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This month we will have the privilege to confirm five young people and welcome them into church membership. One of the things emphasized in Confirmation is that being confirmed is not the end of the journey. It is just one milestone in a long faith walk. It is the sincere hope that the confirmation process equips the young people so that they can faithfully grow in better following Jesus. However, that is not something they are supposed to do on their own.

When the young people are confirmed, the congregation responds to them with the following words: "We will surround these persons with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God, and be found faithful in their service to others. We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life."

This is an important commitment that makes a lasting impact. A landmark Barna research study from a few years ago found that once young people graduate high school there is a key predictor if that person will stay involved in a faith community. Of young people that stay engaged in church 59% reported having an adult friend in the church. Of the young people who did not stay engaged in a faith community 70% reported never having a friendship with an adult in the church. To honor the commitment to surround these persons with a community of love and forgiveness requires investing in making room for meaningful relationships. It requires taking the time so that our newest members know that you care for them.

The other part of the commitment that you as the congregation will make during confirmation is to pray for the new members. This is something that every single one of us can do. Meaningful relationships cannot be forced, but we all can be intentional in praying for newest and youngest members. We can pray that they may be true disciples and we should pray for them by name. If you need a reminder their names are Anna Duke, Taylee Pahl, Carson Smith, Allison Van Nurden, and Jack Van Nurden. Please pray that they will walk in the way that leads to life and please pray for them regularly.

The bible stresses on multiple occasions that our faith is best experienced and greatly enhanced by being part of a faith community. All of us have a responsibility to help create a community of love and forgiveness. There is an old proverb that states it takes a village to raise a child. If that is true, then it takes a church to make a disciple. May we all be willing to pray and invest in the lives of our newest members so that as their first faith community we can set them up for a life time of following Jesus.

Peace,

Pastor Leslie

# The Compass



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## Confirmation Sunday

On Sunday, May 15, we will have Confirmation Sunday. On this day, we have one youth will be baptized and 5 who will be getting confirmed. Following the worship service, there will be a potluck luncheon in the fellowship hall to celebrate our Confirmands.

## Graduation Sunday

On Sunday, May 22, we will be having Graduation Sunday. This is the day we honor those who will be graduating from high school and college. Following this service, there will be cake and ice cream in the fellowship hall to celebrate our graduates!

## Coffee Corner

Our next Coffee Corner gatherings will be held on **Wednesday May 4th and Wednesday May 18th, both starting at 9:00 am.**

Our Cross Roads Coffee Corner group meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month for anyone who would like to drop in and visit. Nothing is needed other than a desire for coffee and fellowship. We hope you will stop by sometime and say hello!



## Mission & Outreach

Helping meet the needs of the body and soul for those in our community.

Hope Presbyterian Church, in Spicer, runs the Hope CARE Pantry. They distribute 15 products monthly for each household in need. In honor of Mother's Day, our May Missions & Outreach focus, will be to collect female personal products. You can drop your items in the basket near the Fellowship Hall. Please consider donating. If you'd rather provide cash, the Missions Team will shop for you. Please mark your checks with the May Missions Theme. Here are some suggested items; shampoo, conditioner, body wash, soap, deodorant, razors, feminine products or lotion.



## May Birthdays

Melody Hanson 5th  
Justin Pahl 7th  
Sharon Hagen 10th  
Riley Pflipsen 10th  
Dave Muetzel 16th  
Pat Kaiser 21st  
Jean Ericson 25th  
Dennis Gertgen 25th

Alex Springman 26th  
Amariya Pahl 28th  
Beth Schultz 29th  
Amy Denz 30th

## May Anniversaries

Don & Jean Ericson 5th  
Scott & Lori Doty 14th  
Mike & Chandra Duke 20th



**Dustin & Kendra Pflipsen** invite you to join in the celebration of Riley's high school graduation.

Open House  
Saturday May 21, 2022  
10:30am -1:30pm  
at their home.  
4901 County Rd NE  
Wilmar, MN 56201

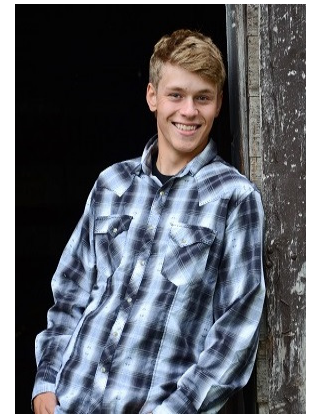
Riley plans to attend Mankato State University to major in Accounting.



**Tom & Donna Smith** invite you to join in the celebration of Kaleb's high school graduation.

Open House  
Saturday May 21, 2022  
3:00pm-6:00pm  
at their home.  
7176 86th Ave NE  
Spicer, MN 56288

Kaleb plans to attend Kansas State University to major in Business.



**Shelli Peterson** invites you to join in the celebration of Jordan's high school graduation.

Open House  
Saturday June 18, 2022  
3:00pm-7:00pm  
27950 3rd St NE  
Belgrade, MN 56312

Jordan is planning to take a gap year to work, and will then decide on college.



## April 2022 Updates

Things have been busy at The Link as The Food Pantry has seen an increased need as well as Client Outreach services. We also just wrapped up MNFood Share where we raised 2,082 pounds of food and \$12,794. We have also been busy planning RibFest 2022!!!! **RibFest has been scheduled for Saturday, June 11th and will take place in the large city parking lot behind The Link!!! We are excited to try out a new space and have access to our building at our finger tips! Stay tuned for more information.....**

In March, **The Food Pantry** welcomed 12 new families, served 38 children, 81 adults and 22 seniors. 2697 pounds of food was distributed and 311.5 pounds of food was donated from community members and churches. Food Rescue also brought in 1805 pounds of food from Cashwise and ALDI. **We are currently also in need of more Food Pantry volunteers for Thursday afternoons. If you, or anyone you know, would be interested in volunteering, please contact Ashley at 320-354-5555.**

**The Wildcat Backpack Program-** Each week, 2 kids from the High School come pack backpacks and deliver them to each school. So far, there are approximately 50 kids that are utilizing this program weekly. If you would like to donate any food for this program or if you know someone that would benefit from utilizing the program, please contact Ashley at 320-354-5555 for more information.

**Senior Food Delivery-** The Senior Food Delivery program is designed to deliver food to anyone that is homebound. If you, or someone you know, is interested in learning more about this program please have them call Ashley at 320-354-5555.

The Link's **Client Outreach and Household Exchange** programs served 8 families in the month of March. Throughout the month, The Link was able to help with utility bills, gas for medical appointments and furniture items such as beds, living room furniture, kitchen appliances, dishes and dining room furniture for families just getting back on their feet.

**The Community Revival Boutique and Thrift Store Volunteers Needed!!! We do have a specific need for regular Saturday volunteers (which could be anything from once a month to every Saturday).** The Store hours are Wednesday-Friday 10am-3pm and Saturdays 10am-2pm. If you or anyone you know would like to volunteer on a regular basis in a fun, fast paced environment, please contact Shawna at 320-347-1047 or stop in during store hours. We have a lot of different jobs available from sorting and pricing donations to opening the store and running the till.

\*\*Donations of clothing and most household items are being taken Wednesdays-Fridays 10-3 and Saturdays from 10-2 (or by appointment). Please call if you have any questions about when/where to drop off items and if there is a need for any of your bigger household items.

Volunteer Hours totaled 421 for the month of March! The work that is done at The Link and Community Revival would not be possible without the dedication to all of our faithful volunteers willing to give their time! Thank you is not enough....we are grateful to each and every one of you!!!

### Tuesday's Table:

Tuesday's Table may be back soon. Talk of starting it up again is in the works. If you would like to participate this year, please let Ashley know. You can email her at [ashley@youarethelink.org](mailto:ashley@youarethelink.org) or call 320-354-5555.

### Monthly Giving Opportunities:

The Link makes monthly giving a convenient option for our donors. You can set up online giving through The Link's website at [www.youarethelink.org](http://www.youarethelink.org) or directly through your bank. If you would like to make a one-time donation, you can send a check to P.O. Box 823, New London, MN 56273 or via Venmo @The-Link-1. Please contact Ashley at 320-354-5555 or email her at [ashley@youarethelink.org](mailto:ashley@youarethelink.org) for more information.



**Cross Roads Community  
United Methodist Church**

3400 113th Ave NE  
Spicer, MN 56288

320-796-2339  
[www.crossroadsspicer.com](http://www.crossroadsspicer.com)

May 2022

Christian radio stations in the area:

K-Love 90.9

KTIS 92.7 & 98.5

Spirit 92.9

### **The Cross Roads Mission**

To help everyone find joy in their journey by:

Inviting everyone to walk with Jesus,

Growing together as His disciples,

Serving others we meet along the way

And Joyfully Celebrating the Journey