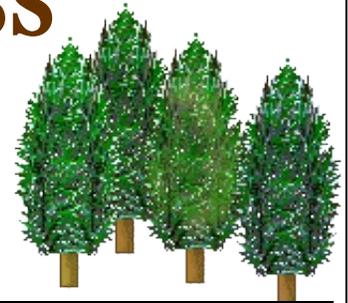


Wooden Cross Newsletter



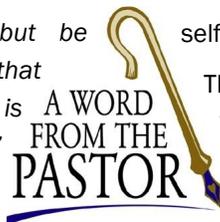
September, 2022

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

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect.”
~Romans 12:2



selfsame rebellion.

There is no third option here. There is no “bypassing” this reality or finding some safer “third way.” We are bowed to God and seeking in faith to live into bringing his glory and rule to light in us, or we are living in rebellion and in so doing fomenting greater separation and malaise in the world.

Hello friends of Jesus,

In these days where information is literally at our beck and call and we carry with us everywhere devices with which we can learn most anything that can be known... Where are you turning so that your minds are being renewed and you are growing in your capacity to discern the will of God? Are the things you are taking in pointing you better toward knowing what God declares “good and acceptable and perfect?” Or are the things you are taking in more generally leading you deeper into confusion and uncertainty?

Seems that the renewing of your mind is actually then a pretty big deal doesn't it? It is the key to being transformed, and it seems to also be inextricably connected to moving us closer into an ability to discern God's will around us (and likely “through” us as well).

So it is indeed, it is a very big deal as it seems to be pointing toward the whole “new creation” we hear of that is for anyone in Christ Jesus. So it is time to get to work on our part of the renewing.

I ask because from what I can see our culture is leaning ever more fully into worldviews that trumpet the ascendancy of relativism, subjectivity, and intersectional separation, rather than what I find to be upheld in scripture as God's “good and acceptable and perfect” order of creation and the place God has created for us to inhabit within it. Our culture has created myriad paths for you to hear these “spirits of the age” and sadly I find that we Christians tend to be pretty lax in our use of the gifts God provides to combat these influences.

But maybe you wonder... why does this matter?

Absent using the gifts God provides us... we are doomed to conform to the world. The simple truth of the matter is we DO bow to something. We either bow to God or we bow to the spirit that is rebelling against God, and seeking to bring as much of creation into that



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CHURCH COUNCIL

- Steven Carlson President
- Natasha Carlson Vice President
- Sherman Johnson Secretary
- Doug Pearman Treasurer
- Art Hammersberg Council Member
- Deb Schuldt Council Member
- Sally Simpson Council Member
- Chantal Carlson Council Member
- Dave Hutchinson Council Member
- Peter Marschalk Council Member
- Ben Carlson Youth Representative

SHARE YOUR FAITH

It is a joy to share things that are important to us—events, achievements and vacations. In Matthew 28:19 Jesus gives his disciples a job—He tells us to share our faith with others.



The Church Council is inviting worshipping members of Wooden Cross Lutheran Church to share their faith with their fellow church members. We are excited about this opportunity because it truly is a joy to share things that are important to us with others.

—Steven Carlson, Council President

2022 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.

2022 Local Giving Budget

Weekly Average Goal: \$4,334

JUL	Week 1:	\$2,545	
	Week 2:	\$2,600	
	Week 3:	\$3,508	
	Week 4:	\$13,915	
	Week 5:	<u>\$1,997</u>	
		\$24,566	
	Weekly Average:		\$4,913
AUG	Week 1:	\$1,995	
	Week 2:	\$2,210	
	Week 3:	<u>\$5,820</u>	
		\$10,025	
	Weekly Average:		\$3,342

Thank you!



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

CONSIDER SHARING YOUR VOICE!

It's time to make some music! And the Wooden Cross Choir is ready to start singing again!

Seung Lee will lead the choir as the new Interim Director. Why not add more music to your life and consider joining the choir!



The Wooden Cross Choir rehearses on Thursday evenings at 7:30 PM, beginning September 1. All voices welcome—particularly sopranos!

GOOD NEIGHBORS FOOD BANK

The Good Neighbors Association (GNA)—a member of the Washington Food Coalition—teams with contributing grocery and food service stores to find beneficial uses for excess products. The GNA serves those in the community who are missed by other distribution systems, or do not qualify for public services.

Up to 300 families are fed every day. In addition to feeding individual families, the GNA supplies groceries to various charities. All donations are distributed locally within the community.

The GNA organizes a grocery distribution at Wooden Cross on Thursdays from 9:30 AM—12:00 NOON.

AMAZON SMILE

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Wooden Cross every time you shop, at no cost to you.



The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to Wooden Cross.

On your first visit to AmazonSmile, simply select Wooden Cross as your charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

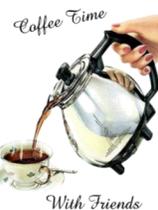
God calls us to grow in faith. Members and friends are invited to grow in their relationships with God. A book of the Bible is selected to read and study together over several weeks to give it full exploration.



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 will till the soil. God brings the growth.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

You are invited to join us after the worship service in the Fellowship Hall for coffee and fellowship.



Weekly volunteers are needed to make and serve the coffee, and to tidy and load the dishwasher afterwards. If you'd like to help, please sign up on the narthex bulletin board. Thank you.

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.



QUILTER'S GROUP

The **Wooden Cross Quilter's Group** continue to make beautiful quilts for Lutheran World Relief. You are invited to join us (see calendar on the bulletin board for Sunday and Thursday dates and times). 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!



CONNECT — GROW — SERVE

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

(continued from page 1)

How?

Get into scripture... now... today. If you find it hard to read or confusing to understand... Get into it with a person who carries both a history with God, and is also gifted with the spiritual gifts of a teacher. Get into it with a group who can together prayerfully converse with scripture and one another to seek God's living Word that scripture carries for you.

Get into Scripture with boldness... with prayer... with humility. Get into Scripture desiring for the Word alone to be your norm of faith and life (contrasted with the antithesis where we let our life and experience dictate the only things God is allowed to say or teach.) Get into Scripture desiring to recover a biblical worldview that frames life and your callings within it.

Get into scripture so that your mind can be renewed and your life be transformed! Get into scripture that God's will for you will become clear and discernible AND that you will be so transformed by God that no longer will you seek to run or hide from it.

And as you do so... let us pray for one another that God will indeed renew our minds, transform our very being... and provide us with rich discernment of His will for us, for our church, for our families, for our community and for our culture at large.

There are many sources that would seek to cloud your vision and keep you enslaved in confusion. Let us pray for God's Holy Spirit to clear our minds, our hearts, and our vision as our minds are renewed!

Peace!

RevEric

CELL TOWER UPDATE

For many years Wooden Cross has received a monthly lease payment for the use of the land on which the cell tower is built. In May the American Tower Corporation approached us with buy-out proposals. The congregation was invited to attend the July 17 Church Council meeting to be a part of the discussion. At this meeting the Wooden Cross Church Council voted to accept a one-time lump sum payment from American Tower for all future payments. The decision was announced after the worship service on July 17.

Below is a brief description of the process and timeline that will be followed to determine the best way to manage the money that will be paid to Wooden Cross when the contract closes. The current proposal is to setup an Endowment Fund that will be managed by an Endowment Board/Committee.

Church Council Executive Committee: AUG—OCT 2022

- ▶ Establish Fund/Board Mission Statement
- ▶ Discuss Membership Rules for being a board member
- ▶ Discuss Roles and Responsibilities of the board
- ▶ Decision authority of Fund Board and Council as it pertains to the Endowment
- ▶ Review church by-laws and make recommendations with regards to any changes that are required
- ▶ Meet with church membership at least monthly after services to provide updates and ask for input with regards to any of the above listed items

Finance Committee: AUG—OCT 2022

- ▶ Look into potential investment companies and other methods of managing the investment.
- ▶ Research how other congregations have managed endowment funds.

Church Council: NOV 2022

- ▶ Vote on Executive Committee Recommendations

Annual Meeting: JAN 2023

- ▶ At the Annual Meeting congregation will vote on Church Council recommendations and any required updates to the church by-laws

Steven Carlson
Church Council President

P H A N T O M O F T H E A U C T I O N

The **Annual Wooden Cross Dinner Auction**—“Phantom of the Auction”—is set for **Saturday, November 5, 2022!**

You are invited to join us for this family-friendly event. This annual event is a wonderful occasion to relax, visit, and enjoy a meal with friends.



contacting businesses you have a relationship with for a donation or gift certificate. Donation forms are available on the church entrance table and can be emailed upon request.

Proceeds from the Auction will support Wooden Cross mission and ministry projects such as Acres of Diamonds, Camp Lutherwood, ELCA Disaster Response, Foss Home, Habitat for Humanity, Holden Village, HopeLink, LCS/Compass Housing Alliance, Local and World Hunger, Lutheran World Relief, and Maltby Food Bank. *The Annual Auction is sponsored in part by Thrivent Financial.* We appreciate your continued support and participation!

This casual evening is also a great opportunity for you to invite your neighbors, relatives and friends for an evening of fun and "fun"draising. This lively evening of fun, food and music will have Silent and Live Auctions with variety of items for ALL ages!

The Auction Team is asking the Wooden Cross family and area businesses to consider contributing items and services for the Silent and Live Auctions. There are many ways of donating—Re-gifting a new item; baking a special dish; hand-making an item or offering a service, etc. You may also consider

Peg Skiftenes
Deb Schuldt

2022 Auction Co-Coordinators

CONNECT — GROW — SERVE

F R I E N D S I N M I N I S T R Y

The Wooden Cross congregation works together with others for sufficient, sustainable livelihood for all. Our ministry and mission partners include:

- Acres of Diamonds <https://www.acresofdiamonds.org/>
- Camp Unity Eastside <https://campunityeastside.com/>
- Camp Lutherwood <http://www.camlutherwood.org/>
- Compass Housing Alliance..... <https://www.compasshousingalliance.org/>
- Earth Ministry..... <https://earthministry.org/>
- Foss Home & Village <http://www.fosscares.org/>
- Habitat for Humanity <https://www.habitat.org/>
- Holden Village..... <http://www.holdenvillage.org/>
- Hopelink Food Bank..... <https://www.hopelink.org/>
- Lutheran Campus Ministry..... <https://www.lutheransnw.org/campus-ministry>
- Lutheran Community Services Northwest <https://lcsnw.org/>
- Lutheran World Relief <https://lwr.org/>
- Maltby Food Bank <http://www.maltbyfoodbank.org/>
- Seattle-Limbe Sewing Circle..... <https://www.seattlelimbe.org/>



Wooden Cross September News, 2022

2022



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 <i>Staff Vacation Day</i> 8-3:30 Acorn Montessori 9:30-12:00 GNA Food Bank 9:15a Handbells	2 8-3:30 Acorn Montessori	3
4 9:00 Community Prayer 10:00 Worship Service	5 Labor Day Holiday Office Closed. No Acorn Montessori 7:00p AA	6 8-3:30 Acorn Montessori 7-9 p Boy Scouts	7 8-3:30 Acorn Montessori 10:00a Adult Bible Study 2:00p Uke Group	8 8-3:30 Acorn Montessori 9:30-12:00 GNA Food Bank 9:15a Handbells 1:30-3:30 Quilters 7:30p Choir Rehearsal	9 8-3:30 Acorn Montessori	10
11 God's Work. Our Hands Sunday 9:00 Community Prayer 10:00 Worship Service 11:30 Quilting & Brown Bag Lunch	12 8-3:30 Acorn Montessori 7:00p AA	13 8-3:30 Acorn Montessori 7-9 p Boy Scouts 7:00p Christian Response	14 8-3:30 Acorn Montessori 10:00a Adult Bible Study 2:00p Uke Group 7:00p Church Council	15 8-3:30 Acorn Montessori 9:30-12:00 GNA Food Bank 9:15a Handbells 7:30p Choir Rehearsal	16 8-3:30 Acorn Montessori	17
18 9:00 Community Prayer 10:00 Worship Service OCT NEWS Articles Due Today!	19 8-3:30 Acorn Montessori 7:00p AA	20 8-3:30 Acorn Montessori 7-9 p Boy Scouts	21 <i>Peace Day</i> 8-3:30 Acorn Montessori 10:00a Adult Bible Study 2:00p Uke Group 7:00p Worship Committee	22 8-3:30 Acorn Montessori 9:30-12:00 GNA Food Bank 9:15a Handbells 1:30-3:30 Quilters 7:30p Choir Rehearsal	23 8-3:30 Acorn Montessori	24
25 9:00 Community Prayer 10:00 Worship Service 11:30 Quilting & Brown Bag Lunch	26 8-3:30 Acorn Montessori 7:00p AA	27 8-3:30 Acorn Montessori 7-9 p Boy Scouts	28 8-3:30 Acorn Montessori 10:00a Adult Bible Study 2:00p Uke Group	29 8-3:30 Acorn Montessori 9:30-12:00 GNA Food Bank 9:15a Handbells 7:30p Choir Rehearsal	30 8-3:30 Acorn Montessori	