



# Cross Lutheran Church Proclamation September 2018

Bridge Pastor Curt Schneider  
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Sunday Education at 8:30am Sunday Worship at 9:30am  
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Dear Members and Friends of Cross Lutheran Church,

September is a thief. It starts pilfering chlorophyll from summer's lush greens, then hands the crime over to its accomplice, October. Yellow school busses start rolling to warn us that the thief is coming. Yellow leaves give in to gravity, grains yellow, even tough weeds fall victim. And it all happens so fast. It's also true that the older a person becomes the faster time runs.

All time is a gift of God, but we experience its passage differently. Klaus Groth<sup>1</sup> captured the ratio between time and age in a poem called "What is a Year?" Groth was a prolific writer and wrote in North German dialect. In this work, Groth uses *fraction* ("Deel" or "Piece") to describe into the speeding up of time with age. If a year, for example is one-fiftieth of your lifespan, it goes faster than when it was one-tenth. I have translated the poem from the dialect, keeping the meter and rhyme of the original.

## Wat is en Jahr?

Wat is en Jahr?—dat is so vel  
As von din Lebenstid dat Deel  
En Drüttel, Veertel, Föftel is `t  
So lank du Moders Kindchen büst  
Dat is en Süßtel, Achtel noch  
Wenn di Percepter kriggt en Toch  
En Tientel, Twölftelet lett noch vel  
Vör Jungensknepp un Kinnerspel  
En Wek was is se lank! Und wit  
Bet Jahrmarkt und de Wihnachtstid!  
En Winter—gar ni uttometen  
Wa lank en Jahr—noch rein vergeten.

Denn awver kamt die Tiden drad  
Wo't heet: Wa gau die Ferien gat!  
Man meen, veer Weken neem keen Enn—<sup>2</sup>  
Nu sünd se in en Ruff darhen!  
Denn --is de Speltid ganz verstreken  
Den lopt de Jahren as de Weken  
En Dörtigstel, en Vertigstel  
Vun Leben—ja wa löppt dat snell!  
Denn büst du flitig, büst geschäftig—  
Mit eenmal sünd se dar, de Föftig  
Un wat an Jahren kumt und geit  
Is nun, as wull dat flegen deit..  
Denn—och—ein Jahr is blot so vel  
As von din Lebenstid dat Deel.

Cross Lutheran Bridge Pastor Curt Schneider

## What is a Year?

What is a year? No more than this:  
Than of your lifespan just a piece.  
A third or fourth or fifth is it  
when child on mother's lap will sit  
It is sixth, or eighth, no more  
When teacher gives you a passing score.  
A tenth, a twelfth gives ample time  
For youthful jokes and childish rhyme.  
A week—how long was that!—and wide  
`twixt harvest fest and Christmas tide!  
A winter—immeasurable by all.  
How long a year? I can't recall.

But then slow time begins to run  
Who says: How fast vacation's gone!  
Once thought, four weeks would have no end  
Now like a puff of smoke they're spent!  
Then—playtime lasted long and slow.  
As years run now, so weeks did go.  
A thirtieth, a fortieth  
Of life's no more than fleeting breath  
You labor hard and grow so clever  
Fifty dawns on each endeavor.  
So go the years that pile up high  
--seems truly now that they did fly.  
Since—oh—a year is no more than this  
But of your lifespan just a piece.

<sup>1</sup> Born 1818 in Lüttenheid, Dithmarschen, Holstein and died 1898 in Kiel, Holstein.

<sup>2</sup> The sequence of the double "ee" (pronounced as an English long "a") is intended slow the poem down, "man maaayne faaayr, vaaayken naaaym, kaayn ennnn." The nasal "n" in Enn (End) is meant to be sustained..

## **Worship:**

Worship is at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays with Holy Communion on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays. Coffee Hour is on September 2 and 16<sup>th</sup> –You may sign up to host Coffee Hour in any of the months ahead.

You will find nametags in your mailboxes. Please do not take these nametags home with you, but rather use them each Sunday to help our Bridge Pastor and his wife Jean get to know us.

**Worship committee:** We are currently using Setting 8 for our worship services. We would also like to use baked bread on Sundays when possible. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex to bring bread if you would so choose. The Worship committee is looking forward to meeting again when our new Pastor begins.

## **Education:**

### **Sunday school/Confirmation Classes**

- Rally Sunday is Sunday September 9th! We will be kicking off the new school year with games, food and fun from 8:30-9:15 and will share cookies and juice with the congregation after church. All students bring your backpacks for a special blessing during church.

Our theme for September will center around Creation with a scavenger hunt, crafts and then a field trip to Harnischfeger Park on Sunday September 30th! We will leave around 8:30 and return by the end of church service. Permission slips were sent out to all families via email. Invite your friends! Please let Angie Lorier know if you have any questions at [alorier@gmail.com](mailto:alorier@gmail.com). Please send permission slips to Angie or put them in her church mailbox by Sept. 1st.

We are also looking into ordering brand new Cross t-shirts for our youth to wear during upcoming outings, service projects and events. Please email Angie Lorier with your child's t-shirt size by Sept. 1st.

Confirmation Class will be held on Sundays at 8:30 a.m. and will be led by our Bridge Pastor Curt Schneider until our new Pastor is hired. More information will be given at Rally Day.

- We are asking everyone to think and pray about serving as a Sunday school teacher this year. It requires about one Sunday each month as the plan is to teach the children as one group this year. If you are interested and want more information, please see Angie Lorier or Mary Frankiewicz. Thanks!

### **Adult Bible Study**

- Adult Bible study will begin again with our new Pastor.

## **Serving:**

**Highway Clean-up:** To help celebrate “God’s Work. Our Hands” Sunday, we will pick litter on our stretch of Hwy 16 after worship on Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>. Thank you Jeff Campbell for organizing the clean-up.

**Endowment committee:** The Endowment committee met on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. With Council’s approval we awarded \$350 to the Gosling Nest. The Gosling Nest is a ministry that gives gently used clothes and backpacks to students in the Watertown school district.

**Ixonia School:** Because we donated \$1000 toward their playground equipment our name and logo will be displayed on the Ixonia school’s t-shirts this year!

**Family Promise:** Our next time to serve Family Promise is September 23-29.

**Bread and Roses:** Our next time to serve is Oct. 11.

**Pennies for Bibles:** Bring in your pennies! The jar is almost full! On Rally Sunday, the Sunday school children will be guessing how many pennies are in the jar! After counting how many pennies there are, we will then send this money to American Bible Society to purchase bibles for those in need.

## **Leadership:**

Council will meet Monday, September 10 at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

### **Giving**

By Ruth Behling

More blessed than receiving

Is generously to give;

For in our selfless sharing

Christ’s spirit yet does live.

Ruth Behling passed away on March 5, 2017. Cross Church has been blessed with the generous heart of Ruth as the church office received the money from Ruth Behling’s estate for the sum of \$25,000. The council discussed and will be discussing the best ways to use these funds for the improvements of the church and other purposes associated with the welfare of Cross Congregation. Council agreed that going forward with these discussions, communication is key and encourages members to share their ideas with the council.

**Transition Update:** The Call committee is: Dave West (chairperson), Todd Watermolen, Cindy Kuehn, Kayla Thrane, John Butschke, Angie Lorier.

The Call Committee has eliminated one candidate and is in the process of completing the second interview with two separate candidates. Please see Dave W for any further updates.

## **Fellowship:**

**Friends of Cross Lunch** will be held at Café LaBelle on Wednesday, September 15 at 11:00 a.m. Come and be fed with good food and light conversation! All are welcome!

**Coffee Hour** will be on Sept. 2 and 16<sup>th</sup>. You may sign up in the narthex to host any coffee hours. This is very simple – there are cookies in the “coffee hour” container in the kitchen and coffee/creamer in the refrigerator. You need only come in and make the coffee/serve and clean up.

**Cross Book Club** will meet again on Thursday, Sept. 13 at Mary Jo Dobberfuhl’s home. The book we will be discussing is Lillian Boxfish Takes a Walk by Kathleen Rooney.

## **Maintenance:**

At the August Council meeting, we were advised by Maintenance Committee Chair, Kurt Ketcham, to move the cedar shake repair and the parking lot work up on the Maintenance list. The consensus from the council was to get quotes for sealing and painting the parking lot this fall. Angie volunteered Troy to looking in to getting these quotes. Replacing the cedar shingles on steeple will need further discussion.

Here is the prioritized maintenance list the council has come up with:

#1. Fellowship hall lights: replace the burnt-out bulbs and broken glass light shade. Elmo and Arnie worked on this in August.

#2: Steeple Cross repair is complete! Pete Monis will put the light on a timer.

#3 Carpet/Interior work. A Decorating Committee has been formed – Elmo Wendorf, Cathy Stein, Mary Frankiewicz and Terri Watermolen. This committee has prioritized improvements for the interior of the church and is currently getting estimates for the work. The prioritized list is 1) Painting the altar area walls and dome and sacristy (this includes priming the panels on the walls), 2) Painting (and priming) the paneled walls of the church area and 3) replacing the carpeting. A timeline to accomplish this list, or just part of the list, has not been established. The committee hopes to have a display of color and carpet sample along with estimates and different ways members can help financially by early June.

#4 Front Exterior of church. We have a committee of Sherrie/Brian Tietz and Dyan Pasano. This committee will put together estimates of improving the outside entrance area on the south side of the church.

#5 Steeple cedar shake.

#6 Organ Repair (added after the May Council meeting)

#7 Church parking lot sealing

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](mailto:kketcham@wi.rr.com)

Brian: 920-988-4949 or [trs@netwurx.net](mailto:trs@netwurx.net)

## **Parsonage Update:**

The parsonage is cleaned and ready for potential Pastor walk-throughs. Arnie and Tom Frankiewicz are working on “animal proofing” under the front porch, and around the church (lots of woodchuck activity!), Terri will work on the small window pane replacement on the outside porch door.

## **Upcoming Events:**

- **Coffee Hour:** Sept. 2 and 16
- **Church council:** Sept. 10 at 6:30 p.m.
- **Cross Friends Lunch:** Sept. 19 at 11:00 a.m.
- **Rally Sunday!** Sept. 9
- **Highway Clean-up** Sept. 9
- **Book Study:** Sept. 13

## **Thoughts to Ponder:**

**Sunday school teacher** Please give some thought to helping to teach Sunday school this year. The children will be taught in one group, so the teachers will rotate throughout the year. It means you will need to teach about once every month or less. Or if you would like to teach on a special day (Mission Fest, near Thanksgiving, Valentine’s, Holy week etc) please let Angie Lorier or Mary Frankiewicz know.

**Picture Directory** The Council would like to create a Picture Directory to help our future Pastor get to know all of us. Please send a close-up picture of you and/or your family to [office@crosslutheranchurch.com](mailto:office@crosslutheranchurch.com). If you do not have access to a computer to send a picture, please let Terri know. We will take pictures of people/families that are not equipped to do this on their own. Please see a sample Picture Directory in the Narthex.

**Name Tags** You will find in your mailboxes your own personal nametag that has magnetic strips on it so you do not have to “pin” it on to your clothes. Please do not take this nametag home, but rather leave it in your mailboxes to use each Sunday. As we will be having supply Pastors and a Bridge Pastor, followed by our called Pastor, these nametags will help all of these people know us better.

## Worship Assistants

### Sept. 2

**Lector:** Barb Butschke

**Communion Assistant:** Barb Butschke/Joyce Ketcham

**Ushers:** Troy/Angie Thrane

### Sept. 9

**Lector:** Jeannette Christian

**Ushers:** Troy/Angie Thrane

### Sept. 16

**Lector:** Angie Thrane

**Communion Assistant:** Angie Thrane/Riley Lorier

**Ushers:** Kurt/Joyce Ketcham

### Sept. 23

**Lector:** Tammy Ninmann

**Ushers:** Kurt/Joyce Ketcham

### Sept. 30

**Lector:** Mary Jo Dobberfuhl

**Communion Assistant:** Mary Jo/Abigail Paulsberg

**Ushers:** Kurt/Joyce Ketcham

Willing to serve? Contact Jeannette Christian if you're willing to serve as an usher and Sue Genz if you're willing to serve as a lector or communion assistant. Thank you!

Need to switch? Please find a replacement and contact Jeannette or Sue.

**September Altar Guild:** Terri Watermolen

The Office emails have been changed to: [pastor@crosslutheranchurch.com](mailto:pastor@crosslutheranchurch.com) and [office@crosslutheranchurch.com](mailto:office@crosslutheranchurch.com)

### **2018 council members:**

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

Mary Frankiewicz: [frankim7@yahoo.com](mailto:frankim7@yahoo.com) Cell: 920-988-9533

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

Beverly Paulsberg: [biffpaulsberg@hotmail.com](mailto:biffpaulsberg@hotmail.com) Home: 920-474-4972 Cell: 920-988-5838

Jeff Campbell: [jtsoup314@gmail.com](mailto:jtsoup314@gmail.com) Cell: 715-572-9888

(President) Arnie Groehler: [jmgroehler@aol.com](mailto:jmgroehler@aol.com) Home: 262-468-4218 Cell: 262-490-9363

Elmo Wendorf: [elmowendorf@msn.com](mailto:elmowendorf@msn.com) Cell: 414-758-0639

(Treasurer) Stan Jaeger: [sjaeger1@wi.rr.com](mailto:sjaeger1@wi.rr.com) Cell: 414-745-4979

(Recording Secretary) Terri Watermolen: [twatermolen@gmail.com](mailto:twatermolen@gmail.com) Cell: 414-614-9243

**Cross Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting Minutes  
July 16, 2018**

Present: Pastor Schneider, Jeff Campbell, Elmo Wendorf, Arnie Groehler, Terri Watermolen, Angie Thrane, Barb Nyland.

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

Devotions were led by Pastor Schneider. Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

Approve the agenda, Secretary's report – June 11th minutes, Financial report from Stan (all reports previously distributed via email and reviewed) Angie motioned to accept the reports and minutes and Elmo seconded. Motion passed.

Ruth Behling's estate distribution: The church office received the money from Ruth Behling's estate for the sum of \$25,000. Discussion pursued regarding where to deposit this money. Elmo motioned to deposit this money in the General checking account for now. Mary seconded. Motion passed. The council discussed and will be discussing the best ways to use these funds for the improvements of the church and other purposes associated with the welfare of Cross Congregation. Council agreed that going forward with these discussions, communication is key and encourages members to share their ideas with the council. Arnie will announce in church this Sunday and a council member will repeat announcements for three consecutive Sundays.

#### **Committee Reports**

- a) Worship – July 29 we will have a guest singer – Anna, who is Arnie's grandson's friend.
- b) Maintenance updates – Hwy 16 sign. Discussion continues on what to do with the Hwy 16 sign. Barb will check with Windwood golf club to see where they had their sign made, which is a simple "arrow" sign that could possibly be mounted to the top of the already existing sign. Arnie stated that the downspouts on the garage have plants growing out of them. Arnie will take care of that as well as the filling in of some holes that are around the parsonage. Pete Monis is to follow up with timer on steeple lights. Prayer Garden – Tammy and Barb Butschke have weeded.
- c) Call committee update: No update as of tonight's meeting.
- d) Decorating Committee update: is meeting this Wednesday to review colors and carpet samples and to look at other churches colors/carpeting. Joe Rayman is donating dome painting. Elmo has volunteered to cover the cost of the painting on altar walls. The committee is hoping to have a display by August with suggestions of how to improve the interior of our church.
- e) Exterior Restoration Committee: Brian/Sherrie Tietz and Dyan Pasano.
- f) Cemetery report. Stan and Virginia have taken charge of the Cemetery sign and it looks great. Arnie will contact Edgar to get a copy of cemetery plans.

#### **New Business**

Septic system three year inspection is due. Kory Van Dorf will do this when he returns from Arizona.

Troy does not want to be reimbursed for gas for his mowing.

Mary F. brought up her father's 5x7 foot paintings needing a home. Council decided to pass on the paintings. Bridge Pastor contract. It was decided by all that a contract is not needed. Pastor Schneider's salary is set per synod guidelines.

Jeff reported the next Hwy clean-up is Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>. This will also be Rally Sunday and God's Work our Hands Sunday.

Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> is Bike Ride for Hope.

Mary F reported that we are in need of Sunday school teachers. Jeff volunteered to help with teaching. Terri will put in August newsletter. Council will discuss Rally Sunday and Sunday school in general at our next meeting.

Mary F stated a member was asking about the amount of money we are giving to the Synod. We currently are giving \$5000 annually (which is down from \$9000). This payment is spread out as monthly payments. Pastor Schneider needs Sept. 2 off. Terri will find a replacement.

Next meeting Aug. 13 at 6:30 p.m. at church.

We closed with the Lord's prayer

Arnie adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Terri Watermolen  
Council Secretary