



## The Cross Word October 2024

From Pastor Lisa

**Thrivent can help you help others with hurricane relief:**

**Make a donation; Thrivent will boost – up to \$500,000!**

Many communities in several states are facing tremendous tragedy and destruction due to Hurricane Helene. You may donate online to support disaster relief efforts and Thrivent will boost your donation! For every \$2 donated through Thrivent's online giving platform (go to [Thrivent.com](https://www.thrivent.com)) or through a Thrivent Charitable Impact and Investing<sup>®</sup> Donor Advised Fund to one of the organizations listed below, Thrivent will add \$1.

The match will run until the \$500,000 cap is met, or November 30, 2024, whichever comes first. Thrivent will also pay all the processing fees so 100% of your gift/donation will go directly to the cause.

[Convoy of Hope](#)  
[LCMS Lutheran Disaster Response](#)  
[Lutheran Disaster Response](#)  
[Orphan Grain Train](#)

You can also give directly to Lutheran Disaster Response through the link in the email that was sent to all members on our email list, or by going directly to [www.elca.org/hurricanes](http://www.elca.org/hurricanes).

### **Called to Care Training offered October 18-19**

Some members have told me it would be wonderful to have a training for people who might be interested in visiting others on behalf of LCC, but don't really know how to go about it. Serendipitously, our neighbors at UCC have invited us to join them in a training called "Called to Care". Its goal is to empower congregations to provide spiritual care and live out Jesus' command to love one another. What a wonderful opportunity! Come enhance your ability to be present to others.

The workshop is from 6-9 pm on Friday, Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>, at the UCC, with dinner provided, and on Saturday, Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> from 8 am to 2 pm, with both breakfast and lunch provided. The training is being sponsored by the Northern Plains Conference of the United Church of Christ. Participants are invited to make a free will offering to help with costs.

We will have an extra session at LCC later for those who would be willing to take communion to someone who can't get to church (for instance, someone who can't really watch online and use an all-in-one communion cup by themselves, but would really like to receive communion). Let Pastor Lisa know if you would be interested in this.

**October Altar Focus** Our focus this month is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ELCA World Hunger. We want to be part of the generation to wipe out world hunger! Make a donation to help ELCA World Hunger's work locally, nationwide and globally with feeding programs, animals, water wells, health care and nutrition, and job skills. You can do this at [www.elca.org/hunger](http://www.elca.org/hunger), and also when you buy "good gifts" for people during Advent!

If you prefer to give actual items rather than money for your altar focus donation, we have members who have concentrated on buying the backpacks for the Fresh Start Kits for adults and youth leaving incarceration. Let's continue this month by trying to get all the supplies to fill them! Thanks for your efforts so far!

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

October: Hello Beautiful by Ann Napolitano

November: The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post by Allison Pataki

The Book Club members were asked "what are your 10 favorite books read so far?". Here is Lois Hanson's list.

If You're Not From the Prairie by David Bouchard

Strength by Tony Dingy

The Life We Bury by Allen Eskens \*\*

The Tipping Point by Malcom Gladwold and his other books

Still Alice Lisa Genova \*\*

Sooley by John Grisham \*\*

The Art of Racing in the Rain by Garth Stein

Ben Hur by Lew Wallace

Age of Innocence by Edith Wharton

Blind Your Ponies by Stanly Gordon West \*\*

\*\* books in LCC's library

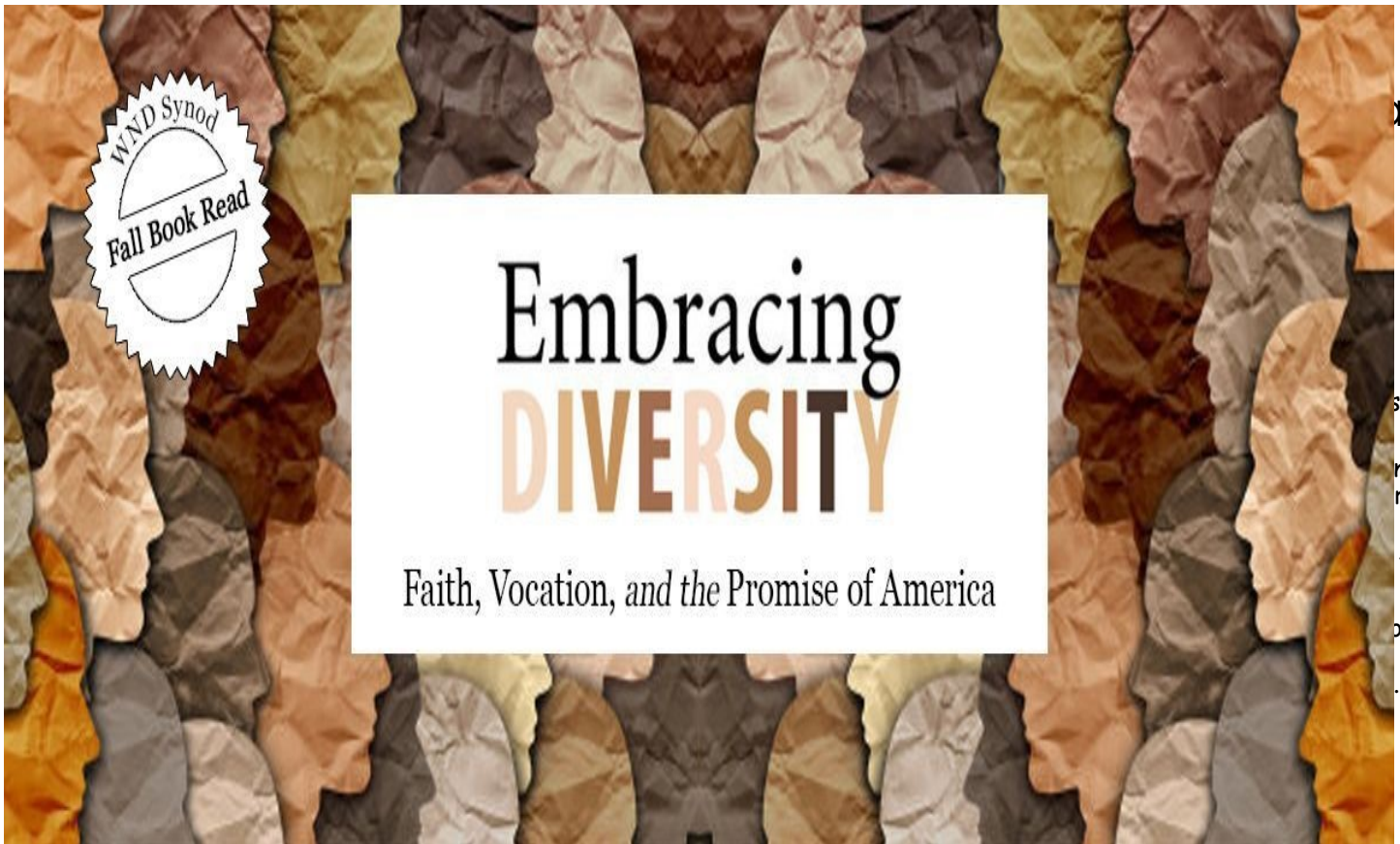


## **Trunk or Treat October 27!**

Have you noticed Halloween decorations starting to proliferate around town? This is our cue to think about Trunk or Treat! We will once again host trick or treaters by decorating our car trunks and donning costumes to hand out candy, right in our own parking lot (or inside, if weather is horrible). Come one, come all on Sunday afternoon, October 27, at 2 pm for an hour of fun! We will have hot cider and hot chocolate to keep cozy, as well. Sign up on the poster in the narthex to let us know you'll have a "Trunk", or to help with hospitality! Bags of candy are also welcome, as we tend to run short. Tell your friends, neighbors, grandkids to come, too!

## **Buffalo Supper**

And speaking of joining our neighbors, the UCC will be holding their annual Buffalo Supper with a quilt raffle on October 12 from 4:30 -8 pm at UCC, 1200 E. Highland Acres Road. Cost is \$22 adults, \$10 child (4-10), 3 and under free. Call their church office for tickets M-F 8:30 am – 12:30 pm. 100% of ticket sales benefit Ministry on the Margins and Bismarck UCC.



The WND Synod will host a fall book read and coaching series, focusing on [Embracing Diversity](#), the book by Darrell Jadock & William Nelson

The series, facilitated by ELCA-trained coaches, will:

- Consist of 8 Sessions, 1 hour each. October 3rd through November 21st with 2 time options... 12PM or 6PM. Choose which works best for you!
- Foster both learning and implementation! Cohort participants will not only share insights and learnings gained from the reading, but also take those insights one step further by designing a small personal action step each week to grow in embracing diversity in their life and community.
- Include a leaders guide, written by our synod's ELCA-trained coaches, that participants can use to lead a similar experience in their own congregations upon their completion of the series.
- Participants should come to the first session ready to discuss the introduction and chapter 1.

**Dates & Times:** Thursdays from October 3 – Nov 21 with 2 time options...12 pm or 6pm. Choose the time of day that works best for your schedule! [REGISTER NOW](#)



# Called to Care: A Ministry for Lay Caregivers

- Empowering congregations to provide spiritual care and to live out Jesus' command to love one another
- A workshop to help churches meet the increasing need for pastoral care

## Workshop:

October 18th 6 p.m – 9 p.m. - Dinner provided  
October 19th 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. Breakfast, Lunch provided  
at Bismarck UCC



**Sue Williams**  
First Congregational  
UCC  
Garrison, ND



**Ron Hildahl**  
Spiritual Care  
Coordinator, Anne  
Carlsen Center



**Gina Harvey**  
Director of Spiritual  
Care & CPE  
Sanford, Fargo

# Called To Care Workshop

We are excited to announce this free workshop!

The purpose of the workshop will be:

- Empowering congregations to provide spiritual care and to live out Jesus' command to love one another
- Helping churches meet the increasing need for pastoral care

## SCHEDULE

**October 18 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.** - Dinner provided

**October 19 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.** - Breakfast, Lunch provided at Bismarck UCC

**There is no cost to register, but we will ask for a freewill offering.**

There will be a remote/hybrid option for viewing the ceremony. That information will be provided closer to the time of the event. **Lodging will not be provided.**

**The registration deadline is October 16.**

Please direct any questions to Rev. Deborah Blood at [djblood@npcucc.org](mailto:djblood@npcucc.org)

## **Skills for Bridging the Gap**

We encounter difference around us – in religion, culture, and politics. With the right skills, we can learn how to respectfully and bravely reach across the divide. This 4 session series is on **Wednesdays at 10 am** (October 2, 9, 16, 23) at **Faith Lutheran Church** and **Thursdays at 7 pm** (October 3, 10, 17, 24) at **Bismarck UCC**. The Thursday class at the UCC is available in person and online. Call the UCC church office at 701-223-2915 or Pastor Lisa for the zoom link.

## **New Bible Study on Paul**

You are invited to the first session of our study on St. Paul at 12:15 pm on Wednesday, October 16. Feel free to bring your lunch! The group will then choose how often to meet. We will loosely base these sessions on Edward Stourton's book "In the Footsteps of St. Paul," but we may also take a look at others as well. Those of you going on the trip to Greece and Turkey in March may be reading and watching other resources; please bring them to show and share. All are welcome! Let's learn together.

## **Confirmation Service**

The three young men confirming their faith this year are Easton Karvo, Brandon Kunz, and Liam Johnson. They have chosen to be confirmed on Wednesday, October 30, at our 6:15 pm service. Join them for supper and cake starting at 5 pm, and celebrate this occasion with them in worship!

## **Reformation Sunday**

It's been 507 years now since Martin Luther posted his 95 Theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg! Wear red on October 27, get ready to sing some favorite songs and hymns, and let's celebrate our beginnings and the church which stays true to its roots in Scripture even as it keeps reforming.

## **All Saints Services**

All Saints Day is Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup>. Join friends from all over Bismarck at a Taize' worship that evening at St. George's Episcopal Church, 601 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Bismarck, at 6 pm.

All Saints Sunday is November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Be sure to join us, live or online, for worship, and in the couple of weeks before, write the names of your deceased loved ones on paper doves which will be placed on our All Saints Banner and carried in during the opening hymn. Please call the office if you'd like us to do this for you!

## **In the Footsteps of Paul Tour**

You are still welcome to join Pastor Lisa and other members of LCC, family and friends on a trip to Greece and Turkey, March 18-30, 2025. There is also the possibility of an extension for a fascinating couple of days to Istanbul at the end! If you have been contemplating but have not yet registered, please consider doing it soon – there are airplane tickets to be reserved and we need a certain number to be able to go to Istanbul. Do ask Pastor Lisa if you have questions! You can also call Elias Tours at (406)261-7791. Register online or for more information, go to [www.EliasTours.com](http://www.EliasTours.com). Look up our dates to join the group, and if you can, join us Wednesday the 16<sup>th</sup> at 12:15 pm at LCC for the first session in a study on Paul!



| Sun   | Mon  | Tue | Wed   | Thu  | Fri   | Sat   |
|---|--|-----|---|--|---|---|
| <b>October 2024</b><br>Altar Focus: ELCA World Hunger   |  | 1   | 2   | 3  | 4   | 5   |
| 6<br>10:00 River Worship<br>11:00 Coffee Hour   | 7<br>Needlework Group 9am                              | 8   | 9 Book Club 1:30<br>5:00p Supper<br>6:15p Worship<br>7p Church School, Confirmation | 10<br>Quilting 1p<br>C. Council 6:30<br>AA Mtg 7:30p     | 11<br>Wired Word 1:30pm                                     | 12<br>Men's Bible Study 10am                                      |
| 13<br>10:00 River Worship<br>11:00 Coffee Hour  | 14<br>Needlework Group 9am                             | 15  | 16 St. Paul Study 12:15 pm<br>No evening activities                                 | 17<br>Gather Study 10:30a<br>Quilting 1p<br>AA Mtg 7:30p | 18<br>Wired Word 1:30pm<br>Called to Care Wksp 6-9 pm @ UCC | 19<br>Men's Bible Study 10am<br>Called to Care Wksp 8am-2pm @ UCC |
| 20<br>10:00 River Worship<br>11:00 Coffee Hour  | 21 Needlework Group 9am                                | 22  | 23 Women's Bible Study 9am<br>5:00p Supper<br>6:15p Worship<br>7p Church School,    | 24<br>Quilting 1p<br>AA Mtg. 7:30p                       | 25<br>Wired Word 1:30pm                                     | 26<br>Men's Bible Study 10am                                      |
| 27<br>10:00 Worship Service<br>11:00 Coffee Hour<br>11:15 Endowment Committee Mtg<br>2:00 pm Trunk or Treat | 28<br>Needlework Group 9am<br>Knitting 4 Others 1:30pm | 29  | 30 5:00p Supper<br>6:15p Confirmation Service<br>7p Church School, Confirmation     | 31<br>Quilting 1p<br>AA Mtg 7:30p                        |   |   |



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churchsecretary@midconetwork.com

## E-News

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### Worship Times:

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

Lisa Ahlness, Pastor

### Office Hours:

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

**Making Jesus Known by Sharing our Gifts**