



This issue:

Palm Sunday Worship

April 2, 10am

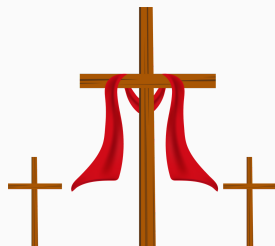
Palm Parade, Dramatic Readings,
Communion



Maundy Thursday Worship

April 6, 1pm

Communion Service



Good Friday Worship

April 7, 7pm

Dramatic Readings,
Cross Winds Choir



Easter Worship

April 9, 10am

Continental Breakfast
9am

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Cross Winds

United Methodist Church

15051 Weaver Lake Road

Maple Grove, MN 55311

Phone: 763-494-9463

Website: crosswindslife.org

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Sign Up To Stay Connected

Contact Michelle Schober to be added to the email distribution lists for

- "Cross Winds Life", distributed on Fridays - includes pastor's note, important information about the life of the church, and links for upcoming events
- Prayer Chain email updates

New Church Website

Our new website has launched! You can still find us online at the same location - crosswindslife.org - but will find many new features with our new website. As we continue to settle into the new site, our hope is that you'll be able to use this tool as a portal to find what you need about Cross Winds!

Many Thanks to:

- Our incredible web design team – Michelle Schober, Roger Roth, and Tami Cooper.
- The staff - working as copy writers and photographers.
- Photographic contributors - Mark Schaffer, Tim Peschman, and Rich Kemp
- Church leaders who assisted with the rebranding project

Finance Update

Thank you for your pledge and giving for this new year. We are getting closer to completion of the Kitchen Upgrade Project. Your Capital Campaign contributions have allowed us to proceed with all of the construction. Thanks for making this possible!

We will have our challenges in the months ahead as our budget indicates that we will be in a deficit for the year. As we enter April we need all your giving to support all of our CWUMC ministries. If you have not pledged for this year it's not too late and no amount is too small.

Thank you again for your blessings and support for our ministries at CWUMC. If you have questions about our 2023 Budget, pledging or questions related to our Endowment Fund, or Mortgage Balance please contact us at finance@crosswindsumc.org

Ministry Staff

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Christy Sturlaugson
Pastoral Intern

Cheryl Purkat
Nursery Supervisor

Stay tuned as our website continues to grow! We'll be doing more with the website that will expand events, volunteer opportunities, facilities scheduling, etc.



Pastor's Note by Stina Koppes



Bending down to take a look, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he didn't go in. Following him, Simon Peter entered the tomb and saw the linen cloths lying there. He also saw the face cloth that had been on Jesus' head. It wasn't with the other clothes but was folded up in its own place. Then the other disciple, the one who arrived at the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed.

~ John 20:5-8

Before the disciples saw the risen Christ on that first Easter morning, they found the empty tomb and looked at the linen grave cloths. In the Gospel according to John, painstaking attention is drawn to these remnants. The things left behind in the emptiness become the spark of hope and belief that resurrection had occurred.

As we prepare for the celebration of Easter together, my prayer for you is that you can see what needs to be left behind in your own life. In letting go, may you honor the sacred value they held for an important season and recognize that God is calling you forward into new life. As a church, may we also be attentive to honoring those things that we now leave behind as God continues to call us forward into a new season of resurrected ministry.

In all circumstances, may we give thanks for what was. May we honor what is. Let us hold fast to the promise that the future is filled with the joy of resurrected life.

Happy Easter.

With Appreciation

Dear Cross Winds family,
George and I so appreciate all of your prayers, cards and many expressions of caring given to us during my recent surgery. We are so grateful to all of you, and we are thankful that things are going well.
Blessings on each of you,
Marcia Colson

SO ALL ARE *Welcome*

So welcome each other,
in the same way that
Christ also welcomed
you, for God's glory
Romans 15:7

April Capital Campaign Update

As we await the arrival of our kitchen cabinets, countertops, and other equipment, we are grateful for the ongoing work that continues in our kitchen and fellowship hall.

A big thank you to everyone who helped with the storage room construction project, especially Mike Ronning, Scott Nagel and Dale Bossen.

A round of thanks to our painters who painted the fellowship hall, especially Jeff Ducklow, Scott Parr, Scott McHenry, David Hoden, Dave Looney, Tom Bailey, and Paul Crosland.

Be sure to join us on Sunday, April 30, 11am in the Fellowship Hall for the Kitchen Shower and Luncheon event.



SO ALL ARE *Welcome*

So welcome each other,
in the same way that
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Romans 15:7





CROSS WINDS KITCHEN REGISTRY

Kitchen Shower & Luncheon

Sunday, April 30, 11:00 am

We are getting ready to open the new kitchen. Construction is well underway and thanks to the generosity of so many people, we are excited to have things ready by this summer. As we get ready to open, we need your help equipping the kitchen with commercial grade kitchen supplies. Check out the [registry online](#) and help us get this kitchen ready to bless the world! Your donation will go directly toward the item you select. The church will then purchase the items based on what is selected.

Registry Items Include

- Oven Wares (baking sheets, pans, tins)
- Storage bins and racks
- Stovetop needs (pots and frying pans)
- Small wares (mixing bowls, measuring spoons, cooking utensils)
- Tableware china (plates, bowls, cups, flatware)
- Service Ware (platters, serving bowl sets, pitchers)
- Sanitation (towels, aprons, cleaning supplies)
- Disposable items (compostable plates, napkins, cups)
- Carts (serving carts, dish carts, glass dolly)
- Additional Kitchen appliances (microwave, ice maker, stand mixer, food processor, mobile heating cabinet, and convection oven)

Be sure to stop by the Kitchen Shower booth on Sunday mornings in the entryway. Our hospitality team can help you navigate the registry and answer questions you may have.

Join us on **Sunday, April 30, 11am in the Fellowship Hall for a kitchen shower and luncheon** to celebrate our progress and get ready for an exciting new chapter in ministry together! Thank you for your ongoing support and generosity.



WE'RE HAVING A KITCHEN!
Join us for a kitchen shower & luncheon
Sunday | April 30 | 11:00 AM | Fellowship Hall

Donate towards your favorite kitchen item online
www.crosswindslife.org

MIRACULOUS

April 2 - Palm Sunday

Matthew 21:1-11

Experience the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem as we celebrate Palm Sunday and prepare for Holy Week. This service will be filled with music and dramatic readings.

April 7, 7:00 pm

Good Friday

Gather at the foot of the cross as we remember Jesus' final hours through dramatic readings and sacred music. On this day we remember how humankind crucified the One who came to save us, as we also recall that God's love for us never fails, not even on this day.

April 6, 1:00 pm

Maundy Thursday

Gather in the sanctuary for a simple 30 minute communion service including reflective readings. This worship service will be offered in-person only. If you would like to receive communion elements that have been blessed by the church for home use, please contact the office.

April 9 Easter Sunday - A New Creation

John 20:1-10

Celebrate the joy of unexpected miracles this Easter at Cross Winds. This worship service will be filled with trumpets, choirs, and all of your Easter favorites!



April 16 - The Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-15 - Cliff Helling

When we wonder how we should pray, we know we have the Lord's Prayer to guide our way. Join us as Cliff Helling shares a personal testimony about the power of the Lord's Prayer and how it can bring faith, hope, and love into your life.



April 23 - Eyes Wide Open

Luke 24:13-35 - Christy Sturlaugson

In the story of the Road to Emmaus, we see two disciples who cannot recognize Jesus. This Sunday we will explore how our expectations often limit how we see God at work, and how we can instead, go about life with eyes wide open to the working of God.

April 30 - Who Is Your Shepherd

Psalms 23 - Joyce Sluss

In the story of the Road to Emmaus, we see two disciples who cannot recognize Jesus. This Sunday we will explore how our expectations often limit how we see God at work, and how we can instead, go about life with eyes wide open to the working of God.

CROSS WINDS CHILDREN



April Curriculum

On a farm, life has a daily rhythm (for plants, animals, and people, too). "Life" is what this series is all about, because we're talking about Easter and Jesus' triumph over death! In this five-week series, kids will explore the stories leading up to and following Easter Sunday. Together, they'll discover we can stick with Jesus even when our days are dark, and that because Jesus is alive, we can spend our days meeting with him, trusting he's there for us, and sharing his love – not just today, but every day!

Vacation Bible School

June 18-22, 6:00-8:00 pm - Family Dinner at 5:30 pm

In the depths of a colorful underground cave is the beating heart of the hero community, the Hero Hotline Headquarters where everyone's gifts are valued and every hero has a role to play. Each day at the Hero Hotline Headquarters, superheroes of all ages and abilities answer the call and join the Professor and veteran hero, Super Meer the Meerkat, to provide expert assistance and solutions to Hero Teams everywhere.



It's time to join the Cross Winds Bell Choir!

All Kindergarten through 5th grade students are invited to join the bell choir led by Ali Lundin and Pam Wrolstad. Each ringer is required to attend all practices prior to a performance! The performance will be during the 10am worship service on Sunday May 14. Rehearsals will be at 11am on Sunday April 30 and Sunday May 7. Sign up with Ms Amber!

Vacation Bible School Volunteers Needed

I can't tell you how many times a volunteer comes up to me and says that God was speaking to them through VBS. It's amazing to sit back and watch God work in the lives of our volunteers. God is so good! Everything that happens at VBS is all because of Him. Please prayerfully consider volunteering for VBS. There are roles suited for everyone! Contact Amber Lahtinen for more information.



CROSS WINDS CHILDREN



March was filled with mission and thrills!
We fed God's children and tubed snowy hills!
We studied the Samaritan woman and the man who couldn't see.
Jesus changes everything, including you and me!





Sunday School - April Youth Class

April 2 - Learn about Holy Week

April 9 - Enjoy Easter Breakfast with the church!



Start the Party - Kicks off April 16!

We're kicking off a brand new series this week that will carry us through the spring season together! It's called Start the Party, and it's all about the promise Jesus made about getting the most out of life. As followers of Jesus, we're invited to the full, amazing life God has for us; we're invited to the party, right here and right now! The best part? The series is going to end with an epic party you won't want to miss! This week, we'll talk about what it means to be a party starter. And of course, we can't wait to start the party with you!

For Families: Engage in Everyday Moments Together



Morning Time: As your kid starts their day, ask them how you can pray for them.



Meal Time: At a meal this week, have everyone answer this question: "What is something new you've learned about God lately?"



Drive Time: While on the go this week, ask your middle schooler: "What is the best party you've ever been to? Why?"



Bed Time: Pray that you and your kid will find the Bible engaging and be open to always learning more about God through God's Word.



Spring Wednesday Youth Classes

Fellowship time: 6:30-7pm

Class time: 7-8pm

Pastor Stina will be leading Wednesday classes for the remainder of the school year. Students (grades 6-8) will continue to gather in the youth room for social time, faith exploration, and community.

Class Schedule

- March 29 - NO Class, Spring Break
- April 5 - NO Class, Holy Week
- April 12 - Stump the Pastor!
- April 19 - Mentor Night
- April 26 - Year End Party

A Time of Transition

On Sunday, March 26, we celebrated the ministry of Josh & Jenny Greer. Josh had been serving as the Director of Youth Ministries at Cross Winds since the fall of 2021 and has chosen to leave his role for personal reasons. We are grateful for the work of Josh and Jenny over these past two years. Both shared a commitment to Christian discipleship, Biblical study, and teamwork that has blessed the church. We ask you to pray for Josh and Jenny as they begin the next chapter of their lives and discern what God has in store for them next.

In this time of transition, Pastor Stina will be serving as the program liaison for youth ministry. Our Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) will be working diligently with the Cross Winds Board to identify the next steps and top missional needs for our youth ministry programs.

For additional information about this staffing transition, please contact Pastor Stina or Bill Lewis (SPRC Chair).

Save the Date:

8th Grade Confirmation Students

All Eighth Grade students who are preparing to be confirmed should save the date for Confirmation Sunday and the rehearsal dinner!

Wednesday, May 3, 6-7:30pm - Confirmation Rehearsal and dinner

Sunday, May 7 - Confirmation Sunday - students arrive at 9:15am to prepare. Worship at 10am

For additional information about youth programming, please contact Pastor Stina (stinakoppes@crosswindsumc.org)



Adult Ministries and Small Groups

Find a way to connect with others
at Cross Winds!



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Monday, April 24, 1:30pm

Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet in the Adult Education room. Diane Christiansen is bringing treats and hosting. Bring your own beverage, completed shawls, and your current project to work on. If you knit or crochet or want to learn, you are invited to join us. For more information, contact the church office or Dianne Roth.

Senior Facilities Team

Wednesday Mornings, 9:00-11:00 am

Gather for fellowship and service with other men on Wednesday mornings. This group meets weekly downstairs for coffee and connection. Then the group works away at various indoor and outdoor projects. Men are welcome to attend as their schedule permits. Group facilitator is Roger Roth.



Spring Tea

Saturday, May 13

2:00pm

Join us for the spring tea as we welcome back Alison Young, the Blissful Hiker as the guest speaker.



Spring Tea

Saturday, May 13, 2:00 pm

Join us for the Spring Tea in the Cross Winds Fellowship Hall as we welcome back Alison Young, the Blissful Hiker as the guest speaker.

Q: What motivates a middle-aged woman to brave extreme weather, precarious river crossings, swarms of sandflies and epic mud?

A: Breathtaking scenery and a renewed sense of wonder.

Join Alison Young – the Blissful Hiker – for a spectacular solo journey of New Zealand’s 2,000-mile “Long Pathway,” Te Araroa (TAY ah-dah-DOH-uh) and discover how to step into joy.

A former professional flutist and American Public Media radio host, Alison Young is the “solo female middle-aged titanium-reinforced long-distance backpacker” Blissful Hiker. She’s hiked on six continents and in one year, walked New Zealand’s “long pathway” Te Araroa and the Pacific Crest Trail. She shares stories about her life as a thru-hiker through image, found sound, poetic and metaphor-rich word as well as music, bringing alive lessons from the trail that inspire, energize and ultimately heal the body, mind and spirit.

More information and registration information coming soon.



Cross Winds Directory & Database Updates – Due June 1

Cross Winds United Methodist Church is working on a new church database and directory which we hope will be ready this summer. We want to serve your needs so that you can stay connected with the people and ministry opportunities of Cross Winds. Please help by verifying the information we have on file for you and your family by filling out a household directory form which will soon be available as an online form on the church website or a paper form on the Welcome Desk.

The Cross Winds household form will allow you to:

- Update your contact information
- Provide specificity on how you would like your contact information shared (for example – office access only vs. published in the church directory)
- Sign up for preferred means of communication
- Subscribe to weekly email updates, prayer chain, or monthly newsletters

Properly caring for your contact information is vitally important for our administrative ministries. We not only want to ensure that we have the correct information for you, but also understand how you would like your information shared. Before printing the next church directory, we are asking each household to provide a specific permission to publish release note which indicates whether you want to be included in a church directory. We will not release your information to the congregation unless we have your permission in writing. This permission to publish indication will be found on the online database update form or on the paper forms at the Welcome Center desk.

Please let us know your intentions concerning your personal information. Your response is needed by June 1.

Name Tag Update

Beginning in May we will have a new name tag station at the Welcome Center. This new station will have both disposable as well as reusable name tags that will allow you to customize your own name tag. As we switch over to the new name tags, if you choose to use a reusable name tag, we ask that you take your name tag with you. If you would like to use your current name tag, please be sure to pick it up from the current name tag rack. After May 1, the current name tag rack will be removed and the new system will be at the Welcome Center.



Thank you, Christy!

Farewell Sunday April 23

Blessings on your
appointment at
Aldersgate UMC!

Christy Sturlaugson Goodbye

by Scott Parr

Christy Sturlaugson's time with us at Cross Winds is quickly coming to an end. As you recall she has been interning with us as a part of her M.Div program at Luther Seminary. The program called for her to intern with a church for 2 years while she continued to take classes. Due to certain circumstances she has only been with Cross Winds for the second year of her internship. As a member representing the internship committee, I would like to thank her for what she and her family have brought to all of us here at CWUMC. I personally will remember the sparkle in the eyes of Soren, dressed as Joseph, as he looked up at me and asked, "Are we on yet", during the all church Christmas musical. I wish that we would have more time to get to know and be with Christy and all of her family, but it is time for her to move on. Coincidentally, Christy said the very same thing at our last Internship committee meeting. It seems that we are just getting to know each other when it is time to say goodbye. She wished she could have been here longer.

Be comforted in knowing that Christy is not running from something as she leaves us, but rather she is running to something. She is running to a life of serving our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. She will graduate in late May and has been appointed to Aldersgate United Methodist Church beginning in July. As she continues on her path to becoming an ordained Pastor, we here on the committee and I believe everyone at Cross Winds, would like her to go with our blessing. The committee has already told her that we are now, and will forever be, available to help her in any way we can. Please feel free to approach Christy in these last few weeks and give her your personal blessings as well.

Join us in worship on April 23 for Christy's last Sunday with us.

“Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.”

—PSALM 23:6, CEB



Thank You For Supporting the United Methodist Committee on Relief

In March, nearly \$4,000 was collected to support the work of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). UMCOR Sunday reminds us that the alarms of crisis and devastation demand our attention over and over again. Many do not have the connection or the understanding of how to help—but we do. Our participation in this important ministry allows UMCOR staff to jump into action right at the most urgent moments. Your gift to the UMCOR Sunday offering helps defray UMCOR’s operating costs. Your generosity allows UMCOR to use 100% of additional designated funds for specific programs like U.S. disaster response, international disaster response and global migration. Your support deepens the connection between the local church and ministries on a global scale. Thank you for your generosity.

We are also grateful for the quilts and girls hygiene kits made by our Stitches of Love team for both UMCOR and Days for Girls work. Stitches Team members and contributors include: JoAn Baker, Heidi Crosland, Virginia Demeules, Jane Ducklow, Brenda Machacek, Joan Mann, Mary Anne Mbali, Barb Parr, Sherri Sholund, and Joyce Sluss.

Thanks for continuing to do all the good you can!

Cross Winds

United Methodist Church

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The Compass

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www.crosswindslife.org

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