



Crosslake Presbyterian Church

Messenger

June 2019

14444 Daggett Pine Road, Crosslake, Minnesota | Tel: (218) 692-4769 | www.crosslakepres.org



Message from

Pastor Tony

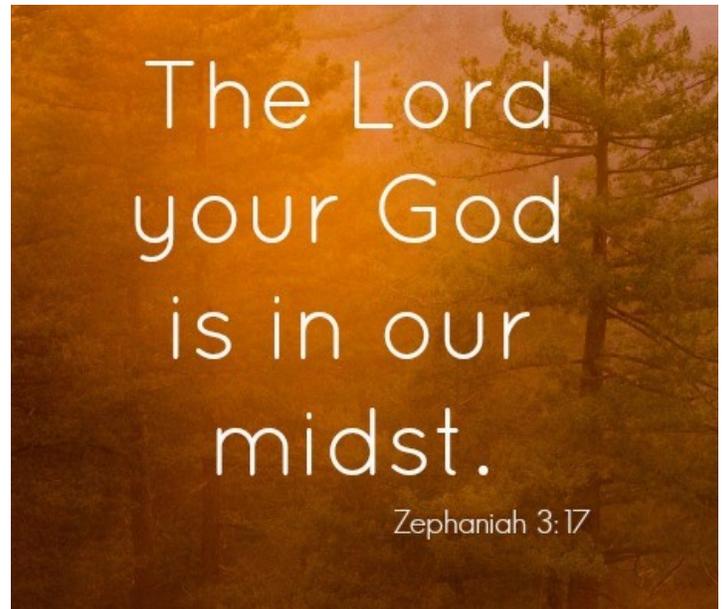
By the time you read this, I'll be gone...from Brainerd! We'll be moved into our new home in Pequot Lakes and I can't wait! Neither can Kristin or Kyle. Schroder, our dog, is a little indifferent to the whole thing, but when he gets sight of the yard and a whiff of the wildlife, I think he'll come around. We are ready to be done... done planning, done transferring utilities (probably the biggest pain), done setting up accounts, done talking about it, done preparing, done waiting.

Waiting is probably the hardest part. It usually is. We don't like between-time; the time that exists after something has finished and before something new begins. Like between the purchase of a new home and the closing. The time between the announcement of a new job and the first day on the job. That period between diagnosis and treatment. Or the stretch between "on your marks, get set" and "go".

It's not a patience thing; at least for the most part. For me, and I think for most people, it's a little bit about excitement for the next chapter to begin. More than the excitement though, I think we want to avoid the middle-ness of life because it's messy. It's difficult. It's where the struggle and strife of life happens.

In her book *Still: Notes on a Mid-Faith Crisis*, Lauren Winner discusses the crisis of faith she had. Winner, is the author of the popular book, *Girl Meets God*, which is her story of converting from Judaism to Christianity; *Still* is sort of the aftermath of that conversion and how her faith got her through the struggles she faced. In the book she examines her feelings of grief, failure, and doubt that came about after her conversion, the death of her mom, and a divorce.

One of the big discoveries of her mid-faith crisis,



was that life was less about beginnings and ends, less about new chapters in life, and that life was more about life in the middle. Her challenge was to live in the middle, to live between events, really to live life, and not focus on the beginnings and endings in her life. She doesn't give much insight on this even though this is where most of life is lived. Between the ending of one thing and the beginning of another. Could be the time between a two-week notice and the first day of a new job.

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Could be the birth of a new child or grandchild. Could be a purchase agreement for a home sale and signing the closing paperwork. Could be the departure of a pastor and the arrival of a new pastor. Could be looking back on where we, as a church, were and where we'd like to be. Or, could be any number of other times in life when we'd rather skip over the middle, skip over the messiness of life, and get on with things.

The thing is, life is the middle. Newness wears off. "Honeymoons" end. Life is the middle. Life is the time between the beginning and endings of situations and events.

If we become too focused on either the beginning of something new or the ending of the old, we miss out on a lot of life. We may want to skip over the middle because the middle can be messy, it can be difficult, it can be painful, but it is also where we are likely to see God because God is in the midst of the struggles and hardships of life. Not that all of the middle is hardship or struggle, but often we find ourselves wanting to avoid the middle, longing for something new, longing for a change, longing for things to get back to the way they were, because of the messiness of the middle; because of the difficulties the middle can bring.

Martin Luther, in the middle of his reforms, once took up the matter of the "marks of the church" (or the things that set the Christian church apart) – preaching, sacraments, and all that. He left it pretty much unchanged, but added one "mark" – struggle. In a way, Luther was reminding the church that to be Christian, to be God's people in community, is to struggle. It's to be in the middle-ness of life. It's to be a community in struggle and that it's "ok" to be struggling. That things going well isn't proof of God's favor and struggle isn't proof that we're going against God or God's will. That we don't have to have it all figured out and we don't have to have an exact plan. He was reminding the church, and us, that God is with us in the middle of life and to stop and look for him along the way.

PUBLICITY FOR CPC!

As you know Pastor Tony loves woodworking and especially loves using hand tools. He buys vintage tools to restore, to keep himself or give away or sometimes sell.



However, last November he bought a lot at an online auction that included a *locked* metal cabinet. The lot included some chisels and hand planes. Inside was a trove of memorabilia. WWI medals, Vietnam medals, a state ID for someone who worked as a corrections officer in a MN prison, and a few other things. Since then, Tony has been trying to get the medals back to the family. He called WCCO to help and they were set to do a story in November, to be aired around the anniversary Pearl Harbor in December. The mid-term elections got in the way for WCCO and he started his new job here.

However, in packing for the move this week, he came across the cabinet and medals, and decided to reach out to WCCO again. So on Monday, May 27th, after coming up to Crosslake to shoot the story here in Pastor Tony's office, the story of the discovered medals aired on the evening news and asked if anyone knows the family to contact Crosslake Presbyterian Church.

Click on this link to watch the WCCO news article:

[Minnesota Pastor On A Mission To Return](#)

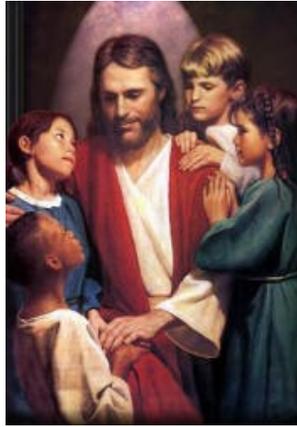
[WWI Medal To Veteran's Family](#)



10 Pat Postlewaite
16 Bonnie Miller
23 Ellen Hickman
26 Jan Kenner

IMAGES OF GOD CLASS

During June, the Images of God adult class will be looking at Jesus, the Perfect Image of God, to learn more about who God is and what God is like. We will look at New Testament scriptures that reveal Jesus' personality and character, Jesus' I am... statements, and the parables of Jesus. Please join us when you can—the class begins at 9:00 a.m. Sunday mornings in the church library.



ALLEN ELIASON

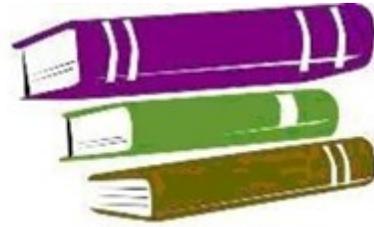
Long time member and one of the founders of CPC, Allen Eliason, passed away on Saturday, May 18th, 2019 at the Assumption Home in Cold Spring. A funeral service for Allen was held at Crosslake Presbyterian on May 25th .



Allen, 91, was born in Mason City, IA to Allen Sr. and Grace (Speer) Eliason. He proudly served our country in the United States Army during the Korean Conflict. After receiving his honorable discharge, Allen furthered his education and obtained his master's degree. Allen married Sandy Miller in August of 1960 at the First Presbyterian Church in St. Cloud. They had two children, Mark and Liza "Lisa" and two grandchildren. He was employed by the State of Minnesota as a Regional Supervisor for State Services for the Blind and Visually Handicap. The couple moved from St. Cloud to Crosslake in 1994, enjoying the lake and serene landscape. Allen and Sandy enjoyed traveling across the country; making a point to take a picture at each destination. He enjoyed preserving the conservation of the land by planting trees and protecting mother nature's natural beauty.

CHURCH LIBRARY

The church library has undergone a few changes in recent weeks. Hopefully the books and other materials are now a bit more organized, and it will be easier for you to find what you're looking for.



We have also added some new materials. There is a fine collection of *Weavings*, which came from the library of Pastor Ray. They are in alphabetical order by title (each *Weavings* is on a different topic), and there is a list of titles available on the shelf next to the booklets.

You will also find a basket of *The Sun* magazines, which are in order by date. If you have not yet discovered *The Sun*, borrow a few and see what you think. Each magazine has an in-depth interview with an interesting person on a timely topic, poetry, photographs, a short story or two, a dog-eared page (something old but worth rereading), and Readers Write, short pieces on a particular topic written by readers of *The Sun*, several of whom write from prison. And no advertising—*The Sun* is a reader supported magazine.

We have also added some books and a few movies from Steve and Ginny Anderson's library, as well as a number of home-published books written by Ginny.

If you have books suitable for a church library that you would like to donate on a temporary or permanent basis, please let Ginny know. We still have a few empty shelves that want filling.

Crosslake Presbyterian Church
invites you to join us for

different brews



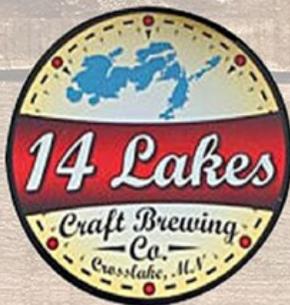
different views

PUB THEOLOGY

BEER, CONVERSATION & GOD

all perspectives welcome

at



14 Lakes Craft Brewery
36846 County Road 66 in Crosslake

Thursday's 5:30pm-7:30pm

on

*June 6th, June 20th, July 18th,
August 1st and August 15th*

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JUNE POTLUCK

Wednesday, June 26th
5:00pm in the Fellowship Hall

Sun. 06/02 9:00am Images of God Class
10:00am Worship & Communion
11:15am Fellowship

Tues. 06/04 9:30am Literary Huddle
9:30am Staff Meeting
7:00pm Mainstreet AA

Weds. 06/05 10:00am Bible Study

Thurs. 06/06 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Sun. 06/09 9:00am Images of God Class
10:00am Worship Service
11:15am Fellowship

Tues. 06/11 9:30am Literary Huddle
2:00pm Session Meeting
7:00pm Mainstreet AA

Weds. 06/12 10:00am Bible Study

Sun. 06/16 9:00am Images of God Class
10:00am Worship Service
11:15am Fellowship

Tues. 06/18 9:30am Literary Huddle
9:30am Staff Meeting
7:00pm Mainstreet AA

MEN'S LUNCH

Thursday, June 20th
Noon at Pine Peaks

WOMEN'S LUNCH

Wednesday, June 19th
Noon at Northern Cowboys

Weds. 06/19 10:00am Bible Study

12:00pm Women's Luncheon

Thurs. 06/20 12:00pm Men's Luncheon

Sun. 06/23 9:00am Images of God Class
10:00am Worship Service
11:15am Fellowship

Tues. 06/25 9:30am Literary Huddle
7:00pm Mainstreet AA

Weds. 06/26 10:00am Bible Study

4:00pm Deacon's Meeting

5:00pm Pot Luck Dinner

Sun. 06/30 9:00am Images of God Class
10:00am Worship Service
11:15am Fellowship

CROSSLAKE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Deacon Of The Month

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