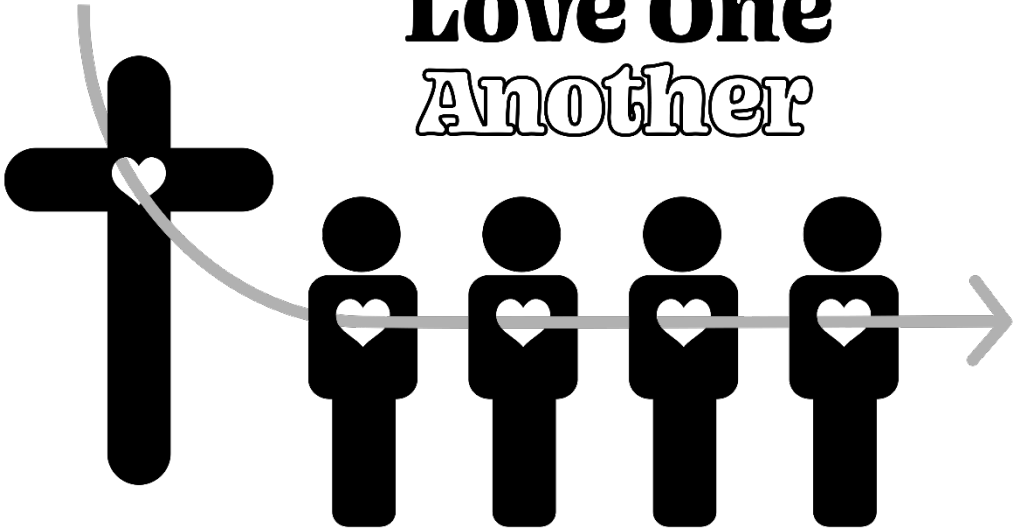


**Love One
Another**



**LOVE OF GOD AND
LOVE OF THE WORLD**

CROSS OF CHRIST

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

(208) 375-3992 + cocidaho.org

Rev. Greg Hein, Christian Life Pastor: (408) 433-3083, greg.hein@cocidaho.org

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Rev. John Steinbrenner, District President: (208) 921-4748, john.steinbrenner@cocidaho.org

Good Shepherd Sunday

April 24-25, 2021

Welcome to Cross of Christ

Relax. At Cross of Christ, our worship is designed to praise God and enrich faith. We aim to make the service clear and appropriately reverent. For your convenience, the service is printed as well as projected on the screens.

Bring the kids. Our congregation enjoys the worshiping family. In fact, our worship includes a children's message with little ones in mind. That's why children who act up are never viewed as a bother to our worship service. However, parents who want to calm a restless child may do so by walking them in the lobby. Worship screens, speakers, and seating areas can be found in the lobby to assist families with their worship.

Don't feel obligated. Our members give offerings to the Lord as an expression of our thanks and praise for his amazing love. Visitors, please know that you are our guests. We're happy you came today to hear about Jesus and his Word. You are not expected to give an offering; it's your choice.

Make yourself at home. After our services, we join together in the lobby for coffee and conversation. We'd be honored if you would join us!

Restrooms are located to the left and right of the water fountain in the lobby.

Questions? If you'd like to know more about our church or our beliefs, feel free to speak with one of our pastors after the service. More information is also available online at cocidaho.org.



CROSS OF CHRIST
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Opening Song

“Speak, O, Lord”
on the screens

Welcomed into the Family of God

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

We have come into God’s presence. He created us to love him and to serve him as his precious children. We have disobeyed and erred, thus deserving God’s wrath and anger. Therefore, let us confess our sinfulness to him and plead for ceaseless mercy.

Merciful Father in heaven, I was sinful from birth and have sinned against you in countless ways. I have loved the world more than I love you and I have loved myself more than I love others. I have not deserved to be called your child, but Jesus has earned that status for me and brought me into a relationship with you by your undeserved love. I am sorry, Father. Let me know your gracious pardon. Cleanse me from my sin and take away my guilt. Make me only yours forever.

God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sin. By the perfect life and innocent death of Jesus, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God now grant you the strength to live according to his will.

Amen!

God’s Word

Acts 4:23-33

²³ On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them. ²⁴ When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. “Sovereign Lord,” they said, “you made the heavens and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. ²⁵ You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David:

“Why do the nations rage
and the peoples plot in vain?

²⁶ The kings of the earth rise up
and the rulers band together

against the Lord
and against his anointed one.’

²⁷ Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. ²⁸ They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen. ²⁹ Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. ³⁰ Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”

³¹ After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

³² All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. ³³ With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God’s grace was so powerfully at work in them all.

God’s Word

John 10:11-18

¹¹ “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹² The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. ¹³ The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

¹⁴ “I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. ¹⁷ The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. ¹⁸ No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.”

Song

“Take the World, but Give Me Jesus”

Hymn 355

Children's Message

Message from God's Word

1 John 2:12-17

¹² I am writing to you, dear children,
because your sins have been forgiven on account of his name.

¹³ I am writing to you, fathers,
because you know him who is from the beginning.

I am writing to you, young men,
because you have overcome the evil one.

¹⁴ I write to you, dear children,
because you know the Father.

I write to you, fathers,
because you know him who is from the beginning.

I write to you, young men,
because you are strong,
and the word of God lives in you,
and you have overcome the evil one.

¹⁵ Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. ¹⁶ For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world. ¹⁷ The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.

Love of God and Love of the World

Song

“Lord, You I Love”
on screens

Statement of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of the Church & the Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer follows the prayer spoken by the pastor:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

Amen!

Closing Song

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

Hymn 375:1, 3-4, 6

Cross of Christ Weekly Newsletter

April 25, 2021

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church & Preschool (WELS)
 Church & Preschool Office - 208.375.3992 - cocidaho.org

Apr 25 - May 2	Boise	Nampa
Today	8:30am - Early Worship 9:45am - Adult Bible Study (Chapel) Teen Class (Conference Rm) Confirmation Class (Rm 5) Kids' Sunday School (Gym) 11:00am - Late Worship 12:30pm - Ladies' Plant Swap	8:45am - Family Bible Study (JaK*s Place) 9:30am - Worship (JaK*s Place)
Monday		
Tuesday	6:30pm - Cross Connections (online)	
Wednesday	6:30am - Men's Bible Study 7:00pm - CrossTrainers (High School Students)	
Thursday	7:00pm - GriefShare	6:30pm - Cross Connections
Friday		
Saturday	2:00pm - Sisters in Christ Spring Fling 6:30pm - Evening Worship	
Sunday	8:30am - Early Worship w/Communion 9:45am - Adult Bible Study (Chapel) Teen Class (Conference Rm) Confirmation Class (Rm 5) Kids' Sunday School (Gym) 11:00am - Late Worship w/Communion	8:45am - Family Bible Study (JaK*s Place) 9:30am - Worship w/Communion (JaK*s Place)

“Love One Another”

On Easter we celebrated the life-changing hope that Christ's Resurrection gives us. But what does a life full of living hope *look like*? We're currently walking through the book of 1 John to see how a life fully grounded in the love of God leads to a life full of love for others. We pray you will join us for this series!

Staff COVID-19 Announcement

Pastor Steinbrenner tested positive this week for COVID-19. Praise God he is recovering well and is doing just fine.

Pastor Steinbrenner has been working from his home office for some time now; in the last 10 days he has only been on the Boise campus Saturday evening and Sunday morning, as well as at JaK*s Place Sunday morning for Bible study. He has also followed the staff protocol at the Boise campus of wearing a mask when not actively teaching/preaching/leading worship while distanced in the front of church. If you were in close contact with him this past weekend, refer to the CDC and/or Central District Health guidelines for those who may have been exposed.

Please continue to mask up at Cross of Christ events & activities, refrain from shaking hands or sharing hugs (we know this is sad!), and generally observe distancing from those of different households. Thank you for your participation as we work through this together!

Ladies' Spring Plant Swap

Sisters in Christ is hosting a plant swap this Sunday, April 25, 12:30-1:30 pm in the gym at Boise. All ladies and friends welcome; bring a plant or two to give away, take a new one home! Anything from seeds and bulbs to herbs and flowers.

If you can, please bring your items to the pavilion (outside on the east / preschool side of the building) *after the 8:30 am service or before 11:00 am service that day* (Sunday, April 25) to allow for organizing everything before the event.

Questions can be directed to Becky Sobolewski (charlieandbecky@hotmail.com) or Andrea Becker (becker_family_3546@msn.com).

Summer Evangelism Training & Practice

Cross of Christ is participating in Truth in Love Ministry's witnessing trip to an LDS community in Utah this summer, June 13-19! See what this experience might be like at tilm.org/mission-trips. Will this year's trip look a little different from other

years? Perhaps. Will it equip you to have meaningful spiritual conversations with people you know who belong to the LDS organization? YES.

Talk to Pastor Snyder (brad.snyder@cocidaho.org) **ASAP (today!)** if you have questions or any interest at all. You don't have to commit immediately, but planning does have to begin soon!

Sisters in Christ Spring Fling, Saturday May 1

Restrictions are lifting. Vaccines are available. Everything is moving in the right direction to allow you, the women of Cross of Christ, to be more connected in fellowship and service than you have been in over a year.

But how? What are the opportunities?

Join your Sisters in Christ Saturday, May 1, 2:00 – 4:00 pm on the Boise campus, where your leadership team will share with you the plans and ideas for the rest of the year, and how you can be involved.

And enjoy some spiritual, physical, and emotional refreshment, too, as we consider the theme of “Planting a Garden” together. Please RSVP on the Boise lobby bulletin board or at tinyurl.com/SICSpringFling21.

Women's Spring/Summer Bible Study: JOY

Sure, we find joy in our triumphs, but not so much in the trials. Yet real joy is always ours in the saving grace of Jesus Christ. This close look at the book of Philippians unpacks messages of contentment, confidence, humility, and hope – all found in Christ and infused with joy – in the mountaintop moments *and* in the mundane.

Participants will need to purchase the book “Joy: A Study of Philippians,” by Deb Burma. When you RSVP for the study, indicate if you'll purchase it on your own or via our group order. Price for group order is \$15 per book, payable to Cross of Christ. (Please deliver payment to the church office.)

Each of the eight sessions includes five daily readings, which participants will complete on their own, and the weekly group discussion, which will be

- Mondays at 10:00 am
- on the Boise campus
- May 3 - June 28 (except Memorial Day).

Please RSVP for this study, on the Boise bulletin board or at tinyurl.com/wbs-philippians. You'll want to do the first week of readings before the first group session May 3, so sign up ASAP to get your book in time!

Family Night Out Thursday, May 6

On the Boise campus, 5:00-7:00(ish) pm. Mainly outdoors on the back field.

- Live music (chrisdriesbach.com)
- Taco truck ([Tacos Y Tortas El Paco](#) isn't charging us a reservation fee or minimum -- how generous is that?!)
- Kona Shaved Ice
- Bounce house & corn hole.

Come eat food, enjoy cool music, hang out with your church family! Bring lawn chairs and/or picnic blanket for lawn seating at the concert.

(Please note that the City of Boise's mask mandate is still in effect; we ask attendees to mask up when not eating and observe distancing between households as much as possible. Masks & sanitizer will be provided. The event has been approved for more than 50 attendees by Central District Health.)

Second Site Ministry Meeting

Saturday, May 8, 9:00 am at the North Nampa [Ministry Center](#). All are welcome to discuss, evaluate, and implement ministry to reach more and more souls in North Nampa! Come a bit early for a light breakfast. Contact Pastor Wetzel with questions (kurt.wetzel@cocidaho.org).

May Grocery Outreach: Nampa

Grocery Outreach is an ongoing Cross of Christ ministry, delivering free groceries to members in our communities who could use a bit of extra help and encouragement.

Next month we're serving in Nampa: Saturday, May 8, 10:30 am starting from the [Ministry Center](#). Sign up at tinyurl.com/CoCGOMay21 to donate or deliver groceries, or both! Details on what groceries to donate can be found at that link. Contact Pastor Wetzel with questions (kurt.wetzel@cocidaho.org).

Confirmation Showcase

Friday, May 14, 6:30 pm, in the gym at Boise, with light refreshments. The Showcase is this year's youth confirmands' opportunity to show what they believe and have learned over the last several years, and YOUR opportunity to show your support and encouragement for them as new members of our congregation. All are welcome to attend and participate, by listening to what these young adults have to say on biblical & spiritual topics!

Congregational Voters' Meeting

Sunday, May 16, 1:00 pm on the Boise campus. All members are encouraged to attend, ask questions, and offer input as we take a look at ministry planning and the upcoming budget year.

Calling All Comic Book Fans!

ComicCon is coming to Cross of Christ! Saturday, May 22, 9am-12pm -- a fun-filled event for all the comic book, superhero, fandom-loving folks out there!

- Games & trivia contests
- Make-a-mask station
- Draw Your Own Superhero art workshop (pre-registration required)
- Meet & Greet with Captain America (*not Chris Evans*)
- Costume contest; costumes are highly encouraged but not necessary.
- Snack bar (using tickets)
- Swap meet table. Win tickets throughout the event to trade for cool stuff! Looking to trade out some of your own toys or collectibles? Bring a gently used item or two to the table and trade it in for more tickets!

This event is designed for kids & teens but adults are welcome, too. (Younger children should be accompanied by an adult.) **Please RSVP, available next week. A few adults & teens are also needed to volunteer!** Questions can be directed to Amanda Watkins (amanda.watkins99@yahoo.com).

Summer Save-the-Dates

Vacation Bible School: Boise campus, July 12-15, 9am-12pm.

Camp Christos: August 1-6, at Camp Elkanah near La Grande, OR, for kids age 9-16. While the state of Oregon is currently not allowing overnight camps, our hosts at Elkanah expect this to change in time for most summer camps. If it does not, we expect to pivot and offer something in Idaho rather than cancelling altogether. So *save the dates regardless!*

“I am the Vine, you are the branches.

If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit!”

General Fund Offerings Planned FY 20-21	\$708,200
General Fund Offerings Planned FYTD	\$572,008
General Fund Offerings FYTD	\$557,577
Total Offerings Last Week (All Funds)	\$9,861

People in God's Word this past week	Boise	Nampa	Total
Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study	46	14	60
Teen Class	6		6
Kids' Sunday School	24		24
Men's Bible Study	7		7
Cross Connections Class	3	9	12
Growth Groups (<i>will be reported next wk</i>)			
CrossTrainers (<i>will be reported next wk</i>)			
Last Weekend's Worship	225	43	268

Serving	April 24-25		May 1-2	
	Nampa	Boise	Nampa	Boise
Music	Dodd, Lowry	M. Walters	S. Wetzel	K. Koepsell
AV Tech	J. Malnes, S. Tews, G. Light	J. Kennedy, C. Kennedy, A. Becker, M. Hartman, M. Webber	J. Malnes, S. Tews, G. Light	J. Kennedy, M. Hartman, TBA
Altar Care	K. Guthmiller, C. Harris	Yaka, Tweedy	K. Guthmiller, C. Harris	McLain, Adams
Set-Up	Guthmiller, Harris, Olsoe	n/a	Guthmiller, Harris, Olsoe	n/a
Ushers	n/a	T. Stavenau, J. Berrier, L. Manglos	J. Harris	G. Bafus, G. Thompson, R. Hibbs, B. Turley, A. Broyles
Coffee	Guthmiller, Wetzel	Ritger	Guthmiller, Wetzel	Robbins, McLain
Sanitizing	D. Tews, J. Light	DeWall, Berrier, McLain	D. Tews, J. Light	TBA
Flowers	n/a	Ready	n/a	Watkins
Cleaners	n/a	Admin, Terry	n/a	Hibbs, Holzwarth
Tellers	Turley, Harris, Cadwell		TBA	
Bulletin Folders	Prigge, Tweedy, Foreman		Kimmel, Patrick, Whitlach	
Lawn Crew	R. Lange		E. Uhlenhoff	