

Cross and Crown Lutheran and School Newsletter

March 2022



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Pastor Ted's Take

Your pastor's health. I find talking about health boring sometimes. Yet, you should know that your pastor is going through one of those periods where the hospital becomes my home-away-from-home.

Briefly, the left knee replacement did not happen. Instead, I went to the ER for congestive heart failure, atrial flutter, and atrial fibrillation. I now have more meds than Orange County has orange trees. Soon, I expect, my cardiologist will decide my fate. In the meantime, thank you for your prayerful concern. Tomorrow Pastor Ted will have a procedure to help his heart pump normally. Everything should go well. More information to follow.

Lent and Easter. With Ash Wednesday coming up on March 2, we will begin our spiritual pilgrimage to the cross on Good Friday and the resurrection on Easter Sunday. We will follow in Jesus' footsteps, so to speak. Jesus' story is our story. Jesus' future is our future.

Pastor Ted's Other Mischief. Not much mischief to report. With these doggone health challenges, I have canceled much of my planned travel. Karen is disappointed that we will not make the May Sweden trip, where our visit would have included some of her family.

I continue my Patheos blog, *Public Theology*, weekly.

Visit if you dare: <https://www.patheos.com/blogs/publictheology/>.



Letter from the Congregational President

Greetings to Cross and Crown Family and Friends

My heart was warmed to see so many of you at our Annual Meeting. We now need your continued financial support as well your prayers and energy as we move forward. Our challenge is to open our hearts to God and the community.

Some opportunities for your consideration include:

- Become a **Eucharist volunteer** to bring communion to our homebound.
- Consider being a lay representative to our **Synod Convention** June 1-4 in Sparks, Nevada
- **Help** with our Sunday and Lenten services.
- **Reconnect** by joining or starting a small group activity you enjoy- hiking, walking, prayer circle, book discussion, etc.
- Continue to **pray daily** at 7:30 am and 9:00 pm for God's wisdom, vision and for our minds to be open to the changes he puts before us.

May the Holy Spirit lift you up and surround you!

Peace & Love,
Myrna Kappler, Council President

Love and Peace,
Myrna Kappler, Council President



Update from Cross and Crown Lutheran School

The year 2001 was a turning point in my life. In June, my sister-in-law passed away, July, my husband, and the Twin Towers fell in September. My three oldest children were in the military, and at the time, my baby girl was on the USS Carl Vinson, the only aircraft carrier in the Persian Gulf. As is military protocol, instantly, all communication was terminated between the military and their families at home. I was still reeling from the two deaths that occurred during the summer while contemplating with trepidation a possible third.

Coming here to school and working with my students temporarily kept my mind off the terror I felt inside. When I returned home at the end of the day, I fixated on the daily news, and the churning began again. What was I to do? During that time, I discovered that there are things in this world over which I am completely powerless. The only possible solution was to stay in the Word, pray for direction, and trust His guidance. He calmed my fears and returned my daughter to me.

As I reflect over the past two years, COVID-19 and its effects on our school also rendered us powerless. COVID-19 invaded nearly every aspect of our lives at school. Gone were field trips, hot lunch, Open Houses, Grandparents' Day, Christmas and Spring programs, Chapel, School Sunday celebrations, book fairs, Back to School Nights, Oktoberfest, school-wide Thanksgiving feast, Easter brunch, and end of the year Hawaiian brunch, kids playing on the entire playground, parents on campus, and PATT (Parents and Teachers Together) meetings. Our staff did the best

they could trying to recreate some of the activities, but nothing was how it used to be, and there was nothing anyone could do about it.

Life within the classrooms changed as well. Stricter hygiene practices became enforced. Desks stood 6 ft apart, and masks covered everyone's faces. Colored feet and circles appeared on the playground for distance when lining up. Teachers were with their classes the entire day from 8-2:30 through recesses and lunch without breaks. When COVID hit our classes, utter turmoil resulted for several days. Some teachers taught in person and through distance learning simultaneously. This further strained our staff and our families.

As we entered year two and vaccines became available, restrictions lessened; however, masking did not. We followed all protocols of the county health department to open our school in August of 2020. We continued to do so to keep our school open. Although we felt powerless against the protocol set by the county, state, and CDC, our focus was and is to remain open.

Looking ahead, we hear in the media that masking in schools is changing in the next two weeks. Once that officially happens, Cross and Crown will adjust its masking policy. What is important to remember is that Cross and Crown Lutheran School is one of the very few schools in Sonoma county that remained open continuously since August 2020. Although powerless with decisions made by state and local government, our strength lies with the Lord as we read His Word, pray for direction, and continue to follow His guidance.

Blessings to you all,
Jean Bashi, Administrator



Update from NOAH

February was a busy month for NOAH. We had two drive through distributions before moving back indoors. The number of families coming to get food has increased and we are grateful to have food to give them.

We appreciate donations from the members of Cross and Crown. We ask that you check the expiration dates on items as we have to discard expired item as well as items which have been opened. We also ask that you use the barrels at church and do not leave items on the porch unless it is a Wednesday between noon and 6 p.m. We continue to need both paper and heavy plastic bags. Thank you to the Wambolds for lemons. Produce from gardens is appreciated.

We have added two juniors from the Ranch to our board: Olivia Teich and Nate Tinoco. They have worked faithfully each week setting up the rooms for distribution and we are happy to have local youth helping us. Each week we also have other students who help during distribution.

Thank you for your donations and prayers as we continue to serve the families of our community with their need for food.

Elizabeth and Bruce Hoelter



Call Committee Update

The call committee was due to meet for a second time with our Synod Representative on February 28th. However, Pr. Manda had to cancel our meeting due to another matter that needed her immediate attention. The call committee is now scheduled to meet with Pr. Manda on March 31, 2022, at 3:00. The committee will provide an update to the congregation at that time. Please continue to pray for Cross and Crown, Pr. Ted, pastors considering a call to Cross and Crown. Pray that the Holy Spirit shows us the way into Cross and Crown's future.

Respectfully Submitted
Sue Michaelson



Financials

February 6	\$ 8,472
February 13	\$ 1,740
February 20	\$ 1,379
February 27	\$ 3,085
Online Giving	\$ 395
Simply Giving	\$ 3,635
Total	\$18,706



Milestones

Wedding Anniversaries

March 4 Mark and Deborah Klipfel
March 9 Ray and Mary Dapiran

Birthdays:

March 2 Liam Perkett
March 15 Joseph Cornett
March 18 Nancy Gornowicz
March 19 Trent D'Elicio
March 20 Jim Carter
March 26 Brian McCarthy
March 27 Sharon Hart
 Brian Brozovic
March 28 Mary Dapiran
 Becky Coleman
March 29 Teri Clark



Prayer List

Healing

Pastor Ted
Courtney (Elizabeth and Bruce's friend)
Olga (Elizabeth and Bruce's friend)
Chavez Family (website prayer)
Vicki G. (church prayer request)
Kyle L.
Marilyn (Lori N.'s friend)

Long Term Healing

Carole B.
Zach S.
Gabe B.
Chris (Mandy Mc.'s BIL)
Mark (Curtis S' friend)
Karl Olson

Homebound Members

Pastor Leon
Norma C.
Robert and Leona A.
Janice S.
Roxie C.



Scriptures for March

March 2 (Ash Wednesday)	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 Psalm 51:1-17 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
March 6	Deuteronomy 26:1-11 Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 Romans 10:8b-13 Luke 4:1-13
March 13	Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 Psalm 27 Philemon 3:17-4:1 Luke 13:31-35
March 20	Isaiah 55:1-9 Psalm 63:1-8 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 Luke 13:1-9
March 27	Joshua 5:9-12 Psalm 32 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 Luke 5:1-3, 11b-32



Events

Lenten Schedule

Ash Wednesday	Drive By Ashes Worship Service	12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
Mid-Week Activities (Wednesdays) (March 9-April 6)	Soup Suppers Worship Service	6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
Maundy Thursday Service	April 14	7:00 p.m.
Good Friday Tenebrae Service	April 15	7:00 p.m.
Easter Egg Hunt	April 16	10:00 a.m.

Easter Worship
Easter Potluck Brunch

April 17

10:00 a.m. (courtyard)
11:00 a.m.



How You Can Help Others

Soup Suppers

We are still in need of volunteers to prepare soup, bring bread or help with set up and clean up for our soup suppers. Please contact Tandy Whitaker to let her know of your availability. Her contact information is tandy@twhitaker.com or 707-584-7319.

Blessing Bags

During Lent we will be continue our mission project of Blessing Bags. The bins are somewhat bare at this time. We are in need of the following individually wrapped donations:

- cheese or peanut butter and crackers
- fruit cups or applesauce cups
- nuts or raisins
- cookies
- fruit snacks
- granola bars

Please take a moment to make a bag and take it with you to blessing someone in need.

Donations of Candy Needed

We are hosting an Easter Egg Hunt on April 16 at 10 a.m. We need donations of individually wrapped candy (that can fit in a plastic egg) so we can fill the hundreds of eggs needed for this event. Please drop off the donations in the bin located in the Welcome Center.



Miscellaneous Information

Lenten Devotions

Pastor Ted has prepared 40 days of short prayers to help us in our Lenten journey. You will receive them by email each morning (Monday through Saturday). Sundays are not counted for the 40 days of Lent. If you misplace your email, you may go to the website at www.crossandcrownrp.org and click on the Lent page. For those persons who do not have computer access, you will receive a packet each week with the devotions. We hope that you enjoy this time and develop a closer relationship with God.

Revival of CCLCS Update

The group that meets on Sunday mornings at 9 a.m. took a break at the beginning of the month and returned to gathering on the 13th. Items that have been working on are as follows:

- We discussed establishing a new member class
- We ordered a banner for Ash Wednesday and the Mid-Week Activities
- We finalized the banner for Holy Week
- We finalized and printed the business cards that members can hand out to visitors and others who might be interested in coming to CCLCS
- We found people to begin writing cards to members and visitors (birthday, anniversary, visitor – thank you for joining us, and we miss you cards)
- We started recruiting for a Eucharistic team to bring communion to our homebound members
- We discussed starting small groups based on common interests (hiking, crafts, movies, games, etc.)
- We discussed having Taize services and another prayer vigil after Easter.

This group is always open to new people with their fresh ideas. Join them on Sunday mornings to help grow our church.

Mask Mandate Changes

Governor Newsom has lifted the mask mandate for indoor activities. Therefore, masks are **recommended but not required** on our campus during church functions. However, if you come on campus during school hours, we still require you to wear a mask because they are still mandated for the school setting at least through March 12. We ask that you continue to practice good protocols to keep yourself and others safe. Thanks for your continued patience and healthy practices.

