

Wooden Cross Newsletter

October, 2024

WOODEN CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

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

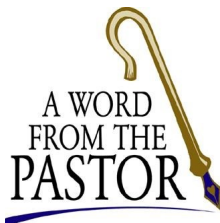
A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

“Grace, mercy, and peace in Jesus Christ, our Lord, from Martin Luther... The deplorable conditions which I recently encountered when I was a visitor constrained me to prepare this brief and simple catechism or statement of Christian teaching. Good God, what wretchedness I beheld! The common people, especially who live in the country, have no knowledge whatever of Christian teaching, and unfortunately many pastors are quite incompetent and unfitted for teaching. Although the people are supposed to be Christian, are baptized, and receive the holy sacrament, they do not know the Lord’s Prayer, the Creed, or the Ten Commandments, they live as if they are pigs and irrational beasts, and now that the Gospel has been restored they have mastered the fine art of abusing liberty.”

~ Preface to Luther’s Small Catechism 1529

Dearest friends and people of God in Christ Jesus our Lord,

Grace and peace to you each one. So I guess the question I am asking is “How are we doing here?” How are we in each one able to share the content of our faith? How easily could you share all 10 of the 10 Commandments? Do we know the prayer Jesus gifted to us by heart or do we need it printed out in front of us to trust that the words flow simply and fluidly from our hearts and minds? When we make our confession of faith, how often have we given deepest reflection on not only what is being said, but why it is being said? As pastor, I in truth notice the indictment on pastor’s being “unfit” and “incompetent” and often find myself praying for God’s Holy Spirit to guide and protect me from these



very realities. I even find myself wondering how much further down the road to Hell we’re strutting as a culture in our mastery of “the fine art of abusing liberty...” and in truth sadly I suspect those German’s of 500 years ago have got nothing on us modern types.

So yeah.. how are we doing here?

Luther when he noted this reality took it as his occasion to write in 1529 a Small Catechism as a way to get the holy Word of God into every home and into every life he could reach. This is a tool yet available to us today. Most all of you (if you’ve bumped around Lutheran churches for long) likely have one of these

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- CHURCH COUNCIL**
- 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 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.

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.



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

JUL	Week 1:	\$3,724	
	Week 2:	\$3,210	
	Week 3:	\$8,753	
	Week 4:	<u>\$1,815</u>	
		\$17,502	
	Weekly Average:		\$4,376

AUG	Week 1:	\$4,130	
	Week 2:	\$1,257	
	Week 3:	\$3,055	
	Week 4:	<u>\$4,205</u>	
		\$12,647	
	Weekly Average:		\$3,162

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

Website 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)

little books tucked away somewhere **(and if you don't just ask me and I'll get you one ASAP!)** but... *a shovel left in the shed will dig no holes!* When was the last time you actually read through it? For many the honest answer would be "oh about the time I finished up confirmation classes." Do you know how often I would encourage you to do so?

Daily... Twice! ...

Once as you first awaken... Once before you drop off to sleep.

(Oh and by the way... M.L. wrote strongly that it should be this PLUS before and after EVERY MEAL!... he may not be wrong here but it's good to crawl before we can walk...)

I'd encourage you to:

- * make the sign of the cross
- * recite all 10 Commandments (this moves us to know God's will for us and for creation)
- * pray as Jesus teaches us (in the Lord's Prayer, be with God using the words of Jesus)
- * confess your faith with the Creed (the Word of God leads us to confess what is true)
- * and then pray in thanksgiving and petition for all God has been, is, and yet will do in your life, in the church and in this world.

Now could one do more? Of course... yet in some ways this is the most basic beginning point for us all as Christ's people. What's amazing to regard here is that even in these most "basic" steps is actually a treasure

CONSIDER SHARING YOUR VOICE!

It's time to make some music! And the Wooden Cross Choir is ready to start singing again! Organist and Music Director, Seung Lee will lead the choir. Why not add more music to your life and consider joining the choir! All voices welcome—particularly sopranos! The Wooden Cross Choir rehearses on Thursday evenings at 7:30 PM.



so rich and abundant that one's could never plumb to the depths of what God is providing here if we were to spend our whole lives just simply reflecting on this Word of God that has come to us as pure unmerited gift! Do not think we can ever fully master what God provides us, for this IS God and God's living Word we are dealing with here and it is His will that we live and breathe and have our being in Him.

We've all got to start somewhere right? So friends it's time to find and dust off those shovels. Get to digging into the depth's of our Father's love for us! In Him we will find no shortage of wonders and joy in his living Word to us.

May Christ reveal himself and through him may we come to know God through the power and calling of the Holy Spirit upon us each and all.

May God our Father, Christ Jesus our Lord and the Holy Spirit who is at work even now drawing you ever into the love of God bless you now and always as you come to more fully trust and believe in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Peace and AMEN

revEric

QUILTER'S GROUP

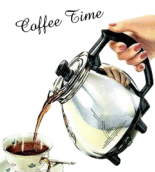
The **Wooden Cross Quilter's Group** continue to make beautiful quilts for Lutheran World Relief.



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.

CONNECT — GROW — SERVE

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REFORMATION SUNDAY

Reformation Day is October 31 and commemorates the Reformation movement started by Martin Luther in the 16th century. This year it is observed the Sunday before on October 29.



Reformation Sunday is a day when we remember and re-tell the family stories of our faith. Stories about men and women who came before us and taught us about the faith. Stories about people who risked everything so that we would be able to gather and worship in the manner that we do.

Throughout the year we listen to the Sunday message—about how we live our daily lives, the choices we make, the habits of our faith. On Reformation Sunday we return to the core of our faith: God loved us first, and God continues to shower us with grace and mercy.

We are called to remember that all that we are is a gift from God. Reformation Sunday is a reminder that the bedrock of our faith is the grace and mercy given to us in Jesus Christ.

2025 LEADERSHIP



The Nomination Committee and Council are busy securing the nominees for open elected Church Leadership positions on the Ministry and Mission Committees—Worship & Formation, Christian Response, Christian Connection, and the Finance Team for the year 2025.

Nominees will be found in the willingness of members to commit their time and talents to leadership roles, and to active participation in ministries of special interest—around the abilities and talents they have to share.

The Nomination Committee has the responsibility to prepare the ballot of nominees for election at the **Annual Meeting and Brunch, on Sunday, January 19, 2025.** If you would like to serve on a committee, please contact: Natasha Carlson, Blaine Wastell, Peggy Reiber, Carolyn Gross, Art Hammersberg, Dave Hutchinson, Nancy VanDalsem, or Jone Vrhel.



THE GREAT WASHINGTON SHAKE-OUT!

To serve others during a regional crisis, such as an earthquake, People need to take time now to prepare their family for such an emergency. October is a good time for each family to get their homes and animals, vehicle backpacks, family provisions and medications ready to survive with little support for three months.

Churches, schools and families are also invited to participate in the **Great Washington Shake-Out Drill on Thursday, October 17, 2024, at 10:19 AM.** At 10:17 AM (local time) on 10/17, you can join millions of people across Washington practicing [earthquake safety](https://www.shakeout.org/washington/).

This drill means that wherever you are—at home, at work, at school, anywhere—you should *Drop, Cover, and Hold On* as if there were a major earthquake occurring at that very moment. For more information, visit: <https://www.shakeout.org/washington/>

Visit the American Red Cross Disaster Preparedness website to help prepare a Family Emergency Communications Plan: <https://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies.html> Wooden Cross is a Red Cross emergency shelter which will serve the community should there be a major earthquake in our area.

HARVEST FAIR DINNER AUCTION!

The Wooden Cross Auction Team is excited to share some exciting news about our upcoming **Harvest Fair Dinner Auction!**

The Dinner Auction will take place on **Saturday, October 26**, beginning at **5:00 PM**. The main course will be a chili cookoff (with bragging rights and a prize going to the winner!) Auction attendees will vote for their favorite chili. If you would like to be a chili cookoff contestant, please RSVP as soon as possible to Carla or Peggy. Spots are limited!

The Silent and Live Auctions will have a variety of items for ALL ages, with lots of spirited bidding! Entertainment will be provided by Marilyn and the "G" Strings. Dress is harvest barn comfortable!

This family-friendly event is a wonderful occasion to relax, visit, and enjoy a meal with friends. This lively evening is also a great opportunity for you to invite your neighbors, relatives and friends. The cost for members is \$5 per person, or \$10 per family. Guests are free! Please sign up in the Narthex, and note the ages of any children attending.

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 this event will benefit: Acres of Diamonds; Foss Home and Village; Maltby Food Bank; and Lutherwood Camp and Retreat Center.

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.

2024



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 9-2:45 <i>Acorn Montessori</i>	2 9-2:45 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 10:00a Adult Bible Study	3 9-2:45 <i>Acorn Montessori</i>	4 9-2:45 <i>Acorn Montessori</i>	5
		7-9 p Boy Scouts	2:00p Uke Group- 5:00-9:00p Facility Use: WGC	4:00-5:00p Handbells 7:30p Choir Rehearsal		
6 9:00 Community Prayer 10:00 Worship Service 11:30-3:00 Quilting & Brown Bag Lunch	7 9-2:45 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 7:00p AA	8 9-2:45 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 7-9 p Boy Scouts	9 9-2:45 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 10:00a Adult Bible Study 2:00p Uke Group-Sanctuary	10 9-2:45 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 11:00-3:00 Quilters 4:00-5:00p Handbells 7:30p Choir Rehearsal	11 9-2:45 <i>Acorn Montessori</i>	12
13 Stewardship Kickoff! 9:00 Community Prayer 10:00 Worship Service Temple Talk LWR Quilt Display	14 9-2:45 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 7:00p AA	15 9-2:45 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 7-9 p Boy Scouts	16 9-2:45 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 10:00a Adult Bible Study 2:00p Uke Group- 7:00p Church Council 7:00p Worship Zoom Meeting	17 9-2:45 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 10:17a Great Washington Shakeout! 4:00-5:00p Handbells 7:30p Choir Rehearsal Auction Donation Forms Due	18 9-2:45 <i>Acorn Montessori</i>	19 3:00-7:30p Facility Use: Cello Recitals [Lumsden]
20 9:00 Community Prayer 10:00 Worship Service LWR Quilt Blessing 11:30-3:00 Quilting / LWR Quilt Packing November Newsletter Articles Due!	21 9-2:45 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> Auction Donations Due Today! 7:00p AA	22 9-2:45 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 7-9 p Boy Scouts	23 9-2:45 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 10:00a Adult Bible Study 2:00p Uke Group-Sanctuary	24 9-2:45 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 4:00-5:00p Handbells 7:30p Choir Rehearsal	25 9-2:45 <i>Acorn Montessori</i>	26  5:00p Harvest Fair Dinner Auction
27 Reformation Sunday 9:00 Community Prayer 10:00 Worship Service Temple Talk	28 9-2:45 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 7:00p AA	29 9-2:45 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> (Pumpkin Carving— Fellowship Hall & Kitchen) 7-9 p Boy Scouts	30	31		