



Country Chronicles
June 2022
Cannon River and
Cross of Christ Lutheran
Parish, ELCA



Reflections: From Your Interim Pastor Dan

Lessons from the Farm

My heart goes out to the farmers who are busy planting after a late spring and then untimely rains. There is so much to be learned from life on the farm.

1. **We plant in the hope of the harvest.** The farmers invest much time and resources in the planting of the seed in the “hope” that the harvest is coming. It is the “faith” in a faithful God that inspires the farmers to invest significantly in the preparation, fertilizer, weed control and seeding costs. So do we! We invest our time, effort, and prayer in the preparation of our Ministry Site Profile in the “hope” that God has a pastor waiting to be called as our next settled pastor. We gratefully give of our resources to the church’s ministry in the “hope” that the Word of promise we have in Christ will change people’s lives. And it does!
2. **We trust God to provide** the rain and the sunshine necessary to germinate and grow the crops. The farmers teach us that we only do what we can in the planting process. God has to do the rest. So it is with our life of faith! The Call committee is busy putting together the Congregational Profile that will be sent to prospective pastors. The Call Committee is doing a lot of hard, prayerful work. But once the Profile is completed and sent into the Synod office, It is the work of the Spirit to

entice the right candidate to accept the opportunity to be your next pastor.

3. The faithful farmer teaches us how to **wait with “Hope”**. Once the seed is planted and the cultivating/weed control is completed, the farmer can only wait expectantly praying for the essential rain and sunshine essential for the crops’ maturation. Waiting is not easy for most of us. Waiting with a confident Hope that our loving God is in the future welcoming us is the key to the life of faith.

I thank God for the farmers who teach us how to live by faith in a loving, faithful God. It is in this confidence that we complete our congregational profile and wait for God’s Spirit to lead us to that Pastor waiting to be called as your own next settled pastor. Keep your prayers coming for the call committee and the pastor waiting for the call you will be extending.

Blessings from the farmer’s heart!

Pastor Dan

Contact Information for Interim Pastor Dan Nordin:
Church Phone: 651-388-3464 **Cell Phone:** 763-458-5066
Email: pastor@cccchurch.com

Cannon River News

Attendance

May 1 st	17
May 8 th	22
May 15 th	13
May 29 th	18

Financial Report

	Income	Expenses	Net
Jan	\$2,435	\$3,638	(\$1,203)
Feb	\$2,445	\$3,853	(\$1,408)
Mar	\$2,707	\$4,751	(\$2,544)
Apr	\$3,370	\$3,415	(\$45)
Year to Date	\$10,457	\$15,658	(\$5,201)

Cannon River Council Rotation for June

June 5 th	David
June 12 th	Shawn
June 19 th	Mark
June 26 th	Michelle

Summer Coffee Fellowship



Coffee Fellowship after worship will be resuming for the summer months starting June 5th. The sign-up sheet to host is on the bulletin board in the coat room.

Graduate Recognition

Graduation Recognition will be June 5th. Kayla Klippen is graduating from Hastings High School. She will be attending the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire majoring in social work. Congratulations, Kayla!



Annual Bonfire Worship



The date for the Annual Summer Evening Worship, Picnic and Bonfire is tentatively set for Saturday, August 13. More information to follow.

Cannon River Lutheran Church Council Meeting May 12, 2022

The Cannon River Lutheran Church Council met on May 12, 2022 at church. Present were Interim Pastor Dan Nordin, Bill Bodin, Shawn Klahr, Michelle Sandeen and Sharon Niebur

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 by President Bill Bodin.

The minutes of the April 19, 2022 meeting were read. Motion by Michelle Sandeen, seconded by Shawn Klahr to approve the April 19, 2022 minutes.

The Treasurer's report for the month of April was reviewed. It was noted that we are behind in offerings, but this is not uncommon for this time of the year. A motion by Michelle Sandeen, seconded by Shawn Klahr to approve the April treasurer's report.

Old Business:

Rick Anderson and Bill Bodin inspected the church roof after an April hail storm. The roof looked good, no damage was seen.

Sharon Niebur had looked into different types on Welcome banners/flags for the lawn in front of church. There are a wide variety of types and prices available. The possibility was discussed of adding a Welcome statement to the sign already in the front of the church building. This will continue to be discussed at future meetings.

Chris Klahr, Sharon Niebur, Pastor Dan and delegates for Cross of Christ attended the Synod Assembly in Mankato on May 7, 2022.

Benevolence: \$300 will be given to Brian Anderson for camp.

New Business:

Sunday, June 5, 2022, will be Graduation Recognition for Kayla Klippen from Hastings High School.

Sunday, June 12, 2022, Barb Streed from the Synod will be preaching. Our call committee will be presenting the Ministry Site Profile to the congregation for review before it is put out to prospective candidates.

The next council meeting will follow a joint meeting with Cross of Christ at Cannon River at 6:30 on June 9th, 2022.

Pastor Dan closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Niebur

Synod Assembly 2022

Thank you for sending us to the Synod Assembly on May 7 in Mankato. The theme of the assembly was "Imagining the Endless Possibilities in God's Grace." The day focused on the dream of justice and peace for all creation. Along with the business aspect of the day, our day was very inspiring and thought provoking as we listened to Bishop Hassanally and the guest speaker, Rozella Haydee White. They were exceptional and their messages so heartfelt. They encouraged us to live all aspects of our lives in love and to reach out to others in the world with love. If we all would do this, Imagine what could be done!

-Chris Klahr and Sharon Niebur

Presentation of the Ministry Site Profile

After worship on June 12 at both Cannon River Lutheran and at Cross of Christ the Ministry Site Profile will be presented. Pastor Barb Streed, the assistant to our Bishop overseeing the call process, will be preaching. It will be an exciting celebration of the hard work done by our Call Committee.

The profile will then be sent into the Synod Office and distributed to potential candidates. The work of the Call Committee will be switching to the interview process after June 12. Please keep them in your prayers. If you happen to have a potential Pastoral candidate in mind, please share the name with the call committee.

Call Committee-Update

May has been a busy month for congregation surveys and the Call Committee compiling survey information for the Ministry Site Profiles (MSP).

In June the Call Committees, from both churches, will be presenting their MSP to their councils for approval.

On Sunday, June 12th, Pastor Barb Streed, from the Synod office will be preaching and the MSP will be presented to her. Following worship service on June 12th, we will gather in Dahlen hall for fellowship and the presentation of the MSP to Pastor Streed.

If you have any questions, please contact your Call Committee.

We thank you for your survey input.

We are moving forward!

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 June 2022

Readers

June 5 th	Cathy Nemcek
June 12 th	Jim Gustafson
June 19 th	Jean Kehren
June 26 th	Doris Gruber

Greeters

June 5 th	Deanna Gehloff & Family
June 12 th	Cathy Nemcek
June 19 th	Jon & Rebecca Peterson Family
June 26 th	Dennis & Jackie Martin

Altar

June 5th - Millie Niebeling
June 12th- Cathy Nemcek
June 19th - Yvonne Nelson
June 26th- Joan Slingsby

Attendance

Council Person	May 1 st	65
Kelley Mittelsteadt	May 8 th	48
	May 15 th	36
June Ushers	May 29 th	27
Wayne Munson, Jeff Meyer		

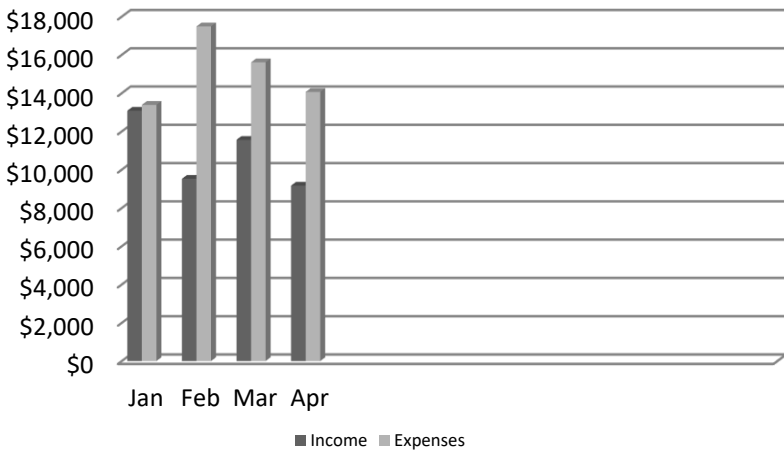
Kitchen Person

Janet Daley

Cross of Christ Financial Report

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>
Jan	\$13,081	\$13,386
Feb	\$9,524	\$17,486
Mar	\$11,558	\$15,609
Apr	\$9,166	\$14,062
Year to Date	\$43,330	\$60,544

2022 Income/Expenses



Financial News:

In April, giving was again down, with expenses exceeding income by over \$2,800. Between Jan and April, expenses have exceeded income by \$16,000. This is the **largest deficit** we've had just 4 months into the year.

In Apr, we used \$300 from the "**For Those In Need**" fund.

We received \$2454.85 from the **Garage sale**. Which will go to buy new picnic tables.

Sunday School raised \$160 selling **Buck-A-Chicks** to raise money to buy livestock for needy families.

Prepaid **Kwik Trip cards** are available through Julie Schriefels. 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, your bank, or other financial institution. **THANK YOU** to everyone who has scheduled giving to Cross of Christ, whether it be through Simply Giving, your bank, or other organization.

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. Thank you!

Thrivent members, remember that you can designate your earned Choice dollars at any time throughout the year. Cross of Christ greatly appreciates these donations, which go to the Building and Grounds fund. In April we received \$824. Thank you!

Finance met with Pastor on May 19 to discuss the deficit and a proposed compensation package for a new Pastor. It is quite likely that the cost of a new Pastor (based on minimum Synod guidelines) will be significantly more than we are used to. The proposed Pastoral compensation package, based on a Pastor with 10 years experience, is almost \$18,000 more than budgeted. Finance will be working with the Stewardship committee to try to shrink the deficit and prepare for increased costs.

The next Finance meeting time is to be determined, the first week of June.

Detailed reports of income and expenditures are always available upon request.

Rebecca Peterson, Treasurer

crossofchristtreasurer@gmail.com 651-301-2652

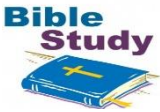
Kwik Trip Cards



Help support our Building Maintenance Fund by buying Kwik Trip scrip 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, June 14** and will be available at the church by, June 19. **If you would like to order cards and are not on the regular order list, please email hjschreif@live.com** or 507-990-7024. Thank you to those who have ordered Kwik Trip Cards. Julie Schreifels

WELCA Bible Study



WELCA Bible Study Tuesday, June 14th at Cross of Christ in Dahlen Hall. 9:00am . Bring a snack to share if you wish. Pastor Dan will do the Bible Study. Bring an idea of what we could do in July as outing. Hope the weather will be more summer like by then.

Cross of Christ 150th Anniversary

Cross of Christ will be celebrating 150 years in 2023. We are looking for members to coordinate this exciting time in our Church history. Please contact the church secretary for details or to show interest.



Cemetery Update

The cemetery has awoken from its winter slumber and looks like it's in great shape. We removed three maple trees as they were split, Mark has mowed and the Veterans markers/flags have been installed in time for Memorial Weekend.

Missions

Some call it Mission work . . .it's also called "Loving Others"

Family Fare Store Receipt Collection

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 \$76,301

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 three times, and are now on our fourth collection. It's amazing what a little shopping can do!

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

Shoe Away Hunger



A single pair of new or gently used shoes, for someone in need, can have a big impact. Every pair of shoes collected offers affordable footwear for someone in need; those proceeds enable **Shoe Away Hunger** to buy groceries for those who are hungry through **Feeding the Future** programs and services.

This amazing program offers a simple and meaningful way for you to join with us as we work together to eliminate hunger **"one sole at a time."**

Here is how you can help!

- Look for the Shoe Away Hunger box in the back of the church.
- Donate your footwear including sneakers, casual shoes, winter boots, sandals and heels; **remember, new or gently used.**
- Please tie or band them together.
- Your donations will be taken to Schuler Shoes where they are picked up by Shoe Away Hunger.

Thank you for your support!

The Mission Committee

Youth and Learning News

Sunday School Activities

June 8 6:00 pm - Confirmation banquet

June 12 10:30 am - Confirmation – during the worship service

June 28 6:30 pm – Learning and Youth committee meeting

July 10-14 5:30 – 7:30 - Vacation Bible School

Cross of Christ Christian College Scholarship Congratulations to Emma Dinndorf as she was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship for the 2022-23 school year. She will be attending the College of St, Scholastica in Duluth.

Mission: The Sunday School will continue to support Gabby and Jacob John, from Tanzania. The coin banks are in the back of the church. The next turn in date for the banks will be July 14th..

VBS Planning June 28th – Most of the June 28th Learning and Youth committee meeting will be dedicated to planning VBS. Come join us!

Vacation Bible School – July 10-14 5:30 – 7:30

This year we will be exploring Jesus' Parable of the Sower. We will have fun learning some ways kids can care for God's creation.



Supper, singing, sowing seeds, spectacular crafts, skits and games.

Registration is attached

Contact Julie if you would like to help with VBS.

Peace, Julie Schreifels

Sunday School Superintendent Cell 507-990-7024 email

hjschreif@live.com



The next **WELCA meeting will be Wednesday, June 1th at 7:00 pm. Dahlen Hall.** We will review the Blood Drives, Canon River Conf. Gathering, Fundraiser for Triennial, Taste of Welch and other things that people feel need to be discussed.

Red Cross Blood Drive: Our next drive will Thursday, July 7th from 12-6 pm and Friday, July 8th from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm.

Come and donate blood-Save lives. You can register now at

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/> Let Julie know if you can help with the blood drive.

LolaBird

We are happy to partner with LolaBird bedsheets to help the group of women and a teenage girl going to the Women of the ELCA Triennial Gathering in Phoenix, AZ in

September of 2023. The proceeds will be used to help defray the cost of transportation and lodging. Also, to go towards the mission offering at the Gathering. **Click the link below to go directly to our LolaBird website to order today.**

<https://www.lolabird.com/fundraiser/cross-of-christ-lutheran-church-welca>

If you need assistance ordering contact Julie Schreifels 507-990-7024.

Look for the display in the back of the sanctuary

Taste of Welch: October 8th 9 am-2 pm. We are going back to the old format of Lunch, Bake Sale, Craft Sale and Raffle. If you would like to donate a raffle item contact Kelley Mittelsteadt 651-764-9889. We will need worker for the lunch and bake sale and donations as well. Contact any of the officers to let us know how you will be helping with our mission fundraiser.

2022 SE MN Synod WELCA Fall Convention: September 17, 2020 Bethel Lutheran Church, Rochester. The theme is Love one Another for love is from God (1 John 4:7). The convention's Love Offering will be given to Safe Harbor Regional Navigator, SE MN Olmsted County Victim Services. Start collecting items on the list below. We will have a designated donation place in August. Suitcases or duffel bags, Backpack or tote bags, Clothing (gender neutral; various sizes), Shampoo & Conditioner (variety of types for people with different types of hair), Tie blankets supply sets (different patterns), Tampons, Bulletin boards (inspirational board material), Canvases (different sizes), Paint (Apple Barrel Acrylic Paint), Paint brushes (small sets to hand out to clients), Painting by numbers or jewel by numbers, Fidgets, Gel pens, Colored pencils Storage containers (small in size for storing art supplies or to hand out to clients for items)

Future Events:

Days for Girls Group: May 19 & 23 9:00 -11:00 am Cannon Falls Senior Center

Red Cross Blood Drive: Thursday, July 7th 12-6 pm and Friday, July 8th 8:30 am – 2:30pm

Women's Day at Good Earth Village: June 25, 2022 9am -4 pm
2022 SE MN Synod WELCA Fall Convention: September 17,
2022 Bethel Lutheran Church, Rochester

Taste of Welch: October 8th 9 am-2 pm

Women's Retreat 2023: January 20-22, 2023 Cedar Valley Resort
12th Triennial Gathering: Week of September 18, 2023 Phoenix,
Arizona

Officers: President: Julie Schreifels Secretary: Joan Slingsby

Treasurer: Jean Kehren

**Kitchen Committee: Doris Gruber, Joan Slingsby, Jean Kehren,
Janet Daley, Cathy Nemcek, Sandy Petrashek**

Julie Schreifels cell phone: 507-990-7024 email hjschreif@live.com

Synod Assembly Re-cap

Sonja Munson and I joined 344 people at the SE Synod convention on May 7, 2022. We started the meeting with a worship service with Communion. Bishop Hassanally gave the sermon and she is a tremendous speaker.

We also had a guest inspirational speaker, Rozella Haydee White is called the "Love Bug" coach. She spoke about leadership, strategic planning and conflict resolution.

During the business meeting we heard from many different committees. Voting for Council, Boards and Committees was an unanimous decision. The issue that had the most discussion was to take \$25,000 from Global missions and put it in the Good Earth budget. Good Earth is having trouble meeting expenses and getting staff due to low wages. Many rejected taking money from global missions. It was decided to take \$15,000 from the rent budget because many are working from home. This was approved.

We want to thank Cross of Christ congregation for sponsoring us. It was an interesting, well-organized day.

Joan Slingsby
Sonja Munson

Cross of Christ Council Meeting Minutes
Faithful Through Generations
May 10, 2022

Present: Joan Slingsby, Darwin Fox, Kelly Mittelsteadt, Ann Kulla, Anthony Nemcek, Oscar Daley, Jon Peterson, Deanna Gehloff *Absent:* Interim Pastor Dan Nordin *Also Present:* Rebecca Peterson

Meeting was called to order by Council President Joan Slingsby and mission statement was read.

Agenda was approved and the April minutes were approved with the addition of Anthony's name under "*Present*"

Unfinished Business

*Call process/update: A special joint council meeting will be held on Thursday, June 12th at 6:30pm at Cannon River to review the Ministry Site Profiles and approve them.

A motion was made and seconded to move Junes regular council meeting to follow the joint meeting at Cannon River on June 12th. -Motion Passed.

*Building Vision Committee:

Anna Amy, Janet Daley, Dean Dinndorf, Wayne Gehloff and Steve Schaaf were selected as members of the Building Vision Committee. ***A motion was made and seconded to accept the names on the Building Vision Committee. -Motion Passed.***

Anthony Nemcek with touch base with these members a meet with them during their first meeting to get them going.

*150 Year Church Anniversary Committee: We will continue to advertise for volunteers for this committee.

News Business

*June Council person – Ann Kulla

*Garage Sale Monies: Joan provided a few examples of tables from various stores. It was also suggested to possibly have a table

made by the Willing Welchers 4H Club as a service project.
Discussion will continue.

Committee Reports

Finance: Rebecca gave a report of the current financials. We continue to see a decrease in giving. It was suggested to place an additional offering plate at the front of the church by the railing. The churches credit card was maxed out due to a payment not getting applied. It was discussed increasing the credit limit to \$2,000, it is currently at \$1,200. ***A motion was made and seconded to increase the credit card to \$2,000 limit.***

-Motion Passed.

Both March and April were reviewed and discussed.

A motion was made and seconded to approve March financial reports as written. -Motion Passed.

A motion was made and seconded to approve April financial reports as written. -Motion Passed.

Property Management: the playground was discussed. It does not get used much and council discussed replacement vs removal. Oscar had replaced the swing seats last year, it was suggested if it became a safety problem, the best option would possibly be to remove the equipment. No final decision was made on the issue. Oscar will purchase a new ladder for the sacristy and will trim trees and removal of brush. The cemetery is planning a cleanup on the 21st. A few other maintenance projects like the completion of Sargent's work, the entryway door, sacristy window, rusted railing and downspout replacements.

Worship & Music: A meeting is scheduled for June 5th.

Learning & Youth: Confirmation Banquet on June 8th,
Confirmation Sunday on June 12th. VBS July 10-14.

Missions: Karen Anderson will be doing home assignments.

Dates were discussed and it was decided to have Karen with us on July 10th, with Karen delivering a mission based sermon/message and coffee fellowship following worship.

Stewardship: will plan to meet and discuss a possible letter

Personnel: two reviews have been completed. It was discussed during Deanna's review the amount of usage on her personal cell

phone with emails, phone calls and text messages with members and/or non-members.

A motion was made and seconded to reimburse \$50 per month for phone use starting in the month of May. -Motion Passed.

Deanna also has purchased equipment for home use, such as a computer, printer, and ink to be more flexible and available for members and non-members when needed. Deanna says this expense occurred when the pandemic started to be able to work from home, join google meetings and more. It continues to be a greatly used. ***A motion was made and seconded to reimburse the expense of a computer, printer, and ink in the amount of \$425 to be taken out of the council discretionary fund. -Motion Passed.***

The meeting was adjourned, and the Lord's Prayer was said.

The next meeting will be held at Cannon River with Cannon River at 6:30pm on Thursday, June 9th, followed by the regular meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Deanna Gehloff- Secretary



We need helpers for VBS:

Provide meals: Jamie & Becky Fox 651-388-2248

beckyfox31@msn.com

Help with Activity Sites: World, Self, Community

Help where needed Set-up/Decorations

Contact: Julie Schreifels 507-990-7024

hjschreif@live.com

Join us on June 28th 6:30 pm to plan this year's Vacation Bible School.

Vacation Bible School

Sunday – Thursday July 10 -14 from 5:30-7:30 pm

The nightly schedule will be:

5:30-6:00 Supper: Jamie & Becky Fox will coordinate 651-388-2248 /beckyfox31@msn.com

6:00 – 6:15 Gather

6:15-7:15 Activity Sites

7:15-7:30 Send



Name(s): _____

Birthdate(s): _____

Grade(s) completed: _____

T-Shirt Size(s) _____

Parent's Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number Home: _____

Cell: _____

Email: _____

Emergency Contact: Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Allergies/Medical Info: _____

How can you help with VBS? Help with Activity Sites: World ___

Self ___ Community ___

Help where needed ___ **Prepare a meal on:** Sun. ___ Mon. ___ Tues.

___ Wed. ___ Thurs. ___

Registration Fee: None

Questions/Concerns contact: Julie Schreifels 507-990-7024

hjschreif@live.com

Return this form to the Cross of Christ Lutheran church office, 24036 Count 7 Blvd. Welch, MN 55089 or Julie Schreifels. Please return by July 1st to help us with planning.