

Country Chronicles
October 2019
Cannon River and
Cross of Christ Lutheran
Parish, ELCA



Ministry Notes

As I write this, I'm contemplating a trip to England and Scotland. Part of the trip will be a pilgrimage to the island of Iona. Kris and I will spend a week hiking, leaning about Christianity in Scotland, as well as learning and practicing different meditation techniques.

The island is small, rocky and there are no motorized vehicles. To go somewhere you have to walk. Iona is often referred to as a "thin place." A place where the separation between God and human is thin. One day we will be part of a silent retreat, we will not be able to speak to any of the other participants. That will be interesting!

To be honest, I'm a mixture of being excited and a little scared. I'm always a little apprehensive about doing new things. I guess that's the conservative in me; I like predictability and familiarity. And I'm also excited to see where God might lead me during this opportunity. I'll have plenty of time to do some reading and reflecting.

Many of the participants will be keeping a daily journal. I might try that, but I'm inclined to think I'll be scratching down disconnected thoughts and trying my hand at writing a poem or two.

We will be staying in an Abby. And frankly, I don't even know what that means! I imagine it means no television, probably no internet or cell phone. That will be a challenge... Being so totally disconnected, I wonder how that will go? The Twins

might win the pennant and I won't even know about it.

The transforming thing about travel is getting out of your usual element and putting yourself in situations where you don't have control. There is vulnerability in traveling. Relying on others to help can be both humbling and insightful. We'll see how the trip goes...

There's a concept in older adult ministry called "the monastery." When life slows down and people have less mobility to get out and about, our world becomes smaller. Those of us who are still in our busy years can't imagine how limiting that is. But when we talk to those who have become home bound, sometimes we hear a different story.

I remember a conversation one day... I asked a home bound widow, if it was difficult staying home all alone, all day long. She said, "I get up and make coffee, I read the bible, I say some prayers and take a nap. Then I make some supper, I read the bible, I say some prayers and take a nap. Then I try to do some work, I read the bible, say some prayers and go to bed."

It sounded boring, so I asked if she'd ever thought of changing her routine. She said, "No, God is right with me every moment of the day." Her house became a monastery. And her life was rich in relationship with God.

I'll be interested to see what happens in my "little" monastery experience. And I'll be excited to come home and share some new experiences.

Blessings, my friends...

Deacon Todd Portinga

Contact Information for Todd Portinga: Church Phone: 651-388-3464 Cell Phone: 651-983-1795

Email: pastor@cccrchurch.com

Cannon River News

Attendance

September 1st 14 September 8th 11 September 15th 18 September 22nd 23

Financial Report

Year to Date	\$21,414	\$28,558	(\$7,144)
August	\$2,300	\$4,347	(\$2,047)
July	\$2,267	\$3,409	(\$1,142)
June	\$4,114	\$3,241	\$872
May	\$2,098	\$3,648	(\$1,550)
Apr	\$2,602	\$2,956	(\$354)
Mar	\$3,420	\$4,613	(\$1,193)
Feb	\$2,132	\$4,679	(\$2,547)
Jan	\$2,481	\$1,661	\$819
	Income	Expenses	Net

Cannon River Harvest Festival

Cannon River will hold its Harvest Festival on Sunday, October 27th. We will have worship at 8:30am that day, with a brunch-style potluck following worship. Please bring a breakfast item to share. Beverages



and fall treats will be provided. All are welcome!



Cannon River Council Minutes Draft

The Cannon River Church Council met September 12, 2019. Present were Rick Anderson, Bill Bodin, Les Anderson, Mark Hartman, Shawn Klahr, Michelle Sandeen and Sharon Niebur.

Meeting was called to order by president, Mark Hartman.

Secretary's report for the August 8, 2019 council meeting was read and approved.

Treasurer's reports for the month of August 2019 were read and approved.

Old Business:

 As of this meeting, no date has been set for Pastor Torgerson's cremated remains to be buried at Cannon River.

New Business:

- 1. Pestop has been contacted and will be coming to spray for flies.
- 2. Harvest Festival will be celebrated Sunday, October 27. The church service will be moved up to 8:00 AM followed by brunch.
- 3. Mark and Rick will look into adding heat tape to the area of the roof around the air conditioner to alleviate the risk of icicles building up again since the air conditioner was destroyed by icicles falling on it last year.
- 4. \$500 will be sent to Lutheran Disaster Response for hurricane relief.

The next council meeting will be on Thursday, November 14 at Cannon River.

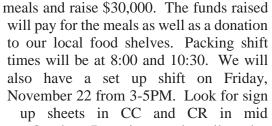
Meeting adjourned and we closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Niebur

Cannon Falls Feed My Starving Children Mobile Pack

Event will be on **Saturday**, **November 23**, at Cannon Falls High School. We are looking for over 500 volunteers to pack 124,000



October. Donations can be collected at church or mailed to the address below. Checks can be made out to CCIC/FMSC.

Val Docter, CCIC/FMSC, 206 Ridgecrest Drive, Cannon Falls, MN 55009



Once again, Storm Creek is partnering with this event.

Last year they donated over \$3,000. Shop for a cause and check out their sales in Eagan (Oct 25/26) and Hastings (Nov 29/30). They will donate a portion of your sale back to FMSC - Cannon Falls. Coupon



cards will be available at church or mention this event at check out. To find more information on their warehouse sale, check out https://stormcreek.com/warehouse-sale/



SHOP FOR A CAUSE!

Save \$10 on a \$50 purchase, and we give 10% of proceeds to an official Charity Partner of your choice.

Cross of Christ News

We are called by the Spirit to be a lasting presence in our community, faithfully sharing the Word of God through worship, fellowship and service to our neighbors.

Faithful through Generations

Assistants for October 2019

Greeters

October 6th Jim Gustafson

October 13th Deanna Gehloff & Family
October 20th Jeff & Kim Chandler Family

October 27th Paul Hansen

Readers

October 6 th	Rhonda Meyer
October 13 th	Carl Peterson
October 20 th	Ann Kulla
October 27 th	Doris Gruber

Altar

6th Kelley Mittelsteadt 13th Kelley Mittelsteadt

Council Person

Dana Dinndorf

Attendance

September 1st

51

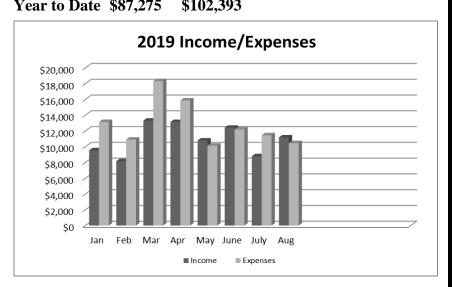
	Deptember 1	91
Kitchen	September 8 th	60
Joan Slingsby	September 15 th	61
	September 22 nd	56

Ushers for October

Wayne Munson, Jeff Meyer

Cross of Christ Financial Report

	Income	Expenses
Jan	\$9,543	\$13,128
Feb	\$8,159	\$10,890
Mar	\$13,302	\$18,310
Apr	\$13,126	\$15,858
May	\$10,780	\$10,125
June	\$12,402	\$12,192
July	\$8,788	\$11,447
Aug	\$11,174	\$10,444
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Financial News

Missions: In August, \$80 was received in donations for the South Sudan relief fund.

Memorials:

In August, we received \$210 in memory of Dan Schaller. Finance recommended and council agreed that these memorials go toward the new blinds in Dahlen Hall.

The finance committee provided information for the joint councils to determine **if Jeff Rudi should be considered a regular employee** instead of an independent contractor, as he has been. The councils decided that he should be a regular employee, starting Jan 1, 2020. This means we will pay ½ of his Medicare and Social Security taxes, roughly \$600 per year, per church.

The bill for the new Dahlen Hall windows has been paid. Donations and memorials for this project were only \$19 short of the total \$18,000 bill. **Thank you for your generosity!**

We received \$250 for the use of the church for a wedding in Aug.

We have an \$11,000 operating deficit (\$6,000) higher than this time last year). Todd's actual compensation is on track to be just slightly more than Bob's actual compensation in 2017 (his last full year here). Last year, we had almost 2 months of pulpit supply (fill-in pastors that were paid per-service) which saved us some pastoral costs. There has been a slight increase in other areas, most notably the gas bill in 2018-2019. The finance committee will make a recommendation on how to proceed in Oct.

If anyone would like **offering envelopes**, they are available! We have a minimum yearly order, and some just go to waste. It is no trouble for me to get them to you, it is more confidential and actually easier for documentation, just let me know you want them!

The **Kwik Trip card** sales have made a big difference for us. If you frequent Kwik Trip, contact Julie Schriefels at 388-2326 to buy some pre-paid cards. A portion of your purchase price comes directly to Cross of Christ. It is a very easy way to support your church!

The **Simply Giving Program** allows you to have your church offering automatically deducted from your checking or savings account, biweekly or monthly. Please contact Rebecca Peterson for help with setting up scheduled donations through Simply Giving.

If you make any purchase on **Amazon.com**, you can designate .5% of your order to come to Cross of Christ by using **smile.amazon.com** instead, and designating us as the recipient.

The next Finance meeting will be **Wed**, **October 2**, **7:00 pm at church**. Detailed reports of income and expenditures are always available upon request.

Rebecca Peterson, Treasurer crossofchristtreasurer@gmail.com 651-301-2652

Kwik Trip Cards



- Help support our Building Maintenance Fund by buying Kwik Trip cards. The cards can be used to purchase anything at Kwik Trip from gas, groceries and car washes to anything else they sell. Available in \$10, \$20, \$25, \$50 and \$100. You pay the amount of

the card being purchased; the church makes 5% of the sales and another 10% for non-fuel purchases made with the cards. Contact Julie Schreifels to purchase at hjschreif@live.com or 651-388-2326. The **next order** will be put in on **Tuesday, October 8th** and will be available during church on Sunday, October 13th. Thank you to those who have ordered Kwik Trip Cards.



WELCA Bible Study

WELCA Bible Study will meet October 8th at 9am at Cross of Christ in Dahlen Hall. Deacon Todd will lead

bible lesson. Harriet Jackson is hostess

That's My Pan sale

Personalized pans and many other items. Great for bringing items to



events. They also make fantastic presents: weddings, showers, birthdays, other special events and of course Christmas!! *Take* orders from friends and family either using the Fundraiser Order Form or Better have

them go to <u>our</u> web site <u>www.thatsmypan.biz/WELCA2019</u>
We will send in bulk orders on the following dates: Oct. 15, Nov. 15, Dec. 1

Missions

Mission Updates:

Please continue to save your Family Fare store receipts! Both Cross of Christ and Cannon River churches are collecting receipts and participating in this great mission outreach. Remember that only the store receipts are valid; no e-receipts.



To date, our collection totals \$82,700!!

When the receipts total \$150,000, we will receive a check for \$1,000 which will go to Feed My Starving Children.

We have already reached this goal twice, and are now on our third collection. It's amazing!

Shop, **bring your receipts to church** and we will support children who are hungry!

Thank you, the Mission Committee

Thanksgiving Meal Donation

The Mission Committee invites you to join in being part of a "Turkey Team"! Hastings Family Service provides holiday meals to families who are in need of a meal to help them celebrate Thanksgiving; \$30 will provide a meal for a family of four! We will be collecting donations through October, ending on **October 27**th.



Please consider making a donation and being part of a Turkey Team!

Your check can be made out to "Cross of Christ"; please put "Thanksgiving Meal" in the memo.

Thank you for your support!

SAVE THE DATE

Women's WELCA retreat dates January 24 - 26/2020 We already have reservations set for Cedar Valley Resort in Lanesboro Mn. Pastor Karna Marks has graciously agreed to be our facilitator once again! Study topic will be centered on Brene Brown's book "Rising Strong". "Rising Strong"is the Easter story of our lives - how we rise again and again -new every morning. Many more details to come. Don't miss out, add this to your calendars now!

Community Picnic Recap

Oh ... we had fun at the 8th Annual Welch Area Community Picnic. Over 100 people attended this year. There were many families and many new faces. It's a great community out-reach event for our church.

Thank you to everyone who came and brought a dish or pan of food to share with their neighbor. We had easy listening music from Dave Carpenter's band.

Here are the blue-ribbon winners of the games:

- Men's Nail Driving contest was won by Lonnie Thompson
- Musical tubs winner was Zander Overlander
- Now for the Women's Skillet Toss... I need to give you a little background story. Last year the strong Welch Women broke one of the frying pans. I needed to get a replacement pan. So in the camping section at Runnings I bought two matching cast iron skillets getting all set for this year. The Women's Skillet competition started but had to be "called off" because the very STRONG women of Welch broke both skillets! Jackie Nelson is this year's winner.

Any child could sit inside of the Miesville fire truck or hold the powerful fire hose as it would spray out water.

10 vehicles came to the classic car and tractor show. BEST in SHOW contest winner was $-\,$ a 1957 Red Chevy Pickup Model 3100 4x4 owned by Bob Luhman .

About 23 prizes from local business were given away. We appreciate their support very much.

David Overlander brought his professional drone and took a unique picnic photo from above the steeple's cross. We will get it posted on the churches' web site.

A sincere and heartfelt "thank You' to everyone who played a role in the community picnic. A special thanks to all who volunteered. It is said the greatest gift someone can give is the gift of time, as time is the one thing that cannot be replaced.

Thanks to a wonderful picnic committee of Sue Hill, Kelley Mittelsteadt, Duke Bjorklund from our church and Hailey Bauer, Kathryn Stone and Carol Jones.

If you'd like to help next year --- contact anyone on the committee. We are always looking for more ideas! Next year the picnic will be September 12th. Janet Daley Picnic Chairperson

Youth

Sunday School: We will start the new Sunday School year (2019-2020) with Rally Sunday September 15th. We invite and strongly encourage *parents/guardians to join us on Rally Sunday*. The adults will gather in the downstairs fellowship hall to meet the teachers and conversation while the kids are in music. Julie will lead the group lesson for that Sunday. Then the kids will join the adults for a light breakfast and some activities. Staff will be installed during the church service and there will be coffee fellowship after church.

We have a new curriculum from Sparkhouse Digital we will be using the Whirl Lectionary, the lessons coordinate with the Gospel lessons for the church services.

If you are interested in helping with Sunday School in any way please let Julie Schreifels know.

Activities & Reminders:

October 6: Third graders receive their Bibles during the church service

Confirmation for youth in 7th and 8th grade will begin on Wednesday, October 2nd at 7 pm at Cross of Christ. Deacon Todd would like the parents to attend with the kids. They will plan the schedule, including dates and locations, and talk about the curriculum.

Mission Projects:

Weekly offering will be used towards the assistance of Gabby, a child in Tanzania.



Noisy Offering: Each Sunday we pass around a globe for the children to put *coins* in for a "noisy" offering.



Send some coins with the kids for this offering.

The Church Council approved the new Guidelines for Youth Camps/Trips

Guidelines for Youth Camps/Trips

**Financial hardship should never deter youth from participating in church events. Finances are available to help pay for youth to participate if this is an issue.

Confirmation Camp

Confirmation cam should no longer be a requirement to be confirmed. Good Earth Village (GEV) offers Confirmation camp as an extension (sometimes in place of) a church's own Confirmation program. Todd can easily cover everything he want to during confirmation classes. However, we do want to encourage our youth to attend GEV. The church will contribute up to \$250/child to their camp experience from the Education Fund. Costs above \$250 will be the camper's family's responsibility.

Youth Outings

The church will pay 50%-75% of the cost of normal (1 day) youth outings, not to exceed \$20/youth. The amount the youth will be asked to pay will be at the Pastor's discretion.

Each youth may bring one friend, whose cost will be the same as the member's. The 2nd, 3rd, 4th, etc. friend will be expected to pay the full cost.

Adults (members and non-members) will be expected to pay full price for any outings with the youth. Adults who volunteer to chaperone youth members will be reimbursed for mileage.

The camp scholarship form has been reworded to reflect these changes.

Julie Schreifels

Sunday School Superintendent hjschreif@live.com h. 651-388-2326 c. 507-990-7024



The next **WELCA meeting will be <u>Wednesday</u>**, **November 13th 7:00pm.** The agenda will include: TOW, Blood Drive, Triennial Gathering fundraising, Women's Retreat, other.

Thank You to Joan Slingsby for volunteering to be our new secretary!

<u>That's My Pan sale</u>. Personalized pans and many other items. Great for bringing items to events. They also make fantastic presents: weddings, showers, birthdays, other special events and of course Christmas!! *Take orders from friends and family* either using the Fundraiser Order Form or Better have them go to <u>our</u> web site <u>www.thatsmypan.biz/WELCA2019</u> Orders will be placed on the following dates, if we have at least 10 new items ordered: Oct. 15, Nov. 15, Dec. 2

Red Cross Blood Drive: Our next Blood Drive will be November 7th from 12:00-6:00. Come and donate blood-Save lives.

Days for Girls Kits: We are continuing to work on this necessary mission project. Contact Joan Slingsby or Julie Schreifels for more details or go to the web site www.DaysforGirls.org.

Taste of Welch: Saturday, October 12, 2019 9am-2pm Get your crafty side going to create some items for the craft sale. Contact Kelley M. or Millie N. regarding items for the raffle. We will also need items for the bake sale and lunch and of course workers. We are in need of paper grocery bags for the bake sale, if you have some extras please give them to Jean Kehren. Ideas for improving our annual mission fundraiser are welcome. Committee leaders:

Bake and craft sale: Yvonne Nelson, Jean Kehren, Joan Slingsby.

Lunch: Julie, Doris will help. Publicity: Julie and Millie. Raffle: Millie and Kelley

Grant and Business Donations: Julie (Thrivent Action Grant has been received)

SE Minnesota Synodical Women's Organization Convention: September 21, 2019 Trinity Lutheran Church, Owatonna. Five women attended this full day event and gathered some great information.



The Eleventh Triennial Gathering of the Women of the ELCA will be held in Phoenix, AZ July 16-19, 2020. There will be a small group of us going, if you would like to join us talk to Julie Schreifels. The That's My Pan and

possibly other fundraisers will help with expenses.

Pie

Pie Auction November 24 after church



Proceeds will go to help those going to the Triennial.

Let Julie know if you will be donating pies. We will need an auctioneer.

2020 Women's Retreat: January 24-26, 2020 Cedar Valley Resort, Whalen, MN (near Lanesboro). Come join us for a fun, relaxing, inspiring weekend. Pastor Karna Marks will once again be leading our program. This year's study topic will be centered around Brene Brown's book "Rising Strong". "Rising Strong" is the Easter story of our lives - how we rise again and again -new every morning. See the attached registration form for more details or contact Julie Schreifels or Mary Fjetland.

Future Events:

Taste of Welch: Saturday, October 12, 2019 9am-2pm **Red Cross Blood Drive:** Thursday, November 7, 2019 12-6 pm

Christmas Smorgasbord: Sunday, December 8 5:00pm **2020 Women's Retreat:** January 24-26, 2020 Cedar Valley Resort, Whalen, MN

11th Triennial Gathering: July 16-19, 2020 Phoenix, Arizona

Officers: President: Julie Schreifels Vice- President: Tracy Harth

Secretary: Joan Slingsby Treasurer: Jean Kehren

Kitchen Committee: Doris Gruber, Joan Slingsby, Jean Kehren, Janet Daley & Sandy Luhman.

God go with you! Your sister in Christ,

Julie Schreifels phone: 651-388-2326 cell: 507-990-7024 email

hischreif@live.com

Cannon River and Cross of Christ Joint Council Minutes Draft

Faithful through Generations September 12th, 2019

Present: Ron Hanson, Joan Slingsby, Robin Nelson-Williams, Sharron Niebur, Mark Hartman, Jean Kehren, Ann Kulla, Duke Bjorklund, Jon Peterson, Rhonda Meyer, Jim Gustafson, Bill Bodin, Rick Anderson and Parish Secretary Deanna Gehloff *Also Present:* Rebecca Peterson *Absent:* Deacon Todd Portinga, Dana Dinndorf, Shawn Klahr

The meeting was called to order by Mark Hartman Deanna Gehloff was appointed secretary for the meeting

There was no old business to discuss.

New Business

*Jeff Rudi

It was discussed Jeff being a W2 paid employee vs contracted. Jeff is currently a contracted employee.

A motion was made and seconded to switch Jeff Rudi to a W2 paid employee starting January 1, 2020. –Motion Passed

*Harvest Festival

Cannon River will hold their Harvest Festival on Sunday October 27th, 2019 following worship service. Worship service will start at 8:30am on this date for Cannon River.

Cross of Christ will hold their Harvest Festival on the following Sunday, November 3rd, 2019 after service.

*Christmas worship schedule

Cross of Christ will have Christmas Eve worship at 4:30pm on Christmas Eve. Cannon River will have service Christmas day at 10am.

The next joint council meeting will be held at Cross of Christ on Tuesday, April 14th, 2020 at 6:30pm.

Meeting adjourned and the Lord's Prayer was recited.

Respectfully Submitted, Deanna Gehloff Parish Secretary

Cross of Christ Council Minutes Draft

Faithful through Generations September 12, 2019

Present: President Ron Hanson, Vice-President Joan Slingsby, Robin Nelson-Williams, Jean Kehren, Ann Kulla, Duke Bjorklund, Jon Peterson, Jim Gustafson, Rhonda Meyer, and Parish Secretary Deanna Gehloff *Absent:* Dana Dinndorf and Deacon Todd Portinga

The meeting was called to order by President Ron Hanson and the mission statement was read.

The agenda was approved and the August meeting minutes were approved as written.

Unfinished Business

*Dahlen Hall Windows, Blinds

The trim piece that was broken has been replace. The bill has been paid. Have been receiving a lot great feedback from members regarding the new windows.

Joan has checked into blinds for the windows. Joan ordered blinds from blinds.com, they are a solar shade made by Balli. Joan also ordered valances to go with the blinds. Joan and Ken will install the blinds.

*Kitchen-Bathroom

Ron has spoken with Joe Tousignant from JTS about the project and will work on providing a bid as well. It was decided to wait until that bid is received to make comparisons and proceed from there.

New Business

*October Council Person-Dana Dinndorf

Committee Reports

*Finance

A motion was made and seconded to have the \$210 that was received in undesignated memorials go towards the new blinds for Dahlen Hall. –Motion Passed

A brief discussion was held in regarding an approximate \$11,000 operating deficient and comparing 2019 vs 2018 at this time of the year. It was noted that in 2018 we had almost two months of pulpit supply, which saved us on pastoral costs.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the financial secretary's reports as written. –Motion Passed

*Property Management

The sewer will be completed after the picnic when the weather permits. Plants were donated and planted by Bob & Sandy Luhman at the front of the church. The bushes still need to be trimmed. Ann will contact Mark Neibur for pricing. Sargent's has completed this in the past. Smith Heating will be out to complete preventative maintenance on the furnace units.

*Worship & Music

A meeting is scheduled after service on Sunday September 22, 2019. Joan also noted the community meal on the 22nd, she is still looking for volunteers to help.

*Learning & Youth

Rally Sunday is the Sunday September 15, 2019. Coffee fellowship will follow after service. 3rd graders will receive their bibles on Oct 6th. Confirmation will start on Wednesday October 2nd.

*Service and Witness

The community picnic was well attended with approximately 100 people. They will get together for a review.

*Missions

A donation for hurricane Dorian relief will be sent.

*Stewardship

A meeting is scheduled for October and will be preparing the stewardship letter in correlation with the Harvest Festival letter.

The meeting was adjourned and the Lord's Prayer was recited.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday October 8th, 2019 at 6:30pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Deanna Gehloff Parish Secretary

28th Annual

Taste of Welch

WELCA Mission Fundraiser

Bake Sale Lunch



Raffle Items

Queen size quilt-Lattice Love 84" x 94"
Life like Collector Baby Doll-15" Tall
Authentic Japanese Quartz Clock
Winter Wonderland Wall Hanging 42" x 50"
Kitchen Collection with Cutting Board
Fleece Throw—60" x 60"

Red Wing Shoe Store - Pop Corn Bowl Fantastic Sam's Salon- RW- Haircut & Hair Products Kings Bar & Grill-Miesville- Gift Basket

Gift Cards & Certificates

Hanisch Bakery-RW Bleu Dog Café-Welch Red Wing Brewery Perkins-Red Wing Red Wing Valvoline Get Tan-Red Wing Welch Ski Village Emily's Bakery-Hastings Sargent's Nursery-RW Culver's Restaurant-RW RW Cinema 8 Theatre Chris Cuts-Red Wing Cannon River Inn-Welch Randy's Restaurant-RW Fair Trade Books-RW Boxrud's Resale & Gifts-RW River Country Co-op-Miesville Bayside Tap & Steakhouse-RW Berghammer Tire & Auto-RW RW Acupuncture & Wellness

Sign up for FREE drawings!

Crafts Available

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

24036 Co. Rd 7 Blvd - Welch, MN

Saturday, October 12, 2019

9:00am - 2:00pm