



## Crosslake Lutheran

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Crosslake, MN 56442  
Permit #24

## March 2024



## HOLY WEEK

**Sunday, March 24, 9:30am – Palm Sunday**

Worship with Holy Communion

**Thursday, March 28, 6:15pm – Maundy Thursday**

Worship with Holy Communion, Stripping of the Altar

**Friday, March 29, 6:15pm – Good Friday**

Worship with Special Music and Readings

**Sunday, March 31 – Easter**

8:30 & 10:30 am – Festival Worship with Holy Communion

9:30am – Easter Brunch

## PASTORS' PAGES



March Greetings!



Our Lenten theme is THINK: TRUE –HELPFUL – IMPORTANT – NECESSARY – KIND This is both the very heart of Jesus and a call to discipleship as we think about how we communicate with our words and actions. During March, we will be concentrating on the “INK” of THINK (in the last three weeks of Lent); we hope that you can join us! We have three different worship opportunities each week for you to do this. On Sunday at 9:30 with the traditional format and Wednesdays at noon with a brief responsive prayer service or at 6:15 with Communion, candlelight, and prayer stations. Both Wednesday services also have a fellowship mealtime with soup after the noon worship or at 5:30 before the evening worship.

As I am writing this, we just had our first noon Lenten worship today. The Holy Spirit was working powerfully as about twenty people gathered. Since it was a smaller group in our large sanctuary, people gathered more closely together near the front of the sanctuary in spots where they don't typically choose to sit! It's not a usual thing when we change our worship habits in those ways, and we don't want to take that lightly, that confirms a powerful Spirit, indeed! It also confirmed the conversation that we had at Church Council in February. We were brainstorming about “what makes our heart sing” collectively as a congregation. We listed a variety of things like different worship experiences, music, volunteering, all ages together, a spirit of inclusion of people, support, caring, compassion, diversified learning, and evolving to try new things and openness to new ideas. I am so thankful for a congregation that is open to holy experiments! That can make all of our hearts sing!

As we approach the end of March, we will find ourselves in Holy Week. So, we hope you can also join us for those powerful worship experiences: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and of course, Easter Morning with an Easter Brunch. You can see the front of the newsletter for those dates and times. And for those of you not in the Crosslake area or able to attend worship in person, those Holy Week worship services will be available for you to stream as well. You can stream them live from the church's home webpage or watch them later under “past worship services on Vimeo.”

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 Olmann at 952-200-1249.



## PASTOR BECKY

Starting in April 2024, we will kick off a new Zoom Bible Study. This study will actively engage in providing feedback on the ELCA draft social statement titled "Civic Life and Faith." This statement delves into the intersection of our Christian faith with civic responsibilities, exploring how our beliefs shape our engagement with society.

The ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) process for developing Social Statements involves a thorough and prayerful examination of the topic. It begins with the gathering of diverse perspectives and insights from across our denomination. The drafting committee, with representatives from various backgrounds, then prayerfully crafts the statement, seeking guidance from Scripture, tradition, and reason. Draft statements are then released for congregations and synods to read, discuss, and send feedback to the task force, who then revise the statement before it is presented to the Churchwide Assembly for adoption. These statements are just that: statements. They are not "teachings" or "requirements to agree". They are a beginning point for conversation on the topic from a theologically Lutheran understanding.

This Bible Study will offer a unique chance for us to immerse ourselves in Scripture, reflect on the teachings of Jesus, and contemplate how our faith guides us in matters of justice, compassion, and community involvement. Your input and perspectives are invaluable as we collectively interact with this draft social statement. Your voice matters, and this study will provide a platform for open dialogue and discernment. I urge everyone to prayerfully consider joining this Bible Study, as together we participate in this unique process of the ELCA in addressing social questions.

May the Holy Spirit guide us on this journey of exploration, and may our collective discernment contribute to the enrichment of our faith community and the broader Church. I eagerly anticipate our shared learning and fellowship.

Blessings,  
Pastor Becky

## LENTEN FOOD SHELF CHALLENGE

Our area churches are participating in this unique challenge. It takes place during Lent, from Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14th and continuing through March 24th. We are collecting both financial gifts and food stuffs. All the donations from Crosslake Lutheran will be donated to the Crosslake Foodshelf. 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. Thank you for stepping up to help make life a little bit easier for others. God's work. Our Hands!



The Crosslake Food Shelf continues to see an increase in our friends and neighbors using our services. In 2023, we saw an increase of over 50% from 2021 & 2022. Your continued support is greatly appreciated and so needed at this time. Our greatest need at this time is cereal, but we can also use peanut butter, Mac & cheese, canned chicken and tuna, soup, canned fruit, etc. Donations of cash is always needed as we buy most of our food from Second Harvest Northland at a reduced cost. Again, thank you for all your support to the Crosslake Food Shelf and helping to feed the less fortunate. - Doris Mezzenga, Crosslake Food Shelf

# CLC YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY



## Hello and welcome to *March!*

During lent Growing Kids will be joining us for worship and experiencing the different stations. (If your child needs a break feel free to check out the Garden room)

The 5th and 6th Graders are beginning their journey towards first communion during the month of March! Plan to join us April 10 at 6:15 for worship!

The 7th -12th Graders continue to learn how to use their Bibles, experience small group time, and building relationships with each other and some pretty amazing adult volunteers!

## Easter Breakfast 9:30am between services



Soup suppers have resumed this year during lent followed by worship! Join us as we explore the theme THINK! Through prayers, songs and stations we will learn is it TRUE, is it HELPFUL, is it IMPORTANT, is it NECESSARY, and is it KIND?



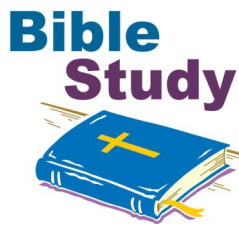
## Looking forward:

Summer Stretch will be local this year! 5-9th Graders will join us Wednesday's in June and July for Worship, Learning, Serving and Fun! See Lindsay if your interested!

Vacation Bible School:

Kindergarten through 6th Grade  
July 15-18

Junior and Senior High Youth looking for service hours are invited to help



## MARCH BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays at 10:00am - Fireside Room

We continue to explore the book "Honoring Our Neighbors Faith".

**NO BIBLE STUDY ON MARCH 27 OF HOLY WEEK!**

### *New Worship Opportunity!*

### **Lenten Worship at Noon followed by Soup**

Join us for the five Wednesdays in Lent for a brief worship service of Responsive Prayer at Noon. The worship service will be around twenty minutes, with spoken prayer, a psalm, and hymn. Afterwards people are invited to lunch in the fellowship hall for a simple meal of soup and bread. We hope this new worship and fellowship opportunity can provide a chance for people who don't drive at night to experience midweek worship and share in fellowship during the season of Lent.

### **LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS**

Soup Suppers began with Ash Wednesday (February 14th) and 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 and cookies or help out in some way, please sign up on the board in the Fellowship Hall. In partnership with the kitchen committee we are keeping the Lenten Soup Suppers simple and the menu is: soup, bread, crackers, dessert and drink. A peanut butter and/or jelly sandwich option will be available each week. Come and gather around tables for food and fellowship, then joining together for different prayer stations and activities for some interactive creativity and time of contemplation in the worship space.



### **THANK YOU, ROY!**



Roy Silcox has been our handyman at Crosslake Lutheran Church and his ministry has been tremendous as he's tended to the great facility that God has given us to carry out God's mission. Roy has decided to step down from his position, and although we are sad, we say "Well done, good and faithful servant!" We will be thanking Roy with a coffee hour in his honor on Sunday, April 7th. Be sure to join us to thank Roy!

### **MAINTENANCE JOB OPENING**

We are seeking someone to fill the General Maintenance position. If you are interested, please talk to Jeff Benson (612-598-1852) or Bob Bahma (763-238-1226) from the Personnel team. You can also talk to Pastor Kristin. There may be a way for a team of people to job share or work together with one person as the lead; so, we would really like to talk to whomever may have any interest at all! This is a paid position with up to 10 hours per week. Please let us know of your interest as soon as possible. Thank you!

### **BOOK CLUB**

The book for March is "The Frozen River" by Ariel Lawhon and we will meet on **March 7th at 10 am** in the Fireside Room. New members are always welcome!



# FINANCIALS

## 2024 Financial Report

January:	Actual	Budget	Difference	YTD:	Actual	Budget	Difference
Revenues:	\$ 67,559	\$ 55,991	\$ 11,568		\$ 67,559	\$ 55,991	\$ 11,568
Expenses:	\$ 45,248	\$ 44,264	\$ (984)		\$ 45,248	\$ 44,264	\$ (984)
Difference:	\$ 22,311	\$ 11,727	\$ 10,584		\$ 22,311	\$ 11,727	\$ 10,584

In the month of January, revenues exceeded expense by \$22,311.

YTD's performance is \$10,584 more than budget, because revenues are \$11,568 more than budget and expenses are also more than budget by \$984.

Complete financial reports are available in the Finance mailbox.

## NEWS OF THE FAMILY

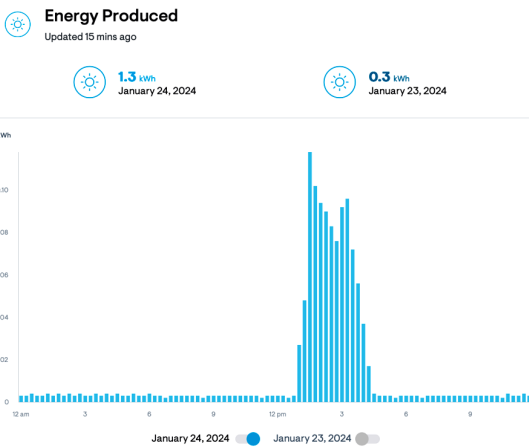
*Prayers for Peace and Comfort to those in our congregation who have suffered a loss:*



- The family of Katherine (Kathy) Royce in their loss & sorrow. Kathy passed away on January 29th and her memorial service was held February 5th at Normandale Lutheran in Edina.
- John & Mary Knight in the death of John's nephew, Chad Feather, on January 30th, in Marshfield, WI.
- Clint Henning and family in the death of his grandfather, Lowell Brown, on January 28th in Hampton, IA.
- Reed Fletcher and family in the death of his grandmother, Hazel Fletcher, on February 13th in Emily MN.

## Pastoral Acts

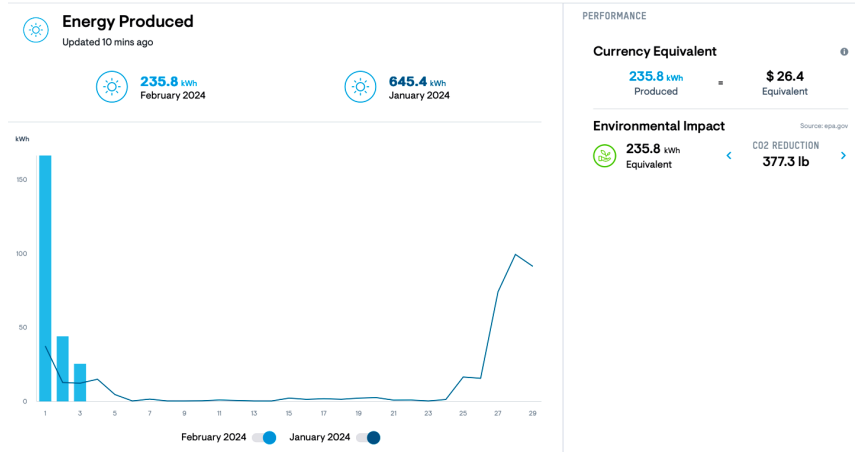
Baptism: Zayla Wren Kimball, February 18th  
 Parents: Paris & Zane Kimball  
 Sponsors: Becky & Dave Ashbaugh



## SOLAR PANELS

The weather this last month (January) was very unusual. With only around 4-5" of snow, the solar panels were overed and produced very little power. Then, just after noon on January 24, warm weather allowed most of the snow to slide off and wham, power production resumed!

By the 27<sup>th</sup>, all the snow was off, and power production was back to normal. With shorter winter days we will not see as much power generated as during the summer, but this clearly shows the effect of snow on the panels.





## Sunday, March 10th Daylights savings time begins.

Turn clocks ahead 1 hour after midnight on Saturday, March 9th.



**RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE**  
**Crosslake Lutheran Church**  
**Thursday, March 14th—12-6 pm**  
Appt./Info: Call Sharon at 218-851-3263

### JUL FEST

Jul Fest workshop will begin again on Monday, March 4th. 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). **Our group has been assigned March 6th to cook soup supper, bring desserts, set up and clean up. Please sign up on the board in the Fellowship Hall, as the date will be here before we know it!**



### ARCHIVES DISPLAY

Helen Silva, Gerry Schroeder, and Robert Salo, members of Crosslake Lutheran Church, are currently researching the possibility of designing an “archives display” of our church history. The display plan is in the exploring stages. Inclusions may be:

1. Photos of all pastors
2. Confirmation photos: We currently have the following years > 2011, 2012, 2013, 2015, 2017, & 2021
3. Artifacts, documents such as:
  - Charter membership plaque (We have it!)
  - Old hymnals, Bibles, confirmation, and other church books
  - Offering plates, communion trays and other altar items
  - Building photos
  - Outdoor worship photos
  - Church history articles, documents, etc.
  - Samples of older church bulletins
  - Church directories from the past > need prior to 1985. Currently, we have the following years: 1985, 1989, 1993, 1995, 1998, 2001, 2004, 2007, 2010, 2013, 2017.
  - Other ideas?

**We need your help.** Please let us know if you may have items that could be considered for the display. If yes, please contact Robert Salo at 763 – 742 – 3986; or email: [mrgeog@windstream.net](mailto:mrgeog@windstream.net) It will be helpful if date and description could be given. You may bring your item(s) to the church office. Please indicate if you wish to have the item(s) returned. Thank you!

## HEALTH MINISTRY

Blessings in this early spring; such a change from last year with all the snow that we came back to. It means that with this nice weather, there are outdoor options for exercise and getting a bit of Vitamin D. I am looking forward to an early gardening option at the Community garden. I love all the catalogs that have amazing options that tempt me to plant. It is also time to sign up for community shares at your local producer which is a wonderful option for those who do not like to garden or are tired of fighting with our local deer and rabbits. Fresh vegetables are a great way to get needed nutrients and are quite plentiful here in Texas. Consider ways to reduce fat, sugar and other foods that lead to disease and at least extra pounds. There will be a Diabetes Prevention class hosted by Becky Kalton online, that really helps you understand how to eat with health in mind. Check out the Crow Wing energized website for more information.



April will also signal the start of a Matter of Balance class that looks at ways to prevent falls or at least reduce the fear of falling. Again, this class is held at the church and is open to the community free of charge since it is funded by Crow Wing energized. Please check out their website for registration information and other classes that you might be interested in. <https://crowwingenergized.org/events-classes/>

This past week I had a meeting with the program leaders for creating a Dementia-friendly community and we are planning to gather early in April to look at ways to implement this for the city of Crosslake. This past October, 15 participants became Dementia champions after attending a training session and this year we will look at a plan to roll this information out to the community. The city of Walker did this several years back and now has signs in some of their businesses and public areas indicating that staff understand memory loss which helps them to interact in a respectful and meaningful way with those they serve. As we look for ways to make our community more sensitive to those with differences, this could be a way that our church can contribute to that process. I will be sending out invites to all Champions in the coming weeks, so I hope that if you receive an invite, it is something that you will attend. It will take a team to create a plan for our community.

Crosslake Lutheran is hosting sessions on the Friday before the Senior Expo with posters coming out soon. There are sessions for just about everyone including technology, travel, Loon Center update and a presentation about the Historical Society programs. Sessions will start at 10am and run till 2:30pm that day. It is just a part of a very busy weekend including the Senior Expo on Saturday. If you would like to join the prom decorating team, please give me a call. It's a fun time that includes about 3 hours of your time on Saturday afternoon.

Last month I included some information about stroke and things that may lead to this health issues. Besides those we talked about last month, atrial fibrillation also puts one at higher risk of stroke since it increases the risk of blood clots forming in the heart that can break free and travel to the brain. Atrial fib is a relatively common heart rhythm issue that can occur quite suddenly and cause symptoms such as shortness of breath, feeling that your heart is racing, low blood pressure and other signs. If you can feel your pulse, it feels very irregular, it can make your BP cuff show error messages since the irregular heart beat makes it difficult to get an accurate BP. The best way to confirm it is to have an EKG at a clinic or ED. Your doctor may detect it when they listen to your heart beat during a clinic visit. Many people do not know that they are in an abnormal rhythm and can be in atrial fib for months before it is diagnosed. Once it is determined you are in atrial fib, your provider will start you on anticoagulants (blood thinners) to reduce the chance of blood clots. It will also be decided if they will treat it with medications, electrical current or send you to a specialist whose expertise is heart rhythms. See your local provider or contact me if you have questions about this common heart issue; your brain health may depend on it.

See you soon. I have missed my Crosslake Lutheran family (although many of them are here on the island :)

Gail Smith, RN—Parish Nurse

## COMMUNITY RESOURCES

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



## EASTER GARDEN

The Altar Guild is taking orders for our annual Easter Garden. There are a few choices on the type of Easter flower you may purchase. Please fill out the flower forms in the weekly bulletin or call or email the church office with your flower choice and let us know who you'd like it to be in memory/honor of. **The deadline to purchase is — MARCH 10th.**



Easter Lily \$13 \_\_\_\_\_

Easter Mum (assorted colors) \$18 \_\_\_\_\_

Begonia (assorted colors) \$18 \_\_\_\_\_

Kalanchoe (assorted colors) \$18 \_\_\_\_\_

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

3/1 Sharon Barsness, Dave Gardinier, Michael Goerges, Christine Gyllenblad, Stacey Koch, Mark Lindner  
3/2 Andrea Dumond, Rick Flaws  
3/4 Donald Glas, 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  
3/16 Robert Mesenbrink  
3/17 Cassie Brynteson, Mary Hirman, Julene Mastin  
3/18 Chuck Beavers, China Harmala, Sally Helmer  
3/19 Nancy Newman  
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, Jennifer Pulsifer  
3/29 Jeff Balmer, John Boline, Maija Maher

## MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

3/15 Heidi & Steve Engen  
Kristine & Terry Havar  
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.**



## WOMEN OF CROSSLAKE LUTHERAN

Save the date: The Heartland Conference Spring Gathering will be Saturday, April 13th. This date is the corrected date from what was published in the Northeastern Lights. More information will follow as it becomes available. The Northeastern Lights is the quarterly newsletter of the Northeastern Minnesota Synodical Women's Organization- Women of the ELCA. A copy of the newsletter is available at church, on-line and by subscription. I also invite you to check out Gather magazine and Boldcafe, both Women of the ELCA publications and available online. They are excellent resources for devotions and Bible study during your Lenten journey.

Blessings, Janet Marr, Secretary

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>March 2024</b>					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 am 10:30 am coffee/fellowship	<b>4</b> Jul Fest resumes 9 am Quilters 9 am Men's 500 Card Group 9 am Staff meeting 1 pm A.A.-Fireside Room 7 pm	<b>5</b> Ink Spots 9:30 am Mahjongg Group - Garden Room 1 pm	<b>6</b> Kitchen Committee 9 am Bible Study 10 am Lenten Worship followed by soup 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 6:15 pm Youth Ministry 7th-12th gr. 7 pm	<b>7</b>  Marketing Committee 9 am Book Club 10 am	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> Worship 9:30 am 10:30 am coffee/fellowship	<b>11</b> Jul Fest 9 am Quilters 9 am Men's 500 Card Group 9 am Staff meeting 1 pm A.A.-Fireside Room 7 pm	<b>12</b>  Mahjongg Group - Garden Room 1 pm Exec. Committee 2 pm	<b>13</b> Bible Study 10 am Lenten Worship followed by soup 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 6:15 pm Youth Ministry 7th-12th gr. 7 pm	<b>14</b>  Blood Drive in the Fellowship Hall Noon—6 pm	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 am 10:30 am coffee/fellowship	<b>18</b> Jul Fest 9 am Quilters 9 am Men's 500 Card Group 9 am Staff meeting 1 pm A.A.-Fireside Room 7 pm	<b>19</b> Ink Spots 9:30 am Mahjongg Group - Garden Room 1 pm Finance 4:30 pm Church Council 7 pm	<b>20</b> Bible Study 10 am Lenten Worship followed by soup 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 6:15 pm Youth Ministry 7th-12th gr. 7 pm	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24 Palm Sunday</b> Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 am 10:30 am coffee/fellowship	<b>25</b> Jul Fest 9 am Quilters 9 am Men's 500 Card Group 9 am Altar Guild 10:30 am A.A.-Fireside Room 7 pm	<b>26</b> Mahjongg Group - Garden Room 1 pm	<b>27</b> <b>(No Youth Activities-Spring Break)</b> <b>No Bible Study</b> Knit Wits-Fireside Room 1 pm	<b>28</b> <b>Maundy Thursday</b> Choir practice 4:30 pm Maundy Thursday Worship with Holy Communion 6:15 pm	<b>29</b> <b>Good Friday</b> Good Friday Service 6:15 pm	<b>30</b> Altar Guild setting up Easter Garden 10 am
<b>31 Easter</b> Worship 8:30 & 10:30 am w/Holy Communion Easter Breakfast 9:30-10:30 am						