



The Cross Word

March 2019

From Pastor Lisa

"Pastor Lisa

"How was the trip to Israel?!!" - everyone

Well.... there's a question I cannot answer in one page!

The shortest of answers is, of course – good. It was very good. Good. Tov... as in, we were taught to say “good morning” in Hebrew: “Boker Tov” (morning good). Our guide also told us that if we couldn't remember that, to just mumble “broken toe” and that would be pretty close!

As in, God saw the creation he had created and it was very good.

That still doesn't tell someone much about what we experienced. And it begs a question that I'm wrestling with for Sunday's sermon: How do you tell someone about an experience that changed everything?

Once the video is finished, full of pictures taken on our journey to the Holy Land, we will invite you to an event and do some showing and telling of what it looked and felt like for us nine pilgrims from LCC and our companions. And never fear, you will no doubt hear snippets sprinkled into sermons and conversations that we learned and saw and heard there.

But it wasn't just information we gleaned in Israel. It was new relationships, with one another and with our understanding of the Bible and the people and places in it, including stories we'd heard a hundred times before. It was glimpses of the culture and history and land that shaped Jesus, his religion and the people around him. It was a renewal of our baptism in the very waters of the Jordan River where Jesus was baptized by John. We saw sites of battles that never seemed to have anything to do with us before, and stood in places where Jesus healed people and talked to them, where prophets were called by God to act.

And it changed us.

Continued on page 2

Pastor Lisa's letter continued.

Travel always does, if we let it; opens our eyes to see in a new way through the people and places we encounter. Sometimes, we are lucky to do this through friends' travels and experiences, since not all of us can go everywhere or, maybe, anywhere at all. We are even able to do it through books and studies that can open up new understandings. Our faith grows this way, too. We simply do not grow or learn all by ourselves, insulated from everything.

"And it was very good." Thanks be to God, who fashioned and made us and called it all good!

See you in church,
Pr. Lisa

Celebrating 100 years of Lutheran Social Services

LSS is celebrating 100 years this year! There have been a variety of names through the years, as well as lots of services offered. Originally helping destitute children and orphans, eventually offering a home for pregnant teenagers – now programs have expanded tremendously and range from therapy (counseling for gambling, farm stress, at risk youth, family, violence – even a residential psychiatric program), to senior independence, healthy families, affordable housing all over ND, and humanitarian services (disaster response and refugee resettlement). Check out lssnd.org to see more about what they do as the social service arm of and in partnership with the Lutheran churches!

As part of the celebration, LSS reproduced a cookbook, originally done in the 1920's by the First Lutheran Ladies Aid of Fargo for the Lutheran Home. These are available for purchase for \$25 – it is a true vintage treasure! (See Pr. Lisa's copy in her office.) Churches all over ND are having **good ol' church potlucks to help LSS celebrate their 100th** - and we are joining in the fun! **Ours will be after worship on Sunday March 31.** Wouldn't it be fun if some of the dishes we brought were from the old cookbook? Or from one of LCC's? There are things you've never heard of in there, and old favorites too. Come and see, and let's have fun at an old fashioned church potluck just for fun! LSS will have displays so you can see all they do, and leave a free will offering if you like.

"Where We Belong" by Lynn Austin

This novel reveals the adventure of a lifetime for two determined socialite sisters; Rebecca and Flora Hawes.

In 1890 the rules for Victorian women are strict. But these two women are not typical Victorian women. They live with their wealthy father in an upscale neighborhood in Chicago, but the story finds them traveling in the Sinai Desert in a blinding sandstorm. The two women along with servants and local guides are on a quest to find an important biblical manuscript. As they travel, the story reveals memories of the past, recalling events that brought them to this time and place.

Each chapter is a story of its own that will keep the reader turning pages faster and faster. There are many great adventures, great history lessons, and remarkable stories.

Reviewed by Gladys Bain.

Hillbilly Elegy by J D Vance

This book is a memoir of the journey in the young life of JD Vance, a 31yr old Yale Law School graduate. What makes his story interesting and unique is his hillbilly upbringing. His family migrated from the hills of eastern Kentucky to an Ohio steel town to find work. The family took all their hillbilly culture with them - their screaming, swearing, fighting and fierce family loyalty.

His childhood is full of anxiety and uncertainty as his mother is an addict who jumps from husband to husband. The constant in his life are his grandparents who have the same crazy hillbilly ways but offer a more stable home where they stressed a good education.

If you can put aside the language in this book, you'll learn about the culture of this family and how JD changed his own outcome. Reviewed by Laurie Spilde

Concordia College Choir Comes to Bismarck!

Mark your calendars for Saturday, March 16th! That evening at 7:30 p.m., the Concordia Choir will be in concert at Trinity Lutheran Church, Third St. and Ave A in Bismarck. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for seniors and \$5 for students. They are available in the church office, online at ConcordiaTickets.com, or by calling 800-838-3006. (Checks can be made out to Concordia College) In connection with this concert, **host homes are needed** for the 72 choir members. Pr. Lisa is coordinating the housing; **please let her know if you can help!** Hosts take students home after the concert, give them a place to sleep and breakfast in the morning, and bring them to meet the buses by 9 a.m. at Lord of Life Lutheran Church on Sunday the 17th.

Dear Members of Lutheran Church of the Cross,

Thank you so much for the kindness and love you shared with my family and I throughout the last few weeks. We received such heart-warming messages from you, our dear church family and with each note and word, we felt blessed. Thank you for remembering Bob in this way and always.

The family member who wrote Bob's obituary obtained information about Bob's activities from newspaper clippings I have saved over the years. Bob and I were charter members of LCC, a fact that Bob was very proud. He also was very active in the church activities as he was president of the Church Council and took part in many fund raisers when additions were added to our church building. This information was never printed in the local newspaper and therefore was not written in the obituary. I just wanted you to know why his church affiliation was overlooked in his obituary.

He rarely missed a Sunday service since he loved going to church when he was well. By the way, the last day he attended was January 13, 2019.

Sincerely,
Gladys Bain

Angel Penny

I found a penny today
Just laying on the ground.
But it's not just a penny
This little coin I've found.

Found pennies come from heaven
that's what my Grandpa told me.
He said Angels tossed them down.
Oh, how I loved that story!



He said when an Angel misses you
They toss a penny down,
Sometimes just to cheer you up
To make a smile out of your frown.

So don't pass by that penny
When you're feeling blue.
It may be a penny from heaven
That an Angel's tossed to you.
Author Unknown

Lent - Easter 2019 Service Schedule

Lent Schedule

Lenten Wednesday Soup Supper served at 4:45-5:45pm

Every Wednesday during the Living Water Service 6:00pm
"Faith Journeys"

Sundays during Lent: "Loving Generously" a film series and discussion viewed during coffee hour.

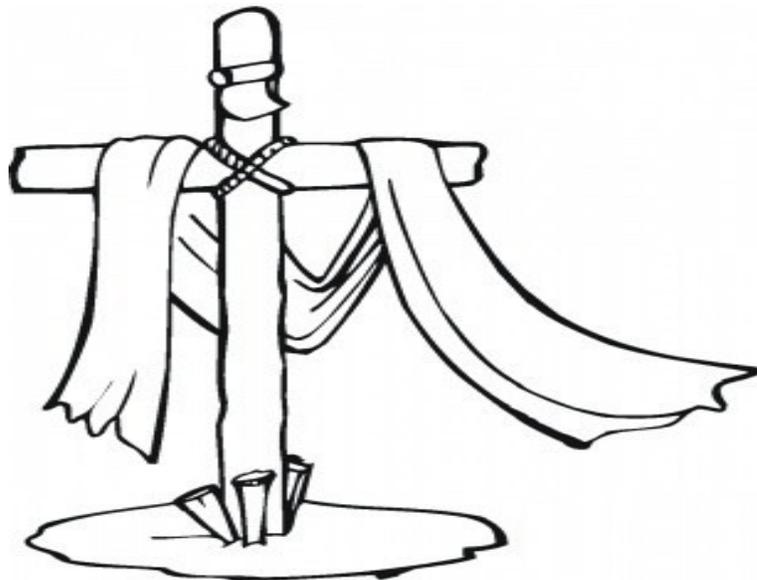
Palm Sunday Service, Sunday, April 14 10:00am

Maundy Thursday Service, Thursday, April 18 7:00pm

Good Friday Service, Friday, April 19 7:00pm

Easter Vigil, Saturday, April 20 7:00pm
at St. George's Episcopal Church

Easter Morning Service
Sunday, April 21 at 8:00am and 10:00am
Easter Breakfast (light)
9:00—11:30



Children Youth & Family Ministry



March 2018

Mark your Calendar!

- March 10th Board Game Night 5:30-7. Please bring a dish to share.
- March 17th: Youth Group Grades 3-5, from 3-5pm. Grades 6-12, from 5-7pm

Reminder

*No Confirmation class during Lent. Attendance at worship is encouraged. See you for Large Group on April 24th.
*Church school continues throughout Lent.



1st Communion class

1st Communion class will be held for 3rd graders, and anyone else who would like to go through the class on April 3rd and 10th at 7 pm. We ask that parent(s) join their child in this milestone class.

Please contact Janie if interested.

Do you want to fast this Lent?

In the words of Pope Francis

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

CONTACT INFO:

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>March Calendar 2019</h1>						
Altar Focus: Central African Republic M & M's for CAR	4 Needlework Group 1:30	5 Staff Meeting 10:00 am	6 Ash Wednesday 5:00-5:45 Soup Supper Wed. Worship/ 6p Faith Journeys Church School/ River Practice 7p	7 Lunch at First Quilting 1pm 8p AA Mtg.	8 Friday Night at the Movies 6:30pm	9 <u>Book Club</u> 12:30p LCC Opt.Sm Group River practice 4:30pm
3 9:00 Church School 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee 5:00 Wed. Practice	11 Needlework Group 1:30	12 Staff Meeting 10:00 am C2 5:30p Church Council 6:30p	13 5:00-5:45 14 Soup Supper Wed Worship 6p Faith Journeys Church School/ River Practice 7p	14 Lunch at First Quilting 1pm 8p AA Mtg.	15	16 4:30p Optional Sm Group River practice
17 9:00 Church School 10:00 Worship/Baptism 11:00 Coffee/Bible Study 5:00 Wed. Practice Youth Group Gr. 3-6 3-5pm Gr. 7-12 5-7pm	18 Needlework Group 1:30	19 Staff Meeting 10:00 am Newsletter deadline	20 5:00-5:45 Soup Supper Wed Worship 6p Faith Journeys Church School/River practice 7pm	21 Lunch at First We serve Quilting 1pm	22	23 4:30p Optional Sm Group River practice
24 9:00 Church School 10:00 Worship 11:00 Coffee/Bible Study 5:00 Wed. Practice <small>31</small> LSS 100th Anniversary Celebration Potluck after church No church school	25 Needlework Group 1:30 <u>Knitting for</u> Others 1:00 No School	26 Staff Meeting 10:00 am	27 6:30 MM Bible Study @LCC 5:00-5:45 Soup Supper Wed Worship 6p Faith Journeys Church School/River practice 7pm	28 Lunch at First Quilting 1pm 8p AA Mtg.	29	30

2018 Annual Meeting
Lutheran Church of the Cross
January 20, 2019

Call to Order and Welcome – President Tom Harris at 10:59am

Devotions – Pastor Lisa Ahlness

Circulation of Sign-in Sheets by Council Members

Appointment of Parliamentarian – Roger Krueger, quorum was achieved

Approval of minutes from 2017 Annual Meeting

Motion to approve the 2017 minutes was made by Heather Martin, second by AJ Marx – APPROVED

Presentation of Reports – Pastor, President and Committee

Motion to approve all reports as written was made by Cherie Krueger, second by Deb Carpenter – APPROVED

Treasurer's Report – Art Wheeler

Question was asked about the Building Fund and what happens to donations that are requested to be used for “building” expenses. Donations made specific for building related expenses are set aside for that purpose.

Motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by Art Wheeler, second by Laverne Hansen – APPROVED

An administrative error was noted after the Auditor's report was reviewed by Art Wheeler. It could not be adjusted prior to the Annual Meeting, so a letter of exception was submitted to the council by President Tom Harris.

Motion was made by John Kraft to approve the Treasurer's report with the exception noted and upon council approval when the error is rectified; second by Baron Blanchard – APPROVED

Election of Church Council Members

Three council members have fulfilled their 3-year terms – Kylie Blanchard, Brian Johnson and Jeff Thomas

Kylie Blanchard has agreed to serve a second 3-year term. Krisi Kunz and Mark Kunze have accepted the nomination for a 3-year term.

President Harris called for nominations from the floor, hearing none, a motion was made by Ken Will that nominations cease, second by Wayne Wolff – APPROVED

Motion to cast a unanimous ballot was made by Ken Will, second by Baron Blanchard – APPROVED

Thank you to Brian Johnson and Jeff Thomas for their dedicated service to the members of LCC.

Nominating Committee – Roger Krueger, Jeff Thomas, Pam Hanson

Motion to cast a unanimous ballot was made by AJ Marx, second by Doug Johnson – APPROVED

Camp of the Cross Ministries (Two volunteer representatives)

Robin and Brian Johnson

Gary Heaton

Missouri Slope Lutheran Care (Volunteer representative)

Jon Spilde

Western ND Synod Assembly (Two volunteer representatives)

No volunteers currently

2019 Proposed Annual Budget

Motion to accept the proposed budget was made by Cherie Krueger, second by Dianna Johnson – APPROVED

Ken Will, on behalf of the congregation, thanked President Tom Harris for his leadership and the council for their dedication and hard work.

Pastor Lisa led us in the singing of the Table Prayer

Meeting was adjourned by President Harris at 11:46

The 2019 LCC Council reorganizational meeting was held immediately after the annual meeting. The following business was conducted:

Election of officers

Kylie Blanchard, President

Tom Harris, Vice President

Ken Will, Secretary

Council liaisons will be appointed to the six committee portfolios at the next council meeting on February 12th at 6:30pm.

Altar Focus is M & M's for C.A.R. (Central African Republic.)

The Western Synod is partnering with the Central African Republic to help build schools and provide for supplies so children have access to education.

provide scholarships so young women can receive education and vocational training.

train new pastors to share the Good News. Provide health care in Gallo and in other remote areas of C.A. R.

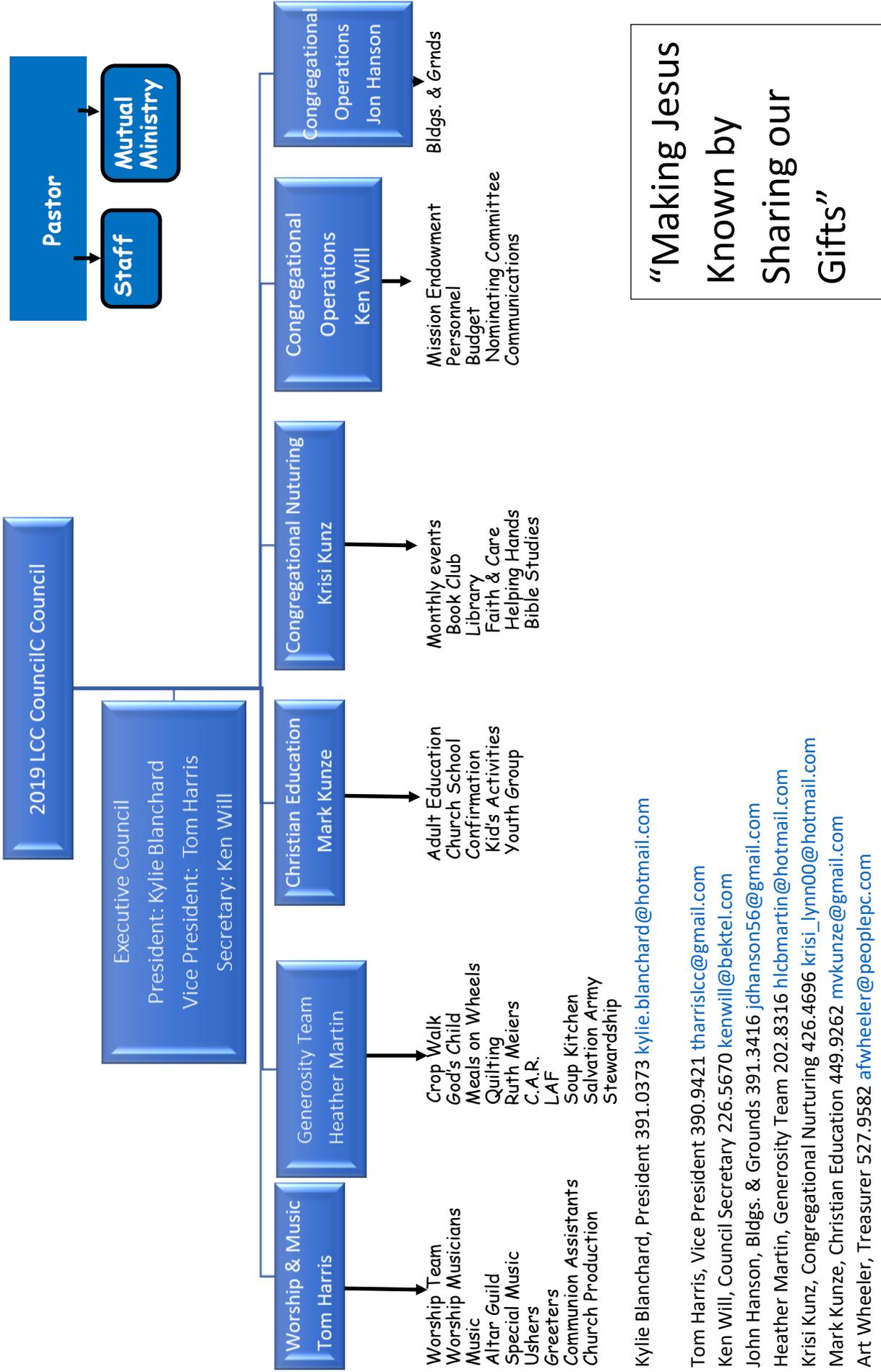
provide clean drinking water to rural villages.

support youth and young adult ministry.

Take a tube of M& M Minis. Enjoy the sweet flavor of chocolate and return the tube with \$14 worth of quarters or a check. Hopefully repeating the process several times during Lent!

Angels Among Us

McKenzie Johnson is a senior in high school this year, and she is an angel among us! Daughter of Robin and Brian and sister to Avery, Kenzie has been active at church all her life and is a real leader at the ripe old age of not quite 18. She plans and leads music, playing guitar with the Living Waters group at Wednesday worship; leads music for the Wednesday church school ; co-teaches the 4th-5th graders and often does special music at services. She is active in the youth group and helps with the younger youth. She was a counselor at Camp of the Cross last summer. She is funny and creative and enthusiastic, and did I mention



“Making Jesus
Known by
Sharing our
Gifts”

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Connie Werner, Secretary 400.5852 churchsecretary@midconetwork.com or constance.s.werner@gmail.com

We are grateful to the following people who have contributed to the Heat the Church fund and have recognized loved ones in doing so.

Thank You!

THANK You!

Thank YOU!

Darryl & Karen Dolan
Bill & Shirley Zinsli
Sally & Terry Grenz
Josey Hanson
Gary Hultin
Jerry & Patty Hanson
Ken & Karen Will
Kay Koch
Gary & Judy Heaton
Jon & Kelsey Ternes
Art Wheeler
Sommers' Family
Roger & LorRaine Riveland
Lisa Ahlness
Roger & Esther Anderson
John & Janet Doerner
Brandon Kunz
Doug & Deanna Johnson
Merry Go Round
Bruce & Peggy Hetland

Marjo & Jim Hewitson
Pam & Jon Hanson
Lyle & Mary Lauf
Glenn & Vicki Moser
Sagsveen Family
Kunze Family
Cherie & Roger Krueger
Suzy, Redge & Leona Kunze
Al & Rita Staloch
Arvid & Shiela Mugaas
Roger & Mavis Pommerer
Mark & Claudia Thompson
Diane Rath
Lucas DeGree
Blanchard Family
John & Jean Kraft
Cheryl & Steve Neu
Al & Carol Samuelson
Rich & Judy Fockler
John & Myrtice Behan
Donna Lowe

Thanks to those Thrivent members who have chosen to designate their Thrivent Dollars to LCC. If you are a Thrivent member and have not yet designated your Thrivent Choice Dollars please know that must be done by March 31. We appreciate your generosity.



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churchsecretary@midconetwork.com

E-News

Worship Times:

Wednesday

Living Water Worship

6:00pm

Sunday

The River Service

10:00am

Lisa Ahlness, Pastor

Janie Hague,

Director of Discipleship

Office Hours: M -TH 9-4pm

Fri. 9-1pm School Year

Summer Hours 9-1

"For God so loVed the world,

That He gAve

His onLy

BegottEn

SoN

That Whosoever

Believeth In Him

Should N ot perish

But have E verlasting life."

-- John 3:16

"Making Jesus Known by Sharing our Gifts"