

Wow! What an amazing month September has been. It is always wonderful and a little bit amazing at how quickly things seem to move in church life. Yet we know that God is in charge of it all. October is shaping up to be another wonderful ministry filled month and we hope that whether it is in Bible study, or mission projects, Youth Group, and of course Sunday worship that you will be a part of it all.

There is a seasonal aspect to life that closely mirrors the seasons of the year. We are in the middle of a wonderful season of busyness here at the church, but just because we are busy, we do not need to be burdened. Jesus says many wonderful things, and one of my favorite Jesus sayings is: "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (Matthew 11:28-30 NRSV) Growing up I had a tendency to think this meant Jesus wanted us to take it easy, or to live a life of leisure. I always wondered why that never seemed to manifest itself. Of course, that is not what Jesus is saying at all. Jesus is telling us in this moment that if we ground the work we do, whether for the church, or our families, and even our community, in God we will find not a life of ease but a life of joyful work.

We are not called to live easy lives; we are called to faithful living. That faithful living includes not only going to church and being involved in the life of Cross Roads but also recognizing that as children to God, all we have and all we are is God's to begin with. Faithful living includes giving thanks to God at the end of a busy day for the places where you saw God's grace shining through. Jesus reminds us in this passage from Matthew that there will be work to do but you need not be overwhelmed by it because Jesus is with us every step of the way and will always be faithful to us.

Love in Christ,

Pastor Leslie

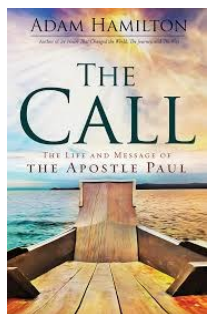
# The Compass



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## Fall Bible Study



Beginning October 9, Pastor Leslie Pastor will be teaching a Bible study entitled, *The Call: The Life and Message of the Apostle Paul*. This study will be a six-week event, and be held on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 am.

Please contact Pastor Leslie if you are interested in participating in this study so we can be sure to have enough materials for everyone.

## Coffee Corner

October's Coffee Corner will be held on Wednesday, October 9 at 9:00 am in the church fellowship hall. Please come out and join us for a cup of coffee and some great conversation. Bible study will begin immediately after at 10am.



## Celebration Bash

Our next Celebration Bash will be Sunday, October 6 following worship. There will be sweet treats as well as a sampling of the variety of breads which will be a part of our World Communion Sunday. Please join as we celebrate those with birthdays and anniversaries during the month.

## Administrative Board Meeting

Our next Administrative Board meeting will be Tuesday, October 8. We will begin our work on the 2025 budget, so if you a member of the board, please plan to attend.

## Lay Readers Needed

If you would like to help Pastor Leslie during worship on Sundays with prayers and scripture readings, please sign up on the link in the weekly email, or talk with Pastor Leslie. We need the following dates: October 20, November 3, 10, 17, December 15, 22, 29. Thank you in advance for your service to our worship ministry!



## Meals Needed

The Youth Group is looking for volunteers to help with dinners during the months of October, November, and December. The following dates are still available: November 20; December 4, 15.

If you are interested in helping, please sign up online using the link found in the weekly email or contact Pastor Leslie, Donna Smith, or Sarah Friesen.

## Missions & Outreach

*By the time this goes to print, all the final details for the Fall Boutique will be done.* I want to thank EACH person who helped in any way....crafters, bakers, organizers, and shoppers. This is by far, our largest event and it will support so many amazing mission opportunities over the next year!!

*Our focus for October will be Family Promise.* As I shared with all of you a few months ago, so many people are just one paycheck away from homelessness. Let's do what we can to support this amazing group. We will be collecting the following items:

- New towel/wash cloth sets
- New twin bed sheet sets
- Diapers (size 4)
- New pillows

The mission team will be happy to shop for you if you'd rather make a monetary donation.



*The Link has an urgent request* and several area churches have been assigned to collect specific items. For the next few weeks Cross Roads will be collecting bakery type items. Things like brownie, cookie, or cake mixes, flour, brown sugar, sugar, chocolate chips etc. There will be a tub at the entrance labeled for this special request!!

*On October 29th, we will be hosting Tuesday's Table.* The menu has been set and we'll be serving Turkey Noodle soup with a ham/cheese sandwich on the side. If you'd like to help serve, please contact either Bonnie Triplett or Jenny Daby. We generally have 100+ guests, so we can use lots of hands to set up, serve, and clean up!

If you have any suggestions for future mission opportunities, please let me know!!

Jenny Daby, Missions & Outreach Chair

## Remember to save your Teals Receipts!

Bring them to church and put them in the special Teals Receipts box located in the narthex area. Teals will donate 1% of our receipt totals to Cross Roads. *All reimbursements from the receipts go towards the Tuesday's Table meal expenses.* All receipts will be accepted, even those from previous years.



## Oct Birthdays

Konnor Rohloff 3rd  
Jeff Denz 12th  
Sarah Friesen 17th  
Joel Hagen 28th  
Michael Sasse 29th

## Oct Anniversaries

Brian & Sheryl Nelson 8th  
David & Pat Evermann 20th  
David & Annette Muetzel 26th

*If we have missed your special day, please let the office know.*



# AUGUST 2024 IMPACT FROM THE LINK

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## THE FOOD PANTRY



In August, The Food Pantry served **183 Households** including 303 adults, 186 children and 56 seniors-- distributing a total of 11,502 pounds of food!

## CLIENT OUTREACH and HOUSEHOLD EXCHANGE



Each month, The Link is able to provide support to a number of families facing hardships, such as (but not limited to): job loss, chronic illness, unexpected change in family dynamics and increase in the cost of living.

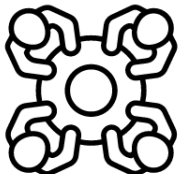
In August, your donations were able to support **70 families** by helping with medical bills and prescription cost, utility bills and rental payments along with providing budgeting support, networking and referrals for additional basic needs. The Link also provided **62 families** with basic household needs including clothing, dishes and furniture!

## WILDCAT BACKPACK AND SNACK PANTRY

The Wildcat Backpack Program is again providing students from NLS for the weekend. Currently, there are 97 students benefitting from this program! If you would like to sponsor a child for the year, please call Ashley at 320-354-5465



The Snack Pantry is currently providing snacks for over 30 teachers at NLS to distribute to their students throughout the school day.



## TUESDAY'S TABLE

A free community meal the 1st Tuesday of the month: Our Lady of the Lakes (Spicer), 2nd Tuesday: Evangelical Covenant (New London), 3rd Tuesday: Faith Lutheran (Spicer), 4th Tuesday: Peace Lutheran (New London), 5th Tuesday: Crossroads Community Church (Spicer).

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Pray for the Link and the community; Help us spread awareness by talking about The Link to your friends and family and sharing on social media; Donate unexpired food items to the food pantry or organize a food drive; Volunteer at the thrift store or in the food pantry;



Donate your gently used clothing and household goods- (all proceeds kick back into The Link's programs; Donate financially-

**Remember for every \$1 donated, The Link can purchase \$10 in food through Second Harvest.**

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## CURRENT NEEDS:

Gently used clothing and household essentials.

Food: Kid friendly food (corn dogs, chicken nuggets, french fries, pizza, snacks, etc. ), Monetary donations.



## Donations made easy

Monthly giving at the the Link is convenient . You can set up online giving directly through your bank or by visiting The Link's website at [www.youarethelink.org](http://www.youarethelink.org) by scanning the QR code. You can also mail your donation to P.O. Box 823 , New London, MN 56273, drop off your donation in person or leave your check in the drop box outside of The Link's door at 20 Central Ave E, New London. Questions? Contact Ashley at 320-354-5555.

# Thank you for your support! YOU are The Link!



**Cross Roads Community  
United Methodist Church**

3400 113th Ave NE  
Spicer, MN 56288

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

October 2024

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.