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Community Night - Thanksgiving Dinner Wednesday, November 19, 5:30pm

Bring your family and friends for a Thanksgiving dinner at Cross Winds! Our hospitality team will be providing a delicious meal as we celebrate all we have to be thankful for this holiday season. Recommended donation of \$5/person. This is a great opportunity to help fill the donation bin with a new toy or non-perishable food items.



NOVEMBER

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 Tuesdays - includes important information about the life of the church, and links for upcoming events
- Prayer Chain email updates

MN Annual Conference News

Stay up to date on news from the MN Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church:

www.minnesotaumc.org

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Cheryl Purkat, Jorie Emerson

Nursery Staff



"...Acorns"

"Autumn is a season of great beauty, but it is also a season of decline: the days grow shorter, the light is suffused, and summer's abundance decays toward winter's death. Faced with the inevitable winter, what does nature do in autumn? It scatters the seeds that will bring new growth in the spring -and scatters them with amazing abandon."

*~ Parker Palmer,
Let Your life Speak*



The last few weeks I have been aware of the overwhelming abundance of the riches of acorns. It seems that nearly everywhere I go, there are strong, tall, oak trees that are making their way into their winter fashion statement. However, before they can let go of their brilliant red-brown leaves, they have work to do; a work that makes a smorgasbord of delight for the hundreds of squirrels that also have their own work to do. Their work is to eat, to get plump, to make ready their bodies for the cold temperatures and lack that will be their winter life. I have marveled at how these two partners in Creation are in this seasonal cahoots.

Acorns are an amazing little seed. Their unique shape is sleek and that sweet hat that sits on what seems its head is a fascinating wonder. Both children and adults alike cannot resist the urge to bend and pick them up and put them in a pocket. The sound they make as they crunch underfoot is unlike any other. Both squirrel and human foot help the acorn do its work.....to spread the hope of new life for yet another go round the sun.

Many people I know dread autumn, hate seeing the summer green turn its kaleidoscope of unimaginable colors. They hate to see autumn arrive because they know that winter is not far behind. Darkness becomes our companion in winter, and even in these still autumn days, the darkness is already seeping into the ways we shape our comings and goings. We need to be aware that darkness is descending earlier and light is arriving later as we plan whatever outdoor activities that have become our pattern. An after work or after dinner walk can now be completed in near total darkness. If the pattern is to rise early, the walk outside is starting later and later each day if light is required.

All this can seem like decline. Decline of light. Of color. Of green. Of life. Unless, of course, we pay attention to the acorn and its parent, the oak tree. This oxygen producer with a trunk and limbs is busy 'scattering with amazing abandon' the promise of air and shade and foliage for the year that is still only dream to us. While we may be making plans for what next year or the next ten years may bring, the oak tree is literally giving of itself for a life that is yet to be. As acorns hit the ground, as they fall softly or with a thud, the oak tree is making an investment in our future and their own.

In theological circles, we might call this sacrifice. We might attach all kinds of heady language to what is happening and we would not be wrong to do so. What the oak tree is doing is what our ancestors did for us and what we human ones also do for our children, our grandchildren, the future of the world. We give of ourselves, we plant the seeds, we water them in hope, that new life will grow, a life that has a little bit of us tucked inside what will be born.

This is one of the lessons of the seasons of which we are blessed to be a part. It is not something to dread as much as open ourselves to, be aware of, so we do not miss the blessing of what it means to be a part of this amazing Creation. As the trees let go their leaves, as the earth gives up whatever it has grown, seeds for what is to come are falling, burrowing, resting into what is yet to be. The earth is doing this with abandon.

It gives me reason to pause and wonder how I might do the same. What about you?

As one on the journey with you,
Pastor Dianne

The Days Are Surely Coming



November 2 - Stand Firm and Hold Fast: Love Increasing

2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

All Saints Sunday is one of the most precious in the life of a community of faith. It is an opportunity to celebrate beloved members of the church and to acknowledge a worldwide connection with those who claim the name of Christ.

November 9 - The Latter Splendor

Haggai 2:1-9

Let us be reminded that the days are surely coming when every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

November 23 - Woe to the Shepherds

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Whether we recognize this day as the traditional title for this final day of the Christian Year, "Christ the King Sunday," or the newer designation, "Reign of Christ Sunday," the emphasis is always on allegiance to the Savior, Jesus the Christ.

November 16 - Rejoice Forever in Creation

Isaiah 65:17-25

And here's the mark, the sign of the proclaimed kingdom: there will be joy in the people of the kingdom. There will be delight, not hate or division, not laughter that demeans and diminishes, but laughter that rejoices in the community that we will become in the kingdom of God in all its surprising diversity.



November 30 - Room, When Pressure is Closing In

Joshua 2:1-21; Matthew 1:1-5

Rahab is a woman under pressure from many different sources. And yet, somehow, in making room for strangers in her home, she finds the sanctuary of God's protection and becomes a permanent part of Jesus' family tree.

abundance humanity UNCONDITIONAL
FRIENDSHIP offer make a difference
gratitude kindness UNITE gift
altruism support INSPIRE LOVE thank you
volunteer compassion give back charity
service SHARE NOW community
get involved TIME generosity



Finance Update

Thank you for your Giving for CWUMC. As we move further into fall and closer to November, the deficit which we mentioned last month has increased. However, it is still within our budgeted expectations. Our expenses have stayed at anticipated levels.

We are working on our budget for 2026 and our stewardship campaign is underway. As we talk more about 2026, please don't forget about the importance of support for the final few months of 2025. You can make a big difference with any additional financial support. No amount is too small. This will help to fund our missions and necessary expenses during the balance of the year. You can also give online. There is a simplified giving form that goes directly into the operating budget. You can also use the giving form on the website to give to other funds besides the operating budget.

We sincerely thank you again for your giving in 2025 to all of our ministries at CWUMC. If you have questions about our Operating Fund, or questions related to our 2025 Budget, other Reserve Funds, Endowment Fund, or Mortgage Balance, please contact finance@crosswindsumc.org.



SIMPLIFIED
GIVING FORM



BIBLE BUDDY ADOPTION

Come to adopt a snuggly friend **AND** a love for God's word.



Bible Buddy Adoption Fall 2025

A Bible Buddy acts as a companion to help children engage with scripture in a fun and interactive way. The goal is for children to read their Bible to their new plush friend, fostering a daily habit of faith.

Family Movie Night

Friday November 14, 6:30pm

Join us for a cozy evening as we watch Elf, complete with free dinner, popcorn, and plenty of laughter. Bring your family, friends, or even your favorite elf costume and settle in for a fun night of fellowship and holiday spirit. Don't miss this joyful kickoff to the Christmas season because, as Buddy says, "I just like to smile. Smiling's my favorite!"



Blessed with the best!

Program leaders:
Cheryl & Jorie- Nursery
Shawn-Elementary Sundays
Megan- Elementary Wednesdays



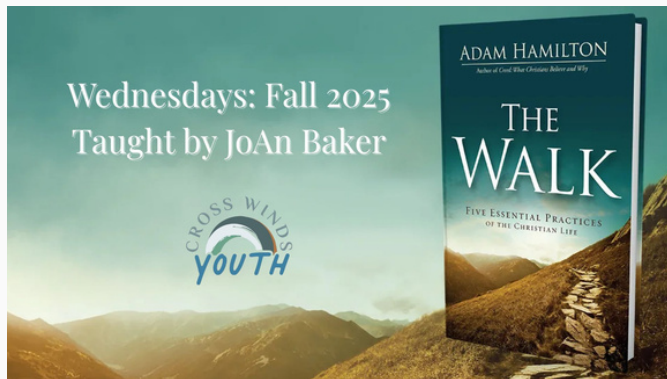


Program leaders:
John and Cailin- 6th & 7th grade
Amber- 8th grade Confirmation
JoAn- 9th-12th grade

CW Mentorship

Wednesdays Dec 3- Feb 11. 6:30pm

Mentors are an important part of a confirmands journey. Our middle school students will be seeking mentors soon. Please pray for our students and mentors.



CONFIRMATION

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS AT CROSS WINDS

NOV 5: CHURCH

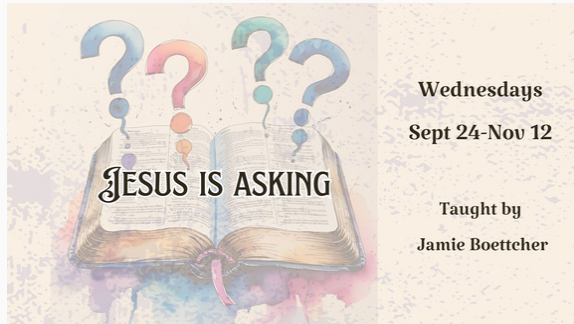
NOV 12: NEW CREATION

NOV 19: NO CLASS/ COMMUNITY NIGHT

NOV 26: NO CLASS/ THANKSGIVING BREAK



Adult Education



Jesus Is Asking

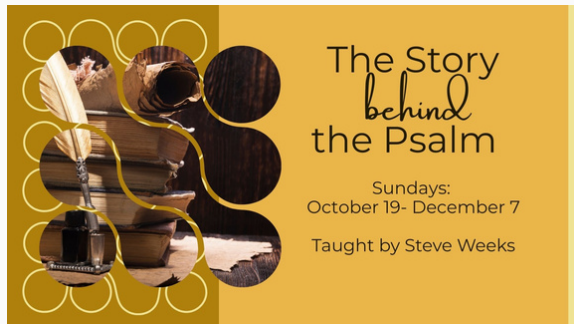
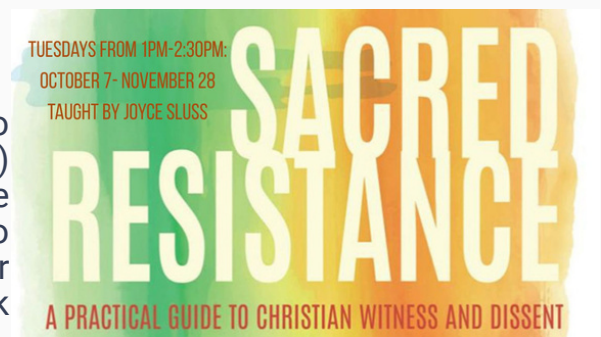
Wednesdays through November 12, 6:30-7:30pm

So often we think of Jesus as the one with the answers. But repeatedly in scripture, Jesus asks questions. He invites people into conversation and shows genuine interest in their responses. As we study these stories and the responses provided, we will consider the questions from the perspective of being asked of us today.

Sacred Resistance

Tuesdays through November 25, 1-2:30pm

The book *Sacred Resistance: A Practical Guide to Christian Witness and Dissent* (Ginger Gaines-Cirelli) serves as a reminder to look at politics through the eyes of faith, and also how to use your faith as a way to judge politics. This course teaches a vital way to let our faith lead in our political understandings. Each week will stand on its own so come as often as you are able.



The Story Behind the Psalm

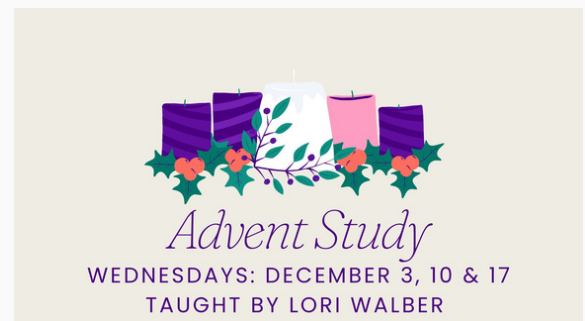
Sundays through December 7, 9-9:45am

Ever wonder what inspired the prayers, poems and songs we know as the Book of Psalms? Join Steve Weeks as we explore what was happening in David's life when he wrote some of the Psalms. We will primarily use the books of Samuel to understand the context behind some of David's writings- and discuss how we might respond to similar circumstances including being unjustly attacked, living with fear, dealing with anger, enjoying success, sinning, facing family problem problems and aging.

Advent Study

Wednesdays December 3 through 17, 6:30pm

Dig deeper into Advent with a quick, three week character study of the incredible faith stories of Elizabeth and Zechariah, Joseph, and Mary. Join Pastor Lori for three Wednesdays, Dec 3, 10 and 17.



Small Groups Ministries



Prime Timers Brunch

Join us monthly for Prime Timers Brunch at Lynde's Restaurant in Osseo

SIGN UP

**First Tuesdays
11:30 AM**

Prime Timers Monthly Brunch

Tuesday, November 4, 11:30 am

A Prime Timers Brunch has been arranged for the first Tuesday of every month at 11:30 am at Lynde's Restaurant in Osseo. Breakfast and Lunch menus will be available. Everyone invited! [Sign up on the church website.](#)

Ladies Who Lunch

Ladies Who Lunch gathers most months throughout the year. All ladies are invited to join as the current group is eager to expand and make new connections. A specific lunch is not planned for November. Be sure to check back for December plans.

LADIES WHO LUNCH

Join us for a monthly gathering at a variety of local restaurants.

CROSS WINDS United Methodist Church

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Monday, November 24, 1:30 pm

Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet Monday, November 24 at 1:30 pm at church. Bring your own beverage, current project, and any completed shawls. We invite you to join us if you knit or crochet or would like to learn. We meet monthly on the fourth Monday.



Prime Timers

There is not an event planned for November so be sure to check back for December information.

For more information and to join the fun, [visit the church website.](#)

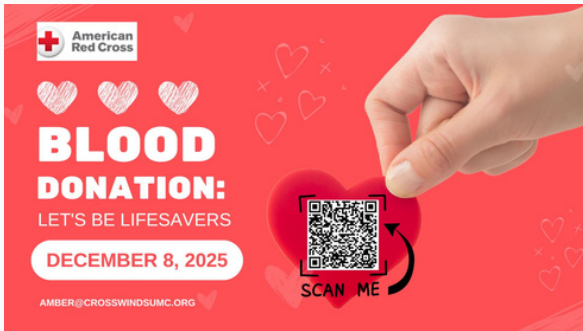
Prime Timers

Interested in connecting with other seniors? Fill out the interest form. Join us for our events.

Stitches of Love

Stitches of Love will have its next meeting on Thursday, December 4 at 1pm in the lower level. We welcome any members interested in helping with our mission related sewing projects. We meet every two months except for the summer. We focus on sewing book bags and quilts that go to Midwest Mission. We also sew feminine hygiene kits that are sent to third world countries where feminine hygiene products are not available for young girls trying to go to school. Sewing is done in your own home. We provide the patterns and have funds for material used. Come join us!





Red Cross Blood Drive

Friday December 8, 12pm-6pm

Cross Winds will be hosting a blood drive with the Red Cross on Friday, December 8. Sign up to give the gift of life. Questions can be directed to Amber Lahtinen or contact the church office.

Cross Services - Toy and Food Drive

November 1-30

Please join us in donating Toys, Gift Cards and Food to local individuals and families in need!

We're collecting NEW, UNWRAPPED toys for children 0-10 years old, gift cards for children 11-18 years and Non-perishable food items.



Midwest Mission Trip

November 9-13

Pray for those headed to serve in Illinois. Midwest Mission serves as a distribution center for relief supplies in the US and internationally. Founded by the United Methodist Church (UMC), they work to show God's love in a practical way to those in need in their time of crisis.

Caring Ministries

The Cross Winds Caring Ministry would like to add to their current team. The Care Team aims to provide support, care and a sense of community to individuals. We will be focusing on four specific areas: Communion Ministry, Meal Ministry, Card Ministry and Visitation Ministry. If you would like to learn more or are interested in heading up any of these please fill out a connection card or contact the church office.



Christmas Poinsettia Orders

Help beautify the sanctuary
for Christmas

Orders due by November 5

Order online or in person.



Christmas Poinsettia Orders - Due November 5

Order Poinsettias to beautify our sanctuary for Christmas. Pick up an order form at church and pay by check or use this [link](#) to order and pay online. Plants will be supplied through Lynde Greenhouse.

October Highlights



Cross Winds

United Methodist Church

15051 Weaver Lake Rd
Maple Grove, MN 55311

The Compass

is the monthly newsletter of
Cross Winds United Methodist Church

www.crosswindslife.org

Phone: 763-494-9463

