

Cross and Crown Lutheran and School Newsletter

June 2021



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Pastor Ted's Take for June 2021

Preparing to Die

If you have not yet done it, click on the "Blog" on our church website [<https://crossandcrownrp.org/Blog>] to read my two-part series, "Preparing to Die." We each will take our turn, so let us think about our passing within the context of our church family.

When young Martin Luther was stressing over the canonical proceedings against him in 1519, he was asked to prepare a brief handbook on the art of dying, *Ars Moriendi*. Despite his busy schedule, he consented and wrote, "A Sermon on Preparing to Die." In this series of two blogs, I ask: what advice might Luther have for you and me today?

When the Grimm Reaper arrives to count your very last breath, remember that you are not alone. "Steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD" (Psalm 32:10). Jesus already trod this path through the narrow and dark portal of death to what God has in store for us on the other side. The living Christ accompanies us on the same path. "In the hour of death," counsils Luther; "Christians should not worry that they are alone."

Preparing to die includes both spiritual self-reflection and practical planning. In the church office I will place a two-page End-of-Life form, "Funeral/Memorial Planning," which we could use for ourselves or for a loved one.

For Pastor Ted's Other Mischief...

In the middle of June, Karen and I will spend a week at a family gathering in Palm Springs. Proleptic Pastor Brian Brozovic will lead worship on Sunday, June 20.

During June, a big event will occur. The Pentagon will brief Congress on UFOs. In anticipation, I have published a blog post with an analysis. Are you ready to meet ET?

Ted Peters, "Are UFOs Secret Technology or God's Chariots?" Roger Olson Blog, *Patheos* (May 26, 2021); https://www.patheos.com/blogs/rogereolson/2021/05/guest-post-are-ufos-secret-technology-or-gods-chariots/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=BRSS&utm_campaign=Evangelical&utm_content=259

Pastor Ted's Website

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



Letter from the Congregational President

Greetings to Cross and Crown Family & Friends

Sharing in God's grace.

As I mentioned in the April newsletter, the Council approved sharing our Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall with Primera Iglesia Bautista de Rohnert Park. The Pastor is Albert Rodriguez. This begins June 1. They will be here for worship Sunday afternoons and Thursday evenings. They also have a regular Tuesday evening Men's Prayer Group. Over time we will be looking at ways that we may build friendships and ministry to share in God's grace. We plan for our congregations to participate together in quarterly workdays. Please introduce yourself and welcome them to our campus when you see them.

We are inching closer to the time when we will be selecting a Call Committee. Please include prayers for guidance from the Holy Spirit to identify individuals who will serve on the Committee. Currently we have a Transition Team. Members of the Transition Team can serve on the Call Committee. In the Sierra Pacific Synod Website (Link found at the bottom of our church's website), there is information about the Call Process. There is a full-page list of desired characteristics for a call committee. Some of the characteristics are regular worship participation, a person of prayer, able to listen, can represent the whole congregation and available time commitment.

Please pray for guidance from the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts and minds as we make new friends, identify members for the Call Committee and share God's grace.

Love and Peace,
Myrna Kappler, President



Update from Cross and Crown Lutheran School

The school year is drawing to a close. We have been truly blessed to stay open this year with minimal class shutdowns for covid – two episodes: one in December which closed our TK and 1st grade classes prior to Christmas and the other recently which impacted one of our preschool classes. Everyone recovered is class resumed as normal. The teachers and staff are professional and dedicated to keeping the children and themselves safe and healthy.

Amy Der, our technology teacher, has been busy testing the children on the skills learned this year. Thank you for that.

We have also been a school site for the raising of fish for the local fish hatchery. Amy Der has taken the lead on this and has cared for the babies for the last few weeks. On June 4, the fish will be released into the river. The children have enjoyed watching the process and learning about the science behind this.

We have also filmed our spring show this year, the Wizard of Oz. Thanks to Brian Roberts, a school father, who videotaped and edited the show. We have posted this on our private school Facebook page for viewing.

School ends on June 18 and the teachers will prepare for summer school on June 28. We are currently full for registrations.

God has truly been good to us and we thank Him for blessing us this year with a wonderful staff and eager students.

Jean Bashi

School Administrator



Update from NOAH

Thank you for all of the egg cartons, bags, lemons, and food items you continue to provide for our outreach to the community. Please be sure to do your part by sharing information about NOAH to community members who may need extra food or who might know someone who would benefit with some help.

This month volunteers from Cross and Crown will host the distributions from 4-6 on Wednesdays. If you are curious to see how you might help come by during that time to see the process. We are always looking for more volunteers.

Rancho Cotate High School hosted a successful food drive for us during May. We are grateful for the students who assist us in this effort.

In May we gave out fresh produce including eggplant and the usual potatoes, apples, oranges, onions, celery, and carrots. We gave frozen pork roasts, ground meat, hot dogs, ground chicken, and cheesecakes. Each week we offer cans of vegetables, fruit, soup, tuna or chicken, tomato products, pasta, bread, cans of beans, eggs, cereal, and some assorted odd items.

Thanks to Claudia Theis and Ken Schlesinger who helped with unloading the truck and organizing the rooms for the distribution.

We continue to wear masks and practice social distancing as we carry out this mission.

Thank you for your continued prayers.

Elizabeth and Bruce Hoelter



Financials

May 2	\$ 9,584
May 9	\$ 2,543
May 16	\$ 3,018
May 23	\$ 1,930
May 30	\$ 1,543

Simply Giving	\$ 3,635
Online Donations	\$ 430

Total \$22,683



Milestones

Wedding Anniversaries

June 1	Gene and Sharon Winterfeld
June 4	Paul and Norma Grubb
June 6	Tony and Kim Burns
June 10	John and Deborah McCann
June 11	Ed and Shelley Slingland
June 17	Gordon and Faith Adam
June 18	Bob and Carol Roth

June 25 Donovan and Kirsten Perkett

Birthdays:

June 2	Kim Burns
June 3	Takoa Ross
June 4	Meryl Pfeiff Hannah Brozovic
June 5	Carol Wellman Ray Dapiran
June 16	JJ Cornett
June 18	Lavon Schultz
June 22	Kendall Roth Ed Slingland
June 24	Tandy Whitaker
June 27	Myrna Kappler
June 29	Gerda Atkins
June 30	Vickie Holm



Prayer List

Healing

Inge (friend of Sue M.)
Halanna (friend of Sue M.)
Kelly (niece of Eliz. and Bruce)
Linda (Joanne B's friend)
Scott (brother of Lynne BS)
Linda (Joanne B's friend)
Richard (Sue's friend)
Dutch A.
Parent of Jacquilin P.
Richard (Sue's friend)
Karl O.
Jane (friend of Tandy W.)
Arlene (friend of Tandy W.)

Long Term Healing

Lynne BS
Carole B.
Gabe B.
Chris (Mandy Mc.' BIL)
Mark (Curtis S's friend)

Homebound

Pastor Leon H.
Norma C.

Grief

Family of Diana (Nancy G.'s sister)
Sue M. extended family



Scriptures for June

June 6	Genesis 3:8-15 Psalm 130 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1 Mark 3:20-35
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June 13
Ezekiel 17:22-24
Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15
2 Corinthians 5:6-17
Mark 4:26-34

June 20
Job 38:1-11
Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32
2 Corinthians 6:1-13
Mark 3:25-41

June 27
Lamentations 3:22-33
Psalm 30
2 Corinthians 8:7-15
Mark 5:21-43



Online Communication Update

We are reducing our weekly email blasts to once a week on Tuesdays.

For those persons choosing to remain at home, we will upload the sermon video by 3 p.m. on Sunday afternoon. The Kid's Club video is available by 6 a.m. on Sunday morning.

Pastor Ted is continuing his Tuesday Zoom discussion at 7 p.m. each week. Please check the email blast on Tuesday to get the link to join the meeting.



Message from Bishop Elect Rev. Dr. Megan Rohrer

Grace and peace to you, the Sierra Pacific Synod.

For those who do not know me, I am the Rev. Dr. Megan Rohrer (they/them), Bishop-elect. For 12 years, I served as the executive director of a non-profit that cared for the homeless and hungry in San Francisco, with calls from four Lutheran congregations: Santa Maria y Santa Marta, St. Francis, Christ Church and her church. I was also called to St. Aidan's Episcopal church to create progressive worship experiences that would both help to heal the trauma of individuals who have been harmed by the church and enable folk to become comfortable with traditional liturgy.



I currently serve as the pastor of Grace Lutheran in San Francisco helping a small but mighty congregation diversify their income and live out their faith in public ways. I also work for the San Francisco Police Department as their community chaplain coordinator. I am currently in the process of transitioning out of these roles in order to be ready to serve you and our beloved Lutheran church in the role of Bishop, beginning July 1st.

The days that followed my election as your new Bishop have been a bit of a whirlwind of the Holy Spirit, full of lots of media interviews or as I like to call it, evangelism. I have received thousands upon thousands of messages from individuals congratulating me and expressing how your election of me has inspired people around the globe. Thank you to everyone who reached out to share greetings, prayers and well wishes.

A number of individuals have also reached out to extend invitations to visit or worship with you. Due to the volume of emails I'm currently receiving, I have created a google form to help organize requests for visits. You may fill the form out at any time, but please remember that my service as Bishop does not begin until July 1st.

A few individuals have also reached out with questions about what it means that I am trans. As a part of my pastoral ethics, I do not answer personal questions about my body or medical choices. But, for those who are interested in resources about LGBTQ issues and terminology, I recommend the resources provided at [Reconciling Works](#).

I am humbled and inspired by the opportunity you have given me to be your next bishop. Until then, please pray for me and my family: my wife Laurel (she/her), Dominique, 8 (they/them) and Makayla, 7 (she/her). We look forward to praying, worshiping and sharing some of our favorite stories about Jesus very soon.

Blessings,
Rev. Dr. Megan Rohrer



Welcome to the Cross and Crown Family

Amanda and Bryan Honda, daughter of Tony of Kim Burns, had a beautiful baby boy on Sunday, May 30. He weighed 8 lbs. 1 oz. and was 21 ½ inches long. All are doing well. Kim and Tony were gone this week to meet the newest member of their family. Kim will be back in the office on Monday, June 7.

