



THE CROSSBEAM

APRIL 2023 / MAY 2023



Holy Week and Easter Worship Schedule

Palm Sunday: "Way of the Cross" both services

Communion at 8:45 am service only

Maundy Thursday - April 6th at 6:30 pm

Good Friday - April 7th at 6:30 pm

EASTER SUNDAY, April 9th

6:30 am—Sunrise Worship at Dawn Valley Cemetery

8:45 am—Traditional Worship at CCLC

10:45 am—Contemporary Worship at CCLC

NOTE: No Sunday School



Sunday, April 16th



Sunday, April 30th

**Farewell & Godspeed,
Pr. Erik and Family**



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PRAYER REQUESTS

If you have a prayer request, send them to the church office (Office@cclcmn.org) and they will be forwarded to the Prayer Ministry.

FOR HEALTH AND WELL-BEING FOR MEMBERS:

- Jay Hendrickson
- Jan Godfrey
- Grace Hartmann
- Jennie Hendrickson & Baby Ian Ruhberg Hendrickson

FOR HEALTH AND WELL-BEING FOR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES OF MEMBERS:

- Lindsey Clark, daughter of Ron and Pay Nelson
- Marilyn Nelson, sister-in-law of Ron Nelson
- Tim Nelson, brother of Ron Nelson
- Mark Roban, brother of Janelle Swanson
- & Kathleen Anderson, cousins of Ron & Pat Nelson
- Jim & Bill Heuer, brother and nephew of Maxine Truax
- Julie Brandt, friend of Janelle Swanson

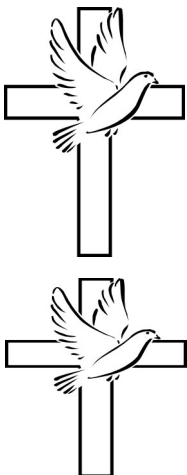
PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING FOR HEALING:

- Rick Knight
- Jim Schulz
- Elizabeth Lewis
- Renee Brethorst
- Mary Hafstead
- Aaron Jackson
- Katie Frid
- Landon Rost

FOR COMFORT & SYMPATHY:

- Family & friends of Jodi Enberg

The prayer list is divided into three categories: church members, relatives of church members, and friends. Friends and relatives will only be kept on the Crossbeam list for one month, unless the person who requested the prayers calls or emails to request another month. We would still appreciate members letting us know if we can change their prayer requests to prayers of thanksgiving for healing

**Baptisms**

We celebrate with the families of:

Everly Shae Bodick
Elvi Ona Green
George Oakley Auen
Hattie Smith Auen

Funerals:

We are saddened by the loss of
Jodi Engberg

**CCLC Members Celebrating April Birthdays**

Rita Docter
Clare Emberley
Julie Jackels
Amy Nelson
Mikko Renstrom
Carol Peterson
Robin Walters
Colin Anderson
Mary Hafstead
Evan Walker
Andrea Coe
Jillian Kunkel
Kim Robinson
Judy Johnson
Stephanie Auen
Harlow Hove
Tim Schouten
Ken Waletzko

Brooks Herrboldt
Randy Johnson
Barb Neils
Janelle Swanson
Anya Anderson
Sandra Larson
Isabelle Wotherspoon
Kelly Roe
Karl Huther
Elaine Thurston
Carolynn Mork
Doug Geesaman
Jordin Augdahl
Carm Greenlee
Alexander VanRiper
Daren Anderson
Julie Magee

CCLC Members Celebrating May Birthdays

Grant Kuplic
Kiara Swanson
Ellie Peterson
Ian Ruhberg Hendrickson
Rachel Hove
Marjorie Oleson
Eric Holm
Jennifer Rodgers
Harper Straka
Liam Van Hout
Sam Nelson
John Tjernagel
Bruce Drager
Larry Hansen
Abigail Stalin
Ronald Szarzynski
Indeera Schouten
Eyreton Schouten

Blake Swanson
Brad Hove
Jamie Manzi-Moore
Pat Nelson
Tamara Weist
Dick Kolkmann
Ken Nelson
Audrey Baroun
Matthew Perry
Leah Anderson
Clyde Eddy
Kathy Milsow
Marge Mickelson
Bodhan Straka
Jim Titze
Charmayne Sletten
Mimi Flood

If you would prefer that your name is not listed in the Crossbeam with the monthly birthdays, please notify the office at Office@cclcmn.org or 952-941-1247.



Pastor's Ponderings

Dear members and friends of CCLC. After a pastor leaves, the primary concern for many congregations is to find a new pastor quickly.

But, congregations are encouraged not to hurry the process. The congregation needs to do the work necessary to lay the foundation for a successful next chapter of ministry.

The congregation is to spend the next months listening to God, one another, and the community. They are encouraged to focus on the following five areas during an interim:

Heritage: reviewing how the congregation has been shaped and formed by its past in an effort to create the strongest, healthiest present and future possible.

Leadership: reviewing the needs of the membership and how it develops and empowers effective lay leadership to meet those needs.

Mission: defining and re-defining its sense of purpose and direction, including its identity, values, and sense of calling by God.

Connections: strengthening all the relationships it has with organizations outside its church walls, including the synod and local community.

Future: developing congregational and pastoral profiles to inform the call process.

A Transition Team will be formed after Easter. Their role is to work with Pr. Christine and leadership to study the congregation, assess its gifts and needs, and help develop a vision for entering into the call process. This is done through conversations, forums, and/or listening posts with members of CCLC. Together we will:

- Identify and address issues of grief and loss after a long pastorate, or any conflict that may exist.
- Review its life and mission as the Body of Christ.
- Discuss challenges/opportunities in the future.
- Evaluate its present strengths.
- Identify specific areas where ministry needs to be strengthened.
- Identify present context for mission/outreach.
- Arrive at a common understanding of its mission.
- Identify the gifts that are most important for the next pastor to possess.

I will keep the congregation updated as we move through the process. My office doors are usually open if you would like to come in and meet with me.

You are in my prayers, please keep me in yours!

Pastor Christine Wenzel, Interim Pastor



Can Circles Once Again Not Be Square?

by Bishop Ann Svennungsen

WHEN MY MOTHER DIED IN 2012, we received several sympathy cards from women we didn't know. They were all members with mom in Bible Study "circles." Mom rarely missed her ALC/ELCA Bible study each month, and she joined a new circle whenever she moved to a new town.

IN THE ARTICLE, "The Evangelical-Mainline Divide: Two Questions," one of the questions author David Hollinger raises is why have mainline religious leaders failed to more directly challenge evangelical ideas about the Bible. Hollinger argues that, since the mid-twentieth century, mainline Christianity has devoted "remarkably little attention to Biblical hermeneutics." Indeed, it seemed that mainline religious leaders "had chosen not to plant [their] flag in the Bible."

AS PEOPLE SHAPED by Luther's emphasis on "Sola Scriptura," it is hard to think we've abandoned our place in the public square – leaving it up to the fundamentalist theologians to define the role of scripture in the Christian faith.

OUR NEW ELCA Vice President, Imran Siddiqui, met with the Conference of Bishops last week. One of the concerns he shared about the ELCA is that Lutherans and other mainline Protestants have too often "left the field" to the voices of evangelical fundamentalists. Too often, that voice is the only theological perspective which takes up space in the public square.

IN THE PAST TWO WEEKS, I heard a pastor lament that there are fewer attending Tuesday night Bible study now that they moved from zoom to in person. Another pastor wonders if her expertise in leading online Bible study could be a resource for other congregations seeking to deeper grounding in God's word. Perhaps a flourishing of Zoom Bible studies might help us commune with God, strengthen community, and help us hear God speaking. And, perhaps, it would better prepare twenty-first century Lutherans to speak in the public square about Scripture's power to help Christians "do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God."

March 7th, 2023, Abbreviated version



During this Transition time, Adult Forums will resume in the Fall 2023.

Financial Information— as of the end of February 2023

	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Annual Budget
General Fund Receipts	\$ 150,973.47	\$ 154,170.00	\$ 612,947.00
General Expenses	(110,529.35)	(104,979.10)	(612,947.00)
General Funds Total	\$ 40,444.12	\$ 49,190.90	\$ -
Dedicated Mortgage Fund balance: January 2023	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00
Receipts	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mortgage expenses	(1,600.00)	(1,600.00)	(1,600.00)
Dedicated Mortgage Fund balance	0.00	0.00	0.00

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE IN JANUARY 2023

	1*	8	15	22	29
8:45 AM		78	91	76	71
Online Views		44	74	67	57
10:45 AM		64	48	73	67
Online Views		50	28	27	9
9:30 AM	38				
Online Views	43				
TOTAL	81	236	241	223	204
MONTHLY AVERAGE WORSHIP ATTENDANCE					197
Y-T-D AVERAGE WORSHIP ATTENDANCE					197

*Unity Sunday

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE IN FEBRUARY 2023

	5	12	19*	26**
8:45 AM	80	90	165	61
Online Views	68	55	106	51
10:45 AM	39	43	75	37
Online Views	24	16	32	30
Wed Lenten	N/A	N/A	Cancelled	90
Online	N/A	N/A		24
TOTAL	211	204	378	293
MONTHLY AVERAGE WORSHIP ATTENDANCE				272
Y-T-D AVERAGE WORSHIP ATTENDANCE				230

*Pastor Erik's last Sunday – Ash Wednesday cancelled due to weather **Ash Wednesday observed

You will find our April and May calendars
with the most up-to-date info at
cclcmn.org >> "CALENDAR"



Music & Worship Ministry Director



Greetings!

We continue to invite anyone who has any desire to play/sing/ring, to join us and check things out! We'd love to have you!

“Jubilation Ringers” Adult Bell Choir: (Grade 9 through adult): We meet for rehearsals on Wednesdays from 6:30pm to 7:30pm. (7pm to 8pm during Lent) We provide bell music for 8:45 services two times per month. If you are able to read music, and would like to become part of the Jubilation Ringers/ Adult Bell Choir at CCLC, please reach out to me at the number/email provided below.

“Chancel Choir” Adult Choir: (Grade 9 through adult): We meet for rehearsals on Wednesdays at 7:30pm (8:00pm during Lent). We sing inspiring choral music that enhances our worship experience. If you would like to join the Chancel Choir, please reach out to me at the email/number below. If you would like to help out singing in another way in a small ensemble, solo, duo, etc. please let me know. I encourage all of you to share your gifts with our congregation!

“Little Ringers” Children’s bell choir: (Age 4 through 3rd grade) Little Ringers is a very simple way for kids age 4 through 3rd grade to participate in worship through music! Simply sign up on the “signup genius” that you’ll receive periodically via email from CCLC, and arrive 15 minutes before service to get your bells and ring a song during service. You get two bells of the same color, Jamie holds up cue cards with colors during the song. When you see your color, you shake your bells! When your color goes away, you stop. It’s as easy as that! If you have questions or if you’d like to stop in and see how it all works before you participate, just let me know!

All Other Musicians: If you play an instrument, or if you are a singer/musician that might not regularly participate in one of the groups mentioned above, we want you to be part of the Music Ministry at CCLC as well! Now is a FANTASTIC time to get on board and share your musical gifts with everyone at CCLC. Please contact Jamie at the number/email below to ask questions and to get involved!

Jamie Manzi-Moore
Director of Music and Worship, music@cclcmn.org, 952-239-6730



Volunteer Coordinator

Why do we feel good when we serve?

Is it simply a warm feeling somewhere deep inside that is hard to describe but we know it when we feel it? Is it knowledge we are doing the right thing?

It turns out we are hard wired to serve. There are *biological* reasons for why we feel good when we serve. Medical science has long known that volunteering contributes to better health. The most recent contribution to this knowledge is Marta Zaraska’s *Growing Young: How Friendship, Kindness, and Optimism Can Help You Live to 100*.* Zaraska has replaced the conventional thinking of diet and exercise as keys to a healthier life with convincing arguments and ample evidence that social engagement, kindness, and/or serving do more for longevity. That’s counterintuitive for most of us.

And it was for Marta Zaraska, too... until she took a closer look at what actually works. After years of research, she concluded that “diet and exercise [are] not the most important things... to encourage my family’s longevity. Instead of shopping for organic goji berries, I should concentrate on our social lives and [emotional] makeup. I should look for a purpose in life, not the best fitness tracker.”

The book is a fascinating read and I commend it, but I have only the space here to focus on the benefits of serving. Zaraska discusses the medical and emotional benefits. I will add a third—spiritual benefits.**

Serving makes us Healthier

Serving makes us Happier

Serving makes God Happier

If we are indeed hard wired to serve, is that not so because God made us that way? Perhaps medical science is only now discovering the physical and emotional benefits of serving, but they have been there all along. Now we can say it with more conviction than ever: God made us to serve ([Matthew 20:28](#)).

Sandy Knight, Volunteer Coordinator, volunteerministry@cclcmn.org, 952-457-2024



* <https://www.operationinasmuch.org/blog/why-we-feel-good-when-we-serve> **Excerpt from David Crocker, Operation INASMUCH



Third Graders who will receive their First Communion on Sunday, April 16th, 2023

**Drew Heckman
Mikko Renstrom
Garrion Schouten
Lydia Van Hout
Danielle Peoples
Jason Robinson
Thea Straka
DaxWabs**



Third graders prepared for their First Communion during three special classes: chalice painting (pictured above), Last Supper review, and "What, Why, and How".

BINGO, FUN HAD BY ALL !!



For the last F3 of the year, the congregation was invited to join the F3 families for an hour of Bingo. It was a great night of food, fun and fellowship!!



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
MONDAY, JUNE 26TH- THURSDAY JUNE 29TH
9:00AM - 12:00PM
AT PEACE LUTHERAN
REGISTRATION ONLINE APRIL 2ND-MAY 14TH**

**“This little light of mine,
I’m gonna let it shine”
...on all ages, young and old!**



We’ve had an amazing mixing of age groups in Faith Education this year:

- ⇒ Kids in preschool through 5th grade have been playing together in the Gathering Space as they wait for classes to start on Sunday mornings.
- ⇒ The Youth (6th-12th grade) have spent time with the Sunday School kids (PreK-5th grade) during several “Buddy Sunday” activities throughout the year.
- ⇒ The Youth have taught Sunday School several times.
- ⇒ The confirmation kids in 7th and 8th grade have been meeting with their adult mentors on Wednesday nights during Lent.
- ⇒ Kids of all ages have been hanging out together on Wednesday nights as they finish dinner and wait for worship to begin.

It’s been so much fun to watch everyone interact and to see new relationships develop!

You can stop by the Gathering Space on Sunday mornings to see for yourselves.

Better yet, join in on the fun by volunteering to help with our Faith Education programming!

**“Children’s children are a crown to the aged, parents are the pride of their children.”
Proverbs 17:6**



Sunday Morning Schedule:**8:45 a.m Traditional Worship****9:45 a.m Faith Education & Fellowship Hour****10:45 a.m. Contemporary Worship****Everyone is welcome!**

THE CROSSBEAM

is published by

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Sydney McGrath, Service

Bobby Wotherspoon, Building & Grounds

Casey Auen, Outreach

Jody Walsh, Congregational Life

**From Oasis for Youth
to CCLC:**

Thank you so much for your recent donation of \$2,572.05. Your support is helping Oasis to reach a record number of young people. In 2022, we served 422 youth. This number reflects our goals of increasing our program's visibility and access.. We recently receive the following message from Michelle's Mom:

"Thank you Oasis, for allowing Michelle to roam, play and eat when she needed you. Thank you for giving her gas cards and groceries. Thank you for being a staple in Michelle's life. It didn't go unnoticed. We appreciate you more than you will ever know."

***"Touching Lives with the Love of God"***

Community of the Cross Lutheran Church