

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

Phone: 223-1001

Website: www.churchofthecross.org

Office Hours: 8a-4p Monday—Thursday; 8 to noon Friday

Summer Hours: Mon– Fri. 8:00am–noon

Staff:

Lisa Ahlness, **Pastor**

Cell: 220.9011 / Email: lisaahlness@hotmail.com or
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Janie Hague, **Director of Discipleship**

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Connie Werner, **Secretary** cell 400.5852

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Art Wheeler, **Treasurer**

527-9582/ lcctreasurer@midconetwork.com

Robin Johnson, **Worship Coordinator**

Cell: 391.1082 / Email: theriver@midconetwork.com

Gerri Sarsten, **Accompanist**, Eve Kath, **Accompanist**

2022 Church Council Members

Cherie Krueger, President cheriekrueger@gmail.com 226.7514

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The River

A Blended Worship Service



Lutheran Church of the Cross

March 27, 2022

“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS
“The River” Worship Service
Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 27, 2022

WE COME TOGETHER

You are invited to sing with the Worship Team as we gather for worship. All songs and worship liturgy will be projected on the screens for your use.

PRELUDE MUSIC Worship Team
“Amazing Grace”, “How Beautiful”, “Come, Receive God’s Blessing”

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETINGS OF PEACE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

OUR CONFESSION, GOD’S FORGIVENESS

GATHERING SONG: “Heart of Worship”

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

FIRST READING: Joshua 5:9-12

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 32

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION “Praise the Name of Jesus” *Please Stand*

GOSPEL READING: Luke 15:1-3,11b-32

SERMON AJ Marx

Church Basement Ladies, A Celebration of the church basement kitchen and the women who work there, features four distinct characters and their relationships as they organize the food and the problems of a rural Minnesota church. From the elderly matriarch of the kitchen to the young bride-to-be learning the proper order of things, the book and music give us a touching, funny look at their lives as we see them handle a record breaking Christmas dinner, the funeral of a dear friend, a Hawaiian Easter Fundraiser, and a steaming hot July wedding. They stave off potential disasters, share and debate recipes, instruct the young, and keep the pastor on due course while thoroughly enjoying, (and tolerating) each other. Funny and down to earth, audiences will recognize these ladies as they begin to see the church year unfold from below the house of God. This is most certainly true! Show Times are Wednesday, April 6 at 2pm and 7:30pm.

Tickets prices are \$25—\$35. Tickets can be purchased at <https://www.bismarckeventcenter.com/events/2022/church-basement-ladies#buy>

The show is at the Belle Mehus Auditorium.

Youth Group Series “Who are we now? - Making sense of change”

The last two years have brought about a lot of loss and change with the pandemic that has impacted everyone. How do we make meaning of our experience and find a way to move forward? This series is designed to process the changes the pandemic has brought to us, and give us tools to find hope and move forward.

Lesson 2: Loss and Grief: What have we lost and gained from this experience? March 23rd 8-pm OR Sunday March 27th 4-5 pm.

Lesson 3: Equipped to be Resilient: How do we stay deeply rooted and move forward through change? March 30th 8-9pm OR April 3rd 4-5pm.

Lesson 4: Renewed in Hope Each Day: Where is God calling us? Offered April 6th 8-9pm OR April 10th 4-5pm.

March /April Altar Focus – Sweet Deal for CAR The Altar Focus will continue until Easter – April 17. We will be collecting donations for our sister church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Central African Republic (CAR). You will find tubes of mini M & M’s at the back of the church throughout Lent. The tube makes a perfect little “bank” – it will hold \$14 in quarters, or rolled up bills or checks, or other change as well. Please fill up the tube with your offering of choice for CAR, and drop it in the offering plate. Your gifts help fund roofs for schools and salaries for teachers, a women’s center, motorbikes to help pastors and evangelists travel around the rough territory, and a clinic. All of these are immensely helpful in a country torn by war. In 2020, we as a congregation were able to send \$1000 to help CAR. Last year, it increased by 50% to \$1521.86! How much can we do this year? Watch for more information about CAR during Lent, and thank you for your generosity!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Lutheran Church of the Cross, and to “The River” Blended Worship Service this morning! If you are visiting with us today, please take a moment to sign the guestbook in the narthex.

Book Club picks: April 13th is “The Midnight Library” by Matt Haig
The Book Club meets the second Wednesday at 1:30 at LCC. If you enjoy reading, come and participate.

Lutheran Church of the Cross has an opening for the Worship and Music Coordinator position. For more information contact the office.

WOMEN’S RETREAT 2022 All women (all ages) are welcome to gather for the weekend or Saturday only. April 29 through May 1, 2022 at Lutheran Camp of the Cross, near Garrison, ND.

“Who are we now? - Making sense of change” discussion led by Janie Hague. The last two years have brought about a lot of loss and change with the pandemic that has impacted everyone. How do we make meaning of our experience and find a way to move forward? This series is designed to process the changes the pandemic has brought to us, and give us tools to find hope and move forward. For those staying the full weekend: 4 PM on Friday, April 29 - May 1, Sunday back home about 1 PM. Cost: \$140. For two nights in Retreat Center, 2 breakfasts and one dinner at camp. Saturday for the day: April 30 8 AM to 6 PM \$40. Includes breakfast and dinner. We will snack through lunchtime and take a short break to enjoy the setting. For more information contact Sally Grenz: call 701-390- 3049 or e-mail Sallygrenz@hotmail.com

John Doerner will be celebrating his 90th Birthday, Tuesday, March 29.

Hattie Martinson, one of LCC’s charter members is celebrating her 90th birthday April 12.

Candy donations needed for the Easter egg story hunt. Please drop donations off in front of Janie’s office.

MSLCC Foundation Golf Event: Thursday, March 31st at Golf Etc.

\$300 for a team of 4

Three flight times

Free Taco Bar + Fun!

Contact foundation office at (701)221-9349 for more information.

SONG OF THE DAY: “Softly and Tenderly, Jesus is Calling”

APOSTLE’S CREED

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH “I Love You, Lord”

OFFERING/OFFERTORY PRAYER *Please Stand*

WE SHARE THE MEAL

PREPARATION FOR THE MEAL

LORD’S PRAYER “Thy Will Be Done”

INVITATION TO OUR LORD’S SUPPER *All are welcome*

COMMUNION SONG: “I Will Rise”

COMMUNION BLESSING/POST COMMUNION PRAYER *Please Stand*

BENEDICTION/SENDING SONG: “Benediction Song”

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE SONG: “Go, My Children, With My Blessing”

All children are welcomed to come to the front and play instruments during the Worship Team’s postlude song.”

Reading Reflection

The psalm sets the tone this day: “Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!” Happy are those who have “become the righteousness of God” in the merits of Christ Jesus. Happy are those for whom the forgiveness of God has “rolled away . . . the disgrace” of former times. Happy is the father at the return of his prodigal son. Happy are we that our sins are forgiven for Jesus’ sake. Rejoice!

“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”

"THE RIVER" WORSHIP MINISTERS

Pastor—Pastor Lisa Ahlness

Director of Discipleship—Deacon Janie Hague

Scripture Reader—Barb Wilson

Ushers— Mike & Tracy Geiermann

Altar Guild—Jean Kraft, Sarah Dahl, Sharon Narum, Cherie Krueger

Faith & Care Coordinators—Mavis Pommerer and Molly Traynor

River Worship Team—

Sound Board Technicians—Terry Grenz, Lavern Hanson

Projection Team— Jace Kunze, Mark Kunze, Jeff Thomas, Art Wheeler,

Streaming Team— Mike Collins, Tom Harris, Mark Kunze, Karen Will

River Singers— Deb Carpenter, Sally Grenz, Paul Gurholt, Kari Harris,

Doug Johnson, Robin Johnson, Cherie Krueger, AJ Marx, John Sailer,

Amanda Sagsveen, Tom Wade, Barb Wilson

Percussionist— Kari Harris

Accompanists—Eve Kath, Robin Johnson, Gerri Sarsten

Prayers, Births, Deaths, Concerns

Please contact Connie in the church office 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 and other concerns:

Maxine Hill, Reece Fischer, Tracy Martinson, Ann Hillesland, Roger Bakke, Erwin and Linda Marson, Quinton and Arlene Wolff, Bonnie Spies, Lori Dvorak, JoRae Sarsten; Bernice Walton, Jean Schafer, Gary and LaVonne Hultin, John Behan, Bob Roesler, Cheryl Moore, Josey Hanson, Virginia Smith, Cordella Thompson, Christie Zainhofsky, Diane Stotz, Earl Larson, Lisa Robinson, Carolyn Wegerle, Jim Mattheis, Barb Thomas, Shiela & Arvid Mugaas, Jean Kraft, Diane Klein, Nicole Eckroth, Mary Schuler, Gladys Bain, Nancy Dockter, Kerry Carpenter, Todd Wood

For those dealing with the death of a loved one—the families and friends of:

Sherry Tang, LeRoy Tiffany

Military Deployment: MN 851 VEC deployed to Kuwait, ND 957th Engineer Co. deployed to southern border.

WEEKLY CALENDAR of March 27

Today, March 27:

No Church School 9:00am
The River 10:00am
Coffee Hour 11:00am
Youth Grp Series 4-5pm
Living Water practice 5pm

Monday, March 28:

Needlework Group 9:30am
Knitting 1 pm

Tuesday, March 29:

Staff Meeting 10:00 am

Wednesday, March 30:

Lenten Soup Supper 5:15pm
Lent Service 6:15pm
Church School/Confirmation 7pm
River Practice 7pm
Youth Grp Series 7-8pm

Thursday, March 31:

Quilting 1:00pm
AA Meeting 7:30pm

Friday, April 1:

Wired Word 1:30pm

Saturday, April 2:

Sunday, April 3 :

Church School 9:00am
The River 10:00am
Coffee 11:00
Living Water practice 5pm
Youth Grp Series 4-5pm