



The Cross Word June 2026

From Pastor Lisa

When I was young, our sainted church organist led a children's choir for us eager 2nd and 3rd graders. (you see why she was sainted!) We were bouncy and enthusiastic and thrilled by learning hymns! (no kidding!) Beautiful Savior, Ode to Joy, Amazing Grace, Onward Christian Soldiers (we got to march to that one, which probably helped with the bouncies), and so many more. Maybe my favorite of all was This Is My Father's World. If you don't know it, look it up in a red ELW hymnal next time you're at church – it's number 824.

I didn't know this at the time, but it was written in the 1880s by a Presbyterian pastor in New York who loved to walk in nature. I like to walk outdoors, too, so it's no surprise that it resonated with me. I still remember marveling at God's good creation as we sang these words:

This is my Father's world; and to my list'ning ears all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres. This is my Father's world; I rest me in the thought of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world; the birds their carols raise; the morning light, the lily white, declare their maker's praise. This is my Father's world; he shines in all that's fair. In the rustling grass I hear him pass; he speaks to me everywhere.

But the final stanza lets us know it's not just a hymn to praise God for the beautiful creation. It's an acknowledgment that God is sovereign; that trouble and sorrow and evil won't triumph; that love wins.

This is my Father's world; oh, let me not forget that, though the wrong seems off so strong, God is the ruler yet. This is my Father's world; why should my heart be sad? The Lord is king, let the heavens ring; God reigns, let the earth be glad!

Summer is a time that makes us glad for every minute, to soak up the warmth and watch new life flourish. Right now I am breathing deeply of every blooming lilac bush I walk by! It is a time when we try to catch up on rest and relaxation and possibly go a little overboard on the hectic side, trying to!

And yet, alongside hopefully a little rest or vacation time, the world keeps on churning, the news continues to contain horrors, and we can't imagine how all that's wrong with it could ever be solved.

My old favorite hymn reminds me that while beauty and trouble coexist, "God is the ruler yet." God's got this. And God's got us.

Get some good rest if you can. Relax. Get a little sun. Enjoy creation.

See you in church,

Pastor Lisa

The LCC members' contributions support projects!

Recently major projects have been completed financed solely with regular contributions by our members. How was that accomplished without a special fund-raising effort! In the past several years, the members' contributions have been enough to cover all operating expenses with a little leftover. Council has wisely invested any income over expenses to use on special projects.

The Church sanctuary has a new roof because the old one was in poor shape. Replacement cost was \$28,461. Due to the age of the shingles, no insurance coverage was available. The sanctuary projectors needed replacement because the Church couldn't obtain new bulbs. The new sanctuary TV's total replacement cost will be about \$4,500 including necessary electrical work. The west parking lot is scheduled for cleaning, sealing surface cracks, and restriping the entire lot. That project will cost about \$6,500. Flower bed work and watering lines, with about \$400 of materials, has been completed on the church east side.

The building's bathrooms need attention and made totally handicapped accessible. They are not currently. Other internal renovations are being discussed and may also happen this summer. All the above projects and improvements are being paid for with savings that have come from the members' contributions. How wonderful that all this was accomplished without special fundraising efforts.

Daily, weekly, monthly, and annual contributions are so important to our Church. During summer months, vacation periods and busy schedules, it is so easy sometimes to skip regular giving to the Church. Contributions have lagged a bit. Besides weekly offering plate giving, the Church has an electronic method for regular weekly and monthly giving. Any questions on electronic giving can be directed to either Art Wheeler or Sarah Dahl.

So please remember that you as members are so important to the Church. Your time offered, services given, and regular contributions are what make the Church of the Cross be the special house of God it is. Keep the Church in mind as the summer progresses. God bless!



Annual CCM

PRAIRIE LAKE FESTIVAL



Join us at Camp of the Cross for our Annual Prairie Lake Festival on Friday, June 19th & Saturday, June 20th. Come enjoy this revamped Festival which also serves as one of CCM's biggest fundraisers.

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Quilt & Silent Auction

Doors open @ 9:30am

Live auction to begin @ 11:00am

Lots of fun quilts, baby blankets, and more along with silent auction items available!

Live Entertainment

FRIDAY EVENING ONLY!!

Marty Malachowski of Pickin' & Grinnin' from 7pm - 9pm

Delicious Food

CCM Kitchen will have concessions options as well as baked goods available for sale.

Vendors & Food Trucks

Food Trucks:

Friday 6:00pm - 9:00pm

Saturday 9:30am - 3:00pm

Vendor Show:

Saturday 9:30am - 3:00pm



Contact Us

701-337-2246



info@campofthecross.com



More Information

www.campofthecross.com

SATURDAY

20

JUNE

**CCM FELLOWSHIP
CENTER**

1228A 47TH AVE NW

GARRISON, ND 58540

Altar Focus – June: Helping Specialty Campers with LWR kit items

Pastor Michon Weingartner has joined Camp of the Cross staff recently and will be assisting Deacon Janie Hague in leading camp programs. Pastor Michon has long led some of the specialty camps at CCM, which include art, creative writing, fishing, guitar and ukelele, whittling and trekkers camps) and is starting something new this year by having those campers help put together school kits and health care kits for Lutheran World Relief. You and I have had some experience with kits, but these students may not have! To that end, Pastor Michon is asking if our congregation would help by donating some items toward these kits. Items for the health kits are needed by June 21; the school kits will be put together the first week of August, so hit the sales on school supplies when they start to happen. Lists of items needed are in the narthex.

****Look Ahead: Altar Focus in July/August will be items for baby care kits and school kits! Watch for rummage sales and school sales!****

Father and Sons Get Together

LCC celebrates everyone so on June 17th starting at 5:30 we will celebrate our fathers and sons with a Father and Son Burgers and Root beer supper. We will have a speaker, games, and prizes.

Please call the church or signup if interested so that we can make sure we have enough food. Sons bring your fathers, Fathers bring your friends. Everyone is welcome.

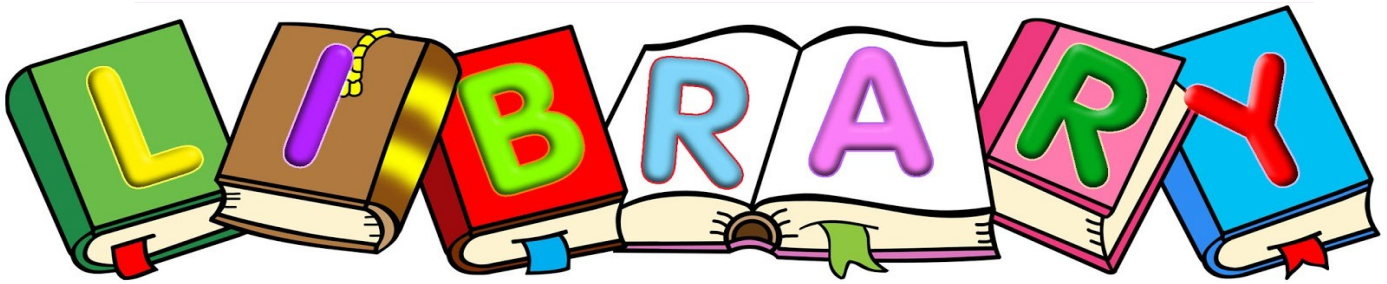


Vacation Bible School August: August 9-11 5:30—7:30

The theme is Exploring God's Creation in the Alaskan Wilderness. Games, songs, stories and fun filled activities are planned. There is a sign up in the narthex. You may also call the office. Volunteers are needed also for this adventure. It will be held here in conjunction with UCC.

Kids Corner at Lutheran Church of the Cross!

We're excited to offer a relaxed and welcoming playtime in our newly furnished nursery for babies, toddlers, and their caregivers. It's a great space to connect with other families while the little ones play and explore.. Whether you're part of our church family, new to the area, or simply looking for a friendly place to meet other parents and caregivers, you are warmly invited! Tuesday in June 9:00—10:30 am. Parking lot and entrance on the west side. We'd love to see you there!



Stock Up for Summer Reading at LCC!

If you're part of the LCC book club, you already know we have some curious and voracious readers in our congregation, and a wonderful well-read librarian and leader in Marjo Hewitson! Summer is a great time to read some good books, and boy, do good books abound! We have put up a table, and invite you to bring some books to share or swap! Any extras will be shared with the public library for their book sale. Come and share yours and pick out others to take home with you!

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

Led by Marjo Hewitson followed by her fearless readers.

June—Wild Dark Shores by Charlotte McConnaghy

July—Atmosphere by Taylor Jenkins Reid

August—Hamnet by Maggie O'Farrell

Camp of the Cross Scholarships Available

Did you know that we want everyone to be able to go to Bible camp?! It is a fun and even transformative experience! LCC has camp scholarships available. If you are attending another Bible camp, just let the treasurer know. Contact Art Wheeler or Sarah Dahl for more information and to receive scholarships!





Volunteer Opportunities Abound!

Worship: It takes many of us to keep our worship and church life humming! If you are looking for easy ways to jump in and help, sign up to be an usher, communion server, or scripture reader for Sunday worship. Sign up on the clipboard on the round table near the bathrooms, or call the office 223-1001 and let Connie know. We are always looking for new folks interested in the production side of worship: sound, livestream or projection. Let us know if you'd like to learn more!

Coffee & Treats: We also need upcoming coffee hosts for after worship on Sundays - and dishwashers. Sign up on the clipboards on the table near the coffee pots in the fellowship hall.

Congratulations to our graduates!

Mason Bergrud plans on attending UND pre med

Morgan Feigitsch plans on attending UND and major in accounting.

Parker Feigitsch plans on attending NDSU for electrical engineering.

Kolton Harris plans on attending U of Michigan in electrical engineering.

Mackenna Hocker going to Alexandria, MN to study interior design.

Kambree Long plans on attending UND to pursue a degree in Forensic Science.

Fynn Sagsveen plans on attending UND for mechanical and aerospace engineering

Ruby Stankiewicz plans on attending Moorhead State seeking an associate degree in environmental science.

Sylvia Taylor plans on attending Augustana University to study exercise science and play volleyball for the Augustana Vikings.

Alison Volk plans on attending the University of ND studying Biology/Business.

June 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31 <i>9a R. Practice</i> <i>10am River Service</i> <i>11am Coffee</i>	1 <i>Stitching 9am</i>	2 Kids Corner 9-10:30	3	4	5	6 <i>Men's Bible Study 10am</i>
7 <i>9a R. Practice</i> <i>10am River Service</i> <i>11am Coffee</i>	8 <i>Stitching 9am</i>	9 Kids Corner 9-10:30	10 Church Picnic 5:15 Worship 6:15 Council 7 pm	11	12 1:30 Wired Word	13 <i>Men's Bible Study 10am</i>
14 <i>9a R. Practice</i> <i>10am River Service</i> <i>11am Coffee</i>	15 <i>Stitching 9am</i>	16 Kids Corner 9-10:30	17 Book Club 1:30 Father & Sons Burgers 5:30	18 Gather Bible Study 10:30am	19 1:30 Wired Word	20 <i>Men's Bible Study 10am</i>
21 <i>9a R. Practice</i> <i>10am River Service</i> <i>11am Coffee</i>	22 <i>Stitching 9am</i>	23 Kids Corner 9-10:30	24	25	26 1:30 Wired Word	27 <i>Men's Bible Study 10am</i>
28 <i>9a R. Practice</i> <i>10am River Service</i> <i>11am Coffee</i>	29 <i>Stitching 9am</i>	30 Kids Corner 9-10:30				



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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

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