

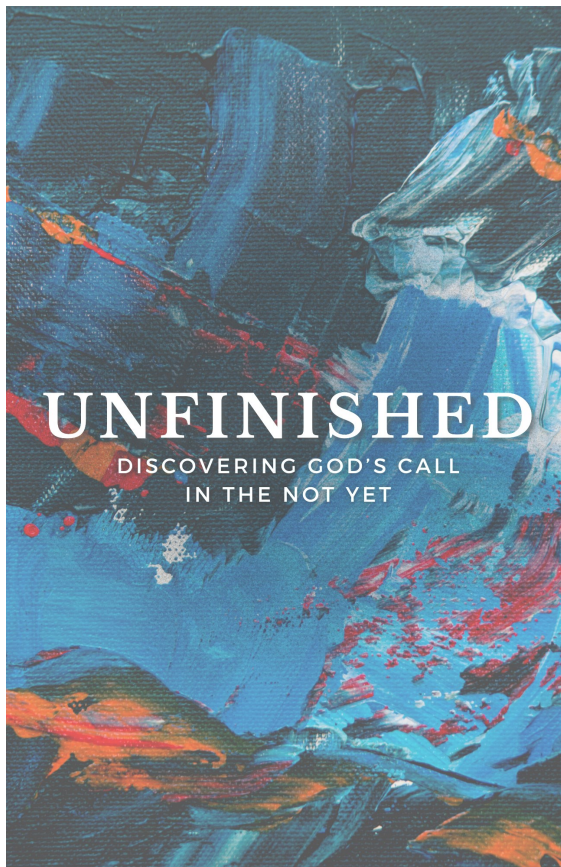


Crosslake Lutheran

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March 2023



Lent 2023:
**Unfinished: Discovering God's
Call in the Not Yet**

(more information on pages 2-3)

PASTOR'S PAGE

Lent 2023: Unfinished: Discovering God's Call in the Not Yet



We can probably all think of a host of experiences from our own lives in which we occupy the space between no longer and not yet. The church by its very nature, and we as people of faith, live our whole lives in the space between no longer and not yet.

The author of our theme, describing the no longer and not yet of our Lenten days above, also uses the term: “liminal” in her writing. I recently heard this same term described very artfully in a podcast. I was listening to an interview of Ada Limón, the 24th Poet Laureate of the United States. She was describing a poem she had written about what she did when she came upon a newborn bird lying on the ground. Unfortunately, the bird wasn't alive anymore. She buried it with a new hosta plant beneath her bird feeder and bird bath area, and her poem described it this way: “seems like a good place for a close-eyed thing, forever close-eyed, under a green plant, in the ground, under the feast up above. Between the ground and the feast is where I live now.”

Limón went on to explain that “I feel like that between space, that liminal space, is a place where we were living for so long, and many of us are still living in that between space of, ‘How do I go into the world safely, and how do I move through the world with safety and care-take myself and care-take others. And what's good for my body and my mental health.’ All of those things. And that between space was the only space that really made sense to me.”

Just like the poet, we too, may have a whole other sense now, of what that in between, liminal space -- between the ground and the feast is all about – and that discovery, too, is what Lent is all about! We walk with Christ, discovering God's call, that's unfinished, between the ground and the feast for these forty days together. I hope you will join us for both Sunday and Wednesday worship with soup suppers, too!

Listening for God's call between the ground and feast with you --

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.

SCHEDULE FOR OUR LENTEN THEME “UNFINISHED: Discovering God’s Call in the Not Yet”

Date	Texts	Theme
Ash Wednesday, Feb. 22	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 (Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Psalm 51:1-17; 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10)	Called to Renewal
Lent 1, Feb. 26 & Wednesday, March 1	Matthew 4:1-11 (Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7; Psalm 32; Romans 5:12-19)	Called to Values
Lent 2, March 5 & Wednesday, March 8	John 3:1-17 (Genesis 12:1-4a; Psalm 121; Romans 4:1-5, 13-17)	Called to Openness
Lent 3, March 12 & Wednesday, March 15	John 4:5-42 (Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-11)	Called by God
Lent 4, March 19 & Wednesday, March 22	John 9:1-41 (1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14)	Called to Attentiveness
Lent 5, March 26 & Wednesday, March 29	John 11:1-45 (Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11)	Called to Regret

- Our Lenten theme on Sundays and Wednesdays will help us experience how God keeps working on us in our different life experiences. Each week we will focus on a specific theme as noted above.
- Our Lenten worship service on Wednesdays will incorporate different prayer stations and activities that are for all ages as we move around the sanctuary a bit for some interactive creativity and time for contemplation.

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

Soup Suppers are served beginning at 5:30 pm, followed by a Lenten Service at 6:15 pm each Wednesday evening during Lent. If you would like to donate bars or cookies or help out in some way, please sign up on the board in the Fellowship Hall. The menu is soup, bread, crackers, dessert and drink. A peanut butter and/or jelly sandwich option will be available each week. Free will offering.



March Bible Study Wednesdays at 10 am



March 1: Our last week in the 5-part series “faith after doubt”.

March 8: No Bible Study

March 15, 22 & 29: We will study the lectionary scriptures assigned for Sunday.



Sunday, March 12th Daylights savings time begins.

Turn clocks ahead 1 hour after midnight
on Saturday, March 11th.

NEWS OF THE FAMILY

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



- The family of Dorothy Allen in their loss & sorrow. Dorothy passed away on February 6th at Cuyuna Regional Medical Center in Crosby.
- The family of Del Blowers in their loss & sorrow. Del passed away on February 14th at his home in Green Valley, AZ. A memorial service will be held at Crosslake Lutheran on Saturday, May 27th with a time to be determined.

Pastoral Acts

Memorial Services: Dorothy Allen, February 11, 2023

JUL FEST



Jul Fest workshop will begin again on Monday, March 6, 2023. We will gather every Monday from 9am – 12 Noon in the fellowship hall; you can come for all or part of the morning. We will be working on crafts, sewing, and painting. If you have ideas for new crafts, please bring samples or pictures to share with the group. New members are always welcome!

We will have a coffee break for sharing and fellowship. If you have any

questions, contact Marcia Prescott (952-938-6846) or Cindy Bighley (651-770-0720).

FIRST COMMUNION FOR 5TH & 6TH GRADERS AFTER SCHOOL MINISTRY

First Communion is coming up in April for fifth graders and any sixth graders who haven't yet participated in this important milestone of faith!

Since Communion is so central to our faith, during Wednesdays in March (except Spring Break) our learning time will be about the Sacrament of Holy Communion for all our fifth and sixth graders whether they've had First Communion or not. Pastor Kristin will lead the teaching time with special booklets for each student to keep. There are accompanying parent booklets.



If your child has not had their First Communion yet, we really hope that they can be at all the Wednesdays in March when we meet after school to learn about Holy Communion! Then, save the date of Wednesday, April 5, for our bread baking night together! We will make and bake the bread with parents and students for the worship on THURSDAY, APRIL 6, when they will receive their First Communion. This is Maundy Thursday of Holy Week, the night we remember the Last Supper of Jesus with his disciples, a very special night for our whole congregation!

LENTEN FOOD SHELF CHALLENGE

The following churches are participating in this unique challenge: Crosslake Lutheran, Grace United Methodist, Lutheran Church of the Cross, St. Alice Catholic Church, Crosslake Presbyterian and Our Savior’s Lutheran. It takes place during Lent, beginning on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 22nd and continuing through March. We are collecting both financial gifts and food stuffs. Place your donations of non-perishable food on the table set up in the hallway or your financial gifts in the offering plate or drop off in the church office. All the donations from Crosslake Lutheran will be donated to the Crosslake Foodshelf. Thank you for stepping up to help make life a little bit easier for others. God’s work. Our Hands!



Lakes Area Food Shelf came up with this list that is helpful in our collection efforts:

- Coffee Hot Tea Hot Chocolate Oatmeal Kleenex Peanut Butter
- Tomato Paste Oyster crackers Sugar Taco kits Tortillas Wild Rice
- PAM or other cooking sprays SPAM or other canned meats Spaghetti or Pasta Sauce
- Regular spaghetti noodles Regular elbow macaroni
- Bread (they have a **great** need for bread, hamburger buns, hot dog buns) -they no longer have a regular supplier

ART DISPLAY

March will be handwork month. Be thinking about something you’d like to share! Any questions? Contact Patricia, Music Ministry Director.

FINANCIALS

2023 Financial Report

January:	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>	YTD:	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Revenues:	\$ 48,007	\$ 64,418	\$ (16,411)		\$ 48,007	\$ 64,418	\$ (16,411)
Expenses:	<u>\$ 32,175</u>	<u>\$ 45,402</u>	<u>\$ 13,227</u>		<u>\$ 32,175</u>	<u>\$ 45,402</u>	<u>\$ 13,227</u>
Difference:	\$ 15,832	\$ 19,016	\$ (3,184)		\$ 15,832	\$ 19,016	\$ (3,184)

In the month of January, revenues exceeded expenses by \$15,832.

YTD’s performance is \$3,184 less than budget, because revenues are \$16,411 less than budget and expenses are also less than budget by \$13,227.

Complete financial reports are available in the Finance mailbox.

DINERS GROUP

We will meet on Tuesday, March 14th, at 5:30 pm at “Bites” restaurant in Pine River. Sign up on the bulletin board in the hallway. Everyone is welcome!



THANK YOU

“Thank you all for your continued support for the Crosslake Food Shelf. We so greatly appreciate your donations especially now in this time of great need.” - Doris Mezzenga, Crosslake Food Shelf

“Thank you to everyone for the prayers, cards and gifts for our daughter, Christine, who passed away unexpectedly on December 20th. She was a supporter of Special Olympics and all gifts were donated in her name.” - Sharon & Ken Mulder, Reyer & Kelly Mulder and Mackenzie

WEDDING COORDINATOR

If you are interested in this paid position at Crosslake Lutheran, please see Pastor Kristin for more information. Duties include working on details with wedding couples as they plan for their wedding, assisting with rehearsal and being on-site at church the day of the ceremony. Deadline to apply 3/31/23.

HEALTH MINISTRY

Greetings, it is almost spring. I hope that you have had a time of rest, renewal and reflection no matter if you are looking at the beach or big snowbanks. Lent is a time to prepare for the Easter miracle and for some, it is a time to give up something that is special to you like chocolate. Maybe this year it could be a time to establish better mind, body and spirit practices such as regular prayer, meditation, Bible study and other things that nourish the spirit. Maybe what we would have to give up is wasted minutes of worry, rumination, social media distraction and instead, leave space for the Spirit to speak. By listening to our internal guidance system, it can create peace, a sense of safety and direction for daily life. What are you giving up this Lenten season? 40 days would be a great way to establish new habits of caring for self.



April will bring another session of “Matter of Balance” - fall prevention starting April 3rd. The 8-week class is sponsored by Crow Wing Energized and looks at ways to prevent falls and maintain strength and flexibility. Even if you have taken the class in the past, it is a good refresher for the exercises and mind set that reduces the risk of falls. If you have experienced a fall in the past several months, this is the class for you and as always it is free. Registration is now open through the Crow Wing Energized website or if you need assistance, please reach out to me. I will be home by the end of March so will be available in person if you have questions. The class will also help get your muscles ready to “cut a mean rug” (whatever that phrase means) at the Senior Prom to be held April 29th at Manhattan Beach Lodge. We had a lot of fun last year dressing up, having a great meal, taking photos and enjoying music of the 40’s to the 90’s. Dress up is optional so if that is your concern, there will not be a dress code police at the door. It is fun though to pull out the nice clothes for something fun rather than wait until things like funerals. If you do not have a date, there were a lot of us that enjoyed eating and dancing together as a group so don’t let that keep you away. The Senior Expo will include a lot of great speakers and informational booths so I hope you consider attending this event as well which will be during the day at the Log Church.

If you are interested in any specific educational program or topic, please let me know. Planning is underway for the year to include our usual topics including “Final Gift” and “Flying Solo”. I am looking at bringing other topics in related to health care as soon as I can find a speaker. There is a lot of interest in cardiovascular and respiratory health so hope to have other coffee hour type of presentations with specialists. There are also a number of great educational sessions online which may be easier to attend since you can do them from the comfort of your own home. More on that later. Looking forward to seeing you all again; I love my Texas time but also my Crosslake Lutheran family.

Blessings,
Gail Smith, Parish Nurse

NEW PRE-DIABETES PREVENTION CLASS

Learn how to create a healthier lifestyle and prevent diabetes in a 22-session diabetes prevention program. You meet with a trained instructor to help you lose weight, eat healthier and increase physical activity. There are 16 sessions offered over 6 months, and 6 monthly follow-up sessions. Each session is one-hour long. There is no fee for this class (\$429 value). Register online CrowWingEnergized.org/Events **Virtual class: WEDNESDAYS | 9-10 am** **First class is March 8, 2023** Coach: Becky Kalton (218-820-8114 / Rebecca.Kalton@EssentiaHealth.org)

WOMEN OF CROSSLAKE LUTHERAN

Over forty women enjoyed the February Valentine Brunch. Thank you to all who planned, helped, served and attended, with special thanks to the Ink Spots for helping us create Valentine Cards for our Whitefish at the Lakes friends. It was a great afternoon of fellowship and celebration.

The Heartland Conference Spring Gathering is happening on March 25 at First Lutheran Church in Aitkin. Registration (\$10), Coffee Fellowship and Silent Auction/Buy It Now begins at 8:30 am followed by the Program and Lunch from 9:30 to 1 pm.

Georgia Larson is the featured speaker presenting “**Becoming Who God Created You to Be**”, sharing her ideas on how we can better care for our physical and spiritual health. The agenda also includes business meeting, synod updates, installation of board members, worship and lunch. Please check the bulletin board for complete information of the day.

Save the Dates:

June 12 & 13, NE MN Synod Women of the ELCA Summer Convention at Zion Lutheran in Grand Rapids
June 22, Women of Crosslake Lutheran June Salad Luncheon

Blessings, Janet Marr, Secretary

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

3/1 Sharon Barsness, Dave Gardinier, Michael Goerges, Christine Gyllenblad, Stacey Koch, Mark Lindner
3/2 Andrea Dumond, Rick Flaws
3/3 Kathrine Royce
3/4 Donald Glas, Addison Gorr, Randy Morsch
3/6 Brynn Carlson, Stan Michal, Ramona Sandberg
3/7 David Arndt, Paul Houle
3/8 Morgan LaRock
3/9 Kenneth Bressler, Eli Buckentin, Brandt Gallaway
3/11 Ron Germann
3/12 Dale Blosberg, Nate Engen, Hannah Ilika, Dave Schwarze
3/14 Dorothy Gerdes, Paul Linder
3/15 Marilyn Hollenback, Dave Johnson, David Sorensen
3/16 Robert Mesenbrink
3/17 Cassie Brynteson, Barbara Donovan, Mary Hirman, Julene Mastin
3/18 Chuck Beavers, Gary Goerges, China Harmala, Sally Helmer
3/19 Crystal Kozelka, Nancy Newman, Mike Potocki, Chad Rau
3/20 Thomas Julian, Bonnie Sass
3/21 Priscilla Balmer, Brody Box, Garnet Devine, Jennifer Johnson
3/22 Gerald Gilbert, Clint Henning
3/23 Neil Luzar, Carlson Maher, Taytum Maher
3/24 Gene Darnell, Jackie Rasmussen
3/25 Kathryn Lund, Doris Mezzenga, Beth Wolf
3/26 Laura Squires, Alex Windschitl
3/27 James Anderson, Avery Gorr, Daniel Heggerston, Jennifer Pulsifer
3/29 Jeff Balmer, John Boline, Maija Maher

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

3/15 Heidi & Steve Engen
Kristine & Terry Havir
3/18 Earl & Gail Bancroft
3/21 Ronald & Donna Bickford
3/22 Roger & Julene Mastin

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



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March 2023						
5 Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 am 10:30 am coffee/fellowship	6 Jul Fest Workshop 9 am Quilters 9 am Men's 500 Card Group 9 am A.A.-Fireside Room 7 pm	7 Ink Spots 9:30 am Mahjongg Group - Garden Room 1 pm	8 Diabetes Prevention (Zoom) 9-10 am No Bible Study / Bell Choir Noon Knit Wits-Fireside Room 1 pm 5th/6th grade Youth Ministry 3:30- 5:30 pm Choir practice 4:30 pm Soup Supper 5:30 pm Lenten Worship w/Holy Communion & Growing Kids (K-2 only) 6:15 pm Youth Ministry 7th-12th gr. 7 pm	9 Marketing Committee 9 am Book Club 10 am Communion Service at Whitefish at the Lakes 2 pm	10	11 Daylight Savings time begins—turn clocks ahead 1 hour after midnight
12 Worship 9:30 am 10:30 am coffee/fellowship	13 Jul Fest Workshop 9 am Quilters 9 am Men's 500 Card Group 9 am Executive Comm. 4:30 pm A.A.-Fireside Room 7 pm	14 Staff Meeting 10 am Mahjongg Group - Garden Room 1 pm Diner's Group at "Bites" restaurant- Pine River at 5:30 pm	15 Diabetes Prevention (Zoom) 9-10 am Bible Study 10 am / Bell Choir Noon Knit Wits-Fireside Room 1 pm 5th/6th grade Youth Ministry 3:30- 5:30 pm Choir practice 4:30 pm Soup Supper 5:30 pm Lenten Worship w/Holy Communion & Growing Kids (K-2 only) 6:15 pm Youth Ministry 7th-12th gr. 7 pm	16	17	18
19 Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 am 10:30 am coffee/fellowship	20 Jul Fest Workshop 9 am Quilters 9 am Men's 500 Card Group 9 am A.A.-Fireside Room 7 pm	21 Ink Spots 9:30 am Mahjongg Group - Garden Room 1 pm Finance 4:30 pm	22 (No Youth Activities-Spring Break) Diabetes Prevention (Zoom) 9-10 am Bible Study 10 am / Bell Choir Noon Knit Wits-Fireside Room 1 pm Choir practice 4:30 pm Soup Supper 5:30 pm Lenten Worship w/Holy Communion 6:15 pm	23	24	25 Women of the ELCA Heartland Spring Conference at First Lutheran-Aitkin
26 Worship 9:30 am 10:30 am coffee/fellowship	27 Jul Fest Workshop 9 am Quilters 9 am Men's 500 Card Group 9 am A.A.-Fireside Room 7 pm	28 Staff Meeting 10 am Altar Guild 10:30 am Mahjongg Group - Garden Room 1 pm Church Council 7 pm	29 Diabetes Prevention (Zoom) 9-10 am Bible Study 10 am / Bell Choir Noon Knit Wits-Fireside Room 1 pm 5th/6th grade Youth Ministry 3:30- 5:30 pm Choir practice 4:30 pm Soup Supper 5:30 pm Lenten Worship w/Holy Communion & Growing Kids (K-2 only) 6:15 pm Youth Ministry 7th-12th gr. 7 pm	30	31	