



# The CrossWord

November 2021

**From Pastor Lisa**

I thank my God every time I think of you, constantly praying with joy for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. Philippians 1:3

I want to thank all the members of Lutheran Church of the Cross for marking with me the milestone of 30 years in ministry. I have treasured your thoughtful cards and kind words and gifts. It was a joy to welcome Bishop Schweitzer to preach God's word and join us in worship twice that week. I was honored at the trouble you all took to make it a special celebration, with pretty cakes and an extravagant gift besides. Thank you all so much! 35 years ago, when I headed to seminary, I didn't know what all the years would bring. I have learned and grown so much from the different types of ministry in which I've been engaged over time. It is an honor to walk with people through very important times in their lives. Most precious to me are the relationships built with so many people over the years. I look forward to continuing to walk with you on the journey of faith.

Thank you!



## Altar Focus for November

The “pillow fight” continues through Thanksgiving. Pillows, pillowcases, sheets for the homeless will be accepted and shred in the community. Look for big boxes to be put out soon to hold all that LCC brings in. Let’s fill them up!

The second half of our altar focus this month is the special project we all love, spear-headed by Shiela Mugaas in memory of her cousin. This is the collection of teddy bears for traumatized children. Bring the bears to church and have them worship with us. Before being given to the first responders we will pray over them and bless them to help those young children hopefully through some tough moments of crisis. At the end of November the bears will be distributed.

## Carrie Kids; Altar Focus for December

Carrie Kids will be the Altar Focus for the month of December., It may seem early to be having this article in the November CrossWord, but with early store or online sales it was thought it was worthwhile to inform you now. A Christmas tree will be set up in the narthex around Thanksgiving with jean ornaments listing the sizes of K –6th grade boys. Jeans are the primary focus with other items such as socks and underwear would be greatly appreciated.

## Angels Among Us

This month our angel among us is Brandon Kunz. Brandon is always eager and willing to help out wherever needed in the church. You can often find Brandon in worship on Wednesday evenings. He loves to usher, run sound, and the projection for worship services. Brandon is also an active member in our youth group programs, he is in confirmation and loves to go to Camp of the Cross in the summer. If you see Brandon around the church be sure to thank him for all the ways he uses his gifts that God has given him to serve his church community!

## Thanksgiving Worship

We will join once again with our ecumenical partners (the Bismarck United Church of Christ, St. George’s Episcopal, and Faith Lutheran Church) in offering a Thanksgiving worship service this year at Faith Lutheran Church on Ave. C, 7pm Wednesday, November 24<sup>th</sup>. The theme will center around homelessness. Join us in giving thanks to God this season.



## Israel Trip

As you may have heard, Pastor Lisa is leading a trip to Israel January 31- February 8, 2022, with an optional extension to Jordan for three extra days. Some questions have been popping up: **is the trip still going?** The answer is, as of this point, yes. The final call will be made in November, if there should be any situation that makes it unsafe to go. If that happens, your deposit can go to a later trip or be refunded. We are working (through Judy's Leisure Tours, a travel agency in Fargo) directly with people on the ground in Israel, including (according to Mavis Pommerer, a longtime leader of international travel groups) one of the best guides she's ever experienced. The second question we are hearing is: **can I still go if I haven't yet registered?** The answer to that one is also yes, with the caveat that you should register as soon as possible, as getting seats on the airplanes will get tougher and more expensive. Registration forms and information are available on tables in the narthex or from Pastor Lisa. The third question is **what if I need to fly from somewhere other than Bismarck?** This is certainly possible. We already have group members (mostly LCC members and their friends/family, with a few extra from Fargo, but you may invite others to join us!) flying from Fargo, Arizona and the East Coast. Please speak to Pastor Lisa if you have questions. We would love to have you join us on this trip of a lifetime. You will be amazed at how the Scriptures read in worship come alive.



**Heat the Church for a Day** is here already! Heat for a Day donations are now being accepted. A monthly calendar is available for contributors to pick a day(s) to help heat the church. November and March will be \$10 per day, and December, January, February will be \$25 per day. Fill out the calendar yourself or call the secretary to indicate which days you are taking on, and include if the donation is in memory of someone, or acknowledging special event or purpose. Donations may be mailed or one may choose to use electronic giving. Thank you in advance for continuing this tradition by way of taking care of your church building.

## Book Selections for the Book Club.

FIFTY WORDS FOR RAIN by Asha Lemmie Nov.

THE GIRL WITH THE LOUDING VOICE by Abi Dare Dec.

ORDINARY GRACE by William Kent Kruger Jan.

SOOLEY by John Grisham Feb.

Please consider joining the Book Club. It's a fun group and has been meeting here for years but is always on the lookout for new people and a variety of books to discuss. It meets the second Wednesday of each month here at LCC 1:30 pm A variety of genres are read.

## **Online Giving Options**

We want to say a giant THANK YOU to all of you who, even through this pandemic, have given to help LCC continue its ministry to the congregation, the community, and beyond. We are not yet back to “normal” giving levels, but have managed to stay in good shape as expenses have also been down. They will go up now as more programs start up again and the building is used more frequently, so we are grateful for all your continuing gifts.

Since many are not comfortable coming back yet, we are grateful to have so many options for giving. There is a button on our website, [churchofthecross.org](http://churchofthecross.org), that makes it very simple. If you are a smart phone or device user, you can also get and use the app “Give Plus”. (You just have to be careful to choose the Lutheran Church of the Cross in Bismarck, rather than a different one somewhere else!) Or, you can simply text a number to our dedicated giving line (701)969-7030. So, for instance, if you want to give \$25, you simply text 25 to that number. (If you have a Vanco account already set up through our online button or app or texting, it will work across all of these approaches.) All of your giving, through any of these ways, will also be recorded on the statements you get from the church a couple times each year. If you have questions about any of these, call Pastor Lisa or our treasurer, Art Wheeler. And again: Thank you!

## **Church Council**

The November Council Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, Nov. 16 at 6:30 p.m.** instead of the regularly scheduled second Thursday of the month.

## **Fair Trade Items Available in Narthex**

Some of you are already long time fans of our fair trade items, available on the table in the narthex next to the water fountains. If you haven't yet, take a look at what is there: chocolate bars, teas, hot cocoas (three types!), baking cocoa, and both whole bean and ground coffees. They are all top quality products that support small farmers, and a small amount of the cost supports our youth group. As we move toward holidays, or you need a hospitality gift or other gift basket, these are great items to include. You can pay in the office.





# Children Youth & Family Ministry



November 2021

**November 10:** Youth group grades 9-12 from 3:30-4:30. Meet at TCBY for ice cream and a Bible study.

## Confirmation Schedule

<b>November 3</b>	<b>Large Group Night Theme: Isaac and Rebekah</b> <i>Please read: Genesis 22:1-18; 24:10-53, 62-67; 25:1-18</i>
<b>November 10</b>	<b>No Confirmation</b>
<b>November 17</b>	<b>Service Project Night – All grades meet at LCC for service projects</b>
<b>November 24</b>	<b>No Confirmation—Thanksgiving Break</b>
<b>December 1</b>	<b>Large Group Night Theme: Joseph</b> <i>Please read: Genesis 37-50</i>
<b>December 8</b>	<b>Large Group Night Theme: Jacob and Esau/Parents Night</b> <i>Please read: Genesis 25:19-34; 27:1-45; 28:10-22; 32:22-33:4</i>

## Church School Schedule

<b>November 7</b>	Daniel	<b>November 10</b>	No Church School
<b>November 14</b>	No Church School	<b>November 17</b>	Jonah – Whole family
<b>November 21</b>	Jonah – Whole Family	<b>November 24</b>	No Church School
<b>November 28</b>	No Church School	<b>December 1</b>	Christmas Program Practice
<b>December 5</b>	Christmas Program Practice	<b>December 8</b>	Christmas Program Practice

## Advent Dinners

We are starting something new this year. Confirmation students will be serving meals before each Wednesday Service in Advent. Stop in between 5:15 and 6:00pm for a home cooked meal and support a good cause. A free will offering will be taken to help raise funds for camp scholarships. Confirmation students and parents: a detailed letter about when your group serves will be mailed out to you via email by November 19th.

The Menu is:

<b>December 1<sup>st</sup>:</b> Cabbage Roll Soup with sweet rolls	<b>Dec 8<sup>th</sup>:</b> Chicken Wild Rice soup with sweet rolls
<b>Dec 15<sup>th</sup>:</b> Beef Barley Soup with rolls	<b>Dec 22<sup>nd</sup>:</b> Rustic Italian Tortellini soup with rolls

## 2022 Mission Trip Youth Gathering July 23<sup>rd</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>

Needing to know what to do next summer? Want to go on a mission trip? Join thousands of other youth at the ELCA National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis!

There will be an informational meeting on **Sunday November 7th at 11:15am**. If you cannot make it to that meeting but would like more information, please let Janie know. The deadline to register for the gathering is Friday November 19th with a \$150 nonrefundable deposit due at that time. If you register past the 19th, the cost does increase \$40. Total costs of the trip will be discussed at the meeting.



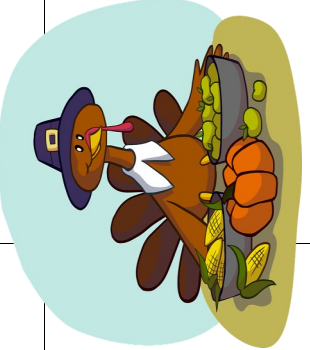
### Family Church

Family church is a worship service geared towards children and their families. Kids usually attend services aimed at youth and adults. We'll be hosting a service aimed to help them be the primary recipient of the message. It's also intended to bring families into church school with the kids. Date/times are Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>/9am in the multi-purpose room (replaces church school on this day), Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>/6:15pm (replaces regular service) in the sanctuary.

### Christmas Flowers for the Sanctuary

Although we are in the midst of fall, Christmas is not that far away. The Altar Guild wants you to know that they will be offering the poinsettias again this year. Traditions are important even in these trying times. Cost will be the \$13. Place the check and the slip in the offering plate or in the secretary's plastic bin next to her door. Please place the word "poinsettia" on the memo line. Thank you for helping to make the sanctuary beautiful for Christmas.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>November 2021</b>	<b>1</b> Needlework Group 9:30am	<b>2</b> Staff Meeting 10am	<b>3</b> Supper 5:15pm Church Service 6:15pm Church School 7pm Confirmation 7pm	<b>4</b> Quilting 1pm  7:30pm AA Mtg.	<b>5</b> Wired Word 1:30pm	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 9:00 Church School 10:00 Worship Service 11:00 Coffee All Saints & Veteran's Day observed Carmel Rolls 5pm Wed music practice	<b>8</b> Needlework Group 9:30am	<b>9</b> Staff Meeting 10am  Gather Bible Study 1:15pm	<b>10</b> Book Club 1:300 FIFTY WORDS FOR RAIN by Asha Lemmie Supper 5:15pm Church Service 6:15pm NO Church School 7pm NO Confirmation	<b>11 Veteran's Day</b> Office closed  7:30pm AA Mtg.	<b>12</b> Wired Word 1:30pm	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> No Church School 10:00 Worship Service 11:00 Coffee  5pm Wed music practice	<b>15</b> Needlework Group 9:30am	<b>16</b> Staff Meeting 10am  <b>Church Council</b> <b>6:30pm</b>	<b>17</b> Supper 5:15pm <b>Family Worship</b> 6:15pm Confirmation 7pm	<b>18</b> Quilting 1pm  7:30pm AA Mtg.	<b>19</b> Wired Word 1:30pm	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 9:00 <b>Family Worship</b> in multipurpose room 10:00 Worship Service 11:00 Coffee  5pm Wed music practice	<b>22</b> Needlework Group 9:30am	<b>23</b> Staff Meeting 10am	<b>24</b> 9:00 Women' Bible Study 9am Thanksgiving Service w/ UCC, St. George's & Faith Lutheran @ 7pm @ Faith Lutheran	<b>25 Thanksgiving</b> <b>Office closed</b>  7:30pm AA Mtg.	<b>26</b> <b>Office closed</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> No church school 10:00 Worship Service 11:00 Coffee  5pm Wed music practice	<b>29</b> Needlework Group 9:30am Knitting 1pm	<b>30</b> Staff Meeting 10am				



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## E-News

### Worship Times:

Wednesday Worship  
6:15pm (School year)  
Church School 7pm  
Confirmation 7pm

### Sunday Worship

The River Service  
10:00am  
Church School 9:00 am

Lisa Ahlness, Pastor  
Janie Hague, Deacon

### Office Hours:

M - TH 8-4pm  
Fri. 8-noon School Year  
Summer Hours 8 to noon  
Mon.—Fri

### Lutheran Church of the Cross

The Church Council meets once a month; the second Thursday 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"**