



Country Chronicles

January, 2012

Cannon River and Cross of Christ
Lutheran Parish (ELCA)



From Interim Pastor, Joy Bussert

Dear Members of Cross of Christ and Cannon River,

First I want to tell you how delighted I am to be joining with you at Cannon River and Cross of Christ. As I drove to each location across the snow and ice earlier in December, I was impressed with the stunningly beautiful winter landscape. I am looking forward to the adventure of finding my way across county roads as well as to the opportunity to re-visit the rich Norelius immigrant heritage that gave rise to Lutheran Social Services at this location in southeastern Minnesota.

I want to especially thank your Council Members, Marion, Mark, Diane, and Dale for not only an evening and afternoon of good conversation, but mostly for the invitation to serve Cross of Christ and Cannon River during this time of transition for you. Thank you to Rebecca for her gracious welcome to me as she too takes on interim responsibilities at this time.

Transitions give rise to many emotions and feelings, for some grief, for others uncertainty, for yet others, anticipation going forward into a new chapter of ministry. I will try to be sensitive to all of this as I begin to meet each of you and get to know you in the days and weeks ahead. And, since someone asked, although I prefer to be called just "Pastor," I answer to Pastor Bussert, just Joy, JoyMarie, Pr Joy, whatever. Anything but Pastor Buzzard!

What is an Interim Pastor some may ask?

An interim pastor is a temporary pastor who serves a congregation at a time of pastoral change.

What is the difference between an interim and a permanent pastor?

An interim pastor provides pastoral leadership and continuity while a congregation moves through a time of transition to new and permanent pastoral leadership. The interim pastor is not involved with the call process and is not a candidate, but appointed for a period of time to enable the transition to permanent pastoral leadership to go smoothly.

How long does the interim time go on?

Interim periods average about 12 months and vary from congregation to congregation and place to place, some longer, some shorter. There is no right or wrong length of time. One thing is sure, however, and that is that a transition time is not a time to relax, but a time to "step up to the plate" with time, talent, and resources. The Church needs each and every person during an interim time more than ever!

What happens next?

The late Rev. Jeanette Piccard, who, along with her husband Jean Piccard of the University of Minnesota, set a world record as a hot air balloonist, was known to have said that faith is like flying. "When you fly," she said, "you don't go from HERE to THERE, you just go from HERE, and find out where THERE is, when you get there."

A time of transition is like that, setting out on a journey with no clear destination in sight. However, as people of the Book, we also know that the People of God ventured forth, even into a wilderness, with no clear path leading to the promised land. But forward in faith they went, trusting that the Spirit of God would carry them and that a Loving Presence would guide them along their way.

Please introduce yourself to me in the weeks ahead! I am looking forward to this interim time together.

New Year's Blessings to you and those you love,

Pastor Joy Bussert

Contact Info: Church number: 651.388.3464

I can also be reached at 651.688.6515

For hospitalizations and emergencies,

Rebecca and both Council Presidents will be able to reach me right away by Cell Phone.

About Pastor Bussert



Pastor Joy Bussert is a 4th-generation Lutheran pastor whose frontier preacher great-grandfather started churches in the Marshall area in 1871 and prairie preacher grandfather started churches in the Pipestone area in 1890. She has never tried a horse and buggy herself, although frontier ministry and frontier ideas are of interest to her.

Pastor Bussert spent her childhood as a clergy kid in rural Nebraska and rural Iowa but went to high school in Skokie on the northwest side of Chicago. She is a graduate of Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois, Yale University Divinity School in New Haven, Connecticut, and she did her graduate work at Union Theological Seminary in New York. She was ordained at Gustavus College in 1978 and has served all of her ministry in Minnesota, most recently in St Paul. She is an avid Twins Fan but thinks that the St Paul Saints are worth a try too. She is the proud mother of daughter Kate who is finishing her senior year at South High School in Minneapolis, taking PSEO classes at the University of Minnesota, and looking forward to beginning college in the Fall. For fun, Pastor Bussert loves music, theatre, the Harry Potter series, and softball. She also has one cat named Lamb.

Confirmation classes will start again on Wed Jan 11, 2012.

Mission Trip to Bolivia

If you are interested in participating in a Mission Trip to Bolivia from April 16 – 27, 2012 please contact Vicki or Paul Weckering of Vasa Lutheran. The group will be working with missionaries Paul and Jay Mikaelson who live and work in Caranvi, Bolivia. The project will be building construction and installation of water purifiers. We will work hard but also have some fun! Everyone is welcome to join us, thirteen years or older. The estimated cost is \$1,300 to \$1,600. Please contact Vicki Weckerling – 388-7656 or 651-764-4138 or weckerli@charter.net.



Secretary Position

Do you know anyone that might be interested in our churches' secretarial position? If so, please tell a council member or Rebecca Peterson at the church office right away! 651-388-3464

Winter Wonder Brunch

All ladies are invited to a Winter Wonder Brunch at the St James Hotel, Laurentine Room on Jan. 9 at 10:30 am. The speaker will be Laurie Kimball, a registered nurse with a degree in counseling. Her talk is entitled "Moving On". She also will present the special feature which is called "c-say-do, which one are you". Lisa Haw will also play the flute. The cost is \$13 inclusive. Call Dorothy at 651-385-0265 or email jddncrane@yahoo.com to reserve a spot.



CANNON RIVER NEWS

Cannon River Council Minutes

Thursday, December 8, 2011

The Cannon River Church Council meeting Thursday, December 8, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. at Cannon River Lutheran Church. Present were Mark Harman, Shawn Klahr, Mitch Jackson, Leroy Peterson, Polly Valade, Diane Brage, and Rick Anderson.

The meeting was called to order by President Mark Hartman.

The Secretary's Report was read. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as read.

The Treasurer's Report was read by Rick Anderson. A motion was made and seconded to approve the report.

No Pastor's Report

Old Business:

- The council voted to table discussion on the Church Constitution. The committee wants to continue working on changes before it is brought back to the council.
- The Transition Committee reported on the interview for an interim pastor.

New Business:

- The 4th quarter benevolence will be given to Jessica Wagner and her 6 children. She lost everything in a trailer house fire right before Christmas.
- Rick Anderson and council discussed the 2012 Budget. Motion was made and seconded to approve the Budget.

The next meeting will be Thursday, January 12, 2012 at 7:00 at Cannon River Church.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Brage

Church Secretary

Annual Meeting

Cannon River's Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, January 29, 2012. The Annual Report will be available 2 weeks prior, on January 15.

Worship Attendance

Nov 6th:	29
Nov 13th:	52
Nov 20th:	43
Nov 27th:	22

Poinsettias

Thank you to the following members for purchasing poinsettias to help decorate the church for Christmas.

- Dean and Gloria Anderson in memory of Alton and LeaEtta Anderson
- Les and Jeanne Anderson, Danielle, Kelsey and Kirsten in memory of Marvin and Lucille Anderson
- Anderson Family in memory of Bob Anderson
- Banks Family in memory of Ray Banks
- Bruce and Audrey Bodin in memory of Roy and Beryl Bodin
- Cal and Roxanne Flaten in memory of our parents
- Mitch, Lori, Sawyer and Taylor Jackson in memory of Dyke Jackson
- Mitch, Lori, Sawyer and Taylor Jackson in memory of Mary Beth Peine
- Marcy Knoblauch in memory of Wilmer and loved ones
- LeRoy, Gail and Andy Peterson in memory of Ken Brage, Carl and Myrtle Peterson

CROSS OF CHRIST NEWS

Cross of Christ Council Minutes

(not yet approved)
December 13, 2011

Members present: Janet Daley, Jim Gustafson, Hans Schreifels, Dale Froyum, Marion Jaenke, Anna Amy, Cheryl Fox, Jason Orloske, Ron Hanson

The Property Management Committee presented a slide presentation to the Council pointing out several areas of concern with the Church and Boiler heating system in Dahlen Hall. The main points covered were:

- Safety Issues with the current boiler and boiler operation
- Church Parking lot
- The grade of the parking drains into the church
- Water problems in the church
- Roof, gutter and steeple repairs

Marion Jaenke called the meeting to order.
Agenda was approved.

November Council Minutes

November Council Minutes were approved.

Unfinished Business

*Thank you from Pastor Bob – Marion passed around a Thank you from Pastor Bob for the wonderful party.

*Interim Pastor Update -We have an Interim Pastor hired. Her name is Joy Bussert from Eagan – she will be fulltime and will start January 8th, 2012.

*Call Committee - We are still searching for members to be on the Call Committee – We have four (4) so far that have accepted. We will announce in church for interest.

*New Secretary - Katy Zenner – currently is being trained in and working Wednesdays and Fridays

New Business

*Next Council Meeting – January 10, 2012

*Council Person for January – Dale Froyum

*Annual Meeting – Dec. 18th Deadline – Get your committee reports into Rebecca for the Annual Meeting

*Discussion on the Property Management presentation was reviewed. As we all know, there are several issues that need attention with church repairs, upkeep and maintenance. Our main concern was how unsafe the Boiler in Dahlen Hall is. This is an old boiler that is not efficient and is not always operating. Property Management had received two (2) bids to replace the boiler. The bids were approximately \$7,800.00.

A motion was made to purchase a new boiler, with the contingency of 20% overrun. The funds would come out of the Building Improvement fund. Motion passed.

Committee Reports

*Finance – Financial reports were accepted.

*Worship & Music – Working on January services – Will need to get work with Interim Pastor and get to know her requests.

*Vision & Expectations – Dale reported that Jim Hill will be working with us on renewal of our Mission Statement

*Learning & Youth – Next meeting in January

*Service – New Members – Marion updated us

*Missions – no report

*Witness – no report

*Stewardship – January is our goal for pledge drive and also do a special project with the Sunday School.

*Personnel – no report

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Fox, Council Secretary

Worship

Assistants for January

Greeters

1 st	Janet & Oscar Daley
8 th	Mary Fjetland
15 th	Strusz Family
22 nd	Joan & Ken Slingsby

Lectors

1 st	Lee Strand
8 th	Paul Hansen
15 th	Bob Wasti
22 nd	Sonja Munson

Altar Committee

Millie Niebeling

Council Person

Dale Froyum

Attendance

November 27 th	66
December 4 th	77
December 11 th	90
December 18 th	138
December 24 th	149

From COC Church Council

Dear friends in Christ,

As we enter one of the most precious times of the year, Be at Peace! Jesus was sent to us to bring us peace. Have peace in the knowledge that through Him all things are possible. Have peace that Pastor Jim is doing a great job. A new pastor, Joy Bussert, has been hired. She will begin her services on January 3. Please welcome Pastor Joy and get to know her. ~Marion Jaenke, CC Council President

Ushers Needed

We have an urgent need for ushers at Cross of Christ. Please sign up in the back of the church.

Annual Meeting

Cross of Christ's Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, January 22, 2012. The Annual Report will be available 2 weeks prior, on Jan. 8.

2012 Offering Envelopes

The 2012 offering envelopes are available in the back of the church. If I have missed putting envelopes out for you, please let me know. Thank you, Sue Hill

Finance

The next finance committee meeting will be Wednesday, January 4th, at 7pm at church. Questions? See a finance committee member or Sue Hill, 651-437-8368 jimandsuehill@gmail.com

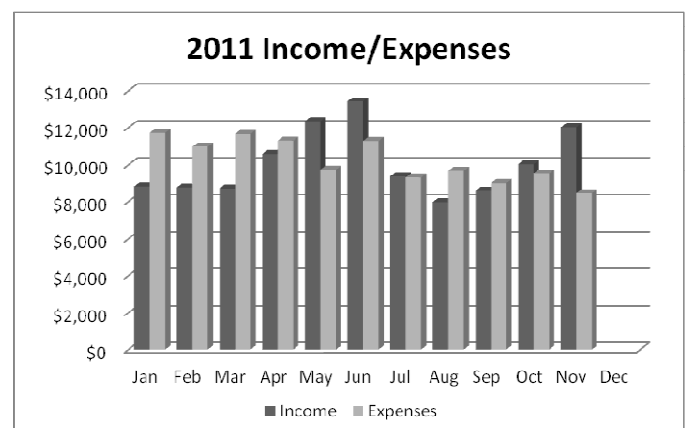
Missionary Support

Our **missionary support commitment for 2011** is \$1,000.00. We have received \$835.50 to date. Please remember to use the envelopes in the pews for Mission support.

Memorials

We received \$25.00 in memory of Jack Savage. We received \$95.00 in memory of Don Carlson.

Cross of Christ Financial Report

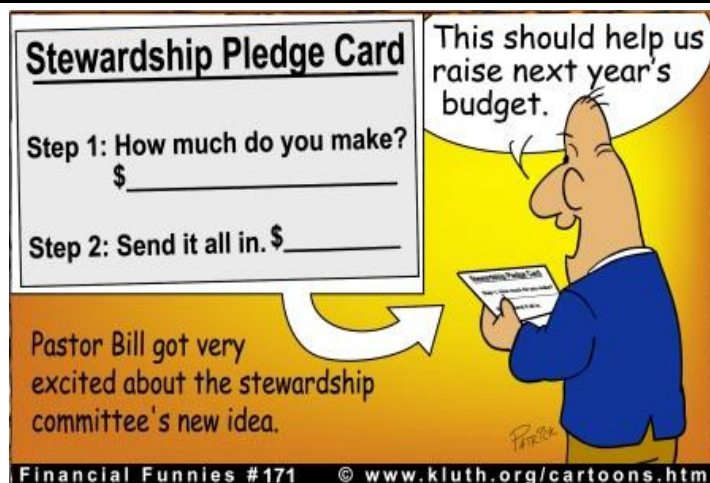


	Income	Expenses
Jan	\$8,839	\$11,720
Feb	\$8,781	\$10,997
Mar	\$8,730	\$11,658
Apr	\$10,572	\$11,319
May	\$12,354	\$9,742
Jun	\$13,417	\$11,299
Jul	\$9,363	\$9,305
Aug	\$7,972	\$9,678
Sep	\$8,602	\$9,005
Oct	\$10,031	\$9,530
Nov	\$12,019	\$8,477
Year to Date	\$110,680	\$112,730

Stewardship Corner

As the start of 2012 begins, it finds the Stewardship committee working toward activities for our annual Stewardship drive. We will be asking you to take some time to prayerfully consider where your “Time & Talents” and financial stewardship will be. We have so much to look forward to in this next year and a strong commitment from everyone will continue to make Cross of Christ a great place to worship. It is so important we do all we can to keep our church an active and financially secure place. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you for all the contributions each of you has made in helping to end the year successfully. And on another note...

Stewardship committee is very excited to be working with Thrivent on a Money workshop for Kids. We are looking at a few dates during a Sunday school early next year. We will keep you posted for more information. Stewardship Committee; Jackie Martin, Cheryl Fox, Dean Dinndorf



Sunday School Missions

The Mission “kids” met on Sunday, Dec. 4th. We want to thank everyone who donated a shoebox for Christmas! And we got a donation of pillows with the word, “hug” written on them. We were able to put some in our shoeboxes and the others we’ll take to the Marie Sandvik Center in Minneapolis. Thank you to Doris Gruber for getting the pillows to us so we could send out a lot of HUGS!

We got to do a little shopping as we looked through a collection of Christmas cards, calendars and memo pads. We gathered things for our families and friends. Sue is very thankful for people who make donations! We are still collecting old tennis shoes in the back of the church; thanks so much to Kelley Mittelsteadt for continuing to bring our shoes to the Connecting Connection in Red Wing. And check out our house in Dahlen Hall Our shingling is still in progress!

In listening to a story called “Winter Thunder”, we learned about Sarah and how she was saved from drowning in ice cold water. Somebody came to save her, just like God chose Jesus to save us. “Thank you Lord Jesus, for being born for us in Bethlehem.” Amen

Our next Mission Sunday is February 5th; we will not meet in January for Missions. ~Sue Hill



2012 ELCA Youth Gathering
citizens with the saints
Ephesians 2:14-20

The National Youth Gathering

The youth going to the National Youth Gathering are asking for your help! There will be a youth at the back of the church each Sunday in January and February. They will have 50 envelopes with dollar amounts written on them from \$1- \$50. Pick one or more envelopes with the dollar amounts that fit your budget. Inside will be a question about the Youth Gathering and where it will be held. Ask the youth the question and they will answer it. So please help support the youth in raising money to help cover the cost for us to go. Contact Tracy Harth at [1-651-347-0609](tel:1-651-347-0609) or Kelley Mittelsteadt at [1-651-388-0451](tel:1-651-388-0451) if you have any questions.

Food Safety Meeting

A second Food Safety Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 15 following the worship at Cross of Christ, for individuals who were unable to attend the December Food Safety Meeting.

If in any way you prepare or serve food for church functions, we encourage you to attend this very important short meeting in Dahlen Hall. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Jean Kehren at 388-1009 or Doris Gruber at [507-263-2105](tel:507-263-2105).

SERVICE COMMITTEE

The Service Committee has been reformed. Jackie Martin and Marion Jaenke are working on getting potential members together to join the church. Please contact Marion (651-388-0084) or Jackie (507-263-3108) for more information.

Thank You!

Thank you to all the Sunday School children, parents, teachers, and music leaders for making our Christmas Program successful! Also, a special thank you to Cassie Orloske, the Sunday School Superintendent, for all of her hard work in planning it!

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Adopt-a-Family Christmas Tree Project.

Thank you to the following members for purchasing poinsettias to help decorate the church for Christmas:

- Gustafson Family in memory of Carl & Bernice Gustafson
- Jim & Sue Hill in honor of their children, David, Becky & Michael
- Darwin & Cheryl Fox in honor of all men & women serving our country and Kyle, Trey, Hannah & Brooklyn
- Jeff & Lori Busse in memory of parents, Wendell (Bud) and Rose Gesme
- Richard & Yvonne Nelson in memory of sister, Marjorie Romie (Nelson)
- Steve Schaaf in memory of Grandpa & Grandma Schaaf
- Oscar & Janet Daley in memory of Lloyd & Clarice Hoeft and Freeman & Helen Daley
- Ron & Lynette Hanson in memory of Maynard Vieths and Jim Hanson
- Ron, Lynette, Jeremy, Dominique, Isabelle & Annabelle Hanson in memory of Ben Hanson
- Ken & Joan Slingsby in honor of Miles & Nina Slingsby
- Ken & Joan Slingsby in memory of Allan & Althea Slingsby
- Charlotte Wohlers in memory of Orrie Wohlers, John Wohlers, Louis Gehrke & Brian Fox
- Todd & Kris Portinga in honor of Jim & Shirley Portinga
- Todd & Kris Portinga Family in memory of John & Nancy Nilson
- Brad & Beth Deitner family in memory of loved ones
- Karl & Jean Kehren in memory of their parents, Bill & Hazel Kehren and Ray & Sarah Setzer
- Dennis & Jackie Martin in memory of Irene & John Garner and Ben Martin
- Lona & Dale Froyum in memory of Stuart & Florence Berg



WOMEN OF THE ELCA NEWS

The next WELCA meeting will be on Thursday, January 5, 2012 at 7:00 pm.



Women
of the
EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
IN AMERICA

ONE MISSION: THREE MISSION AREAS

Mission Growth: To provide a variety of learning experiences that strengthen each woman as a whole person, develop her potential, and equip her for ministry.

Women's Retreat: January 27-29, 2012. This year's theme will be **I AM SHE.**

Boldness is a call to action. As Women of the ELCA, women who are claimed and called by God, we believe that a life lived **boldly** is a faith-filled celebration and an investment in the world we want for ourselves and our children. *Come join us in discovering your bold.* There will also be fun activities, easy crafts, relaxing massages (extra), fantastic food, uplifting music, and the wonderful fellowship of your sisters in Christ all in the beautiful woodland setting of Good Earth Village. The cost is \$100 per person, **\$50.00 due ASAP and \$50.00 due on Jan. 22.** Contact Tracy Harth to register TODAY! Phone 651-212-6045 E-mail pooh823@charter.net OR sign up at the back of the church to register. We will see you there.

Mission Action: To enable women to articulate and act upon their faith as Disciples of Christ in all areas of life.

Prayer Shawls: If you can knit or crochet at all you can make a shawl. These

shawls are given to people in need of healing of any kind. We will discuss giving them to local people.

Julie S. has the pattern or you can go to www.shawlministry.com/instructions.html

Hug Pillows: Doris G. gave a brief description of some hug pillows she has. They are a great way to give someone in need a little pick me up. Distribution will be discussed further at our next meeting.

Food Shelf: Fill the barrel in the back of the church for the local food shelves.

Soup Sale: A suggestion was made to sell quarts of soup as a fundraiser, maybe around Super Bowl Sunday. What do you think?

Buy Fair Trade Coffee and/or Lucinda Pins. See displays in the little room between the sanctuary and the hallway.

Mission Community: To enable each woman to value herself & others as created in God's image & redeemed through Christ; & to build up & celebrate relationships that are global, diverse, & interdependent.

Christmas Smorgasbord: Thank You to Sue Hill and Jackie Martin for once again coordinating this wonderful Christmas event and to all who lent their talents to make this festive evening.

Congratulations to Tracy Harth: She has been elected as to lead Communications for the Southeastern Minnesota Women of the ELCA.

Craft Day: There will be another craft day, tentatively set for early May.

Officers for 2011-2013

President/ President Elect: Julie Schreifels/Tracy Harth Secretary: Deb Sanford Treasurer: Jean Kehren

Kitchen Committee: Judy Meyer, Diane Hermanson, Jean Kehren, Sandra Bjornson, & Doris Gruber.

The Cross of Christ Women of the ELCA needs YOU!! Renew, Respond, Rejoice!

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

Women's Bible Study

WELCA Bible Study will meet January 10th at Potter Ridge in Red Wing at 9:00 AM. Marion Bjorklund will be the hostess. If you'd like to carpool, be at Cross of Christ at 8:30 AM. Anyone in Red Wing needing a ride, call Linda Chester at 388- 1573. Marion lives in Apt 306.

~ January altar- Millie Niebeling

