

## CROSS CONNECTIONS—FEBRUARY, 2024

Dear Friends in Christ,

The church year gives us opportunities to see our lives and relationships differently. Advent is a time of Hope in the future and the return of Christ. Christmas is a time of new beginnings as we welcome the Christ Child. Easter is the season of renewal and new beginnings. This month we begin the season of Lent. Lent is a time of reflection on our humanity and inability to earn God's love and forgiveness.

Over the years we have experienced Lenten reflection in many different ways. Some years have seen skits, in others we've had stories shared by members of the congregation. Last year we worshiped with Holden Evening Prayer and watched videos to help us better understand Christ's work in the world and in our lives. This year, we will once again use Holden Evening Prayer to help us worship.

Our reflections this year will be on the welcoming arms of Jesus in a world of exclusion. In everything Jesus said and did, we see the ways of the world being turned upside down. Jesus stood up to exclusion and hatred throughout his ministry. Jesus saw people excluded for many reasons, including nationality, gender, age, and illness. In each case, Jesus spoke love and welcome.

This gives us reason to reflect on Jesus' welcome of us – as we are. We have all felt excluded at times in our lives. We should never feel excluded from God's love, God's kingdom, God's ministry. This will also provide us the opportunity to reflect on how we can be more welcoming and loving here at Cross and in our own personal lives.

**Pulpit Swap.** Last Fall, my wife, Melody, and I travelled to each other's church for a weekend. It was a great way to get to know the other's congregation a little better. We will do that once again the weekend of February 17 and 18. I'm sure you will welcome Pastor Melody with loving arms.

**Youth Room** – If you haven't been to the Youth Room lately, I invite you to go down and have a look. Since it is where Confirmation classes are held, we needed furniture that was comfortable and easy to move. We now have 9 new bean bag chairs! I am also looking for a ping pong table. If you, or someone you know, has one you would like to donate, please let me know. We are looking for a good quality table that will withstand lots of playing time.

In Christ,  
Pastor John

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of Pastor John**

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CANTATA—December 23 & 24, 2023





Ash Wednesday Service—Wednesday, February 14 at 7:00pm

Lent Worship begins February 21 through March 20th at 6:30pm,  
with soup supper from 5:30-6:30pm

Sunday, March 24th: Palm / Passion Sunday Service—10am



Thursday, March 28th: Maundy Thursday Service—7pm

Friday, March 29th: Good Friday Service—7pm

Saturday, March 30th: Easter Vigil Service—5pm

Sunday, March 31st: Easter Sunday Service—10am



## MISSION COUNCIL MINUTES – January 16, 2024

**Present:** Pr. John Brink, President - Andy Johnson, Vice President – Ryan Jazdzewski, Rachel Bennett, Joyce Etter, Claudia Kreuzscher, Secretary Patty Oldenburg.

**6:32** – Called to order.

**Opening Prayer** – Pastor John

**MOTION** – by Ryan, second by Claudia, to approve the minutes from the November 21, 2023 meeting. – **Approved**

### **Pastors' Report:**

The five services on Christmas weekend were great. The Cantata went very well. The 4:00 service with the impromptu Christmas pageant was a little chaotic but fun. The 10:00 was a traditional service. Christmas Day service was well received. We have started the 2024 year strong. Unfortunately, Bob Remer who is gravely ill will not be returning to work as our custodian. We have some new members joining soon, a young couple with a new baby.

- **Major Ministries**
- **Constitution Review** – The ELCA updates the model constitution regularly. Occasionally there are mandatory changes that each congregation must make in their constitution. There are some administrative changes that need to be made in ours. Pastor John and the Business Board would also like an amendment to the constitution that would give them access to the donor contributions. Pastor explained all positive reasons for having this information. Andy & Ryan will be putting together a small task force to complete the mandatory changes to the constitution and to write the donor request amendment. The changes will be presented at the semi-annual meeting in April. The congregation will need to vote on the revised constitution at two separate meetings in order for the motion to pass.
- **Annual Meeting February 4<sup>th</sup>** – We reviewed the draft of the agenda for the meeting. There will be a potluck organized by the Connecting Team prior to the meeting. Andy will get the names of the two new nominees to the Endowment Board from Marilyn Hansen.
- **RIC Update** – None
  
- **Minor Ministries**
- **Mission Council Transitions** – In April Joyce and Andy will transition off of the council. A current council member may transition to the President role. The Nominating Committee will need to provide at least two new nominees to the council.

**Thank You Notes** – Andy, Patty & Claudia

**Closed with The Lord's Prayer.**


**Meeting adjourned** – 7:25 p.m.

**Next Meeting – Tuesday, February 13, 2024 – 6:30, church library.**

**Devotions – Ryan**

Respectfully submitted, Patty Oldenburg - Mission Council Secretary

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

02/01/1931	Arlene Amon		02/12/1933	Doris Oliver
02/01/1942	Pat Christopherson		02/12/1982	Smith, Mr Brandon
02/01/1951	Cindy Dunn		02/15/1947	Marlene Remer
02/02/1977	Brenda Fanter		02/15/2004	Samantha Taylor
02/02/1995	Cheryl Demjen	02/16/2000	Zeffiniah Jones	
02/03/1983	Michele Anderson	02/18/1970	Jenny Follis	
02/03/1991	Lee Everett	02/18/1979	Robert Jones	
02/03/2017	Xavier Manka	02/18/2005	Murphy Diggins	
02/04/1987	Reid Oldenburg	02/18/2020	Nova Jones	
02/04/2012	Roman Metzger	02/20/2014	Emsley Owen	
02/05/2005	Sydney Krueger	02/21/1961	Mary Hammitt	
02/07/1954	Lisa Schneider	02/21/2011	Adam Robers	
02/08/1966	Bill Tate	02/24/1967	Lori Westra	
02/08/1983	Aaron DeLassus	02/24/1973	Tyson Mundt	
02/08/2010	Mackenzie Repsa	02/24/1997	Maquel Lamb	
02/09/1977	Faith Diggins	02/27/1982	Carrie Oldenburg	
02/10/1966	Sandy Schmidt	02/27/2012	Eli Brink	
02/10/1981	Scott Sharpee	02/28/1958	Deb Hefty	
02/11/2016	Madison Lindh	02/28/1969	Eric Salaja	
02/11/2016	Mason Lindh			

## CROSS PRAYERS LIST



Cody Baumgart	Phil & Lynn Klein
Don Brink	Jim Kohler
Jim Brink	Ken Krause
Pat Christopherson	Ryan Larson
Mel Dey	Bev Leonard
Liam Finucane	Howard Murrah
Tiffany Freiwald	John Oldenburg
Jeff Gayhart	Etta Olson
Jerry Graff	Ginny Richards
Richard Griebel	Delta Shine
Michelle Harlan	Addison Smith
Virgie Heineman	

Mapenzi and Clarisse, the children we sponsor through World Vision.

**“Pray for another, so that you will be healed”**  
**James 5:26**

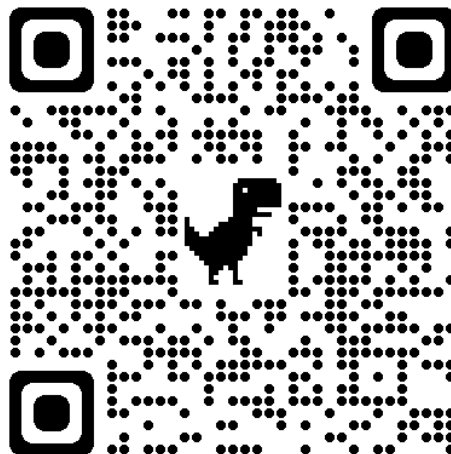
## ASSISTING MINISTER SCHEDULE

February & March 2024

Special Service	Saturdays	Name	Sundays	Name
	2/3	Ryan Jazdzewski	2/4	Polly Burrigh
	2/10	Ryan Jazdzewski	2/11	Barb Tate
Ash Wednesday	2/14	TBD		TBD
	2/17	Ryan Jazdzewski	2/18	Bruce Tate
	2/24	Anita Mucci	2/25	Rachel Bennett
	3/2	Brenda Belot	3/3	Rachel Bennett
	3/9	Ryan Jazdzewski	3/10	Bruce Tate
	3/16	Polly Burrigh	3/17	Barb Tate
Palm Sunday	3/23	Nancy Dey	3/24	Polly Burrigh
Maundy Thursday	3/28	TBD		TBD
Good Friday	3/29	TBD		TBD
Easter Vigil Saturday	3/30	Ryan Jazdzewski		
Easter Sunday			3/31	Rachel Bennett

## CROSS LUTHERAN SUNDAY SCHOOL

We are looking for people to share a little of their time and their faith with a Sunday School class! [Click here](#) or scan the QR code to learn more and to sign up!



## In Memory of . . . .



Our sympathy goes out to the family and friends, of Pauline Mann, member of our congregation. Pauline was born on 07/14/1930 and passed to eternal life on Sunday, December 24, 2023. Please keep her family and friends in your prayers for comfort. May she rest in heavenly peace.



## *Our Deepest Sympathy*

Robert (Bob) Remer, member of our congregation and loyal servant for 47 years, passed to eternal life on Thursday, January 18, 2024. Please keep Marlene, and beloved family & friends in your prayers for comfort.

May he rest in heavenly peace.

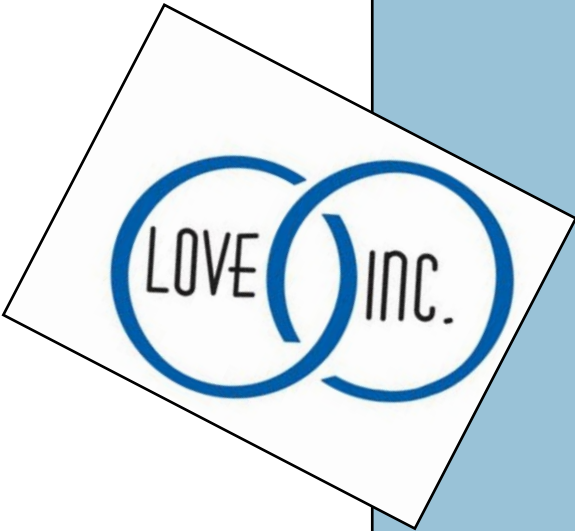
Funeral services are pending at this time.

*Thank you*

## SERVING TEAM

Thank you for the donations of breakfast foods for the Love, Inc. Food Pantry. Cold cereal, oatmeal, pancake mix and syrup were collected during January.

During February, the collection for the Love, Inc. Food Pantry will be disposable diapers and baby wipes.



**LOVE INC.**

Love, Inc. is always in need of volunteers to help in their food pantry or sorting through donations.

Please visit [love-inc.net/volunteer/opportunities](http://love-inc.net/volunteer/opportunities) for the most up to date list of volunteers needed.

For more information on how to donate and what to donate, please visit [love-inc.net/donate](http://love-inc.net/donate).

Make sure to follow Love, Inc. on Facebook (@Loveincwi) for the most up to date information on hours of operation, donations being accepted and more.



## CONNECTING TEAM



### **Ash Wednesday & Lent Service times:**

Ash Wednesday Service is on Wednesday, February 14 at 7:00pm and Lent Worship begins February 21 through March 20th at 6:30pm. During Lent, soup will be served from 5:30–6:30 with worship at 6:30pm. Please find the sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center to select your date/s to bring soup.



### **Fireside Matinee: Fiddler on the Roof–Friday, March 8th**

*A fiddler on the roof, sounds crazy, no?* Yet millions of people every year fall in love with Tevye, the long-suffering dairyman who struggles to find a balance between his traditions and his family. Now celebrating 60 years, as is The Fireside, we are proud to present a brand new revival of one of the most popular shows in our history. The show’s universal theme touches everyone, leaving audiences crying tears of both joy and sadness. Including such iconic songs as “Sunrise, Sunset,” “If I Were a Rich Man” and Matchmaker, Matchmaker,” FIDDLER ON THE ROOF is the perfect mix of audience-pleasing humor and heart.

**‘Final sign up including selection of menu item as well as payment deadline is Sunday February 11<sup>th</sup>! Cost per person is \$75.95 – this includes tax and tip. Please make checks payable to Cross Lutheran Church. On Memo line, indicate Fireside.’**





World Vision is a Christian Humanitarian Organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. Motivated by our faith in Jesus Christ, we serve alongside the poor and oppressed as a demonstration of God’s unconditional love for all people. World Vision serves all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender.

Sponsors are needed for Clarisse and Mapenzi for 2024. Each girl can be sponsored for \$40.00 a month or both girls for \$80.00 a month. Checks can be written to Cross Lutheran Church with “World Vision Sponsor” noted on the memo line.

It was indicated that we can give with confidence because “In 2022, 89% of World Vision’s total operating expenses were used for programs that benefit children, families, and communities in need. World Vision provides hope and assistance to communities through our presence in nearly 100 countries.

## **ELECTRONIC CONTRIBUTIONS THROUGH SIMPLY GIVING**

If you plan to start giving through Simply Giving, please remember to contact the Financial office.

Forms are in the church office for new requests. We would be happy to email or mail you a copy to fill out and return. If you are changing your giving dollar amount, an email or signed letter is acceptable. Contact Bobbie Abel at [financial@cross-church.org](mailto:financial@cross-church.org).



## **SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Consider a Contribution to the Cross Lutheran Lifetime Learner Scholarship. Are you looking to help others in our congregation who are guided by Christ get a post-secondary education?

Consider donating to the Cross Lutheran Church Lifetime Learner Scholarship Fund. To do so, mark "Scholarship Fund" on your giving envelope.

This annual fund (totaling \$1000 to \$5000) is awarded to up to three congregation members who are enrolling full time into a university or college for the first time in their lives. A heartfelt thanks for your consideration.

### **DIFFERENT WAYS ON HOW TO GIVE:**

- ◆ **MAIL a check to: Cross Lutheran Church at  
126 Chapel Terrace, Burlington, WI**
- ◆ **ON THE APP: Click "Give"**
- ◆ **TEXT: "GIVE" TO 608-888-9247**
- ◆ **ONLINE: Visit the homepage [www.cross-church.org](http://www.cross-church.org).**

### **NOTICE OF FILMING & PHOTOGRAPHY**

When you attend service or an event at Cross Lutheran Church, Burlington, you enter an area where photography, audio, and video recording may occur.

If you choose not to have your image used, please see one of the pastors, church leaders, or communications director.

## FINANCIAL REPORT—As of December 31, 2023



	INCOME	EXPENSES	
Jan.	\$22,793.76	\$33,431.50	-\$10,637.74
Feb.	\$26,787.59	\$25,281.34	\$1,506.25
Mar.	\$25,204.32	\$23,948.74	\$1,255.58
Apr.	\$21,188.86	\$23,814.90	-\$2,626.04
May	\$24,533.15	\$24,506.18	\$26.97
Jun.	\$19,230.78	\$20,935.44	-\$1,704.66
Jul.	\$22,732.04	\$21,557.26	\$1,174.78
Aug.	\$24,039.85	\$24,409.71	-\$369.86
Sept.	\$17,427.28	\$18,744.90	-\$1,317.62
Oct.	\$20,911.85	\$21,090.21	-\$178.36
Nov.	\$24,235.92	\$21,105.27	\$3,130.65
Dec.	\$23,965.31	\$22,820.94	\$1,144.37
<b>Totals</b>			-\$8,595.68
Major Maintenance			\$50,176.69
Parking Lot Fund			\$42,520.53
Parking Lot CD			\$125,000.00
General Scholarship		2024	\$740.00

### ENDOWMENT FUND BOARD

The annual meeting of the Endowment Fund of Cross Lutheran Church, Inc. will be held on Sunday, February 4, 2024. The 2023 annual report will be available.

The next Endowment Fund Board of Trustees zoom meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Thursday, February 29, 2024.

# Cross Lutheran Staff & Ministry Leadership Teams as of May, 2023

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturdays In-person - 5pm

Sundays In-person & On-line - 9am (summer) 10am

\* Facebook: [@crossburlington](#)

\* [YouTube Channel](#)

\* Website: [www.cross-church.org](http://www.cross-church.org)

[Online Fellowship](#) - 15 minutes following worship

## CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor - Pastor John Brink

Church Office Administrator - Carol Fischer

Financial Administrator - Bobbie Abel

Custodian - Ken Krause

## CHURCH MUSIC STAFF

Organist - Ginny Richards

Part-time Organist - Brian Plehn

Contemporary Music Director - Brian Plehn

Joyful Voice Director - Brian Plehn

Chapel Bells Director - Open position

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Cross Office: 262-763-6570

Emergency: 262-757-8111

E-mail: [crossbur@cross-church.org](mailto:crossbur@cross-church.org).

Noah's Ark: 262-767-9095

Website: [www.cross-church.org](http://www.cross-church.org).

Facebook: [@crossburlington](#)

Instagram: [@crosslutheranburlington](#)

## BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSIONS

Call the office for further information

## LUTHERDALE REPRESENTATIVES

John Hakala

Blaine Warren

## SYNOD VOTING MEMBERS

Jim Hansen

Marilynn Hansen

## THRIVENT REPRESENTATIVES

Scott Herrmann: 262-716-5454

Call 800-Thrivent to direct your "choice" dollars

## MISSION COUNCIL

President, Andy Johnson

Vice President, Ryan Jazdzewski

Claudia Kreuzscher

Secretary, Patty Oldenburg

Rachel Bennett

Joyce Etter

## BUSINESS BOARD

Director, Lois Berg,

Treasurer, Brett Metzger

Secretary, Doug Bouchat

## BUILDING & GROUNDS

Brian Erb

John Oldenburg

Terry Long

Steve Schneider

Mike Ladd

## CONNECTING TEAM

Anita Mucci

Pam Murphy

Marlene Remer

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Terry Erb

Marie Way

Brenda Fanter

## PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Patricia Christopherson

Cheryl Theis

John Hakala

Chuck Stublely

## SERVING TEAM

Bonnie Flitcroft

Marilynn Hansen

Lisa Schneider

## STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Garry Giller

Tammy Hogan

Jenny Morehouse

Betty Olson

## ENDOWMENT BOARD

President, Marilynn Hansen

Vice President, Doug Belot

Secretary, Blaine Warren


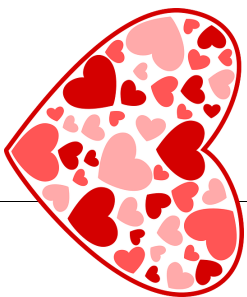
Treasurer, Charles Stublely

Trustee, Annie Bailey

Trustee, Sharon Johnson

Trustee, Beth Oliver

# February 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						
4 8:50am Sunday School— <b>Sings</b> 9am Adult Bible 9am Coffee hour <b>10am Worship</b> <b>11am Potluck Brunch</b> <b>Endowment &amp; Annual</b> <b>meetings directly to follow</b>	5 6:30pm Bear Den Meeting 6:30pm Chocolate City Quilters Guild	6 9:30am Gospel Gatherings 10:45am Staff Meeting 4pm Connecting Team 6:30pm Scouts Committee 6:30 Stewardship Meeting	7 6pm Confirmation 6pm Praise Band Rehearsal 7pm Choir Rehearsal	8 6:30pm Bear Den Meeting	9 9am Quilting Ministry	3 9am Men's Minister <b>5pm Worship Service</b>
11 8:50am Sunday School 9am Adult Bible 9am Coffee hour <b>10am Worship</b> <b>Signup Deadline for Fireside</b> <b>Matinee</b>	12 6:30pm Bear Den Meeting 6:30pm Chocolate City Quilters Guild	13 9:30am Gospel Gatherings 10:45am Staff Meeting 6:30 Lyons & Tigers Meeting	14 <b>7pm Ash Wednesday Service</b>	15 11:15am Pastor John at Oak Park Place 7pm Ruth Circle	16 <u><b>Newsletter Deadline</b></u>	17 9am Men's Minister <b>5pm Worship Service</b>
18 8:50am Sunday School 9am Adult Bible 9am Coffee hour <b>10am Worship—Choir Sings</b>	19	20 9:30am Gospel Gatherings 10:45am Staff Meeting 1:30pm Pastor John at Pine Brook 6pm Building & Grounds 6:30pm Mission Council	21 <b>5:30pm Soup Supper</b> <b>6:30pm Lent Service</b> 7pm Choir Rehearsal	22	23 9am Quilting Ministry	24 9am Men's Minister <b>5pm Worship Service</b>
25 8:50am Sunday School 9am Adult Bible 9am Coffee hour <b>10am Worship</b> <b>11am Communications</b> <b>Gathering</b>	26	27 9:30am Gospel Gatherings 10:45am Staff Meeting	28 1:30pm Pastor John at The Bay <b>5:30pm Soup Supper</b> <b>6:30pm Lent Service</b> 7pm Choir Rehearsal	29 7pm Endowment Fund Board Meeting		



**Cross Lutheran Church, Burlington, WI**

**126 Chapel Terrace  
Burlington, WI 53105  
(262) 763-6570**

**Tuesday – Friday: 9:30 am to 2:30 pm**

**Saturday: Open for worship at 5pm until after service.**

**Sunday: Open for worship at 9am service (summer) &**

**On September 10th services go back to regular time—10am**

**[WWW.CROSS-CHURCH.ORG](http://WWW.CROSS-CHURCH.ORG)**



Life is Facebook

**@CROSSBURLINGTON**