

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 is ongoing. 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



Ben Kyle is one of my favorite local singer/songwriters. I first experienced his music in 2009 while attending *Mercy Seat*, which was a newer church plant in Northeast Minneapolis. One of the defining characteristics of *Mercy Seat* was their commitment to commissioning new liturgies from a wide range of musical artists and styles. Over the years, this little community helped launch jazz liturgies, folk liturgies, rock liturgies, and more. One of the things that truly differentiated *Mercy Seat* liturgies is that they emerged from a wide range of artists — not all with Lutheran backgrounds — who were given the support and freedom to wrestle with their own questions of faith and express them through their own musical styles and gifts. They all followed the standard liturgical order — gather, word, meal, send — and usually included the requisite parts we are so familiar with: the Kyrie, Gloria, Alleluia, Sanctus, Agnus Dei, etc. For me, and for many who were a part of *Mercy Seat*, there was a sense of deep community and intimacy with the liturgy as we sang these songs of hope, and praise, and commitment.





We Pray For:

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

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

Ben Kyle's *Massa* liturgy was one that particularly spoke to me. Musically, it was pure and unadorned yet stunningly rich. A quiet guitar strummed simply, unpretentious piano notes and occasional chords, offset by soft vocals and poignant harmonies. It was like being carried along in a cloud, which let the words ring out even more clearly and true.

One of my favorite pieces is *Thank You*, a simple song of thanksgiving which follows holy communion:

*Thank you for the way you make the showers fall, like a
blanket on the valley when the flowers call
Thank you for creating and sustaining it all
Thank you from my heart, thank you from my heart.
Thank you for the way you make the music play
In between the quiet on a beautiful day
Thank you for the meaning in the things we say
Thank you from my heart, thank you from my heart
Let there be light, let there be love, let there be space
Let all the water flow together through the ether
and gather in a beautiful place
Let there be earth, let there be sea, let there be sky
Let all the water flow together through the ether
and gather over you and I*

As we journey together into November, we are also taking time both in the church and in culture to give thanks for the big and little things, the visible and hidden things, things known and even unknown.

As I write this, I give thanks for all of you who make up this community we call Cross. I give thanks for those we serve, those who serve us, those who make our life together more blessed, and those whose blessings we have yet to experience and realize.

I give thanks for whatever you are thankful for, as well.

We will gather as a community on Tuesday night, November 21 at 5:30 pm for a special thanksgiving worship. I am hoping to share not only my own thanks that evening, but also those of this entire community. Over the next few Sundays, there will be a basket in the narthex and some paper and pens. Please write down what you are thankful for, place it in the basket, and I will include it in the sermon that night.

Pax,

Pastor Scott

FAITH FORMATION

Our **Confirmation** students have been quite busy over the past month. One of the highlights of October was an overnight trip to a lake cabin in Brandon, MN with our partner students from Our Redeemer on Friday, Oct. 21 — Saturday, Oct. 22. We spent the time studying what it means to live life as a Lutheran, playing games, sharing meals, and getting to know each other better. Thanks to Pastor Karsten Nelson of Our Redeemer for being our host.

Our Redeemer youth and adult sponsors also joined us for two Sunday teaching sessions at Cross on Oct. 1 and 15. Our students met at Our Redeemer for another on Oct. 29. The students will be back at Cross on Sunday, Nov. 12 before finishing the teaching sessions on Nov. 26 and Dec. 10 at Our Redeemer.

Stay tuned for more information about Cross Youth and Confirmation activities coming up. And plan on supporting our youth for their trip to New Orleans next Summer at the ELCA National Youth Gathering.

Book Club Look for an announcement soon for our Advent Book Club selection. Thanks also to Dottie Bingman for leading an interesting and lively discussion about our Reformation Sunday book, “Katharina and Martin Luther: the Radical Marriage of a Runaway Nun and a Renegade Monk.”

Revelation — Pastor Scott kicked off a multi-week bible study on the Book of Revelation on Sunday, November 5. We highly recommend that you join him Sundays at 11 for a deep dive into this rich, yet often misunderstood book. Classes will be held Nov. 12, Nov. 19, Dec. 3, Dec. 10, and will take a break before returning in January.



Diana Swanson and Merilee Jackson are busy at work planning our annual Christmas Pageant, which will be held once again during Sunday Worship on December 18. Stay tuned for more information and how you might be involved.



The **United Sisters** would like to invite you to participate & come to our Christmas Brunch, Sunday, December 18 following the annual Christmas Pageant worship . We have decided to change up our meal by making it a POT LUCK! So, let's break out the cookbooks, go thru your favorites, or even just follow a recipe from Google. It will be fun & interesting. We are also asking for some baked goods, cookies & or breads to share with our 9 shut-ins. Sign up sheets for helpers will be up on December 3rd. We're looking forward to a great day together.

STEWARDSHIP

Current Dedicated Account Balances

Air Conditioning Memorial: \$6,526.00;
 Capital Improvement Fund: \$22,534.83;
 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 \$8,034.44;
 Cross Lutheran Investment Fund (CLIF): \$100,000.00



September was another month where we saw a net loss, which was projected for this year. Our YTD actual figures still show us in a very strong position compared to the budget. September budgeted YTD loss was \$13,012.46 with a positive YTD income of \$9,908.46. This due to several items: We had some members who paid their entire pledge for the year early; rental income from the other congregations is \$14,448 over budget ,and we still continue to release 2022 undesignated surplus funds, of which, through September, \$27,636 have been released from savings to checking. We have added a line to record our unrealized gain or loss from the ELCA Foundation Investment. We have named this account the Cross Lutheran Investment Fund (CLIF) and it is where our Fund for Missions monies have been invested. So for September, we have an unrealized gain of \$1,013. We are able to withdraw funds from this account when needed. We will be paying for the next Community Markets with funds left in the Fund for Missions account. This will deplete the account so we will have to consider drawing funds from CLIF when more funds are needed for Community Markets. We used some of the funds in the Air Conditioning Memorial to purchase 6 window air conditioners for the offices and coffee room.

Hopefully you received your 2024 pledge letter and statement of intent for weekly offerings, as well as the capital improvement fund. Included with the letter is your 3rd quarter giving statement. Please let Carol know if there are any discrepancies. **Please return pledge card by November 19th.** They are vital to our budget process.

Thank you,

September 30, 2023 Statement of Activities

	Current Month Actual	Current Month Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Annual Budget	YTD Budget vs. YTD Actual
Income						
Weekly Offerings Totals:	8,582.00	10,375.00	94,337.15	93,375.00	124,500.00	962.15
Holidays/Special Totals:	0.00	0.00	4,377.00	4,300.00	7,650.00	77.00
Grant PPP CARES Income Totals:	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Interest Income Totals:	15.36	1.25	109.62	11.25	15.00	98.37
Other Income Totals:	3,418.25	3,317.92	46,310.06	31,861.24	62,015.00	14,448.82
Dedicated Funds Released Totals:	3,188.40	3,188.40	27,636.11	27,636.11	37,201.34	0.00
Unrealized Gains/Losses Totals:	1,013.07	0.00	1,013.07	0.00	0.00	1,013.07
Income Totals:	16,217.08	16,882.57	173,783.01	157,183.60	231,381.34	16,599.41
Expense						
Lay Ministry Totals:	13,822.36	13,625.19	119,473.63	122,266.77	163,142.34	2,793.14
Faith Formation Totals:	153.30	264.58	4,516.82	4,881.26	5,675.00	364.44
Stewardship Totals:	0.00	71.67	3,241.90	1,644.99	7,360.00	(1,596.91)
Church Properties Totals:	4,092.30	4,100.32	36,642.20	41,403.04	55,204.00	4,760.84
Non-Budget Totals:	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Expense Totals:	18,067.96	18,061.76	163,874.55	170,196.06	231,381.34	6,321.51
Income - Expense:	(1,850.88)	(1,179.19)	9,908.46	(13,012.46)	0.00	22,920.92



This past month's John Glenn Community Market was on Wednesday, October 25, and what a great turnout!

You Served:

- Households: 82
- JG students: 78
- Other kids in family: 166
- Seniors: 18
- Total Adults: 205
- New Families 26

Total persons: 466

- Volunteer Hours: 100
- Pounds of food 4,715 with 2,088 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 November is sweatpants- all sizes, youth to adult.

Ongoing Needs:

- Expo markers and backpacks.
- Coats when sales are good.



Join us Wednesdays in Advent for Holden Evening Prayer at 4 pm and 6 pm. Nov. 26, Dec. 6, Dec. 13, Dec. 20



Each year, due to the generosity of Cross Lutheran members, we can share the Joy of the Season with several families. This year, we will help the families of students at John Glenn Middle School.

Much of the joy of giving is to see our children enjoy receiving something special. To help this come true, we are asking for gift cards which will allow a parent or parents to shop with or for their children.

The Sunday after Thanksgiving, November 26th, we will have the opportunity to choose to purchase \$25.00 Target Gift Cards for a specific child or family member. We can also choose to purchase Cub Food Certificates so the families can have a special Christmas meal. There will be other items on the list to purchase to bring Joy to these families.

This is also a season of “baking”. To help make our Christmas Baskets Festive, we would like to add homemade cookies, breads, or candies. Each list will provide a space for all the bakers to share... a special treat for our families.

As Christmas Eve is on a Sunday, we are asking that all items purchased be received by Sunday, December 17th; Baked Goods by Thursday, December 21st.

Volunteers to pack (December 21st) and deliver (December 21st, 22nd, or 23rd) will be needed.....delivering is the most rewarding part of this event.

Gift cards can be left in the church office, given to Sylvia Graham, Tammy Erickson or Carol Hastings.

A list of items needed for The Launching Pad will be available. These items to be placed on the table in the narthex.

Thank you again for your generous giving and support!

Board of Stewardship/Outreach



Join us Tuesday, November 21 at 5:30 pm for a special Thanksgiving prayer worship. We’ll give thanks for the year past and look forward to the blessings of the coming Advent and 2024.

Please share the things you are thankful for sharing the things you are thankful for by November 21.

Fill out one of the sheets located in the narthex by Sunday, Nov. 19 or email the things you give thanks for to office@crosslutheranchurch.org by noon, Tuesday, Nov 21. Our collective thanksgivings will be included in worship that evening.



Just a reminder that stewardship will be collecting 2024 pledge cards through Nov. 19. You may present your pledge card during worship on Nov. 19, or mail/deliver it to the office by noon that day.

CONFIRMATION



2024 ELCA YOUTH GATHERING
 New Orleans JULY 16-20, 2024



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

 fb.com/youthgathering

    @elcagathering

 elca.org/gathering

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

Happy Birthday

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
11/10 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

DECEMBER

12/1 Kelli Simmons
12/6 Sharon McGinnis
12/6 Shayla Walker
12/7 Hudson Munt
12/12 Brooks Pfefferle
12/30 Forrest Murphy

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

Coffee and Fellowship, 10:30am

Adult education at 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.

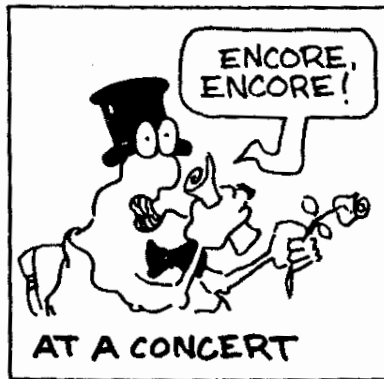
November 2023

Click the link to open the Cross calendar:

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30AM Cross Worship/Education 9:30AM In Person Worship Service 9:30AM Worship Live 10:30AM Coffee Fellowship 10:30AM Sunday School 11:00AM Adult Education 12:00PM Confirmation 1:00PM Promesa De Dios 5:00PM Ebenezer Elim 	<p>30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00PM Pastor Scott Office Hours 	<p>31</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00PM Pastor Scott's Office Hours 5:00PM Confirmation Service 7:00PM Adventista Del Séptimo Día 	<p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00AM Katie Tomek Office 10:30AM Bible Study with Pastor Scott 11:30AM Pastor Scott Office of Lake Phalen 3:00PM Pastor Scott Office 4:15PM Pastor Scott Office 6:00PM Cross Choir Practice 	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00PM Pastor Scott's Office Hours - by appt only. 7:00PM Ebenezer Elim 	<p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00AM Adventista del Séptimo Día 1:30PM Cross Organ Practice 5:00PM Adventista del Séptimo Día 	<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00AM Adventista del Séptimo Día 1:30PM Cross Organ Practice 5:00PM Adventista del Séptimo Día
<p>5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30AM Cross Worship/Education 9:30AM In Person Worship Service 9:30AM Worship Live Stream 10:30AM Coffee Fellowship 10:30AM Sunday School 11:00AM Adult Education 1:00PM Promesa De Dios 5:00PM Ebenezer Elim 	<p>6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00PM Pastor Scott Office Hours -- by appt only 	<p>7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00PM Pastor Scott's Office Hours 7:00PM Adventista Del Séptimo Día 	<p>8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00AM Katie Tomek Office 10:30AM Bible Study with Pastor Scott 11:30AM Pastor Scott Office of Lake Phalen 3:00PM Pastor Scott Office 4:15PM Pastor Scott Office 6:00PM Cross Choir Practice 	<p>9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00PM Pastor Scott's Office Hours - by appt only. 5:00PM Confirmation Moonlight 7:00PM Ebenezer Elim 	<p>10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00AM Adventista del Séptimo Día 1:30PM Cross Organ Practice 5:00PM Adventista del Séptimo Día 	<p>11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00AM Adventista del Séptimo Día 1:30PM Cross Organ Practice 5:00PM Adventista del Séptimo Día
<p>12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30AM Cross Worship/Education 9:30AM In Person Worship Service 9:30AM Worship Live 10:30AM Coffee Fellowship 10:30AM Sunday School 11:00AM Adult Education 12:00PM Confirmation 1:00PM Promesa De Dios 5:00PM Ebenezer Elim 	<p>13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00PM Pastor Scott Office Hours -- by appt only 	<p>14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00PM Pastor Scott's Office Hours 7:00PM Adventista Del Séptimo Día 	<p>15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00AM Katie Tomek Office 10:30AM Bible Study with Pastor Scott 11:30AM Pastor Scott Office of Lake Phalen 3:00PM Pastor Scott Office 4:15PM Pastor Scott Office 6:00PM Cross Choir Practice 	<p>16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00PM Pastor Scott's Office Hours - by appt only. 7:00PM Ebenezer Elim 	<p>17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00AM Adventista del Séptimo Día 1:30PM Cross Organ Practice 5:00PM Adventista del Séptimo Día 	<p>18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00AM Adventista del Séptimo Día 1:30PM Cross Organ Practice 5:00PM Adventista del Séptimo Día
<p>19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30AM Cross Worship/Education 9:30AM In Person Worship Service 9:30AM Worship Live 10:30AM Coffee Fellowship 10:30AM Sunday School 11:00AM Adult Education 12:00PM Confirmation 1:00PM Promesa De Dios 5:00PM Ebenezer Elim 	<p>20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30PM Fleshpots of Egypt @ Dubliner Pub 	<p>21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00PM Pastor Scott Office Hours -- by appt only 	<p>22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00AM Katie Tomek Office 10:30AM Bible Study with Pastor Scott 11:30AM Pastor Scott Office of Lake Phalen 3:00PM Pastor Scott Office 4:15PM Pastor Scott Office 6:00PM Cross Choir Practice 	<p>23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00PM Pastor Scott's Office Hours - by appt only. 7:00PM Ebenezer Elim 	<p>24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00AM Adventista del Séptimo Día 1:30PM Cross Organ Practice 5:00PM Adventista del Séptimo Día 	<p>25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00AM Adventista del Séptimo Día 1:30PM Cross Organ Practice 5:00PM Adventista del Séptimo Día
<p>26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30AM Cross Worship/Education 9:30AM In Person Worship Service 9:30AM Worship Live 10:30AM Coffee Fellowship 10:30AM Sunday School 11:00AM Adult Education 12:00PM Confirmation 1:00PM Promesa De Dios 5:00PM Ebenezer Elim 	<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00PM Pastor Scott Office Hours -- by appt only 6:00PM Cross PPC Meeting 	<p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00PM Pastor Scott's Office Hours 1:00PM Volunteers for Community Market 2:30PM John Glenn Community Market 7:00PM Adventista Del Séptimo Día 	<p>29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00AM Katie Tomek Office 10:30AM Bible Study with Pastor Scott 11:30AM Pastor Scott Office of Lake Phalen 3:00PM Pastor Scott Office 4:15PM Pastor Scott Office 6:00PM Cross Choir Practice 	<p>30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00PM Pastor Scott's Office Hours - by appt only. 7:00PM Ebenezer Elim 	<p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:30PM Cross Organ Practice 5:00PM Adventista del Séptimo Día 	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:30PM Cross Organ Practice 5:00PM Adventista del Séptimo Día

 **Pontius' Puddle**



CR \oplus SS
Lutheran Church

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

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