



Wooden Cross Newsletter

December, 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 THE PASTOR

Dearest Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

“...and the Word became flesh and dwelt among us full of mercy and grace...”

Blessed Christmas to you all and perhaps more importantly may the absolute joy and wonder of God’s gift of Jesus born fill you this season.

The marvel of Christmas is that God looks upon us with such love that he comes for us. He comes for us even while we fail and even while we are actively running far from God and God’s desires for us to live. But here is the thing... not only does he come for us as a whole... he chose to do all of this... all of creation... all of redemption... all of the life to come... God does this all for YOU.

Sit with that...

Let it sink in...

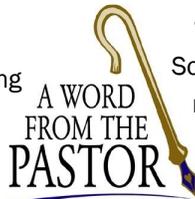
deep down, where the doubts tend to hide out...

deep down where the weights of the world can drag you...

Let it sink in to that place where your heart begins to beat again and your Spirit dares to hope once more.

Let it sink in to that place where Joy is truly resting awaiting the coming of our Lord so we too can join with the heavenly chorus of “Joy to the World” and “in excelsis Deo” and “Alleluia.!”

Behind all the hustle and bustle... behind all the papers and packages... behind all the calls and cooking... deeper than the doubts... deeper than the sadness that overwhelms at times ... Christmas is this... just this...



“For God so loved the world that he sent his only Son...” I’m hoping this Christmas you hear this good news in some fresh way and that in so doing you rediscover the God who is right here with us as “Emmanuel.”

My friends fear not for God is with you. Be of good cheer for God abides when all else is passing. Rest easy for God has you in good hand. Rejoice for our God is with us.

And truly may God’s blessings fill you and sustain you not only this Christmas, but all unto life everlasting!

Peace and Merry Christmas to you all!

RevEric



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



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Come and celebrate with us at our special Christmas Eve Service on Friday, December 24.

- 4:00 PM Online Live Stream Carol Sing-Along
- 7:30 PM Candlelight Service

Featuring special music by the Handbell Choir

YEAR-END GIFTS

This holiday season, we thank everyone who has supported Wooden Cross this past year with their time, talent and financial contributions. If you would like to make a **special year-end contribution**, please send it (or drop it off) to the Church by **December 31**. Thank you!

2021 Stewardship



**STEWARDS
OF GOD'S LOVE**

*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

OCT	Week 1:	\$2,068	
	Week 2:	\$2,153	
	Week 3:	\$8,322	
	Week 4:	\$1,959	
	Week 5:	<u>\$3,702</u>	
		\$18,204	
	Weekly Average:		\$3,641
NOV	Week 1:	\$2,855	
	Week 2:	\$1,450	
	Week 3:	\$8,170	
	Week 4:	<u>\$4,750</u>	
		\$17,225	
	Weekly Average:		\$4,306



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

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

Organist / Interim Music Director Seung Lee

Special Music Ensemble Musicians

Altar Guild Sally Simpson

ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

By Constitution the Church Council announces this first public notice of **Wooden Cross' Annual Meeting** on **Sunday, January 23, 2022**. **The Church Council will host a brunch after the worship service. The Annual Meeting will follow the brunch.**



We encourage you to attend this important annual event. This is our family remembrance and celebration time! It is also our time to elect our Parish Family Leaders. You are missed when not present.

The agenda for the Annual Meeting is prepared by the Executive Committee (Officers) and the Church Council, in accordance with the Constitution. The agenda shall be posted at least 30 days prior to the meeting and closed 10 days prior to the meeting.

At this date, the agenda will include:

1. Opening Prayer
2. Secretary's Report
3. Elections for Council Officers, Council & Committee Members
4. Pastor's Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Ministry and Mission Committees Reports
7. President's Report
8. Adoption of 2022 Budget
9. Resolutions (if any)
10. Election Results
11. Recognitions
12. Benediction

The Annual Report will be available at Church on Sunday, January 16, and from the Church Office during the week prior to the **Annual Meeting**, on **Sunday, January 23**.

QUILTER'S GROUP

The **Wooden Cross Quilter's Group** continue to make beautiful quilts for Lutheran World Relief. You are invited to join us on Thursday afternoons, beginning at 1:30 PM! Bring a sewing machine, or just come and help cut and assemble fabric. This is a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with friends, or make new ones!



2022 LEADERSHIP

The **Nomination Committee** is busy securing the nominees for open elected leadership positions on the Ministry and Mission Committees—Worship & **Church Leadership** Formation, Christian Response, Christian Connection, and the Finance Team for the year 2022. 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 23, 2022**. If you would like to serve on a committee, please contact one of the **Nomination Committee Members**: Jerry Booren, Jim Hampton and Sue Viebrock.

GOOD NEIGHBORS FOOD DISTRIBUTION

The Good Neighbors Association (GNA) teams with contributing grocery and food service stores to find beneficial uses for excess products and help members of the community who have less than adequate resources. GNA serves those who are missed by other distribution systems, or do not qualify for public services. In addition to feeding individual families, the GNA supplies groceries to various charities. Up to 300 families are fed every day. All donations are distributed locally within the community.

Many of the GNA volunteers are also recipients, giving them the opportunity to work for what they receive. The volunteers earn their benefits while contributing to the community, building responsibility, and maintaining personal dignity. Their goal is to bless others by procuring food for immediate consumption; acquiring clothing, and other essential and non-essential items to recycle which would otherwise go to waste; and educating others in support of their purpose.

The GNA will be organizing their grocery distribution at Wooden Cross on Thursdays from 9:30 AM—12:00 NOON. GNA is a member of the Washington Food Coalition.

**HANDBELL RINGERS
INVITATION**

Beginning in January, we are looking to expand our handbell choir. Rehearsals are Thursday mornings, 9:15-10:15 AM. Once-a-month a piece is performed during the Sunday Service as special music. If you are an experienced handbell ringer, or just want to know more about this music ministry, please contact Linda Rubel (206-940-8267) or Jone Vrhel (425-205-1636).



**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

Puzzle!

Starting in the lower-left corner, help the wise men follow the ✨ path that leads to baby Jesus.

START

Now unscramble these words to discover what gifts the wise men brought Jesus.

L D O G N C A K N R I E N F S E R Y H M R

Answer: gold, frankincense, myrrh

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.



**CHRISTMAS
WRAPPING**



Short on time and/or skills to make your Christmas gift just right?

Now through December 22 Cinda Woody is offering her creative expertise for holiday gift wrapping. Wrapping includes boxes, bags, tissue, and any special wrapping requests. The cost is \$2.00-\$5.00/package.

If you have any questions or would like to arrange gift wrapping, text or call **Cinda** at 206-310-5154.

C H R I S T M A S G I V I N G T R E E



The Wooden Cross Christmas Giving Tree will up on November 28! It will be loaded with gift tags to meet the requests of our ministry partners who serve people in need

throughout our community.

Our members are God’s hands doing His work. Our Christmas giving allows those partners to meet the needs of young and old who may otherwise have lonely, meager Christmases. Through the Giving Tree and our monetary gifts, such as to ELCA Good Gifts, we can share Divine love with neighbors in many practical ways during Advent when we Christians feel so blessed by the incredible gift of God’s son, Jesus, to a hurting world.

Acres of Diamonds. This Duvall transitional living residence serves women and children. We will be collecting items specifically for the children, such as weighted blankets to help with trauma they have experienced. We will also be collecting other useful items, and donations for meat certificates. Checks may be made payable to: “Wooden Cross/AOD”.

Foss Home. We will again be collecting Christmas donations for the Foss Home Music and Memory Program. This program provides residents with i-pods that have personalized playlists. The gift of personalized music helps residents with a range of cognitive and physical challenges find renewed meaning and connection, tapping into deep memories not lost to dementia. Monetary donations can be designated by making checks payable to “Wooden Cross/Foss Home”. Thank you for your generosity toward our senior citizens!

HopeLink Gifts. Gift a teen! Gift a tot! Choose a tree tag to purchase an unwrapped toy or gift that will be delivered for distribution by this family service agency to children and youth in King County. Parents select appropriate gifts for their own children.

Camp Unity. We are also collecting donations for ORCA cards to help residents with transportation to jobs, appointments, shopping, etc. Please make your checks payable to: “Wooden Cross/Camp Unity”.

All gifts and donations need to be delivered to Wooden Cross **by Sunday, December 12.**

—Christian Response Committee



C A M P U N I T Y D I N N E R



Wooden Cross members and friends provide monthly meals to Camp Unity residents in the Woodinville area. The Wooden Cross meal coordinator delivers the meal to Camp Unity, and the residents serve themselves.

Wooden Cross will host the next dinner on **Thursday, December 16.** If you’d like to bring 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 ministry.

E L C A G O O D G I F T S

ELCA Good Gifts provides more than 50 different gift-giving options that grow the church, fight hunger and transform lives. These gifts, starting at just \$10, provide direct support for the churchwide ministries of the ELCA.



An ELCA Good Gift, given in the name of your loved one, honors them while helping fight hunger or disease, transforming lives and growing the church. Choose a gift from the catalog, and place your order from different ELCA churchwide ministries. There are dozens of other opportunities!

Consider getting a card in honor of a friend or loved one. These gifts will make a big impact on the needs in our global communities.

For more information, visit <https://goodgifts.elca.org/> or search “ELCA Good Gifts.”

CONNECT — GROW — SERVE

2021



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 8-3:30 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 10:00a Adult Bible Study 2:00-4:00 Uke Group <i>(Sanctuary)</i>	2 8-3:30 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 9:30-12:00 <i>Good Neighbors</i> 9:15a Handbells No Quilters Today	3 8-3:30 <i>Acorn Montessori</i>	4
5 Advent 2 9:00 Finance Team 9:00 Community Prayer 11:30 Quilting & Brown Bag Lunch	6 8-3:30 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 7:00p AA	7 8-3:30 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 7-9 p Boy Scouts	8 8-3:30 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 10:00a Adult Bible Study 2:00-4:00 Uke Group <i>(Sanctuary)</i> 7:00p Church Council	9 8-3:30 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 9:30-12:00 <i>Good Neighbors</i> 9:15a Handbells 1:30p Quilters	10 8-3:30 <i>Acorn Montessori</i>	11
12 Advent 3 9:00 Community Prayer 10:00 Worship Service 10:00 Worship Service <i>Special Music—Handbells</i> Giving Tree Donations Due!	13 8-3:30 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 7:00p AA	14 8-3:30 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 7-9 p Boy Scouts 7:00p Christian Response	15 8-3:30 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 10:00a Adult Bible Study 2:00-4:00 Uke Group <i>(Sanctuary)</i> 4:30 p Worship Committee	16 8-3:30 <i>Acorn Montessori</i> 9:30-12:00 <i>Good Neighbors</i> 9:15a Handbells 1:30p Quilters 5:30p Camp Unity Dinner	17 8-3:30 <i>Acorn Montessori</i>	18
19 Advent 4 9:00 Community Prayer 10:00 Worship Service <i>Special Music:</i> <i>Piano/Organ Duet</i> <i>(Seung Lee & Peg Jessen)</i> JAN NEWS Articles Due!	20 <i>No Acorn Montessori</i> <i>Winter Break</i> 7:00p AA	21 <i>No Acorn Montessori</i> <i>Winter Break</i>	22 <i>No Acorn Montessori</i> <i>Winter Break</i> 9:00a Handbells	23 <i>No Acorn Montessori</i> <i>Winter Break</i> 9:30-12:00 <i>Good Neighbors</i>	24 Christmas Eve 4:00p Online Live-Stream Carol Sing-Along 7:30p Candlelight Worship <i>Special Music:</i> <i>Handbells; Piano Duet (Seung Lee & Sandra Booren)</i>	25 Merry Christmas!  2:00-8:00p <i>Facility Use:</i> <i>Johnson Family Event (Fellowship Hall)</i>
26 10:00 Lessons & Carols Service <i>Art Hammersberg, Presider</i>	27 <i>No Acorn Montessori</i> <i>Winter Break</i> STAFF Vacation Day	28 <i>No Acorn Montessori</i> <i>Winter Break</i> STAFF Vacation Day	29 <i>No Acorn Montessori</i> <i>Winter Break</i> STAFF Vacation Day	30 <i>No Acorn Montessori</i> <i>Winter Break</i> STAFF Vacation Day	31 <i>No Acorn Montessori</i> <i>Winter Break</i>	