

During the month of November, our thoughts literally turn heavenward. November 1st is All Saints Day in the Church, with many churches this year celebrating on either October 30 or November 6. All Saints Sunday is a time when we rejoice in the hope we have as Christians that those who die in the faith still live in Christ. As the month of November continues, we start to move into a time of the Church year in which we hear readings about the end of time and the return of Christ. During November our minds are indeed turned heavenward, but we can also look to the saints all around us right here on earth.

The scriptures say we are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses in the faith (Hebrews 12:2). During Sunday morning worship, this is literally true. You are seated with Christians in front of you, behind you, and next to you. Consider one group of Christians in particular – our elderly members. Many of our elderly members may not physically be with us on Sunday. Many may be homebound, in a hospital, or in a care facility; but that does not mean they are any less with us in the faith of Christ. These days, they may even be with us online. These members are truly saints whom we should desire to emulate and respect.

In the United States, we live in a relatively youth-obsessed culture. We like our bodies to look and feel youthful. We generally look down on the aging process. Most of us groan when the wrinkles appear, and we moan when the aches get worse. But why should we look down on aging even with all its wrinkles and aches? Those lines and wrinkles are not signs of depleted youth. As Christians, we should see every line and wrinkle as the beauty mark of someone Christ has sustained in the faith over many years. As our bodies slow down, we don't have to grow angry that we can't do the things we want to do. On the contrary, we can give thanks that Christ is drawing us closer to what God wants to do – give us eternal life.

We have living saints among us who emulate faithfulness to Christ on a daily basis. Our elderly members are fellow Christians who have seen life, lived through what many of us are just now going through, and have come out the other end sustained by faith in Christ. We should strive to be like these living saints. After all, as Christians, shouldn't we want to live lives of faith right now in this world, and ones that will be celebrated for all eternity with our living Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord, the author and perfecter of our faith.

Peace be with You,

Pastor Leslie

The Compass



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Charge Conference Gathering



On Thursday, November 17 beginning at 6:30 pm, our congregation will be joining other congregations around the North Star District of our Annual Conference for a multi-charge Charge Conference. This will be a time of worship, celebrating the ministries of all the congregations present, and conducting the needed annual business of the church.

If you would like to attend Charge Conference this year, you are welcome to join the Administrative Board members in the church library. We will be participating online via Zoom from one central location. If you are unable to make it to the church but would like to participate online, please contact Pastor Leslie for registration information.

All Saints Sunday

On Sunday, November 6, Cross Roads will be celebrating All Saints Day during our morning worship. During worship, we will be recognizing those saints from our congregation who have gone to glory since last year's All Saints Day. We will also have a candle-lighting for each of these individuals, as well as any other saints the members of the congregation would like to remember. During this service, we will be celebrating Holy Communion with all saints, both past and present.



Church Clean Up Day-November 12

An outside clean-up day will be held at the church on Saturday, November 12 from 9am to noon.



If you can help, please email or text Jim Solheid at spicer.jim@tds.net or 320-894-9358. If you have any tree-trimming equipment, pruning equipment, ladders, etc. please bring them along.

The plan is to reinstall the flame on the cross on the west wing, trim trees and take the branches to the landfill, clear out the garage, put out the insulated blankets, etc. Many hands will make light work!

"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." Colossians 3:17

Celebration Bash

Please join us on Sunday, November 6 after worship service to celebrate our November birthdays and anniversaries!



Coffee Corner



Starting in November, we will gather once a month on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. We are looking forward to gathering on the 9th at 9:00am!

Administrative Team Notes

As you know, we changed to a "one-board" administrative team model in 2022. This means that instead of having various committees with each committee chair attending the Admin Team Meeting, the board itself function as one committee, managing the church's finances, reviewing approving expenditures, coordinating with the SPRC (that committee still exists), etc. To be honest, it's been an adjustment (at least for me) but as time goes on, the Admin Team is getting a little more comfortable with the new structure.

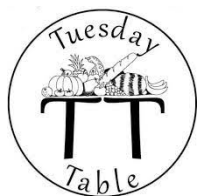
In October, we started the process of developing the 2023 budget. Here's the thing about budgets--the revenue (in our case, the giving) has to be equal to the expenses or we end up "in the red." Ideally, giving is MORE than our expenses which would allow us to do all kinds of wonderful things in the name of Jesus the Saviour! The reality is that giving has been a bit stagnate over the past few years but expenses go up, up, up--insurance, salaries, utilities, maintenance expenses, you name it. The Admin Team is fully aware that the trend we see in church finances is the same trend you see in your household budget. There's no easy answer, but we ask that you pray with intention regarding your giving for the remainder of 2022 and for 2023. As the Admin Team, we have to be realistic when we finalize our budget in November and in good conscience, we'd be hard-pressed to set a budget where spending exceeds giving (at least on paper).

On a different note, I have a tip that I'd like to share for those of you who use the Bible Gateway site or app. Bible Gateway is an excellent resource. You can look up Bible verses from virtually any version of the Bible (King James, New International Version, The Message and many, many more). There is a verse of the day, reading plans, and many other resources. One of the best aspects, is the audio component. You can look up any scripture and listen to it by audio! I have found this very helpful for Bible study. I read the scripture assignment then I listen to it via Bible Gateway. It's a great way to absorb the scripture. If you are using your computer, the Bible Gateway website can be found at <https://www.biblegateway.com> or you can find the Bible Gateway app in the "store" for your brand of phone. Try it sometime! If you need help finding the site, you can let me know and I'll help you as best I can.

Even though we are winding down to 2022, the busiest months are still ahead!

Pat Solheid
Admin Board Chairperson

Tuesday's Table is Coming to Cross Roads



Tuesday's Table is a weekly meal (on Tuesdays, duh!) for those living in the community. It is open to anyone who would like to come. There are four (4) churches in our area who provide the meals on a monthly basis: Lady of Our Lakes, Covenant Church-NL, Faith Lutheran, and Peace Lutheran.

However, a few times a year there is a fifth Tuesday in the month, and this is where we come in. Cross Roads and some other smaller churches who cannot commit on a weekly basis have agreed to take turns hosting on these Tuesdays. And November is our time to shine and show off!

Tuesday, November 29, we will be hosting the Tuesday's Table here at Cross Roads. A few more volunteers would be appreciated! We need greeters, servers, and cleanup crew! Please let Jenny Daby know if you can assist. You are ALL also invited to attend the meal and meet others from the community!



The Missions & Outreach team is excited to announce the continuation of our annual Christmas project, Bless A Home. We will partner with The Link again, who identifies local families that may need help to have a Christmas celebration, and provide meal baskets to 10 families and Christmas gifts to 6 families. All excess mission funds in the month of November will go towards the Bless A Home project! We look forward to spreading the love of our church family throughout our community!

Nov. Birthdays

Richard Johnson 2nd
Chandra Duke 6th
Lindy Nelson 11th
Arend Ryks 11th
Lacey Solheid 12th
Lloyd Greiner 14th
Ross Baker 17th
Lori Doty 22nd
Cole Baker 26th

Nov. Anniversaries

Kent & Barb Springman 17th
Michael & Kat Sasse 22nd
Bob & LuMae Erickson 28th



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

Boutique Update

The Boutique held in October was a great success! We raised over \$4,500 and the funds will be used for future Missions & Outreach Projects! One in particular will be next Spring and will be a food packaging project. All the meals packaged will stay within our local communities and we can decide where they go.

If you have a food pantry location that you'd like included in this distribution, please let Jenny Daby know.



Blood Drive

Cross Roads is hosting another Red Cross Blood Drive! On Wednesday, December 14, from 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm. in the Fellowship Hall.



What do we need from the congregation? Two things:

- 1) If you are able to give blood, go to the Red Cross website (click [HERE](#)) and put in your zip code to find our blood drive. Then sign up! You can also call 1-800-RED-CROSS to sign up. We need to have at least 30 people registered to give blood in order for the Red Cross to hold the blood drive.
- 2) We need volunteers (2-3 per shift) for two hour shifts to work the check-in desk and possibly help pass out refreshments.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Jenny Daby at (320) 470-0518 or jennydaby5@gmail.com, or you can contact the church office or Pastor Leslie.

Family Promise



Cross Roads is scheduled to serve a meal in November for Family Promise but we don't have a date or any other details at this time. If you are flexible to be ready to make a quick meal, please let Jenny Daby know.

Remember to Save Your Teals Receipts!

Cross Roads UMC is continuing to be part of the Teals' Market 1% Receipt Rebate Program. When you shop at Teals, save your receipts, bring them to church, and put them in the special Teals Receipts box located just outside the sanctuary in the narthex area. Teals will donate 1% of our receipt totals to Cross Roads to put towards our many missions and outreach projects. All receipts will be accepted, even those from previous years. Please note that gas receipts ARE a part of the program! This is a great opportunity to take part in a local business giving back to our community!





3400 113th Ave NE
Spicer, MN 56288

320-796-2339
www.crossroadsspicer.com

November 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