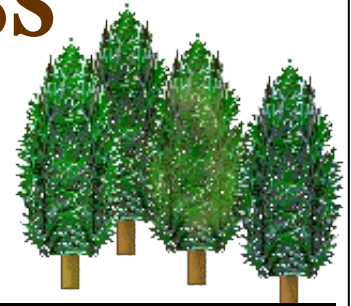


# Wooden Cross Newsletter



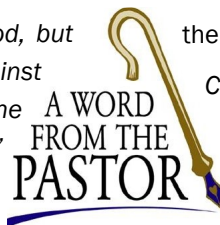
August, 2022

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

*“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.”  
~Ephesians 6:12*



the harms of our past and present?

**Crime**—What can and must be understood and acted upon to not only reduce crime, but even create the social fabric needed to eliminate the impulses towards crime?

Dearest friends in Christ,

I've been reflecting a great deal of late on “why” we pray. When I read the verse above I see at least one part of the answer. We pray because on many levels this fight we are in is well and truly beyond us. This is certainly not the only reason for prayer, nor necessarily the most important. (I'd suggest reflecting upon the loving, intimate conversation praying gives voice and experience to as the MOST important.) But it is certainly significant, and perhaps even more so because this aspect to praying is one of the most often overlooked or ignored aspect of our reality we moderns have “written” out of our typical understandings of reality.

Like it or not we moderns live within a “materialist” framework for reality. The limits of what is known are defined by what can be sensed, measured, calculated and even manipulated. When we think of the big issues of our times, do we not tend to resort to bounding and framing the identified problems around what can and even “must” be known by humans in order to then engage the “work” to change towards humanely discerned solutions. A few examples to think about:

**Climate Change**—What can and must be understood and acted upon in order to save the environment humans have harmed through action and carelessness?

**Racism**—What can and must be understood and acted upon in order to repent, repair, and reparate for

Framed as “human problems” with then “human solutions” the list goes on and on. Our current modern framework, and one that has been rising ascendant for several decades now, is to turn to our secular humanist deity of governmental/legislative action to frame the “right” response.

I suppose it does not and should not surprise us though since we live in a time when a wholly secular world view is guiding most of our public discourses. Secularism actually cannot entertain any notion of reality that includes aspects of the spiritual by the very definition and so it is wholly married to this materialist



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- Steven Carlson ..... President
- Natasha Carlson ..... Vice President
- Sherman Johnson ..... Secretary
- Doug Pearman ..... Treasurer
- Art Hammersberg ..... Council Member
- Deb Schuldt ..... Council Member
- Sally Simpson ..... Council Member
- Chantal Carlson ..... Council Member
- Dave Hutchinson ..... Council Member
- Peter Marschalk ..... Council Member
- Ben Carlson ..... Youth Representative

**STEWARDSHIP REMINDER**

Thank you for your thoughtful giving throughout the year! It is with your continued support that we are able to meet the financial commitments of our church and provide many social, youth and community ministries.



Summertime is upon us, with warm sunny days, children out of school and packing for long-awaited vacations. While you are enjoying the beautiful days of summer, please remember to continue giving. If you are going to be away, we ask that you consider making your summer offerings before you leave, either at a worship service or by mailing your contribution to the church office. Thank you for your continued support of Wooden Cross.

—Wooden Cross Finance Team

**2022 Stewardship**

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

**2022 Local Giving Budget**

**Weekly Average Goal: \$4,334**

<b>JUN</b>	Week 1:	\$2,793	
	Week 2:	\$6,147	
	Week 3:	\$1,898	
	Week 4:	<u>\$3,161</u>	
		<b>\$13,999</b>	
	<b>Weekly Average:</b>		<b>\$3,500</b>
<b>JUL</b>	Week 1:	\$2,695	
	Week 2:	\$2,085	
	Week 3:	\$2,395	
	Week 4:	<u>\$14,415</u>	
		<b>\$21,590</b>	
	<b>Weekly Average:</b>		<b>\$5,398</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-THU, 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

Organist / Interim Music Director ..... Seung Lee

Special Music ..... Ensemble Musicians

Altar Guild ..... Sally Simpson

**SHARE YOUR FAITH**

It is a joy to share things that are important to us—events, achievements and vacations. In Matthew 28:19 Jesus gives his disciples a job—He tells us to share our faith with others.

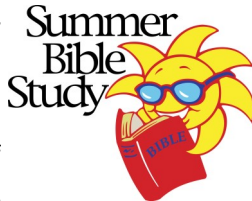


The Church Council is inviting worshipping members of Wooden Cross Lutheran Church to share their faith with their fellow church members. We are excited about this opportunity because it truly is a joy to share things that are important to us with others.

—Steven Carlson, Council President

**SUNDAY SUMMER BIBLE STUDY**

You are invited to join us for a new Summer Bible Study on Sunday mornings at **11:15 AM.**



*Gather*, the magazine of Women of the ELCA, has put together a summer Bible study series which uses the concept of quilting to explore rest, renewal and Christian community. We'll discuss Old and New Testament readings as we consider the patterns we follow, and how the pieces of our lives and communities are bound together in Christ.

This one-hour study will compliment Pastor Eric's Wednesday mornings series. If you are interested in participating, please join us! The study will run every other week in July and August.

**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.



**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.

**AMAZON SMILE**

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Wooden Cross every time you shop, at no cost to you. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to Wooden Cross.



On your first visit to AmazonSmile, simply select Wooden Cross as your charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

**SUMMER MUSIC!**

The Worship Committee is inviting talented musicians, vocalists and performers to share their gifts during the worship services throughout the summer months.



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

**CONNECT — GROW — SERVE**

## P A S T O R ' S M E S S A G E

*(continued from page 1)*

and fundamentally humanist view not only of reality but the human instrumentality in “solving” what is seen to be “broken.”

Scripture has a VERY different view of reality which offers a fundamentally different framework through which our lived reality is received and lived. The Bible speaks of our world as being caught in the throws of the results of rebellion against God (sin) and the rescue God is working so that God’s “order” would ultimately be restored to all aspects of His created order. The Bible reflects upon this rebellion as encompassing not only humanity but also a part of the heavenly realm that also chose not to glorify God and seek to bring about “God’s will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.”

Biblical authors like Paul names these heavenly rebels “rulers, authorities, powers, principalities” and other words of the like. The Biblical worldview notes with great clarity that things like poor stewardship of creation, racism, crime, sexual relations, marital relations, national relations and most any other sphere in which humanity exists are ALL caught up in this rebellious action against God. The Biblical worldview holds that we are not just some misguided folks who can “get wiser, become more educated, choose kindness, coexist” and thereby make all things better eventually through the “work” of becoming more just... more enlightened... more kind... more social. So what *are* we then?

The Bible tells us we are sinners who need a Savior to come and not only set us free from our groaning, but who will make all things new and restore all of creation in the process. Those redeemed, in whom God dwells and upon whom God has written His law upon their hearts, the Bible tells us are those who will do their part in bearing God’s image into the world... not on their own power, but wholly through God’s Spirit which dwells within them.

Jesus is that Savior come and we are now those living in the age in which the final victory is certain, but the rebellion is yet in swing. The powers... the rulers... the humanity... the creation that is in rebellion against God continues to rebel even when the outcome is known.

And yes beloved we are caught smack in the middle of all this... not as passive observers but as full participants. We are called to be the image of God in the face of all the aspects of existence itself that are yet fighting God and seeking to unmake all that our loving Creator makes daily. We are caught up not only in this war raging outside ourselves, but frankly we have it fighting within ourselves as well for even though Christ our “New Adam” has redeemed us, our “Old Adam” fights on. We do not fight alone, for the Father, Son and Holy Spirit have chosen to dwell with us, but friends we DO and are called to this fight. So what do we do?

We pray... we pray “Thy kingdom come...” we pray “Thy will be done on Earth as it is in heaven...” we pray that we will daily die to ourselves, drown in our Baptismal promise, so that we will rise anew alive in Jesus Christ for THIS IS our daily bread... we pray that God will at last bring all the powers and principalities, rulers and authorities not only on Earth but throughout the heavens and submit them to Jesus whose name is above all names... we pray that Christ will fill our hearts and minds so that we will not only know God’s will but that we too would seek to enact it in our daily lives.

Our struggle is not simply with human frailty though we are frail. Our struggle is not simply with human hardheartedness though we can be remarkable hard. Our struggle is not simply against any aspect wholly within our control nor effort. Our struggle is against the full array of the Adversary and ourselves... so friends now more than ever, put on the whole armor of God and fight His good fight!

Read your Bible. (Might I suggest dwelling with Ephesians for a while—read it two, three, four times, and camp out there for a while to immerse yourself in the language I’m using here.)

Pray  
Participate in worship  
Listen to preaching  
Do these and join the FIGHT!  
Rise up O Saints of God...

revEric



**P H A N T O M   O F   T H E   A U C T I O N**

The **Annual Wooden Cross Dinner Auction**—“Phantom of the Auction”—is set for **Saturday, November 5, 2022!**

You are invited to join us for this family-friendly event. This annual event is a wonderful occasion to relax, visit, and enjoy a meal with friends.



baking a special dish, or offering a service. Donation forms are available on the entrance table.

Proceeds from the Auction will support Wooden Cross 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!

This casual evening is also a great opportunity for you to invite your neighbors, relatives and friends for an evening of fun and "fun"draising. This lively evening of fun, food and music will have Silent and Live Auctions 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

Peg Skiftenes  
 Deb Schuldt  
 2022 Auction Co-Coordinators

**C A M P   U N I T Y   U P D A T E**

Thank you SO MUCH for the many years of support and generosity from Wooden Cross Lutheran Church with meals, financial assistance, and care for residents of Camp Unity Eastside.

Seventeen residents have moved from Camp Unity to permanent housing this year. These moves would not have been possible without the care and generosity of faith communities like yours, together with businesses, agencies, organizations and individuals. Your support has truly made a significant difference in residents' lives.

As a result of fewer new residents moving into Camp Unity, and the challenge of operating and managing an outdoor encampment with so few people, the Camp Unity Board has decided to pause

new admissions for now and discontinue the shelter portion of Camp Unity. We need to honor our host and local government permit requirements and we have been unable to do so with our resident numbers so low.

The Camp Unity Eastside organization will continue and we will stay in contact with residents who moved to apartments for at least one year to help support transition needs and maintain stable housing, per our commitment under the Emergency Housing Voucher Program.

Thank you again for your many years of kindness and support for our neighbors in need at Camp Unity and elsewhere in our communities.

Lori Peckol, Volunteer, Camp Unity Eastside

**CONNECT — GROW — SERVE**

Wooden Cross August News, 2022

2022



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 <i>Pastor on Vacation</i>	2 <i>Pastor on Vacation</i>	3 <i>Pastor Vacation</i> <b>No Adult Bible Study</b>	4 <i>Pastor Vacation</i> 9:30-12:00 GNA Food Bank	5 <i>Pastor on Vacation</i>	6 10:00a—2:00p Facility Use: Theater Group (Youth Room)
	Lego Robotics Camp, August 1-5, Fellowship Hall					
	7:00p AA	7-9 p Boy Scouts		7:00-9:00p Facility Use: Theater (Youth Room)	7:00-9:00p Facility Use: Theater (Youth Room)	
7 <i>Pastor Vacation Day</i> 9:00 Community Prayer 10:00 Summer Song & Scripture Service 11:15 Gather Bible Study	8 <i>Staff Vacation Day</i>	9  7-9 p Boy Scouts 7:00p Christian Response	10 10:00a <b>Adult Bible Study</b>  7:00P <b>CHURCH COUNCIL</b>	11 9:30-12:00 GNA Food Bank 1:30-3:30 Quilters  7:00-9:00p Facility Use: Theater (Youth Room)	12  7:00-9:00p Facility Use: Theater (Youth Room)	13 10:00a—2:00p Facility Use: Theater Group (Youth Room)
14 9:00 Community Prayer 10:00 Worship Service 11:30-2:30 Quilting & Brown Bag Lunch  <b>SEP NEWS Article Due!</b>	15  7:00p AA	16  7-9 p Boy Scouts	17 10:00a <b>Adult Bible Study</b>  7:00p Worship Committee	18 9:30-12:00 GNA Food Bank  7:00-9:00p Facility Use: Theater (Youth Room)	19  7:00-9:00p Facility Use: Theater (Youth Room)	20 10:00a—2:00p Facility Use: Theater Group (Youth Room)
21 9:00 Community Prayer 10:00 Worship Service 11:15 Gather Bible Study	22  7:00p AA	23  7-9 p Boy Scouts	24 <i>Staff Vacation Day</i>  10:00a <b>Adult Bible Study</b>	25 <i>Staff Vacation Day</i>  9:30-12:00 GNA Food Bank 1:30-3:30 Quilters	26	27  Eagle Scout Playground Project
28 9:00 Community Prayer 10:00 Worship Service 11:15 Gather Bible Study 11:30-2:30 Quilting & Brown Bag Lunch	29 <i>Staff Vacation Day</i>  7:00p AA	30 <i>Staff Vacation Day</i>  7-9 p Boy Scouts	31 <i>Staff Vacation Day</i>			