



Cross Lutheran Church Proclamation May 2020

Pastor Doug Andersen
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Sadly once again, all in person events are cancelled until further notice.

However, join us Online at the Parish Facebook page for Worship Services and Daily Reflections, or check your email for updates.

Congregational Report for April 28th

Greetings members of Cross. I hope that everyone is still doing fine. Another month has gone by and we are still under the "stay-at-home" order, although it does look like the restrictions might start to ease up a bit. I think that we are all tired of being cooped up and having to forego our normal activities. Once the warm weather arrives it is going to be even more difficult to hunker down and remain inside. I am going to predict that many of the current restrictions in place will be lifted by the end of May. This will not be an abrupt date, but more likely a gradual lifting of the restrictions. The new "normal" will also look much different. I expect personal protection gear like face masks, gloves and hand sanitizer to follow us wherever we go. Actions like "social distancing" will become an automatic part our daily activities.

Our world has changed these past few weeks. We are not likely to go back to the way things were done in the past. There is a new "normal." This means that there will be changes to the church service, fellowship and how we worship. I do not know exactly how these changes will occur, but things will be different. I would expect some guidance to come down from our Synod, as we alter the worship service, to stay within mandated guidelines. Expect more information to follow in the next few weeks.

I would like to thank everyone for their continued support of our church. In these difficult times your generosity has allowed us to keep the church operating. Please continue to do so, as the need is still great. Thanks also go out to those who helped with the recent Ixonia Food Pantry collection. Our neighbors need and appreciate this help. These projects help to make connections with those around us (I believe that this is part of mission). Service projects like this allow us to make a difference in our community.

I am looking forward to the day when I can see everyone face-to-face. *Facebook* logins and E-mail messages may be the way of the future using technology, but it is just not the same as being there in person.

Thanks,
Arnie

Dear friends in Christ,

What an odd Easter season it has been. I go into the Sanctuary every week for worship, but the pews are empty, and the place is silent. In some ways it is unnerving. This time of year, is when I have the most fun as a pastor – I get to shout at you, “Alleluia, Christ is Risen!” and you get to shout back, “He is Risen Indeed, Alleluia!” Sometimes you’re not very loud, I tell you how pathetic that supposedly joyous acclamation sounds, and we do it all over again. And we laugh.

But now the church is silent. Nevertheless, Easter is happening, Christ is arisen. We worship together even if only through the lens of a camera and the screen of a phone, a tv, or a computer. We spend time together in scripture through our daily devotions. And I want to thank all of you who have encouraged me and given feedback on both the devotions and the worship service. As I have shared with a small few of you I really dislike being on the front end of a camera and (like many of us) I don’t like my voice when recorded. Your words of thanks and encouragement are greatly appreciated.

I want to encourage all of you to reach out to members of the congregation and talk to them. Pull out your directory and pick a name you don’t know well and call to say hello. Let’s check in with one another, remind each other that, though isolated, we are not alone. Your call may be the difference for someone between a good day and a bad one.

I hope we can begin gathering again soon and I can tell you how un-joyous you sound 😊! Until then, stay safe, stay healthy, walk with Christ. Alleluia, Christ is Risen!

Pastor Doug

Confirmation: Confirmation has been rescheduled for Reformation Sunday, October 25th.

Serving:

Ixonix Food Pantry: A note from Sally Stocks, “ Dear Cross Lutheran Church Friends, I know I have said it before, but you folks are AMAZING!... You all took up the challenge and brought donations to the church. Three FULL shopping carts of food and other great items. I almost cried when Terri opened her trunk... You never let me down; you always go above and beyond... Thank you so very much, my families will be delighted!” – Sally Stocks

Great work on the food drive! The food pantry will be in need of continued support, keep them in mind when you have extra. Thank you for your help! Stay safe!

Family Promise: Our times to serve Family Promise in 2020 will be June 7-13, Aug. 30-Sept. 5 and Dec. 6-12.

From Family Promise: “Did you know that on average Family Promise receives 15,000 volunteer hours annually? Did you further know that there are 1,300 volunteers trained to volunteer for Family Promise? The strength of Family Promise is that this organization exists because of our volunteers and celebrates you this week. Thank you!”

Blood Drive: Monday May 11th from 1:30- 6pm Immanuel Lutheran of Lebanon will be hosting a drive. To participate you need to schedule an appointment via the Red Cross. Either call 1-800-RED CROSS or visit redcrossblood.org and enter the code: Lebanon.

Leadership:

Church Council: Council will meet on Tuesday, May 12th, if possible.

Fellowship:

Friends of Cross Lunch are currently cancelled. We will update you when we know more.

Cross Book Club meetings are postponed.

Coffee Shop conversations are cancelled till further notice.

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

Brian: 920-988-4949 or trs@netwurx.net

Upcoming Events:

- **All future events are cancelled, we will update you when we know more.**

All those a part of the Worship Assistant and Usher Calendar, Stay tuned for updates. We will be posting the schedule soon. Check your Email for a copy.

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

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

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

Adeline will be in the office on Thursday Mornings

2020 council members:

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

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