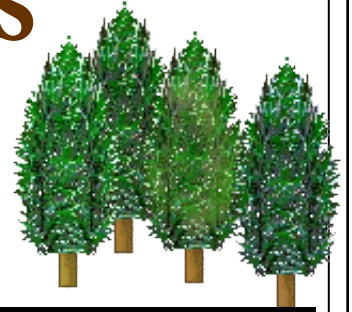


# Wooden Cross Newsletter



August, 2024

**WOODEN CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA**

*Wooden Cross is a welcoming, Christ-centered community believing in grace and living in faith and service.*

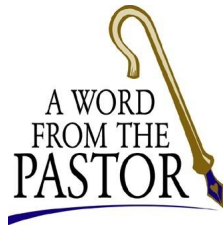
## A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Joy in your presence Lord, it is for this we've been created and for this do we live and move and have our being. Created for Your ends, by Your hands, and given life by your Spirit may we know this Joy as we come to rest in You.

Joy in God's presence as they are brought to life, talk and work may very well be the very first purpose of life for humanity we encounter in Scripture. Adam and Eve were created as a delight to God that they would delight in Him, taking joy in His presence as they brought his image to bear in this physical creation. They were Imago Dei (in the Image of God) to bear this Image into the world as those who bring his presence to bear in all they endeavor. Long before there was an emphasis on the "work" of being in this idyllic relationship there was simply a divine act of divine creation and a resting in the goodness of these of His handiwork. God blessed this all and called it "very Good!"

God delights in his handiwork. God delights in those towering trees and blowing winds and majestic mountains. God delights that much MORE in YOU and his handiwork present in crafting you as his bearer of His Image into the world of his handiwork!

God delights in his handiwork... God delights in the gathering of His faithful, in hymns and prayers, in repentance for these too are His handiwork brought about by his Spirit turned loose in power and strength for the sake of his church. God delights that much MORE in YOU each time we are moved to repentance and receive his forgiveness as a gift and walk in faithful



trust of Him! (The is more rejoicing in heaven over one who repents...)

God delights in his handiwork... God delights in persons coming to church for a first time AND for a lifetime. God delights in a faith that is freshly forming, perhaps flickering and wavering as it takes shape AND in that which blazes brightly and beautifully even in the midst of the storms of life as light shining in the darkness that the darkness cannot overcome! God delights in his handiwork as you are and we are together experiencing as he calls, gathers and enlightens us in orthodox faith trusting in Jesus as the only Way Truth and Life, the one without whom we have no way else to the Father.

*(continued on page 3)*



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- Blaine Wastell ..... President
- Peggy Reiber ..... Vice President
- Carolyn Gross ..... Secretary/Treasurer
- Nancy VanDalsem ..... Council Member
- Art Hammersberg ..... Council Member
- Dave Hutchinson ..... Council Member
- Jone Vrhel ..... Council Member

**WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY**

God calls us to grow in faith. Members and friends are invited to grow in their relationships with God. A book of the Bible is selected to read and study together over several weeks to give it full exploration.



On **Wednesday mornings in August** Pr. Eric will lead **Adult Bible Study** from **10:00-11:30 AM** (in-person and online via Zoom). You are welcome to join us! Bring a willing heart. We will till the soil. God brings the growth.

**PASTORAL CARE**

If you or your family have any health concerns needing prayer, or a pastoral contact or visit, please call or email the church office. Thank you.



**2024 Stewardship**

*Let's accept our freedom to give generously, and our responsibility to be good stewards of all God's gifts.*

**2024 Local Giving Budget**

**Weekly Average Goal: \$4,818**

<b>MAY</b>	Week 1:	\$3,151	
	Week 2:	\$7,752	
	Week 3:	\$820	
	Week 4:	<u>\$880</u>	
		<b>\$12,604</b>	
	<b>Weekly Average:</b>		<b>\$3,151</b>
<b>JUN</b>	Week 1:	\$5,826	
	Week 2:	\$2,519	
	Week 3:	\$6,295	
	Week 4:	\$1,051	
	Week 5:	<u>\$735</u>	
		<b>\$16,429</b>	
	<b>Weekly Average:</b>		<b>\$3,286</b>



**WOODEN CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
 17401 198th Avenue NE  
 Woodinville, Washington 98077  
 (corner of 198th and Woodinville/Duvall Road)

**Sunday Worship ..... 10:00 AM**

**Church ..... 425-788-3626**

Church Office Hours ..... Mon.-Thurs, 7:30 AM—3:00 PM

Church Email ..... [woodencrosslc@gmail.com](mailto:woodencrosslc@gmail.com)

Website ..... [www.WeAreWoodenCross.org](http://www.WeAreWoodenCross.org)

**Pastor Office Hours ..... T-Th: 9:30 AM—2:30 PM; Fri. by Appointment**

**Pastor Email ..... revericg@hotmail.com**

Pastor ..... Eric Griffith

Secretary / Bookkeeper ..... Kathy Corneloup

Music Director / Organist ..... Seung Lee

Special Music ..... Ensemble Musicians

Altar Guild Coordinator ..... Linda Griffith

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

(continued from page 1)

As children of God we begin to see written upon our very souls the Authorship of God as he binds us together into the body of Christ and begins to transform our individual wills into uniformity with the Will of Christ, building us into the church reliant upon Him together with all it is of his choosing to do so. By His hand we are written into the Book of Life for indeed we are His handiwork and as such God delights in you!

Friends, there are times I struggle to find words that can truly do justice to describing not only what God has, is, and will continue doing as He writes the life into being on our behalf. There are times I find nothing adequate to serve well to describe what it is to truly be at last made new and invited into this work God is writing on behalf of each he loves even as we continue to reject and rebel against this Love. How does one invite another to experience the joy that is ours for God is so-very-for-us???

Jesus himself often had to say simply "let those with eyes to see... let them see" and "let those with ears to hear, let them hear." There are times when I too grow so entangled with the tasks and labors and work of "enacting" "living for Jesus" that I miss what it is to help others discover what it is to "live-in-Jesus" basking in the peace, surety, safety and security of knowing Jesus drawing peace from him and seeing God at work in each one of us as his handiwork unfolding.

Friends as we come together as church, yes there are tasks involved... tasks of hospitality... tasks of outreach... tasks of Christian disciplines... tasks of stewardship and servanthood... tasks of discernment, cultural engagement and study... so many tasks...

... Yet let us be reminded that long before the tasks there is that first earlier calling that names us each as children of God, created by his hand and given life by his Holy Spirit. WE are redeemed by his work made finished by Jesus on the cross. We are blessed by his ongoing Spirit of wisdom and truth who abides with us even as Jesus abides with the Father. We are created each one by the handiwork of the father and we are created first and foremost to be and to know the Father's delight in his handiwork as his redeeming.

Dearest friends, take joy in the abiding presence of God, in His work within your life, in His work in building us into His church, and in His presence among us as the source and ground of our life together. Take joy and sabbath rest in Him. Even in the face of a culture designed to steal and siphon away your peace and joy, dearest friends take Joy in the Lord!

Peace and true Joy be with you in the name of Jesus our Savior and Lord!

revEric

FRIENDS IN MINISTRY

The Wooden Cross congregation works together with others for sufficient, sustainable livelihood for all. Our ministry and mission partners include:



- Acres of Diamonds..... <https://www.acresofdiamonds.org/>
- Camp Lutherwood ..... <http://www.camplutherwood.org/>
- Compass Housing Alliance ..... <https://www.compasshousingalliance.org/>
- Earth Ministry. .... <https://earthministry.org/>
- Foss Home & Village ..... <http://www.fosscare.org/>
- Habitat for Humanity..... <https://www.habitat.org/>
- Holden Village..... <http://www.holdenvillage.org/>
- Hopelink Food Bank..... <https://www.hopelink.org/>
- Lutheran Campus Ministry.. .... <https://www.lutheransnw.org/campus-ministry>
- Lutheran Community Services Northwest ..... <https://lcsnw.org/>
- Lutheran World Relief ..... <https://lwr.org/>
- Maltby Food Bank ..... <http://www.maltbyfoodbank.org/>
- Seattle-Limbe Sewing Circle..... <https://www.seattlelimbe.org/>



CONNECT — GROW — SERVE

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### NEIGHBORS' NIGHT OUT

National Night Out is an annual community-building event that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie—making our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live.



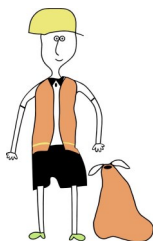
National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement, while bringing back a true sense of community. It also provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances.

Millions of neighbors from communities across all fifty states take part in National Night Out. Neighborhoods host block parties, festivals, parades, cookouts and various other community events with safety demonstrations, seminars, youth events, visits from emergency personnel, exhibits and much, much more. Together, we are making communities safer, more caring places to live.

Wooden Cross will host a **National Night Out** on **Tuesday, August 6, 3:30-5:30 PM**. You are invited to bring your family and friends and join us for the festivities. Bonnie Madsen, Coordinator.

### ADOPT-A-ROAD CLEAN-UP

Wooden Cross members and friends have the opportunity to clean up our two-mile adopted stretch of Woodinville-Duvall Road on **Sunday, August 11**.



If you'd like to help with the clean-up, please sign up in the narthex, and complete an Individual Participant Release Form (required annually by King County). We will meet in the church parking lot at **1:00 PM**.

Keeping our adopted road clean is another way Wooden Cross demonstrates caring for the community and the environment. Thank you for participating!

### WOODEN CROSS IS NOW STREAMING!



You can now stream Wooden Cross church services live on Sunday mornings on a YouTube LiveStream Channel. Through this channel, you are able to connect online and watch the live stream of our Sunday morning worship services, as well as see any of the previous broadcasted services.

It's easy to find us, just visit us at our church website—[WeAreWoodenCross.org](http://WeAreWoodenCross.org), then click on the streaming link. Choosing to subscribe allows you to receive ongoing notifications of upcoming streams, as well as access to archived services that you missed or have chosen to watch later.

This technology allows us to expand our ministry anywhere in the world and let people learn more about us and our ministry as we Connect, Grow in faith, and Serve in our communities, following Jesus and helping others do the same!

### QUILTER'S GROUP

The **Wooden Cross Quilter's Group** continue to make beautiful quilts for Lutheran World Relief.



You are invited to join us (see calendar on the bulletin board for Sunday and Thursday dates and times). Bring a sewing machine, or just come and help cut and assemble fabric. Come and reconnect with friends, or make new ones!

### COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

You are invited to join us after the worship service in the Fellowship Hall for coffee and fellowship.



Weekly volunteers are needed to make and serve the coffee, and to tidy and load the dishwasher afterwards. If you'd like to help, please sign up on the narthex bulletin board. Thank you.



## ANNUAL DINNER AUCTION!

You are invited to join us for the **Annual Wooden Cross Dinner Auction** on **Saturday, October 26**. This family-friendly event is a wonderful occasion to relax, visit, and enjoy a meal with friends. This lively evening is a great opportunity for you to invite your neighbors, relatives and friends. The dinner auction will have spirited bidding, food and music. There will be a Silent and a Live Auction, with variety of items for ALL ages!

**You can help by donating Items!** There are many ways of donating. Consider re-gifting a new item; contact businesses you have a relationship with for a donation or gift certificate; consider offering a service, or baking a special dish. Donation forms will be available on the entrance table.

Proceeds from the Auction will support Wooden Cross and mission and ministry projects such as Acres of Diamonds, Camp Lutherwood, ELCA Disaster Response, Foss Home, Habitat for Humanity, Holden Village, HopeLink, LCS/Compass Housing Alliance, Local and World Hunger, Lutheran World Relief, and Maltby Food Bank.



*The Annual Auction is sponsored in part by Thrivent Financial. We appreciate your continued support and participation!*

Carla Peterson and Peggy Reiber  
2024 Auction Co-Coordinators

## YOUR AUCTION AND GARAGE SALE DONATIONS AT WORK

Over the past few months, with input from our Christian Connection, and Christian Response Committees, the Church Council authorized significant donations to local community outreach programs.

Habitat for Humanity of Snohomish County was gifted \$10,000 for its Bayside Home Project. Acres of Diamonds received \$5,980 to support its Children's Program. These funds were matched dollar-for-dollar by an anonymous donor, in essence doubling our donation.

Lutheran World Relief's Gifts of Love received \$4,060, for an Irrigation System which provides water for community fields; five Eye Surgeries; and two 13-animal Herds of Hope.

The Foss Home and the Maltby Food Bank each received a contribution of \$1,980. The Boy Scouts received \$1,800 to support their activities and a Summer Camp Scholarship.

Council also approved a \$2,500 donation to the Woodinville Storehouse Foodbank. This foodbank serves residents of Woodinville and provides nourishment and ministry to those in need.

A \$1,500 donation to United Churches Emergency Fund (UCEF) was also authorized. The

UCEF provides information, referrals and small, one-time financial assistance to the homeless population in the area.

Your Church Council, with the input and guidance of our committees, looks forward to continuing to disperse the funds that the congregation has worked so hard to raise.

## AUCTION KICKOFF MEETING

The Auction Team is getting ready for the Annual Auction. There will be several planning meetings in the coming months that are open to all. The **Auction Kickoff Meeting** will be **Thursday, August 15, 4:00 PM** at Carla Peterson's home. Refreshments will be served.

At the kickoff and planning meetings we will select a theme; discuss any changes or improvements from the previous year's auction that could be made; what auction proceeds should support; and volunteer opportunities. Everyone interested in participating in this fun and important fundraising event is invited to attend the kickoff and planning meetings. **Come and share your ideas and talents!**

2024



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1  7:00-9:30p Theater Group	2	3
4 9:00 Community Prayer 10:00 Worship Service  11:30-3:00 Quilting & Brown Bag Lunch	5   7:00p AA	6   3:30-5:30p National Night Out Church Parking Lot 7-9 p Boy Scouts 7:00p Christian Response	7 10:00a Adult Bible Study	8 11:00-3:00 Quilters	9	10 10:00a-2:30p Theater Group  2:30-11:30p Parking Lot Use: Beauchamp Event ?
SWERVE ROBOTICS Lego Camp, August 5-9, 2024, Fellowship Hall						
11 9:00 Community Prayer 10:00 Worship Service	12   7:00p AA	13   7-9 p Boy Scouts	14 10:00a Adult Bible Study  2:00p Uke Group  7:00-9:30p Theater Group 7:00p Church Council	15   4:00p Auction Kickoff Meeting at Carla Peterson's home	16	17
18 9:00 Community Prayer 10:00 Worship Service 11:30-3:00 Quilting & Brown Bag Lunch  SEP NEWS Article Due!	19   7:00p AA	20   7-9 p Boy Scouts	21 10:00a Adult Bible Study  2:00p Uke Group 7:00-9:30p Theater Group 7:00p Worship Committee	22 11:00-3:00 Quilters	23	24 10:00a-4:00p Theater Group
25 9:00 Community Prayer 10:00 Worship Service	26 Staff Vacation Day. Office Closed.  7:00p AA	27   7-9 p Boy Scouts	28 10:00a Adult Bible Study  2:00p Uke Group	29	30	31