

What would you do if you weren't afraid? Sure, it might be a slightly cheesy and cliché question, but maybe it is cliché because it is true. Fear has a way of stopping us in our tracks. It has a way of keeping us in our boxes because that unknown place outside of our comfort zones is just a little too wild, and unpredictable, and scary.

One of the most frequent requests that God or God's messengers give in Scripture is to fear not. Fear is one of those things that gets in the way on our faith journeys, it is one of those things that keeps us from experiencing the fullness of who God is, how God is moving in the world, and who God is calling us to be.

When God called Moses out of his comfort zone at the burning bush, Moses' first responses are fear: fear of failure, fear of not being enough, fear of how people will respond, fear of the unknown. Out of fear, Moses begs with God to please send someone else and let Moses keep living his quiet and comfortable life. God calls Moses beyond his fear, recognizing that these are indeed scary things but that God will be with Moses, and so they are not reasons not to try.

When the Israelites heard from Moses what God was going to do, they too responded with fear. Because as much as they wanted freedom, the risk and uncertainty were frightening and so time and again they struggle.

These are just some of the countless stories from Scripture of people experiencing fear and God calling them beyond that fear. Fear is a reality of life and something that we all have in common. We all meet and experience fear on a daily bases, whether we are aware of it or not. And that fear we meet impacts our decisions.

Sometimes this is really helpful. A healthy fear of heights, for example, can keep us from accidentally falling off things. But often our fears impact our actions and thoughts in unhealthy ways. Often our fears cause us to box ourselves in or stagnate, they cause us to respond in brittle and anxious ways with others rather than with love.

Maybe in those hundreds of times God asks us to fear not in the Bible God isn't asking us to do the impossible and like completely without fears. Maybe God is asking us to decide what we will do with our fears, to decide if we will let them hold us back or if we will hear the call of God to follow Jesus into that unknown, wild place of God's love.

So, what would you do if you weren't afraid? It's a question some of our congregational leaders and I have been talking about as we discern together how God might be calling us to serve others in our community. It's a question that helps open our hearts to hear how God might be nudging and calling each of us.

Maybe if we weren't afraid, we would reach out to that person we haven't talked to in a while. Maybe if we weren't afraid, we would tell someone we love them. Maybe if we weren't afraid, we would talk about our faith lives with our friends. Maybe if we weren't afraid, we would try something new that we might fail at. What would you do if you weren't afraid?

Pastor Leslie

The Compass



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Admin Chair note	2
Missions.....	2
Kayaking Group.....	2
Boutique Mtg.....	2
The Link.....	3

PERSONAL DISCIPLESHIP-- JUST DO IT!!

Many "group" discipleship activities and events take place at Cross Roads--the Bloodmobile, confirmation, graduate recognition, potlucks, celebration Sundays, mission sponsorships, etc. These happen because someone takes the time to coordinate the activity and "mobilize the troops," so to speak, to get people engaged.

However, there is another aspect to discipleship--personal discipleship. What actions or steps do you take as an individual. When you see a void, do you fill it? When you see a need, do you step up and fulfill it? In any group or organization, it's easy to say, "I think we should _____ (fill in the blank)" but what that often means is that "I have an idea but I want someone else to do it." If you ask the "suggestor" if he/she plans to coordinate it or be involved, oftentimes the answer is, "No." The hope is often that someone ELSE will do it!

Personal discipleship means that if you see a need or think something should be done, then YOU step up and do it! We have lots of examples of personal discipleship in our church but it's important that each member of Cross Roads continues to step up and ask, "What can I do."

Pastor Leslie gave an example of personal discipleship on Sunday. If you think we should be passing the offering plate during worship, let the Holy Spirit move you and feel free to pass the plate! At the Admin team meeting on May 17, we talked about whether to have a greeter schedule or not (we decided not to) but I saw someone standing at the door greeting people as they came in. That's personal discipleship.

Here are other examples of personal discipleship:

- If you wonder whether someone isn't coming to church because they don't have a ride, call them and ask them and offer a ride. If you can't provide the ride, offer to reach out and find someone who can.
- If you miss people who aren't attending in-person church, call them and invite them to come back in person or drop them a note.
- If you miss someone who isn't attending church with us anymore and you miss them, call them and invite them back or drop them a note.
- If you wish our congregation were larger, then invite people you meet to come to church with you.
- If you think it's important to have a greeter at the door, please step in and be a greeter!

There are lots of ways that individuals can step up and fill gaps that they think need to be filled at Cross Roads. To borrow a slogan, "Just Do It!"

If you'd rather get guidance from the Bible instead of a shoe company, Luke 11:9 says, "And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you."

In the fellowship of Christ,

Pat Solheid, Admin Team Chair

Mission & Outreach

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



For the month of June, we will continue to collect items for Hope Care Pantry. This month will focus on baby items. Due to the formula shortage, items are even more important now. Please bring items to the drop area by the kitchen or designate your funds for Hope Care Pantry and the missions team will shop for you. Items needed include; formula (if you can find it, baby wipes, diapers, pull-ups, baby shampoo, baby lotion and diaper rash ointment. Thank you in advance!!

Cross Roads Kayakers!

Beginning in June, Pastor Leslie and Donald are forming a kayaking group (canoes are welcome!) called Cross Roads Kayakers. We will be meeting once a month at a different lake location to just kayak together and fellowship.

Our first date is Sunday, June 26, from 4-6 pm. We will be kayaking Nest Lake for our first "voyage". We will meet at the public access on County Road 9.



If you would like to join us, just show up! No RSVP needed.

Boutique Reminder

There will be a Boutique meeting on Sunday, June 12th right after services in the Fellowship Hall. Coffee will be served. Be sure to mark your calendar!!



June Birthdays

Whitnee Nelson—1st
Coltin Pflipsen—11th
Mike Evenson—22nd
Wyatt Huls—27th
Leslie Zeek—27th
Linda Kelvington—28th

June Anniversaries

Dennis & Donna Gertgen—6th
Ross & Joy Baker—11th
Howard & Mary Jane Carlsen—14
Jim & Doree Leither—21
Bryan & Diane Maurice—28



May 2022 Updates

RIBFEST 2022 IS UPON US AND WE ARE LOOKING FOR HELP! If you or anyone you know would be interested in baking any fruit pies for the event or if you would be interested in any other type of volunteering opportunities, please let us know as soon as possible by calling Chasity at 320-354-5465!. Ribfest is scheduled for SATURDAY, JUNE 11 this year and will take place in the large city parking lot behind The Link. (Please note, we changed the day to a Saturday this year).

Tuesday's Table:

EXCITING NEWS!!!! TUESDAY'S TABLE IS SCHEDULED TO START UP AGAIN SEPTEMBER OF 2022!!!! If your church would like to take part in hosting Tuesday's Table, please call Ashley at 320-354-5555 or email ashley@youarethelink.org or call 320-354-5555.

In April, **The Food Pantry** welcomed 12 new families, served 39 children, 86 adults and 28 seniors. 3123 pounds of food was distributed and 393 pounds of food was donated from community members and churches. Food Rescue also brought in 1685.5 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 5 families in the month of April. Throughout the month, The Link was able to help with rental expenses, medical bills and utility bills for those in need. The Household Exchange program also helped 5 families with furnishing their homes.

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 380 for the month of April! 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!!!

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 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 for more information.



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June 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