

CrossCurrents

Fall 2021



Pastor's Perspective

Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit" — yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead, you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that." - James 4:13-16

Ain't that the truth!

I've learned many lessons over the past 18 months or so, in this time of the COVID-19 pandemic. Some hard ones, some sad ones, some encouraging ones, a lot of surprising ones.

But chief among them is that I am NOT in control of everything. Some things, yes — but relatively few. Most things are beyond my control and outside even of my sphere of influence.

From the beginning of our response to the pandemic here at Cross of Christ — including early last March when we made

the then difficult and well debated decision to suspend in-person worship — I've written and said way more than I could have ever imagined and way more than I would have ever wanted — "contingent on circumstances" and "tentative to new developments" and "depending on the latest recommendations from trusted medical and scientific sources" and the like.

Because, as I'm STILL learning, I'm not in control of everything. And I doubt I'm breaking any news here, but neither are you.

The past year and a half, we've all learned this truth — over and over and over again. It is good for us to make plans — as individuals, as couples, as families, and as a church. But we do so in the midst of a fallen and imperfect world, alongside other fallen and imperfect people. And, well, stuff happens.

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We're not in control of a lot of things – coronaviruses that mutate and migrate in ways that seem both random and breathtakingly rapid as well as how others respond to recommendations and regulations meant to help safeguard health and wellbeing. Beyond the pandemic, we also can't control other people and places and problems in our world.

I've also learned (and re-learned) these two things – which James by the Holy Spirit also knew and communicated some 2,000 years ago. God has been, is now, and will forever be in ultimate and eternal control. And God has given us lots of guidance on how we can and should act over that which we can control – mostly ourselves, our attitudes, and our actions.

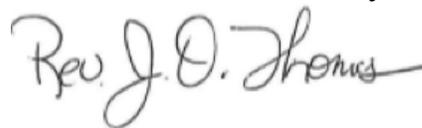
From a foundation of faith, we trust God to handle all the God stuff – basically most stuff. And God in return calls on us to handle our stuff – things like, acting kindly, living generously, sacrificing for the greater

good, loving our neighbor as ourselves, and sharing, serving, and welcoming all the more so as our world in the wake of the pandemic and so much more feels like it needs more sharing, serving, and welcoming these days.

As we share this Fall 2021 CrossCurrents, we head into this time with plenty of uncertainties, aware of all we CAN'T control. But still, we will make plans as a church that trusts in God and wants to follow God's will and God's ways and – "If the Lord wills" – we'll see those plans through, including the plan to return to indoor worship, faith formation, fellowship, and more.

Please read about all these plans, and hold them and all of us in your prayers, as we rely on your patience and partnership, and God's eternal plan and daily provisions.

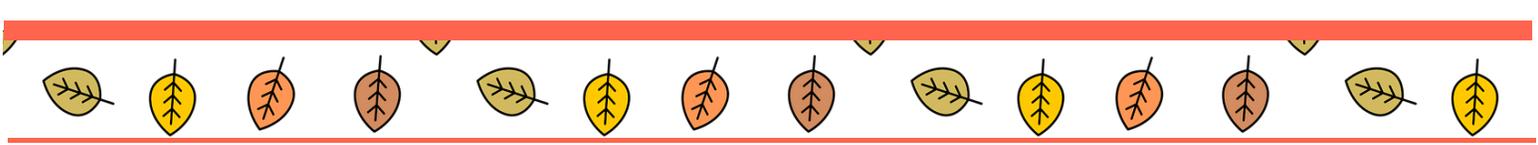
Blessed to serve with you,



Thank you Dean!

On August 22 we said farewell and godspeed to our wonderful organist Dean Robinson. We are grateful for all of the beautiful music Dean brought to our worship services at Cross of Christ. - Wishing you many blessings for you begin your new adventures in Michigan.





Adult Faith Formation

At the end of almost every worship service, we reaffirm our mission statement, that we are called to worship God, grow in faith, share the gospel, serve others, and welcome all. As a community of faith, we are committed to responding to God's grace in these ways.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, we've had to be creative in all these areas, including in the "grow in faith" category. We've shared emailed daily devotions with special permission from "Christ in our Home" publisher Augsburg Fortress. We've tried to make them more personal and connected with our congregation with Pastor Dave and Pastor Judy writing the prayers each day, and by including someone from our Cross of Christ PrayerNet list or another person, agency, or organization connected with Cross of Christ in the "Especially in our Prayer" note each day.

Another opportunity to grow in faith during this time has been "The Pastor's Study." Pastor Dave has recorded about 40 editions of "The Pastor's Study" in which he shares his research into the biblical texts for the upcoming Sunday. These have been posted on the Cross of Christ YouTube

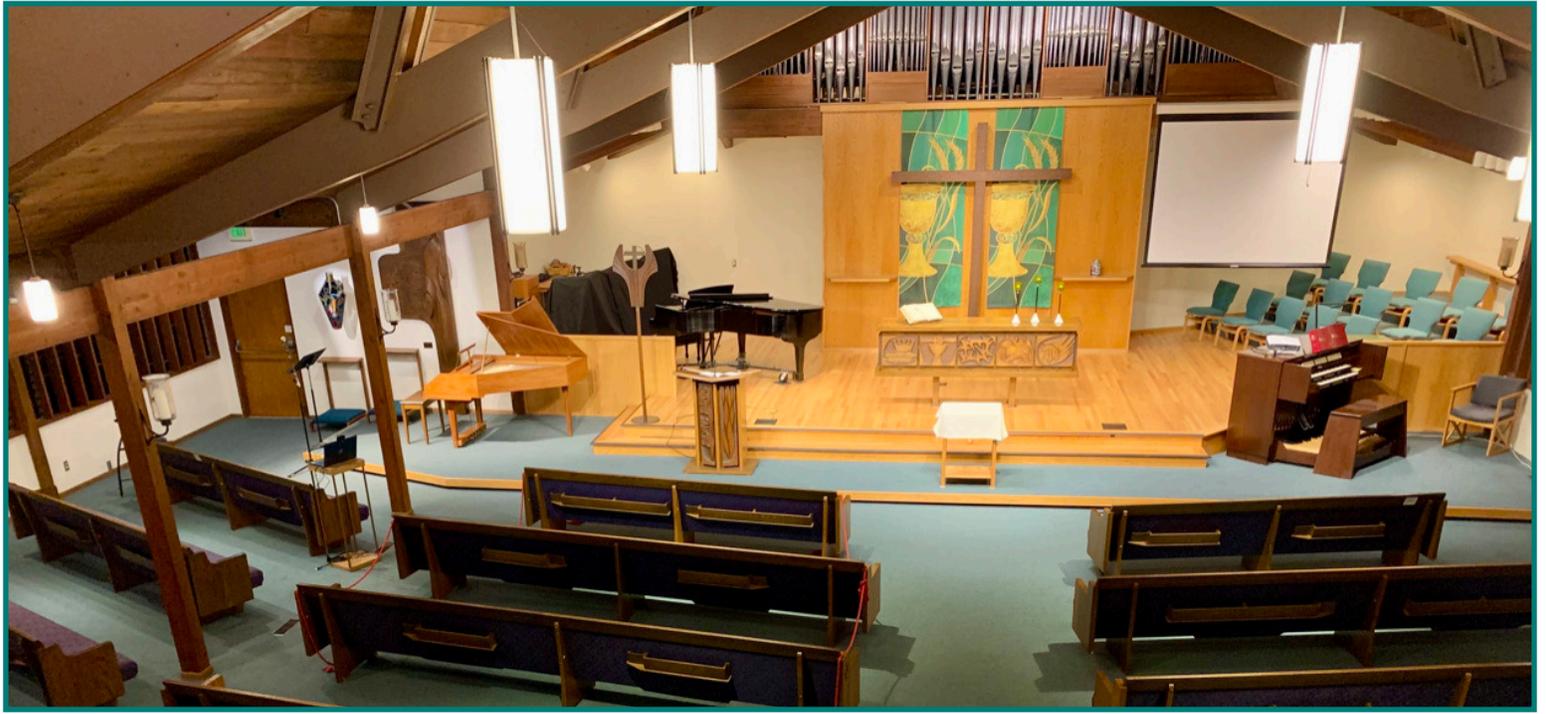
channel (where you can check out any of them from our library of recordings.)

"The Pastor's Study" went on summer break a few months ago, with the hope and plan that by fall, the pandemic would have subsided to a point where we would once again be indoors on Sundays.

Unfortunately due to the delta variant fueled surge overwhelming spread by and sickening those who are unvaccinated, we have had to make the decision to postpone going indoors at least through September.

This being the case, we have also decided to extend the summer break for "The Pastor's Study" through September as well. If we are in a position to return indoors on Sundays in October, plans will be made to restart Sunday morning "Adult Faith Formation" as soon as possible. If not, "The Pastor's Study" or perhaps another, new "grow in faith" series will be offered again online starting in early October.

We will keep communicating with you as developments impact these decisions. We remain committed to "growing in faith" together in this time and in all times. Thanks for your patience and your prayers.



Worship Plans for Fall

In this time of uncertainty, we can share a few things with you for certain when it comes to worship at Cross of Christ.

First, as we have been throughout the pandemic, and as we as a faith community have been for coming up on 60 years now, we are committed to our calling to be a people who “worship God” with joy, gratitude, creativity, and vibrancy. Our worship will continue to be Bible based, Christ centered, and grounded in Lutheran theology and the best of our shared traditions.

Second, starting September 12, we plan to worship in person on a weekly basis. Every Sunday. The only exception will be if weather – or other unforeseen circumstances – force us to cancel in-person worship. On such Sundays, the

planned service will still be livestreamed at 10 am, shared and recorded by our small Worship Recording Team.

Third, for the time being – which means at least through the end of October, but potentially beyond, we will worship as one congregation in a single combined service at 10 am. Some weeks the “flavor” of worship will be more traditional and liturgical. Some weeks more casual. And many weeks elements of both and more will help us speak to and listen to God.

Fourth and finally we can say with certainty that we will continue to “welcome all” in ways we have learned during this time of separation by livestreaming our Sunday services at 10 am on our Cross of Christ YouTube channel, and posting a recording of the live broadcast there as well.

After that, as we are noting throughout this edition of CrossCurrents and have throughout the pandemic, much is contingent of circumstances, developments, regulations, and responses to all this that are clearly beyond our control.

The Cross of Christ Church Council meets each month on the evening of the third Tuesday. Since May 2021 we have done so via Zoom. Each month this fall, and going forward for as long as necessary, a top item on our agenda each month will be analyzing all the factors that need to be considered as, each month, Council will determine to the best of our ability if returning to indoor, in-the-Sanctuary worship is in the best interest of our members, visitors, staff, and greater community. If necessary, Council is prepared to meet via Zoom even more frequently – as circumstances dictate.

Council and staff are committed to keeping you as informed as possible about all this, and we will communicate with you via emails, weekly announcements, in worship, and future editions of CrossCurrents, and in all means at our disposal.

While we long to return to in-person, indoor, weekly worship, Council and staff remain committed to making these determinations while continuing to

prioritize the health and well-being of our members, guests, staff, Ark staff, Ark students and their families, and our neighbors near and far.

As we head into fall each year, we look forward to several special worship experiences. While exactly what they will look like is TBD – To Be Determined – fall worship includes:

- **October 31 – Reformation Sunday**
- **November 7 – All Saints Sunday**
- **November 24 – Thanksgiving Eve Interfaith Gathering**

Again, as known, we'll share with you more details about these and all our worship plans.

Thank you again for your support, partnership, prayers, and patience. See you in worship – one way or another!



From Pastor Judy

Thank You For Your Service!

I can hardly believe that as I write this that September is right around the corner. 2020 seemed to last forever and here we are entering the tail end of 2021. One thing that stands out to me is how much you all have been serving each other in so many ways. Through calling, giving, running errands, and Practicing Acts of Christian Kindness (PACK) and so much more. Donations of time, talents, and treasure.

Volunteering in large and small ways to help individuals and the community. I am inspired by the service I see – the thoughtfulness, generosity, and selflessness. And so I want to say, THANK YOU! Thank you for all you've already done and continue to do in service – for your neighbors, the church, your families and friends, and for strangers near and far. THANK YOU for your humble service!



Lay Communion Ministry Training

St. Luke's Lutheran Church and Cross of Christ Lutheran Church are hosting Lay Communion Visitation Training in September. Whether this is a refresher from a previous course, or you are brand new to this ministry, we encourage you to sign up for one of these training sessions in person at one of the churches or online here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0445ADA728ABF58-laycommunion>

Tuesday, September 14, 10:30am-12pm

St. Luke's Lutheran Church - 3030 Bellevue Way NE, Bellevue

Tuesday, September 14, 6:30-8pm

Cross of Christ Lutheran - 411 156th Ave NE, Bellevue

Tuesday, September 21, 10:30am-12pm

on Zoom (link will be shared later)

Each training session covers the same material; we are offering it three times to accommodate the most number of interested participants. If you have any questions, please contact:

Roselyn Olson 425-445-8207 - roselynolson@slukes.org OR

Pastor Judy Brennan 502-415-5883 - pastorjudybrennan@gmail.com



Thank you Julie and Gale!

Julie Hocket is stepping down from her role as the Coordinator of Care Team. Julie has been serving in this role for a LONG time – since Pastor Rachel was at Cross of Christ. The work has evolved over the years, but Julie has organized meals to assist individuals and families after surgeries, deaths, and births. She’s organized rides for folks to come to church and for volunteers to visit some of our homebound members. At one point she also helped coordinate the Prayer Chain, Prayer Shawls, and Spiritual Gifts. Julie has done so much to help our community take care of the needs of our members and we want to thank

her for all that she has done over the years! Gale Hill has some big shoes to fill, but she has agreed to take over for Julie as the Coordinator of the Care Team and we know she will do a great job!

As Gale steps into this new role, she is updating the lists of who participates in the various ministries at Cross of Christ. If you are interested in visiting members, providing rides, or providing meals, please let Gale or Pastor Judy know and they can keep you informed. If you are interested in other Caring Ministries at Cross of Christ – like the Prayer Net, Lay Communion Ministry, or making Prayer Squares or Shawls – or you have another idea – please contact Pastor Judy.

Message and Invitation from Gale Hill

Gale takes over this role as the pandemic continues to impact when, where, and how we can visit and serve our members who are sick, recovering from injuries or surgeries, or otherwise in need of at least a friendly connection and perhaps would be blessed by a meal or two prepared for them and their families. Gale will work with Pastor Judy and Pastor Dave in helping coordinate caring ministries by our members, as well as turning to Julie for the wisdom she’s gained in her years leading these important ways we care for one another. She also welcomes new folks to join her and the “veterans” of the Care

Team. Gale writes:

It is an honor that I have been asked to serve in this role and look forward to working with this team. As some of you may not be aware, the Coordinator keeps a list of members who are homebound and have expressed an interest in visitations, calls or cards which are shared with the volunteers serving in this ministry each month. The Coordinator also keeps track of members who may need help with meals, transportation, etc. If you have an interest in becoming a member of the Lay Visitation/Care Team, please let me know. All are welcome! Contact me at ghill5250@gmail.com for more information.

In closing, I would also like to express my sincere appreciation and thanks to all the individuals that volunteer for this important ministry!

Gale Hill

Fall PACK

(Practicing Acts of Christian Kindness)

One of the ways we've stayed connected despite the pandemic is through Practicing Acts of Christian Kindness. This activity has been a way for members to connect in safe ways, get to know each other better, and lift the spirits of friends, family, and neighbors. We're going to start another round this fall. If you would like to participate, please sign up in September and giving will commence in October. Here's what's involved:

You will think about three "gifts" to offer to three other people – one gift per person. You could make, bake, draw, write, or buy something. If you buy something, think small and under \$5. Examples of a gift could be a card, a flower or plant, a small gift card, a dozen cookies, a bottle of hand-sanitizer, a new pen, cough drops, a box of tea or cocoa, a deck of cards, a pack of seeds, a candle, a pint of ice cream, a bottle of nail polish, a puzzle, a puzzle book (like Sudoku or word search), a candy bar, a roll of duct tape, a pad of sticky notes, a box of tissues, a calendar, or a cupcake.

During October Pastor Judy will give you the names of two people at Cross of Christ – One of the names will be someone else in the P.A.C.K. and the other name will be

another member of Cross of Christ (maybe someone who is homebound). The third gift will go to someone you choose who is not a member of Cross of Christ that could use a little thoughtfulness – a neighbor, a friend, a relative etc.

You will give/mail/deliver your gifts to these three people within a month and let Pastor Judy know after your kindnesses have been offered.

Please sign up below to participate!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0445ADA728ABF58-fall>

A decorative background featuring autumn leaves in shades of yellow, orange, and red, interspersed with clusters of red and white flowers. The overall aesthetic is warm and seasonal.

As the fall showers return to Bellevue, let's celebrate with a shower of blessings!

Noisy Offering Supporting Hunger Grants

At the virtual/Zoom Synod Assembly in May, the Synod Hunger Committee (of which Pastor Dave is a member) highlighted five congregations who were being awarded \$500 grants each to start or expand ministry to hungry folks in their communities. Videos highlighting their proposals were shared at the Assembly, generating a lot of energy to expand grants to more congregations.

The Hunger Team was asked to create an opportunity for churches in the Synod to support future \$500 Hunger Grants, and the result is the “Seed Time and Harvest” Noisy Offering - a chance for Cross of Christ members to join with Lutherans around the area in raising more funds, and more awareness, too, in support of the creative, impactful, faithful ways folks all around our Synod are reaching out in service to their hungry neighbors.

For two upcoming Sundays – September 5 and 12 – congregations and members are being invited to raise support for the next wave of grants by collecting noisy donations - nickels, dimes, and quarters - those two weeks. Of course “quiet” donations of paper money and checks will also be happily received!

“Seed Time and Harvest” coincides with the annual ELCA “Gods Work, Our Hands” Sunday, September 12. As that is the next time Cross of Christ is hosting in-person,



outdoor services, we’ll collect our “Noisy Offering” on that Sunday.

You can learn more about the “Noisy Offering” via the Northwest Washington Synod website at:

<https://lutheransnw.org/ministries/hunger-ministries>

You can also view an informational (and some have said rather amusing) video featuring a certainly well-known to you sometimes silly pastor committed to helping alleviate and eliminate hunger here:

[Synod Hunger Noisy Can.mp4 on Vimeo](#)

Thanks to Colin for another gift of his video editing and producing skills.



Help Afghan and other Refugees Settle in Washington

Lutheran Community Services Northwest (LCSN) is seeking financial and material donations for "Refugee Starter Kits" to help individuals and families arriving in our area from Afghanistan and other places impacted by war, violence, and other events forcing people to leave their homelands.

During September and October, Cross of Christ is accepting donations toward "Starter Kits" as requested by LCSN. Financial donations can be made by check to Cross of Christ with "Refugee Kits" noted in the memo line. A donation box for items on the lists will be available each Sunday over the next two months, starting September 12. Lists with items needed will also be available on Sundays.

We will be collecting through the end of October. People can drop off their items at church (during in person Sunday services or at other pre-arranged times.) Items will be kept in Pastor Judy's office. If you would like to help with shopping, we will use the donated money to round out the kits when we assemble them. If you would like to help or if you have questions, please contact Pastor Judy Brennan at pastorjudybrennan@gmail.com.



Cleaning Kit

- Mop and Bucket
- Broom and Dustpan
- Pack of Sponges
- Bottle of All-Purpose Cleaning Spray
- Toilet Brush
- Dish Soap
- Laundry Detergent
- Light Bulbs
- Paper Towels (2)
- Tissues (2)



LUTHERAN
Community Services
NORTHWEST

Health. Justice. Hope.

Personal Care Kit

- Toothbrushes (4-6)
- Toothpaste (2)
- Shampoo (2)
- Conditioner (2)
- Deodorant (4)
- Bars of Soap (3)
- Razors (2)
- Shaving Cream (2)
- Feminine Hygiene Pads
- Toilet Paper (6)
- Notebook and Pens
- Calendar (optional)



We are collecting items for:

- Personal Care Kits
- Cleaning Kits
- Bathroom Kits

Bathroom Kit

- Bath Towels and Hand Towels (4 of each)
- Washcloths (6-8)
- Shower Curtain with Rings
- Hand Soap
- Toilet Paper (6)
- Small Waste Basket



From the Ark

The Ark will be hopping with the new children coming on board in September; we are busy here finalizing the new children's paperwork and giving tours to prospective parents to fill the last spots. The new school year will start after Labor Day, and we will have an open house for the parents the first week of October.



The children have been enjoying the hot summer with some refreshing activities like playing in the sprinklers, outdoor water tables, camping in the picnic area, gardening and field trips. They are also looking forward to our last week, "Spirit Week," as we prepare to say goodbye to the

"Horses" that are moving to Kindergarten in September.

We just started planning for our annual fundraising event and we hope it will happen in December depending on the new COVID-19 guidelines.

The Ark community creates and sells holiday baskets to the Cross of Christ congregation. In past years The Ark has used the money raised to provide tuition assistance for Ark families temporarily struggling through tough economic times. Fundraising money this year will go to support The Ark program and scholarship needs.

We would like to thank Bob Shelly and Don Westby for researching and implementing the cameras system for The Ark, this will give more security to our children We also thank Grace Easley for the services provided to the Ark Management Committee for three years, we will miss you.

We welcome Sharen Stoll as a Vice Chairperson, thanks for accepting the invitation and join the Ark Management Committee, we are looking forward to a great year.

Solange



Lutheran World Relief School Kits

Thank you to everyone who donated, shopped for, and assembled Lutheran World Relief School Kits! LWR Kits are specifically designed to help people coping with poverty, disaster, conflict around the world. LWR Kits provide dignity and hope in the most dire situations.



The Ark Management Committee

The Ark is an important on-going ministry at Cross of Christ Lutheran Church. It has been part of our church for over 25 years. This Committee is composed of the Director of the Ark, Solange Silva, three members of our church, three parent representatives, a church council representative and the treasurer. The lead pastor, Pastor Dave, is an ex-officio member. We meet monthly and our delegated purpose is to provide guidance and oversight in the overall direction of the program. These would include reviewing operations, finances, training, and personnel policies.



It has been a challenging past 18 months at the Ark Early Learning Center during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Ark ended 2019-2021 with a financial gain that helped it stay open when COVID-19 occurred, and the enrollment dropped to 65 percent. We are grateful for this amazing church community that we have, and the understanding and supportive parents that trust what is done. This generous congregation continues to support this ministry here at Cross of Christ that has such an important impact on children and families in our community. We thank ALL of you! We also received financial support with a state Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) \$6,500 grant, two \$25,000 Seattle Foundation grants and a PPP Loan conjoined with the church. All this has helped the Ark in a positive way during these challenging times with a lower enrollment. Solange was instrumental in obtaining the Seattle Foundation grants. Thank you, Solange!

COVID-19 challenged us to become even more dedicated and efficient. Many new cleaning and safety procedures were put in place to avoid exposures. We had to be creative and put celebrations aside and/or do things in new ways. We were able to have a drive-through 2020 Graduation for that class of Pre-K students and the parents were appreciative. We learned to be patient and trust that all this will pass. Fortunately, with the population vaccinated we finally did celebrate the 2021 graduation minestrone with all families this June at church.

As more parents return to in-office working, we anticipate that our numbers of students will also increase. We look forward to “Turning the corner” and having a GREAT next year! We trust that with God all is possible.

Days for Girls



We would like to introduce ourselves to you! We're Pam Stoeffler and Liz Clar, and we are the new Co-coordinators for the Cross of Christ Committee with Days for Girls. We first want to THANK Carol McCandless for introducing this important and beneficial program to Cross of Christ and being the first Coordinator. Carol has a passion for helping girls and women everywhere to improve their opportunities, so they won't miss out on school, church or work, and she has been very dedicated to this for many years. She was very instrumental in providing speakers at our Women's Luncheon in 2019 to educate us about the need for these kits. During that luncheon \$3,206 was donated to Days for Girls to provide menstrual cloth kits for girls in Tanzania.

We work with Operation Bootstrap Africa (OBA), sending funds through them to have the kits made in Tanzania and distributed as requested. The MaaSae Girls Lutheran School in Monduli, Tanzania was their test project and was chosen because our connection of the years with this school. The result of this test project was welcomed, and kits were ordered for all the girls in 2020. The kits were sewn in Tanzania by a local Days for Girls Enterprise in the Monduli area, providing work for local women and making it less expensive and more assuring that the kits get distributed to

where they are requested with proper training. Instruction in use and care of these kits as well as health education is given when the kits are distributed.

Operation Bootstrap fully supports the distribution of the Days for Girls menstrual care kits. They had an article in their "Dignity" magazine in the past featuring the need and benefit of these kits to improve young women's opportunities. Besides MGLSS, they have provided with our and other donations, 350 kits to The Plaster House, a rehabilitation facility in Tanzania recovering from surgery; a nearby Nursing School 64 kits; and Olchoki Primary School 105 kits.

Thank you to all that have made donations to this wonderful program in the past! A donation can be made by check to Cross of Christ and listing Days for Girls in the memo line. In the near future we want to provide kits for the new class of girls enrolled this fall at the Maasai Girls Lutheran School. The other schools get new students and we want to provide the kits for them also. Each kit costs about \$13. We would like to have a meeting in person at church in the fall and hope many of you can join us, A date will be announced in the future when the church is more open. If you have any questions, please contact one of us – Pam or Liz. Thank you!"

Working together we can accomplish great things.

WELCA Study Guides for Circle Leaders this Fall

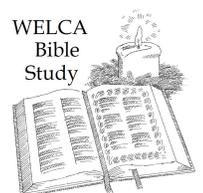
Each month, Pastor Dave puts together a study guide for those who will be leading their WELCA Circles in that month's Bible Study from "Gather" magazine. In the past, these guides have been offered in person, but during the pandemic Pastor Dave has been recording the guides, which have been posted on our Cross of Christ YouTube channel.

With the uncertainty created by the recent surge in COVID-19 cases related to the delta variant and fueled by the still lagging vaccination rates locally, nationally, and globally – as well as the unanimous decision from Council to postpone in-person worship as well as the return to tighter restrictions

per Gov. Inslee's announcement effective August 23 – the September study guide will also be shared via a recorded video.

Pastor Dave is hopeful of returning to in-person sharing of guides in October and beyond, but as is the case with so many other "future" plans, it is uncertain if that will be possible. If it is, his presentation will be made available via the internet (probably via Zoom or YouTube) to those unable to attend in person>

Stay tuned for more details, and look for the September Study Guide for WELCA Circle Leaders to be posted the first full week of September.



From the Community Outreach Committee

Thank you for the great response for Good Start Back to School. We have sent a check for over \$3,000! It will go a long way to help Bellevue students in need with school supplies and backpacks.

During COVID-19, we have been making a larger monthly donation to Crossroads Meal served at the Salvation Army Eastside Corps Center as the number of people being served has more than doubled." We are hoping to start back making meals but have delayed doing so because of the COVID-19 variant.

The Congregations for the Homeless Rotating Shelter has been able to..."has been able to continue to operate 24/7 because church spaces have continued to be available. CFH is also starting their capital campaign for the Permanent Shelter. Thank you for your support.

Congregations for the Homeless

Reuniting Family



CFH Luncheon

September 16, 2021

12:00PM-12:30PM (online)

Social Hour: 11:15AM-12:00PM

Our event will once again be virtual for 2021. This year, our event will be hosted on Remo, an online social platform.

We look forward to gathering in person again in 2022!

You can register online on the CFH website www.cfhomeless.org/reuniting

Donations



We are grateful to everyone in the community that has been supporting us with in-kind donation. At this time, we are not accepting in-person donations at our office or shelters. We encourage you to order items directly from our Amazon wishlist. Thank you for your understanding and support. Stay safe and healthy

Sheltering from the Storm Virtual Fundraiser Event Tuesday, September 21 12pm

Register at sophiaway.org

Join The Sophia Way for an engaging and informative fundraiser to support women experiencing homelessness, and helping them find shelter, safety, and stability



Happy Hour with Pastor Judy

Join us every Thursday at 4pm
Zoom invitations are sent out weekly
Everyone is Welcome!

Welcome Home!



Check out the new Art Wall
coming in October.

As a reminder, several Cross of Christ members meet each Thursday for golf, lunch, and fellowship at Snoqualmie Falls Golf Course – and all are welcome, regardless of golfing skills. To join or to learn more, please contact Heidi Fine.

Thursday Golfers

Thank you!



Thank you to everyone who sent cards and made phone calls to me during my recent fall and recovery. All's going well and I sincerely want to thank all. your compassion, thoughtfulness and love was very humbling to me. I can't express my thanks enough.

Charlotte Rehmer

Church Directory

Are you looking for a current phone number? Address? Email? Would you like to update your own contact information? You can do all of these things by accessing the church online directory through *Breeze*. If you have not set up an account or have misplaced your password contact the church office at off@crossofchristbellevue.org and Judy will help you get connected.



Fellowship Events

Recognizing that plans may change due to COVID-19 restrictions, here are the fellowship events we currently have planned for the remainder of the year:

Oktoberfest - Oom Pah Pah! Please join us on Sunday, October 31 for a Reformation Sunday Oktoberfest celebration featuring brats, craft root beer and many other German specialties.

Advent Smorgasbord - Mark your calendars for Sunday, December 5 and plan on joining us for our annual festive Smorgasbord potluck.

For both events, you can use my contact information

(Linda Capron, 425-898-0263, capron@comcast.net)

Thanks, Linda

A Message From Your Bookkeeper

Thank you for your continued financial support of Cross of Christ Lutheran Church and its ministries. I continue to be amazed by YOU! YOU, the body of believers who ARE the church. YOU model the love of Jesus with your faithfulness, in time and talent.

Although I'm not at the church office on a regular basis these days, I maintain the church's bookkeeping from my remote office at the base of the beautiful Cascade Foothills, Black Diamond. I'm available for phone calls during office hours and will reply to emails during the week. If you'd prefer an in-person outdoor meeting, I'm physically at the church the first and last week of the month, typically on Tuesday or Wednesday. I would be happy to schedule a time to chat with you then.

Denise Fuentes

OFFICE HOURS AND HOLIDAYS

During the pandemic which unfortunately continues and has even surged leading into this fall, our church office has been physically closed to protect the health and well-being of our members, staff, and community. We have kept virtual office hours and will continue to do so at least through September – 9:30 am to 2 p.m., Monday through Thursday. During this time, Office Administrator Judy Giseburt answers the office phone and replies to your emails as promptly as possible. On the occasion when Judy isn't working during office hours, Pastor Dave serves as the virtual office backup plan.

Please note that church office is closed – including virtually – for two fall holidays:

Monday, September 6, Labor Day; and Thursday, November 25, Thanksgiving Day.

Financial Report
Month and YTD Ended July 2021

	Month			Year - to - Date		
	Actual	Budget	Fav (Unfav)	Actual	Budget	Fav (Unfav)
Revenue						
July 2021 General Fund Receipts	\$ 42,042	\$ 36,667	\$ 5,375	\$ 112,106	\$ 110,001	\$ 2,105
July 2021 Other Income	\$ 1,023	\$ 2,083	\$ (1,060)	\$ 3,435	\$ 6,250	\$ (2,815)
July 2021 Total Income	\$ 43,065	\$ 38,750	\$ 4,315	\$ 115,541	\$ 116,251	\$ (710)
Expenses						
July 2021	36,917	43,179	6,262	109,678	129,347	19,669
Net/Year to Date Net	\$ 6,148			\$ 5,863		



www.crossofchristbellevue.org
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For pastoral emergencies outside of office hours (Monday-Thursday 9:30 am – 2 pm)
please contact Pastor Dave at 602-481-6709.

Lead Pastor	Dave Thomas	425-746-7300 x106	pastordave@crossofchristbellevue.org
Director of Music Ministries	Ben Fowler	425-746-7300 x107	ben@crossofchristbellevue.org
Associate Pastor for Caring Ministries	Judy Brennan	502-415-5883	pastorjudybrennan@gmail.com
Online Communication	Kristie Walker	425-746-7300	kristie@crossofchristbellevue.org
Bookkeeper	Denise Fuentes	425-746-7300 x108	bookkeeper@crossofchristbellevue.org
Office Administrator	Judy Giseburt	425-746-7300	office@crossofchristbellevue.org
Church Council	Colin Walker President		council3@crossofchristbellevue.org
Ark Childcare Director	Solange Silva	425-644-5414	arkchildcare@qwestoffice.net