

Cross and Crown Lutheran and School Newsletter

February 2021



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Message from Pastor Ted

Special Event on Valentine's Sunday: February 14, 2021

Do you recall how last year on this same weekend CCLCS held a special program on the evolution controversy? The second weekend of every February is "Evolution Weekend." [<http://www.theclergyletterproject.org/Resources/oct2020newsletter.html#1>] Last year we introduced SARS-CoV-2 (coronavirus) and forecasted the pandemic to come.

This coming Evolution Sunday will not take up evolution as the topic. Instead, we will talk about truth in a period of untruth.

"Science and Religion in a Time of Truth-Denial: Neither will be Denied." For the last half decade if not longer, it has become increasingly difficult to discern reliable facts or to trust the integrity of public figures. Scientists around the world are pulling their hair out, frustrated because the wider public no longer privileges scientific knowledge over alternative facts. In addition, clever disinformation spread by social disrupters has become effective at swaying public opinion and stirring up passions that lead to violence.

For Pastor Ted's Other Mischief...

Visit my website for various kinds of resources.
TedsTimelyTake.com

You might benefit from the educational video I prepared with the help of a widely respected virologist, Martinez Hewlett. It provides a clear exposition of the scientific knowledge of the coronavirus and related viruses.

SARS-CoV-2: Science, Theology, and Ethics
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HN2MJPCRUSY>

Check-In Sundays at 11:30 am

Please join us for sharing live online each Sunday morning at 11:30. Just prior, go to the website and click on “Worship online.” Watch the worship service. Then, click on the Zoom link below to join the rest of the congregation live.

Join Sunday Check-in at 11:30am: Zoom Link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83112184837>

Meeting ID: 831 1218 4837

One tap mobile

+16699006833,83112184837# US (San Jose)

+13462487799,83112184837# US (Houston)

Tuesday Zoom Study 7:00 pm

If you would like to exercise your brain to ward off Alzheimers, join us each Tuesday at 7:00 pm to engage one another in matters of faith, spirituality, and personal challenges.

Join Zoom Meeting at 7:00 pm Tuesdays.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89630699060>

Meeting ID: 896 3069 9060

One tap mobile

+16699006833,89630699060# US (San Jose)



Letter from the Congregational President

Greetings to Cross and Crown Family & Friends

Wow! Thank you for attending our Annual Meeting. I was moved to see everyone in attendance.

At a recent Tuesday evening Zoom study, we discussed Bishop Elizabeth Eaton’s video message. Her challenge was for us to envision our future church. In our discussion, we acknowledged how we are more comfortable staying within our own “safe” group. The ELCA has not done very well reaching long term goals to engage people of color. We are challenged when it comes to reaching out to folks who may be different racially or ethnically.

How do we each engage?

In viewing my own behavior during the last year, my focus has been one of treading water as we kept facing waves of financial and COVID safety obstacles. As we come closer to meeting in person and calling a new pastor, I see the need to raise our sail and set a visionary course for the future. How do we envision Cross and Crown Lutheran Church and School? As I think about Cross and Crown, I see us as a caring body of people. I wonder how our caring body can reach out more effectively to individuals in need in our church and our community? As we begin this new year, I invite you to prayerfully envision ways we may share the Grace of God and the Love of Christ.

Love and Peace,
Myrna Kappler, President



Update from Cross and Crown Lutheran School

Even though February is the shortest month, it is full of activities and special events. We start off the month on February 1, with priority registration for current families for the coming school year. Registration opens to the public on February 16. We anticipate the coronavirus still being a part of our daily lives in September, so class numbers will remain at 10 students per elementary class and 12 per preschool class. Of course, all protocol procedures remain in place for the health and well-being of our staff and students.

February 1 also begins our winter testing period for elementary students. Even with the coronavirus looming throughout the county, we continue to keep our students on track with the educational expectations always held by our school.

Not everything during the month of February is as serious as registration and testing! CCLS has planned several fun activities as well! Friday, the 5th is "Favorite Sports Team Day" where students may wear clothing representing their favorite team. Kids will do just about anything for a day NOT to wear their uniforms! Friday the 12th we will be having a Chinese New Year Celebration in the morning with many activities per class and Panda Express for lunch. In the afternoon we will switch gears and celebrate Valentines' Day. Wearing red on that day also is a free day from uniforms! Finally, February 19, is our 100th Day of School where students (and teachers) will be dressing up as a 100-year-old person. Some kids (and teachers) get VERY creative, and again, NO uniforms!

Although COVID-19 is always on our minds, we still are able to have some fun amid the seriousness of the virus. We thank God for continued care and protection as we minister to the children and families, He has entrusted to us.

Blessings,

Jean Bashi, Administrator

School Registration

Cross and Crown Lutheran School opened for priority registration for returning families on February 1. Open registration for new families is February 16. If you know a family that would benefit from a loving, Christian education, please let them know about us. Word of mouth is our best form of advertisement!



Update from NOAH

We had distributions every Wednesday in January where staples (canned veggies, fruit, soup, tuna, chicken, beans, pasta, and tomato products), produce, bread, and a variety of meat (game hens, ground chicken, pork patties, chicken tenders, chicken breasts, and hot dogs) were given out.

Various people from the community brought lemons and persimmons which we added to the produce bags. Produce is different each week, but we usually gave out apples, carrots, and potatoes but also had oranges, cauliflower, pears, cucumbers, and onions as they became available from the Redwood Empire Food Bank.

Currently there are many food distributions in Rohnert Park due to the pandemic, so our average number is 60 families with 161 members, 43 of whom are over 60. We are seeing some familiar faces but also some new and younger people who are temporarily out of their usual line of work.

A local girl scout troop had a food drive and brought us a nice donation.

Members of Cross and Crown have also brought food for which we are thankful. To donate you can use the NOAH barrel at church or bring your gifts on Wednesday between 12 noon and 6 p.m. Please do not leave food on the deck as health department rules do not allow us to use that food because critters could contaminate it. Should you have a significant amount to donate call us so we can arrange to get it from you.

We continue to ask for prayers as we serve our community, and we thank you for your continued financial support.

Members of Cross and Crown have helped out by substituting in January when needed and have volunteered to do more in February. We are responsible for the five Wednesdays in March so we will reach out for assistance or you can volunteer. We are wearing masks, practicing social distancing, and limiting the number of people inside the building. Prayerfully consider joining us.

Elizabeth and Bruce Hoelter
(707) 794-8541



Financials

January 9	\$ 300 – counted for 2020 tax purposes.
January 9	\$ 3,428
January 16	\$ 2,385
January 23	\$ 1,200
January 31	\$ 3,610

Simply Giving	\$ 3,635
Online Donations	\$ 1,078

Total \$15,636



Milestones

Wedding Anniversaries

February 14	Tony and Monica Padilla
February 16	Dick and Dorothy Newzell

Birthdays:

February 4	Bob Wambold
February 5	Zoey Underwood
February 7	Gary Bauer
February 8	Donna Faith York
February 10	Corinne Neuman Charlie Schultz
February 11	Amy Der Robert Solorio
February 17	Josh Dapiran
February 19	Jeriann Bjugstad
February 20	Abigail Der
February 21	Bob Roth, Sr.
February 22	Leona Asper Joan Hopkins
February 23	Mary Rita Williamson



Prayer List

Healing

RJ B. (former member)
Trice P. (former member)
Alexandria and Family (Hoelters)
Linda (Joanne B's friend)
Scott (brother of Lynne BS)
Linda (Joanne B's friend)
Richard (Sue's friend)
Dutch A.
Charles (Jackie N.'s son)
Richard (Sue's friend)

Long Term Healing

Joanne (Kim B's friend)
Carole B.
Gabe B.
Chris (Mandy Mc.' BIL)
Mark (Curtis S's friend)
Chris (Diane C's son)
Ed (Vicki B's dad)
Sawyer (Michelle S's friend)

Homebound Members

Dick and Dorothy N.
Ruth M.
Pastor Leon H.
Norma C.

Grief

Personal Issues

Newzell family



Annual Congregational Recap

Thank you to everyone who joined us via Zoom or telephone conference for our Annual Meeting this past Sunday. We had a total of 47 people present.

We passed the proposed budget for the current year. Please see the annual report for the details.

Elections were held for Council, School Board and Mission Endowment. The new teams are as follows:

Council

President	Myrna Kappler
Vice President	Brian Brozovic
Secretary	Michelle Stewart
Treasurer	Pat Anderson
Members at Large	Tony Burns
	Kathy Teixeira
	Joyce Rogers

John Umland

School Board:

Shelley Slingland
Katy Broski
Jennifer Brozovic
Leah Morrow
Mary Rita Williamson

Mission Endowment:

Jim Carter
Gene Winterfeld
Paul Grubb
Bill Underwood
Skip Wellman

We pray for the leadership team as they help direct us during 2021.



Are You Interested?

Pastor Ted is exploring the possibility of doing an in-person bible study starting later this month. He is considering looking at the book of Matthew. Please contact the church office if you are interested in participating in this. We would meet in the Welcome Center possibly Tuesday or Wednesday early afternoon – social distancing and masks would be maintained. Pastor Ted would use the microphone system to help others hear him better since we would not be sitting close together. This is a great opportunity to begin the year right by focusing on God! Please join us!



Welcome to the Cross and Crown Family

On January 24, Pastor Ted baptized Kaitlyn Morrow and received her family as new members of Cross and Crown.

Leah began attending CCLCS prior to quarantine during the 10 a.m. worship service. She is originally from Washington and then lived in Petaluma. The family moved to Rohnert Park in 2015. Leah works for the County of Sonoma as an analyst in HR/Payroll for the Child Support Department. In her leisure time she enjoys yoga.

Her husband, Jared, was born and raised in Santa Rosa. He also works for the County of Sonoma as a Sr. Maintenance Worker in the Water Department. He enjoys riding dirt bikes with Camden, their son.

Kaitlyn attends 6th grade at Lawrence Jones Middle School and enjoys typical teen activities. Camden is a sophomore at Rancho Cotati High School.

The family enjoys spending time together camping.

Leah says that what attracted her to CCLCS was the community support, educational opportunities, and the people. The campus is a beautiful facility. We have been welcomed and supported by everyone.

Something interesting about Leah and Jared:

I am a former foster child and I enjoy volunteering to help young adults learn life skills like banking, budgeting, and interviewing for jobs.

Jared played football in school, including Mesa college in San Diego.

We welcome them to our church family!



Ash Wednesday – Quarantine Style

This year Ash Wednesday has a much different look to it than last year. However, what is the same is the message that God loves us and is with us.

Pastor Ted will once again pre-record the Ash Wednesday service and have it available on the website beginning at 6 a.m. However, you can not easily get marked with the cross through the internet. Therefore, Pastor Ted will be holding a drive-through Ash event. The schedule for the day is as follows:

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6 a.m. | Pre-recorded service available online (written services mailed out the week before) |
| 10 a.m. | Pastor Ted will dispose ashes on the school children in the Sanctuary by class. |
| 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. | Drive-Through Ashes |
| 2:15-2:45 p.m. | Pastor will be available on the back lawn to dispose ashes for our school parents. |

To receive your ashes, stop your car by the back rack in front of Pastor Ted's office. He will leave his blinds open and come out when he sees you there. Just roll down your windows and he will dispose your ashes and pray for you.

This is our way of thinking outside the box to keep our traditions alive during these uncertain times. We look forward to seeing you there!



Lenten Activities

Pastor Ted will once again be creating a daily devotion for the season of Lent. Your first devotion will be available on February 17, Ash Wednesday. Written copies will be sent out to those persons who receive the written worship services. The devotions will also be available on the website.

Pastor Ted will be pre-recording our Mid-Week Lenten worship services. These will be available on the website after 6 a.m. on each Wednesday in Lent. He also will have services for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday on the website.

Lenten Activity Bags will be available for pick-up on Ash Wednesday. For those persons who can not attend, your bag will be delivered to your house. Kim would love to have some volunteers to help with the distribution. Please contact her if you are available to help on February 18 or 19 (Thursday or Friday). The bags will be filled with all sorts of activities to help you journey to the cross together with CCLCS but separate at home with your self and/or family.



Directory Corrections

The office sent out a draft of the new membership and friends directory earlier last month. Please let the office know of any corrections to your information by February 15. A final version will be sent out later this month.



A Thank-you From Women's Ministries

The leaders of Women's Ministries would like to thank congregational members for your generous giving in 2020, which enabled us to continue our work during "Covid-time."

Thanks to your generosity, we were able to provide Christmas gifts to the residents of Harold's Home (a women's transitional shelter) and for the wonderful teachers at Cross and Crown

Lutheran School. We were also able to offer, through our Esther Fund, six grants totaling \$4,260 to women of CCLC who had emergency needs they could not meet on their own.

In a normal year, the special offering on Women's Sunday would have gone into the Esther Fund to help cover needed grants. But in 2020, with no Women's Sunday, members of the congregation really "stepped up" donations, allowing us to help the CCLC women who needed it.

Thank you!



Scriptures for February

February 7	Isaiah 40:21-31 Psalm 147:1-11, 20c 1 Corinthians 9:16-23 Mark 1:29-39
February 14	2 Kings 2:1-12 Psalm 50:1-6 2 Corinthians 4:3-6 Mark 9:2-9
February 17 (Ash Wednesday)	Isaiah 58:1-12 Psalm 51:1-17 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10 Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
February 21	Genesis 9:8-17 Psalm 25:1-10 1 Peter 3:18-22 Mark 1:9-15
February 28	Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 Psalm 22:23-31 Romans 4:13-25 Mark 8:31-38w