

**Lutheran Church of the Cross
1004 E Highland Acres Rd.
Bismarck, ND 58501**

Phone: 223-1001

Website: www.churchofthecross.org

Office Hours: 9a-4p Monday—Thursday; 9-1pm Friday

Summer Hours: Mon– Fri. 9:00am–1:00pm

Staff:

Lisa Ahlness, **Pastor**

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Gerri Sarsten, **Organist**

Joel & Jan Gilbertson, **Worship Team Accompanists**

2020 Church Council Members

Krisi Kunz, President krisi_lynn00@hotmail.com, 426.4696

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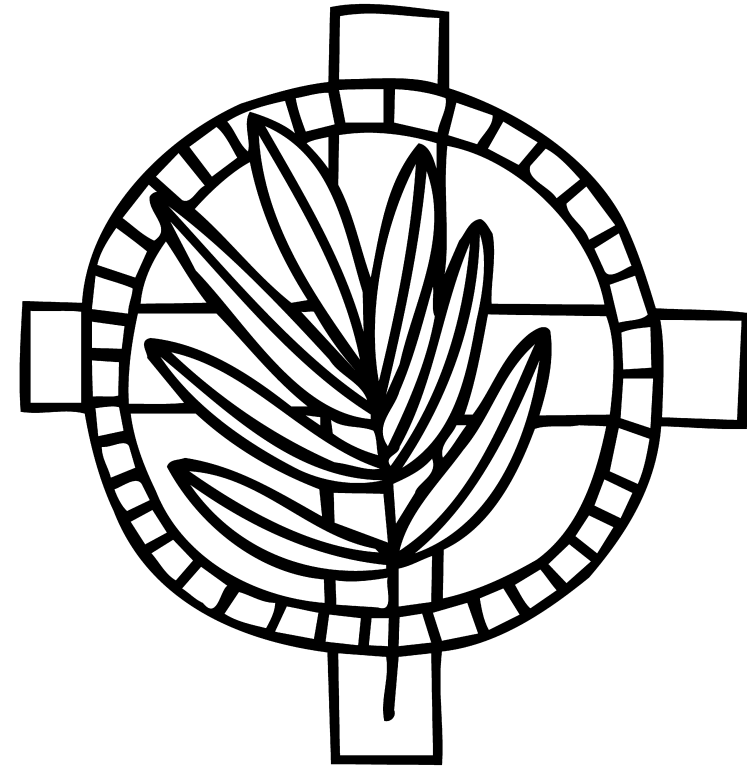
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Lutheran Church of the Cross



“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”

August 30, 2020

**1004 E. Highland Acres Road
Bismarck, ND**

Faith and Care: Deanna & Doug Johnson, Scott & Melissa Long
Altar Guild: Jean Kraft, Cherie Krueger, Esther Anderson, Cheryl Neu
Prayers, Births, Deaths, Concerns
Please contact Connie in the church office 223.1001, if you have a prayer request, or if you will be entering the hospital and would like a pastoral visit.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

(We encourage you to take this list home and pray for these people.)

For those struggling with health issues: Maxine and Bryce Hill, Reece Fischer, Tracy Martinson, Earl and Marlene Larson, Ann Hillesland, Roger Bakke, Erwin and Linda Marson, son in law and daughter of Hattie Martinson; Jim and Linda Kramer, Quinton and Arlene Wolff, parents of Wayne Wolff; Dan Haviland, Tricia Johnson's uncle; Nick Irwin, cousin to Patty Hanson; Michael Behan, son to Myrtice and John Behan; Bonnie Spies, Robin Johnson's sister; Lois Dolan, Kevan Sorenson, Kristina Neuharth, Lori Dvorak, Art Dohrmann's niece; Ray Staiger, Art & Donna Dohrmann's great niece Eva, Mary Weinberg, mother of Terry Grenz; Ed Decker, uncle to AJ Marx., Ray Humann; father to Mike Humann, Rebecca Tetlie; cousin to Pastor Lisa, Gerald "Stork" Nordquist, father of JoDee Sayler, grandfather of Jon Ternes, Al Samuelson, JoRae Sarsten; mother of Kraig, Diane Stotz, Gary Johnson, Pastor Jackie Bloom, JoDee Sayler, Bernice Walton, Nancy Dockter, Dennis Dohrmann; brother to Art, Ken Will, Dale Heaton; Gary Heaton's uncle, Deb Carpenter, Kim Schultz, Don Witt; Pr. Lisa's brother in law, LorRaine Riveland, Christian Helfridge; grandson of Wood's friend, Jean Schafer; daughter of Bernice Walton, LaVonne Hultin, Roger Pommerer, Mike & Tracy Geiermann, Megan & her baby; a granddaughter of Patty Hanson's friend, Cheryl Moore, Tekla Bekkedal, Colton Crane

For those dealing with the death of a loved one—the families and friends of: Jerrold Olson; Jon Hanson's uncle

For ELCA Missionaries: Willie and Anne Langdji

Please Note: There has been a change in the starting dates for church school: Sunday, October 4 and Wednesday October 7. Wednesday Worship starts October 7. Janie is notifying parents of changes through emails.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Lutheran Church of the Cross's Worship Service! If you are visiting with us today via livestreaming or in person, we welcome you.

Stewardship Reflection for Sunday August 30, 2020 (Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 17) *Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. – Romans 12:21* The future church must be a beacon of good, casting a true vision of hope, love, justice, and mercy as we commit to follow Jesus into a new way of being and living. Today's gospel lesson reminds us that we must lose our life to find it in Jesus (Matthew 15:21-28). What do you and your faith community need to do to become that beacon in an uncertain world?

Source: Rob Blezard.

Steward our future church

For clarifying our thoughts and helping us to reset priorities, there's nothing like a crisis – whether it's a job layoff, a death in the family, social upheaval or a health emergency.

With Covid-19 we've witnessed plenty of all of these, and more! Despite our natural resistance to change, we're learning new ways to live. *As a disciple of Christ*, what thoughts have clarified for you? *As a follower of Jesus*, what personal priorities have you reset?

The questions arise because you are the church, we are the church together and stewards of the church. We will pray the Holy Spirit will guide us to a "new normal" of holy living as both disciples and community that will be different – and better – than what we've known.

What might that look like? Here are some questions to pray over and discuss:

When your church suspended in-person worship, what ways did you find to stay connected to God? To one another? What did this teach you about holy living? About being church together?

Covid-19 forced us to "be church" without buildings. What has this revealed about the nature of community? About the value of buildings? As we go back into our buildings, how can things be different? Why must they be?

In light of what we've learned, what values, ideas, traditions, habits should we let go of? Which should we keep? What really matters? And why?

How can your insights, strengths and gifts help to shape the future of your life as a disciple and follower of Jesus? Of your congregation? What can you give to the future church in time, talent and treasure?

Covid-19's crises are still teaching us. As stewards of God's church, we can renew and restructure our church to fulfill God's mission. With God's guidance, we will. --Rob Blezard