



# Clifty Cross† Walk



July 2019

Someday I want to write a book called “Stuff I’ve Learned Along the Way”. Not that I think anyone else would be interested in the stuff that I’ve learned, but that it helps me to make sense of life and its meaning when I am able to articulate my understanding.

One thing that I have learned is that *life often hurts but that hurt doesn’t have to dictate my response*. Phil recently told me that a researcher has now shown that each of us is born with a “happiness set point”. There are some things that we can do that affect that happiness point. Hurt and sadness can make us unhappy for a time while good things can make us happier than usual for a time, but most of us stay within a range of our “set point”. I don’t like to argue with science but I think that happiness is more complex than that. I know that my faith definitely affects my happiness. I may have been gifted with a pretty happy “set point” but faith makes that even better and it certainly makes it steadier. Faith has helped me to deal with a lot of things that would otherwise have blasted my set point into the basement. So when I’m hurt, physically, emotionally, spiritually, I turn to the Lord. I also wait on the Lord because recovering from hurt isn’t instantaneous, even with faith. And I wish that the whole world could know this.

Another thing that I have learned is that *life has its meaning in the midst of the good and the bad*. I can’t imagine ever getting strong without something to push against in life. Perhaps the modern American effort to never suffer will eventually do us a great disservice. The times when I have most turned to God and have grown from my experience have always been the hardest times.

I have learned to *love and trust the people of God*. In a world of mistrust, it is refreshing and life giving to be able to trust the love of God’s people. Now, when I say this, I know that not all of God’s people are trust-worthy. What I trust in them is “God in them”. The more I sense the In-Dwelling presence of the Lord with them, the more fully and deeply I trust them and the more their love for me, through Christ, strengthens and undergirds me. Wouldn’t it be great if everyone in the world could have that kind of trust for others who actually are worthy of trust because of Christ within them?

I have learned to *live in and with forgiveness*. I am increasingly aware of my failings, the many things that I cannot do or that I am just bound not to do. But I am even more open to turn to God for forgiveness in those things. And when I do, I am increasingly willing to let God forgive me and to allow that forgiveness to lift the burden of my guilt and shame. That’s what makes it possible for me to forgive those who have hurt me as well. Wonder how different the world would be if everyone could live in and with forgiveness?

I have learned that *the best way to live is to live generously*. In 2009 when the economy was in a downturn, my congregation had several families with one or both adults out of work. People were worried and afraid and the church council was reining in mission spending because they were afraid of what would happen. I decided that I would have to lead the congregation very openly in this challenge. So, I made an announcement at all of our services. I said that in response to these challenges I was changing my percentage of giving from 12% to 20%. I was doing this because we had folks who were out of work and the last thing I wanted them to do was worry about the viability of their church. Then I simply said, “If you are someone who can increase your generosity, please join me.” That year was one of our largest surpluses. God is generous... we who love and follow God thrive when we are generous.

***When you have God, you have life!*** So, live in faith, trust God and turn to God’s people for help. Be open to forgiveness! And live generously. Pastor Vicki

*Resurrection Lutheran Church: Welcoming People in Christ: Caring, Sharing, Serving*

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July 7—Rejoicing Spirits at All Kids Can @ 3:30 pm

July 8—Pub Faith at Shipley’s @ 7 pm

July 11—Gleaners Delivery around 12 pm

July 11—Holy Whine at Yamato @ 5:30 pm

July 14—Council @ 11:45 am

July 16—Food Pantry @ 4 pm

July 17—Homemakers @ 1pm

July 18—WELCA Bible Study @ 4:30 pm

## WELCOMING PEOPLE IN CHRIST



### Pub Faith

All men in our congregation are invited to join us for a time of fellow-

### Cards Group

The church cards group meets every Tuesday at 11:30 am for lunch and at 12:30 at the church for cards or dominos. Please join us for an afternoon of fun and fellowship.

### Coins for Kids

Help support kids in our community who are in need- whether that be with clothing, school supplies, or scholarships to participate in events- by bringing your spare change to church. A box is in the back of the sanctuary to collect your loose change.

### Holy W(h)ine

All women in our congregation are invited to join us on Thursday, July 11 at 5:30 pm at Yamato.

ship and faith filled conversations over dinner and a beer. We meet July 8 at 7 pm at Shipley's.

## CARING, SHARING, SERVING

### Food Pantry

Our food pantry served 43 households for a total of 151 people in June. We were joined by some new faces including Sue Fairchild's grandchildren. The pantry goes so much more smoothly and efficiently with all the help! Thank you!!!

Here is an update on Gleaners, our regional distributor for Feeding America. Gleaners appears to have taken a hard line with Jefferson County food pantries and will not distribute food to them unless they allow patrons to come twice a month. For us, that would mean being open a second day and allowing everyone to come a second time. Frankly, this is not viable for us financially to pay for twice the amount of food each month or in regards to having volunteers for staffing a second day. So, we may lose Gleaners as a food source at the end of the year when our contract is up for renewal. Our pantry existed without Gleaners in prior years; we will again if it comes to that.

On a county level, the mandate is more serious. House of Hope is the largest food pantry in Jefferson County. It is run by a group of local churches and is hosted at the Clearinghouse in downtown Madison. House of Hope's board of directors has decided to not allow twice-a-month shopping. Gleaners, as of July, has cut them off of food deliveries as well as damaged/out-of-date local food pickups at Krogers and Walmart. House of Hope is working on sourcing food outside of the Feeding America network, but it will be a bumpy ride for them unless Gleaners changes their mandate for Jefferson County. Please pray for House of Hope as they are the largest available source of food for those in need in Jefferson County. House of Hope continues to coordinate with us and the other county pantries affected by Gleaner's mandate - North Madison Christian Church's monthly food give-a-way, Hanover United Methodist's pantry, and Hanover Baptist's pantry. Please also pray for Gleaners to open their hearts and minds to the needy of Jefferson County and the agencies serving them.

## MINISTRIES OF BIBLICAL PROPORTIONS



### **WELCA**

WELCA's annual yard sale will be Friday, August 16 and Saturday, August 17. You can donate items for the sale by placing them in room 4. Please do not donate televisions or computers. Please do not bring in furniture and other large items until the week before the sale. This is WELCA's main funding event for the year and we very much appreciate your help. Thank you!

WELCA's bible study will meet on Thursday, July 18 at 4:30 p.m. at church for the final session in *Meetings with Jesus*. We will then take August off and start back on Thursday, September 15 with a new 3-part study for September, October and November.

WELCA will meet on Sunday, August 4 after church to finalize plans for the yard sale.

You will soon notice new carpeting in the sanctuary. WELCA and a donor jointly paid for this upgrade. Thank you!

### **Rejoicing Spirits**

is Sunday, July 7 at 3:30 at All Kids Can. One way you can help with this ministry is by furnishing snacks or treats for the service. Please sign-up to furnish snacks for 20-25 people on the first Sunday of the month in August, September, October, November or December. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Please leave the treats in the small kitchen by Sunday morning labeled for Rejoicing Spirits.

### **Altar Guild for 2019**

Thanks to all who have signed up.

### **Council**

meets Sunday, July 14 at 11:45 am.

### **Homemakers**

Will meet on Wednesday, July 17 at 1 pm at Resurrection.

### **Request**

If you have taken any photos at church events or during worship please consider sharing them on our website. If you have photos you would like to share please email them to the church email account [resurrectionmadi-son@gmail.com](mailto:resurrectionmadi-son@gmail.com)

## **July Worship**

**Assistants** (Spaces  
still available)

July 7 (4th Sunday after  
Pentecost)

Acolyte:

Lector: Sue Fairchild

Com Asst: Sue Fairchild

Usher:

July 14 (5th Sunday after  
Pentecost)

Acolyte:

Lector: Susan Gray

Com Asst: Susan Gray

Usher: Gerry Bowers

July 21 (6th Sunday after  
Pentecost)

Acolyte:

Lector: Dave Ommen

Com Asst: Dave Ommen

Usher:

July 28 (7th Sunday after  
Pentecost)

Acolyte:

Lector:

Com Asst:

Usher: Gerry Bowers

August 4 (8th Sunday af-  
ter Pentecost)

Acolyte:

Lector:

Com Asst: Rob Reese

Usher:

## **A Minute from the Council**

After a long rainy spring the heat of summer is upon us. I pray that all who are traveling on vacation or to visit are safe and able to enjoy the warmer weather without adverse experiences.

Looking forward; we have reached out to Hanover Presbyterian and St. Stephen AME in Hanover for a joint service, tentatively planned for August. Pastor Vicki is working on a schedule with the Pastors. We would like to show our appreciation for their hospitality during Lent.

We are also considering an informal congregational meeting in September and will work with Pastor Vicki on a date and preparations for this. A big thank you to the Call Committee under the able leadership of Rob Reese for working on and submitting the extensive information package to the Synod for posting.

We are grateful for and to all who pitch in on a weekly basis. It speaks to the strength of this congregation.

We will represent Resurrection Lutheran church the week of July 22<sup>nd</sup> during our turn helping with the Summer Meals for Kids 2019 program.


Thank you to all who signed up.

Please contact members of Council for questions or with concerns.

Blessing to All,

Barbara Trembley on behalf of the 2019 Council.

# July Calendar

SUN 30  10am Worship	MON Jul 1	TUE 2 ● 12:30pm Cards	WED 3	THU 4	FRI 5	SAT 6
7 ● 10am Worship ● 3:30pm Rejoicing Spirits	8 ● 7pm Pub Faith	9 ● 12:30pm Cards	10	11 ● 5:30pm Holy W(h)inel	12	13
14 ● 10am Worship ● 11:45am Council	15	16 ● 12:30pm Cards ● 4pm Food Pantry	17 ● 1pm Homemakers	18 ● 4:30pm WELCA Bible Study	19	20
21 ● 10am Worship	22	23 ● 12:30pm Cards	24	25	26	27
28 ● 10am Worship	29	30 ● 12:30pm Cards	31	Aug 1	2	3

WE LIFT UP IN PRAYER...

**We lift up in prayer...**

**Our friends and loved ones:**

Deb Stoner, Wes Mertz, Austin Ames

**Our Church Family**

Linda Adams

**Loved Ones in the Military**

**Help Us Pray for Each Other:** we will be updating the prayer lists on a monthly basis. A sign up will be in the narthex or let the office know if there is someone you would like us to pray for. This helps us remember who we are praying for and why. Our new prayer list will be up until Sunday, July 21.

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PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE