

# 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

Sunday School is ongoing, as is Adult education. There's something for everyone.

## Pastoral Care

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

## Church Calendar

If you have additions, changes, and/or questions about the church calendar, please contact the office at 651-777-1329 or email [office@crosslutheranchurch.org](mailto:office@crosslutheranchurch.org)



## Changes and Affirmations

October is a an interesting month, isn't it? Now that Summer has passed and Fall has arrived, so have the weeks of craziness that mark the transition from harried summer schedules to the more steady rhythm of October. Teachers, kids, grandkids and their parents are following the even cadence of the school week. Work schedules seem less disrupted by vacations, additions, and departures. The world of entertainment is more steady, with weekly football games and weekly programming well underway.

In a way, it's the same for the church. Most of us are well into our Fall programming (as it is) and for those of us who follow the narrative lectionary, we are working our way through Genesis, Exodus and the stories of the people of Israel. Sunday attendance has stabilized after the yearly fluctuations of summer. Things such as these provide some affirmation of God's presence and blessing.





## We Pray For:

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This week we pray for: Andrew, Marya, Linnea, Gabby and her unborn baby, Carolyn, Margo, Roman Joseph, Sherry, Ray and Clara, Dawn, Brady, Richard, Judy, Sheree, Marv, Dottie, BettyLu, Robin, Jerrod, Lonna, Heather, Kelly, Dawn L., Michael, Sara, Mary, and Steve.

We pray for Kelly and John, missionaries in Papua, New Guinea.

We offer continued prayers for the families of Allen Stack, Bud Nasby, Ellie Scot-Meyer, and Dave Davidson.

If you have a name to add or remove from this prayer list, please contact Jamie Gudknecht or Pastor Scott.

Of course, there is change, or potential change, at hand which threaten to disrupt things. There is a consequential election coming in November, and I think we all expect political tensions to continue to rise. But there is also a change coming up in which we all can rejoice.

Our three confirmands — Amelia, Henry, and Kirby — will affirm their baptisms during the Rite of Confirmation on Sunday, October 27 during 9:30 am. I have been blessed to walk with these three remarkable young people as they have explored our shared faith in God through Jesus Christ and by the Holy Spirit for the past three years. We've taken some great learning and service trips to Camp Onomia, Memphis, Pastor Karsten's cabin, and the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans. We've spent part of that time with other youth from Our Redeemer as well as about a dozen congregations in the Saint Paul Area Synod through Deep Dive. We've all grown in understanding and faith — me included.

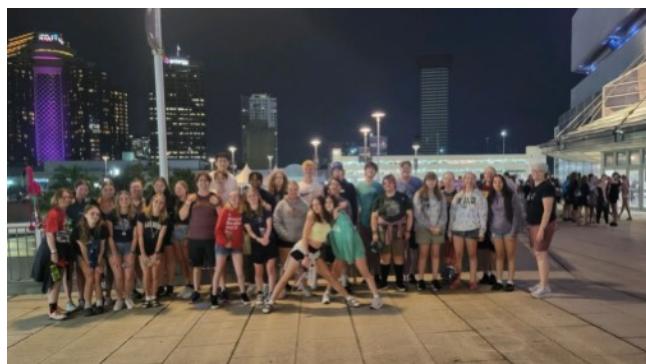
Confirmation truly is an affirmation of baptism — a time to claim responsibility for the promises which their parents, sponsors, loved ones, and congregation made on their behalf when they were young. It's also a big change, for it signals our affirmation that each of them are invited to assume full adult membership in the congregation, with the right to vote on important matters and contribute in significant ways.

As part of our final preparation for Confirmation, we'll be reviewing some of the lessons learned from the ELCA Youth Gathering this summer during education. I sincerely invite all of you to join us on October 6 and October 20 at 11 am to wonder and learn together. It is one way you can affirm their journey in the process.

Then please join us on Sunday, October 27 as we celebrate Confirmation Sunday during worship at 9:30 am. There will be further opportunity to celebrate and affirm this time of change immediately after.

Pax,

Pastor Scott



**In The News:** *Our Cross confirmation youth were mentioned recently in an article on the Saint Paul Area Synod Website. Here's an excerpt:*

“Many of our congregations are thrilled to send high school youth to the ELCA Youth Gathering, held every three years around the U.S. But the logistics and planning for such a trip can be overwhelming, especially in smaller congregations that rely on volunteers. For the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering that was just held in July, five congregations from our synod’s City Conference combined resources and shared the burden of the logistical planning.

Traveling together were Christ on Capitol Hill, Gloria Dei, Immanuel and Pilgrim (all located in St. Paul), along with Cross (Maplewood). This partnership allowed for participation from congregations where planning alone might have prevented attendance...

...This year’s Gathering wasn’t the first time this group of City Conference congregations banded together. Several years ago, several of them started a cooperative confirmation program called “Deep Dive.” Over the years, confirmation students and adults from each of the congregations have gathered monthly throughout the school year for learning, service and fellowship events. In the summer of 2023, a

group from the Deep Dive consortium traveled to Memphis, Tenn., for a service-learning trip. And many of the high school students who had been in Deep Dive together traveled together to New Orleans this summer.

To read the whole article, visit <https://spas-elca.org/2024/09/21/we-are-church-together-september-2024/>

### Lessons from the 2024 Youth Gathering



One of the joys of the 2024 youth gathering that Pastor Scott and our confirmation youth attended in July was the depth of the teaching. And although it was

directed mostly for youth, the wisdom shared is good for people of all ages.

Join Pastor Scott for adult ed **Sunday, October 6 and 20 at 11:00 am** for **Created to Be: Lessons from the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering**. We’ll share videos of some of the main speakers at the youth gathering and consider how questions asked the youth might apply to our own adult lives and our ministry together at Cross. This series will cover five specific areas:

- Created to Be **Brave**
- Created to Be **Authentic**
- Created to Be **Free**
- Created to Be **Disruptive**
- Created to Be **Disciples**



### Mark Your Calendars:

#### **Confirmation Sunday, October 27**

Please plan on joining us for worship as Amelia, Henry, and Kirby publicly affirm their baptismal faith and join the adult membership of Cross Lutheran Church.

# STEWARDSHIP

## Current Dedicated Account Balances

Air Conditioning Memorial: \$5,000.00;  
 Capital Improvement Fund: \$27,814.83;  
 Education Memorial: \$1,224.04;  
 Gifts/Memorials (Undesignated): \$8,539.64;  
 Sound System Memorial: \$306.00;  
 Fund for Missions \$14,461.45;  
 Cross Lutheran Investment Fund (CLIF): \$114,666.60.



Our August report shows that Year to Date (YTD) giving is now even with the budgeted amount for 8 months. We've received more income than projected and have moved over \$26,000 from our savings account to our checking from the 2023 budget surplus. Our YTD total income is \$14,509 over budget. We should remember that each month we are recording the unrealized gain or loss of our CLIF and we are moving \$3,317.50 from savings to checking. These figures are included in net income. Our Boards continue to operate under budget which makes our YTD expenses for 8 months \$15,869 lower than budget. The resulting YTD end of summer income is \$12,573, which has not happened for many years. We deposit quarterly distributions from CLIF into our savings account and these funds are available to help fund Community Markets. The total amount of quarterly distributions is \$2,166.60. We'll receive another distribution in September. We also had significant contributions to the Fund for Missions and CLIF, which is reflected in the balances below.

We thank everyone for your continued support of our Cross Lutheran family and our ministries at John Glenn Middle School, Feed My Starving Children, The Shores of Lake Phalen and others. Always, at Cross Lutheran, if there is a need, we do what we can and are called to do to help that need. THANK YOU!

The Board of Stewardship and Carol Hastings, Financial Secretary

## August 31, 2024 Statement of Activities

	Current Month Actual	Current Month Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Annual Budget	YTD Budget vs. YTD Actual
<b>Income</b>						
Weekly Offerings Totals:	9,075.00	10,263.33	82,459.00	82,106.68	123,160.00	352.32
Holidays/Special Totals:	0.00	0.00	3,986.00	4,050.00	7,200.00	(64.00)
Interest Income Totals:	15.16	12.50	127.08	100.00	150.00	27.08
Other Income Totals:	4,950.00	4,201.89	39,472.23	33,148.36	72,456.00	6,323.87
Dedicated Funds Released Totals:	3,317.50	3,317.50	26,540.00	26,540.00	39,810.00	0.00
Unrealized Gains/Losses Totals:	1,252.97	0.00	7,870.39	0.00	0.00	7,870.39
<b>Income Totals:</b>	<b>18,610.63</b>	<b>17,795.22</b>	<b>160,454.70</b>	<b>145,945.04</b>	<b>242,776.00</b>	<b>14,509.66</b>
<b>Expense</b>						
Lay Ministry Totals:	418.36	357.92	2,550.25	2,863.32	4,295.00	313.07
Executive Board Totals:	13,879.62	14,061.83	108,316.15	112,494.68	168,742.00	4,178.53
Faith Formation Totals:	381.28	183.32	1,967.28	7,166.72	7,900.00	5,199.44
Stewardship Totals:	0.00	488.33	827.33	3,906.68	5,860.00	3,079.35
Church Properties Totals:	3,724.66	4,664.92	34,220.55	37,319.32	55,979.00	3,098.77
<b>Expense Totals:</b>	<b>18,403.92</b>	<b>19,756.32</b>	<b>147,881.56</b>	<b>163,750.72</b>	<b>242,776.00</b>	<b>15,869.16</b>
<b>Income - Expense:</b>	<b>206.71</b>	<b>(1,961.10)</b>	<b>12,573.14</b>	<b>(17,805.68)</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>30,378.82</b>



## Sing Around the Fire Every Week!

Now that the weather is turning cooler, we've brought back last Summer's popular *Sing*

*Around the Fire* gathering, Wednesdays at 5:00 on the East Lawn under the trees. Bring your own lawn chair or blanket, something to drink, and (if you want) a snack to share. If you play guitar or another camp-style instrument, feel free to join in the fun. Chords and songbooks will be provided. We'll meet every week until the weather does not permit.



## Photos Wanted

We are still in need of good photos of life at Cross for our website and other church communications. If you have any to share, or

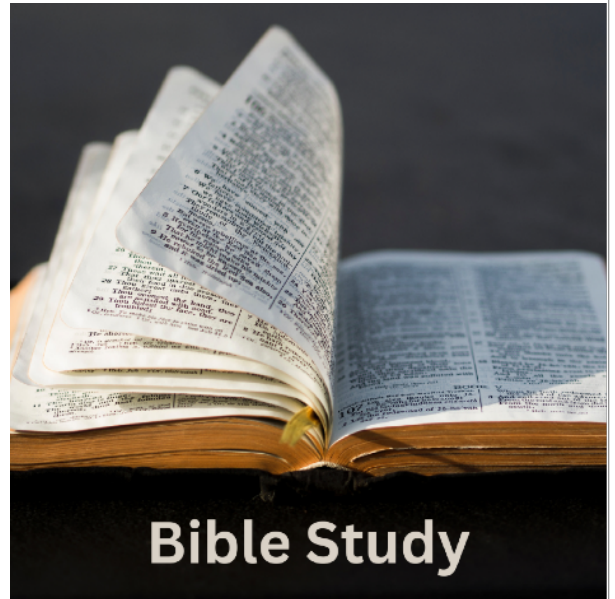
would like to volunteer to take pictures at upcoming worship, events, etc., please contact the church office.



## Help Needed

The Board of Properties seeks help with some odd jobs around the church. If you would have an hour or two to

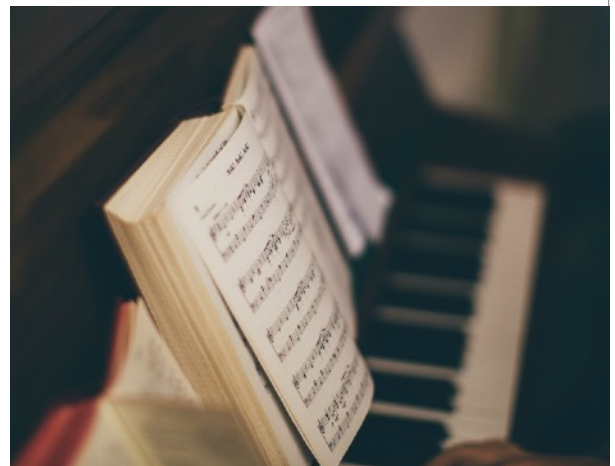
spare we need help with trimming some bushes around the building, pulling weeds or maybe painting an outside door or two. There is a couple of things to do inside the building, too. Whatever you would be able to help with would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Scott Patterson at 651-955-9108 (call or text) or at [mrscott1717@gmail.com](mailto:mrscott1717@gmail.com)



## Thursday Morning Bible Study

Thursdays at 10:30 am in the community room. All are welcome. It's always a lively time! Please plan on joining us.

**Chancel Choir.** Fall choral rehearsals are up and running Thursdays from 6-7pm. Anyone is welcome to join, regardless of experience. Questions? contact Ken [worship@crosslutheranchurch.org](mailto:worship@crosslutheranchurch.org).





# John Glenn Market Report

## **CELEBRATING A STRONG SEPTEMBER MARKET**

Our September Community Market at John Glenn Middle School was yet another great event. If numbers hold, we have another great year ahead. In 2023, the September market served 87 households and we served 80 plus households every month throughout the school year.

### **September 25 Statistics:**

**93** households

407 Total Persons

260 Kids (Age 0-17 with at least 93 John Glenn students)

189 Adults (Age 18-64)

21 Seniors (65+)

34 Families

Several of the households we served consisted of seven or more persons, with one family of 13. We anticipate that larger families will continue to join us for the market.

### *Total pounds of food*

6,452 pounds of food with 4,166 pounds from fresh & frozen.

Of the 4,166 pounds of food, 3,046 pounds were free to us thanks to our continued partnership with Merrick Community Services and Second Harvest Heartland.

### *Total volunteer hours*

84 (Cross Lutheran = 60 and John Glenn = 24)

Special thanks to Katie & Tammy E, Shelly in dietary, and the maintenance staff for their help. A special thanks to Jamie G. and For leading us through another great market!

Blessings to all,  
Sylvia Graham

# JOHN GLENN JET LAUNCHING PAD

## OCTOBER DONATION ITEMS

- T-Shirts (Plain Colors), Sizes: Kids L, XL - Adults XXL



plan ahead;

- November - Sweatpants (All sizes)
- December - Christmas Gifts/Gift Cards
- January - Socks
- February - Feminine Hygiene Products
- March - Deodorant



### WHAT'S IN YOUR CLOSET?

Joseph's Coat Fall Clothing Drive  
October 13 through November 17  
New or gently used SEASONAL clothing  
(All sizes/men, women and children)  
\*ALL ITEMS IN WHITE TRASH CAN LINERS!\* Place in the coat room.  
THANK YOU IN ADVANCE!

## FALL CLEANUP DAY

Please join us at 9am on Saturday October 12th to help with clearing out the rain garden and a few other items around the church.



# 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 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](mailto:pastorscott@crosslutheranchurch.org)) or  
[office@crosslutheranchurch.org](mailto:office@crosslutheranchurch.org).

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



# October 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30AM Cross Worship/Education</li> <li>9:30AM Worship</li> <li>10:30AM Coffee Fellowship</li> <li>11:00AM Adult Education</li> <li>1:00PM Promesa De Dios</li> <li>5:00PM Ebenezer Elim</li> </ul>	<p>30</p>	<p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:00PM Pastor Scott Office Hours --- by appt only</li> </ul>	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:00PM Pastor Scott's Office Hours -- by appt.</li> <li>7:00PM Adventista Del Séptimo Día</li> </ul>	<p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rosh Hashanah</li> <li>10:30AM Bible Study with Pastor Scott</li> <li>11:30AM Pastor Scott Office --- by appt.</li> <li>3:00PM Worship at Shores of Lake Phalen</li> <li>4:15PM Pastor Scott Office</li> <li>6:00PM Choir Practice</li> </ul>	<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:00PM Pastor Scott's Office Hours -- by appt only.</li> <li>7:00PM Ebenezer Elim</li> </ul>	<p>5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00AM Adventista del Séptimo Día</li> <li>1:30PM Cross Organ Practice</li> <li>5:00PM Adventista del Séptimo Día</li> </ul>
<p>6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30AM Cross Worship/Education</li> <li>9:30AM Worship</li> <li>10:30AM Coffee Fellowship</li> <li>11:00AM Adult Education</li> <li>1:00PM Promesa De Dios</li> <li>5:00PM Ebenezer Elim</li> </ul>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:00PM Pastor Scott Office Hours --- by appt only</li> </ul>	<p>9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:00PM Pastor Scott's Office Hours -- by appt.</li> <li>5:00PM Sing Around the Campfire</li> <li>7:00PM Adventista Del Séptimo Día</li> </ul>	<p>10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:30AM Bible Study with Pastor Scott</li> <li>11:30AM Pastor Scott Office --- by appt.</li> <li>3:00PM Worship at Shores of Lake Phalen</li> <li>4:15PM Pastor Scott Office</li> <li>6:00PM Choir Practice</li> </ul>	<p>11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:00PM Ebenezer Elim</li> </ul>	<p>12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yom Kippur</li> <li>9:00AM Adventista del Séptimo Día</li> <li>1:30PM Cross Organ Practice</li> <li>5:00PM Adventista del Séptimo Día</li> </ul>
<p>13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30AM Cross Worship/Education</li> <li>9:30AM Worship</li> <li>10:30AM Coffee Fellowship</li> <li>11:00AM Adult Education</li> <li>1:00PM Promesa De Dios</li> <li>5:00PM Ebenezer Elim</li> </ul>	<p>14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Columbus Day</li> <li>Indigenous Peoples' Day</li> <li>Columbus Day</li> <li>Indigenous Peoples' Day</li> </ul>	<p>15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:00PM Pastor Scott Office Hours --- by appt only</li> <li>6:30PM Cross Board of Stewardship</li> </ul>	<p>16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:00PM Pastor Scott's Office Hours -- by appt.</li> <li>5:00PM Sing Around the Campfire</li> <li>7:00PM Adventista Del Séptimo Día</li> </ul>	<p>17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:30AM Bible Study with Pastor Scott</li> <li>11:30AM Pastor Scott Office --- by appt.</li> <li>3:00PM Worship at Shores of Lake Phalen</li> <li>4:15PM Pastor Scott Office</li> <li>6:00PM Choir Practice</li> </ul>	<p>18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:00PM Pastor Scott's Office Hours -- by appt only.</li> <li>7:00PM Ebenezer Elim</li> </ul>	<p>19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00AM Adventista del Séptimo Día</li> <li>1:30PM Cross Organ Practice</li> <li>5:00PM Adventista del Séptimo Día</li> </ul>
<p>20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30AM Cross Worship/Education</li> <li>9:30AM Worship</li> <li>10:30AM Coffee Fellowship</li> <li>11:00AM Adult Education</li> <li>1:00PM Promesa De Dios</li> <li>5:00PM Ebenezer Elim</li> </ul>	<p>21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30PM Fiehpots of Egypt @ Dubliner Pub</li> </ul>	<p>22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:00PM Pastor Scott Office Hours --- by appt only</li> </ul>	<p>23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:00PM Pastor Scott's Office Hours -- by appt.</li> <li>5:00PM Sing Around the Campfire</li> <li>7:00PM Adventista Del Séptimo Día</li> </ul>	<p>24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:30AM Bible Study with Pastor Scott</li> <li>11:30AM Pastor Scott Office --- by appt.</li> <li>3:00PM Worship at Shores of Lake Phalen</li> <li>4:15PM Pastor Scott Office</li> <li>6:00PM Choir Practice</li> </ul>	<p>25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:00PM Pastor Scott's Office Hours -- by appt only.</li> <li>7:00PM Ebenezer Elim</li> </ul>	<p>26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00AM Adventista del Séptimo Día</li> <li>1:30PM Cross Organ Practice</li> <li>5:00PM Adventista del Séptimo Día</li> </ul>
<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30AM Cross Worship/Education</li> <li>9:30AM Worship</li> <li>10:30AM Coffee Fellowship</li> <li>11:00AM Adult Education</li> <li>1:00PM Promesa De Dios</li> <li>5:00PM Ebenezer Elim</li> </ul>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:00PM Pastor Scott Office Hours --- by appt only</li> <li>6:00PM Cross PPC Meeting</li> </ul>	<p>30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:00PM Pastor Scott's Office Hours -- by appt.</li> <li>1:30PM Volunteers for Comm Market</li> <li>2:30PM JC Community Market</li> <li>7:00PM Adventista Del Séptimo Día</li> </ul>	<p>31</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Halloween</li> <li>10:30AM Bible Study with Pastor Scott</li> <li>11:30AM Pastor Scott Office --- by appt.</li> <li>3:00PM Worship at Shores of Lake Phalen</li> <li>4:15PM Pastor Scott Office</li> <li>6:00PM Choir Practice</li> </ul>	<p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First Day of American Indian Heritage Month</li> <li>Divali</li> <li>1:00PM Pastor Scott's Office Hours -- by appt only.</li> <li>7:00PM Ebenezer Elim</li> </ul>	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00AM Adventista del Séptimo Día</li> <li>1:30PM Cross Organ Practice</li> <li>5:00PM Adventista del Séptimo Día</li> </ul>

# CROSS

Lutheran Church

Pastor: Reverend Scott Simmons  
Admin Assistant: Katie Tomek  
Financial Secretary: Carol Hastings  
Worship Director: Kenneth Kusiak

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