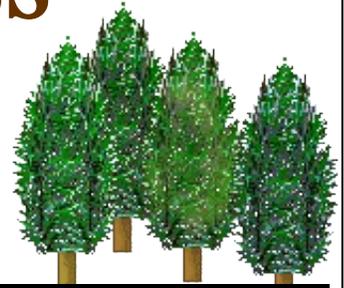


# Wooden Cross Newsletter



June, 2021

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 OUR PASTOR

Peace and blessings to you all, God's Children adopted and grafted to the living vine of our faith and hope—Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior!

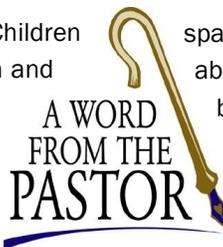
A few months back during a time of some deep soul searching and checking in with some trusted folks, I had been asked a question that has sat with me deeply for some time...

"Do you feel disabled in your faith?"

At the time I didn't have an answer with which I was terribly comfortable, as over the span of the past year or so there have been numerous times when I have genuinely struggled in keeping my "first love" alive and burning brightly. Scripture warns of this sort of thing being one of those stumbling points along the journey of faith.

I may not have known precisely what that would look like before a couple years back, but now I have a great deal more insight into not only what it looks like and feels like. But perhaps now too I have a bit more first hand experience in the kinds of things that help in moving through these "shadow times." Please know I am not sharing anything I "get right" all the time, rather these are lessons I've had to learn and am yet in the process of learning and making my practice as I walk "through" the valley of the shadow (perhaps rather than camping out within it.)

**"Try not to hunker down too long."** - It is a common impulse to retract from those things that wound and create pain or induce fear. In "shadow times" it is easy to pull away from God, from loved ones, from friends, from the world... to try to find some version of a quiet



space to regroup and find respite. While it is absolutely necessary often to pause to catch one's breath, it can also become a real seduction to retract so long that it creates a habit of distance keeping at a time when often what could be most needful is the very presence of those from whom we are separating.

**"Pray, even when you are not sure of the words to use."** - Related to the first above, it is also common to stop talking to God during "shadow times." Maybe its that we fall to some of the traps given voice in the book of Job... "you've earned this..." "your faith is weak..." "God is judging and you are found wanting..." "just confess and come clean and this will go away..."

Or maybe its just that we are uncertain God can take our fumbling attempts to give voice to the fullness

*Continued on page 3*



Pastor's Message	1 & 3
Happy Father's Day!	2
Summer Special Music	3
2021 Auction	4
Graduate Sunday!	4
Christian Response	5
June Calendar	6



- Peter Marschalk.....President
- Steven Carlson.....Vice President
- Sherman Johnson.....Secretary
- Doug Pearman .....Treasurer
- Scott Kimball..... Council Member
- Betty Scott..... Council Member
- Art Hammersberg..... Council Member
- Deb Schuldt..... Council Member
- Sally Simpson..... Council Member
- Natasha Carlson ..... Council Member

O U R D A D

God took the strength of a mountain,  
 The majesty of a tree,  
 The warmth of a summer sun,  
 The calm of a quiet sea,  
 The generous soul of nature,  
 The comforting arm of night,  
 The wisdom of the ages,  
 The power of the eagle's flight,  
 The joy of a morning in spring,  
 The faith of a mustard seed,  
 The patience of eternity,  
 The depth of a family need,  
 Then God combined these qualities,  
 When there was nothing more to add,  
 He knew his masterpiece was complete,  
 And so, he called it Dad

—Anonymous



**2021 Stewardship**

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

**2021 Local Giving Budget**

**Weekly Average Goal: \$4,420**

<b>APR</b>	Week 1:	\$6,305	
	Week 2:	\$3,169	
	Week 3:	\$5,680	
	Week 4:	<u>\$3,292</u>	
		<b>\$18,445</b>	
	<b>Weekly Average:</b>		<b>\$4,611</b>
<b>MAY</b>	Week 1:	\$3,975	
	Week 2:	\$3,725	
	Week 3:	<u>\$1,900</u>	
		<b>\$9,600</b>	
	<b>Weekly Average:</b>		<b>\$3,200</b>

**Thank you!**



**WOODEN CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
 17401 198th Avenue NE  
 Woodinville, Washington 98077  
*(corner of 198th and Woodinville/Duvall Road)*

**Church** ..... **425-788-3626**

Office Hours ..... MON-THU, 7:30 AM—3:00 PM

Church Email ..... [woodencrosslc@gmail.com](mailto:woodencrosslc@gmail.com)

**Pastor Office Hours** ..... T-Th, 9:30 AM—2:30 PM; Fri. by Appointment

**Pastor Email** ..... [revericg@hotmail.com](mailto:revericg@hotmail.com)

Website ..... [www.WeAreWoodenCross.org](http://www.WeAreWoodenCross.org)

**Community Prayer** ..... **9:00 AM**

**Sunday Worship** ..... **10:00 AM**

Pastor ..... Eric Griffith

Secretary / Bookkeeper ..... Kathy Corneloup

Organist / Interim Choir Director ..... Seung Lee

Ensemble Band ..... Ensemble Musicians

Altar Guild ..... Sherry Kimball

**PASTOR'S MESSAGE**

*(continued from page 1)*

of what we are feeling as we are afraid or hurt. Whatever it is, again the habit can form of keeping things bottled up and self-contained... only until it isn't any more and we burst in some kind of emotional lashing on friends, family, and God.

I suppose the question I've had to wrestle with, is this... "Do I truly believe that God is faithful enough to handle my confusion, anger, and hurt or not?" If "yes" then give it over and speak and if "no" then what do I truly believe when it all boils down. The truth is over the past year or so, this has been one of those big "wrestling" matches I've been in with God (kind of a Jacob kind of thing... wrestle with God for a blessing and yet come away both blessed AND scarred and limping.) So beloved I would encourage you to pray... even when you struggle to find the words.

**"Find ways to worship, even when you don't feel it."** - Being with God and being with God's people is a balm in "shadow times." Hearing others give voice to what they cling to and Who is clinging to them is a reminder of Who clings to me as well. This sharing of our witness is perhaps one of the greatest strengths we as God's people are gifted to share with one another. In those times when I cannot find myself feeling terribly "worshipful" it has been a true gift to come and hear others give their faith and hope and joy expression... their voice becomes in those times a voice of God reminding me of the light that shines in a darkness and which the darkness cannot overcome.

**"Notice the shadows yet stare into the light."** Jesus reminds us to come to him all who are weak and heavy burdened for in Him we will find rest for our souls. In "shadow times" it is inevitable we will see the dark around us and maybe within as well... yet to look

to Jesus and to steadfastly focus on him is where I've found it better to "stare." Unlike staring at the Sun, staring at the Son is not a blinding experience but rather a source of true vision and clarity for what is most real... keeping eye on Jesus has been the difference between sinking down beneath the waves and walking alongside him even over the face of chaotic depths. I would never encourage anyone to deny what is real in the moment, sometimes things ARE dark... yet looking to Jesus we discover that we are not alone nor abandoned to the darkness. He is with us and we are safe.

Am I disabled in faith... sometimes I feel it to be so. Yet mostly I do not as I've been learning through these and other moments of grace that I am on solid ground and able to see the Jesus who is my rock and foundation... the one upon whom my house is built and through whom even as the floods rise, my house stands firm. I encourage you today... in whatever state of faith you may inhabit today...

I encourage you through these lessons learned and in reminding you to stay with Jesus throughout. Sometimes the ship is sailing smoothly... sometimes the turbulent water feel nigh unto overwhelming and yet Jesus is in the boat with you and in him we live and breathe and have our being.

May you live and breathe and have your being in Jesus today and may He hold and shepherd you through this journey of life and bring you at last unto life everlasting and abundant!

As one in Christ to others in Christ,

revEric

Peace and Blessings upon you today!

**SUMMER MUSIC!**

The Worship Committee invites talented musicians, vocalists and performers to share their gifts during the Sunday worship service throughout the summer months. If you play an instrument, sing or dance, please sign up at the church table. Both soloists and groups are welcomed and encouraged. Sign up in the Narthex!

**PASTORAL CARE**



If you or your family have any health concerns needing prayer, **PASTORAL CARE** or a pastoral contact or visit, please call or email the church office. Thank you.

**CONNECT — GROW — SERVE**

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

Congratulations to the 2021 Graduating High School Class:

- Abby Connell
Abi Griffith
Evan Hudson
Francesca Nava



Congratulations to our 2021 College Graduates:

Jessica Carlson. Jessica graduated from the Boise State University with honors. She majored in Mechanical Engineering, Minored in Electrical Engineering and earned a Certificate in Mechatronics.

Marcus Johnson. Marcus graduates June 12 from the University of Washington. He has earned a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree from the school of Physical Therapy.

Join us on Sunday morning, June 6 for the worship service as we recognize and honor our graduating high school and college students.

ENDOWMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

College-bound Wooden Cross High School Seniors and Eagle Scouts of Troop 422 are eligible to apply for the Endowment Fund Scholarship.



Please email your application to: woodencrosslc@gmail.com, and type "Endowment Fund Scholarship" in the subject line. Application Deadline is Sunday, June 20.

WEDNESDAY 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.

LIGHTS! CAMERA! AUCTION!

The 2021 Wooden Cross Auction— "Lights! Camera! Auction!"— is set for Friday, November 5!



The Auction Team is gearing up and anticipates that by the Fall we will be in Phase 4 of the COVID recovery—which is a return to normal activity. A decision about whether the Auction will be indoors or online will be made closer to the auction date.

In the meantime, we are asking the Wooden Cross family and area businesses to consider contributing items and/or services for the Silent and Live Auctions. Donation forms are available on the church entrance table and can be emailed upon request.

The Wooden Cross Annual Auction supports missions and ministries such as Acres of Diamonds, Camp Lutherwood, Camp Unity/Homeless Ministry, ELCA Disaster Response, Foss Home, Habitat for Humanity, Holden Village, HopeLink, LCS/Compass Housing Alliance, Local and World Hunger, Lutheran World Relief, Maltby Food Bank, and Seattle-LIMBA Sewing Circle. Thank you for your support and participation!

Peg Skiftenes
Deb Schuldt

2021 Auction Co-Coordinator



**ELCA SPOTLIGHT:  
YOUR NATIONAL CHURCH AT WORK**

**ELCA COMMEMORATION OF THE EMANUEL 9**

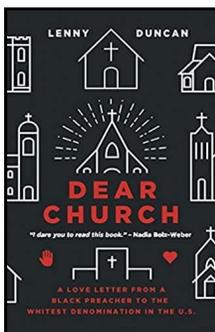
*Article submitted by Rena Connell*

As a part of the ELCA, Wooden Cross is called annually to recognize with our entire church the [commemoration of the martyrdom of the Emanuel 9](#)—the nine people shot and killed on June 17, 2015, during a Bible study at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, S.C.

“Our relationship to the shooter, as well as two of the slain, reminds us of both our complicity and our calling. Together we confess that we are in bondage to the sins of racism and white supremacy, and, at the same time, we rejoice in the freedom that is ours in Christ Jesus who ‘has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us’ (Ephesians 2:14). May God continue to guide us as we seek repentance and renewal, and racial justice and reconciliation among God’s precious children.”

Wooden Cross members are all residents of the Seattle area and, as such, acknowledge racial unrest here. We all need to confess areas of our lives where we could be considered racist.

This year we remember the impact of the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis and of other black lives lost throughout our nation. We have been especially called by ELCA pastor, Lenny Duncan in his book, *Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the US*, to confess and address in the ELCA the sin of racism,



condemn the ideology of white supremacy, and strive for racial justice and peace. Beyond statements and prayers, we have been invited to “commit to study, prayer and action to become anti-racist individuals in an anti-racist church.”

In 2019, at the ELCA Churchwide Assembly, voting members [adopted a resolution](#) designating each June 17 as a commemoration of the martyrdom of the Emanuel 9. Congregations of the ELCA are encouraged to mark that as a day of penitence with study and prayer.

As a part of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA, ELCA members been invited to [A.C.T. Now! to End Racism](#) to awaken, confront and transform our church and society. We are further invited to remember June 17, perhaps by replaying last year’s ELCA online [Prayer Service for Commemoration of the Emanuel Nine](#).

Our ELCA Emanuel 9 Commemoration falls just before [Juneteenth](#)—the official holiday on June 19 recognized by Washington and most states.

**Holy and righteous God, you created us in your image. Grant us grace to contend fearlessly against evil and to make no peace with oppression. Help us, like those of generations before us who resisted the evil of slavery and human bondage in any form and any manner of oppression. Help us to use our freedoms to bring justice among people and nations everywhere, to the glory of your Holy name through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**CAMP UNITY DINNER**

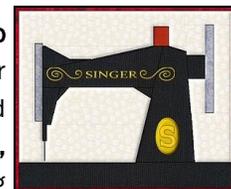


Wooden Cross members and friends provide monthly meals to Camp Unity residents in the Woodinville area. The next dinner will be on **Tuesday, June 22**.

The Wooden Cross meal coordinator will deliver the food to Camp Unity. Residents will serve themselves. If you’d like to supply a food item, please sign up on the church narthex or contact the church office. Meal donations should be brought to Wooden Cross by 5:00 PM. Thank you to everyone who supports this

**QUILTER’S GROUP**

The **Wooden Cross Quilter’s Group** are stitching again, making quilts for Lutheran World Relief. You are invited to join us on **Friday afternoons, beginning at 1:30 PM**. Bring a sewing machine, or just come and help cut and assemble fabric. We will work safely distanced in the Fellowship Hall.



Come and reconnect with friends, or make new ones! If you have any questions, please contact Betty at 217-454-1722.

2021



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 8-3:30 <i>Acorn Montessori</i>	2 8-3:30 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 10:00a Adult Bible Study	3 8-3:30 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 9:15a Handbells	4 8-3:30 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 1:30p Quilters	5
6 <b>Graduate Sunday</b> 9:00 Community Prayer 10:00 Worship Service	7 8-3:30 <i>Acorn Montessori</i>  7:00p AA	8 8-3:30 <i>Acorn Montessori</i>  7-9 p Boy Scouts 7:00p Christian Response	9 8-3:30 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 10:00a Adult Bible Study  7:00P CHURCH COUNCIL	10 8-3:30 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 9:15a Handbells	11 8-3:30 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> Piano Recital and Graduation  1:30p Quilters	12
13 9:00 Community Prayer 10:00 Worship Service	14 8-3:30 <i>Acorn Montessori</i>  7:00p AA	15 8-3:30 <i>Acorn Montessori</i>  7-9 p Boy Scouts	16 8-3:30 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 10:00a Adult Bible Study  6:30 p Worship Committee	17 8-3:30 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 9:15a Handbells	18 8-3:30 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 1:30p Quilters	19
20 <b>Father's Day!</b> 9:00 Community Prayer 10:00 Worship Service <b>JUL NEWS Article Due!</b>  Endowment Scholarship Applications Due Today!	21 8-3:30 <i>Acorn Montessori</i>  7:00p AA	22 8-3:30 <i>Acorn Montessori</i>  5:30p Camp Unity Dinner 7-9 p Boy Scouts	23 8-3:30 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 10:00a Adult Bible Study	24 8-3:30 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 9:15a Handbells	25 8-3:30 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> Last Day of School  1:30p Quilters	26
27 9:00 Community Prayer 10:00 Worship Service <i>Special Music: Handbells— "Morning Has Broken"</i>  Endowment Scholarship Presentation	28  7:00p AA	29  7-9 p Boy Scouts	30			