



# The Cross Word

From Pastor Lisa

Where do you see God at work around you?

This is a question I want to remember to ask myself several times a day this summer, and I hope you will train yourself to make a habit of it, too.

Recently I attended a concert of the Central Dakota Children's Choirs. It included 2 of my grandchildren, a handful of LCC young people, my son and several friends among the six choirs, so I enjoyed it immensely. These concerts always end with a song with the massed choirs all singing together. It is always a highlight, as those hundreds of voices rise with power and majesty and angels soaring above. (Not that I'm dramatic at all.) But this one had tears streaming down my face.

Why? It began with the younger choirs, grades 3-6, singing the medieval plainsong hymn "Of the Father's Love Begotten," a lovely melody. Then, superimposed on that were drums to an African beat and the counterpoint of a song in Swahili (I think). It was called "Hope for Resolution." One of the choir kids told me it was written for Nelson Mandela and the end of apartheid in South Africa. All I know is, as the drums beat and those voices soared, despite the awfulness that pummels me from the newspapers and the radio and the TV and often my phone, day in and day out – despite all of the awfulness in the world, the kind that makes you just want to give up – even as tears streamed down my face... I felt hope.

And hope is a God thing.

Where do you see God at work around you? Let's talk about it. Meanwhile, see you in church – Sundays at 10 a.m. or Wednesdays at 6 p.m.!

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Lutheran Church of  
the Cross

June 2017

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## Clean Up Day

Many hands make  
light work.

Thank you to all who came and helped clean up the grounds here at Lutheran Church of the Cross the day before the planned event, the day after and this week. Your efforts are appreciated.



## Wednesday Worship



Come worship the Lord with us through song, liturgy, prayer, and communion. Our service may not have the same format as The Fusion but our intent is the same; to praise God. Worship with us and help us find what the Wednesday Worship will become.

WEDNESDAY  
Worship to  
continue during  
the summer  
Months; 6pm.

## Summer Hours

The office hours are changing over the summer months. They are as follows: Monday—Friday 9-1 pm effective June 1—August 31. Call the office to schedule any needed afternoon activities.



## 2017 'Camp Out' Vacation Bible School Registration

Getting S'more of Jesus

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world." John 8:12

VBS dates: June 5-8, 6:00—8:00

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_

Completed Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies or Medical info we should know about:

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Who will be picking up your child?

If there is an emergency what is the best phone number/name of person to contact you.

\_\_\_\_\_

Times: Supper 6:00 (free will)

VBS 6:30 - 8:00pm

All VBS sessions here at LCC

At Camp Out VBS, Monday through Thursday kids trek through an outdoor adventure—minus the bug spray. They'll kindle friendships and discover that Jesus is the light of the world.

A typical day at Camp Out VBS:

Supper

Opening  
Music & More

(Three groups to rotate through)

Bible Exploration

Closing

Campfire

Wilderness Games

Projects with a Purpose

# Vacation Bible School



## **Vacation Bible School**

June 5-8, 2017 6:00 Dinner and 6:30-8:00 Adventure

Please plan to bring your children to  
Lutheran Church of the Cross for our “Camp Out”  
Adventure! No Pre-Registration Required. Children of all  
ages will experience plenty of learning and fun to include:

**Cool Bible Songs**

**Bible Exploration**

**Wilderness Games**

**Craft & Play**

**Tasty Treats, and**

**A Closing Campfire!**

**On Thursday at 6:30, families are welcome to join us in the  
sanctuary for Music & More.**

**Volunteer Opportunities:** If you or your older children are interested in  
volunteering at VBS, please contact Tim or Connie at LCC.

**Vacation  
Bible  
School is  
fun!**



Camp of the Cross Summer Camps. Camperships available until the money runs out up to \$100/child. Call the office.

# 2017 Summer Camp Programs



## FEATURED CAMPS

### Voyagers (entering grades 2-3)

- 3 days/2 nights at camp exploring with Bible study, games, campfires and much more!

### Homesteaders (entering grades 4-5)

- Specialty Camps— fishing, sailing, sports, guitar, art, running, in-tents and whittling
- Christmas in July
- Mini Week (3 days, 2 nights)

### Prairie Dwellers (entering grades 6-7)

- Specialty Camps
- Trekkers Canoeing Week

### Pathfinders (entering grades 8-9)

- Specialty Camps
- Night Pathfinders Week
- Trekkers Canoe Week
- Buttes, Buffalos and Badlands Backpacking
- Christmas in July

### Senior High (entering grades 10-12)

- Sr. High Weekend
- Boundary Waters Canoe Trip

- ⇒ Camp of the Cross Ministries offers camps for children and youth that are entering grades 2 through 12!
- ⇒ CCM offers on-site and off-site adventure camps!
- ⇒ CCM offers 2 nights or 5 nights options!
- ⇒ Do you love CCM so much that you want to go twice? Receive half off registration for your second week!

### Early Bird Registration Deadline

**April 1, 2017**

Check out amounts for each week on our website!



Camp of the Cross Ministries  
PO Box 1257 Garrison, ND 58540  
701-337-2246  
info@campofthecross.com

## REGISTER ONLINE TODAY!

# www.campofthecross.com

## **LCC Now Has New (Electronic!) Ways to Give to God!**

Check out these new, easy ways to give electronically, right from your smartphone! Not to worry, it's easy! As long as you use the same email address for all, these gifts also sync completely with our current online giving option from our website, so your giving history is complete and can be accessed from either.

### **Now you can make a contribution by text!**

**Get Started:** Enter LCC's Give+ text number – 701-969-7030 -- and text the amount you wish to donate to that number. For example, text 25 to the number above for a \$25 donation.

**Register:** You will receive a registration link (the first time only). Click the link and enter your contact and payment information. Note: this will not be a charge that goes on your phone bill, like you might be familiar with if you remember giving to the earthquake in Haiti, say, a few years ago. For this text giving, you enter a credit or debit card number, and that is what the donation is charged to.

**Give:** After registration is complete, you'll receive a verification text as well as a receipt via email.

**Repeat:** If you want to make the gift a recurring one, text the word repeat and it will process automatically annually, quarterly, monthly or weekly, as you choose.

### **Or, give through the Give + Mobile App**

iPhone and Android users can now make a contribution through a mobile app!

You can download the app for free from the App Store. Simply search for "give plus church" to quickly find and start using the app. It's easy to make a one-time or recurring donations to multiple funds with your credit or debit card.

You can also choose whether to donate as a guest or set up an account (again, registration is a one-time event) that allows you to securely and conveniently manage, schedule and review donations using Touch ID, PIN or password.

To use, enter the church's name: Lutheran Church of the Cross. Click **Donate Now**. Choose the fund to which you'd like to give and a preset amount, or enter another amount. (Click *Make Another Donation* to make additional gifts in the same transaction). Click *Next* to scan or enter your credit card information. Review your donation summary and select *Complete Donation*. And that's it!

**Tithing  
and  
Texting  
are easy!**

## LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2017

**Call to Order:** President Ken Will called the meeting to order at 6:30pm

**Council Members Present:**

Ken Will, Jon Hanson, Brian Johnson, Kylie Blanchard, Tom Harris and Kim Humann.

**Council Members Absent:**

Jeff Thomas

**Staff Present:**

Pastor Lisa Ahlness, Tim Newman, Connie Werner and Art Wheeler

**Devotions:**

Pastor Lisa led the group in devotions.

**Additions to the Agenda:**

None

**Approval of Minutes from November 22, 2016:**

Jon Hanson moved to approve the minutes. Tom Harris seconded the motion.

**Motion approved.**

**Treasurer's Report:**

Art Wheeler presented the Treasurer's Report.

Tom Harris moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Jon Hanson seconded the motion.

**Motion approved.**

Art Wheeler presented the General Fund Revenue and Building Fund contributions report.

**Pastor's Report:**

Pastor Lisa gave her report.

**Pastoral Assistant Report:**

Tim's report is attached to the minutes.

**Committee Reports:**

**Buildings & Grounds – Jon Hanson and Tom Harris**

Jon provided an overview of the proposed building projects and cost estimates. Discussion followed. The council requested a conclusive estimate for the parking lot repair and concrete work for the front entrance.

Brian Johnson moved approval for A1 Window Cleaning to clean all interior and exterior windows. Kylie Blanchard seconded the motion. Motion approved.

**Motion approved.**

# Church Council

## **Mission Support – Brian Johnson**

Brian indicated this group would be assisting with a Banquet meal at Trinity Lutheran on Saturday, May 13 at noon. Brian also conveyed Pastor Gary Heaton met with this group and requested assistance for the Kogodus program. This is a Christian gathering for prison inmates and is conducted twice per year at each of the 3 ND prisons. Pastor Gary has requested that the free will offerings from the summer picnics be given to the Kogodus program. He also indicated he will be applying for Thrivent funds which may help offset some of the costs as well. He has also solicited donations from businesses for meat at the picnics.

By general consensus the council agreed to support the Kogodus program.

## **Worship and Music – Kylie Blanchard**

Kylie indicated the committee met and discussed the Wednesday services. The Wednesday services will continue through the summer. However, there will not be services during Vacation Bible School on June 7 as the children will be using the entire church.

## **Christian Education – Jeff Thomas**

Tim Newman highlighted the Sunday School and youth events in his report.

## **Congregational Nurturing – Kim Humann**

Kim indicated the Helping Hands Spring Fling was well attended. They continue to provide meals to church families in need. They visit members who are at home or in various facilities in town. They will be delivering favors to the members in late June.

Summer picnics will be held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month and will be June 14, July 12 and August 9.

## **Unfinished Business:**

**Summer Staff and Office Hours** will be changed from Memorial Day to Labor Day. The office will be open Monday through Friday from 9:00am to 1:00pm. The council requested this to be published in the Crossword newsletter, the bulletin, church website and the answering machine message for the church be changed to reflect this as well.

**Change of email address for church** – BTI will be done providing services the end of September. It will be necessary to get the new church email address publicized in the Crossword newsletter, the bulletin and church website as soon as it is available.

**Member review and church directory update** – Connie indicated she is waiting to hear back from Pam Hanson on the project.

**Meeting adjourned.**





buildkitsofcare.org



## BABY CARE KITS

### SOME IMPORTANT GUIDELINES TO REMEMBER

- Please include sizes between 6 and 24 months. Varying the sizes of the clothing items included will make the Baby Care Kit useful as the baby grows.
- Sweaters may be knitted or crocheted from leftover yarn, or made from heavy double knits or fleece. Select a pattern that suits your skill level. Preferred styles have buttons or ties down the front.
- Diapers can be made from flannel or even by recycling t-shirts. Download a Diaper Tip Sheet from our website.
- If knitting or crocheting receiving blankets, including one knitted/crocheted blanket and one flannel blanket will provide maximum versatility.
- Onesies can be cut and hemmed or serged to make a simple t-shirt.
- Gowns, rompers or top/pants sets can be substituted for sleepers.
- Gently used, clean clothing and blankets (no stains or tears) may be substituted for new ones. It is especially important that the items be in excellent condition, as used clothing is increasingly difficult to get through customs in many countries. Even one item that looks worn or stained to local officials can jeopardize the status of a whole shipment. All other items (diapers, towel, soap) in the Kit must be new.
- Please do not donate items with any religious symbols, messages or your group's name.
- Please do not donate any items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.
- Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed.
- Do not enclose the Kit or any of its contents in plastic bags.

### INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN EACH BABY CARE KIT

- ☐ **TWO** lightweight cotton t-shirts (no Onesies ®)
- ☐ **TWO** long- or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers (without feet)
- ☐ **TWO** receiving blankets, medium-weight cotton or flannel, or crocheted or knitted with lightweight yarn, between 36" and 52" square
- ☐ **FOUR** cloth diapers, flat fold preferred
- ☐ **ONE** jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood, or include a baby cap
- ☐ **TWO** pairs of socks
- ☐ **ONE** hand towel, dark color recommended
- ☐ **TWO** or three bath-size bars of gentle soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping; no mini or hotel size bars
- ☐ **TWO** diaper pins or large safety pins

### HOW TO PACK YOUR PROJECT PROMISE KITS

- Wrap items in one of the receiving blankets and secure with diaper pins.
- Pack completed Kits, like items together, in boxes. Label contents in **LARGE, BLOCK LETTERS** on the outside of the boxes.
- Use strong cartons secured with packing tape, not to exceed 40 pounds.
- Do not use plastic or paper bags to pack donations.
- Include the name and address of your group or congregation on each box and label the contents



A PROJECT OF

**Lutheran World Relief**  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE.

# MSLCC to host Second Annual Golf Tournament

BISMARCK, ND – The Missouri Slope Lutheran Care Center will host its second annual golf tournament to benefit the organization's foundation. The tournament will be held on June 1 at the Apple Creek Country Club in Bismarck. Registration begins at 12:00 p.m. and the tournament begins with a shotgun start at 1:00 p.m. The Foundation at MSLCC raises money to pay for facility enhancements, equipment for residents and many other projects.

Registration for the tournament is now open. The tournament is open to the public and sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information please contact Jessica Gilbertson at 701-221-9349 or [jgilbertson@mslcc.com](mailto:jgilbertson@mslcc.com) or register online at <https://www.mslcc.com/golf2017/>

MSLCC has been operating in Bismarck for 50 years, serving 255 residents and more than 64 tenants at its assisted living facility. MSLCC was established by local Lutheran church congregations in the Bismarck area, and remains locally owned and operated.

## Missouri Slope Lutheran Care Center Foundation

### 2nd Annual Golf Tournament

Apple Creek Country Club, Bismarck

June 1st, 2017

REGISTRATION 12PM

SHOTGUN START 1PM

Scramble format

Cost \$125 per player, or \$450 for team of four

(After May 15th, \$150 per player)

Registration includes 18 holes of golf at the beautiful Apple Creek Golf Course, golf cart rental, steak dinner and prizes!

Sponsorship Opportunities Available

Please contact Jessica Gilbertson, Foundation Director at 701-221-9349 or [jgilbertson@mslcc.com](mailto:jgilbertson@mslcc.com) for more information about sponsorships and registration



# GARAGE SALE

The LLC Rummage Sale is On! June 16, 17, and until 1 pm after church on Sunday June 18. Start to gather your items and box them up. No pricing needed. Remember someone's trash is another's treasure!

Items needed for the sale:

Infant and toddler clothing only.  
Dishes, toys, pictures, lamps,  
Seasonal items, knickknacks,  
Records, DVDs, tapes,  
Furniture,  
Sports items,  
ETC, ETC, ETC, ETC

All items must be in useable condition.

The rummage sale will be held inside so no large ticket items such as appliances, tires, old TVs will be accepted.

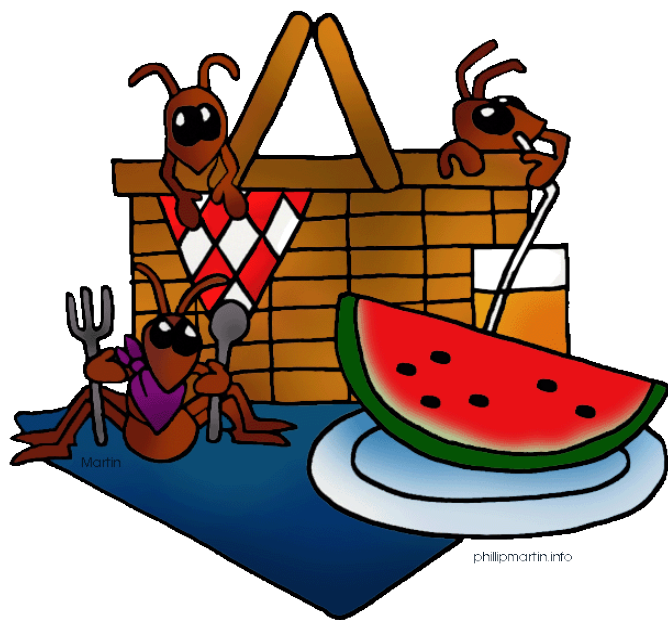
Hours of the sale: Friday 10—6  
Saturday 9-4  
Sunday after church until 1pm.

In order for this sale to be a success we need worker bees. Lots of worker bees. Consider donating your time to set up the Wednesday and Thursday before or helping us run the sale Friday and Saturday. The Mary Magdalene Bible Study is sponsoring this event. Proceeds will go to Camp of the Cross. Any left over items will be donated to Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch. Items may be dropped off starting June 9 and continue through Thursday of the following week.





## Church picnics here at LCC



Church picnics are scheduled for June 14, July 12, August 9 starting at 5pm; the second Wednesday of each month. (We promise not to encourage the ants to join us.) Weather permitting we just might have our worship service outdoors as we sit around the picnic tables. Set up time will be 4 pm. Workers are needed organize the event, cook and clean up. Families are encouraged to bring a potluck dish to share. Church will provided the meat, drinks, chips, plates and utensils. Free will donation will go towards Kogodus.

Please note the time change from the calendar.

Another shipment of coffees has arrived for you to try. The red bags which cost \$8 for 12 oz. of ground or whole bean coffee are Organic De-caffeinated, Café Salvador Bright Day Brew, Organic Mind, Body & Soul, and Organic Ethiopian.

There is a nice selection of teas to sample throughout the summer: Peppermint, Chamomile, Earl Grey, Green Tea, English Breakfast

Coffee, teas,  
chocolate from Equal  
Exchange  
Lutheran World  
Relief  
to benefit the youth  
trip next summer.

## C2 and Church Council Meetings



The Church Council Meeting is at 6:30pm Tuesday, June 13. The C2 committee meetings are optional during June & July They will resume in August with a meal. Council meetings are open to everyone. If you have an item to come before the Council, please contact Ken Will prior to the meeting.





## **What is Kogudus?**

Kogudus is a retreat ministry in the spirit of the Reformation, gathering people together in Christ. Since its beginning in 1969 over 35,000 people in the U.S. and in other countries have attended a Kogudus retreat. Kogudus is an Estonian word for “gathering” or “Christian fellowship”.

## **How does Kogudus work?**

A team of 12-15 men and women who have attended a Kogudus, lead the retreat. Team members present lectures, and facilitate small group Bible study, discussion, and drawing of posters. Through group interaction the gospel is proclaimed and relationships are formed. In

addition there is plenty of hymn singing, prayer time and worship opportunities.

## **Where are the retreats held?**

The purpose of Kogudus is to provide renewal and affirmation of our faith in Christ. Through a series of one day seminars and weekend retreats, Kogudus programs offer participants an opportunity to be renewed in their faith and commitment to Christ and to become affirmed in their ministry. Venues for these retreat seminars have included retreat centers, hotels, churches, Bible camps, college campuses, houses, prisons and even a cow pasture! Pastors and laity serve together on teams – not only to conduct each event – but to develop partnership in the Gospel and leadership.

## **Is Kogudus endorsed by the ELCA?**

Yes. It falls under the responsibility of the **Division for Ministry and Division for Congregational Life of the ELCA** which provides guidance and support. The Montana Synod of the ELCA is the primary sponsor of the Kogudus ministry.

## **Why haven't I heard of Kogudus before?**

It is one of the best kept secrets in the church. Montana, North Dakota and Illinois all have active Kogudus ministries. Kogudus teams in ND have been leading retreats in prison for over 30 years.



**Retreats are offered twice per year at each of the 3 ND prisons: North Dakota State Penitentiary-Bismarck; James River Correctional Center-Jamestown; Dakota Women's Correctional Rehabilitation Center-New England.** Team members come from ND, MN and MT. Teams get together and spend the weekend Fri 12pm –8pm; Sat 8am - 8pm (approximately 20 hours) with a group of inmates that have signed up to participate.

If you want to know more about Kogudus in ND, speak to Pastor Gary Heaton. He has been spiritual director on Kogudus retreats in the state prisons for 20 years and has also written a new curriculum that was recently introduced for the retreats.

### **If I make a donation where will my money go?**

Your donation will go to the Kogudus general fund to help cover expenses. The director receives a small stipend, there are some office expenses, the cost of publishing and mailing a quarterly newsletter, and supplies for the retreats. The majority of their funding comes from congregations and individual donations. Team members pay all of their own expenses when leading retreats including mileage, motel and meals.

### **What else do I need to know?**

Kogudus is registered as a non-profit organization in the state of Montana and is governed by a board of directors. The main office is in Great Falls MT. Rev. Greg Karlsgodt (ELCA) is the current Executive Director. You can reach him at: 2622 Grassland Dr, Missoula, MT 59808; 406-544-1922; [gk@kogudus.org](mailto:gk@kogudus.org). You can find out more about Kogudus at their website [Kogudus.org](http://Kogudus.org).

**THANK YOU to the mission outreach committee and LCC council for agreeing to support Kogudus ministries through a free will offering at the summer picnics on June 14th - July 12th - August 9th.**

## Strategic Planning

Already there is anticipation and excitement in the air about things coming in the fall! Here are just a few:

A strategic planning team has been appointed to lead us through some long-range thinking and planning for LCC's future. On the team are Christa Flickinger, Jon Hanson, Steve Neu and Roger Pommerer. Look for information about a day long event in the early fall and several opportunities to give your ideas and input as we consider how exactly God is calling us to serve, in this neighborhood and beyond.

## Financial Stewardship

What does financial stewardship look like in our lives today? Many Christians associate the word stewardship with sermons about church budgets. But I would suggest that our "having a handle on our finances" affects everything about our lives, including on our ability to be generous. I really want to be generous, to my church and other places I am passionate about. But, I may never have learned to budget, or my credit cards have me just treading water. So it's good stewardship to offer tools and training to help us do just that – get that handle!

To that end, LCC will be offering Dave Ramsey's nine week Financial Peace University class this fall, led by Pr. Lisa on Sunday evenings from 7 – 8:30 p.m., beginning on Sunday, September 17. You will be empowered and encouraged to take control of your finances, be good stewards of God's resources, strengthen your families, learn about tithing, prepare for financial emergencies and become debt-free.

There is a \$100 fee for materials, which include tools you will use for a lifetime. You can sign up by calling the church office: 223-1001. All are welcome; this class is not limited to LCC members. Invite your friends, and mark your calendar!

## Reformation and Confirmation

Two other marks for your calendars: Sunday, October 29 will be an ALL-CITY ELCA worship service at the Bismarck Event Center to celebrate the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation. And Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> is Confirmation at LCC. (Confirmands may also choose the alternate date of Wednesday, November 8)

## Lutheran Church of the Cross

1004 E. Highland Acres Rd  
Bismarck, ND 58501

Phone: 701.223.1001

Email: [lcc@btinet.net](mailto:lcc@btinet.net)

### 2017 Church Council

Ken Will, President	258.7127
Jon Hanson, Vice President	391.3416
Jeff Thomas, Secretary	955.3632
Kim Humann	255.6547
Brian Johnson	391-0872
Kylie Blanchard	391.0373
Tom Harris	751.6371

The Church Council and the C2 Committees meet once a month; the second Tuesday, at 5:30pm. The Council meetings (at 6:30pm) 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.



1004 E Highland Acres Rd  
Bismarck ND 58501

## E-News

## Making Jesus Known by Sharing our Gifts

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