

Cross Lutheran Church

Proclamation March 2022

Pastor Doug Andersen
(920) 474-7242

Dear friends in Christ,

The following was written by Pastor Matthew Best of St. Stephen Lutheran Church in 2020. I thought it was worth sharing as we prepare to enter into Lent.

What is Lent?

There are many answers to this question. It's a season of the church year of course. It's a time in which people give up something they like, or sometimes things they know they shouldn't be doing anyway. Some think of Lent as a time in which there are added things – added spiritual practices, almsgiving, service, worship, etc.

But at it's core, Lent is really about this – preparation for Easter. It's a time in which we prepare space in our lives for the risen Christ on Easter.

And to get to the risen Christ, we must go through death. Yes, Lent is an intentional time of facing death. It is fitting that we start Lent with Ash Wednesday. It is on Ash Wednesday that death gets right in our face – actually on our face – in the form of ashes on our forehead. We hear the words "Remember you are dust and to dust you shall return." There is no escaping death. We are reminded that we are mortal. We are reminded that we can not save ourselves. Rather, there is a Savior for us.

Lent and Easter give us ample opportunity to explore the fullness of the Christian promise – life, death, and resurrection. And to know that we cannot experience resurrection until we go through death. There is no other way.

Resurrection offers us a better life. A renewed life. A life of new possibilities in which the old ways are put aside in favor of something better – even beyond our imagination. The old ways die, but are resurrected as something a bit different. The core of what the old ways were is still there, but the goodness in them is brought out far beyond our wildest imagination.

So what needs to die in your life? What needs to die so that resurrection can take place?

Try letting some or all of the following things die this season: partisan identity and loyalty, addiction to being right, consumeristic tendencies, us versus them beliefs, redemptive violence, scape-

goating, blaming, fear, anger, privilege, allowing money to make decisions in your life, brokenness, sin, abuse, participating in unjust systems, putting your salvation in anything or anyone other than God, selectively choosing what to follow of Jesus' commands, comfort, the wall around your life that protects you from the injustices that others face daily.

When these die, something will be resurrected. In their place will resurrect the ability to see the Image of God in others. In their place will resurrect the wholeness of Shalom. In their place will resurrect creation stewardship. In their place will resurrect forgiveness, love, grace, and peace. In their place will resurrect discipleship and service. In their place will resurrect an empowerment to more fully live into what it means to love God and our neighbor.

Resurrected life is better life. It is transformed life. Why in the world would we want to hold onto the things that prevent us from experiencing resurrected life? The only answer I can come up with is that we are afraid of how resurrected life will change us and that we will no longer be in control. Here's the reality – we've never been in control. Stop fooling yourself. Let that idea die too.

It's time for resurrected life. Lent is a season of intentionally facing death and letting things die. To make room for Jesus. To allow Jesus to take over. To be conquered by Jesus. So that new life can begin. So that the Kingdom of God can unfold in our lives. So that we can see how it is already unfolding. So we can participate in the unfolding of the Kingdom in our midst.

I pray you have a blessed Lent.

Pastor Doug

Flower orders: Reminder!!!! All Orders are due back to Elmo, by March 5th.
Thank you!

Sunday School: Sunday School will be hosted once a month in the fellowship hall after Worship on the 3rd Sunday of the Month. All are welcome!!!

Adult Education: Thursday night text studies are suspended through the Lenten season. Adult education will meet Wednesday Morning at 10:00am at Zion the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the Month. All are welcome!

Serving:

Ixonia Food Pantry: Thank you to all who donated as part of our Souper Bowl! We collected quite a few items for the food pantry. As always remember to donate goods when you can, it's a much-needed resource in our community. Thank you!

Directory Audit and Volunteer Worksheets: Please fill out and return your directory pages as soon as you can. We are looking at re-organizing our volunteer lists and updating our directory. So, we need your help! Hand in your forms to the Office mailbox marked Forms:Office. Thank you!

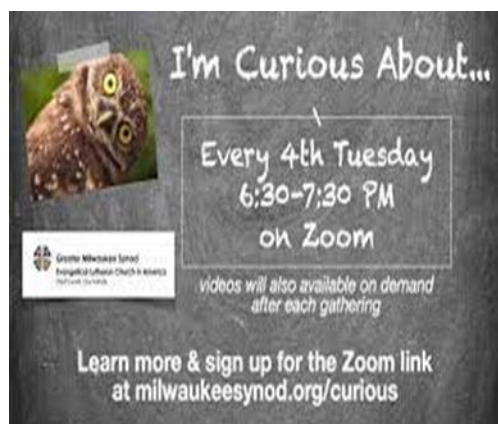
Leadership:

Church Council: Council will meet next on Tuesday, March 8th. Council meetings are usually open meetings. If you are interested in attending please let Pastor or Barb know ahead of time. Thank you!

Fellowship:

Fellowship Time: Coffee Hour! We have resumed fellowship after worship the third Sunday of the month and are looking for volunteers to bring in treats to share. Sign-ups are available in the Narthex.

Coffee Shop conversations: Pastor won't be at Whelan's during the Lenten season. Coffee time will resume after Easter.



Our synod's Mission Table will host an hour-long, monthly gathering on Zoom for Christians who want to dream together about where God is leading the Church.

New topics each month, every 4th Tuesday from 6:30 - 7:30 pm, via Zoom. Come, hear inspiring reflections from others. No experience is needed. All voices are welcome.

Contact Rev. Matthew Short at matt@milwaukeesynod.org with questions.

Maintenance:

The Decorating Committee is comprised of Elmo Wendorf, Cathy Stein, and Terri Watermolen.

Please contact Kurt or Brian if you can help with maintenance work on the parsonage or church.
Kurt: 262-490-2362 or kketcham@wi.rr.com or Brian: 920-988-4949 or trs@netwurx.net

Upcoming Events:

- **March 2nd Ash Wednesday**
- **March 6th First Sunday in Lent**
- **March 9th – April 6th Wednesday Night Lenten Worship**
- **April 12th Palm Sunday**
- **April 17th Easter**

**Usher Schedule: March 6th and 13th Arnie Groehler and Jeff Campbell
March 20th and 27th David and Sandy West**

Ushers please note: When lighting candles, all of the candles are lit on holidays and special Sundays. On “normal weeks” light only the Altar Candles. Thank you!

Communion Assistant/ Reader Schedule:

March 6th: Cindy Kuehn/ Stan Jaeger
March 13th: Jeff Campbell/ Cathy Stein
March 20th: Tammy Ninmann/ Tammy Ninmann
March 27th: Laurene Gunderson/ Jeff Campbell

Altar Guild for March: Tammy Ninmann

Altar Guild for April: Cindy Kuehn

The Office emails: pastor@crosslutheranchurch.com and office@crosslutheranchurch.com
crosszionparish@outlook.com

Pastor Doug's number: (262) 490- 8737

Office number: (920) 474-7242

Pastor Doug's office hours: Tuesday mornings and all day on Thursdays

Adeline will be in the office on Thursday mornings

2022 council members:

(Vice President) Barb Butschke: butschke0690@charter.net

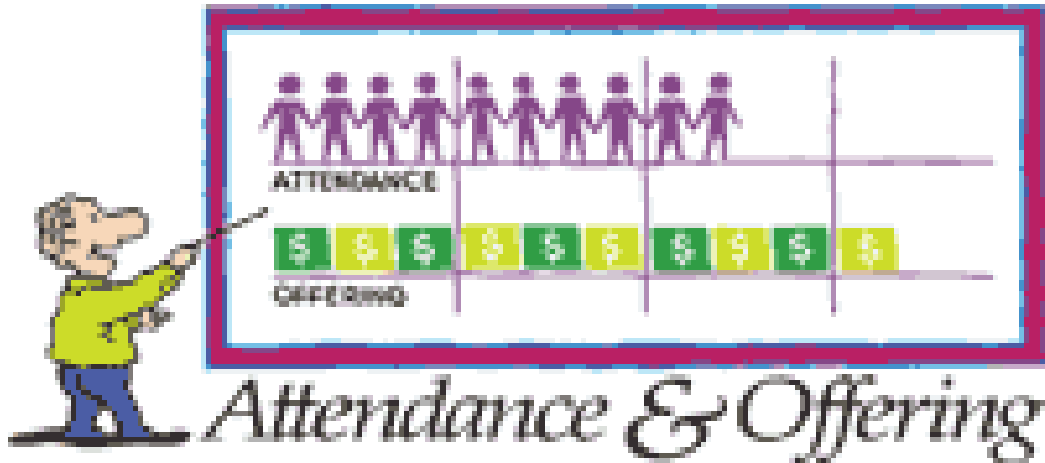
(Financial Secretary) Angie Thrane: althrane22@gmail.com Cell: 414-841-8009

(President) Barb Nyland: bnylandtuss@gmail.com Cell: 920-390-9054

Cindy Kuehn: countrygirlsk@gmail.com

(Recording Secretary) Elmo Wendorf: elmowendorf@msn.com Cell: 414-758-0639

(Treasurer) Janice Bartel: janicerbartel@gmail.com (262) 370- 3638



<u>January</u>			<u>Tithes Collected</u>
January	2:	14	\$1186
January	9:	26	\$1007.82
January	16:	29	\$1056
January	23:	24	\$1215
January	30:	38	

**Cross Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2022**

Present: Pastor Doug, Elmo Wendorf, Terri Watermolen, Barb Nyland, Angie Thrane, Jeff Campbell, Janice Bartel, Barb Butschke.

Elmo called the meeting to order. A quorum was established.

Devotions: Barb B led us in a devotion. "Going to Church"

March – Pastor Doug

April – Terri

May – Janice

June – Angie

July – no meeting?

August – Barb N

September – Jeff

October – Barb B

November – Elmo

December – volunteer needed

January – Barb B

February - ?

Approval of the agenda, December minutes, Financial report and Pastor's report. Discussion on Financial report led by Janice. After discussion Barb B motioned to approve, Jeff seconded. Motion passed.

Team Reports

- a) Worship Team – Hymns and Liturgy were chosen for Lent and Epiphany by the Worship committee. The group also discussed purchasing or making new ribbons for hymnals.
- b) Sunday School/Confirmation – Elmo commented on a lovely Christmas program. January Sunday school falls on the Annual meeting date, so looking at Jan. 30th for a meeting date. Jeff agreed to continue leading the Sunday school program next year.
- c) Decorating Team – Elmo and Janice have contacted Curt Bartel for updates to the outside of the south side of the church. Will need more bids.
- d) Maintenance – Pastor brought up re-striping the parking lot. Will do when it is resurfaced the next time.
- e) Mission Team – Needs to reconvene
- f) Cemetery Team – Needs to reconvene

New Business:

1. Budget: After reviewing the final budget it was decided to add the parsonage property tax to the budget. With this update, Janice motioned to accept the budget with a second by Barb N. Motion passed.
2. Rental property: Discussion regarding timely payment. Terri talked with renters to look into a type of automatic payment plan through their bank. They agreed. Discussion to add to the next lease that checks delivered to church after the 10th of each month will have a 10% charge.

3. Barb N noted that when calling the church it is a very old message. Pastor will check into that. It was also noted the website needs updating as well.
4. Jeff C noted that the Youth Account was being charged for paper statements, so he discontinued that. There is \$474.82 in this account. Janice will add this account to her monthly reports.
5. Annual Meeting: Discussed upcoming annual meeting.
6. New Council members for 2022. Both Terri and Jeff are going off of council after their second term. We have had one volunteer for these replacements. Will see if there are any nominations at the annual meeting.
7. Elmo stated that the Flower Order sheets are here for spring planting. Orders will be due March 5.
8. Pastor proposed to purchase a new laptop to be used at both churches by the secretary. Zion has agreed. Barb N motioned to contribute \$500 toward the purchase of a laptop for Addy. Seconded by Barb B. Motion passed.

Determine next meeting date: February 8 at 6:30 pm at church.

Jeff motioned to close the meeting. Barb B seconded. Approved.

Elmo called the meeting adjourned.

We closed with the Lord's prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Terri Watermolen
Council Secretary

CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
Financial Report -January 2022

General Fund Collections:	Memorials	General Fund Amount
	Includes Rental Income and Memorials	
January 14, 2022	Tithes	\$1,186.00
January 14, 2022	Tithes	\$1,007.82
	Rental checks	\$2,800.00
** Rental Check 12-1-21 \$1,400.00 Returned resubmitted twice.-Outstanding		(\$1,400.00)
January 20,2022	Tithes	\$1,056.00
January 27, 2022	Tithes	\$1,215.00
	Total	<u><u>\$5,864.82</u></u>

Bank Accounts

General Fund Checking:		Balance @ 01/01/22	\$85,226.19
	Deduct:	Outstanding Checks	(\$175.00)
	Actual	Balance @ 01/31/22	<u><u>\$85,051.19</u></u>

Bank Holding Account - Endowment Fund:

Add: Contributions & Interest

Balance @ 1/01/22	\$1,595.66
	<u>\$0.04</u>
Balance @ 1/31/22	<u><u>\$1,595.70</u></u>

Behling Estate Bequest:

			\$25,000.00
2019:	Painting & Carpeting	@ \$17,840.00 50%	(\$8,920.00)
2020:	New Banners	@ \$786.00 50%	(\$393.00)
2021:	New Banners	@ \$2,913.09 50%	(\$1,457.00)
	Balance Available		<u><u>\$14,230.00</u></u>

Gotthilf Bartel Bequest:

Since 2018: Allocate- Cemetery Upkeep
 % of grass cutting

	\$9,673.12
	(\$4,894.00)
Balance Available	<u><u>\$4,779.12</u></u>

Organ Repair:

Prior Year's Memorials and Donations -
Add: Contributions & Memorials

Balance @ 1/31/22 \$1,495.00

Balance Available \$1,495.00

**Respectfully Submitted,
Janice Bartel, Treasurer**