



From Pastor Lisa

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing. Psalm 100:1

As you know, I recently did some traveling, getting to see my daughters and participate in my godson's wedding along the way. It was a wonderful trip and I was grateful for the time away.

I hope that many of you – most of you – ideally all of you! – have been able to take a bit of Sabbath time this year, by which I mean doing something you don't normally do or going somewhere you don't normally go; a respite from your daily life. Some of us enjoy summer times away; others, winter activities lend themselves to getting a break, but any time of year offers opportunity for renewal. It can also be accomplished from home, a "staycation" of a sort, although you have to be intentional about doing something different; opening yourself up to new things.

While traveling, I like to go to worship wherever I am. Have you ever done this? It's so interesting to experience how other Christians worship. I tend to also gain insight on what it is I enjoy most about worship at LCC, and what it is that means "worship" to me.

This trip, I got to try out the Church of Scotland (= Presbyterian) in the village where we stayed. I was excited to meet and chat with the female pastor and see what life might be like for her, serving there. Alas, she too was on vacation!

The space was old and brick and beautiful and homey, ringed by a cemetery outside. I even knew all the songs, which were a mix of old and new. The new thing for me was the person called a Reader. Since the minister was gone, there was no communion, nor even a lay minister, but this Reader – who from what I could glean, was not authorized to write sermons himself, but only read from others.

I had chosen this church over another that was recommended by a relative who much enjoyed the "fire and brimstone" preaching at his church. (I wasn't particularly in the mood for fire and brimstone, so chose what I thought might be a softer, gentler form of worship.) So what do you suppose the Reader chose to read about? The end times!! (So much for avoiding the fire and brimstone! Although it was gentle.) Everyone seemed to enjoy it quite a lot, as it was unusual for them to have the Reader, too. And then we all retired across the street to the parish hall and had a lovely round of coffee, tea and biscuits (cookies).

In Germany, there is a Lutheran church a couple of blocks from where my daughter lives. I was quite excited to see inside it and worship there! We walked by the evening before to check times, and it was not to be. That congregation is linked in a parish with a village church somewhere, and they were worshipping all together at the village that week, a fall homecoming kind of picnic and worship. But we had no idea where it was, and no directions or map was posted. So I was foiled in that attempt.

Pastor Lisa's letter continued...

I have worshiped in Slovakia many times, which is very unlike our own services. I can follow along, and even sing and speak the prayers, because the language is phonetic, so I can sound out the words. However, except for the main words which I've come to recognize (God, Lord, mercy, etc.), I mostly don't understand what is being said. Imagine watching worship flow without understanding it, at LCC. What would that experience be like?

You can experience worship in other places without ever leaving home, via livestream. What a gift this technology is! I'm sure some of you watch on TV as well.

I would love to hear about your refreshment and renewal stories, and I would love to hear about your "worship away" stories. What is it that touched you most profoundly? Do share, with me and others! I enjoy seeing bulletins from other places, too.

We can come into God's presence, wherever we are. Let us rejoice and be glad!

Look forward to seeing you in church!

Blessings,
Pastor Lisa

Presentation on Israel – You are invited!

Last fall, when we thought the trip to Israel would happen in early 2022, Murray Sagsveen kindly put a PowerPoint presentation together on Israel for the group. Even though we had to do it over Zoom, those of us who got to see it learned a lot and thought it was fantastic! Murray has offered to do the presentation again, for anyone who is interested in watching. This time it will be in person (hurray!), on Sunday, October 16 at 11:15 in the multipurpose room. Collect your coffee and treat and come enjoy it together!

Also: the trip to Israel and Jordan is on. We leave January 27 and return February 8 (although you could skip Jordan and only do Israel, if you like.) We still have several spots available, if you or someone you know might be interested. Please speak to Pastor Lisa if you'd like more details!

Financial Peace

According to a study by the Ramsey Solutions research team, 40% of Americans say their financial situation has caused them to lose sleep in the past month. If that's you, it's time to make a change. Take the first step and take back control of your finances by signing up for my *Financial Peace University* class at fpu.com/1153946. Class (and better sleep) starts on **Sunday, October 2, 2022** at **Lutheran Church of the Cross**. Ready? Let's do this.

New Member

We welcome these folks into our midst Sunday October 2. Sondra Krogstad, Lillian Crook, Neil & Chauntel Lelm & Charlie, Rod & Deb Sargent, Andrew & Michaela Rohrich & Ruby, Shaun & Meredith Burkhartsmeier & Claire, Lena, and Isabel. Thanks for deciding to become members here at LCC. May you feel welcomed on Sunday and every day you worship here.

Fellow Church of the Cross Congregants,

Your Mission Endowment Fund Committee has been very busy this past six months. You passed a new constitutional amendment at the last annual meeting, and By-laws and Operating Procedures, along with Objectives and Guidelines were drafted by the Committee and approved by the Church Council. Area wide ELCA churches were contacted for opinions regarding investment management groups and three were chosen for review and to make presentations to the Committee. Following the “in-person” presentations and after careful review by the Committee, the ELCA Endowment Ministry Growth Fund of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, dba ELCA Foundation, and Trustee of the ELCA Endowment Fund Pooled Trust, was chosen, recommended and approved by the Council.

\$100,000 was transferred to the ELCA Endowment Ministry Growth Fund for investment.

The endowment is a bedrock of permanent support for our church. We are now working on creating a vision that connects the funds to LCC’s mission of **“Making Jesus Known by Sharing Our Gifts”** and succinctly states how the interest proceeds (*principle cannot be used in a true endowment fund*) of the funds will be used. In some cases, this may be set by a donor and in others, it is established by the “vision statement”.

We are asking for your help to create this vision! Please fill out the “Survey Monkey” (you can use the below QR Code for the “on-line” survey, or fill out the “paper survey” that is attached or in the bulletin. Each person, age five and older, can fill out a survey. Drop the completed survey in the collection plate/bulletin tables in the rear, or give it to Connie or any Committee member. Please let us know how you feel the endowment fund should be fulfilling our church’s mission.

Copies of all documents noted above can be obtained through the church office or from one of the Endowment Fund Committee members listed below. Please don’t hesitate to talk to any Committee member regarding questions you might have.

LCC Endowment Fund Vision Statement Survey

1. What is your age?

5-18

19-35

36-50

51-75

75+

2. Please select which LCC projects and programs we should support:

Educational programs for adults and youth, including scholarships

Youth Programs

Capital Projects

Other-please specify

3. Please select projects outside of LCC that should be supported:

Local missions - for example - ND Food Bank, Camp of the Cross

Regional Missions - for example - ND Campus Ministries

World Projects - for example - Lutheran World Relief

Others

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/9WTNMGZ>

Heaven's Helper's Soup Kitchen put out a need for Vinyl Gloves, especially Medium and Large, Soda Crackers, Paper Towels, Bottled Water, Heavy Whipping Cream.

Angels Among Us

We are lucky that Barb and Bob Wilson have been angels among us for many years now! Bob is a “fix-it” person, and will figure out a way to fix most anything. He has a kind heart, and is always willing to quietly lend a hand where it's needed: with moving, going shopping, giving a ride. Bob volunteers at the senior center each spring helping folks complete their tax forms, and he is famous with our movie night crowd for making world class kettle corn and popcorn – gives one cravings just thinking about it!

Barb is a retired nurse and passionate community volunteer, particularly with Heaven's Helpers Soup Café and Closet 701. She loves kids, and sort of adopts people and takes them under her wing. Barb sings with The River worship team, and also the Wednesday group, Living Water, occasionally. She also sings with the Sweet Adelines group River Rhapsody. Barb loves to sing and recruit others to that joy! Barb is a great cook and has prepared meals for those in need, been a faith and care leader, and done children's messages and read Scripture in worship as well.

Bob and Barb are avid gardeners and share their bounty widely. They are very family oriented and include a wide circle of folks in that designation. They traveled to Israel with others from LCC and are looking forward to doing it once more. The Wilsons are very generous givers of their time, talents, and treasure, and we are glad they are here among us! Give them a thanks when you see them next.

Book Club Choices:

Meets the 2nd Wednesday at 1:30 in the Library.

October: A Woman of No Importance by Sonia Purnel
November: Where the River Ends by Charles Martin



Update The Directory Have you moved to another house? Changed email addresses? Deleted your land line? Please review your listing in the paper directory on the round table in the narthex and make the necessary changes. Initial the listing if everything is correct.

Altar Focus

Our October focus will be gathering coats and other warm items: hats, gloves, scarves and mittens. Warm boots will also be gladly accepted. Please make sure all items are clean. (If you cannot clean them, please bring to office so we can hopefully have that done.) They can be gently used, but should be usable (in decent shape). If something has a button missing or gap in a seam, just let us know- there is a volunteer who can help with that. These items will be split between Heaven's Helpers Closet 701 and Ministry on the Margins. Thank you for your generosity – we all know what winter can be like around here!

Also – you can continue to bring items for Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch. Please drop off at the office. And, if you'd like to know more about the organization, Deacon Janie is a font of information.

Special Alert! Women's jeans needed

Pastor Gail Hagerty has alerted us that Bridges of Hope (Heart River Lutheran's prison/post prison ministry) has an urgent need for larger sizes of women's jeans (sizes 16 and up). Bridges of Hope has a clothes closet to help women leaving prison, who often have little or nothing. Contact the church office for more information.



Deacon Janie's Corner



August 2022



Theology on Tap October 20th 7:30pm

21 or older? Join Janie at The Bistro to dive deeper into faith and life questions.

Confirmation Schedule

- | | | |
|----------|----|--|
| October | 5 | Large Group Night Theme: Exploring the Commandments Part One and Two
<i>Please read: Exodus 3:13-15; 32:1-20; Leviticus 25:1-12; Isaiah 43:1-7; John 2:1-12; Matthew 5:17-48; 2 Samuel 11:1-27</i> |
| | 12 | Small Group Night – Janie meet with 8th grade girls |
| | 19 | NO Large Group—Teachers' Convention |
| | 26 | Large Group Night Theme: Exploring the Commandments Part Three and Four
<i>Please read: Luke 16:19-31; 1 Kings 3:16-28; Matthew 6:19-21</i> |
| | 29 | Confirmation Banquet & Pictures 5:30pm |
| | 30 | Confirmation Sunday/Reformation Sunday |
| November | 2 | Large Group Night Theme: Law + Gospel and Sinner + Saint
<i>Please read: Romans 5:1-11; Matthew 22:34-40</i> |

Church School Schedule

- | Sunday | | Wednesday | |
|------------|------------------------------------|------------|------------------------------------|
| October 2 | Memory Work – Ten Commandments | October 5 | Memory Work – Ten Commandments |
| October 9 | The burning bush and the plagues | October 12 | The burning bush and the plagues |
| October 16 | God calls Samuel | October 19 | No Church School |
| October 23 | No Church School | October 26 | God calls Samuel |
| October 30 | Memory Work Memorize Old Testament | November 2 | Memory Work Memorize Old Testament |

Children Youth and Family Events

October 9th: High School Youth Group. Battle of the Pizzas: Join Janie at the church at 2pm to see who has the best pizza in town!

October 30th Trunk or Treat: Join us for Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 30th from 2pm-3pm, for some Halloween fun. We will need volunteers to sign up for trunks, and candy donations. Please sign up in the Narthex



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
October 2022 Altar Focus--- coats, hats, scarves, mittens, outer wear						
2 9:15am Church School 10:00 River Worship New Member Sunday 11:00 Coffee Hour Financial Peace 6:30pm	3 Needlework Group 9:00am	4	5 5:15pm Supper Worship Service 6:15pm Church School/ Confirmation 7pm	6 Quilting 1 pm 7:30pm AA Mtg.	7 Wired Word 1:30pm	8
9 9:15 Church School 10:00 River Worship 11:00 Coffee Hour 2pm High School Youth Grp Financial Peace 6:30pm	10 Needlework Group 9:00am	11 Women's Bible Study 1:15pm	12 Book Club 1:30 Supper 5:15pm Worship Service 6:15pm Church School / Confir- mation 7pm	13 Quilting 1 pm Church Council 6:30pm 7:30pm AA Mtg.	14 Wired Word 1:30pm	15
16 9:15 C. School 10:00 River Worship 11:00 Coffee Hour Powerpoint on Israel Financial Peace 6:30pm	17 Needlework Group 9:00am	18	19 5:15pm Supper Worship Service 6:15pm NO Church School/ NO Confirmation 7pm	20 Quilting 1 pm Theology on Tap 7:30pm 7:30pm AA Mtg. LYO Gr. 9-12	21 Wired Word 1:30pm LYO Grades 6-8 ↑	22 ↑
23 9:15 NO C. School 10:00 River Worship 11:00 Coffee Hour Financial Peace 6:30pm 30 Confirmation/ Reformation Trunk or Treat 2pm-3pm	24 Needlework Group 9:00am Knitting 4 Others 1:00 pm 31 Halloween	25	26 Women's Book Study 9 am 5:15pm Supper Worship Service 6:15pm Church School/ Confirmation 7pm	27 Quilting 1 pm 7:30pm AA Mtg.	28 Wired Word 1:30pm	29 Confirmation Banquet & Photos 5:30pm



1004 E Highland Acres Rd
Bismarck ND 58501

701.223.1001
churchsecretary@midconetwork.com

E-News

Worship Times:

Wednesday Worship
6:15pm (School year)
Sunday Worship
The River Service
10:00am

Lutheran Church of the Cross

Lisa Ahlness, Pastor
Janie Hague, Deacon

Office Hours:

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

Making Jesus Known by Sharing our Gifts