



The Cross Word

From Pastor Lisa

"What's the buzz? Tell me what's a-happenin'!" -- Jesus Christ, Superstar

As I write this, I'm just back from a whirlwind trip to St. Paul for a continuing education workshop with Janie, our new Director of Discipleship. Serendipitously, it was as if it were planned for us: "Building a Strong Pastoral Team." We had lots of car time to mull over plans for fall, and the workshop was great, too. In the last couple months, highlighted by Vacation Bible School and our summer picnic/ worship Wednesdays, I've also had a little vacation, driving with my mom, my daughter and my son to Michigan. The trip to Michigan was fun, because it's such a rarity for us to pack up (most of) our family and get away, and it was great bonding time. I'm well aware such opportunities will only get more rare and fleeting since my "kids" are now in college/grad school. Time away and together does wonders, doesn't it? Strength renewed, energy revived, attitudes adjusted, creativity restored, life reinvigorated. I wish for all of us "sabbath" times like this.

One thing about even a little bit of good quality time away, when you come back it feels like a long time! Summer - so brief and so glorious in North Dakota - is an important "relax and refresh" time for many people. We try to partake of as many of those summer recreation opportunities as humanly possible within that sunny window. We luxuriate in the warmth, pray for timely rain, and make hay while the sun shines - figuratively and literally!

Too soon the boats, tents and campers will have been parked and packed away again, the new backpacks filled to overflowing with supplies, the most cherished outfit chosen for the first day of school. Teachers and new classes will get acquainted. Friends will catch each other up on their summer adventures.

Lutheran Church of the Cross

August 2018

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Some friends from church haven't seen each other in a long time, either. And Lutheran Church of the Cross has and will have lots going on! If you've been off adventuring this summer, and even if you haven't, you probably want to know the very latest:

We have a "share the harvest" table set up at church for you to share extra garden produce with those who would appreciate the fresh veggies. If you grow flowers, you are welcome to help us decorate the altar area (or other areas) with them, too!

Some of our members are hospitalized away or residing in nursing homes. We will try to include their addresses in upcoming newsletters so you can visit or send them cards. As always, please let us know if you have updates to your contact information! And if you'd enjoy being part of our "Helping Hands", a friendly group of folks who visit our friends who are unable to get out much and hosts a couple events a year as well - do let the office know, and we will get you connected!

The calendar is filling up with events: Church School and Confirmation will be gearing up the second week of September - watch for upcoming information on Rally Day kickoff! Watch also for details, too, of the new fall Financial Peace University class, and new Bible studies in the works. Book Club, Knitting for Others, Needlework group and Quilting will soon be back at full strength.

We are in the planning stages of hosting a blood drive for United Blood Services this fall as part of a "God's Work, Our Hands" LCC service project. More info as soon as the date is finalized! There will be lots of ways for everyone to participate in this project.

Several of our young people have just returned from Camp of the Cross, and would love to tell you all about it!

We have enjoyed wonderful summer Wednesdays the second week of June and July. There is one last summer Wednesday: next week, August 8th - we will picnic at 5:30 pm. (chicken breast, hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks provided; bring something to share if you can) followed by a brief interactive worship and singing at 6:30 (bring your own lawn chair if you like), followed by fun and games and s'mores. You won't want to miss it!

The harvest is coming. May it be fruitful, in our work lives, Sabbath, and faith lives as well!

See you in church! Blessings, Pastor Lisa

Children Youth & Family Ministry



August 2018

Me? A Church School teacher? YES, YOU!

You might be thinking...

- "BUT, my kids are grown. That's for people who have little kids."
- "BUT, our family is busy. I can't promise I'll be there EVERY SINGLE time."
- "BUT, I don't know that much about the Bible.
 How am I supposed to teach someone else?"

BUT... Do you care about kids? Do you love Jesus? Done. That's all you need. You are provided with lessons to do the Bible "stuff." But most importantly, you already have the skills you need to make kids feel welcomed and loved at church

- If you are an empty nester, now is a GREAT time to be a Church School Teacher. You've lived through all these ages with your own kids; you have wisdom to share.
- Life is busy! Here's an idea partner with another teacher and take on every other session of class.
- Formal or higher education is NOT required to teach Church School.

Call or email me TODAY to let me know which classroom you'd like to help with.

CONTACT INFO:

Janie Hague, Director of Discipleship

Office #: 223-1001 Cell #: 701-301-9917

Email: lccdod@midconetwork.com

Mark your Calendar!

Rally Day is September 9th – Join us for worship at 10:00 am, a potluck to follow, and a time for students to meet their teachers!

Speaking of fall... it is right around the corner, and that means that Church School and Confirmation will be starting before we know it. There are registration forms located in the narthex and in this newsletter. Please fill these out and get them to Janie. You may be thinking, registering for church stuff?! If you fill out the forms, I then can let YOUR FAMILY know of any upcoming events that we will be doing, or things you just need to know about all things church school!

UPCOMING EVENTS!

- Sept 16th Worship will include blessing of the backpacks.
- September 23rd board game night at 5:30pm! LCC members of all ages are welcome to come to the church for a night of games and pizza. Please bring your favorite board game and snack to share. Pizza will be provided.
- September 30th Youth group:
 - *Grades 3-5, 3-5pm
 - *Grades 6-8, 5-7pm
 - *Grades 9-12, 7-9 pm
 - **More details about youth group to follow in the September Newsletter



Church of the Cross 2018 – 2019 Church School Registration



Return to the church office or email lccdod@midconetwork.com

Parents/Guardians				
Street Address City 2	Zip			
Email(s)				
Cell Phone #1	_ Mom () Dad ()			
Cell Phone #2 Not Applicable	Mom O Dad O			
It takes many volunteers to make Church School happen. We count on YOU to help. Please indicate below where you can serve. Thank you!				
Classroom Teacher – you will be given a ready-to-go lesson plan. You will get to build relation greatest kids in Bismarck. Grade Preference: Parent Name:	•			
○ Team Teacher – you will partner with another teacher and take turns leading a classroom of students. You will be given a ready-to-go lesson plan each week. You will get to build relationships with some of the greatest kids in Bismarck. Grade Preference: Parent Name:				
Osubstitute Teacher – your name will be on our substitute call list. You may receive a call periodically to fill in for a classroom teacher that needs to be gone. Parent Name:				
Event Planning and small task work – you may be called upon to help with shopping and preparing supplies for events. This is not a "regular" commitment, but you would be called to ask for help as needed. Parent Name:				
Music – you would lead music with all the kids at the beginning of Church School. Please indicate if you can help as a vocalist or by playing an instrument, and indicate what instrument. Parent Name:				
O I am not able to help.				
Child #1 NameB	irth Date			
Baptismal Anniversary month or O not Baptized				
Grade for 2018/2019 OR Preschool Child Age (as of September 1, 2018)				
Notes (allergies, behaviors to be aware of, etc.)				

Register Additional Children On The Back

Child #2 Name	Birth Date
Baptismal Anniversary month or O not Baptized	
Grade for 2018/2019 OR Preschool Child Age (as of September 1, 2018)	
Notes (allergies, behaviors to be aware of, etc.)	
Child #3 Name	
Baptismal Anniversary month or O not Baptized	
Grade for 2018/2019 OR Preschool Child Age (as of September 1, 2018)	
Notes (allergies, behaviors to be aware of, etc.)	
Child #4 Name_	
Baptismal Anniversary MONTH month or O not Baptized	
Grade for 2018/2019 OR Preschool Child Age (as of September 1, 2018)	
Notes (allergies, behaviors to be aware of, etc.)	

Return to the church office or email lccdod@midconetwork.com

Altar Focus

August's Altar Focus will be school care kits locally and for LWR.. I am reminded that school will be starting soon as I see school supplies on sale. For the month of August the Altar Focus is again collecting school supplies for the Lutheran World Relief, and locally.

Each kit should contain Four 70 sheet notebooks either wide- or college-ruled, One 30-centimeter ruler or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other, One pencil sharpener, One pair of blunt scissors, Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers, Five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink), One box of 16 or 24 crayons, and One $2\frac{1}{2}$ " eraser.

LorRaine Riveland would gladly shop for you. She is a veteran at this project! Thank you for your caring and sharing. Cheryl Moore

Missouri Slope Lutheran Care Center Ice Cream Social

Sunday, August 19th 2-3:30 East & West Dining Rooms Come make your own ice cream sundae from the wide array of toppings available at the sundae bar.

Donations will be accepted for annual fundraiser and given to the activity department to enhance the social lives of their residents.

Angels Among Us

Coley Ugland is a child of this congregation (Jon and Pam Hanson are her parents), so some of you have known her all of her life (or yours). She has a smile that doesn't quit and boundless energy, as well as a beautiful voice that graces us when she sings with the River. Coley also helps with church school, especially with music, has jumped right in this summer to help with youth activities, and is a Faith and Care coordinator as well.

Coley's husband, Bjorn (BJ), has also been drawn into the action. He ushers, or they all do as a family: BJ and Coley and their girls, Corrina (a confirmation student) and Petra. Coley and BJ also were part of the first group to go through the Financial Peace University course here at LCC, and advocate us continuing to offer it as a service to our congregation and community. BJ has also joined the ranks of the men who run the dishwasher on Sunday morning - a group much appreciated by us all!

When you see the Uglands, thank them for being angels among us!

Altar Focus

MSLLC

Angels Among Us

Sunday All Week

So Sunday service happens once a week at LCC, but is that all? Let's explore the many tasks needed for a service to happen and run on a weekly basis. Planning is started each week by picking out scripture and songs based on gospel interpretation. The service is laid out in proper order and available musicians scheduled. There is communication between Pastor Lisa, Connie and our worship coordinator, Robin, to outline bulletins. Connie also sets up the projector slides for each service. Musicians practice at least twice a week. Someone needs to set-up our live stream for those joining our service from home. There are individuals who help open the church, turn on the lights, make coffee, and keep the bathrooms filled. The lawn is moved and flowers tended. Individuals who setup for communion, distribute communion, sing, usher, greet, run soundboards, microphones and streaming, as well as the beautiful voices of our choir. Then there are those who read during service and help with children's church school. There are those who piece together music for the singers and make sure all the musicians can be heard during the service. After the service, coffee and snacks are enjoyed and with that comes dishes. There are a great group of dishwashers and also those who help clean-up the church and shut down the microphones and soundboards and streaming. And then the process begins again. So as you can see, there are many hands that go into making LCC the beautiful, soul-filled family and experience that it is on a daily basis. Many of our members do these tasks each week and for that we thank them. A growing family of members at LCC can always use new hands to help. Each member of LCC possess special, God-given talents that I would ask each member to prayerfully consider using to help keep LCC the wonderful place of worship and family we have all come to know and love. If any of the moving parts are something that you would consider providing time, talent and knowledge towards, please let any of the council members or worship coordinator, Robin, or Pastor Lisa know. We would be more than happy to have any and all talent and assistance and will help train in any area of volunteering. Your service is of stewardship to LCC and all members of the congregation and we are grateful for each and every one of you. Heather Martin

Sunday All Week

Why We Give

"I give out of gratitude for what God has given to our family. God is the Lord of all creation. Everything belongs to Him. The Bible tells us every good and perfect gift comes from Him. Knowing this, I want to be a good steward and please God in the way I use His resources, entrusted to me.

Giving, for me, is also a concrete way to practice my faith. I believe and trust God has met all my needs and will continue to do so. Giving is 'putting my money where my mouth is' and acting in ways that demonstrate, test and prove my faith in God's provision.

I find the following bible verses encouraging and humbling as they teach that God promises to bless our stewardship: Deuteronomy 15:10-11, Proverbs 11:24-35, Malachi 3:10 and 2 Corinthians 9:6-10. I pray that God will help me to sow generously, so that I may also reap generously, abounding in every good work." - A member of LCC

The impact of your giving to the church not only supports the general operations of Lutheran Church of the Cross, but also helps us support many people, places, and activities within our church walls as well as out in the community and world. In an effort to promote stewardship and giving at Lutheran Church of the Cross throughout the year, the Church Council is sharing church members' thoughts, statements and stories on why they give to the church.

As we move through the year, working to remain fiscally responsible with the decisions impacting the church's budget, the Council also encourages you to think about why you give to the church and the impact of this giving.

Why We Give

HELP YOUR TEEN USE SUMMER JOB EARNINGS WISELY

This may be the first time your teen is earning a paycheck, but it won't be the last. The money habits they learn now could last for years. You don't have to micromanage their finances and make them account for every penny, but they still need parental guidance. You've shared your values with them, you've shared your faith with them, but how much have you talked about sharing, saving and spending? Our relationship with money is an integral part of our relationship with God.

Here are some tips to helping your teen manage their summer income:

- Help them develop a budget with categories (essential purchases, discretionary items, saving, and sharing). Help them stick to it.
- Discuss and agree upon the essential items you are expecting them to pay for with their paycheck.
- Set a savings goal.
- Talk about sharing. Have you talked to your kids about how much you share with the church? Help them articulate their stewardship journey; generous habits and beliefs start early and carry on into adulthood.
- Be sure there is some money left over for fun.

Having a money conversation may be awkward and your teen may roll their eyes, but the key is to have the conversation and to start early. Teaching teens about money will give them the confidence to manage their finances as an adult.

Source: Faith Simonieg, Assist. to the Bishop for Stewardship and Generosity. WND Synod

Links to resources

http://www.sharesavespend.com/

We Need You: Church School Teachers

As we look to the next school year, there is a great need and opportunity to volunteer as a **Church School Teacher** at LCC. Before September, it is hoped at least a dozen or more teachers (a minimum of six teachers for Sunday School and six teachers for Wednesday School) will be in place to allow for a team teaching approach. This will allow those teaching to alternate instruction days with another teacher and allow for more flexibility for those teaching. We encourage parents of the youth in Sunday School, as well as all church members with a desire to impact the youth of our church, to consider becoming a Church School Teacher for the 2018-2019 school year.

Kylie Blanchard



Join the Fellowship here at Lutheran Church of the Cross on Rally Day 2018!

Sunday School at 9:15 am

Sunday, September 9th at 10:00 am

or Wednesday, September 12th at 6 pm

Church School at 7:00 pm

Potlucks both days! Sunday's follows the church service at 11:00 am and Wednesday precedes it at 5:00 pm.

Find your room and meet your teacher!

Come see what the excitement is all about!

Peace be with you brothers and sisters! Summer is here and so is the rain!

First, thanks be to God for all the wonderful rain and (mostly!) warm, but not blistering, weather! It's always amazing to me what a difference a year can make for the land, the weather, and for each of us. In fact, in July we welcomed our new Director of Discipleship. Amazingly enough, 2018 is now half over and many of us are living in the summer moment at the lake, hoping for elongated days so we can bask in the sunshine a little longer, a gift which God has given freely to North Dakota I might add. We also thank God for the generosity of your spirit both in how you treat each other and in how we treat the several guests that have brightened our doors this summer. Yes indeed! It's been my great joy to see that you have all continually and consistently ensured our visitors feel welcome and that we express our gratitude for their attendance and participation. As we continue to enjoy the summer, I hope you'll continue take a moment to enjoy your own sense of sharing your gifts with Lutheran Church of the Cross.

Along those lines, it is my pleasure to advise you as council president on our progress to date in supporting our adopted budgetary plan for 2018. You may recall from May that I gladly shared we had come very close to matching our churchwide goal for our first five months. Through the month of June and part of July, our expenses continue remain below church gifts and LCC has received total gifts of \$177,585, or 97.6% of our goal for the first six months. Each expenditure has been budget-based and intentionally focused on the sharing our gifts within LCC, as well as with local and global needs where God calls for it and our committees have been responsible and thoughtful.

As we transition to the second half of 2018, we can excitedly look forward to planning for fall events, the start of new church school and youth programs guided by our new Director of Discipleship, and the exciting start to the generosity action team as we continue to live in Christ with grace, gratitude, and generosity. As Heather described it, it takes many hands to make a good church. As we prepare for the fall, I ask that you take a moment to look at your own hands, big and small, young, and old, and reflect on the great things they have yet to do either with LCC, or within our community from Bismarck to around the globe.

Thank you so much for the blessing of your time and have a wonderful rest of your summer!

Yours in Christ, Tom Harris

Lutheran Church of the Cross

"Making Jesus Known by Sharing Our Gifts" Council Meeting Minutes July 10, 2018

Meeting was called to order by President Tom Harris at 6:30pm

Attendance: Pastor Lisa, Kylie Blanchard, Jon Hanson, Tom Harris, Heather Martin, Jeff

Thomas, Ken Will, Connie Werner, Art Wheeler; Absent: Brian Johnson

Welcome to Janie Hague!

Devotions: Ephesians 1:3-14 "Spiritual Blessings in Christ"

Approval of May 8th Minutes – Jeff T motion/Ken W second/APPROVED

Calendar Review -

Picnic, Wed, July 11th and Potluck, Sun, July 15th.

Bismarck Larks baseball game, Tue, July 17th, Camp of the Cross.

Deadline for August Crossword, July 20th.

Pastor Lisa

Continuing Education, Forming A Staff Team, Minneapolis, July 18-19, Pastor Lisa and Janie will attend.

Prayer additions: Those affected by the Watford City area storms, support with donations and prayers.

Pastor Donna had knee surgery, keep her in your thoughts and prayers.

Seemed like there were quite a few visitors last Sunday, please welcome them if you have a chance.

Adult and Teen Challenge will be leading the service this Wed after the picnic.

Discussed post-service activities for Wed picnic/service.

Rally Day will recognize our charter members.

Director of Discipleship (DOD) Janie

Continues to set-up office

Contact info: lccdod@midconetwork.com

Treasurer's Report – Ken W motion/Jeff T second/APPROVED

All bills and statements as of June 30th have been paid.

A 2018 prepaid income general journal entry was made for \$1,525.00.

June bank statements have been reconciled and registries are correct.

Total income for June was \$29,281.62, which exceeded expenditures of \$27,411.46 by \$1,870.16. However, the total income was less than the budget of \$30,319 by \$1,037. That's real close for a summer month. Included in the expenses were Promissory Note Interest payments of \$6,723, which means our General Fund operating costs were held very close to budget.

Total income for the year is \$177,585, which as of June 30th, leaves us short of the budget goal by \$4,329. At this point in the summer, that's acceptable. We are still functioning well within our projected expenses.

Remain vigilant with our budget and encourage additional giving!

Motion requested by Intuit for QuickBooks to appoint Art Wheeler as the Master Administrator for the Intuit QuickBooks account.

Jon H motion/Ken W second/APPROVED

Motion to pay Intuit \$314.30 for Enhanced Payroll software.

Kylie B motion/Heather M second/APPROVED

Partial payment to Mission Support Line Items, total of \$9,500:

Western ND Synod \$7,500 MSLCC (Missouri Slope) \$1,750 NDLSS (Lutheran Social Services)\$250

Ken W motion/Jeff T second/APPROVED

Question was asked if we should send semi-annual Giving Statements with a letter from Pastor Lisa. Unanimously YES!

Memorial Update, these funds have been used for the following:

25 new hymnals

New steam iron and 5 pair of scissors for Quilting

New Serving Dish w/ Thermal Cover and Case for Helping Hands

Spring Fling decorations

Wooden Crosses for deceased member families were made by Jeff Thomas (funds were used to purchase materials).

Council Member Portfolio Discussion

Kylie B – Christian Education

No meeting since May, Janie will become a larger part of this effort Recruiting teachers

In the process of planning Fall events and activities

Jon H – Church Operations. A committee will be formed to review the Risk Assessment (2013) and finalize the Policy Manual, to include a timeline.

Heather M motion/Jeff T second/APPROVED

Old Business:

Worship and Music meeting with Robin Johnson to discuss her role and responsibilities, possible support and improvements to overall program.

Need for "Wish List" to be used to prioritize funds and items.

Need for additional production volunteers.

Council 2018 Budget Review and 2019 Budget Planning Retreat in Oct, decided on Sat, Oct 6th from 9:00 to 12:00pm.

Nominating Committee will meet in August.

Merry-Go-Round donation of curbing around church lawn will be coordinated by Jon Hanson and Jeff Thomas.

New Business: N/A

Next Meeting: August 14th, 6:30pm

President Tom adjourned the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Thank you for what you do for Lutheran Church of the Cross!

North Campus Project of Missouri Slope Lutheran Care Center

Starting with our Strategic Planning Session of 2014, MSLCC identified the need to have more private rooms, better parking, and additional services that the community desperately needs such as Child Day Care. Our existing campus has been operating for 50+ years and is in need of many upgrades/updating to remain attractive and competitive for the next 50+ years. We want to "Re-Invent" the existing campus which would require major remodeling. Since our community has such full occupancy and increasing demand, we felt it would be unwise to temporarily take hundreds of beds out of service in order to achieve the extensive remodel. In order to achieve our dreams and keep services running in the community, we would need to build a second campus.

In 2017, MSLCC acquired an 18 acre property in North Bismarck known as the Good Shepherd North Addition. A 16,000 square foot building was erected on the property in 2005 by Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Bismarck for use as a family and day care center. Changing economics forced the dismissal of Good Shepherd's dream for their North Addition and they had to sell the property. Ten years later, the property was still looking for an owner to develop the property in a way that fits the neighborhood's and greater community's needs. MSLCC was able to connect with the City Planning and Zoning Commission, the City Council, and the neighbors of the property to discuss plans for a future healthcare campus. All parties were very receptive to the idea and wanted to see the process move forward.

In October, 2017, the MSLCC Governing Board and Leadership teams interviewed and selected the firms of Roers Construction and Pope Architects for the project. Early project milestones include the completion of a Market Analysis that shows an increasing demand for Senior Healthcare Services such as Skilled Nursing, Basic Care, Memory Care, Assisted Living, and Independent Living. We have also signed a contract to complete a feasibility study on our existing campus. We feel that both sites will be needed to meet the needs of our community and the planning should be done together.

Next steps for the project will be establishing a timeline to include stakeholder meetings with our employees, our residents/tenants, our corporate church members, the neighborhood, and other interested parties. We are in the process of running financial projections that will help us learn how much fundraising will be necessary for the project. We intend to update this site as new information is available. Please be sure to check back often and feel free to send us your questions, comments, and suggestions via the upcoming stakeholder meetings or to Jessica Gilbertson, MSLCC Foundation Director at jessica.gilbertson@mslcc.com or 701-223-9407.

Finally, we ask you to consider us in your thoughts and prayers. Just as members of this community did over 50 years ago when MSLCC was created, we will need all the help we can get. This project is very much a call and testament to our mission of Enriching Life and meeting the needs of our community. God bless you!

This excerpt was taken from MSLLC website.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
August 2018 Altar Focus: School Kits for LWR and Fill the Bus. Meals on Wheels			_	2 8p AA Mtg.	3	4
5 9:00 Worship Team Practice 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee Hour	9	7	8 Church Picnic 5:30 Worship Service 6:30	9 8p AA Mtg.	10	11
9:00 Worship Practice 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee Hour	13 Needlework Group 1:30pm	14 Helping Hands 5:00pm Church Council 6:30p	15	16 8p AA Mtg.	17 Newsletter deadline	18
9:00 Worship Team Practice 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee MSLLC Ice Cream Social 2-3:30pm	20 Needlework Group 1:30pm	21	6:30am MM Bible Study	23 8p AA Mtg.	24	25
9:00 Worship Team Practice 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee Hour	27 Knitting for Others 1pm Needlework Group 1:30pm	28	29	30 8p AA Mtg.	31	

Lutheran Church of the Cross 1004 E. Highland Acres Rd Bismarck, ND 58501 701.223.1001 churchsecretary@midconetwork.com

E-NEWS

Worship Times:

Wednesday Worship 6pm during school year 2nd Wed. during summer 5:30 picnic /6:30 service

Sunday Worship
The River Service 10:00am

Lisa Ahlness, Pastor

Office Hours:
M -TH 8-4pm
Fri. 8-noon School Year
Summer Hours 9-1

Lutheran Church of the Cross

2018 Church Council	
Tom Harris, President	390.9421
Ken Will, Vice President	258.7127
Jon Hanson, Secretary	391.3416
Jeff Thomas	955.3632
Brian Johnson	391-0872
Kylie Blanchard	391.0373
Heather Martin	202.8316

The Church Council meets once a month; the second Tuesday at 6:30pm. The Council meetings are open to the congregation and all are encouraged to attend a meeting or to visit with a Council member if you have questions or concerns regarding the church.

Making Jesus Known by Sharing our Gifts