



Crosslake Lutheran

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January 2022

EPIPHANY BLESSINGS!



PASTORS' PAGES



New Year Greetings!

As we move on from a wonderful Christmas season (thanks to all who were involved in so many great Christmas ministry events!) and into January of 2022, we celebrate the in breaking of God's light that begins with the day of Epiphany on January 6th. Since the actual day of Epiphany doesn't fall on a Sunday, I thought it would be a helpful to include what that day means for us. Here's how our worship resource book describes this day when we remember the three kings (wisemen or magi) bringing their gifts to Jesus.

These readings help us understand that the manifestation of God is for all people everywhere. This is a message of radical inclusively. The magi are drawn from the east to come to pay homage to the Christ child. They who were once far off are now embraced by the one true God, who has sent a Savior into the world. Likewise, Paul reports in Ephesians that he has been given grace to "bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ" (Eph. 3:8). Just as Isaiah had foretold, nations shall come to God's light (Isa. 60:3).

In this inclusive reality, everyone is welcome, and so are their gifts. Just as the magi showed their respect for Christ with gold, frankincense, and myrrh, we can offer our gifts and talents to further the brightness of God's dawn. Whatever we bring—no matter how simple—is accepted and used for a mighty purpose.

There is also a sense of joy at this Epiphany. When the magi saw that the star they were following had stopped over the place where the Christ child lay, they were overwhelmed with joy (Matt. 2:10). The angel had declared to the shepherds that the newborn child would bring good news of great joy for all the people (Luke 2:10). Now again, Christ brings joy to all. Christianity is a truly joyful religion.

Through word and sacrament we too are invited to rise and shine, for our light has come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon us. Fed and nourished in worship, we are sent forth to bear witness, to let our little lights shine.

This is how the season of Epiphany begins, and then it continues as we carry this light of Christ to the world. How will you let your light shine this Epiphany season? How will we help others know of this light of Christ that's for all creation? Join us in worship, learning, fellowship, and service events together to shine with the love and the light of our Lord for all to know!

In Christ,
Pastor Kristin

PASTORAL CARE

Please contact us if you are hospitalized or if you are in need of a pastoral visit. You can reach Pastor Kristin Oltmann at 952-200-1249 or Pastor Kurt Hagestuen at 218-839-2931.



Happy New Year Faith Community,

Actually, we said Happy New Year at the beginning of Advent when we started the church year with looking for Jesus to show up at Christmas. We really never stop looking for Jesus to show up and celebrating when Jesus does. That has a lot to do with how I greeted you, “faith community.” The word “community” means “with unity.”

It is together that we most powerfully experience faith. We had a great Christmas Celebration on December 15th gathering our Wednesday and Sunday people. We had a great caroling time at Whitefish on December 22nd gathering our young and ...“chronologically gifted.” These were great because of “community;” we were gathered together with Jesus at the center, not with uniformity but “with unity.” We have learned, now more than ever, of our need for connectedness. So, as we roll into 2022 you can expect more great “with unity” events as we look for, and mark, places and spaces that Jesus shows up. We, as a staff at Crosslake Lutheran, treasure our faith community and we know that you do too. Happy New Year!

In Christ,
Pastor Kurt

YOUTH MINISTRY

Happy New Year!

Thanks to all who went caroling in December! Your time and voices were greatly appreciated!

IMPORTANT: ALL YOUTH (7-12th grades) and PARENTS Meeting—Wednesday, January 12th at 7 pm (right after worship). Upcoming events, sign-ups, etc. Please make every effort to attend!



Spirit Mountain Ski Trip – watch for upcoming info and dates.

Giving brings JOY to our hearts and it is our work to do here on Earth. It is my HOPE that ‘giving’ becomes a way of life for our youth. The LOVE of Jesus is in our hearts and guides our actions. May all our actions be FAITHFUL! May PEACE be with you all!

God is good,
Pat

RELIGIOUS RELEASE

Adults, we need your loving presence for Religious Release. The time frame is roughly from 1-2:30 pm on the Wednesdays of January and one week in February. It is very simply just helping the kids have positive experience by welcoming them and being with them in song and story time, helping with snack and crafts; mostly we just need people to let them know they are loved and cared for by this church, and, of course, by JESUS. If you are good grandma or grandpa, mom or dad, sibling or cousin, that is the only qualification you need. You can pick the Wednesdays you want to help. One, two, or all of them. Please see Pastor Kristin or Pastor Kurt if you are interested in helping with this ministry!



JANUARY BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays at 10 am

For the January Bible Study, we will be studying the scriptures for Sunday's worship service

Wed. January 5	10AM	Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
Wed. January 12	10 AM	John 2:1-11
Wed. January 19	10 AM	Luke 4:14-21
Wed. January 26	10 AM	Luke 4:21-30



2021 FINANCIAL REPORT

November:	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>	YTD:	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Revenues:	\$ 31,741	\$ 42,529	\$ (10,788)		\$ 527,751	\$ 528,052	\$ (301)
Expenses:	<u>\$ 42,082</u>	<u>\$ 43,413</u>	<u>\$ 1,331</u>		<u>\$ 491,098</u>	<u>\$ 528,943</u>	<u>\$ 37,845</u>
Difference:	\$ (10,341)	\$ (844)	\$ (9,497)		\$ 36,653	\$ (891)	\$ 37,544



In the month of **November**, expenses exceed revenues by \$10,341.

YTD REVENUES INCLUDE \$70,275 RECEIVED FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AS PART OF THE CARES ACT AND THE PPP LOAN FORGIVENESS.

YTD's performance would be \$32,731 less than budget, because revenues would have been \$70,576 less than budget, and expenses are less than budget by \$37,845.

Complete financial reports are available in the finance mailbox.

NEWS OF THE FAMILY

Prayers for Peace and Comfort to those in our congregation who have suffered a loss:



- The family of Joe Wiltsey in their loss & sorrow. Joe passed away Sunday, November 28, in Minneapolis. A memorial service is planned for late spring.
- Brian & Barb Hanson in the death of Brian's brother, Steve Hanson, on December 2, in Strandburg, SD.
- The family of Duane Swanson in their loss & sorrow. Duane passed away on Thursday, December 9th in Crosslake. A memorial service is tentatively planned for May 14th.
- The family of Jim Marr in their loss & sorrow. Jim passed away on Wednesday, December 15th in Crosby. A memorial service will be held at Crosslake Lutheran on January 10th at 11 am with a visitation one hour prior to the service.
- Linda Gates in the death of her sister-in-law, Martha Gochnauer, on December 15th in Rochester, MN.
- The family of Bill Abbott in their loss & sorrow. Bill passed away on Sunday, December 19th in Crosslake.

PASTORAL ACTS

Memorial Services: Joe Wiltsey (private family service), December 18th

HEALTH MINISTRY



Writing 2022 seems so weird, it will take me a few months to make that transition. My prayers are that it holds only good things after this past couple of years. COVID-19 is likely to be a part of our lives for some time yet, but we have learned so much in terms of prevention and treatment which should reduce the anxiety and fear that folks seem to be continuing to live with. If you find yourself living with on-going anxiety especially around health issues, it may be helpful to seek professional help since it can become a health risk for mind, body and spirit health. Our natural tendency is to look for threats in our environment since that is how we survived as a species, but if it becomes a pattern in life there is an endless supply of things in the media to be anxious about. I do not believe that it is the way that God intended us to live; please reach out to me or to one of the Pastors if you need resources as to how to live in confidence that God is still in charge and that our needs will be met daily.

I am continuing to be working remotely from my southern home in Texas. I so appreciate all the many folks who are continuing the work of Health Ministry while I am away. A special thanks to the quilters for donating the lovely quilts for the gift bags and to Connie Caspers and Becky Kalton for playing elf in making deliveries. Another program that is on-going is the Angel Food Program which is our food ministry made possible by a lovely memorial by the Guse family. Some of you are familiar with the program that is responsible for providing short-term food support in times of grief, surgery, etc. If you are not, the food is NOT just angel food cake as the name suggests. We have a dedicated space in the freezer for meals that are available to anyone in need including homemade soups, entrees and even yummy desserts. We also have a wonderful partnership with Care 'N Share Café that gives us another source of supply of food. If you have questions, please call me or see Brenda at church. We also refer folks to Valarie Ann's in Ossipee for longer support since their food is tasty and a reasonable cost.

In this time of winter it is important to find alternative safe ways to get your exercise in since our biology also leads us to pack on the pounds during winter to accommodate food shortage that our ancestors used to experience. The holidays are also a time of special treats that can lead to pounds and associated health risks so exercise may help shed those pounds. It is also a time of increased phone and computer scams that really are difficult to detect from real communication. If you have concerns about a message on your computer or phone, it is wise to reach out to local law enforcement or the Senior Linkage Line to determine if you are at risk for a scam that can lead to loss of money, security and peace of mind. Facebook is also a place that can be hacked, especially if you answer questions like name of your favorite dog, etc. that seem to randomly pop up on your feed. It is often a way that hackers find your user name and hack your profile. If you get messages on your Messenger app such as photos or videos or attachments that you don't recognize, it is important not to respond and especially do not open the attachment. Crosslake Communications has seminars on avoiding concerns about internet security as well so watch the newspaper for ads for that. We may include that in our yearly education for Health Ministry as well.

Prayers for health, peace and connections in this next year, I am just a phone call away. Blessings!

Gail Smith RN, Parish Nurse

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Crosslake Foodshelf: The foodshelf is open on the 1st and 3rd Fridays from 9 am—Noon.



WOMEN OF CROSSLAKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Greetings,

What a beautiful season our church has experienced; celebrating the birth of our Lord, Jesus and now moving towards celebrating the Feast of the Epiphany.

WOW - the Women of Crosslake Lutheran enjoyed the December 9th Christmas Tea and treats. We all would like to thank Paulette Wilske and Jacque Glas who co-chaired this enriching event - well done ladies! We also thank the Handbell Choir (under the direction of Patricia Lundeen) who provided beautiful music for our entertainment. Thank you goes to Gerry Schroeder and several others who donated the lovely handmade prize drawing items, and to all who participated in making, supplying, or serving the delicious treats and tea for our special gathering. It was special to see Nancy Westerberg receive the Christmas quilt drawing. It was a beautiful tribute to her many years of orchestrating the CLC WELCA holiday event.

If anyone has an idea for our January, February and March General Meeting dates, please call and let me know your thoughts. Somehow the month of February smells like chocolate to me. Is there anyone in the church who would be willing to give a demonstration on how to make chocolate and/or candy? Or, have you been on a trip that you enjoyed and would be willing to share your pictures and speak about your adventure? We Minnesota bound residents are looking for any entertainment you may be willing to share.

If I hear nothing from you, we will not be having a January general meeting.

Please stay in touch with the ELCA (ELCA.org) and WELCA (WELCA.org) websites for the latest information. They continue to be our guide as Women of Crosslake Lutheran Church.

Remember that the Northeastern Lights and the Gather magazines can be found in the church library for your viewing.

Yours In Christ,
Kathy Bahma 763-238-0769
Co-Chair

CHILI BOOTH – CROSSLAKE WINTERFEST

Hey frozen chosen! Pastor Kurt is gathering ingredients and people to help cook and serve free cups of chili to participants of Crosslake Winterfest on Saturday, February 4th. Look for a table in the Narthex for a list of ingredients that we need. You can sign up to bring in a few groceries –OR– you can sign up to help cook and serve on the evening of the 4th. We had a great time doing it the first time a couple years ago and look forward to doing it again. Contact Pastor Kurt with any questions or to get involved.

Pastorkurt10@gmail.com



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1/1 Miryah Pearson-Humphrey
1/2 Leah Glaser
1/3 Kris Gardinier
1/4 Allen Rose, Brak Shramm
1/5 Kathryn Sorensen
1/6 Brian Scheuss
1/7 Natalee Bray, Quinn Bray, Lisa Engblom, Eileen Nissen
1/8 Susan Phillips
1/9 John Ebertowski, Bodie Nybakken, Marlys Thorsgaard
1/10 Earl Bancroft, Clay Wolf
1/11 Sharon Mulder, Kate Stephens
1/12 Kayla Sather
1/13 Carol Bradley, Eric Swanson
1/14 Lori Johnson, Max Martz
1/15 Ray Gallett, Julie Gerdes, Alyssa DeVries
1/16 Mary Aarestad, Steve Engen, Don Erickson, Larry Miller
1/17 Ron Ommen
1/18 Jon Larson
1/19 Griffin Miller, Dylan Pederson
1/20 Robin Goerges, Nancy Schwab
1/21 Marilyn Blowers, Cole Engen, Joseph Kraemer, Janice Moengen, Ryan Monahan, Cale Wolf
1/22 Mari Freiberg, Andrew Garin
1/23 Brian Boyda
1/24 Greta Harmala, Kaitlyn Millner
1/25 Lois Haglund
1/26 Leanne Ommen, Donna Puschinsky
1/27 Al Benson
1/28 Maxine Gallett, Samantha Palm, Robin Prigge
1/29 Ryan Aarestad, Stacey Gorr
1/30 Joel Miller

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

1/1 Doris & Jan Mezzenga
1/2 Joe & Sheree Goerges
1/3 Roy & Carolyn Silcox
1/4 Ted & Helen Silva
1/6 Andrew & Linda Peterson
1/12 Jack & Joan Riordan
1/15 Brian & Autumn Thull
1/21 Robert & Kathleen Nelson
1/23 Carl & Judith Weber
1/27 Jody & Chad Harting
1/28 Ted & Terry Pederson

**Please remember these
people in prayer
on their
Birthday and/or Anniversary.**



STAY CONNECTED

WINTER ADDRESSES — Going away for the winter? Please call or email the church office (clc@crosslake.net) with your winter address and the dates you are leaving & coming back. This will ensure you receive church mailings while you are gone! The post office doesn't forward 4th class mail (newsletter, etc.) Thank you! ~ Brenda LaRock, Office Manager

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 am 10:30 am coffee/ fellowship	3 Men's 500 Card Group 9 am Quilters 9:30 am A.A.-Fireside Room 7 pm	4 Ink Spots 9:30 am Staff Meeting 10 am Mahjongg Group - Garden Room 1 pm	5 Kitchen Committee 9 am Bible Study 10 am No Bell Choir in January Knit Wits-Fireside Room 1 pm Religious Release 1:20-2:30 pm Choir practice 4:30 pm Wednesday Dinner 5:30 pm Wednesday Worship with Holy Communion & Growing Kids 6:15 pm Youth Ministry: 7th & 8th 7-8pm Youth Ministry: 9th-12th 7-8:30 pm	6 Marketing Committee 9 am Communion Service at Whitefish at the Lakes Senior Living 2 pm	7	8 1 Happy New Year!
9 Worship 9:30 am 10:30 am coffee/ fellowship	10 Memorial Service for Jim Marr 11 am with a visitation 1 hour prior to the service A.A.-Fireside Room 7 pm	11 Staff Meeting 10 am Mahjongg Group - Garden Room 1 pm	12 Bible Study 10 am Knit Wits-Fireside Room 1 pm Religious Release 1:20-2:30 pm Executive Committee 3:30 pm Choir practice 4:30 pm Wednesday Dinner 5:30 pm Wednesday Worship with Growing Kids 6:15 pm Youth & Parent Meeting (7-12th) 7 pm Youth Ministry: 7th & 8th 7-8pm Youth Ministry: 9th-12th 7-8:30 pm	13	14	15
16 Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 am 10:30 am coffee/ fellowship	17 Men's 500 Card Group 9 am Quilters 9:30 am A.A.-Fireside Room 7 pm	18 Ink Spots 9:30 am Staff Meeting 10 am Mahjongg Group - Garden Room 1 pm Finance 4:30 pm Council Meeting 7 pm	19 Bible Study 10 am Knit Wits-Fireside Room 1 pm Religious Release 1:20-2:30 pm Choir practice 4:30 pm Wednesday Dinner 5:30 pm Wednesday Worship with Holy Communion & Growing Kids 6:15 pm Youth Ministry: 7th & 8th 7-8pm Youth Ministry: 9th-12th 7-8:30 pm	20	21	22
23 Worship 9:30 am 10:30 am coffee/ fellowship	24 Men's 500 Card Group 9 am Quilters 9:30 am A.A.-Fireside Room 7 pm	25 Staff Meeting 10 am Mahjongg Group - Garden Room 1 pm	26 Bible Study 10 am Knit Wits-Fireside Room 1 pm Religious Release 1:20-2:30 pm Wednesday Dinner 5:30 pm Wednesday Worship with Growing Kids 6:15 pm Youth Ministry: 7th & 8th 7-8pm Youth Ministry: 9th-12th 7-8:30 pm	27	28	29
30 Worship 9:30 am 10:30 am coffee/ fellowship	31 Men's 500 Card Group 9 am Quilters 9:30 am A.A.-Fireside Room 7 pm					

January 2022