

# Wooden Cross Newsletter

September, 2023

WOODEN CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

*We are disciples of Jesus, connecting with God, growing in faith and friendship,  
who go to invite and serve that all will know and follow Jesus.*

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

*But you, beloved, build yourselves up on your most holy faith; pray in the Holy Spirit —Jude 1:20*

Dear friends in Christ,

After experiencing some of the amazing architecture throughout Italy (Basilicas, Cathedrals, Palaces and the like) I came away thinking through what it means to “build up.” How could I not... after experiencing places that the best word I’ve been able to come up with to describe the sensation I had was the word “gobsmacked.” There were moments of being stunned and awed by the scale, the beauty, the very transcendence inhabited by these spaces. To think through how some (if not all) were the works of generations of builders and artisans working at the most minute detail in things that are simply staggering in their enormity!

I’ve been thinking about how scripture speaks of the concept of “building up” and how intimately it speaks of what we are called to do in this life. Whether it’s the call to “be fruitful” in the very beginning of the narrative to this passage in Jude near the end, we followers of Christ and friends of God are called to build up in faith, in the lives of our neighbors, in the church and throughout the world . One might even begin to see God’s calling to build up to be closely linked to other important callings like “faithfulness” and “righteousness” and “walking humbly with our God.” Now obviously this is not about buildings really but when one sees buildings that have stood the test of time and continue to bring people to reflect upon God and who we are in His light, maybe

buildings are a useful metaphor to invite us to think more deeply upon what it is we ourselves are “building up” in this world.

Are we building up in a most holy faith?

Are we building others up in love?

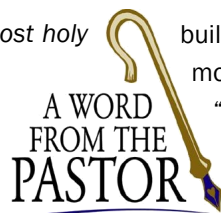
Are we building up a trust in God that will weather storms and remain standing on the rock of salvation rather than crumbling into a pile built on cultural sand?

What are we building today that will not only serve God’s purposes across our lifetimes, but could continue to serve God’s people long after you and I draw our last breaths?

Do we even have a perspective given our disposable culture to really even wrestle with the questions?

Truth is, we don’t have the buildings... BUT we most certainly have God’s steadfast Word that speaks what

*Continued on Page 2*



Pastor's Message	1 & 2
Choir Invitation	3
New Percussion Ensemble Opportunity	3
Adult Bible Study	3
Annual Dinner Auction	4
Gods Work. Our Hands. Sunday	4
September Calendar	Insert



### NEW PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE!

New and experienced musicians are invited and encouraged to be a part of the new Wooden Cross Percussion Ensemble. The music will be upbeat and lively!



We are having a Percussion Jam Session on Thursday, August 10 at 7:00 PM to have fun trying out different instruments and playing some music together. If you are interested in playing handbells, chimes, drums, etc. in this upcoming jam session, please contact Jone Vrhel at 425-205-1636. Rehearsals following the jam session will be on Thursdays from 4:00-5:00 PM, beginning August 17.

Come and join us, and enrich our music ministry during Sunday worship!

### CONSIDER SHARING YOUR VOICE!

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

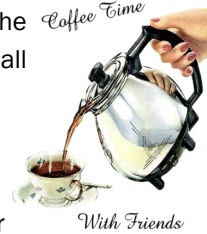


Seung Lee will lead the choir as the new Interim Director. Why not add more music to your life and consider joining the choir!

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

### 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, the sign up is on the narthex table. 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. Come and reconnect with friends, or make new ones!



### WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

You are invited to join us for Bible Study on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 AM (in-person and on ZOOM). The Bible Study helps people grow in their relationships with



### 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.



### WOODEN CROSS LIVESTREAM



Wooden Cross church services are now available on a YouTube LiveStream Channel. You can now watch our Sunday morning worship services online, as well as see any of the previous broadcasted services. Visit us at our church website—[WeAreWoodenCross.org](http://WeAreWoodenCross.org), and click on the streaming link. Be sure to "subscribe" to receive ongoing notifications of upcoming streams, as well as access to archived services that you missed or have chosen to watch later.

Through this technology we are able to expand our ministry anywhere in the world and let people learn more about us and our ministry as we Connect, Grow in faith, and Serve in our communities, following Jesus and helping others do the same!

CONNECT — GROW — SERVE

**A N N U A L D I N N E R A U C T I O N !**

You are invited to join us for the **Annual Wooden Cross Dinner Auction—"Fan Fever!"** on **Saturday, November 4.** This family-friendly event is a wonderful occasion to relax, visit, and enjoy a meal with friends.



offering a service, or baking a special dish. Donation forms are available on the entrance table.

This lively evening of spirited bidding, food and music is also a great opportunity for you to invite your neighbors, relatives and friends for an evening of fun and "fun"draising. There will be a Silent and a Live Auction with variety of items for ALL ages! The

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!

**You can help by donating items!** There are many ways of donating. Consider re-gifting a new item; contact businesses you have a relationship with for a donation or gift certificate; consider

Bonnie Madsen and Peter & Karen Marschalk  
2023 Auction Co-Coordinators

**G O D S W O R K . O U R H A N D S . S U N D A Y**

Service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: that all of life in Jesus Christ—every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life—flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God's grace.



This year marks the 10th anniversary of our annual day of service. Over 10 years our hands have: Cleaned parks, beaches and roadways; Collected and donated food items for shelters and pantries; Assembled backpacks, care packages and hygiene bags; Repaired and painted homes, classrooms and community centers; Written letters to military members and first responders; Harvested produce for local food pantries; Sewed quilts and knitted blankets; Prepared meals for volunteers; Greeted homebound members and residents of nursing homes; and Performed random acts of kindness.

On **Sunday, September 10**, ELCA congregations will join together for **Gods. Work. Our Hands. Sunday** as an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America—One church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.



Wooden Cross September News, 2023

2023



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 9:00 Community Prayer 10:00 Worship Service	4 <b>Labor Day</b> <b>Holiday</b> <b>Office Closed.</b>  6:30-9:00p HEART Theater Rehearsal 7:00p AA	5  6:30-9:00p HEART Theater Rehearsal 7-9 p Boy Scouts	6 10:00a Adult Bible Study  2:00p Uke Group	7 9-2:45 Acom Montessori First Day of School  11:00-3:00 Quilters 4:00-5:00p Percussion Ensemble 7:30p Choir Rehearsal	8 9-2:45 Acom Montessori  6:30-9:00p HEART Theater Rehearsal	9
10 <b>God's Work—Our Hands Sunday</b>  9:00 Community Prayer 10:00 Worship Service 11:30-3:00 Quilting & Brown Bag Lunch	11 9-2:45 Acom Montessori  6:30-9:00p HEART Theater Rehearsal 7:00p AA	12 9-2:45 Acom Montessori  6:30-9:00p HEART Theater Rehearsal 7-9 p Boy Scouts 7:00p Christian Response	13 9-2:45 Acom Montessori 10:00a Adult Bible Study 2:00p Uke Group 6:30-9:00p HEART Theater Rehearsal 7:00p Church Council	14 9-2:45 Acom Montessori  4:00-5:00p Percussion Ensemble 6:30-9:00p HEART Theater Rehearsal 7:30p Choir Rehearsal	15 9-2:45 Acom Montessori	16
17 9:00 Community Prayer 10:00 Worship Service  3:00-7:00p Facility Use: Eagle Scout Court of Honor  OCT NEWS Articles Due Today!	18 9-2:45 Acom Montessori  6:30-9:00p HEART Theater Rehearsal 7:00p AA	19 9-2:45 Acom Montessori  6:30-9:00p HEART Theater Rehearsal 7-9 p Boy Scouts	20 9-2:45 Acom Montessori 10:00a Adult Bible Study 2:00p Uke Group  6:30-9:00p HEART Theater Rehearsal 7:00p Worship Zoom Mtg	21 9-2:45 Acom Montessori 11:00-3:00 Quilters  4:00-5:00p Percussion Ensemble 6:30-9:00p HEART Theater Rehearsal 7:30p Choir Rehearsal	22 9-2:45 Acom Montessori	23
24 9:00 Community Prayer 10:00 Worship Service 11:30-3:00 Quilting & Brown Bag Lunch	25 9-2:45 Acom Montessori  7:00p AA	26 9-2:45 Acom Montessori  7-9 p Boy Scouts	27 9-2:45 Acom Montessori 10:00a Adult Bible Study  2:00p Uke Group	28 9-2:45 Acom Montessori  4:00-5:00p Percussion Ensemble 7:30p Choir Rehearsal	29 9-2:45 Acom Montessori	30