

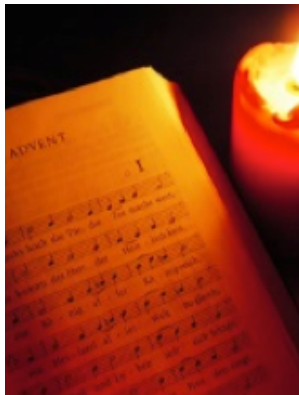
CrossCurrents



<p>All Saints Sunday <i>November 6</i> <i>9am and 11am</i></p> 	<p>Christ the King Sunday <i>November 20</i> <i>9am and 11am</i></p>	<p>First Sunday of Advent <i>November 27</i> <i>9am and 11am</i></p>	<p>Christmas Eve Services Saturday <i>December 24</i> <i>Family Service 5pm</i> <i>Festival Service 7pm</i> <i>Festival Service 9pm</i></p> 	<p>Nativity of Our Lord Sunday <i>December 25</i> <i>10am</i></p>
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Pastor's Perspective

When our son David was younger, he loved this time of year for many reasons. This is the season of Thanksgiving, and of Christmas. December is his birthday month, too. But another seasonal treat was his special advent calendar.



This calendar comes in two parts. The first is a rectangular piece of fabric with five rows of five little pockets shown into it. Each pocket has a number, not arranged chronologically, but randomly. The numbers represent the days in December leading up to Christmas – so to be fair, it's not a precise Advent calendar, since the season usually begins the last Sunday in November.

Every morning in the Decembers of his childhood, David would wake up and find the correct pocket for each day. In it would be a small quilted Christmas Tree ornament backed with Velcro that he would place wherever he liked on a felt Christmas tree. This he enjoyed well enough. But the real joy was also finding out what small treat or toy his mom had also placed in the pocket the night before. The treats changed as he grew, but they were often things like small candies, baseball cards, and Hot Wheels toy cars. (Continued on page 2)



This year we celebrate the 30th annual Community Thanksgiving Service with Cross of Christ, Saint Louise, Church of the Resurrection, Temple B'nai Torah, Church of the Holy Apostles and special guests representing Islamic Center of Eastside and local Native American communities. All are welcome as we join in prayer, song, and fellowship, celebrating our many faith traditions. Our own Pastor Dave is this year's keynote speaker. The annual Thanksgiving Eve service is an opportunity to give thanks for our blessings and begin the holiday season with neighbors and Interfaith Covenant partners.

*Service hosted at Saint Louise Parish,
141 156th Ave NE
November 23 at 7:30 pm*

The Office will be closed for Thanksgiving - November 24 and 25 and will reopen Monday, November 28. The office will also be closed December 26 and 27 and will reopen on Thursday, December 28. January 2 we are closed for New Year's.

(Continued from Page 1)

As we begin to count down the days to Thanksgiving, and Advent, and eventually Christmas, I hope I can begin each day with some of that sense of excitement that David demonstrated growing up. I may not get chocolate surprises each morning, but each day is a gift of far more worth than candy. I'll admit that I do not always start each day recognizing this, nor have I always given thanks each morning to the great Gift Giver. But I would like to be a more grateful and gratitude-showing person. What better time of year

than this to recommit to that?



At Cross of Christ we have many gifts to share this season. Some are the special worship services of this time of year you'll see noted elsewhere in this newsletter, like All Saints and Christ the King Sundays,

our shared Interfaith Thanksgiving Eve service, Advent services, and of course the beautiful services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Others will come in the form of seasonal decorations that will brighten our Sanctuary, and extra opportunities to share with our neighbors such as our Giving Tree.

Perhaps the best gift of all might be to give to each other as much of the peace and joy and grace and goodwill that we sing and talk about this season. May we indeed be people who give thanks, look ahead with hope, and have our lives shaped by the gift of the Christ Child, who is our Savior and Lord.

Blessed to serve with you,

Pastor Dave



The Ark Basket Fundraiser is coming.....

Every year The Ark does a basket fundraiser at Christmas time. Theme-related baskets will be on sale Sundays, December 4 and December 11. Popular themes have been spa baskets (some with massages), movie baskets, kids baskets, coffee/tea lovers, dinner out, etc.

The proceeds will go to our Scholarship Fund, helping families in financial need, and to purchase classroom equipment.

God bless you and your families during this special season of Thanksgiving and celebration of our Lord's birth.

Jan of Ark

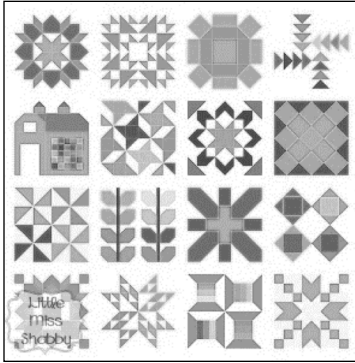


The HopeLink Giving Tree

The HopeLink Giving Tree returns to the Narthex the first Sunday of Advent.

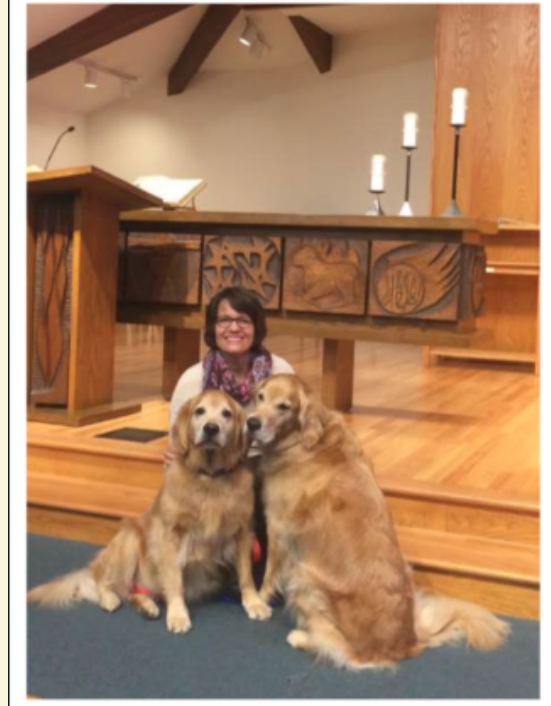
Please consider making a donation to HopeLink.

Eastside Quilters recognized by Overlake Hospital



One Thursday a month the Eastside Quilters (ESQ) meet in the Fellowship Hall at Cross of Christ to pursue their passion of quilting. ESQ was selected as the Volunteer (Group) of the year by Overlake Hospital in appreciation of the quilts they have provided. The head of their Volunteer Services presented a beautiful engraved award to ESQ at the March 2016 meeting. She and two of her colleagues told stories of how much the recipients and their families appreciate the special hug of our donated quilts. It was an emotional and touching moment.

The caring quilters of ESQ gladly share their time and talents with many community organizations. Over the years we have made Dresses for Africa, pillowcases for Sophia Way and Children's Hospital, lap quilts for patients at Overlake Hospital, and patriotic quilts for veterans through Quilts of Valor. Fabric and batting donations for our outreach programs are always gratefully accepted.



**God loves you!
We will miss you!**

**Pastor Adrienne,
Zinger & Charlie**

Financial Report Month and YTD Ended September 2016

	Month			Year - to - Date	
	Actual	Budget	Fav (Unfav)	Actual	Budget
Revenue					
September 2016 General Fund Receipts	\$ 32,430	\$ 36,046	\$ (3,616)	\$ 168,462	\$ 180,229
September 2016 Other Income	\$ 1,049	\$ 2,467	\$ (1,418)	\$ 9,547	\$ 12,333
September 2016 Total Income	\$ 33,479	\$ 38,513	\$ (5,034)	\$ 178,009	\$ 192,562
Expenses					
September 2016	22,748	39,051	16,303	177,624	193,612
Net/Year to Date Net	\$ 10,731			\$ 385	

Council Update

I would like to take this opportunity to provide an overview of the information shared at the Town Hall meeting on October 23 on staffing and structural repair.

As a reminder, the position of Associate Pastor for Spiritual Health has been funded these past four years from the 50th Anniversary Project and the Lilleby Bequest. Funding was for a limited period of time as approved by the congregation at Annual Meetings.

Pastor Adrienne is in her second two-year contract, which is set to expire February 2017. The Northwest Washington Synod of the ELCA notified us that if our church elects to continue with this position, it will have to be converted to a called position – they had approved the limited time contracts as temporary and interim, in accordance with our Synod Constitution. Council and other leaders have been in discussion about all this for several months.

At the same time, Pastor Adrienne has been discerning her next steps. On September 27, she submitted her resignation, to be effective November 30, thanking Cross of Christ for supporting her during her time with us but sharing that she had decided it was time for her to seek new ministry opportunities.

Although sad to see her time come to an end with us, Council accepted Pastor Adrienne's resignation, expressing our thankfulness for the considerable ministry gifts she has shared with this congregation.

At our October 18 Church Council meeting, Pastor Adrienne informed us by letter that she has accepted a new called position at a church in Edmonds nearer her home, and that her last day with Cross of Christ will be November 6. During our discussions, we had assured Pastor Adrienne that should she accept a ministry opportunity prior to November 30, we would support an earlier departure, sending her with our blessings, which Council has done.

Sunday, November 6, will be Pastor Adrienne's last worship services with us, and her final day under contract as our Associate Pastor. I encourage all of you to join us on that day, as we thank her for the service she has provided our congregation and wish her well in her new position. A reception will be held in her honor between services, and Pastor Adrienne will be preaching at both the Traditional and Mosaic services.

I also want to assure the congregation that needs of spiritual health will continue to be provided. Pastor Dave will assume leadership for pastor care, visitation, and

pastoral emergencies while he and Council consider how best to plan for providing outstanding care through staff and lay volunteers in the future.

Recruitment is underway for a new Director of Music Ministries. Job announcements have been posted for three possible positions: Director of Music Ministries, Adult Choir Director, and Praise Band Lead. Our goal is to find one candidate that fits all three roles. However, we are open to the possibility of filling our musical leadership needs with more than one new staff member, depending on the skills and experiences of candidates as they emerge.

Council Vice President Colin Walker is leading the team conducting the search, interviews, auditions and eventually the hiring for Music Ministries. He is joined by representatives from staff, choir, Mosaic, the Worship & Welcome Core Team, along with Pastor Dave as Head of Staff. This group will present a recommendation to Council to hire the best candidate(s) for music ministries. Please be in prayer for this team, and for the Lord to provide us with excellent candidates.



CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

We also want to thank those who in the interim are serving Cross of Christ so well. Organist Nick Abbott has been able to lead the Cantorei Choir in rehearsals and at worship in September and October, although international travel plans prevent him from doing so in November and early December. Nick is demonstrating that his great giftedness is not limited to his outstanding playing of the organ, and we are most grateful for his extra effort. Matt Quarterman is our interim Mosaic worship service band leader and worship leader, and he, too, is providing outstanding service. Matt is available to continue with us through the end of the year. Several substitute organists are also providing fine playing at the Traditional service on Sundays when Nick is not available. And we thank Pastor Dave for providing excellent overall leadership with worship and music planning, taking over those responsibilities with the departure of our Director of Music Ministry.

There are several other positions that the Council will be in conversation about – including Lead Sexton and Youth Ministries. Council will be having discussions on Cross of Christ's overall staffing plans to develop options that best meets the

needs of the congregation and help us fulfil our vision and mission. An important tool that will be utilized to assist us in our discussions will be the Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan Team, under the leadership of Viggo Bertelsen has been working hard to get a document to Council for consideration and adoption.

I also wanted to share where we are at in the process of repairing the Sanctuary trusses. The Structural Repair Committee was established by Council and chaired by Art Hill. This committee, along with the Property Team and other interested individuals have been meeting to develop options. Five plan proposals were reviewed keeping in mind safety for our congregation and other users of our facility, the aesthetics and acoustics of the Sanctuary, fiscal responsibility, and meets building/ code requirements. A recommendation that one of this proposals be accepted has been submitted to Council. Additionally, Council has been in conversation with the church's insurance company to determine if any of the expenses are covered by our policy. Council will continue to evaluate funding options to cover expenses and will bring a final proposal to the

congregation for a vote in the near future.

Thank you for your prayers and support in this time of transition. Together, led by the Lord, we are confident going forward in faith.

Gale Hill

Congregational President

LECTORS

Several lectors are needed for Christ the King Sunday, November 22. Sign up online at the church website cofcl.org or contact the office.

USHERS

If you would like to usher at either the 9 am or 11 am service please contact Helmut Rae at 425-829-2955 or helmutrae@outlook.com





LARKS

HOLIDAY CONCERT

The Larks invite all to a wonderful holiday concert presented by Seattle Men's Chorus (SMC) at Benaroya Hall on Sunday, December 4, at 2 pm. The SMC's Holiday concert shimmers with the sounds of beloved carols and shakes with fresh and soulful celebration of the season. Come here 250 joyful voices singing favorites like "Sleigh Ride" and "O Come All Ye Faithful" featuring gospel harmonies and topped off with a fun "Disco Santa" finale. Tickets are \$28.20 for orchestra seats, and parking is \$14. Please indicate on the signup sheet at the Information Desk if you would like to take the bus or carpool from Cross of Christ. Bring your friends and family. For more information call or email Di Fine at [425-885-6750](tel:425-885-6750) or finealso@comcast.net.



WREATH ORDERS

THE SCOUTS ARE TAKING ORDERS FOR WREATHS AND HOLIDAY GREENS BETWEEN SERVICES ON NOVEMBER 6 AND NOVEMBER 13.



Winter Shelter 2016-2017

Family Shelter (please note they move three times during the season)

Open 8pm for food delivery, guests arrive 8:30 pm

Oct. 15 - Dec. 30 Redmond United Methodist, 16540 80th NE, Redmond

30 guests

Dec. 31 - March 31 St. Peter's United Methodist, 17222 NE 8th St., Bellevue

April 1 - May TBD Overlake Presbyterian, 1836 156th Ave NE, Bellevue

Men's Shelter (note new location)

Open 7pm for food delivery, guests arrive 7:30 pm

Nov. 15 to April 30 SW corner of Lincoln Center Office Park, 515 116th Ave NE,

Bellevue - 50 guests

Women's Shelter

Open 8pm for food delivery, guests arrive 8:30 pm

Oct. 15 - Jan. 2 Lakeside Christian Church, 701 1st Ave Kirkland, South entrance

10 guests

Jan 3 - March 31 Holy Cross Lutheran, 4315 129th PI SE, Bellevue

If you would like to provide a meal to any of these shelter locations go to Meal signups at:

www.tinyurl.com/jklaf6g

SAVE THE DATE

Annual Women's Luncheon

February 25

at 11:30am

at Cross of Chris.

As always, there is no cost to attend.

Our guest speaker is Merletta Roberts, currently serving as president of American Baptist Women's Ministries for the Northwest and recipient of the Certified Humor Professional status.

She loves the opportunity to share ideas related to the power of positive uses of humor.

Greetings, Cross of Christ Youth!

Did anyone blink and suddenly it was November? That's how it feels sometimes, because once things get rolling with the school year in September, they REALLY get rolling. However, the Bible reminds us to "...make sure that you don't get so absorbed and exhausted in taking care of all your day-by-day obligations that you lose track of the time and doze off, oblivious to God. The night is about over, dawn is about to break. Be up and awake to what God is doing!" (Romans 13:11-12)

And God is doing a lot around here, but YOU are needed to be God's hands! If you haven't gotten the information about our Harvest Pack project and fundraisers, please see Kristie or visit our website: <http://www.crossofchristbellevue.org/youth>. In a nutshell, we'll be spending the month of November looking for a 12th Man for our team, and the month of December turning spare change into SUUUUUPPPERRRRR RIICCCCEEEEE!!!! (Make sure to read that in the appropriate voice.) And after that, we'll be packing food on January 15 -- just another blink away. We hope you can join us!

There's plenty happening before that, though. Saturday, November 19, we're making a map of our neighborhood. "But Kristie, can't you just find one on Google?" you ask. Well, yes, but this is a different *kind* of map; it's a map of who our neighbors are and how they're living their lives. Why? Because

"...we become neighbors when we are willing to cross the road for one another. (...) There is a lot of road crossing to do. We are all very busy in our own circles. We have our own people to go to and our own affairs to take care of. But if we could cross the road once in a while and pay attention to what is happening on the other side, we might indeed become neighbors."

In other words, Cross of Christ is going to start the road-crossing process, and this neighborhood mission map project is an important part of that. Watch your email for more information.

Keep on keepin' on, and I hope to see you soon!

--Kristie



CROSS OF CHRIST + HARVEST PACK

GIVE HOPE	END HUNGER
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On January 15, Cross of Christ Youth will be packing meals for Harvest Pack International, a 501(c)3 organization dedicated to bringing food to the tables of hungry people throughout the world. To support this project, we'll be running two fundraisers in November and December. We thank you for your support and prayers.

FOR INFORMATION ON OUR FUNDRAISER, VISIT

www.crossofchristbellevue.org/youth/harvest-pack/



Presented by The Redmond Academy of Theatre Arts at Redmond High School Performing Arts Center.

Performances:

Thursday, Dec. 15, 7 pm,
Friday, Dec. 16, 7 pm,
Saturday, Dec. 17, 2 & 7 pm
Sunday, Dec. 18, 2 pm.

Tickets are sold at the door for \$15 for adults and \$12 for students and seniors. Address: 17272 NE 104th Street, Redmond. Hope to see you there!

Cross of Christ member Cameron McIntyre will be performing!

Youth Discipleship Retreat



October 2016

Contact Information

Pastor	Dave Thomas	425-746-7300	Ext. .106	pastordave@cofclc.net
Youth and Family	Kristie Walker	425-746-7300	Ext. 107	Youth@cofclc.net
Bookkeeper	Denise Fuentes	425-746-7300	Ext. 108	Bookkeeper@cofclc.net
Office Manager	Judy Giseburt	425-746-7300		Office@cofclc.net
Assistant Sexton	Jaime Monk	425-746-7300		Council3@cofclc.net
	Church Council			arkchildcare@qwestoffice.net
The Ark Childcare	Jan Galbraith	425-644-5414		

For pastoral emergencies outside of office hours please contact Pastor Dave at 602-481-6709.

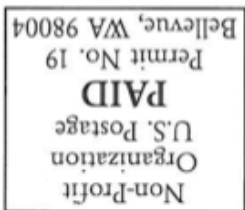
Office Hours/Email
 Main Office Hours:
 Mon-Thurs 9:30am-2pm
 425.746.7300

Main Office Email
Office@COFCLC.NET

Bulletin deadline:
 Wednesdays at noon
 Next Newsletter deadline:
 December 15



Change Service Requested



411
 156th Avenue NE
 Bellevue
 Washington
 98007

Cross of Christ
 Lutheran Church

