



CROSS WINDS



MAY 2026

This issue:



love God with all our heart, souls, and minds

love our neighbors as ourselves

celebrate

Join us for an end-of-the year party on Wednesday, May 13th (5:30-7:30pm) as we celebrate our program year together. Dinner will be served from 5:30pm-6:30pm. Grab your friends and prepare your favorite karaoke tune! Be sure to play a game of cornhole on our newly constructed boards! It's going to be a high energy, fun-filled night. See you there.



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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 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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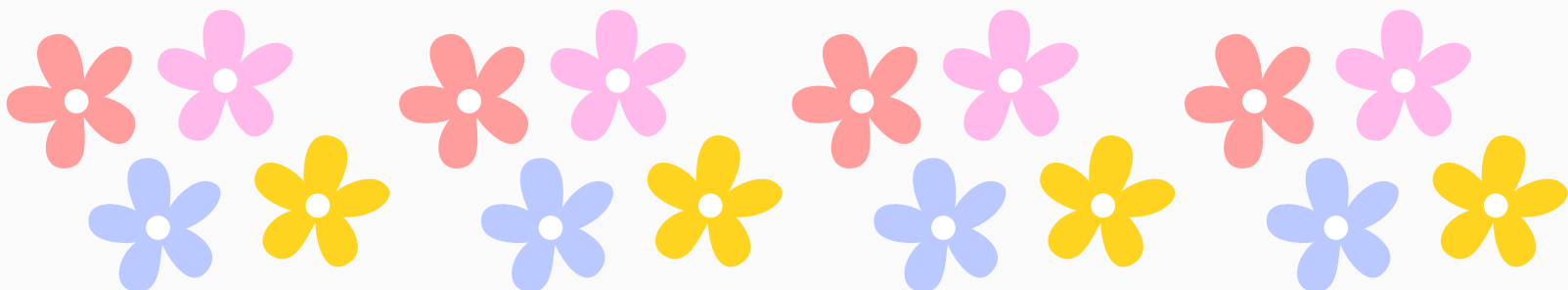
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“... Almost, Not Quite”



The last few days have been in the place of ‘almost but not quite’. Driving between here and St. Cloud lately, the trees are putting forth not quite green and not quite yellow as they work to produce the fullness of their leaves. Seeing the popping of plants, I have noticed that the hostas have pushed their way through the ground with long spiky shoots making circles of what in just a few weeks will be fully formed, lush leaves. Other ground cover has peeked through the soil and is beginning to inch out, ready to spread in its usual way, creeping around all in its path. A masterpiece is unfolding to display an even more amazing display.

Of course the tulips have had a head start. They have been slumbering in the dark, cold ground and now stand in their fullness, showing off their colors while their botanical siblings are stretching to become themselves. The crab apple trees outside are trying so desperately to be hot pink....and soon they will be. In the next few days the branches will be heavy with shades of red, pink and fuchsia waving gently in the spring breezes, sending their sweet scent into the wind. It is a glorious sight.

It is a time of year when one can become so acutely aware of what it means to be alive, to be a part of something much bigger than our human-ness, to literally watch the world come into its fullness. It is the time of year that begs us to become children again, stopping at each next interesting thing to see. This brilliant bud....this lovely leaf....this mossy mound. Astounding!!! Why, it could take hours to walk one block!

The ‘almost but not quite’ part of spring invites us to PAY ATTENTION.....with a capital P & A. If we don’t, we will miss it’s unfolding and that would be a terrible shame. Because we all know that it doesn’t last long and its gentle beauty is meant to remind us of who we are.....the ones with words, the ones given to experience awe, the ones who can proclaim their praise. We have important work to do and NOW is the moment.

Go ahead....get out there....do what needs to be done!

***"All you works of God, every mountain, star and tree,
bless the One who shapes your beauty,
who has caused you all to be one great song of love and grace,
ever ancient, ever new.***

Raise your voices, all you works of God." (by Marty Haugen)

As one on the journey with you,
Pastor Dianne

Stories That Matter



The season of Easter, or Eastertide, is a time of embracing the promise and hope of Resurrection. It is a time of leaning into the stories that matter. Come and gather around the stories of those who wrestled with the Easter event and some of the words of preparation that Jesus gave to help us live the reality of eternity now. As a bonus, we've added some resources for Ascension Day, which you could use in place of the Seventh Sunday of Easter, or have a special midweek Ascension Service. It is clear from these stories that Jesus wanted to equip us to thrive in a season of Easter promise. This season, we hope you'll engage in stories that matter.

You Know the Way



May 3 - *You Know the Way*

John 14:1-14

Jesus declares, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." What does it mean to unite belief with holy living, especially when that shapes our daily choices and witness to the world.

The Story Abides

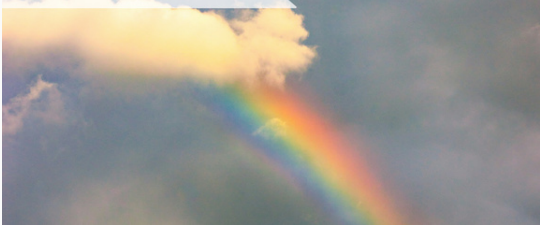


May 10 - *The Story Abides*

John 14:15-21

The Spirit abides in us, preserving and weaving our shared story as the body of Christ. Worship this week celebrates testimony, memory, and the ongoing narrative of God's love in our community.

Living the Sequel



May 17 - *Living the Sequel*

Luke 24:44-53

Ascension marks the completion of Christ's work and the beginning of ours. This service frames worship as blessing—receiving Christ's promise and responding with praise and mission.

God Poured Out



Pentecost is a high and holy celebration, but it is not a staid and quiet one. We celebrate with joy the unleashing of the Spirit to be a work in and through us. We are invited to participate in God's continuing creation as we build a kingdom and a kin-dom of faith and heaven on earth. Pentecost and Trinity Sunday are not about a God far off and incomprehensible, but about a God poured out on God's people. Embrace these days with passion, purpose, and a promise to be partnered with a God poured out.



Spirit Unbounded

May 24 - Spirit Unbound

Numbers 11:24-30; Acts 2:1-21

Pentecost Sunday celebrates the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on all believers, empowering the church for mission and proclaiming that God's Spirit is unbound and available to all.

We will be welcoming new members and celebrating confirmation .



Spirit in Partnership

May 31 - Spirit in Partnership

Genesis 1:1-2:4a; Matthew 28:16-20

Trinity Sunday invites us to celebrate the mystery of God's partnership in creation—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—calling us to join in God's ongoing work of love and renewal.



Spring Series - Prayer

Wednesdays this Spring: March 4- May 6

We have a responsibility to be pray-ers: people who pray silently and aloud, alone and with others, and with our very lives. Jesus' disciples said to Him, "Teach us how to pray." So prayer must be something that we can learn to do or learn to do better. This spring we will study a variety of prayer forms to encourage holy habits of prayer and meditation.



Vacation Bible School August 10-13

VBS is coming back to Cross Winds. We hope you will plan to join us! We are looking for high school and adult volunteers so if you are ready to say "YES to VBS" contact Amber.

Register [Here](#)

Volunteer Needs

Preparing for Fall 2026

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we are called to support the ministries of our church through our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. Our programs are only possible with Jesus and YOU! Would you prayerfully consider how you'd like to get involved in the ministries at Cross Winds? Contact Amber with questions, suggestions and commitments!



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

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SUMMER FESTIVAL
camp



HIGH SCHOOL WEEK:
JULY 12-15, 2026

MIDDLE SCHOOL WEEK:
JULY 19-22, 2026

Summer Festival Camp Summer 2026

Save the Date! Please let Amber know if your student is interested in camp so we can determine if we have enough kids to attend camp.

2026 Grad Sunday - May 10

Calling All Graduates! Cross Winds UMC Graduation Sunday is May 10th. If you or someone you know is graduating (high school or college) this year and would like to have their accomplishment celebrated, please fill out the Grad Sunday form online or contact Amber by May 1. Please include a recent photo/school/degree/future plans.

<https://crosswindslife.org/event/23985757-2026-05-10-2026-grad-sunday/>



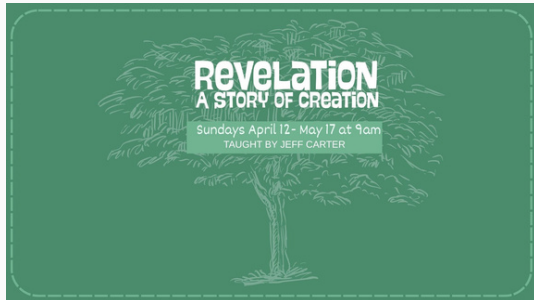
Confirmation Sunday - May 24

Join us on Sunday, May 24th, as we celebrate our 8th graders who are seeking confirmation. Worship will include a special time of blessing for each student as they say yes to their faith and to supporting the life of Cross Winds. We are proud of our Confirmation students and eager to celebrate with them.

Note: for 8th grade students preparing for confirmation, there will be a rehearsal and dinner (including family and mentors) on Wednesday, May 20th (5:30-7:30pm).

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY
MAY 24, 2026

Adult Education



Revelation Study

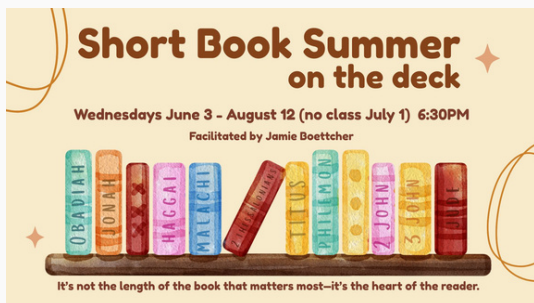
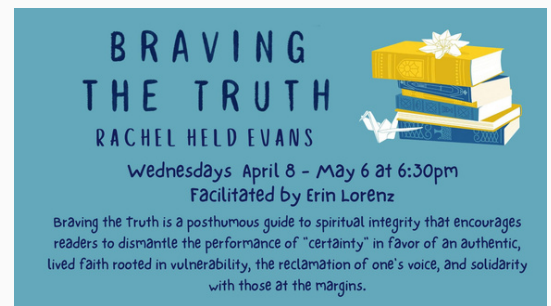
Sundays at 9am, April 12 - May 17

Genesis is a creation story...but Revelation is also a creation story. Join Jeff Carter in open conversation about the symbolism in the story of Revelation with creation in mind. Gain a better understanding of the end of the Bible and the beginning of our eternity. You are encouraged to read Revelation 1-4 before the first class.

Braving the Truth

Wednesdays at 6:30pm, April 8 - May 6

Rachel's work has always been a sanctuary for those of us navigating the messy middle of faith, patriarchy, and justice. This collection includes reflections from voices like Glennon Doyle, Jen Hatmaker, and Lisa Sharon Harper and explores what it means to live honestly in a culture (and sometimes a church) that often prizes certainty over integrity. Essays include "An Evolving Faith: on doubt, asking questions, and liberation from certainty"; "That Unholy American Trinity: on patriarchy, white supremacy, and religious nationalism"; "Casseroles and Kingdom of the Hungry: on the church"; "All right, then, I'll go to hell: on gender and sexuality"; "Still a Bible Nerd: On Scripture, biblical literalism, and a better way"; and more. All are welcome. Order *Braving the Truth* at your favorite bookstore or contact the church office for assistance. An audio version is available as well.



Short Book Summer

Wednesdays at 6:30pm, June 3-August 12

Join us on the deck on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. for Short Book Summer, a relaxed and engaging journey through some of the shortest books of the Bible—from Obadiah to Jude, and many in between. What wisdom and insight can be discovered in just three pages or less? By exploring one book each week, you'll finish the summer able to say, "I read ten books this summer!"

Bring your own Bible and a nonalcoholic beverage. Sessions begin on June 3 and end on August 12. No session on July 1. Open to ages 14 and up.

Small Groups Ministries



FAITH IN ACTION: MICAH 6:8
Seek justice · Love mercy · Walk humbly

Social Justice

The Social Justice group has been busy caring for specific families as well as collecting non-perishable food items and household supplies. Additional donations go to Cross Services or other local food banks. Monetary donations are very helpful as well. Anything you contribute will be delivered in a timely manner and will be greatly appreciated. All are welcome to join this group. If you have questions or would like to be on our contact list please contact the church office.

A huge thank you for all of your love and care for our 4 families. You saw pain and responded generously. There will never be enough "thank yous" to express the gratitude for all that you have so faithfully done.

Prime Timers Monthly Brunch

Tuesday, May 5, 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.

CROSS WINDS United Methodist Church
Prime Timers Brunch
Join us monthly for Prime Timers Brunch at Lynde's Restaurant in Osseo
SIGN UP
First Tuesdays
11:30 AM

LADIES WHO LUNCH
May 19, 11:30 am
Join us at Granite City in Maple Grove.
Sign up on the website or contact the church office by May 17.
CROSS WINDS United Methodist Church

Ladies Who Lunch

Tuesday, May 19, 11:30 am

Ladies Who Lunch will gather on Tuesday, May 19 at 11:30 am at Granite City in Maple Grove. Please sign up on the Cross Winds Ladies Who Lunch Events page or let the church office know so reservation can be confirmed with restaurant. All ladies are invited to join.

Game Night

Thursday, May 21, 6:30 pm

Join together with friends and have fun. It will be a game night for family and friends. Games for all ages will be there but feel free to bring your favorite game to teach others. This game group will meet in the evening of every third Thursday of the month. We will be playing a variety of games. Please spread the word and join us.

Game Night

3rd Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm

Games for all ages!



Mission Ministries



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.

Stitches of Love

Thursday, June 4, 1:00 pm

Stitches of Love will have its next meeting on Thursday, June 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!



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Monday, May 25, 1:30 pm

Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet Monday, May 25 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.

Red Cross Blood Drive

Friday June 19, 9am-3pm

Our April drive was our biggest yet and spots are already filling up for Friday June 19. Sign up to give the gift of life. Can't donate but want to help? Contact Amber Lahtinen or contact the church office to volunteer in other ways.





STITCHES OF LOVE



Stitches of Love - Silent Auction Fundraiser

May 10-24

Crosswinds Church has been blessed to have a dedicated, mission focused group known as, Stitches of Love, who sew quilts, book bags, and feminine hygiene kits that are sent to Midwest Mission or other missionary groups for distribution. Stitches of Love is fundraising for the continuation of mission work through a silent auction of a beautiful queen size homemade quilt. The quilt will be showcased for three Sunday's at the church, along with the quilts and book bags starting on Mother's Day, May 10. The silent auction document will be available in the Narthex until Sunday, May 24. It would make a beautiful wedding gift or family heirloom. We are also accepting donations of cash and cotton and flannel fabrics.

A portion of the funds will be used to make cotton light weight quilts that go to Midwest Mission and typically are sent to warm weather areas experiencing a disaster. We use the pattern supplied by Midwest Mission to fit the cots they provide. It takes approximately 6 yards of material to create each quilt. Retail cost of material per quilt has gone up significantly and is now \$24-\$42 per quilt. We created approximately 120 quilts last year.

We also make book bags and they are distributed nationally and internationally. We sent over 100 bags last year and they cost approximately \$2.50 each to make. A school in Peru was one of the recipients of bags last year. Midwest Mission is also using them for feminine hygiene kits. We will also be selling some of these bags to help offset costs.

Another part of our work involves a partnership with the women of Maple Grove Rotary. We have stitched feminine hygiene kits in the past several years that are distributed through a missionary group. The purpose is to remove barriers to school attendance for girls. Period poverty is a term they use that describes the struggle many women and girls face in developing countries because they lack access to safe and affordable menstrual products. This challenges their ability to participate in school and the workplace because of absenteeism, wage loss and inconsistent focus on education. Our kits have gone to schoolgirls in Kenya, Haiti, and Nigeria in past years. This year's 160 kits will go to Senegal. The Maple Grove Rotary provides parts of the kit, such as soap and some materials.

New sewers are always welcome to our group. We can accommodate varying skill levels. Please consider contributing to this cause. We seek to improve the lives of those less fortunate one stitch at a time.

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



Finance Update

We want to thank you for your giving for CWUMC. As we head into the month of May, we continue to have a small operating surplus and our expenses have stayed at budgeted levels. Our operating surplus is typical for this time of year as we head closer to the summer months. We appreciate all your support.

As always, we welcome any support that you can provide no matter what time of the year. No amount is too small. If you haven't pledged yet for 2026, it's also not too late.

Again, thank you for your giving in 2026 to all of our ministries at CWUMC. If you have questions about our Operating Fund, or questions related to our 2026 Budget, other Reserve Funds, Endowment Fund, Property Assessment or Mortgage Balance, please contact finance@crosswindsumc.org.

Property Assessment

Minnesota's construction season has arrived! This year, it has settled on our own very busy Weaver Lake Road and is "visiting" Cross Winds while the city conducts much-needed repairs and upgrades. While construction season isn't exactly welcome when it lands at our doors, we also know the goal is ultimately to offer safer and improved access to our property.

We have now been officially notified that the amount of the assessment is \$56,977.90.

Below is an outline of our obligation and several potential responses:

- Pay off the full amount by November 30, 2026.
- Pay a portion of the amount by this date and have the remaining balance amortized using city-arranged financing over 15 years at 5% interest.
- Have the full amount amortized over 15 years.
- Pay a portion before the November date and pay the balance later using a different financing source.

Your leadership is working diligently as we consider the best options available and how to meet this unexpected obligation in the midst of our already complex finances. First and foremost, we are holding to our call to be the hands and feet of Jesus in ministry while remaining fiscally responsible stewards. We know and believe that we serve a God who not only calls us to ministry, but empowers us and prepares the way ahead. Our accounting system now has an option for those who wish to offer "above and beyond" gifts toward this unexpected cost. Any amount given toward this expense will make a difference.

We will keep you informed as things continue to unfold. In the meantime, we invite your prayers, your presence, and your service as we follow God's call to action and share His love. The time is now... and the impact is for those who are yet to come.

REGULAR
GIVING FORM



April Highlights



FMSC Highlights



FMSC Highlights



Cross Winds

United Methodist Church

15051 Weaver Lake Rd
Maple Grove, MN 55311

The Compass

is the monthly newsletter of
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