



Country Chronicles  
July 2020  
Cannon River and  
Cross of Christ Lutheran  
Parish, ELCA



## Ministry Notes

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Kris and I took a motorcycle trip last year to Guttenberg, Iowa. It's on the river, about 200 miles south. There's an old button factory that's been converted to a cute hotel. They still have some of the machines on display-- they used clam shells to make buttons!

We've been there three or four times. It's quiet, affordable, and the roads are perfect for motorcycles. The last time we were there we met our daughter-in-law's parents from Illinois. They had just bought a new motorcycle... It was fun, we did a lot of riding and sight-seeing.

There's a little fish house in Guttenberg on the banks of the Mississippi. And you would never know it was there. There are no bill boards, no neon signs, just a little gate with an arrow pointing down. When the gate is open the restaurant is open.

You go down the steps, almost down to the water and there is a screened in porch with tables and chairs. You can't see any of it from street level. And it's full of unusual things like bikes and cellos, guitars all hanging from the rafters. At the end of the porch is a cinder block building, which used to be a commercial fishing business.

You walk in that door, and Mike, the owner will assail you with all kinds of banter. He wants to know what you want. He then

tells you if he's got it. And if you're lucky he'll even tell you how he fillets it! The special was flat-head cat fish-- Kris loved it. We were there for breakfast so I had scrambled eggs, the best ever, with absolutely everything you can possibly imagine in it.

When Mike brought the food out, Kris asked for some salt and pepper, so he brought out four salt and pepper shakers on a plate, just in case she really needed it... We were the only customers, and he's the kind of guy that loves to talk and joke around. So, he sat down with us. With a sly grin, he guessed we were from "up-north" somewhere—how did he know?

Mike talked about his restaurant and his philosophy of operating it. He loves people, and he loves to cook, but he doesn't believe in credit cards. When people realize he doesn't take cards, he tells people to go ahead and order anyway. He then makes everything for them. And when they're done eating, he tells them, there's a free atm machine a couple blocks away, they can get cash and pay if they wish.

He just presumes people are there to eat. And he's going to give them the best food he can, whether they have cash or not. And he said, ninety percent of the time, people go and get cash, and most of them give a huge tip. He said his employees love it!

Kindness is a wonderful thing. We are a lot like Mike...

Take good care, my friends...

Todd

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***Contact Information for Todd Portinga:***

***Church Phone:*** 651-388-3464 ***Cell Phone:*** 651-983-1795

***Email:*** [pastor@cccchurch.com](mailto:pastor@cccchurch.com)

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## **Cannon River News**

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### **Attendance**

June 14 <sup>th</sup>	30
June 21 <sup>st</sup>	24

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### **Financial Report**

	Income	Expenses	Net
Jan	\$2,588	\$3,076	(\$488)
Feb	\$2,465	\$3,544	(\$1,079)
March	\$1,670	\$4,451	(\$2,781)
April	\$1,630	\$2,967	(\$1,337)
May	\$2,830	\$3,029	(\$199)
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<b>Year to Date</b>	<b>\$11,183</b>	<b>\$17,069</b>	<b>(\$5,886)</b>

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### **Cannon River Lutheran Church Council Meeting May 27, 2020**

The Cannon River Church Council met on May 27, 2020. Present were Deacon Todd Portinga, Rick Anderson, Bill Bodin, Mark Hartman, Shawn Klahr, and Sharon Niebur. Absent was Michelle Sandeen.

Meeting was called to order by president, Bill Bodin.

Deacon Todd read an article about Craig Breimhorst, a pastor from Faribault who has died of Covid 19. He then led us in prayer. We all thanked Todd for all his work during this unusual time. We all agreed that the church services online have been working very well.

The minutes from the February council meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer's report for the months of February, March and April were read and approved.

**Old Business:**

- Bill Bodin has been working on needed tree trimming around the church yard and parking lot.
- Cross of Christ applied for and received a loan through the Payroll Protection Program which will help keep all staff fully employed.

**New Business:**

- Rick ordered dust control on 500 feet in front of the church from Cannon Falls Township.
- We talked about the guidelines that will need to be followed when church reopens. It was decided to gather for an outside service at 9 am on June 14<sup>th</sup>.

The next council meeting will be on Thursday, June 18<sup>th</sup> at Cannon River.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sharon Niebur

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**Cannon River Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting  
June 18, 2020**

The Cannon River Lutheran Church Council met June 18, 2020, at Cannon River Lutheran Church. Present were Deacon Todd Portinga, Rick Anderson, Bill Bodin, Mark Hartman, Shawn Klahr, Sharon Niebur and Michelle Sandeen.

Meeting was called to order by President Bill Bodin.

Deacon Todd led us in devotions.

Minutes from the May 27, 2020 meeting were read. Motion made by Rick Anderson, second by Bill Bodin to approve the May 27, 2020 minutes.

Treasurer's report for the month of May was read. Motion by Mark Hartman, second by Sharon Niebur to approve the May treasurer's report.

#### Old Business:

- The chloride treatment for dust control has yet to be applied in front of the church. The check hasn't been cashed for this year, and last year our check was sent back to us. Bill is going to make some phone calls to check into the dust control application.
- On Sunday, June 14<sup>th</sup>, Cannon River held their first indoor worship service since the Stay at Home Order was put in place in March due to the COVID-19. The Council decided that Cannon River will continue with indoor Sunday worship services with the understanding that we may have to dial back. A sign will be posted on the front door suggesting those in attendance wear face masks. The Council member in charge each Sunday will make a list of those in attendance for contact tracing purposes, plus will ask for phone numbers from guest worshiping with us.
- Communion procedures were discussed. It was decided that Deacon Todd and the communion helper will stand up front, and those in attendance will walk up to receive communion. A trash can will be available for disposing of communion cups.
- Council members enjoyed having Bruce sing the hymns and would like him to continue doing this.

New Business:

Motion by Rick Anderson, second by Michelle Sandeen to approve the following benevolence amounts:

- Brian Anderson – \$550.00 for Brian to attend a group trip to a cabin in northern Minnesota;
- Ruth's Kids – Mark Beebe - \$1,000 to Mark to help with his expense in purchasing an electric hand bike attachment for his wheel chair. Sharon will let Rick know to whom the check is payable to.

It was mentioned that there are a lot of weeds in the church lawn. Bill will bring the weed issue up at the next cemetery board meeting.

The treatment for the flies needs to be done prior to September.

An email will be sent out asking for members to help burn the brush pile at the church.

Cannon River will be having an outdoor service on Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup>. Potluck at 6:00 p.m., service at 7:00 p.m., followed by a campfire and music. Bring your own chairs.

The next Council meeting will be August 13<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. at Cannon River Lutheran. There will be a joint Council meeting with Cross of Christ in September.

A motion was made by Mark Hartman, second by Sharon Niebur to adjourn the meeting. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michelle Sandeen

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## Cross of Christ News

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*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***

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### Assistants for July 2020

#### **Greeters**

July 5 <sup>th</sup>	Oscar & Janet Daley
July 12 <sup>th</sup>	Ken & Joan Slingsby
July 19 <sup>th</sup>	Judy Meyer
July 26 <sup>th</sup>	Paul Hansen

#### **Readers**

July 5 <sup>th</sup>	Jean Kehren
July 12 <sup>th</sup>	Paul Hansen
July 19 <sup>th</sup>	Doris Gruber
July 26 <sup>th</sup>	Dean Dinndorf

#### **Council Person**

Ann Kulla

#### **Kitchen**

Cathy Nemcek

#### **Ushers for July**

Jim Gustafson, Kelley Mittelsteadt

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## Garage Sale Update

After much discussion, it has been decided Cross of Christ will **not** have our annual garage sale this year. With the health and safety of our workers, helpers and community in mind, it is just too much to risk at this time. We will be looking into having the sale in the spring of 2021!! Thank you to everyone who set things aside for this year's sale, please feel free to hang onto it or donate.

Many Thanks!

Garage Sale Committee

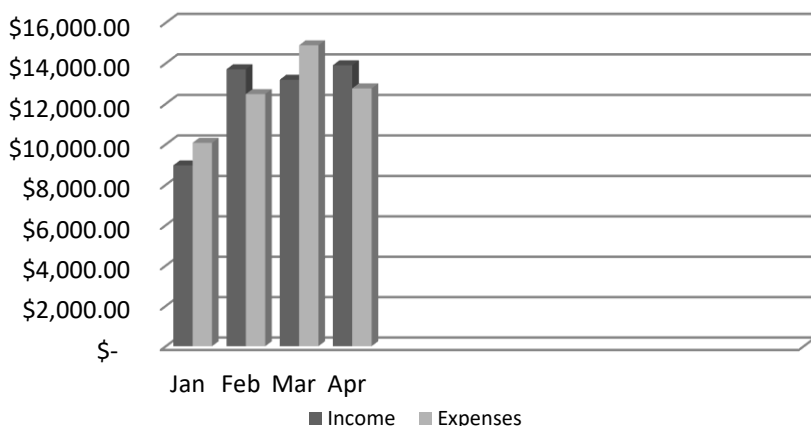


## Cross of Christ Financial Report

	Income	Expenses
Jan	\$8,954	\$10,066
Feb	\$13,695	\$12,471
Mar	\$13,181	\$14,880
April	\$13,896	\$12,753
May	\$	

**Year to Date**   **\$49,728**   **\$50,171**

### 2020 Income/Expenses



### Financial News:

**Thank you for your continued financial support** during this time! We know that many of you have added stress, expenses and maybe a decrease or loss of income right now, which makes your gifts even more meaningful. We have been fairly stable financially up to this point. Summer giving tends to drop in normal years, so it is expected that this year will follow suit.

We received the **Paycheck Protection loan** on April 22 in the amount of \$16,500. We have begun the process of proving our payroll expenses in order to get the loan forgiven. There will be more updates as the process moves forward.



**THANK YOU** to everyone who designated their 2019 **Thrivent Choice Dollars** to Cross of Christ. You can designate Choice dollars earned so far in 2020 at any time. Contact your advisor or go to [www.thrivent.com](http://www.thrivent.com) for more information.

**Missions** – \$203 was sent to the synod for World Hunger in May.

It has become apparent that both Cannon River and Cross of Christ have **workers compensation** that covers the portion of work that is done at and for Cannon River. We are looking into ways to remedy this, and will probably be getting quotes from other companies.

**The furnace** has been paid for: \$1,815.50 in member donations and \$4,134.50 from the building and grounds fund.

A \$1,000 **Christian College Scholarship** was granted to Kelsey Dinndorf for her studies at Luther College.

A mistake was made by Merchants bank and/or their direct pay partner, Zelle, in May. The result was that although Deanna and Rebecca only received their paycheck once, it was deducted from our account multiple times. When pointed out, the mistake was corrected and those funds quickly returned to our account.

The **Kwik Trip cards** are still available through Julie Schriefels at 388-2326. 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. We received \$23 in May

The next Finance meeting is scheduled for **Wed, August 5, 7:00 pm**, we will not meet in July. Detailed reports of income and expenditures are always available upon request.

Rebecca Peterson, Treasurer [crossofchristtreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:crossofchristtreasurer@gmail.com)  
651-301-2652

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### 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. The **next order** will be put in on **Tuesday, July 14<sup>th</sup>** and will be available at the church by, July 19<sup>th</sup>. **If you would like to order cards and are not on the regular order list please email [hjschreif@live.com](mailto:hjschreif@live.com) or 651-388-2326. We can discuss how you would like to receive and pay for your cards.** Thank you to those who have ordered Kwik Trip Cards.

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**American  
Red Cross**

The next blood drive will be held on Thursday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 from Noon-6:00PM.

If you are interested in helping please contact Julie Schreifels at phone: 651-388-2326 cell: 507-990-7024  
email [hjschreif@live.com](mailto:hjschreif@live.com)

Come and donate blood-Save lives. You can register now at <https://www.redcrossblood.org/>

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## 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. Buckets are located at both Churches for easy drop off. Remember that only the store receipts are valid; no e-receipts.



*To date, our collection totals  
\$115,983!!*

*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

### LWR Mask Making

With help from congregations like ours, Lutheran World Relief



has sent over 100,000 face masks around the world to help slow the spread of the corona virus. Thank you to the many seamstresses from our congregation who sewed 125 masks! These were delivered

to the St Paul warehouse the first week of June. They will be shipped to the national distribution center from there and sent to our ministry partners throughout the world.

Thank you!!

## In Person Communion



Once again we will be scheduling in person communion in July. Each family will have a 10 minute period of time to come in the church and have Communion at Cross of Christ Church on **Wednesday, July 15<sup>th</sup>** starting at 3pm.

If you know you would like to participate in communion, please contact the parish secretary at [secretary@cccchurch.com](mailto:secretary@cccchurch.com) or by phone at 651-388-3464, or cell 651-380-6323.

Joan Slingsby

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## Youth and Learning News

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**Sunday School will begin in the Fall based on whether or not schools are open or continue with the current distance learning or some hybrid of the two. Also if we have in person worship services.**

### ***We miss seeing and interacting with our Sunday School kids.***

#### 1. Events

**July 12-18** Youth mission trip with First & United Canceled but Might be local projects

**July 16<sup>th</sup> 1:00** Clean up cemetery

**August 2-6 – VBS - Zoom into VBS**

**Vacation Bible School** – August 2-6 more information to come. VBS is still in the planning stages. Some ideas include: Activity Bag for each family, Zoom meeting – Story telling – Music, and outdoor activities with proper social distancing. More information and registration will be coming in late June/early July.

*If you have any ideas or would like to help in any way with VBS (I'm sure we have some great story tellers out there) please*

*contact a member of the Learning and Youth committee. Julie Schreifels, Todd Portinga, Jamie Fox, Emma Dinndorf, Deanna Gehloff, Rebecca Peterson, Robin Nelson-Williams, Dean and Dana Dinndorf.*

**Confirmation** – Kiersten Peterson Confirmation service will be held after services are allowed to resume in the sanctuary.

**First Communion** for 5<sup>th</sup> graders and other children whose families feel they are ready will take place after church services are allowed to resume in the sanctuary.

### **Activities & Reminders:**

**Learning and Youth Meeting:** Tuesday, July 7 6:30 pm.

### **Mission Projects:**



**Buck-A-Chick** – The Sunday School will be selling “chicks” for \$1.00 throughout the summer months How will we do this?

Copies of the Buck-a-Chick coloring pages will be available near the Buck-A-Chick display for families to pick up. The kids will color them

and return them to a basket on the coat rack above the table just inside the Dahlen Hall door. When people come in, they can purchase one, put their name on it and put the Buck-a-Chick and their donation in the gold box with a star on it.

The Buck-a-Chick fundraiser will provide chicks for families in impoverished areas of the world. They will be purchased through the ELCA Good Gifts program. ELCA World Hunger responds to the root causes of hunger with work in 60 countries around the world, including the United States.



Weekly offering will be used towards the assistance of Gabby, a child in Tanzania. She still needs to be supported so ....



**If you stop by the church put  
some coins in the globe for  
Gabby**

**Christian Summer Camp/Trip Scholarship Form:** Youth who have registered for summer camp at Good Earth Village or another Christian summer camp or youth trip are eligible to apply for this scholarship. Good Earth Village will not be holding regular summer camps this year. See their web site for virtual camps. <http://goodearthvillage.org/>

Peace,

Julie Schreifels

Sunday School Superintendent [hjschreif@live.com](mailto:hjschreif@live.com) h. 651-388-2326 c. 507-990-7024



The next **WELCA** meeting will be **Wednesday, July 1<sup>st</sup> 7:00 pm.** *Please let Julie know via email [hjschreif@live.com](mailto:hjschreif@live.com) if you plan to attend.* We will have the meeting in person if there are 10 or less planning to attend otherwise I will set up a Zoom meeting. The agenda will include: Blood Drive, Taste of Welch, Triennial Gathering update, Days for Girls, other.

**Red Cross Blood Drive:** Our next Blood Drive will be **July 2, 2020** from 12:00-6:00. Come and donate blood-Save lives. You can register now at <https://www.redcrossblood.org/>

**Days for Girls Kits:** Julie and Joan are looking into this as Days

for Girls International has changed its procedures, no longer allows soloist sewers, we would have to apply to a team or become a team. Julie and Joan will look into this further to determine which would be the best choice. Contact Joan Slingsby or Julie Schreifels for more details or go to the web site [www.DaysforGirls.org](http://www.DaysforGirls.org) .



The Eleventh Triennial Gathering of the Women of the ELCA will be held in Phoenix, AZ will now be held August 5-8 2021. Those of us who were registered for the July 2020 date have automatically been registered for the August 2021 gathering and we all plan to attend.

**Taste of Welch** Saturday, October 10 from 9 am to 2 p.m Julie will be sending out a [survey](https://forms.gle/WcFnw9EuDW6RmJJx9) to determine the best course of action, The thought is that we will have the raffle (members selling tickets), a bake sale (customers would order items and pick them up on Oct. 10). We may also sell quarts of soup in the same manner. Please be sure to respond to this survey right away. <https://forms.gle/WcFnw9EuDW6RmJJx9>

### **Future Events:**

**Red Cross Blood Drive:** Thursday, July 2, 2020 12-6 pm

**Taste of Welch:** October 10, 2020 9-2

**11<sup>th</sup> Triennial Gathering:** August 5-8, 2021 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, Cathy Nemcek & Sandy Luhman.***

***God go with you! Your sister in Christ,***

***Julie Schreifels phone: 651-388-2326 cell: 507-990-7024 email [hjschreif@live.com](mailto:hjschreif@live.com)***

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## **Cross of Christ Council Minutes Draft**

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*Faithful through Generations*  
**June 9, 2020**

The Council members meet via Zoom meeting.

*Present:* President Ron Hanson, Vice-President Joan Slingsby, Robin Nelson-Williams, Kelley Mittelsteadt , Ann Kulla, Duke Bjorklund, Jon Peterson, Jim Gustafson, Oscar Daley, Dana Dinndorf, Deacon Todd Portinga and Parish Secretary Deanna Gehloff

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

Devotions were given by Deacon Todd.

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

### Unfinished Business

#### **\*Deacons Report**

Todd mentioned the baptism for the Nelson family that was held on May 21<sup>st</sup> at Cross of Christ. Todd has been enjoying staying connected via zoom meetings and reaching nonmembers as well. Todd mentioned Cannon River is back to doing in person worship services, but will be short much like the worship videos. Todd still has confirmation and 1<sup>st</sup> communion on the back burner until service has resumed.

#### **\*Kitchen-Bathroom**

Ron talked with the drafter, cost would be \$625, which would be included in the bid if decided to move forward with the project, otherwise it's an out of pocket expense. Further discussion was



made regarding the project.

***A motion was made and seconded to table the project until a later date. -Motion Passed with votes at 9 yes and 1 no.***

### New Business

\*July council person- Ann Kulla      August council person- Jon Peterson

\*Church Reopening and or Virus Talk

Discussion was made in regards to opening up. The governor regulations now allow 50% capacity for worship. It was decided to continue with the worship videos for service through July and discuss reopening at the August council meeting. An in-person communion day will be set for July for those who wish to participate.

It was also discussed on having a July council meeting. It was decided to have a council meeting in July on July 14<sup>th</sup>, with the hopes of meeting in person using Dahlen Hall.

### Committee Reports

\*Finance

Rebecca read the finance meeting minutes.

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

\*Property Management

Water has been making its way into the basement hall. Ron met with Bob on issue and a low spot on the roof was discovered and temporarily fixed. Further investigation will need to be done to find out exact problem area. The carpet in the sanctuary continues to bubble up with humidity, the carpet is a nylon synthetic, which should be switched out to proper material like the older carpet was.

Oscar mentioned the un-mowed area and the pile of brush at the church. Oscar will get a burning permit and will mow that area.

**\*Worship & Music**

A meeting was held via zoom on May 17<sup>th</sup> and discussed Sundays and Seasons subscription, bulletin inserts-which have been cancelled, and continuation of virtual services.

**\*Learning & Youth**

The next meeting will be held on July 7<sup>th</sup>. A letter was sent out to families. VBS August 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>.

**\*Service & Witness**

In-Person communion is set for June 14<sup>th</sup>. Joan asked for volunteer for door opener, Ann spoke up to help.

**\*Missions**

125 face masks were made for the LWR project. Todd and Kris delivered them.

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

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, July 14th, 2020 at 6:30pm and Ron will email out if via zoom or in person at church.

Respectfully Submitted,

Deanna Gehloff  
Parish Secretary