, Pastor Scott is leading two Bible study series this Fall. “Job” from October 1 - 22, and “Revelation” from November 5 - December 3. Stay tuned for more information.



Join us every other Wednesday at 5:30 pm on the East Lawn for song, food and fellowship. Oct 11, and Oct 25 (weather permitting). Bring a folding chair and drinks, and even a snack to share. If you play guitar or another campfire band style instrument, please join in. Lyrics and chords will be provided.

FALL ADULT EDUCATION SCHEDULE

Oct. 1-Oct. 22	“Job”
Oct. 29	Book Club - Reformation
Nov. 5-Dec. 3	“Revelation”
Dec. 10	Book Club - Advent
Dec. 17	Christmas Pageant



STEWARDSHIP

Current Dedicated Account Balances

Air Conditioning Memorial: \$7,800.00;
 Capital Improvement Fund: \$21,425.83;
 Education Memorial: \$1,224.04;
 Gifts/Memorials (Undesignated): \$7,404.64;
 Portico Entrance Memorial: \$3,500.00;
 Sound System Memorial: \$12,353;
 Fund for Missions \$7,998.24;
 Cross Lutheran Investment Fund (CLIF): \$100,000.00

August 31, 2023
 Statement of Activities



Our summer months continued to show the absence of regular giving in August as our weekly income was down \$2,500. Our other income and the release of the 2022 surplus helped make up the difference and our total monthly income was only down \$439.42. Our boards continue to operate very efficiently with expenses \$2,423.51 below the month's budgeted amount. The end result for August was a net income of \$804.90. Our previous financial health results in our year to date net income at a whopping \$11,759.34 – which is \$23,592.61 above the budgeted amount for the year to date. Thank you again faithful givers, supporters and stewards of Cross Lutheran!

Carol Hastings
 Board of Stewardship



Income

	Current Month Actual	Current Month Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Annual Budget	YTD Budget vs. YTD Actual
Weekly Offerings Totals:	7,875.50	10,375.00	85,755.15	83,000.00	124,500.00	2,755.15
Holidays/Special Totals:	0.00	0.00	4,377.00	4,300.00	7,650.00	77.00
Interest Income Totals:	15.50	1.25	94.26	10.00	15.00	84.26
Other Income Totals:	5,363.75	3,317.92	42,891.81	28,543.32	62,015.00	14,348.49
Dedicated Funds Released Totals:	3,188.40	3,188.40	24,447.71	24,447.71	37,201.34	0.00
Income Totals:	16,443.15	16,882.57	157,565.93	140,301.03	231,381.34	17,264.90

Expense

Lay Ministry Totals:	12,877.78	13,625.19	105,651.27	108,641.58	163,142.34	2,990.31
Faith Formation Totals:	30.46	264.58	4,363.52	4,616.68	5,675.00	253.16
Stewardship Totals:	0.00	71.67	3,241.90	1,573.32	7,360.00	(1,668.58)
Church Properties Totals:	2,730.01	4,100.32	32,549.90	37,302.72	55,204.00	4,752.82
Expense Totals:	15,638.25	18,061.76	145,806.59	152,134.30	231,381.34	6,327.71
Income - Expense:	804.90	(1,179.19)	11,759.34	(11,833.27)	0.00	23,592.61



This past month's John Glenn Community Market was on Wednesday, September 27, and what a great turnout!

You Served:

- Households: 87
- JG students: 84
- Other kids in family: 158
- Seniors: 15
- Total Adults: 212
- New Families 37

Total persons: 472

- Volunteer Hours: 100
- Pounds of food 5,290 with 2,828 from fresh and frozen.

LAY MINISTRY

The Board of Lay Ministry is working on updating our membership at Cross along with a new Church Phone Directory. If you have had a change in address, phone number, cell number or email address, let the office know. We will make sure these changes get updated in the next directory. There will also be a review of member contact information in October. More information will follow.

Thank you!
Jamie Gudknecht



John Glenn School Supply Drive

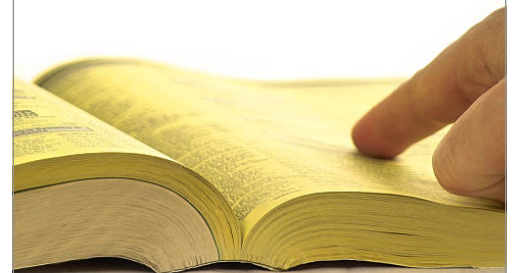
It's that time again! School supplies are on sale and are greatly needed at John Glenn Middle School. The following supplies are needed. Your donations can be placed in the narthex. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Items Needed:

The donation item for October is socks.

Ongoing Needs:

Expo markers and backpacks.



CONFIRMATION



MYLE

Multicultural Youth Leadership Event of the ELCA
JULY 13-16, 2024

the tAble

An ELCA Gathering of Youth with Disabilities
JULY 13-16, 2024

Young Adult Gathering

A new ELCA Gathering for Young Adults
JULY 16-20, 2024



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

 fb.com/youthgathering

    @elcagathering

 elca.org/gathering

Stay tuned for more information about our Summer 2024 youth trip to New Orleans.

Happy Birthday

OCTOBER

10/3 Duane Gudknecht
10/5 Amelia Haagensen
10/10 Henry Mizinski
10/12 Cody LeMay
10/14 Nancy Brown
10/18 Jeanne Haagensen
10/18 Lona Stepnick
10/18 Joel Lund
10/22 Dottie Bingman
10/25 Jack Egginger
10/26 Judy Ashby
10/26 Rose Border
10/29 Janice Neenan

NOVEMBER

11/1 Ronald Hanson
11/1 Marion Lindstrom
11/1 LuAnn Lund
11/4 Perri Linroth
11/4 Katie Tomek
11/5 Rose Macioch
11/5 Annora Mae
Tryggestad
11/6 Douglas Oslund
11/10 Melanie French
11/14 Emelia Knutsen
11/15 Brooke Lund
11/19 Diana Swanson
11/21 Emily Bohrman
11/21 Keith Lindquist
11/26 Lette Pfefferle

Join us every Sunday at 9:30am for worship
onsite and online on You Tube or Facebook.

Coffee and Fellowship, 10:30am

Adult education is now in session- 11:00am on Sundays in
the Community Room.

Call the office or visit the online calendar for details.

To schedule or request a pastoral care visit or conversation,
please call the office (651-777-1329) or email Pastor Scott
(pastorscott@crosslutheranchurch.org) or
Katie (office@crosslutheranchurch.org).

In a pastoral care emergency, please call or text
Pastor Scott directly, 612-859-1134.

Click the link to open the Cross calendar:

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/o/r?pli=1>

October 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30 AM Cross Worship/Education 9:30 AM In Person Worship Service 9:30 AM Worship Live 10:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 10:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Adult Education 12:00 PM Confirmation 1:00 PM Promesa De Dios 5:00 PM Ebenezer Elim 	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Pastor Scott Office Hours 6:00 PM Cross Properties Committee 6:00 PM Cross Lay Ministry Meeting 6:00 PM Cross Properties Committee 	<p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Pastor Scott's Office Hours 5:00 PM Confirmation Service Event 7:00 PM Adventista Del Séptimo Día 	<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM Katie Tomek Office 10:30 AM Bible Study with Pastor Scott 11:30 AM Pastor Scott Office 3:00 PM Worship at Shores of Lake Phalen 4:15 PM Pastor Scott Office 6:00 PM Cross Choir Practice 	<p>5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Pastor Scott's Office Hours 5:00 PM Ebenezer Elim 7:00 PM Adventista Del Séptimo Día 	<p>6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Pastor Scott's Office Hours 7:00 PM Ebenezer Elim 	<p>7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM Adventista del Séptimo Día 1:30 PM Cross Organ Practice 5:00 PM Adventista del Séptimo Día
<p>8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30 AM Cross Worship/Education 9:30 AM In Person Worship Service 9:30 AM Worship Live 10:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 10:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Adult Education 1:00 PM Promesa De Dios 5:00 PM Ebenezer Elim 	<p>9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Pastor Scott Office Hours 6:00 PM Board of Stewardship 	<p>10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Pastor Scott's Office Hours 5:30 PM Sing Around the Fire 6:30 PM Deep Dive Hayride 7:00 PM Adventista Del Séptimo Día 	<p>11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM Katie Tomek Office 10:30 AM Bible Study with Pastor Scott 11:30 AM Pastor Scott Office 3:00 PM Worship at Shores of Lake Phalen 4:15 PM Pastor Scott Office 6:00 PM Cross Choir Practice 	<p>12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM Katie Tomek Office 10:30 AM Bible Study with Pastor Scott 11:30 AM Pastor Scott Office 3:00 PM Worship at Shores of Lake Phalen 4:15 PM Pastor Scott Office 6:00 PM Cross Choir Practice 	<p>13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Pastor Scott's Office Hours 7:00 PM Ebenezer Elim 	<p>14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM Adventista del Séptimo Día 1:30 PM Cross Organ Practice 5:00 PM Adventista del Séptimo Día
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<p>22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30 AM Cross Worship/Education 9:30 AM In Person Worship Service 9:30 AM Worship Live 10:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 10:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Adult Education 12:00 PM Confirmation 1:00 PM Promesa De Dios 5:00 PM Ebenezer Elim 	<p>23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Pastor Scott Office Hours 6:00 PM Cross PPC 	<p>24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Pastor Scott's Office Hours 1:00 PM Volunteers for Community Market 2:30 PM John Glenn Community Market 5:30 PM Sing Around the Fire 7:00 PM Adventista Del Séptimo Día 	<p>25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM Katie Tomek Office 10:30 AM Bible Study with Pastor Scott 11:30 AM Pastor Scott Office 3:00 PM Worship at Shores of Lake Phalen 4:15 PM Pastor Scott Office 5:00 PM Confirmation Retreat 6:00 PM Cross Choir Practice 	<p>26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM Katie Tomek Office 10:30 AM Bible Study with Pastor Scott 11:30 AM Pastor Scott Office 3:00 PM Worship at Shores of Lake Phalen 4:15 PM Pastor Scott Office 6:00 PM Cross Choir Practice 	<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 PM Pastor Scott's Office Hours 7:00 PM Ebenezer Elim 	<p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM Adventista del Séptimo Día 1:30 PM Cross Organ Practice 5:00 PM Adventista del Séptimo Día
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A Trip Down Memory Lane- a Poem from the Currents 1996: "A Lady Took My Seat at Church"

A lady took MY seat in church a while back. It's not that important, **really**. She's a **VERY** nice lady, kind and **considerate**. A **GOOD** friend, in **fact**. **There** are several **OTHER** seats available. I can sit anywhere. The people in **OUR** congregation are as **friendly** and caring **as you** will find **ANY** place in **the world**. **A person should** be comfortable sitting **ANY** place. It's **NO** big deal!

MY seat is in **the seventh** row back from **the front of the church**. I'm **SURE SHE didn't intend** to take **MY seat**. She **JUST** wouldn't do that. Nor would anyone **else in our fine** church. It doesn't make **THAT** much difference.

MY seat is **on the end of the pew...on the North side...by the windows**. **On your left as you come into the sanctuary**. I can rest my left arm on **the END of the pew**. **It's a GOOD seat**. I would **NEVER** raise a **fuss about a seat**.

I suppose **SHE** came early, and **MY seat** appeared available. She probably **didn't intend** anything **personal** by taking **MY seat**. **But I would NEVER raise a fuss** about a seat, or **hold a grudge**.

There are several seats AVAILABLE on the South side. **On the right as you come in**. I **COULD** have taken one of those. **THOSE** people **who sit over there** are **VERY nice**. Over **there**, on **the SOUTH side**, I know **MOST** of those people. I **WOULD** be welcome over there on **the SOUTH side**.

Actually, it **was about THREE months ago** when she took **MY seat**. I **REALLY** don't know **WHY** she took it. I've **NEVER done ANYTHING** to **her**. I've **NEVER taken HER seat**. I suppose I'll **HAVE** to come an **hour EARLY** now to get **MY seat**. Either **THAT** or **sit on the South side**.

She **REALLY** took it because it's one of **the BEST** seats in the house. That's why **SHE** took it. She had **NO** business taking **MY seat**. I wouldn't have been **surprised if** it had been a **couple** of **OTHER** ladies in our church, who shall **NOT remain** unnamed. Donna Thege and Clarice Manstedt have been picking on **ME** for a **LONG** time.

I'm **NOT** going to **sit on the South side**. That's **for** Southsiders. I'm a Northsider. I can **just HEAR** those **Southsiders**, if I sat over **THERE**, "What's **SHE** doing over **HERE**?" I'll tell you what she's doing over here. **SOME** unscrupulous **person** took **HER seat**, that's what! **She** took it **because it's the BEST seat in the house**. **And I'm NOT** going to church two hours early to **get** what is **RIGHTFULLY** mine from **the beginning**.

This is the way GREAT social injustices begin: abusive people taking **other people's seats in church**. This is the way **the seeds** of revolution are sown. A **person** can only stand so much. Where is it going to end? **If somebody doesn't stand up and be counted**, nobody's **seat** will be safe. people will **just sit ANY place they please**, and **the next THING they'll do is** to take **MY parking place, too!** **World order** will be in shambles.

I'm **NOT** going to take **this** lying down. I can't; **the stakes are JUST too high**. I **think** I'll go to the church board. **Better still**, I'll contact a **GOOD personal injury lawyer**; a **REAL** shark. One who will **go RIGHT** for **the throat**. Even **better**, one who will **go RIGHT** for the **POCKETBOOK!**



Pastor: Reverend Scott Simmons
Admin Assistant: Katie Tomek
Financial Secretary: Carol Hastings
Worship Director: Ruthann Ritchie

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