

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

Phone: 223-1001

Website: www.churchofthecross.org

Winter Hours. Mon.– Thursday 8–4pm Fri 8 to noon

Summer Office Hours: Mon.- Fri. 8:00 am—noon

Staff:

Lisa Ahlness, **Pastor**

Cell: 220.9011 / lisaahlness@hotmail.com

Connie Werner, **Secretary** cell 400.5852

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2024 Church Council Members

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“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”

The River

A Blended Worship Service



Lutheran Church of the Cross

July 14, 2024

10:00am

“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS
“The River” Worship Service
July 14, 2024

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

“How Deep the Father’s Love for Us”, “Just a Close Walk with Thee”, “Prepare Ye (The Way of the Lord)”

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETINGS OF PEACE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

OUR CONFESSION, GOD’S FORGIVENESS

GATHERING SONG: “Come, Thou Font of Every Blessing” ELW 807

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

FIRST READING: Amos 7:7-15

⁷ This is what [the Lord God] showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. ⁸ And the Lord said to me, “Amos, what do you see?” And I said, “A plumb line.” Then the Lord said,

“See, I am setting a plumb line
in the midst of my people Israel;
I will never again pass them by;

⁹ the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate,
and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste,
and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.”

¹⁰ Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, “Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the

Camp of the Cross scholarships available for campers!

Have you ever been to Camp of the Cross, near Garrison? It is fantastic! Check out the brochures on the kids’ table near the library and see all the summer opportunities for youth. (The bulletin board has upcoming retreats, as well!) We don’t want cost to be an impediment to your child being able to have this fabulous camp experience. \$100 scholarships are available. Please contact Pastor Lisa or treasurer Art Wheeler.

LCC is invited to the **Highland Acres Second Sunday Summer concerts.**

**** July 14 — Jennifer Lyn & Richard Torrance

August 11 — The Bluestems

6:30—8 pm in the soccer field of Highland Acres Elementary School

Food trucks and Ice cream trucks will be there.

With the **Block Party August 7** volunteers for setting up here are needed as well as volunteers for the bars and cookies that we will be serving here. Call the church if you can help in that capacity. **Volunteers** will also be needed for VBS. Registration form is in the narthex.

Church picnics: Last one is Aug.14. The church will furnish the hamburgers, chicken. buns, condiments, and water. Feel free to bring a dish to share of your favorite summer dish. Supper at 5:00pm. Worship at 6pm, Church Council 7pm. Volunteers are needed for setting up, grillers and tearing down. Come on out and enjoy fellowship time that only outdoors, picnics and friends can provide.

Thanks to Charmaine Wehmhoefer for the delightful summer bulletin board.



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

August: The Life We Bury by Allen Eskens

September: Hello Beautiful by Ann Napolitano

Consider coming to the Book Club. You’ll meet people with a common interest: the love of reading. We have interesting and lively discussions of each book and even rate the book from 1—10. A variety of subjects are read but usually works of fiction. Come share your favorite reads with us.

Are you a rummage saler? Tis the season! We are always looking for items for **baby care kits**, which can often be found at such sales. Please watch for: **t-shirts (not onesies), socks, sleepers (no feet), and hand towels (colored, please wash first.** We also need - but these will likely need to be purchased at stores: 4-5 oz bars of mild soap (Ivory, Dove, etc.) We got a big donation of sweaters and are good there!

Just a reminder the **Faith and Care Co-Chairs** will be meeting the end of July/early August to discuss changes and the new schedule. See you then!

The third quarter daily devotionals; **Christ in Our Home** are out in the narthex.

July’s Altar Focus is **School Care Kits**. We have an abundance of pencils, crayons, and erasers. We are in dire need of notebooks and pens. Rulers and scissors too. LCC is ordering the backpacks.

LCC is in need of coffee hosts and dishwashers for Sundays this summer. Our taste buds don’t seem to diminish during these hot spells not even our need for hot coffee. So volunteer and share in this ministry of fellowship for our church.

In the Footsteps of Paul tour in March 2025! The paperwork for the tour is in the narthex. Check it out and sign up.

land is not able to bear all his words. ¹¹ For thus Amos has said,
‘Jeroboam shall die by the sword,
and Israel must go into exile
away from his land.’”

¹² And Amaziah said to Amos, “O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; ¹³ but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king’s sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom.”

¹⁴ Then Amos answered Amaziah, “I am no prophet, nor a prophet’s son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, ¹⁵ and the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’”

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 85:8-13

⁸Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,
for he will speak peace to his people,
to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.

**⁹Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.**

¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

**¹¹Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,
and righteousness will look down from the sky.**

¹²The LORD will give what is good,
and our land will yield its increase.

**¹³Righteousness will go before him,
and will make a path for his steps.**

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵ He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸ that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹ he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

¹¹ In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹² so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴ this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *"Jesus Messiah"*

GOSPEL READING: Mark 6:14-29

¹⁴ King Herod heard of [the disciples' preaching,] for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." ¹⁵ But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." ¹⁶ But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."

¹⁷ For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. ¹⁸ For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." ¹⁹ And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, ²⁰ for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. ²¹ But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. ²² When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." ²³ And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." ²⁴ She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." ²⁵ Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." ²⁶ The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. ²⁷ Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, ²⁸ brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. ²⁹ When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

WEEKLY CALENDAR of July 14, 2024

Today, July 14:

**River Service 10:00am
Coffee Hour 11:00am**

Monday, July 15:

Needlework Group 9:00am

Tuesday, July 16:

Wednesday, July 17:

Thursday, July 18:

**Gather Bible Study 10:30am
AA Meeting 8pm**

Friday, July 19:

Wired Word 1:30pm

Saturday, July 20:

Men's Bible Study 10am

Sunday, July 21:

**River Service 10am
Coffee Hour 11:00am**

Future Happenings

Women's Bible Study July 24 9am

Picnics and Worship, August 14 along with Church Council following.

VBS First week in August 4—7

Neighborhood Block Party August 7 with UCC Picnic there, Games here

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.

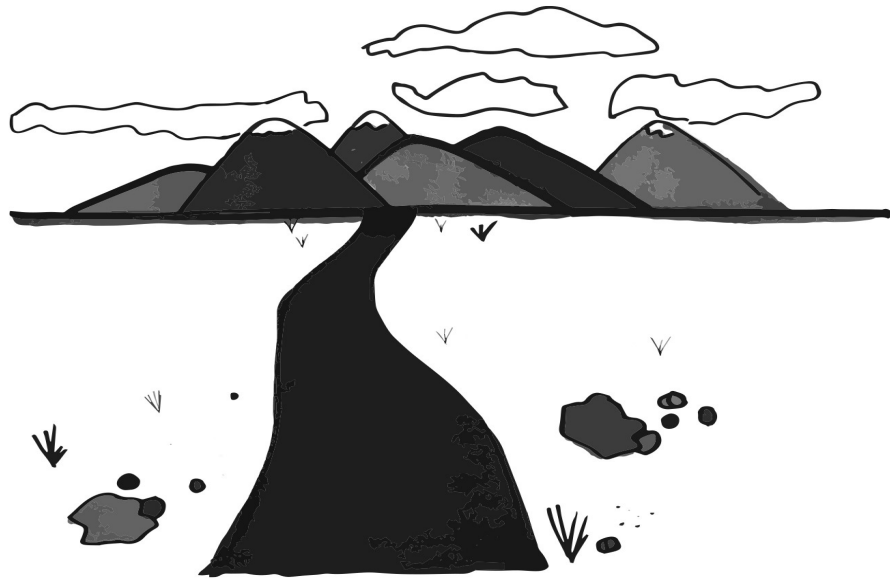
PRAYER REQUESTS:

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

For those struggling with health and other concerns:

Tracy Martinson, Ann Hillesland, Arlene Wolff, Bob Roesler, Earl Larson, Nancy Dockter, Lori Marx, Hattie Martinson, Carter Weigel, Josey Hanson, Heidi Renner, Kristy Forrest, JoDee Sayler, Colter Lee, Arvid Mugaas, Elizabeth Hoglund, Diane Klein, Peg Ahlness, Kaylynn Harris, Libby Martin, Deacon Janie Hague, Kira Willadsen, Kerry Carpenter, Linda Marson, Lonnie Sunde, Jacob Hynek, Art Wheeler, Reece Fischer, Jeri & Gorden Mutcher, Mark Kunze

For those dealing with the death of these loved ones— Arlene Lellelid, David Larson, Roberta Kunze



SERMON: Pastor Lisa Ahlness

SONG OF THE DAY: “Lead On, O King Eternal” ELW 805



APOSTLES' CREED

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH: *“Let Us Pray for Peace”*

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING: Special Music: “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

OFFERING PRAYER

WE SHARE THE MEAL

PREPARATION FOR THE MEAL

LORD'S PRAYER: *“The Lord's Prayer”*

INVITATION TO OUR LORD'S SUPPER

COMMUNION SONG: Special Music “Let Us Break Bread Together”

COMMUNION BLESSING/POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION: *“Benediction Song”*

SENDING SONG: *“You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore”*

DISMISSAL: *“Step By Step”*

INTRODUCTION: When Amos reports his vision of God judging Israel for its mistreatment of the poor, he becomes a threat to the power of the priests and the king. John the Baptist also speaks truth to power, and Herod has him killed. In Herod's fear that Jesus is John returned from the dead, we may hear hope for the oppressed: all the prophets killed through the ages are alive in Jesus. We are called to witness to justice in company with them, and to proclaim God's saving love.

“THE RIVER” and “LIVING WATER” WORSHIP MINISTERS

Pastor—Pastor Lisa Ahlness

Scripture Reader—Rich Fockler

Ushers—David & Kathy Drovdal, Steve & Cheryl Neu

Communion Assistants—Roger & Esther Anderson, Heather Martin

Altar Guild—Cherie Krueger, Barb Thomas, Sharon Narum, Verlaine Jahner

River Worship Team—

Sound Board Technicians—Larry Wolf, Francis Greff

Projection Team—Caden Kunze, Jace Kunze, Rod Sargent, Art Wheeler

Streaming Team—Mark Kunze, Karen Will, Art Wheeler

River Singers—Deb Carpenter, Kerry Carpenter, Marlene Grabow, Sally Grenz, Paul Gurholt, Doug Johnson, Cherie Krueger, AJ Marx, Mark Murie, Amanda Sagsveen, John Sayler, Tom Wade, Barb Wilson

Percussionist—Kari Harris

Violinist—Fynn Sagsveen

Flutist—Beth Greff

Accompanists—Gerri Sarsten, Luke Weber, Beth Greff, Jan & Joel Gilbertson

Living Water Worship Team

Living Water Singers—Joel Crane, Amanda Sagsveen, Brandi Ellison, Annabelle Ellison, Emmeline Chopourian-Jack, Kerry Carpenter, Keelin Traynor, Deb Carpenter

Percussionist—Kari Harris

Guitarists—Kolton Harris, Joel Crane

Accompanist and Sound—Beth Greff