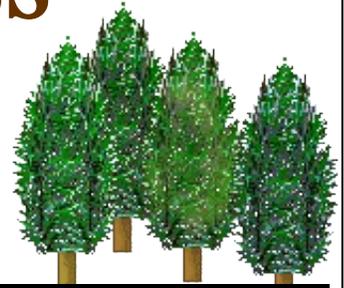


Wooden Cross Newsletter



August, 2021

WOODEN CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

Wooden Cross is a welcoming, Christ-centered community believing in grace and living in faith and service.

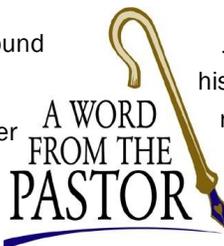
A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

“On Christ the solid rock I stand all other ground in sinking sand...”

Have you ever noticed in scripture the number of times it speaks of God as our Rock, our foundation, our strong place, our shelter? It comes up over and over again. I think in many seasons of my life and in ministry I have taken this as something just established and certain while in others I am able to hear these themes with fresh ears. In those times when the Word returns fresh and catches my attention again, I am struck with what it truly means to have God as our sure foundation... a stable place in a world of shifting sand.

Our world moves so fast. People come and go in our lives. Friends move away and become lost to time. Loved ones die and pass into memory. Jobs come and go. Places we call “home” change and become something so “other” that we begin to feel a stranger and unsure of the landscape once more.

In these moments when we are truly taken with the transitory nature of life it can be incredibly disorienting. This isn't by definition “bad” but it can and often does create anxious seasons as we try to find our bearings and “re-map” what may have been comfortably known territory. When I think of Jesus’ parable of the one who builds his “house” and life on shifting sand that is washed away, I cannot help but think these seasons of anxious reorienting, common to humanity as a whole, is what he is drawing upon to help people understand the risk of building hope upon any aspect of life given it’s transitory nature.



Jesus was grounded, rooted in God and most of his life and teaching was a call to frail humanity to return to being grounded in God and our relationship with God as Lord and ruler of our lives. In his teaching he called people back to a primal trust in God, not so unlike a “new” Adam or a “new” Eve to live in intimacy with God and know one’s existence to be rooted in God alone. The narrative reminds us though that ultimately even his own disciples couldn’t bear this out. They run... just like we ourselves we run... back to trusting things in life that cannot and would never last. Maybe in some ways this is what “original sin” looks like... we run away from God instead of toward the sure foundation of life. It’s almost like a sickness or the soul that we return time and again to our lives of shifting sand.

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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

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

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

JUN	Week 1:	\$4,758	
	Week 2:	\$4,647	
	Week 3:	\$4,083	
	Week 4:	<u>\$2,257</u>	
		\$15,745	
	Weekly Average:		\$3,936
JUL	Week 1:	\$2,810	
	Week 2:	\$2,681	
	Week 3:	\$5,212	
	Week 4:	<u>\$4,168</u>	
		\$14,870	
	Weekly Average:		\$3,718

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
Pastor Office Hours T-Th: 9:30 AM—2:30 PM; Fri. by Appointment
Pastor Email revericg@hotmail.com
 Website 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
 Special Music Ensemble Musicians
 Altar Guild Sally Simpson

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 **Monday, August 30.**

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 ministry.

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 at the church table. Both soloists and groups are welcomed and encouraged. Sign up in the Narthex!

QUILTER'S GROUP

The **Wooden Cross Quilter's Group** continue to make beautiful quilts for Lutheran World Relief. You are invited to join us! Bring a sewing machine, or just come and help cut and assemble fabric. Come and reconnect with friends, or make new ones!



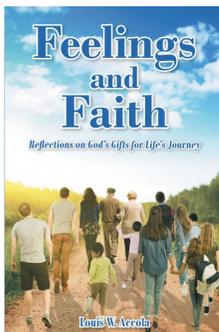
The Summer Schedule is below. If you have any questions, please contact **Betty** at **217-454-1722.**

- AUG 8 Sunday 11:30-2:30 PM
(Brown Bag Lunch after Church)
- AUG 19 Thursday 1:30-4:30 PM

The remainder of August is unplanned at present. Stay tuned for updates!

NEW BOOK BY PR. LOU ACCOLA

"Feelings and Faith—Reflections on God's Gifts for Life's Journey" is a new book written by former Wooden Cross Pastor Louis Accola.



We are created in God's image. We each express in our own personhood the presence, the nature, and the feelings—anxiety, doubt, anger, guilt, fatigue, fear, joy, peace, and wonder—that we see attributed to the God in the Scriptures.

We encounter those same feelings that are in our birthright package in the actions and teachings in Jesus's life story as the Living Word of God in human flesh. Designed by God, our feelings are a gift in the "makeup package" of our natural essence as human beings. Feelings are to be recognized, affirmed, expressed, and shared in all our relationships, potentially for good in our words and actions along life's journey.

Feelings and Faith invites the reader into a personal reflection and discernment journey. It is

deeply inspiring and informative book. It provides practical insights and guidance for self-affirmation, for a positive perspective on feelings, and for embracing and expressing our feelings in daily experiences and challenges along life's journey. The author does this exploration and analysis in the light of the meaning and the significance of each person being uniquely created in the image of God.

From his years of pastoral and counseling ministry experience, Pr. Lou Accola understands deeply the pressures and changes impacting feelings and faith. In this time of rapid and constant changes, especially intensified by the COVID-19 pandemic and its resulting current economic crises, the author invites the reader to examine the impact of these changes on feelings and faith. Pr. Accola evokes new insights for the reader to embrace and affirm for "feelings and faith." This book invites the reader to purposeful, positive, and healthy living based on insights from the lifestyle and teachings of Jesus of Nazareth.

CONNECT — GROW — SERVE

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

And it is my friends... it is indeed.

Jesus remained rooted in God to the bitter end.

But it isn't the end is it?

Jesus was raised to life and returned to the very ones who ran away and denied and betrayed his trust and love. Jesus came among them and reminded them to "fear not." Jesus came in through locked out walls and doors and breathed a new breath... a Holy Breath upon them. It's as though Jesus knowing their frailty came upon them and poured his strength back in and reminded them of their sure foundation.

His "I am with you always even to the end of the age" becomes for them and for us in our day a declaration that we are not lost in transition... we are rooted and grounded in the One who yet lives and who comes among us and calls out "fear not" in our transitory lives and shifting sands. Jesus becomes for you and me both a sure foundation, not because we keep our hearts and minds rooted in God, but in spite of the reality that we do not.... This is the very nature of grace itself.

While we are yet "sinners" running from God... Jesus dies for us and grants us new life.

Dear friends may you know the sureness of God in your lives. May God be for you a bulwark against all the shifting turmoils of life. And may God be your peace for He loves you and knows the frailties of our hearts.

Peace always in God and in His Son Jesus who is our Lord and Savior (even over the shifting sands.)

In Christ,

RevEric

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. Updates will be sent during the Summer.

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-Coordinators

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.

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.

2021



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 9:00 Community Prayer 10:00 Worship Service	2 <i>Staff Vacation Day. Office Closed.</i> 7:00p AA	3 7-9 p Boy Scouts	4 10:00a Adult Bible Study	5 9:15a Handbells	6	7
8 9:00 Community Prayer 10:00 Worship Service 11:30 Quilters & Brown Bag Lunch	9 7:00p AA	10 7-9 p Boy Scouts 7:00p Christian Response	11 10:00a Adult Bible Study 7:00P CHURCH COUNCIL	12 No Handbells Today	13	14
15 9:00 Community Prayer 10:00 Worship Service SEP NEWS Article Due!	16 <i>Staff Vacation Day. Office Closed.</i> 7:00p AA	17 7-9 p Boy Scouts	18 10:00a Adult Bible Study 6:30 p Worship Committee	19 9:15a Handbells 1:30p Quilters	20	21
22 9:00 Community Prayer 10:00 Worship Service	23 7:00p AA	24 7-9 p Boy Scouts	25 10:00a Adult Bible Study	26 <i>Staff Vacation Day.</i> 9:15a Handbells	27	28 Scout Wilderness Survival Training Merit Badge
29 9:00 Community Prayer 10:00 Worship Service <i>Special Music Handbell Ringers— "Danny Boy"</i> 2:00-4:00 SWERVE Robotics Information Meeting	30 5:30p Camp Unity Dinner 7:00p AA	31 7-9 p Boy Scouts				