

CrossCurrents

Pastor's Perspective

I like this time of year – late summer, early fall. I like the mix of some lingering warm days and some increasingly cooler nights. I enjoy the changing colors of the leaves on the trees. My favorite sport, baseball, comes to a climax with the race to the playoffs, and the World Series, also called the Fall Classic, while college and pro football is also underway. There's a lot to like about September and October.

As a kid, I loved learning, so heading back to school this time of year was something I looked forward to, not dreaded. I still love learning. As a boy, I spent hours reading through volumes of the World Book Encyclopedia. I can still get lost in discovery in today's encyclopedia, the Internet, researching a sermon or preparing for a bible study.

Over the past few months, I've been delighted to discover that there are lots of other adults at Cross of Christ who also love to learn, especially about their faith. When I launched my first Adult Faith Formation series here a while back, I was hopefully that at least a few folks would show up. To my very pleasant surprise, about 40 did. And what amazed me even more is they came back the next week, and the next, and they keep on coming!

I've had a great time studying and sharing what I've learned at our Adult Faith Formation time. I'm looking forward to this fall and beyond, as we'll be doing some more bible studies, exploring some interesting aspects of our faith tradition and

history, and digging deeper into topics of interest. I know we'll have a great time learning together.

What I don't know for sure is what the topics of our upcoming studies will be. That's because I'm asking participants in the class to pick what they'd like to learn about. The list of possible studies include Judaism of the New Testament and Christianity's Jewish Roots, an Introduction to Biblical Greek, studies of the books of Ruth, Ecclesiastes, or Ephesians, and Patristic History: the Faith of our Fathers and Mothers.

If any of those pique your interest, and you haven't already, why not drop in and check out Adult Faith Formation? Or if you have other ideas for topics to study together, send me an email or come by my office. As the Psalmist wrote, the word of the Lord is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Let's walk that path together this fall.



Have you seen our new signs? These young faces—and the many other faces that use our campus—thank you for practicing mindfulness as you journey through our parking lot!

Return to Two Services in October



TRADITIONAL



CONTEMPORARY/MOSAIC

After an interlude of 20 months, Cross of Christ is returning to a two-service Sunday schedule, beginning October 11. Council approved a proposal from Pastor Dave, the Worship & Welcome Core Team, and the Worship Committee for the two services, with a Traditional service at 9 am, a Contemporary/Mosaic service at 11, and Faith Formation time between services.

“With our commitment to be a missional community desiring to serve our members and connect with more and more of our neighbors, offering two uplifting services with two distinct styles of music and worship settings is critical,” Pastor Dave said. “The more services we offer, the more potential we have to reach new people and meet their worship needs. We also recognize that many of our current members prefer one worship style over the other that we offer, and now folks can once again choose a style that enables them to worship more deeply and comfortably.”

As part of the proposal, services will be combined during the summer, from the Sunday of Memorial Day to the Sunday of Labor Day. Additionally, services will be combined into one on the fifth Sundays of months with the “bonus” Lord’s Day. Fifth Sundays will also feature special music, creative worship experiences, and fellowship events after the service. Fifth Sunday combined services will be held on November 29, January 31 and May 29. Both summer and Fifth Sunday services will feature a blended format, and will begin at 9 am.

“In growing to two services, we don’t want to lose the connectivity that having only one service affords,” Pastor Dave added. “While expanding our worship offerings is important, so too is the fellowship of being together. The Fifth Sunday plan enables us to

do both – expand worship opportunities and still worship together frequently.”

In support of the expanded worship schedule, Choir Director David Hendrix has accepted the position of Director of Music Ministries, beginning September 16. This three-quarter time position was also approved by Council at its meeting in August.

“I’m very excited to accept this expanded position as the Director of Music Ministries at Cross of Christ,” David said. “This community has been such a blessing to Sarah and me and we are both incredibly appreciative of this opportunity. I have always been impressed with the musical gifts this congregation has to offer and it will be my privilege to continue finding new opportunities and creative ways to enhance our worship services.”

Mark your calendars now, put a note on your mirror, tie a string around your finger, and get ready for the expanded worship schedule this fall!

*Mark your calendars for the
Feast of St. Francis
Blessing of the Animals
service
on Sunday October 4*



Look for the red carpet leading our special guests to the VIP entrance and seating area. All beloved pets are welcome for the service and for their safety we ask that they be leashed or crated. Worship will be at 10 am and the blessing will take place in the courtyard following worship at approximately 11 am.

FINANCIALS

Financial Report
Month and YTD Ended June 2015

	Month			Year - to - Date		
	Actual	Budget	Fav (Unfav)	Actual	Budget	Fav (Unfav)
Revenue						
June 2015 General Fund Receipts	\$ 31,342	\$ 30,000	\$ 1,342	\$ 63,927	\$ 60,000	\$ 3,927
June 2015 Other Income	\$ 2,389	\$ 2,025	\$ 364	\$ 5,517	\$ 3,750	\$ 1,767
June 2015 Total Income	\$ 33,731	\$ 32,025	\$ 1,706	\$ 69,444	\$ 63,750	\$ 5,694
Expenses						
June 2015	49,466	37,735	(11,731)	85,151	76,221	(8,930)
Net/Year to Date Net	\$ (15,735)			\$ (15,707)		

Financial Report Month and YTD Ended July 2015						
	Month			Year - to - Date		
	Actual	Budget	Fav (Unfav)	Actual	Budget	Fav (Unfav)
Revenue						
July 2015 General Fund Receipts	\$ 29,231	\$ 30,000	\$ (769)	\$ 93,158	\$ 90,000	\$ 3,158
July 2015 Other Income	\$ 1,670	\$ 2,025	\$ (355)	\$ 7,186	\$ 5,775	\$ 1,411
July 2015 Total Income	\$ 30,901	\$ 32,025	\$ (1,124)	\$ 100,344	\$ 95,775	\$ 4,569
Expenses						
July 2015	22,832	37,875	15,043	107,983	114,096	6,113
Net/Year to Date Net	\$ 8,069			\$ (7,639)		

EXPLORE YOUR FAMILY HISTORY WITH US



Our **ROOTS** Genealogy Group will kick off a new year of family history research on **Wednesday, September 30**. We meet monthly in the Cross of Christ library from 10:30 am to 1:30 pm. All are welcome. Whether you're new to genealogy or already have a start, we'd love to have you join us. We'll get you started and teach you the basics, or give you tips on how to proceed. Several of our members have recently submitted DNA samples for testing. Come hear what we've found out about our family origins and learn how you can find yours. The results may surprise you! Bring your laptop or flash drive, invite your friends, and plan to join us. Questions? Contact **Bev Walker, 425-453-8463** or **Jean Mills, 425-861-9885**.

From Pastor Adrienne :



A big thank you to everyone who joined me in my weekly walking office hour at Larsen Blueberry farm over the summer! We'll take a break

through the fall/winter and may just do it again next year. Keep up the good work!

It's not too late to get your miles in for the God's Work our Feet Challenge. You can track your miles in the notebook at the Registration Desk or email Pastor Adrienne at pastoradrienne@cofclc.net.



The Grief Group

The Grief Group meets the third Wednesdays of each month in the Youth Room.



**October
10, 2015**



Join us at 4:30 pm
in the Fellowship
Hall

Kitchen Upgrades Underway

Realtors say one of the best ways to increase value in your home is to remodel your kitchen. At Cross of Christ, recent and ongoing upgrades are adding real value for all who use the church kitchen.

Over the past several months efforts have been underway to complete several upgrades. This has been made possible through the Pribbernow Memorial, and other generous donations from congregational members.

These upgrades have included reallocating the room next to the freezer as the Kitchen Supply Closet. This will provide one place to store food and other equipment utilized by ministries involved with meal preparation and receptions. This room has been cleaned out, painted and additional shelving installed. A few more minor things are needed to complete this project.

In the kitchen itself, upgrades include the installation of a new kitchen sink, installation of a granite countertop, resurfacing of the cooking and serving countertops, and installation of a stainless countertop on the preparation island. By the middle of September, a brand new, high-quality stove top will be installed to replace the original one that is no longer working efficiently. A tiled backsplash along the sink/dishwasher wall will also be in place in the next two weeks.

Once all of these kitchen upgrades are accomplished, the walls will be painted and a deep cleaning of the kitchen completed. If you get a chance, come on by and see the upgrades already finished, and the continued progress during the first half of September!

Greetings from your friendly Youth and Family Programs coordinator!

I'm going to make a point here eventually, so stick with me.

Hymn #731 in the red hymnal (AKA Evangelical Lutheran Worship, the book we sing out of at church) has the following verse:

*“Classrooms and labs,
Loud boiling test tubes,
Sing to the Lord a new song!
He has done marvelous things.
I, too, will praise him with a new song!”*

The whole hymn (in case you're not familiar with it) goes into a whole range of things--earth, stars, planets, wind, rain, trumpets, engines, workers, etc--and finishes each part with “sing to the Lord a new song.” It goes on for six verses that seem endless unless played with the right amount of zest.

It makes me think of the start of another school year. It starts off exciting--yaay, a new song, a new year. And then somewhere around the third verse--or November--as you repeat the chorus--or yet another page of homework--it might start to feel repetitive.

But it's all a new song, and all of God's works are STILL marvelous, even if they don't always feel like it. And YOU too are marvelous, and we're so glad you've chosen to be marvelous here with us!

So getting on to my point... We have a marvelous year coming up, with many marvelous things! Watch your email for a calendar--or email me at youth@cofcl.net if you don't get my email newsletters--or subscribe to our Google calendar: youthandfamily.cofc@gmail.com. Youth Discipleship and Sunday School will be starting in September; we'll also be doing the Challenge Course at South Bellevue Community Center on September 20th. October has a YD retreat and a service project, which will continue through November and on a limited basis after that. Each following month has an event, retreat, or outing, so keep in touch, because we'd love to see you there!

Keep singing, and I hope to see you all soon! --Kristie

M E A N I N G F U L M O V I E S
ON THE EASTSIDE

**Presents the 2015-16
9-Film Series**
Starting September 15th

Gather with other community members to engage in entertaining, educational and topical films. These films have been chosen based on quality, educational value and potential for community dialog.
Come and join in the dialog!

The September '15 - January '16 Lineup:

September 15th	<i>Cascadia - The Hidden Fire</i> The riveting story of what scientists and ordinary people are discovering about the Cascadia Fault and its potentially devastating power!
October 20th	<i>Return of the River</i> The story of the largest dam removal project in history - the Elwha dam in Olympic National Park!
November 17th	<i>Fresh</i> How farmers, activists and entrepreneurs in the Shenandoah Valley are challenging the conventional "agri-business" model of food production.
December 15th	<i>Sweet Dreams</i> A fascinating look at how a Brooklyn-based ice cream company helped transform a war-torn community in Rwanda.
January 19th	<i>White Like Me</i> Acclaimed educator and best selling author Tim Wise explores race in the US through the lens of whiteness and white privilege.

Watch for the rest of the 2016 schedule!

Gather with your neighbors for refreshments, a movie and discussion!
6:30 PM on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, September - May
 St. Margaret's Episcopal Church • 4228 Factoria Blvd SE, Bellevue 98006
Across from Newport High School

Free & Open to the Public!
 Suggested donation is \$5/person, but no one will be turned away!

For more information: jkftahiti@comcast.net
 Jointly sponsored by the Earthkeeping Team at Holy Cross Lutheran,
 St. Margaret's Episcopal Church Outreach Team and East Shore Unitarian Church

Get the Latest Updates on the Movies - visit us on

News From the Ark



As we enter the new school year, about 75% of the children at the Ark move into a new classroom, while a few of the younger ones in the group stay back. The ones that stay back are now the oldest in their group. It is a time for learning new skills and sometimes taking on a new role - such as being a leader because you are now the oldest.

The Ark has been a leader in Early



Education for over 22 years. Our curriculum fosters learning through individualized instructions, faith-based teaching and a deep understanding about how young children learn. While every preschool is

different, there are some traits the best ones share, according to Martha E. Mock, assistant professor at the University of Rochester Warner School of Education. "Young children learn best through meaningful interaction with real materials and caring adults and their peers, not through the drilling of isolated skills," she says.

Frequently in play-based child care some parents wonder, "What is my child learning? Shouldn't he (or she) be writing more or drilled on basic skills such as letters and numbers? " However, the contrary is true. "Research...shows that academic preschools offer children no long-term advantages academically, but make them more anxious," says Roberta



Golinkoff, author of *Einstein Never Used Flash Cards: How Our Children Really Learn and Why They Need to Play More and Memorize Less.*

Free play: With free play, the child is able to make choices (thinking for themselves) about what and who they play with. In free play, teachers have the opportunity to have 1:1 time with children to get to know their needs.

Open ended questions and conversations are the window into the child. When you ask meaningful questions and have ongoing conversations, you can learn what the child knows already, what skills they are building and how they think.

The Ark curriculum utilizes individualized instruction and intentional planning as it's cornerstones. Teachers plan experiences that nurture emerging skills, match the child's interests and best advance their learning and development.

And the children are **having fun!** Children need a childhood that is enriched and fun in the context of a loving community. This school year is off to a great start. Thank you for being such a wonderful community of families. It is such a joy to be a part of your child's life.

**Free Play +
Open Ended Questions
and Conversations
= Learning for Children**

Ms. Sarah -



WANTED

"Improve your after-church coffee experience and help raise funds for scholarships! Cafe Tanzania desperately needs an espresso machine. If you have a gently used espresso / cappuccino machine sitting under-appreciated on your kitchen counter, please consider donating it!

Email Katie Huseby at k_huseby4@yahoo.com with any donations. Thank you!"

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

Contact Information

Pastor	Dave Thomas 425-746-7300 Ext .106 pastordave@cofcl.net
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	Church Council Council3@cofcl.net
	The Ark Childcare 425-644-5414 thearkatcofc.org

Sophia Way Annual Luncheon



Our 'You are the Key' Annual Benefit Luncheon is our biggest fundraiser in 2015. The luncheon will be held on Thursday, October 1st from 11:30 AM -1:00 PM and sponsored by The Red Lion Bellevue. Guest Speaker will be Anitra Freeman. Anitra will share her story of becoming homeless after 20 years in the tech industry and how she inspires others now. Since 2008 The Sophia Way has been able to provide shelter, permanent housing, and life skills training to hundreds of women on the Eastside. We have been able to

achieve great success in our mission to help our clients, and continue to grow stronger as an organization thanks to the generous support of individuals like you. We would like to invite you to join us in continuing this important mission to provide a home for every woman in King County. As evidenced by the most recent One Night Count, the need for shelter in King County has continued to grow. Lunch is served compliments of Red Lion Hotel Bellevue All donations are welcome. We invite guests to consider giving a gift of \$125 or more to create a path from homelessness to independence for women in need. If you are unable to attend please consider making a donation to our biggest fundraiser of the year. You can donate online at our website www.sophiaway.org or by mail. Thank you!

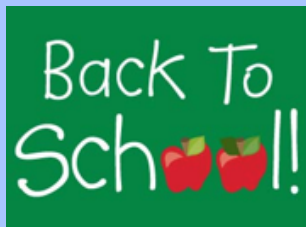
Please register with Table Captains for Cross of Christ, Margie Rogers and Dorinda Otto.



Over the Rainbow

Photos from
"OVER THE RAINBOW"
our 2015 Stewardship play
presented April 24 and 25.

If you missed the show or want to remember the good time again, a copy of the play on DVD is available in the church library.



Helping Students in Bellevue and around the world with "Back to School" Supplies.

Thank you to everyone who so generously donated!



Local Congregations for Kids

Local students receiving supplies all experience some degree of poverty and many also face complicated issues in their family life. For some of these kids school can become a place of stability and refuge. Access to school supplies provides the tools they need to learn, gives them hope and the opportunity to be just like other students. Cross of Christ was able to donate nearly \$1,200 in school supplies to Congregations for Kids. For more information: <http://www.congregations4kids.org/>



Global Lutheran World Relief (LWR) School Kits

To the children who receive School Kits, these supplies mean the difference between getting an education or not. Public school is usually free, but in the places where LWR works, even a few required supplies, like pens and paper, may be more than many families can afford. And when parents can only afford to send one of their children to school, girls rarely get priority...yet the education level of mothers has the biggest impact on development. For more information: <http://lwr.org/schoolkits>

Please tell the people who are responsible for sending these Kits that we thank them from the bottom of our hearts. The children will carry these gifts in their hearts, and in their minds they will know that there are people in far away places that care enough to share and send help to people in need.

– Saul Paisig, teacher whose students received School Kits in Peru



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Cross of Christ
Lutheran Church



Change Service Requested

