



# The Cross Word

## November 2024

**From Pastor Lisa**

### **Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service**

Several local churches—UCC, LCC, United Methodist and Episcopal—are joining together in hosting a Thanksgiving service, to which you are all invited. Because we have heard that many folks are busy welcoming guests, preparing food, etc. for the big day on the night before, this year our Thanksgiving service will be on **Tuesday** evening before Thanksgiving, November 26th, at St. George's Episcopal Church, 601 N. 7 St. in Bismarck. Our speaker will be Darla Schafer, who works with Disaster Response in the UCC. You are welcome to bring energy drinks and granola bars as an in-kind offering, always in demand when there's a crisis. Pie and coffee will be served after the service. All are welcome! Come and give thanks together.

### **Pancakes and Sausage for Camp of the Cross**

Mark your calendar! On Dec. 8th we will have pancake and Wishek sausage breakfast benefit for Camp of the Cross. Their staff will lead worship—come and hear updates from Deacon Janie and enjoy delicious food and fellowship together.

### **Cookie Walk December 15th**

Call all cookie bakers! We had a smashing success last year with our cookie walk, so here we go again! We have someone writing a Thrivent Action Team grant application to help with expensive ingredients (butter, flavoring etc.). Please sign up on the poster, and then let Sally Grenz know if you will be needing some ingredients as soon as you know, and we will get them for you.

### **Collaborative Hearts Project**

If you have been in the church school classroom next to the youth room lately, you have seen the beginning of this artistic effort. (If you haven't—stop by for inspiration!)

You are invited, the next two Sundays and Wednesdays, to come to the Multipurpose Room (the smaller fellowship area to the left of the kitchen) and paint a heart to help decorate the wall in that church school room. Paint, mini canvases, clean brushes and instructions will be available there.

### **Little Free Pantry Project**

You can help the 6th grade confirmation group with their project this month to fill the Little Free Pantries found around town with food and hygiene items. These little pantries are open 24/7 to those in need. Please bring items to church and place in the marked bin by the regular good pantry donations. We ask that you consider the cold as you choose items to share: cereal/dry milk, boxed items etc. They will be delivered to the pantries on November 13th. Thank you for your assistance!

## November Altar Focus

We join together this month to collect teddy bears for first responders to give to children in crisis. Bring the bears to church, where they can sit among us in the chairs and be brought up for a blessing at communion time before they are given to the first responders. This project is in loving memory of Shiela Mugaas' cousin Martha and her grandchildren.

You are also welcome to bring warm things: hats, gloves, mittens, scarves, etc., which will mostly be offered at the public library for those who seek warmth there on cold winter days. Thanks to Kathryn Spilman, who takes them there. Larger warm items and boots are also welcome and will be taken to Closet 701. Thank you all for your generosity.



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

November: *The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post* by Allison Pataki

December: *The Wish Book Christmas* by Lynn Austin

January: *What She Left Behind* by Ellen Marie Wiseman

February: *Montana 1948* by Larry Watson

## Lefse Making! Hurray!!

Because seriously—who doesn't love lefse?! We will host a lefse making session particularly for church school kids (and anyone else who wants to learn) on Sunday afternoon, November 24th. Just in time for Thanksgiving! We would like to encourage our resident experts to please come and coach some skills—rolling, flipping etc.! We have several griddles, but could use rolling pins, pads and flipping sticks, if you are willing to lend. Watch the bulletin or call the office for times, and check in with Tom Harris or Pastor Lisa if you can help or have a rolling pin to lend!



## Special Events for When the Holiday are Hard

Sometimes things don't feel at all merry and bright, and the holidays can be an especially difficult time. We hope these can help: CHI Health at Home is offering a workshop called "Finding Hope: Navigating Grief and the Holidays." You can learn, gain coping tools, share as you're comfortable, and make a memory token. The workshop will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 19th, at 6:30pm at the Tech and ed Building, 1310 E. Main Ave. in Bismarck. For more information or to register, call chaplain Brett Baker at 701.530.4500.

Also, on Sunday, Dec. 8th at 4pm here at LCC, we will hold a Blue Christmas service in the sanctuary. A Blue Christmas service offers people a sacred space to not only remember their loved ones who have passed, but also to name their losses and griefs from the precious year, or maybe to recognize their disappointments or loneliness or fears. It is a refuge, or sorts. Come for the healing prayer, calming music, to light a candle and remember.

## Heat the Church

The calendars are out on the round table in the narthex. Thank you for being willing to donate extra funds to the church during our cold winters months. Remember your own birthday or celebrate the life of a loved by donating.

November \$10/day, December—February \$25/day, March \$10/day.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>November 2024</b> Altar Focus Teddy Bears, warm winter clothing					<b>1</b> Wired Word 1:30pm	<b>2</b> Men's Bible Study 10am
<b>3</b> 10:00 River Worship 11:00 Coffee Hour	<b>4</b> Needlework Group 9am	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 5:00p Supper 6:15p Worship 7p Church School, Confirmation	<b>7</b> Quilting 1p C. Council 6:30 AA Mtg 7:30p	<b>8</b> Wired Word 1:30pm	<b>9</b> Men's Bible Study 10am
<b>10</b> 10:00 River Worship 11:00 Coffee Hour 11:15 Endowment Mtg	<b>11</b> Veteran's Day Office Closed NO Needlework Group 9am	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Book Club 1:30 5:00p Supper 6:15p Worship 7p Church School, Confirmation	<b>14</b> Quilting 1p AA Mtg 7:30p	<b>15</b> Wired Word 1:30pm	<b>16</b> Men's Bible Study 10am Patty Hanson birth- day celebra- tion 10—noon
<b>17</b> 10:00 River Worship 11:00 Coffee Hour	<b>18</b> Needlework Group 9am	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Women's Bible Study 9am <b>21</b> 5:00p Supper 6:15p Worship 7p Church School, Confirmation	<b>21</b> Gather Study 10:30a Quilting 1p AA Mtg. 7:30p	<b>22</b> Wired Word 1:30pm	<b>23</b> Men's Bible Study 10am
<b>24</b> 10:00 River Worship 11:00 Coffee Hour Lefse making time TBD	<b>25</b> Needlework Group 9am Knitting 4 Others 1:30pm	<b>26</b> Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service 7pm @ St. George's Episcopal	<b>27</b> No morning or evening activities	<b>28</b> Office closed Thanksgiving AA Mtg 7:30p	<b>29</b> Office closed	<b>30</b> Men's Bible Study 10am



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## 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**