

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**

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Connie Werner, **Secretary** cell 400.5852

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2024 Church Council Members

Mike Geiermann, President, mgeiermann12@gmail.com 471.5122

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“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”

The River

A Blended Worship Service



Lutheran Church of the Cross

August 4, 2024

10:00am

“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS
“The River” Worship Service
August 4, 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: “Beautiful Savior”, “I Love to Tell the Story”, “People Need the Lord”

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETINGS OF PEACE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

OUR CONFESSION, GOD’S FORGIVENESS

GATHERING SONG: “For the Beauty of the Earth”

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

FIRST READING: Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

²The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. ³The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

⁴Then the Lord said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not.”

⁹Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.’” ¹⁰And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. ¹¹The Lord spoke to Moses and said, ¹²“I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At

Help Wanted! LCC is looking for folks that would be interested in helping out in our Tech area - specifically Projection, Streaming, and Sound. If you have a good ear for music or an interest in computers we would love to visit with you. Please contact Beth Greff at the phone number or email listed on the back of the bulletin. Please prayerfully consider becoming a part of our Team!

August 12 & 13 9—12, We will be putting the **Baby care kits** together. If you have pinking shears bring them along as more diapers need to be cut those days.

LCC is invited to the **Highland Acres Second Sunday Summer concerts**.
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. Block Party 5:30 @ UCC, 7pm here.

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.

Prairie Masters Golf Tournament August 14, 2024 at the Garrison Golf Club. To benefit Camp of the Cross Ministries. There are several ways to participate. As a participant, as a Individual hole sponsor, or as a Team hole sponsor. Check it out!

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.

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: The Women by Kristin Hannah

October: Hello Beautiful by Ann Napolitano

November: The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post by Allison Palaki

Book Club members: The book: **The Women** is available in the office to check out. Come in the morning to pick up your copy for the Book Club.

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.

Thank you to Deb Sargent for helping Pastor Lisa hand deliver the invitations to LCC neighborhood for the Block Party. This is a hilly neighborhood.

Favorite Song Sundays!! You are invited to submit a favorite song or hymn, by texting it to Beth Greff (see number on back of bulletin), calling the office, or writing it on small papers (provided) and placing in one of the offering baskets at the back of the church. Then, be sure to come for worship (or watch the livestream, if you are away) on August 11, 18 and September 1. We will use as many of your favorites as we possibly can!

Just a reminder the **Faith and Care Co-Chairs** will be meeting the August 6 at 5:30 pm to discuss changes and the new schedule. See you then!

August Altar Focus continues to be **School Care Kits**. We have an abundance of pencils, crayons, and erasers. We are in dire need of notebooks and pens. Rulers, pencil sharpeners and scissors too. LCC is ordering the backpacks.

twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’”

¹³In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. ¹⁴When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance as fine as frost on the ground. ¹⁵When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.”

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 78:23-29

²³Yet he commanded the skies above,
and opened the doors of heaven;

²⁴**he rained down on them manna to eat,
and gave them the grain of heaven.**

²⁵Mortals ate of the bread of angels;
he sent them food in abundance.

²⁶**He caused the east wind to blow in the heavens,
and by his power he led out the south wind;**

²⁷he rained flesh upon them like dust,
winged birds like the sand of the seas;

²⁸**he let them fall within their camp,
all around their dwellings.**

²⁹And they ate and were well filled,
for he gave them what they craved.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 4:1-16

¹I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ²with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

⁷But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. ⁸Therefore it is said,

"When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people."

⁹(When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) ¹¹The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, ¹²to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. ¹⁴We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. ¹⁵But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: "Great is the Lord"

GOSPEL READING: John 6:24-35

²⁴When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were [beside the sea,] they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

²⁵When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" ²⁶Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. ²⁷Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." ²⁸Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" ²⁹Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." ³⁰So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing?" ³¹Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" ³²Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

WEEKLY CALENDAR of August 4, 2024

Today, August 4:

**River Service 10:00am
Coffee Hour 11:00am
VBS Bible School @ UCC 6-7:30**

Monday, August 5:

**Needlework Group 9:00am
VBS Bible School @ UCC**

Tuesday, August 6:

**VBS Bible School @ UCC
Faith & Care Mtg 5:30pm**

Wednesday, August 7:

**VBS Bible School @ UCC
Neighborhood Block Party 5:30
UCC Picnic there, Games here 7:00**

Thursday, August 8:

AA Meeting 8pm

Friday, August 9:

Wired Word 1:30pm

Saturday, August 10:

Men's Bible Study 10am

Sunday, August 11:

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

Future Happenings

Baby Care Kits Aug 12 & 13

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

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, 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 Mutcher, Mark Kunze, Lindsey Steiger, Lyndon Jahner, Joel Crane

For those dealing with the death of these loved ones—David Grondahl, Ramona Larson, Gorden Mutcher, Elizabeth Hoglund, Arlene Lelleid, David Larson, Roberta Kunze



³⁴They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”

³⁵Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”

SERMON: Pastor Lisa Ahlness

SONG OF THE DAY: “*My Life is In You, Lord*”

APOSTLES’ CREED

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH: “*Open the Eyes of My Heart*”



SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING: *“Give Thanks”*

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: *“Because He Lives”*

COMMUNION BLESSING/POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION: *“The Lord Be With You”*

SENDING SONG: *“Shine Your Light on Me”*

DISMISSAL: *“You Shine”*

INTRODUCTION: Apparently not satisfied by Jesus’ feeding of thousands, some who were there press him for a sign of his power; perhaps it is daily manna they want. As always in John’s gospel when people want a sign, Jesus offers himself. He is the bread come from heaven to give life to the world. He calls us to come to him and believe in him, and through that relationship to know the one who sent him.

“THE RIVER” and “LIVING WATER” WORSHIP MINISTERS

Pastor—Pastor Lisa Ahlness

Scripture Reader—Lillian Crook

Ushers—David & Kathy Drov Dahl, Keven & Janice Martin

Communion Assistants—Myrtice Behan, Tracy Geiermann, Cherie Krueger

Altar Guild— Jean Kraft, Mavis Pommerer, Joyce Wahl, Cheryl Neu

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