

# Wooden Cross Newsletter

July, 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

“What is truth?” ~Pontius Pilate

“I am the way, the truth, and the life...” ~Jesus

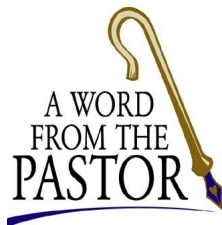
Dearest friends,

Grace and peace be to you from our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

Though I submit to you that of all people Christians should be least surprised to see the kind of sharp contrast on display illustrated by the two quotes above, it seems to be the kind of thing God’s people must continually revisit, lest we fall prey to the powers and voices that seduce us to forgetfulness.

God’s ways are different than the ways of our world. There is a sharp contrast between the two, one which God does not synthesize nor diminish. His strength, his power, his wisdom, his justice, his mercy, his truth... ALL of these are different than whatever poor approximations humans devise and normalize and implement, even at our best. Some recent Scripture readings I’ve been studying in the “minor prophets”—Amos, Malachi, Haggai, Joel and others—are showing me that in truth we are not often at our best, and in fact, it is our pervasive capacity to pretend otherwise that is actually one of the various tools we use to bludgeon God in our rebelliousness.

God’s people wander away, accuse God, whore after other lesser “gods” or even just simply authorize ourselves to be “gods,” adopt sexual practices and attitudes that ought make even sailors blush, thieve people’s livelihoods and inheritances away, use politics to destroy lives, grind the most vulnerable in society as



grease in the cogs of their economics and power plays, and continually stand scoffing over God and God’s people. This is just a cross section of the kinds of things declared throughout these “minor prophets” as being judged by God as evidence of the deep affects of sin itself.

God calls His people to different practices, norms, morals, and habits grounded in a fundamental trust and relationship with Him. Instead though, what we see in these writings is a picture of God’s people rejecting these callings to be set apart and Holy. Substituting instead their own agendas and drawing nearer to the practices of the cultures and world around them, even adopting an affinity to what scripture as a whole describes as a “spirit of this age,” one which is characterized as being in active rebellion against God.

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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

**WOODEN CROSS IS NOW STREAMING!**



Wooden Cross is now streaming 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**, 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!

**2024 Stewardship**



**STEWARDS OF GOD'S LOVE**

*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>APR</b>	Week 1:	\$2,406	
	Week 2:	\$3,390	
	Week 3:	\$8,435	
	Week 4:	<u>\$2,201</u>	
		<b>\$16,432</b>	
	<b>Weekly Average:</b>		<b>\$4,108</b>
<b>MAY</b>	Week 1:	\$3,151	
	Week 2:	\$7,752	
	Week 4:	\$820	
	Week 3:	<u>\$880</u>	
		<b>\$12,604</b>	
	<b>Weekly Average:</b>		<b>\$3,151</b>

Thank you!



**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

OUR FUNDRAISERS SUPPORT...

In May and June, a portion of proceeds from the Wooden Cross Auctions and Annual Garage Sales supported:



Three additional local charities were also supported this year with funds raised at the Wooden Cross Auction and Garage Sale:

- 1. Acres of Diamonds, creating lasting change for homeless moms and kids through a caring community...
2. Maltby Food Bank, an independent, non-profit organization providing nutritionally balanced, tinned and dried food...
3. Foss Home, serving the neighborhoods of North Seattle since 1929...
4. Lutheran World Relief "Gifts of Love" program, providing eye surgeries, water for community fields and herds of animals...
5. Habitat for Humanity Snohomish, creating strength, stability and self-reliance for low-income families in Snohomish County...

- 1. United Churches Emergency Fund. The UCEF was created in 1986 to provide information, referral and financial assistance to people in Northeast Seattle...
2. Woodinville Storehouse Foodbank, a local foodbank located in Woodinville Community Church...
3. Acres of Diamonds Summer Camp and Kid's Program. The Duvall shelter for women and their children will have a week-long program in July...

Thank you to all the volunteers and participants who continue to support our Wooden Cross Auctions and Annual Garage Sales. Your generosity enables us to help our local and global neighbors!

SUMMER SPECIAL MUSIC

Wooden Cross members and friends are inviting to share their talents as musicians, vocalists and performers during the worship services throughout the Summer months, beginning in mid-May.



If you play an instrument, sing or dance, please sign up on the narthex table. Both soloists and groups are welcomed and encouraged.



CONNECT — GROW — SERVE



### COMING IN AUGUST! NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

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



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

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.

more. Together, we are making communities safer, more caring places to live.

Millions of neighbors from communities across all

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. Contact person: Bonnie Madsen.

### LANDSCAPE PROJECT THANK YOU

Eight members of the Boy Scout Troop 422 joined Mike and Colleen Gaylord, Jone Vrhel and Jerry Booren for the Landscape Work Party on Saturday, June 8.

The team worked together to relocate several red rhododendrons and berry bushes in the back yard



from under the eaves to a sunny location. The project was completed in just three hours! Thank you all!

The next Property Committee project will be to raise the septic lids, haul in 5 units of topsoil, and roll and re

-seed the back lawn area. Later this Fall, new plants will be installed that are shade friendly and have low moisture care.



### FRESH SUMMER FRUIT OPPORTUNITY

This summer the Calhoun Family CSA (*Community Supported Agriculture*) is offering an opportunity to buy fruit at a discount, and have it delivered over the mountains for pick up in Snoqualmie. All the fruit will be Washington State fruit off the trees at Calhoun Family Fruit in Wapato, Washington.

Farm fruits include: apricots, apples, cherries, nectarines, peaches, plums, pluots, and pears. Fruit orders will be delivered to Snoqualmie once a week for the summer season. Snoqualmie pick-up days will be Wednesdays, beginning July 10. If enough Wooden Cross people order, Cinda Woody will ask if the fruit orders could be delivered to the church.

For more information, visit: <https://calhoun-family-csa.square.site/> or contact Cinda Woody at [crw766@outlook.com](mailto:crw766@outlook.com)

### 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!

## PASTOR'S MESSAGE

(continued from page 1)

In so doing, what begins to see a literal picture of what we might more colloquially call a picture of "Hell in a hand basket."

God though, does not allow hell to pervade nor triumph... God will not be so mocked in this way.

And so God acts... and into this mess Jesus enters in and becomes "foolishness" that is "wiser than man's wisdom" and "weakness" that is stronger than humanity's "strength."

Jesus comes to be the END of sin in the midst of a humanity that is continually in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves.

Jesus becomes the one in whom each of us is "created a new creation" where the old Adam, the old Eve is put to death as simultaneously a new creation is born to live anew, allowing we who are dead to live abundantly in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Notice the contrast here friends? God's ways are indeed different! Yet here's the challenge if you will. The reality friends, is that we live in a time and place where the voices that would teach us to deny this truth, the pervasive voice of the serpent himself yet whispering in ears today, may never had greater access to you simultaneously with the reality that God's people are displaying marked signs of decline in things like Biblical literacy, Biblical worldview, orthodox fidelity to the person of Jesus himself, and categorical identity within the body of Christ his church.

The access... and the decline... both could create problems, each in their own right... together they are akin to a perfect storm swamping people in seas where people drown for lack of meaning, apathy of purpose and negated relationship with the One who has indeed come to save us. So what then???

Well God does give us our Way... it's not actually a mystery, but it can be jarring and hard for it turns out that in reclaiming wayward hearts there is a usurpation afoot... it turns out each of us has to get unseated again from the throne God alone has a right to occupy. Usurpation... YES...

☞ Receive God's judgment not upon the world but upon one's own person in creating the chaos and mess within and without us...

- ☞ Recall... your identity gifted you in Baptism that you are child of God and beloved, a new creation in whom the old is passing away and a new rebirth is taking shape in you!
- ☞ Repent... turn away (perhaps one of the hardest of all motions there is) from that which whispers seduction and that includes even the wayward ways of our own deceptive hearts
- ☞ Renew in Christ... come again to the tender hands of the one who calls to us to come to him all who are weak and heavy laden, and discover again the rest for our souls that he alone provides and then too we begin to discover how his hands begin to shape us into His image and our character begins to emulate more the person of Jesus himself.

Friends...

...Our world will ruin us for it is until the last Days a world in thrall to the powers of sin and death.

... BUT Christ Jesus is alone redeeming us even now!

Live with him and discover anew the renewal of your heart, mind, soul and strength in Him as we seek to live as sojourners in world whose ways are different than the Way, the Truth, and the Life whom we follow!

Peace and Life in Christ!

RevEric

## WEDNESDAY MORNING 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 beginning at 10:00 AM** Pr. Eric will lead **Adult Bible Study** (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.

### WOODINVILLE STOREHOUSE FOOD BANK

The Woodinville Storehouse Food Bank is a Christian organization that provides fresh food and prayer support to members of our community.



those in need. For more information, visit: [www.woodinvillestorehouse.org](http://www.woodinvillestorehouse.org)

The WSH welcomes those in need to spend time in comfort and prayer, where healthy food and support are available every Tuesday and Saturday. Anyone who is experiencing food insecurity is invited to become a client for as long as they need. WSH provides quality food including dairy, baked goods, produce, meat and vegetables. Clients are treated with respect and care by volunteers who are equipped to pray for them if desired.

Located on the ground floor of the Woodinville Community Church, the WSH is operated by a coalition of churches and denominations serving the local community by providing nourishment and ministry to

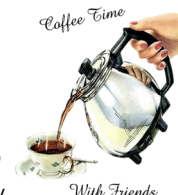
Wooden Cross will be supporting the Woodinville Storehouse Food Bank by collecting the following food items. Please remember to check the “use by” dates and do not donate expired

food. Thank you.

- Cereal (*no Cheerios needed*)
- Dried Pasta
- Pasta Sauce
- Hamburger Helper
- Chili
- Canned Ravioli
- Peanut Butter
- Canned meat (*tuna, chicken, etc.*)

### 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.

### 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.



### 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.fossicare.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/>



# 2024



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Pastor on Vacation June 28—July 6					
	<i>Staff Vacation Day. Office Closed.</i>  7:00p AA	7-9 p Boy Scouts	<b>No Bible Study</b>  2:00p Uke Group	<b>Independence Day!</b>  <b>Holiday. Office Closed.</b>		
7 <b>9:00 Community Prayer</b> <b>10:00 Worship Service</b> 11:30-3:00 Quilting & Brown Bag Lunch	8   7:00p AA	9   7-9 p Boy Scouts	10  <b>No Bible Study</b>  2:00p Uke Group	11   11:00-3:00 Quilters	12	13
14 <b>9:00 Community Prayer</b> <b>10:00 Worship Service</b>	15	16 <b>Pastor on Vacation</b>	17 <b>No Bible Study</b>	18	19	20 10:00a-3:30p Theater Group
	SWERVE ROBOTICS Lego Camp, July 15-19, 2024, Fellowship Hall					
	6:30-9:30 Theater Group 7:00p AA	6:30-9:30 Theater Group 7-9 p Boy Scouts	2:00p Uke Group  6:30-9:30 Theater Group			
21 <b>9:00 Community Prayer</b> <b>10:00 Worship Service</b> 11:30-3:00 Quilting & Brown Bag Lunch  <b>AUG NEWS Article Due!</b>	22   6:30-9:30 Theater Group 7:00p AA	23   6:30-9:30 Theater Group 7-9 p Boy Scouts	24  <b>No Bible Study</b> 2:00p Uke Group  6:30-9:30 Theater Group	25   11:00-3:00 Quilters	26	27 10:00a-4:00p Theater Group
	Pastor on Vacation July 22-27					
28 <b>9:00 Community Prayer</b> <b>10:00 Worship Service</b> <i>Jerry Booren, Guest Preacher</i>  5:30p Christian Connection Dinner Meeting, at Mathers Home	29   7:00p AA	30   6:30-9:30 Theater Group 7-9 p Boy Scouts	31  <b>No Bible Study</b>  2:00p Uke Group			