NOVEMBER



Worship

Cross Lutheran worships every Sunday morning at 9:30 am. Worship is also live-streamed via our facebook page and 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
or phone direct 612 859 1134

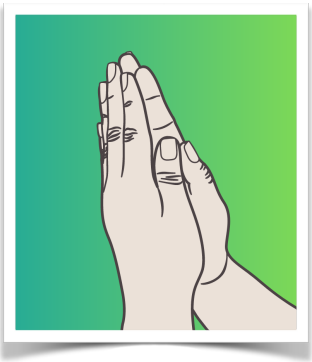
Church Calendar

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**

The Reformation began, for all intents and purposes, on All Hallows Eve—October 31, 1517—when Martin Luther nailed his Ninety-five Theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. All Hallows Eve, known commonly in our own day and age as Halloween, was the first day of *Allhallowtide*: three days of solemn observance in the Western Christian tradition, where the faithful remembered the dead and honored the saints.

On All Hallows' Eve, worshippers would prepare themselves with fasting and prayer, in anticipation of the Feast of All Saints Day. After worship, folks would celebrate in a variety of ways. Some decorated graveyards with flowers and candles. Others, believing that on this particular evening the veil between the material world and the afterlife was at its thinnest, would wear masks and costumes to disquise their identities from the dead. Others would pray out loud as they walked through darkened forests so the souls of the dead might be comforted. In some communities the church bells would ring in memory of the day. Some of these traditions have found their way into our own present Holloween, which has become, in a very American way, one of the biggest retail events of the year.

Day two, All Saints Day, was celebrated as a Christian feast—a holy day to honor the *Church Triumphant*, the saints and martyrs of the church, as well as those blessed ones who had not yet been canonized and who, as of yet, had no special feast day.



We Pray For:

The family and friends of Mary Vatne and Bob Brynildson, Marv, Nancy, Ray and Clara, Sheree, Lisa, Marya, Marie, Janice, Bob and Pru, Niki, Gabby, Creed and baby Ryker, Brady, Judy, Dottie, BettyLu, Bruce, Laura, Kelly, Trudy and Murlyn, Pastor Brian, Nick, Joshua, Rose, Dean and Shirley, MaryJo, Barb, Lindsay, Molly, Bob, Raphael, Niki, Jodi, Phyllis, Luther, Ostby Family, Tim, Allison and the Rick Novak family.

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

Day three, All Souls Day, was reserved for the rest of the faithful departed—those who had not been proclaimed officially as saints by the Church. In some cultures, bands of children or poor people would go from house to house *souling*: a practice of begging money, fruit, or specially baked treats—sometimes called *soulcakes*. It was a precursor to our present day Trick or Treating.

Some scholars claim that Luther timed the bold act of nailing the Theses to the door of the church so that more people would see it. After all, All Saints worship drew some of the largest crowds of the year.

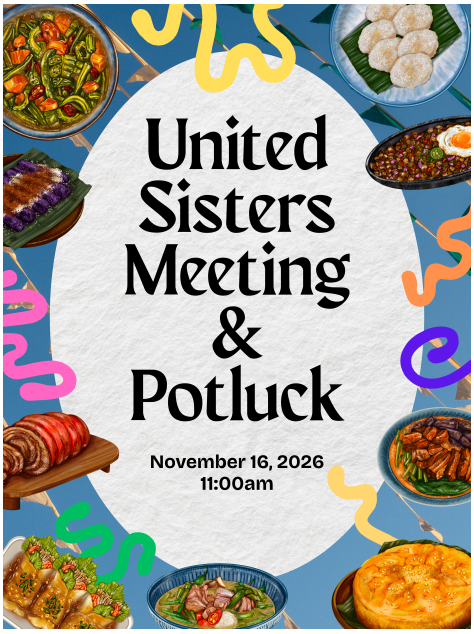
But as we know, the document challenged the selling of indulgences, slips of paper which granted freedom from hell and purgatory. It was a bold move which launched a movement which spread across Europe and altered the face of the Western Church forever.

As the Reformation spread, other church practices were challenged, including the one which separated saints from souls. *Simul Justus Et Peccator*, the Reformers proclaimed: we are all sinners and saints. *Sinners* by our own self-centered actions; *Saints* by the grace of God granted through faith. That's something to celebrate.

Pax,

Scott R S

Pastor Scott





The next **Hymntap with Pastor Scott and the Fleshpots of Egypt** is Mon., November 16, 6:30-8:30 pm at the Dubliner Pub in St. Paul.



One student/one room Sunday School at Cross will be starting soon. If you are interested in helping, please contact Sharon Crist.

Board of Properties seeks help with odd jobs around the church. If you have time to spare, we have a job for you. Please call or text Scott Patterson (651-955-9108) or email mrscott1717@gmail.com



Pastor Scott's drop-in office hours are Thursdays, 2:15 pm to 6 pm. Of course, you can always call, text, or email to schedule a meeting at any other time during the week.
pastorscott@crosslutheranchurch.org • 612 859-1134



THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY resumes Thursday, Nov. 12 at a new time: 2:30 pm. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Scott.

STEWARDSHIP

Current Dedicated Accounts

Air Conditioning Memorial: $5,000.00;

Capital Improvement Fund: $30,355.65;

Education Memorial: $1,224.04;

Undesignated Gifts and Memorials: $8,539.64;

Community Outreach: $3,525.99

Fund for Missions: $24,375.74

(CLIF) Cross Lutheran Investment Fund: $112,500.00



Our financial report for September:

1. Year to date income is only $300 above the budgeted amount while expenses are fortunately $10,000 below budget.
2. We continue to rely on our rental income and the amount being moved from savings to checking as approved for the 2026 budget.
3. December is the month that we count on for the end of the year tithing which has been enough in the past several years to end with a balanced budget and more income than we anticipated. We won't know if this will be the same for this year until then.
4. The CLIF (Cross Lutheran Investment Fund) had an unrealized loss for September but for the full 9 months we show an unrealized gain. This is reported in the financial information and offsets the income loss from operations by $8,000.

Thank you for your faithful giving to support the ministries of Cross Lutheran.
The Board of Stewardship

	Current Month Actual	Current Month Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Annual Budget	YTD Budget vs. YTD Actual
Income						
Weekly Offerings Totals	$10,078.00	$10,196.75	$92,859.38	$91,770.75	$122,361.00	$1,088.63
Holidays/Special Totals	$0.00	$0.00	$4,040.00	$4,675.00	$9,425.00	($635.00)
Interest Income Totals	$3.07	$3.33	$31.22	$30.01	$40.00	$1.21
Other Income Totals	$4,017.00	$4,050.33	$40,760.23	$40,853.01	$79,504.00	($92.78)
Dedicated Funds Released Totals	$1,804.33	$1,804.33	$16,239.01	$16,239.01	$21,652.00	$0.00
Income Totals	$15,902.40	$16,054.74	$153,929.84	$153,567.78	$232,982.00	$362.06
Expenses						
Lay Ministry Totals	$61.35	$331.25	$2,360.57	$3,281.25	$4,275.00	$920.68
Executive Board Totals	$13,387.22	$13,468.60	$116,397.16	$121,255.20	$161,659.00	$4,858.04
Faith Formation Totals	$38.80	$70.83	$1,912.27	$1,987.51	$2,300.00	$75.24
Stewardship Totals	$0.00	$41.67	$3,638.15	$4,624.99	$6,000.00	$986.84
Church Properties Totals	$4,403.83	$4,813.12	$40,685.03	$44,200.12	$58,748.00	$3,515.09
Expense Totals	**$17,891.20**	**$18,725.47**	**$164,993.18**	**$175,349.07**	**$232,982.00**	**$10,355.89**
Income-Expense:	**($1,988.80)**	**($2,670.73)**	($11,063.34)	($21,781.29)	$0.00	$10,717.95
Unrealized Gains/(Losses) Totals	($1,616.26)	$0.00	$8,211.34	$0.00	$0.00	$8,211.34
Totals Including CLIF	($3,605.06)	($2,670.73)	($2,852.00)	($21,781.29)	$0.00	$18,929.29



John Glenn Market Report

We had a wonderful and busy market on Wednesday, October 21st. Thank you to ALL the volunteers that helped out with this bustling market. You are the reason this all works so well.

FAMILIES: 78

TOTAL PEOPLE: 404

KIDS: 215

SENIORS: 17

ADULTS: 172

NEW FAMILIES: 5

We gave out 5,719 lbs of food

(2,984 lbs from fresh and frozen)

COMMUNITY MARKET DATES 2026-2027

November 18th

December 16th
January 20th
February 24th

March 17th
April 21st
May 19th

Fall Launching Pad Items

Sweatpants
- Sizes: Kids L, XL
- Adults: S - XXL

Fem. Hygiene Products
- Pads

Bar Soap

Ongoing:
- Kleenex, Black ExpoMarkers,
- Coats

Happy Birthday

NOVEMBER

11/1 Ronald Hanson
11/1 Marion Lindstrom
11/1 LuAnn Lund
11/19 Diana Swanson
11/21 Keith Lindquist
11/26 Lette Pfefferle

DECEMBER

12/1 Kelli Simmonos
12/6 Nic Villodres
12/11 Peter Brown
12/16 Jim Border

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



Join us for worship on November 15th when we will return our Statements of Intent for 2027. You should have received a letter from the Board of Stewardship, a Pledge card for 2027 and your 3rd quarter giving statements.

During the worship service we will have time to place our pledges in a basket. If you want, you can place them in the offering plate. The pledges are vital to the budget planning process which will begin at the end of the year for 2027. If you are not in church on the 16th, please return your pledge card to the church office by then.

Please review your statement and report any discrepancies to Carol Hastings. The best way is to send her an email at: carol@crosslutheranchurch.org.







We're teaming up with Thrivent for Giving Tuesday December 1st!

Thrivent believes money is a tool, not a goal. That's why they're committing $3 million to support organizations like ours through their Giving Tuesday initiative. When you donate on December 1st through Thrivent's giving platform, they'll boost your gift so it can do even more for our outreach ministries! They have a $3 million shared pool that they will use to match all donations on a $1 for $1 ratio. ALL DONATIONS made to CROSS LUTHERAN on December 1st will be matched when made on the Thrivent giving platform.

Please go to thrivent.com/give and scroll down to the Search Online Catalog box. Click on the box and search for Cross Lutheran Church, Maplewood, MN. You can give directly on that page with the DONATE box on the right or click on Cross Lutheran and donate on our page.

The Board of Stewardship will make prayerful decisions on any funds donated and matched through the Thrivent giving platform on December 1st. This opportunity is open to anyone who wants to donate to Cross Lutheran so please share this information with your family and friends!

To qualify for the matching funds, donations must be made on the Thrivent giving platform **on Giving Tuesday December 1st** - So mark your calendars to donate to our ministries!



FOR OUR JOHN GLENN FAMILIES: We are asking for Target ($25) and Cub ($50-$100) gift cards which will be given to Miss Vivian at John Glenn to distribute to the families most in need. This will allow them to purchase gifts if they wish and/or provide a nice holiday meal.

MERRICK COMMUNITY SERVICES HOLIDAY SHARE, DECEMBER 19TH: is an event where families are invited to shop for toys for their children. Last year this organization served over 600 families and 2,200 children. Many John Glenn families register for this event and it is a fun event to participate in. If you are inclined to donate toys for this event, here's your opportunity to visit the toy department. If you are not a shopper, gift cards are always appreciated. This was a huge success last year with Cross donating over 100 toys.

Popular wish list items for teenagers (13-17) include:

Headphones, phone stands, phone cases
Book Series (young adult, multi-book sets)
Beanies, water bottles
For Girls: belt bags, paint marker pens, journals, lip balm, perfume
For Boys: LEGO sets, remote-controlled toys, sports balls, hoodies

All toys must be purchased and returned (unwrapped) to Cross by December 13th. Gift cards should be given to Tammy Erickson or Jamie Gudknecht. **The deadline for <u>ALL GIFTS AND GIFT CARDS IS DECEMBER 13TH.</u>**

November 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 7:30AM Cross Worship/Education 9:30AM Worship 10:30AM Coffee Fellowship 1:00PM Promesa De Dios 5:00PM Ebenezer Elim	2	3 6:00PM BLM Meeting	4 7:00PM Adventista Septimo Dia	5 1:00PM Worship at Shores of Lake Phalen 6:30PM Choir Practice	6 7:00PM Ebenezer Elim	7 9:00AM Adventista del Septimo Dia 2:30PM Cross Organ Practice 5:00PM Adventista del Septimo Dia
8 7:30AM Cross Worship/Education 9:30AM Worship 10:30AM Coffee Fellowship 11:00AM Adult Education 1:00PM Promesa De Dios 5:00PM Ebenezer Elim	9	10 1:00PM Pastor Scott Office Hours -- by appt only	11 1:00PM Pastor Scott Office by appt 7:00PM Adventista Septimo Dia	12 1:00PM Worship at Shores of Lake Phalen 2:15PM Pastor Scott Drop In Office 2:30PM Bible Study with Pastor Scott 5:30PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30PM Choir Practice	13 1:00PM Pastor Scott's Office Hours – by appt only. 7:00PM Ebenezer Elim	14 9:00AM Adventista del Septimo Dia 2:30PM Cross Organ Practice 5:00PM Adventista del Septimo Dia
15 7:30AM Cross Worship/Education 9:30AM Worship 10:30AM Coffee Fellowship 11:00AM Adult Education 1:00PM Promesa De Dios 5:00PM Ebenezer Elim	16 11:00AM United Sisters Meeting 6:30PM Fleshpots of Egypt @ Dubliner Pub	17 1:00PM Pastor Scott Office Hours -- by appt only	18 1:00PM Pastor Scott Office by appt 1:30PM Community Market 7:00PM Adventista Septimo Dia	19 1:00PM Worship at Shores of Lake Phalen 2:15PM Pastor Scott Drop In Office 2:30PM Bible Study with Pastor Scott 6:30PM Choir Practice	20 1:00PM Pastor Scott's Office Hours – by appt only. 7:00PM Ebenezer Elim	21 9:00AM Adventista del Septimo Dia 2:30PM Cross Organ Practice 5:00PM Adventista del Septimo Dia
22 7:30AM Cross Worship/Education 9:30AM Worship 10:30AM Coffee Fellowship 11:00AM Adult Education 1:00PM Promesa De Dios 5:00PM Ebenezer Elim	23	24 1:00PM Pastor Scott Office Hours -- by appt only 6:00PM Thanksgiving Worship	25 1:00PM Pastor Scott Office by appt 7:00PM Adventista Septimo Dia	26 1:00PM Worship at Shores of Lake Phalen 2:15PM Pastor Scott Drop In Office 2:30PM Bible Study with Pastor Scott 5:30PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30PM Choir Practice	27 1:00PM Pastor Scott's Office Hours – by appt only. 7:00PM Ebenezer Elim	28 9:00AM Adventista del Septimo Dia 2:30PM Cross Organ Practice 5:00PM Adventista del Septimo Dia
29 7:30AM Cross Worship/Education 9:30AM Worship 10:30AM Coffee Fellowship 11:00AM Adult Education 1:00PM Promesa De Dios 5:00PM Ebenezer Elim	30	1 1:00PM Pastor Scott Office Hours -- by appt only 6:00PM BLM Meeting	2 1:00PM Pastor Scott Office by appt 6:00PM Advent Worship 7:00PM Adventista Septimo Dia	3 1:00PM Worship at Shores of Lake Phalen 2:15PM Pastor Scott Drop In Office 2:30PM Bible Study with Pastor Scott 6:30PM Choir Practice	4 1:00PM Pastor Scott's Office Hours – by appt only. 7:00PM Ebenezer Elim	5 9:00AM Adventista del Septimo Dia 2:30PM Cross Organ Practice 5:00PM Adventista del Septimo Dia



Advent Begins Sunday, November 29th.

Advent Midweek services
begin December 2nd.

Mark Your Calendars.

CROSS
Lutheran Church

Pastor: Reverend Scott Simmons pastorscott@crosslutheranchurch.org
Office Manager: Jamie Gudknecht office@crosslutheranchurch.org
Financial Secretary: Carol Hastings carol@crosslutheranchurch.org
Worship Director: Kenneth Kusiak worship@crosslutheranchurch.org

1945 Prosperity Road, Maplewood, Minnesota 55109
www.crosslutheranchurch.org

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