



# CrossCurrents

The Monthly  
Newsletter  
of Cross of Christ  
Lutheran Church

MAY/JUNE  
2015

## TOWN HALL MEETING

Sunday, May 31 at 11:30 am

## CONFIRMATION

SUNDAY May 31

## ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, June 7 at 11:30 am

## ADULT FAITH FORMATION SERIES

### How Shall We Pray?

May 3, 17, and 24 Pastor Adrienne will teach a class on prayer: Speaking to God, Listening to God, and Communing with God. Because both Jesus and Martin Luther suggested it, we will be using the Lord's Prayer to explore these different ways of praying.

## Pastor's Perspective

Here's an old joke. Q: How many Lutherans does it take to change a light bulb? A: Change! Who said anything about change!

We Lutherans have a reputation as folks who are not exactly all that flexible, as a people not so pliable, as a church that doesn't like change. I find that to a degree true, to a degree false, and to a large degree ironic.

True, there is an element in our corporate DNA that is resistant to change. Many of us are not only Lutheran, but trace our heritage to people and places noted for appreciating the tried and true ways more than innovation, and for valuing keeping things quiet and settled over rocking the boat. At its best, this attitude is about stability, and respect for tradition, and firm foundations. But at its worse it can devolve into that "because we've never done it that way before" attitude for which we Lutherans are infamous.

But this perception is by no means wholly (or holy) true. We are people who have changed. We are people not only of the historic Reformation, but who are constantly called to be re-formed by God. In our history, our spiritual forefathers and mothers not only changed the course of Christianity, but left us a legacy of adaptability. They changed continents. They changed

languages. They changed their attitudes and actions in many important ways. It may take Lutherans a little longer to come around to it, but darn it, we can to change a light bulb – and a church, and ourselves, guided and prodded by the Holy Spirit.

And so it is ironic that we Lutherans, who stand first in the line of Martin Luther and the other Reformer who changed the church and changed history, are thought of as people reluctant of change.

Personally these past seven months have been filled with change. These changes have included a new call, a new state, a new climate, a new home, and new work for my wife. We've sent our only son off to college (in Iowa, no less). Being empty nesters is a big change! I've changed my understanding about Seattle (it doesn't actually rain every day). Lots has changed for me.

Things are changing here at Cross of Christ, too. And they will continue to change. For all living things, the opposite of change isn't really stability. It's death. Change means we are learning, and adapting, and growing, and challenging ourselves, and stepping out in faith. Change means we're trying, that we're taking on holy experiments and risking hopeful efforts. Change means we're alive. And while change isn't easy, I know we're up for it, as we ask God to help and guide us.

Pastor Dave

# Congregations for the Homeless

## *Cross of Christ hosts the men of CFH for the month of May*

- Ways you can be involved in this ministry:
- Pray for the men in the shelter and those who work with them.
- Make a part of the evening meal, i.e. entrée, salad, side dish, or dessert.
- Help with setting up for and serving the evening meal.
- Visit with the men in the evenings. This works best if you can come several times. 7-8:15 PM
- Make sandwiches for lunches.
- Donate food items or funds for needed breakfast, sack lunches and the many other items needed i.e. coffee, napkins, ziplock bags etc. Many items are nonperishable and can be purchased and delivered ahead of time.
- Bake cookies, muffins, fruit breads, etc.
- Be on a "Call me" list.
- Other—your idea of how you can be a part of this ministry. Do you have a talent or interest to share?

To volunteer or learn more about CFH, you can call Nadine Bentsen 747-1543 or email [nadinebentsen@yahoo.com](mailto:nadinebentsen@yahoo.com).

## Here's to Your Stewardship Health!

*From your Growth Core Team*

...a merry heart does good like a medicine...! And, the Stewardship play certainly satisfied that! Thanks to Lorelee Hedlund and all involved! Check out "laughter" for health purposes on the Internet!

Okay, let's not stop with laughter. Check out "tears"! Also, healthy release. Another place to find help, our library! Barbara McDonald keeps some great reads handy for check-out. Look for the New Books shelf on the left, as you walk into the library. Author Jan Karon has a *new book* out for all *Mitford series* fans on that shelf, good for tears and laughter. She keeps our library organized with good book faces out in each section. Choose what pleases you, and pass the good news on!

## Youth

Hi all! Spring has sprung, as the saying goes, and you're on the final countdown to the day in June when you can pack the homework away for a few short weeks! But just as school isn't done yet, neither are we. However, our times together are, for the most part, not happening on Sunday evenings, so read closely.

The first weekend of May brings our last YD retreat. We'll be at Cross of Christ on Saturday, May 2, beginning at 10 am. The day has a couple of activities in addition to class sessions; also, retreat participants will be serving dinner for Congregations for the Homeless in the evening, so plan on being here until around 8 pm. The daytime activities are for YD participants, but dinner is open to everyone; more information coming soon, including sign-ups to bring food to feed the men in the CfH program.

Sunday, May 3, there are no youth activities in the evening owing to the retreat the day before, but it's my birthday, so come hang out in my office before worship and I'll feed you cinnamon rolls and hot cocoa! The weekend after that--May 10 is Mothers' Day. It's a great chance to remember your own mother or mothering figure, and to facilitate that, there will be no youth activities that evening.

May 31 is Affirmation of Baptism Sunday. Please come to lend your prayers and voices in support of those making a statement of faith on that day and have some cake after the service! Again, no youth activities that evening.

Two things in June: an end-of-year bonfire out back on June 7 at 5pm (bring your friends!) and a study night on June 14. Cross of Christ will provide the tutors for English/LA, math, science, and possibly Spanish, as well as food, a few relaxation activities, and prayer. You bring your end-of-year projects, study materials, and anything else you need. Please plan on signing up with Kristie beforehand so that we can plan for tutors. More info for these events coming soon as well.

See you all soon!

Kristie Walker, Youth and Family Ministries

## LARKS TO CAMANO ISLAND

All art lovers are invited for an outing to Camano Island for the 17th Annual Studio Tour. Tours are offered on May 8-10 and May 16 and 17, 10 am to 5 pm each day, and feature 43 artists, 30 studios and three galleries. There are also many nice restaurants in the area. Carpooling will be offered to those who are interested. Sign up at the Visitor Desk.

## FINANCIALS

| Financial Report                    |                   |                  |                   |                    |                   |                    |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Month and YTD Ended February 2015   |                   |                  |                   |                    |                   |                    |
|                                     | Month             |                  |                   | Year - to - Date   |                   |                    |
|                                     | Actual            | Budget           | Fav (Unfav)       | Actual             | Budget            | Fav (Unfav)        |
| <b>Revenue</b>                      |                   |                  |                   |                    |                   |                    |
| February 2015 General Fund Receipts | \$ 31,237         | \$ 38,271        | \$ (7,034)        | \$ 332,973         | \$ 378,908        | \$ (45,935)        |
| February 2015 Other Income          | \$ 2,097          | \$ 1,633         | \$ 464            | \$ 18,271          | \$ 17,583         | \$ 688             |
| <b>February 2015 Total Income</b>   | <b>\$ 33,334</b>  | <b>\$ 39,904</b> | <b>\$ (6,570)</b> | <b>\$ 351,244</b>  | <b>\$ 396,491</b> | <b>\$ (45,247)</b> |
| <b>Expenses</b>                     |                   |                  |                   |                    |                   |                    |
| February 2015                       | 38,295            | 40,111           | 1,816             | 370,623            | 397,802           | 27,179             |
| <b>Net/Year to Date Net</b>         | <b>\$ (4,961)</b> |                  |                   | <b>\$ (19,379)</b> |                   |                    |

| Financial Report                 |                  |                  |               |                    |                   |                    |
|----------------------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Month and YTD Ended March 2015   |                  |                  |               |                    |                   |                    |
|                                  | Month            |                  |               | Year - to - Date   |                   |                    |
|                                  | Actual           | Budget           | Fav (Unfav)   | Actual             | Budget            | Fav (Unfav)        |
| <b>Revenue</b>                   |                  |                  |               |                    |                   |                    |
| March 2015 General Fund Receipts | \$ 36,656        | \$ 38,271        | \$ (1,615)    | \$ 369,629         | \$ 417,181        | \$ (47,552)        |
| March 2015 Other Income          | \$ 3,368         | \$ 1,633         | \$ 1,735      | \$ 21,639          | \$ 19,216         | \$ 2,423           |
| <b>March 2015 Total Income</b>   | <b>\$ 40,024</b> | <b>\$ 39,904</b> | <b>\$ 120</b> | <b>\$ 391,268</b>  | <b>\$ 436,397</b> | <b>\$ (45,129)</b> |
| <b>Expenses</b>                  |                  |                  |               |                    |                   |                    |
| March 2015                       | 39,519           | 40,216           | 697           | 410,142            | 438,019           | 27,877             |
| <b>Net/Year to Date Net</b>      | <b>\$ 505</b>    |                  |               | <b>\$ (18,874)</b> |                   |                    |

**Storage Issues** – It is time to sort out storage issues in our building. Many groups, both congregation teams and groups that use our building, are asking for storage space. There are three portables, a garage, numerous closets, and cubby holes to tend to. Over the next several months, Jeff Albright and Art Hill will be inventorying storage locations, identifying which group, committee, teams are storing items in each. Many of these areas have material that is out of date and forgotten about. In May, we'll be targeting Portable E/F. If this is the first you've heard about this effort and you know what is in there, we need to know. We will be going slow, asking what items will be used for, wondering if someone could use a forgotten treasure, and eventually distributing items no longer needed to the right group.

For more information, contact Jeff Albright, Art Hill, or me, Erik Paulson.

## QUILTS AND PERSONAL CARE KITS DISTRIBUTED

The Cross of Christ Quilters recently distributed 75 quilts to people in need. The quilts went to the following organizations: Lutheran World Relief (23), Sophia Way (11), Congregations for the Homeless (6), Baby Corner (23), Compass Alliance (10), and Emergency Service Center (2). Quilts are distributed every six months. If you would like to help please join us on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month from – 10 am to 2 pm. Bring your lunch. For more information please call Sandra Volkman at 425-644 -9604. Fifty-two personal care kits containing a towel, clippers, soap, comb and toothbrush were also distributed to Lutheran World Relief.

Main Office Hours: Mon–Thurs 9:30am–2pm  
425.746.7300

Contact Information

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 Church Council [Council3@cofcl.net](mailto:Council3@cofcl.net)  
 The Ark Childcare 425-644-5414 [thearkatcofc.org](http://thearkatcofc.org)

What is happening with our Mission to Tanzania? Come to an informational meeting on Sunday, June 14 at 11:15 to find out.



Emerald City Ringers presents

# PANORAMA

A handbell concert featuring music of the Northwest

**Saturday, May 9 - 7pm**  
 Cross of Christ Lutheran Church  
 411 156th Ave NE • Bellevue

**Saturday, May 30 - 7pm**  
 University Temple United Methodist Church  
 1415 NE 43rd St • Seattle

A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

Suggested Donation: \$12 adult | \$30 family | \$8 Students/Seniors | \$5 Child

Emerald City Ringers, Artists in Residence at Cross of Christ, present PANORAMA, a handbell concert featuring music of the Northwest. *Carillon* will perform one piece with ECR, in addition to a solo piece.

Join ECR and Carillon on Saturday, May 9 at 7pm in the Sanctuary. There is a suggested donation of \$12 per adult, \$8 per student/senior, and \$30 per family. A portion of the concert’s proceeds benefit Cross of Christ’s programming.



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