

Growing Together

**November
2024**

**Cross Lutheran
Church &
School**

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Our mission:

***Bring people to
Christ.***

***Teach Christians
to be disciples.***

***Send disciples to
reach the world.***



Inside this issue:

Preparing for Worship	2
Celebrate	3
School News	4
School Board	5
W & M	8
Financial	9
Calendar	10

Listening for the Promise

Weekly Devotional



Thanksgiving Day (USA) – November 28, 2024

*“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.”
-Philippians 4:6-*

An English teacher once taught me that I ought to observe that in a sentence that uses the word “but,” what is most important is whatever follows that conjunction. That is important for us to note when it comes to this well-known verse from Paul in Philippians. It’s important for us to not ignore that conjunction because for anyone who worries or is anxious is not helped by being told, “Don’t be anxious,” or “Don’t worry.” That is bound to make someone more anxious and then become anxious about being anxious, and so on. Paul knows this problem. So, he adds the conjunction, “but” after which the most important part of the sentence follows. He knows where our anxieties can be directed and through whom we are given a peace that passes all understanding. So, he says pray to God in and about everything.

In this section of chapter four, Paul is teaching his church both the Second Commandment, how to use God’s name in prayer, and also the Fourth Article of the Lord’s Prayer, that not only bread on the table, but that everything we have comes from God. He wants his church to recognize that God is not stingy towards his creatures with what he has, but that he is abundant in love and with his gifts towards us. He observes how God, through their giving to him, he received “full payment, and more. I am well supplied” (4:18). He uses this example to preach to them the promise that for them, “God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus” (4:19). And Paul, like Luther states in the explanation of the Fourth Petition, is opening their eyes so that they will realize that God gives them everything, and more than they even think to pray for.

We will often pray for example, for good weather, good health, for work and income, a good reputation, etc. Not only does he give us every need, but (there’s that word) he also gives, creates, and sustains our lives in the intricacies and minutia of everyday life, which we don’t even think to pray for, like praying for every breath we take, every heartbeat, every grain in the field to sprout that eventually is baked into a warm loaf of bread for us to eat and be satisfied. Daily, God is helping us to recognize all the ways he is extravagantly bestowing his riches upon his sinners such that we are released from our anxiety and are given a peace which surpasses all understanding. In Christ and his cross you are well supplied, and more, for this life and the life to come.



Flashlight Corn Maze anyone? Well, 19 youth and parents began the adventure at our gym with treats and devotions before going to the maze at Kohl Farms on October 5. There were screams, running, laughing, and I even used my compass to find the exit. It really was a lot of fun and the weather was beautiful this year! Our youth have two events to choose from on October 27...the movie "For the One" and BLAST youth event at Bay Shore Camp. I truly appreciate the participation. Building relationships is important as we work together!

Our next event will be held on **Wednesday, November 13** in our church and gym from 4:30-6 PM. We will have a **GIVING THANKS** party. There will be a time to worship, snacks, games, and projects that will go home and some that will be distributed to others. This event will be for **all youth** from **Preschool-High School**. We are requesting that Jr. High and HS youth assist with the activities. We welcome donations of easy to handle snacks such as cookies, bars, cheese, veggies, and fruit. Contact Gwynne Barry if you are able to help in any way.

On November 15, Matthew West, a Christian musician, will be in concert at E-Free Church in Gaylord, MI. Even though it's the beginning of deer hunting season ;), I'm planning on taking youth to this concert. Tickets are \$27. I've heard he has a great concert and is entertaining as well.

It is a blessing and joy to have children in Sunday School! Teachers are still needed, so please consider serving in this ministry and sign up...even if it is only once a month! The lessons are in folders in the crate near the pastor's office. Sunday School youth (PS-6th grade) meet at 8:45 AM in the gym. If you have any questions, please ask Gwynne Barry, Jean Sturm, or Kim Delpiere.

Plans are being made for special activities for **ALL** ages each Sunday in Advent. We will open with a special chapel service at 4 PM which will be followed with activities for all ages. Please plan to join us as we prepare our hearts for the celebration of the birth of our Savior.

Preparing for Christmas has already begun! Children of God of **all** ages will be involved in our December 22 Sunday morning service beginning at 9:30 AM. PS-6th graders will begin learning the songs during SS.

Your prayers are needed as we seek God's will in our ministry at Cross. May you feel God's embrace and may your eyes be opened to His blessings that He has showered down upon you. Give thanks with a grateful heart!

In His service, Gwynne Barry ...Ministry of Education and Youth

Preparing for Worship

November 3 - All Saints Sunday

1R – Revelation 7:(2-8)9-17, P – Psalm 149, 2R – 1 John 3:1-3, G – Matthew 5:1-12

November 10 – Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

1R - 1 Kings 17:8-16, P – Psalm 146, 2R – Hebrews 9:24-28, G – Mark 12:38-44

November 17– Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost

1R - Daniel 12:1-3, P - Psalm 16, 2R - Hebrews 10:11-25, G - Mark 13:1-13

November 24 - Christ the King

1R - Isaiah 51:4-6, P – Psalm 93, 2R – Revelation 1:4-8, G - Mark 13:24-37

November 28—Thanksgiving Day

1R—Deuteronomy 8:1-10, P—Psalm 67, 2R - Philippians 4:6-20, G—Luke 17:11-19

Celebrate



- 4 Eric Gardy
Shane Schulze
Bella Smith
- 5 Dorothy Rummel
Don Wheeler
- 6 Peter Shupe
- 7 Dawn Hendricks
- 9 Bob Johnson
Joshua Rosenthal
- 11 Steve Schulze
Duane Baur
- 13 Mark Kretzschmer
Randy Buchholz
- 14 Jim Smith
Alex Peyerk
- 16 Delores Lange
- 17 Austin Roestel
Gina Smith
- 22 Kassidy Swanson
- 24 Travis Fritz
- 25 Mike Sting
- 28 Grace Higgins
- 9 Gene & Pearl Parsell, 56 years
- 9 Cody & Haley Cucinello, 5 years

Mission/Outreach is so thankful to those of you who have made shoebox donations so far. A few of us met the other day to tally up what we have collected toward this year's goal of 200 boxes. If you haven't brought in your gifts yet, the following list should help you make your selections. Please bring in all your items by November 8, so we have time to still fill in with our purchases what is needed for the boxes we will pack on Sunday, November 10 after services.

If you don't have time or ability to shop, you can make a monetary donation to any Mission/ Outreach member, or put it in our mailbox. You can designate if you would like it to be used to purchase more shoebox fillers or to help with the shipping cost of \$10 per box. We are also looking for empty shoeboxes. Please bring them in asap! Thank you for your help with this yearly project!

Things we do **not** need: toothbrushes, T-shirts/clothing, books, coloring books, or notebooks, pencil sharpeners.

Things we still need: washcloths and soap, combs, nail clippers, socks, underwear, crayons or markers, Pencils, pens, scissors, rulers, erasers, glue sticks, any toys, yo-yo's, jump ropes, marbles, balls, sm. trucks & cars, dolls, stuffies, games, puzzles, craft kits, hair accessories, small tools, fishing kits, sewing kits, flashlights with batteries, farm hats, stocking hats, gloves, shoes, flip flops. Make sure all items are NEW!

- Cross Mission Outreach



PRAYER list...

THOSE IN NEED OF CONTINUED PRAYER

Dorothy Thuemmel, Carol Diener, Steve Schulze, Bernice Shupe, Allen Koehler, Lori Smith, Rachel Higgins, Ben Smith, Connie Eden, Jim Siewert, Beth Elston, Brandon Fritz, Gene Parsell, Tim Voss, Mike Eden, Terry Sturm, Clark Elftman, Hannah Britt, John Finneren, Tom Shupe, Whitney Peyerk, Joe Stodola, Matt Edler, Larry Adams, Al Collison, Susan Beller, Hope Kittel, Noah Adams, Kay Schuette, Corey Messing, Marvin Trost, Kevin Faupel, Ezra Sturm, Deann Lewis.

CROSS CHURCH SHUT INS

Vivian Buschlen, Dolores Elftman, Cordelia Trost, Alice Trost, Margaret Edler, Roberta Danks, Rev. Fred Henkelmann, and Barb Eidt. Please keep them in your prayers.

THOSE IN SERVICE OF OUR COUNTRY

Nicholas Swanson (US Air Force), Michael Cox (US Navy)

November 3rd, 2024



Set your clocks back 1 hour!

From the Desk of...Nicole Shupe

Welcome from the third and fourth grade!! We have had a great start to the new school year. It is hard to believe that the first quarter is almost finished.

Our theme this year is "Be Rooted". As we continue to grow in Gods' word, we grow our roots deeper. We know, the deeper the roots a plant has, the more resilient it is. Through drought or winds the plant is able to hold strong and thrive. Just as we face droughts or storms in our own lives, having deep roots in our Savior will help us hold strong through those trials. Continue to pray for the children of our schools as they grow their roots, and that they will run deep!

Our classroom has been alive with activity! We have experimented with transferring of energy in Rube Goldberg challenges. We learned about the branches of our Federal Government and created a classroom constitution and visited Rural Education Day where we learned about agriculture in our community.



After school, the Cross Robotics teams are preparing their bots for the upcoming challenge that Cross will be hosting November 22, 2024. The cross country team also wrapped up their season in Caro. The team showed great growth and determination.



Thank you for your support and prayers for our students as they grow deeper roots to hold them through storms in their lives. May we all have deep roots!

November Calendar

- 11/01 End of 1st marking period
1/2 day of school
Grandparents Day (Chapel at 10 am)
- 11/05 Picture re-take/Make-up day
- 11/06 Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 11/07 Full school day—NO Laker PM buses
- 11/15 Full school day—No Lakers buses
- 11/22 Robotics Tournament
- 11/25, 26 & 27 Teacher's Conf.—NO School
- 11/28 & 29 NO School—Thanksgiving Break

CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

No minutes received.



Cross Lutheran School Board Minutes from:

October 3, 2024

(To be approved at the November meeting)

Members present: David Faupel, President Dick Koehler, Vice President Eileen Johnson, Secretary Kevin Stachowiak, Katie Wilson, Rita Herford, Nichole Licht

The meeting was called to order by Dick Koehler at 5:31pm. Prayer was led by David Faupel

Agenda: A motion was made by Katie Wilson and seconded by Eileen Johnson to accept the agenda.

Minutes: A motion was made by Rita Herford, seconded by Nicole Licht to approve the amended minutes of the September 5, 2024 meeting. The motion passed.

Treasurers' Reports:

School Balance: \$95,413.37

CEA/PTO Balance: \$2,226.38

Hot Lunch: \$9,438.93

A motion was made by Rita Herford and seconded by Eileen Johnson to accept the Treasurers' Reports. The motion carried.

CEA President's Report: Softball attendance was up over last year. Playground bills have all been paid. Winter Event will be February 8, 2025. Will hold fewer fundraising events this year than in the past.

Principal's Report:

- Students Registered for 2024-2025 remained stable at 64
DK:8 KDG: 7 1st:9 2nd: 7 3rd: 8 4th: 7 5th: 7 6th: 4 7th: 4 8th:3
- **Calendar**
 - October 6-Students Sing in Church
 - October 25-STEAM Day (3rd-8th grades)
 - November 1-Grandparents Day; End of 1st Marking Period
 - November 6- Parent-Teacher Conferences, 3-7pm



(Continued on page 6)

- **A Cross Country team was started this year. Coaches are Erica King and Corey Oeschger. 7 students are participating.**

Old Business:

- Dick updated us on the Pastoral Search/Call: still ongoing.
- Church/School Finances (Budget): continuing to make progress.
- 5-Year Goals/Plans: waiting on budget to be completed first.
- Field Trip Driver's Agreement: Progress is being made, will present an updated version at the next meeting.

New Business:

- Vacuum cleaners in current use are not effective. A recommendation was made to purchase a commercial quality vacuum. Church Council agreed to pay half.

Motion was made by Kevin Stachowiak, seconded by Katie Wilson to pay the other half using funds from the Annual Fund. Motion passed.

- Salary Increases for Teachers: historically discussed this month with raises taking effect in January. Any raise proposal by this Board ultimately needs approval by Church Council.

Motion was made by Rita Herford, seconded by Eileen Johnson to evaluate Phil's report before making a specific recommendation. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:48pm and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

The date of the next meeting will be November 7, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.

Hungry for Jesus

Many residents of first-world countries avoid true physical hunger, grazing at the slightest stomach rumble. Spiritually, the opposite is common. Many people run on empty, unaware of or rejecting Jesus' free gifts of grace, love and abundant life.

In her Magnificat, Mary proclaims, "He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty" (Luke 1:53, NIV). To be filled with Jesus, first we must empty ourselves and hunger for him. But what does that look like?

At Bible.org, pastor Steven J. Cole writes, "Starving people aren't interested in new smart phones or computers, unless they can somehow sell them to buy food. Hungry people have one focus — where to find food. It consumes their whole existence. ... That's how we should hunger for God!"

Spiritual hunger leads to a feast of God's blessings. He generously gives us gifts that overflow into the lives of others. So let's share Jesus with people who are starving for him!



Mission Outreach Ministry

October 2, 2024

The meeting of Mission Outreach was called to order by President Krisie Fritz. Those on attendance were Krisie Fritz, Tonja Nelson, Maureen Reibling, Lorraine LePage, Lori Smith and Trustee Nancy Schuette. A Prayer was given by Krisie Fritz.

The secretary's report was handed out and read. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Lori and seconded by Lorraine. The motion carried.

The treasurer's report was given. A motion made by Tonja and seconded by Maureen was made to accept the report. Motion was carried.

Members of our group are responsible for coffee hour on Sunday, October 6th. They are Kim, Maureen, Connie, and Krisie. The November coffee hour will be November 10th. All members are asked to bring. We will be packing shoeboxes for the OCC after service and will ask people from the congregation to help pack the shoeboxes and join in on the coffee hour.

The membership committee has tabled the member project until we can find out more about 360 computer program that has been used for this in the past.

The Patriarch and shut-in list is being worked on.

The NALC Disaster Relief was discussed. So much damage has been done from the last hurricane that many people are without homes, food and personal belongings. Our group voted to donate \$1,000.00 to the NALC to help with the disaster victims and would like to continue to ask for donations from the congregation through the month of October. If you would like to donate, please make out your checks to Benevolence and mark it as disaster relief. The envelopes can be put in the offering plate.

The food pantry is still in need of items such as toilet paper, laundry detergent, soap, canned goods that contain meat such as chili, raviolis, canned tuna and chicken, soups and cereals. We will start collecting Sunday, October 6 and continue collecting through November 24, 2024. Plastic bins are in the front and back entries to put items in.

The Operation Christmas Child project will be starting soon. Items are needed to put in the shoeboxes. We are aiming to pack 200 boxes. Plastic containers have become more expensive, so we will pack in cardboard shoeboxes. If you have any at your home and would like to donate the box, we can use it. If you care to wrap the box in Christmas paper before bringing it in, that would be appreciated. Plans are being made to set up for packing on November 8th at 4:00 pm at the church, purchase any needed items on Saturday, November 9th and pack the boxes after church on Sunday, November 10th. We are asking the kids and adults from the congregation to come after the service that day to help pack some boxes. Community members are also welcome to come and help these days.

We will be taking down the Fall decorations on November 24th. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, November 5th at 6:30 pm. The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Tonja Nelson

Worship and Music Ministry

Cross Lutheran Church

October 1, 2024 Minutes

+++Members present: Beth Elston, Mike Sting, John House – Trustee, Peg McCrimmon, Karen Schuette – Chair, Bill Love – Guest.

Karen opened the meeting with prayer.

Motion by John and seconded by Mike to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike and seconded by John to approve the September 4, 2024 minutes. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

+++*Pipe organ 60th Birthday - Discussed status of the activities planned: Coffee Hour table tents, guessing game jars and prizes, picture display and slide show. Special Coffee Hour – October 27th.

+++*Budget – Continued discussion. MOTION by John and seconded by Mike to recommend to Council the following budget: Music - \$2,000 and Altar Guild - \$2,000. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

+++*All Saints Sunday Observance – MOTION by Mike and seconded by John to use the same Observance we used last year for Dave Licht, Bill Hurdelbrink, Martin Knost, and Anna House. Motion carried.

*Bell Choir Gloves and table pad cases – We do not need a pad case at this time. Karen was directed to purchase 2 medium, 2 large, and 1 extra-large pairs of bell choir gloves.

*LBW Altar Edition – The LBW used on the altar is in disrepair. Karen is directed to find and purchase a “new” one.

+++*Passing the Peace – A question was asked about suspending this while there is Covid. Our discussion concluded that each person is responsible for deciding if they wish to shake hands or offer a hand signal.

+++NEXT MEETING – WEDNESDAY, November 6, 2024 at 3 pm.

Motion by Mike and seconded by Beth to adjourn. Motion carried.

Adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer



Respectfully submitted by Karen Schuette



Give Thanks



November 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 1st Marking Period ends Grandparents Day Chapel at 10 am 1/2 day of school
3 All Saints' Day Comm.Serv. 9:30 am SS 8:45 am Daylight Savings Time ends	4	5 Picture Retake day Mission/Outreach 6:30 pm	6 Chapel 8:05 am Worship & Music 3 pm P/T Conferences 4-7 pm Bible Study 6 pm	7 Jean Quilts 1 pm CEA 4 pm School Board 5:30 pm	8	9
10 Worship Service 9:30 a.m. SS 8:45 am M/O packing shoeboxes after service	11	12	13 Chapel 8:05 am Youth Event 4:30 - 6 pm Bible Study 6 pm	14	15	16
17 Worship Service 9:30 a.m. SS 8:45 am	18 Newsletter Deadline	19	20 Chapel 8:05 am Council 7 pm	21	22	23
24 Christ the King Service w/Communion 9:30 a.m. SS 8:45 am	25 Teachers Conference NO School	26 Teachers Conference NO School	27 Teachers Conference NO School	28 Thanksgiving Day NO SCHOOL Office Closed	29 NO SCHOOL Office Closed	30 

Officers, Ministries & Committees

Pastor – Vacant

Music Director - Beth Elston

Church Council

John Smith, President

Dick Koehler, VP

Kim Fritz, Secretary

Kim Sears, Treasurer

John House, Trustee (W&M)

Norm Nelson, Trustee
(Stewardship)

Nancy Schuette, Trustee
(Parish Life &
Mission/Outreach)

Alan Licht, Trustee
(Property)

Joshua Barry, Trustee
(Youth/Education)

Ministry of Properties

Mike Sting, Chair

Matt Zimmerman

Paul Schuette

Pat Azaroviyz

Ministry of Worship & Music

Karen Schuette, Chair

John House

Peg McCrimmon

Beth Elston

Mike Sting

Barb Degg

Ministry of Mission / Outreach

Krisie Fritz

Connie Eden

Kay Schuette

Tonja Nelson

Sandie Haley

Lorraine LePage

Lori Smith

Kim Delpiere

Maureen Reibling

Ministry of Stewardship

Norm Nelson, Chair

Carol Diener

June Sturm

Cindy Buchholz

Karen Anklam

Linda Fietzer

Ministry of Education

Gwynne Barry, Chair

Jean Sturm

June Sturm

Kim Delpiere

Ministry of Youth

Ministry of Parish Life

Nancy Schuette, Chair

Pam Sturm

Alice Trost

Paul Schuette

Dawn Hendricks

Cemetery

Steve Schutze

Kevin Trost

Lonnie Schulz

Matt Zimmerman

Audit Committee

Misty Rogers

Tim Fritz

James Schuette

Peg McCrimmon

Suzie Swanson

John Schuette

Nominating Committee

Joy Armstrong

Barb Degg

Eric Gardy

Rachel Higgins

Kirsten Shupe

Brigid Trowbridge

School Board

Dick Koehler, President

Eileen Johnson, Vice-President

Kevin Stachowiak, Secretary

Rita Herford, nonmember rep

Rebecca Yackle, CEA Treasurer

Katie Wilson, CEA Rep.

CEA/PTO

Lindsay Stachowiak-President

Katie Wilson-Vice Pres.

Ashley Shetler -Secretary

Nicole Licht –Treasurer

CHILDCARE BOARD

Mike LaPage

Shannon McCain

Michelle Walsh

Erica King

Nancy Heck

Amber Wise

Handy Helper Ministry

Karen Anklam 551-8265

Patty Cucinello 453-3589

Barbara Degg 856-2678

Delores Elftman 453-2679

Pat Elston 453-2409

Vickie Forster 553-3875

Rachel Higgins 975-0668

Peggy Licht 975-1963

Lori McKenzie 553-3582

Marcine Moore 550-9405

Carol Schadd 550-5150

Donna Schuette 375-4328

Karen Schuette 453-2744

Nancy Schuette 453-3969

Bonnie Schulz 453-3116

Alice Trost 453-2279

Laura Trost 453-3209

Brigid Trowbridge 453-3990

Donna Wheeler 453-3712

Sheila Yackle 453-2589

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**Please let the office know of any changes to these Ministries and Committees.**

Updated 8/27/24

(Officers, Ministries & Committees)