

The Glory Banner

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church (ELCA)

a Wildfire Congregation

June 2024

**“The seed is
in the ground.
Now may we
rest in hope
while darkness
does its work.”**

-Wendell Berry

“With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.” - Mark 4:30-32



From artist of the cover image, Kelly Latimore:

“Parables are one of the ways Jesus teaches his disciples. The parables have always been crucial for the church to imagine the kind of community it is called to be. We discover again and again that Jesus' parables point to everyday life. They are meant to be lived. The parables of the kingdom of heaven make clear that the kingdom of heaven is not ‘up there.’ Through the parables, Jesus is teaching us to be for the world the material reality of the kingdom of heaven brought down to earth. A people in space and time, [who, like in the parable of the mustard seed], welcome the outcast, the foreigner, the stranger, the swarm of birds who finds shelter in its branches.”

All of the birds in this icon are native to the Holy Land: Palestine Sunbird, Scrub Warbler, Common Rosefinch, Laughing dove, Barn Swallow, House Sparrow, Fire-Fronted Serin, Red- Rumped Swallow, Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin, Woodchat Shrike, European Greenfinch, Tree Pipit, Nubian Nightjar, Northern Wheatear, Green Bee Eater, Eurasian Golden Oriole, European Roller, Eurasian Jay, Hooded Crow, Eurasian Blackbird, Common Chiffchaff, Rock Bunting, Crested Lark, and White Spectacled Bulbul.

WORSHIP at CoG!

Onsite – Join us on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am for worship in the sanctuary.

Online – Tune in to services in live-time via Zoom on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am. For further information about how to connect to Zoom by computer or phone, visit www.crossofglory.us.

Recorded services - We record weekly worship so that you can worship from anywhere, anytime. Visit our home page, or Service Library page, at www.crossofglory.us for service recordings!

Bulletins – Bulletins are mailed to those who have requested mailings. Please contact the church office at 763-533-8602 or office@crossofglory.us if you'd like to be added to/removed from this weekly mailing list. Electronic bulletins are posted to our website weekly as well.

We give thanks that the Spirit continues to guide, inspire, and enliven us in our worship, however you to take part!

Cross of Glory Staff:

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Choir Director:

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Office Manager/CLC:

Rachel Marquardt
office@crossofglory.us

Custodian/Facilities staff:

Matt Steven & Dan Jacobson

Tech Ministry:

The Bailey Family



REST AND WORK, WORK AND REST

We're now entering into the summer months, and we're beginning to see the fruit of the seeds that have been planted in the soil earlier this spring--to see the "work that darkness does," as Wendell Berry puts it in his quote on the cover. And with this summer season that the earth has entered into, we too enter into new rhythms. Summer seems to be a time that dances between rest and work, work and rest, and that is true for us here at church as well.

This month, the lectionary has us exploring stories in worship about both rest and work. On June 2, for example, we read about the ways that the ancient Jewish practice of observing the sabbath invites us to rest, and in so doing, discover again the gifts of healing, delight, gratitude, and our interdependency with all living things. On June 16, we read the parable of the mustard seed, which invites us into the work of opening our arms like branches, where God's creatures can find shelter and sanctuary.

In the pages of this newsletter, there are various invitations into rest: breaks from regular programming, ways to share food and fellowship, listen to live music together in our city's parks, or catch a baseball game with our fellow Wildfire churches.

There are also invitations and reflections on the work we're called to continue: discerning what God's call to life together means for our space usage via the 5929 Facilities Task Force, gardening, the work of liturgy--both on Sunday mornings as well our Everyday Liturgy that guides us in doing "the work of the people" the rest of the week...

I look forward to entering into these rhythms together with you this month, living in hope as God brings new life about in the seeds that have been planted in the ground, and indeed all around us. -Pastor Ali

PASTORAL CARE

Pastor Ali is available for pastoral care, conversation, and prayer. You can reach her by phone and email throughout the week. Please reach out to schedule a time to connect!

HOME COMMUNION

If you are unable to commune onsite at Cross of Glory, we would love to come visit you and bring you communion. Please reach out to schedule a time.

MATERNITY LEAVE COVERAGE PASTOR

Pastor Ali and Isak are grateful for the ongoing prayers as they prepare to welcome their second child, expected to arrive in early August. Rev. Peter Samuelson will be at Cross of Glory during Pastor Ali's maternity leave time (roughly scheduled for August-October). This part-time role will help oversee the areas of worship, pastoral leadership, and pastoral care. Pastor Peter is a (mostly) retired ELCA pastor who served multiple parishes in rural Iowa, Atlanta, and Minneapolis in both regularly called and interim positions. Serving Cross of Glory will be the second time he has filled in as an interim during a pastor's maternity leave, a trend he's quite delighted to see continue. Pastor Peter also earned a PhD in Educational Psychology from GA State University and has taught part-time at various institutions of higher learning, most recently at Bethel University in the Reconciliation Studies Department. His last position before retirement was as the Sr. Director of Evaluation and Impact at Lutheran Social Service of MN. He continues to participate in research and writing in the field of Positive Youth Development, with a book due out this fall. He's married to Debra, a retired pastor, and father of Miriam, an ELCA pastor in Minneapolis, and Isaac, a therapist in Chicago. His heart's delight is his two grandchildren, Esther and Elijah, who live in Minneapolis. He enjoys carpentry and golf when he is not busy with his calling as "Bampa." He looks forward to sharing life together with the Cross of Glory community later this summer!



Midwest Animal Rescue & Services

Where All Roads Lead Home...

Dog Wish list

- Dog or puppy food, either dry or cans
- Dog treats for adult dogs and puppies
- Dog Crates for any size dog or puppy.
- Dog beds
- Extra large orthopedic dog bed with removable cover for large dogs
- Nylon Dog Leash
- Dog collars with Quick Snap Buckle
- Easy Walk Dog Harness
- 6 FT Puppy/Dog Leash
- Slip rope dog leash 6ft
- Dog Chew Toys
- Dog Squeaky Toys
- Nylabone Chew & Treat Toy
- Puppy Training Pads
- Large Dog Pee Pads
- Pill Pouch or pill pockets

Cat wish list

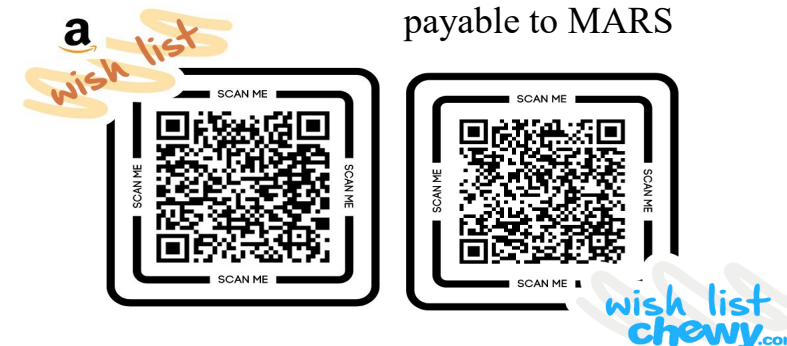
- Cat or kitten food – dry or cans
- Cat treats for cats and kittens
- Cat litter
- Litter boxes
- Cat beds
- Cat carriers, large if possible
- Cat toys

Miscellaneous items

- Stand and Fill Ziploc Gallon Food Storage Bags,
- Kleenex Ultra Soft Facial Tissues
- Brawny Tear-A-Square Paper Towels,
- Copy Paper, 8.5 x 11
- Nitrile Exam Gloves

Not sure what to get?

Shop one of their wish lists here
Or make a check payable to MARS



Thank you for generously supporting W/ELCA and the summer service project to help the four legged friends in our neighborhood!



CAPI FOOD SHELF IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS

Since the beginning of this year, the CAPI food shelf has distributed over 72,000 pounds of food to Brooklyn Center neighbors--both to those enrolled in CAPI's food program, and who were just stopping by for an emergency pick-up. CAPI's food shelf is unique in that it offers culturally-specific foods that are often difficult to access through other food shelves. In order to sustain this important work, more hands are needed. If you're able to be onsite Tuesdays between 1-4 pm, or Wed and Thursday between 9-12 or 1-4 to bag groceries, help neighbors shop and unload at their cars, or help unload food shipments and restock shelves, contact Alexi Kleinschmidt at 651-472-6610 or email: volunteer@capiusa.org.



WILDFIRE CHURCHES EVENT AT THE ST. PAUL SAINTS GAME

Sunday, August 11th
Saints Vs. Columbus
2:07pm Game
CHS Field
Saint Paul
\$24.17 per ticket



- ☼ Only 40 tickets available for this group event!
- ☼ Seats are in Section 104.
- ☼ Contact Sue Ferkingstad at Faith Lilac Way to sign up and secure your seat.
- ☼ Seats will be assigned as registration and payment are made.
- ☼ Deadline is July 11th. Tickets will be available after July 14th.
- ☼ Transportation arrangements are up to the individual.

Contact Sue Ferkingstad at 763.537.4523 or office@faithlilacway.org

Open Mic Night

featuring

Sunday, June 9
7:00 PM
Workshop at 5:30pm



Joe Davis



Rachel Kurtz

Elim Lutheran Church in Robbinsdale is hosting an open mic night that centers teen and young adult voices on Sunday, June 9th at 7:00pm. Special guests Joe Davis, poet and author of *We Rise Higher*, and singer-songwriter Rachel Kurtz will both be performing at the open mic.

There will be a poetry writing workshop ahead of time for any teen or young adult interested in writing poetry, spoken word, or short prose at 5:30pm. Pizza will be served.

Both the Open Mic Night and the Poetry Workshop are free.

No registration is needed for the Open Mic Night. Registration is required for the Workshop.

Elim Lutheran Church
3978 W Broadway
Robbinsdale, MN 55422

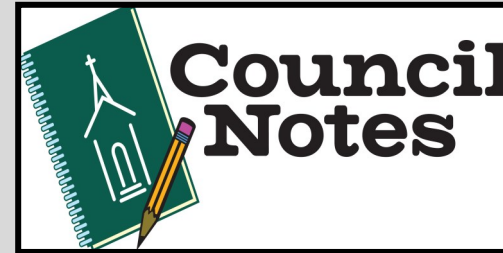
for more information, contact or visit:
763-537-8481 <https://elim-robbinsdale.org/>



register for workshop here

BC JUNETEENTH

The City of Brooklyn Center is hosting two Juneteenth events this year: a golf tournament on Friday 6/14 at Centerbrook Golf Course, and a Juneteenth celebration on Saturday 6/15 from 11am-7pm at Centennial Park, which will include live music, food, vendors, art activities, inflatables, face painting, balloon art, activities for kids and teens, city trucks, and more. For more info and updates, check out the city's Facebook page.



Council Notes form May 2024

Following the call to order by president Erik Haugland and our opening prayer/devotional led by Steve Ferley, we approved the Pastor's report, the Treasurer's report and the previous months council meeting minutes.

Beginning with a discernment activity led by Pastor Ali, we read some verses from the 2nd chapter of Acts asking the question,

"what does it mean to be the Church"? Being invited to identify a word or phrase based on verses 43-47 that might guide us in our response to God's call.

Moving on to "Big picture planning", an update from the first meeting (May 15th) of the 5929 Facilities Task Force: The task force will meet every Wednesday for the remainder of May, and in June for the purpose of discerning some concrete possibilities of "Life Together" regarding space usage. The task force is looking at information recently gathered from a number of "Site Visits" and "Neighborhood Listening Sessions", along with data/trends in our area, the ELCA, and other sources. Pastor Ali reminded us that the purpose of the task force is to deeply explore possibilities for space usage, not to come up with a plan or decision yet.

The Stewardship Campaign's appeal for handicapped accessibility has reached (and exceeded) our goal! Gayle Merritt reported and Mike Edstrom confirmed that we have more dollars to work with. Council discussed a possibility consistent with the purpose of improving the building's hospitality.

We will be sharing more information soon.

Building & Grounds, Steve Ferley reports:

- *Fire alarms
- *Hydrostatic testing; in-building hook-up for BCFD.
- *Heating/AC; boiler check-ups & service calls.
- *Sacristy sink repair (water shut off installed by Dan Aulwes).
- *Gate valve leak (Dan Aulwes will look at possibility of repair).
- *Tree's and landscaping.

Please see Steve or Dan with questions.

Pastor Ali then reported on charter school space requests and on CoG personnel matters.

Submitted by Gordy Johnsrud, Secretary



WORLD REFUGEE DAY: JUNE 22

Mark your calendars: hosted by CAPI and the City of Brooklyn Center, Twin Cities World Refugee Day is Sat, June 22 from 12-5 at Centennial Park. World Refugee Day aims to recognize the refugees living in MN and celebrate the gifts they bring, raise awareness around refugee issues, and build a cultural bridge between longtime MN residents and our newest community members. Event-goers enjoy free live entertainment, food and vendors from around the world,

children's activities, a community resource fair, and interactive educational displays. This year, attendees are also invited to lace up their walking/jogging/running shoes for the first annual Unity in Motion 5K! Proceeds go to support refugee services in the community. The family-friendly 5K will start and end at Centennial Park. Register for the 5K at <https://runsignup.com/Race/MN/Minneapolis/TCWRD5k> and learn more about World Refugee Day at www.capiusa.org/world-refugee-day/.



June 22 | 8:30 AM
Centennial Park

DISCERNING GOD’S CALL

The 5929 Facilities Task Force began weekly meetings last month in order to explore more concretely what God’s call to life together means for space here at 5929 Brooklyn Blvd. We look forward to sharing updates. If you’d like to learn more about what discerning God’s call to life together has looked like this past winter and spring, check out the summaries of the Neighborhood Listening Sessions and Site Visits, available at the Welcome Desk and online at <http://crossofglory.us/newsandevents/lifetogether.html>.

CALLED TO LIFE TOGETHER: AN EVERYDAY LITURGY
 The word liturgy means “the work of the people.” We believe that we are called not only to share in the liturgy of worship on Sunday mornings—rooted in the rhythms of Gathering, Word, Table, and Sending—but also to a liturgy that is lived out the rest of the week, in and with the broader Brooklyn Center community. Therefore, this Everyday Liturgy seeks to express the work that we, the people of Cross of Glory, are called and committed to in our everyday lives (from Sunday afternoons through Saturday nights!) in light of being **called to life together**.

GATHERING - We are called to embody God’s hospitality by generously sharing space, time, gifts, and resources, and by meeting neighbors on their terms and for their sake—open to what we can both give and receive.

WORD - We are called to listen and look for the ways that God’s love is alive, both within the church and throughout the wider neighborhood, especially where the Gospel tells us it’s often found: in the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick, the imprisoned.

TABLE - We are called to lament the sin and suffering of ourselves, our neighbors, and the earth, as embodied by Jesus on the cross. And we are called to celebrate God’s gift of life (together), as embodied by the resurrected Jesus. We believe that lament and celebration often happens most powerfully at tables, where bread is broken and shared.

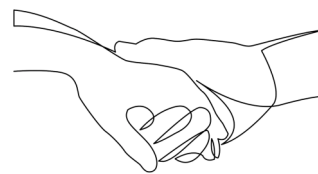
SENDING - We are called to work for a just community, care for neighbors in body, mind, and spirit, and tend to the earth’s gifts with humility and love.



We are **CALLED**



We are called to **LIFE**



We are called to life **TOGETHER**

GARDENS + GROUNDS

•**Gardens** - Thanks to all those who have helped take part in tending the gardens and grounds at CoG as we’ve begun this holy season of growing! We’ve got fruit trees, pollinators, veggies, & flowers beginning to grow all over the place. The neighborhood bees, butterflies, and birds are already enjoying them...we look forward to sharing them with you too on our Garden Harvest table in a handful of weeks when they’re bloomed and ripe!



•**Plot of land north of church** - The City of Brooklyn Center has recently followed up with Cross of Glory about landscaping and maintenance plans for portions of city-owned land around the church affected by the Brooklyn Blvd redevelopment project where sod was originally planted but didn’t establish due to drought conditions last year. More details to come soon.



•**Raised garden bed** - Cross of Glory is grateful to have been included in a City of Brooklyn Center grant through Hennepin County, through which we were gifted a new raised garden bed. We look forward to it being installed this summer as part of our community gardens on the corner of Admiral and Ewing when the grant goes into effect.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

The final event has taken place & the numbers have been tallied. With the help of Wendy & Brenda, you ordered the yummy rolls and ordered plants from Gertens. You purchased raffle tickets for donated quilts, embroidered towels and vendor items. You & friends of Cross of Glory donated homemade items to be purchased. You gave directly towards camp scholarships. **YOU MADE A DIFFERENCE!!**

As we booked our week at camp and got ready for registration, the hope for our youth attending weeklong camp was Cross of Glory would contribute 1/3 of the cost (\$200), kids would fundraise 1/3 of camp (\$200) and parents would pay the balance (\$250). **BUT.....** due to your support and generosity, fundraising numbers exceeded our goal! As a result, we were able to do two things:

- **Pay for the registration of our three kids attending one day camp!** I’m especially excited about this as it’s a wonderful way for our youngest kids to get out a taste of what being at bible camp is like and get them excited to one day attend weeklong camp.
- **GREATLY reduced the parent portion responsibility to send their child(ren) to camp.** It costs \$650 for each youth attending weeklong camp. While that is a bargain for meals, lodging & all activities happening throughout the week, it can stretch a family financially, especially when you are sending multiple kids to camp.

When Rachel Kurtz led us musically a few weeks ago in worship, I was reminded of a song she wrote & sang for the National Youth Gathering held in New Orleans in 2012. This song was sung at our opening & closing large group worship gatherings. It was entitled “Make a Difference”. The words I want to share with you today are from the chorus, which spoke to me about how I wanted to live life as a Christian. They are:

I want my life to make a difference;
 I want my life to make a change.
 I want my life to do some good here;
 I want my life to make a change.

That is what YOU all have done! With your continued commitment to the youngest in our Cross of Glory community, you have made a difference! You have made a change! You have done good! I’m so grateful for each one of you, your generous hearts, supporting our youth and for loving like Jesus.

Soli Deo Gloria!
 (To God all glory be given)
 Kris Simon



Wildfire Shindig! A Benefit for:



Sponsoring students at Forest, Lakeview, and Meadow Lake Elementary Schools of the Robbinsdale District with nutritious meals every weekend throughout the school year

Wednesday, June 19th, 5:30 – 8:00pm

At House of Hope, 4800 Boone Ave N, New Hope

EVENT TICKETS \$20 available at: Elim, Faith Lilac Way, First of Crystal, Holy Nativity, House of Hope and St James Lutheran Churches and Cross of Glory

An indoor evening with:

The Fleshpots of Egypt



Clap, Stomp, and Sing-along! 6-8pm

FOOD!

Pig Roast & Pulled Turkey
on buns w/variety of sauces

Coleslaw

Baked Beans

Pasta Salad

Ice Cream Floats

Served 5:30 – 7:30pm

HEADS or TAILS GAME (\$2 per chance, or 3 /\$5)

RAFFLE PRIZES (\$10 raffle tickets) \$100 gift cards to Almsteads, Hackenmueller's, Von Hanson's Meats, Milton's, or Cedar Lake Wine Company

Golden Ticket Raffle \$50 tickets Fall Getaway!

Win a two-night stay at this newly refinished bayside cabin on the Mississippi River, in Little Falls, MN <https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/50050373> donated by Julia Lyschik

\$500 Value –
pick your own dates
(excluding holidays)
Fall '24 or Spring '25



*Tickets available at COG's Welcome Desk as well!



NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY & GIVING APP IS NOW LIVE!

We're excited to announce a new way for you to stay connected to all that takes place in our life together at Cross of Glory. Our office has recently transitioned into a new data-keeping system called "ICON" that allows members to update your own contact information, view the church's photo directory, and access or print your giving records directly from your phone, tablet, or any device!

This app is a great way for us to be good stewards of the earth with less paper usage, and good stewards of the church budget with less cost with postage, printing, and envelopes. Download it on your app store on your device. You can also access it via web browser at secure1.iconcmo.com/.

Here's what you need to know to get ICON set up: on May 30th you received an email from Cross of Glory with the subject "Your IconCMO login information from Cross of Glory Lutheran Church." (Check your "spam" folder if you haven't seen this email.) When you receive that email, you'll need the following info to log in to your account:

- Church phone number: 7635338602
 - Your username (provided in the email)
 - You'll be prompted to set up your own password from there
- **Please note: the link to set ICON up expired, so you'll need to take additional steps****

I'm happy to assist you in person, over the phone, or via email with any questions you may have. Don't hesitate to reach out.

-Rachel Marquardt

Embodying God's Hospitality

We are excited to announce that we have surpassed our goal of \$15,000. Council is in the process of discerning how to use the extra funds. More information to come soon. Please join us on June 16th for cake and the blessing of these projects. Thank you for your support and generosity



as we continue to embody God's hospitality.

ART GALLERY

Our art gallery now features a new art exhibit. Kathryn Swan, former student of Keith Williams, is exhibiting a series of her most recent paintings. These abstract interpretations of trees and landscapes explore our connectedness with God's creation and our own spiritual journeys in life together.

Join us on Sunday June 23rd after worship to hear the artist share more!

Later this summer, we hope to create an exhibit featuring the many artists of Cross of Gloy, who have shared images of "life together" throughout the Easter season. If you submitted any photos or artwork that you wish to *not include* as part of an exhibit, please let Rachel in the office know.



Our Everyday Liturgy calls us to both grieve and to celebrate as we share life together. To that end, we lift up sorrows and joys in our community this month:

—Celebrations—

We celebrate all those who have milestone birthdays this month

**Dave Hengel
Sharon Quick
Larry Bertelsen**

...and all others who have birthdays this month!





Camp Wapo - Thanks to all those who have generously contributed toward CoG youth attending Camp Wapo this summer! Thanks to your support, we're able to make camp more affordable for families, and offer additional scholarships as needed. See more information on page 9. Campers head to Wapo, a Lutheran Bible Camp in Amery, WI, the last week of July. We look forward to sharing songs and stories upon our return!



Wildfire VBS - CoG kids and families, mark your calendars for the evenings of July 15-18 when we'll be joining together with other Wildfire churches for VBS at Faith Lilac Way Lutheran Church in Robbinsdale. There will be a free meal for families that begins at 5 pm, and then kids programming to follow. More details coming soon!

SUMMER OF SEMINARIANS

It's a gift to hear the gospel proclaimed from guest preachers at Cross of Glory throughout the year! This summer, we're especially excited to welcome a few seminarians--students at Luther Seminary who are currently in the candidacy (ordination) process with the ELCA. Part of the call of the broader church is to help nurture, pray for, and raise up such leaders, so we look forward to welcoming a few pastors-to-be into the pulpit throughout the summer months. This month, we welcome Rosalie Brunner, scheduled to preach June 16th.

COG FELLOWSHIP: MUSIC IN THE PARK

Mark your calendars: on Tues, July 9 at 7 pm, bring a blanket or lawn chair, some snacks, and join the CoG community in Centennial Park for free live music and fellowship. Between music by the Kendra Glenn Band, the adjacent playground for kids, and the good company of one another, it will be sure to be a fun evening for all ages!



5TH SUNDAY SONG REQUESTS

On Sunday, June 30th, we'll have a service of songs, poetry, and readings, as is our tradition when 5th Sundays of the month come up. We love to shape the service according to the congregation's own hymn and song requests. Send the office a favorite song or two of yours by June 20th and we'll do our best to include them!



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING ON SUMMER BREAK

Table Talks, our monthly education hour that takes place on 4th Sundays, will not be gathering during the summer months. Weekly Bible Study is also taking our annual summer break until the fall. That said, we will gather once in June and once in July check in with each other and explore the texts for the upcoming Sunday. Mark your calendars for Tuesday June 18 and July 9 at 9:30 am onsite and online. Note: the WELCA Gather Bible Study will continue through the summer, gathering on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 1 pm. Finally, First Sunday programming for kids and Confirmation will also be on hold for the summer. We look forward to resuming come fall!

of the **Women ELCA**

WELCA Spring Luncheon: Was held on Saturday May 4, 2024. Our wonderful lunch was catered by Carol Knutson, and Allen Mahnke played the organ for us. Our Spring/Summer service project poster will be set up 6/9. We'll be collecting pet supplies for MARS (Midwest Animal Rescue and Services) from 6/16 - 7/14. A wish list is printed on page 11 of the Glory Banner and available at the Welcome Center. Make any checks payable to MARS.

The next WELCA board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday June 25, at 1:00 pm. We did not have a board meeting in May.

Summer 2024 "After certainty: A biblical guide" by the Rev. Dr. Meghan Johnston Aelabouni

A global pandemic, political upheaval, a changing climate... these days, the future is more uncertain than it has ever been. Or is it? For the people of the Bible, life was often shaped by deep uncertainty. Encounters with God sparked awe, confusion or courage, but rarely certainty. Instead, God's people have always been called to follow God into the unknown, trusting in God's certain grace and love. This three-session summer Bible study explores God's invitation to the people of the Bible and to us, to take the holy journey beyond certainty to curiosity, community and compassion, where we find abundant life in Christ.

May/June 2024 issue After certainty: Curiosity

Jesus' ministry, during the uncertainty of the first century Roman occupation, often challenged the "certainties" of the status quo when it came to faith, power and relationships—both the relationships between people and God, and between people in community. Just as curiosity drew people to Jesus and his message, holy curiosity can still lead us to the places where God transforms "what is" to "what could be."

July 2024 After certainty: Community

When certainty in faith becomes the responsibility of the individual, this can isolate us from God and from community. The reformer Martin Luther's own failures of certainty led him to return to passages in the gospels and epistles that proclaimed salvation, not as a reward for our certainty, but as a gift granted in and through community. In this second session, we consider how some of the pivotal texts of the Lutheran Reformation changed the church and the world.

Gather Bible Study will meet on **WEDNESDAY June 19, 2024 at 1:00** Bring your own drink, snack, and a friend. All are welcome. Copies of the Bible Study will be available if needed. A microphone will be used.



55+ FELLOWSHIP THURSDAYS

The 55+ game day this month is scheduled for Thursday, June 20th from 1-4pm. All are invited.



CROSS COMMUNITY PLAYERS

The Cross Community Players, a local theater group, is currently renting space at Cross of Glory for rehearsals of their upcoming performance "Hello Dolly" (Bethel Room Sunday through Thursday evenings, and 9-3 in the Fellowship Hall on three Saturdays through mid-June). As part of its mission to "weave artistic expression and charitable support," the Cross Community Players collect non-perishable food items during their shows to support local food shelves. Food for this show will be donated to CAPI. Performances are scheduled for June 14, 15, 20, 21, 22 at 7:30 p.m., June 16 at 4:00 p.m., and June 23 at 2:00 p.m. at the Maple Grove Town Green Amphitheater (COG in the event of inclement weather). And the COG community is invited to a free showing of the performance the night of the dress rehearsal: June 13 at 7:30 pm. Learn more about the show at <https://www.crossplayers.org/>.

