



Crosslake Presbyterian Church

Messenger

MARCH 2020

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Message from Pastor Tony

The Lenten season is upon us; in fact, it started Ash Wednesday. Cross ashes mark the beginning of the Lenten season. As it is every year, the scripture lesson for the first Sunday of Lent is the temptation of Jesus. This magnificent narrative is a lesson on a wilderness journey. In many ways, it mirrors the wilderness journey of the Hebrew people after they left captivity, and our own wilderness journeys. Our journeys may not be a real physical journey into wilderness, but journeys into an emotional or spiritual wilderness can be just as strenuous as being stranded in a vast wilderness; they can also be just as life changing.



The 2020 Lent Devotional: Wilderness, by A Sanctified Art puts it this way, *“Lent begins in the wilderness. The Spirit guides Jesus into the wilderness where he comes face to face with temptation and struggle. Yet, in his forty days of fasting, resisting, and wandering, Jesus is shaped and formed for ministry. Similarly, through the wilderness of Lent, we are invited to surrender to the wild leadings of the Spirit. We rarely enter the wilderness willingly, but hopefully through our wandering we remember who we are and whose we are.”*

With such an important journey ahead, we mark the beginning with the charred remains of Palm waved in joyous

-triumph last Palm Sunday. These plants, now ashes, once signified our best praises. The scorched remains are mixed with a bit of oil, and a cross drawn on the forehead to mark the beginning of an intentional journey into a spiritual wilderness.

The ashes aren't to shame anyone or make anyone feel guilty. They're not a mark of one's piety. We receive ashes as a part of Ash Wednesday because we need both a reminder of God's grace for the journey (even the burnt remains of our best offerings can be used) and that we are cleansed by God's love (the first soap was made from a mixture of ash and oil). The ashes are a reminder to us that we're up to the spiritual journey that lies before us in Lent; seeing ashes on the face of another is a nice reminder of who is in the journey with us and who can be a lifeline when needed.

To aid our Lenten journey, we purchased worship resources from *A Sanctified Art*; they are an online ministry for aiding in creative and meaningful worship. They create lectionary based preaching series and thematic worship series for churches that may not have the ability to support a graphic arts/creative/art ministry.

Along with the words for worship (like the call to worship, prayer of confession, etc.) and custom images, each week we'll have a bulletin insert that features lectionary-inspired works of art on one side with the artist's statement on the back. The inserts are meant to be taken home and used for personal prayer, personal reflection, or to discuss with the people in your life. We will also be emailing a weekly devotion to everyone in the congregation; there are a few printed copies available in the Narthex. Alongside the weekly devotional, we'll be sending out daily meditations that focus on a Lenten word or phrase.

My prayer is that through this Lenten season we can journey into the wilderness of our souls and *“through our wandering we remember who we are and whose we are”*.



Wilder · ness
"state of the wild"

You can download the *Wilderness* devotional booklet [here](#) or pick one up in the Narthex at church.



The Wilderness is a Place of Beginnings

"Begin again," life whispered in my ear;
For some days are beginning days.
Some days are designed to be the day we try again,
And on those days—the sun rises for you.
On those days, the birds sing for you.
On those days, God is cheering for you.
That's just the way God and beginnings work.
For when your heart is broken and your life is in pieces,
Or when the addiction or the depression have found their way back
into your bones,
Or when you lose sight of the person that you were called to be,
The wilderness will sing to you, "Begin again."
"Begin again" with the person you want to be.
"Begin again" with the person you want to love.
"Begin again" with the knowledge of your faith.
"Begin again."
The sun is rising for you.

~Sarah Are

LENTEN WORSHIP at CPC

Palm Sunday	April 5	10:00 AM
Maundy Thursday	April 9	5:00 PM
Good Friday	April 10	5:00 PM
Easter Sunday	April 12	Coffee Hour 9:00 AM
Easter Sunday	April 12	Worship 10:00 AM



MONSTER SALE 2020

Keeping this date on your radar and a reminder to please start saving your unneeded treasures.... the sale this year will be the weekend of **July 9th through 11th 2020!** If you would like to help in any way, or have questions please contact Amy Bloch or Tom McCormack. There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex!



St. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

Plans are getting underway for the St. Patrick's Day parade on Saturday, March 14 2020.

Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex if you are interested in participating in the preparation for and/or the parade itself. Contact Tom McCormack, Amy Bloch or Pastor Tony if you have any questions.



PUB THEOLOGY



Join us on Thursday, March 12 as we continue with Pub Theology, where we meet at 14 Lakes Brewery at 5:00pm (usually on the second Thursday of each month). 14

Lakes Brewery is located on Route 66 in Crosslake Join us if you can, we'll be talking about faith, life, and beer!



1st Jim Kenner

12th Brenda Brittan

LENTEN GATHERINGS

Led by Ginny and Pastor Tony

The season of Lent begins with ashes and invites us into a time of stripping away all that distracts us from recognizing the God who dwells at our core. Reminding us that we are ashes and dust, God beckons us during Lent to consider what is elemental and essential in our lives. As a season of preparation for the mysteries of death and resurrection, it is a stark season... In fire, wind, earth, and water—elements that permeate the

words and images of our Lenten Meditations this year—we find the building blocks for creating anew. In Proverbs, Wisdom sings of her role in creation, of her presence as God began with the darkness and fashioned the world. She offers delight as she beckons us, too, to create, to take what we find in the shadows of our lives and craft what never before has been seen.

(Adapted from Jan Richardson's intro to Lent from her book "In Wisdom's Path")

During Lent our Bible study group will meet Wednesday mornings at 10:00 in the Friendship Hall, as usual, to reflect on the Gospel reading for the next Sunday. Following this shortened version of our usual Bible study, we will do Lenten Gatherings similar to those held during Advent.

The topics for the Lenten Gatherings are Wilderness/Barrenness/Emptiness, Pilgrimage, Enclosures/Safe Places, Language/Words, Treasures/Gifts, and Tears/Mourning, which pair up amazingly well with the scriptures we will be looking at each week.

As during Advent, all are invited to join us for any of these Lenten Gatherings, even if you are not a regular attendee at Bible study. And, of course, you are invited to join us for lunch at Moonlite Bay!

Ginny Anderson



REMINDER

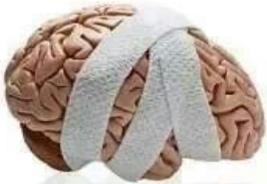
Day light savings is the weekend of March 8th. Clocks go forward!

HEALTH CORNER

Brain Injury Awareness Month

Every 9 seconds someone in the United States sustains a brain injury according to the Brain Injury Association of America. Acquired brain injuries (ABI) affect more than 3.5 million children and adults every year, but the total incidence is unknown. Causes of ABI include things like infectious disease, stroke, substance abuse and overdose, tumor and oxygen deprivation. We have all been touched recently by the devastating impact of a brain injury due to stroke, and many of us have also known someone with brain injuries from other causes.

MARCH
IS BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS MONTH



Not all wounds are visible

Traumatic brain injury (TBI) is a type of ABI caused by trauma to the brain from external force. At least 2.5 million people sustain a TBI annually, and the number of people who sustain TBIs and don't seek treatment is unknown. At least 5.3 million Americans live with a TBI related disability. Nearly 48% of TBIs are caused by falls.

My family had a close encounter with this type more than 2 years ago when my sister-in-law tripped and hit her head on a curb. The impact on her and all of those who love her was devastating and far reaching. Fortunately, she was not one of the 50,000 who die annually from TBI. However, she is lucky to have survived thanks to quick access to adequate trauma care. While she has recovered physically, she still struggles with naming things and people, and she will never be as independent as she was prior to the accident. One of the biggest lessons I have learned from this experience is to encourage people to slow down and be careful! The slightest misstep can be a devastating one.

There has been some media attention from time to time regarding concussions and sports TBIs. I have encountered several patients who have experienced the cumulative effects of this type of TBI. ... *continued*

Continued

This has led to sports implementing special protocol to establish a baseline before injury and to monitor and restrict athletes after any injuries.

The Brain Injury Association of America's slogan for this awareness campaign is "**Change your mind about brain injury.**" Please keep this in "mind".

Diane McCormack

*Reference: Brain Injury Facts & Statistics,
Brain Injury Association of America.*

DEACONS'S REPORT

The Deacons/Mission Committee met Thursday February 20th at the church. We opened with a prayer of thankfulness and remembrance for our long time chairman, Mary Lu Dietz. Through the years she taught by her example how to serve church members in need of support and maybe a hug or a meal or a friend. Her knowledge about health issues came from her nursing career and her service as a hospice nurse. We prayed for Dick and the Dietz family.

We decided at the meeting to set up a schedule for the Mission donations to be disbursed regularly on a monthly basis. If you have any suggestions for non profits to receive our donations, please place them in writing in Pat Tweed's mailbox.



Our January donation of \$400.00 was to the Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen at 923 Oak Street in Brainerd. You can learn more about them here:

<https://www.sharingbread.com/what-we-do>.

Our February donation of \$400.00 is to Heartland Animal Rescue Team in Brainerd/Baxter. They accept donations of cat litter, dog and cat foods, toys and chews. If you bring them to church, we will deliver them during March to H.A.R.T. Learn more about this non-profit here:

<https://hartpets.org/>

Our next meeting is March 25th at 3:30pm in the church library.

Pat Tweed, Chair



MARY LU DIETZ

A Memorial Service was held at CPC on Saturday, February 15, 2020 for long time member Mary Lu Dietz, who passed away on Monday, February 10 as a result of a stroke. She died peacefully at her home, surrounded, cared for, and loved by her family.

Mary Lu was born to Jim and Audrey Stewart in Duluth on August 19, 1936. She lived in several Minnesota cities during her childhood as her father, a salesman for Phillip Morris, was transferred within the company. If you're over 70 years old, you might appreciate that Mary Lu once met Johnny Roventini, the Phillip Morris bellhop who made famous the "Call for Philip Morris!" ad campaign. When Mary Lu's dad retired, the family moved to the stately brick home on Range street in Mankato where he grew up and where Mary Lu's grandmother still lived. The home was built by her grandfather and is now listed on the Minnesota Historical Society's list of historic homes. In retirement, Mary Lu's dad opened a hardware store in a downtown Mankato building also built by her grandfather. Both the home and the hardware store were built with bricks made in her grandfather's brickyard. Bricks from the brickyard found their way north to Crosslake, Minnesota, where Mary Lu's dad used them in the foundation of a cabin he built on the shores of Big Trout Lake. Every Friday at noon, the family drove from Mankato to Crosslake for weekends at a cabin and Mary Lu spent her summers there. She grew deep roots at Trout Lake.

Mary Lu graduated from Mankato High School in 1954 and entered the St. Barnabas School of Nursing, one of three family members to attend that school. She graduated from St.

Barnabas, receiving her nursing cap, in August 1957. A month later she married her high school sweetheart, Richard "Dick" Dietz. Dick was attending Hamline University in St. Paul at the time. When he went on to graduate school at the University of Minnesota, Mary Lu worked as a nurse at St. Barnabas Hospital to support them. She was pregnant with their first son, Steve, at the time. On her 22nd birthday, she came home from the hospital with Steve and began her lifelong career of caring for the family. After graduate school the family moved to Texas for work, where their second son, Mike, was born, and then for a short while to Orlando, Florida. When Dick joined General Mills, the family returned to Minnesota, where their third child, Jill, was born a short while later. During Dick's many years with General Mills, the family mostly lived near the Twin Cities, but also spent a few years in England and Florida. Finally, in retirement they moved to the beloved Trout Lake home Mary Lu's father had built so many years before.

Most of you will recognize that Mary Lu's care-giving focus was not limited to her family. She spent her lifetime caring for people in need. Wherever Dick and Mary Lu lived, she was devoted to serving others. She found a key channel for her mission and a vibrant circle of love and support in return at her Crosslake church home. In addition to her church work, she was a hospice volunteer for 20 years. At 83 years old, she could still be found scrubbing bathrooms at Camp Knutson, serving campers with special needs, and helping with fundraisers.

After retirement in 1992, Mary Lu and Dick traveled extensively, often in the company of friends. They visited all 50 states and 81 countries, from the Arctic to Antarctica, from Australia to India. In between trips, Mary Lu continued her mission to serve others. An example of her kind attention was her handling of greeting cards, which she bought by the dozen. Each week she sifted through her supplies to find just the right card for the right person for every occasion. She even knew which shops stocked the best cards for different purposes, from birthday to anniversary to sympathy. And it was not unheard of for her to send cards that were a little racy.

Mary Lu didn't have a bad word to say about anyone. The harshest comment she might make was, he or she is "not my favorite person." The one exception to this rule resulted from the 2016 presidential election. As for her politics, she sang in a church choir for over 20 years with Amy Klobuchar's mother and they got along very well.

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Mary Lu is survived by her husband, Dick, her children Steve, Mike, and Jill and their spouses, Janet, Dyan, and Ande. She has nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Mary Lu and her family are grateful for the kindness and care provided by all of her friends over the weeks since her stroke and for the love shown to Mary Lu through a full and happy lifetime. It takes a village and you have been a wonderful village. Memorials may be made to Crosslake Presbyterian Church, Camp Knutson on Trout Lake, or to a charity of the donor's choosing.



A TRIBUTE TO MARY LU

From Dick Dietz

First I want to say how great Mary Lu's Memorial Service was. The processional with her grand daughter playing a violin solo and the great music by soloists John, Marge and Arleen during the service would make Mary Lu proud.

Pastor Tony's message described her perfectly and daughter-in-law Pastor Dyane's consecration of the ashes was very moving. This was all aided by Ginny's reading (Mary Lu read Ginny's writings every day), a grand daughters moving poem and a daughter-in-law's beautiful eulogy.



Following the service we moved into Friendship Hall for lunch. How great the kitchen ladies had decorated the tables and served the delicious lunch without a hitch. I did learn later that after everyone had gone and the dishes were done that they enjoyed a beverage that was not offered to the rest of us.

I also want to express my appreciation to my 3 children and their partners. I could not have made it through the previous two weeks without their support and their looking after all the details of obtaining Hospice support, nursing support, Pastor Tony's help and all the details for the cremation and the memorial service.

The expressions of sympathy and support came from Mary Lu's friends in every activity she engaged in Crosslake-the Church, Camp Knutson, exercise class, book club and both bridge



groups. Cards came from high school friends, college friends and nursing classmates, relatives, friends in Minnesota, Texas, California, Arizona and friends from former churches attended 40 years ago.

Hundreds of cards, emails, Caring Bridge comments, calls and food were received. Memorial gifts to the Church, Camp Knutson, the PAL Foundation, and the Historical Society were received.

So many people she befriended over the past seventy years responded that I find it a daunting task to thank everyone. I know she is looking down on me and saying "Dick, don't think about not giving everyone a personal thank you." And I would reply "dear, I realize you would go out and buy hundreds of cards and give each and every person a hand written thank you even if it took you three months to do it." I would close by saying "that's the way you are and part (a small part) of reason why you have so many friends, but I just can't do it". Thus friends, this tribute will be sent to as many of Mary Lu's friends as can find.

One last personal note. Mary Lu has always recommended to friends who have lost a partner, do not make any rash decisions. Take your time and make sure you are making the right move. For me after having 62 years of memories and living a cabin built by Mary Lu's dad in 1949 and filling it with more memories of our last 38 years of life, I cannot bear to stay here. My new address and telephone number are:

35625 Ostlund Ave, Apt 311
Whitefish at the Lakes
Crosslake, MN 56442
(218) 692-4552

I probably still won't answer the phone so please leave a message!

TO EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU, I GIVE MY UNBOUNDED THANKS FOR YOUR EXPRESSION OF LOVE OVER MARY LU'S LIFE.

MARCH

Sun	03/01	10:00 am	Communion Worship Service
		11:00 am	Fellowship
Tues.	03/03	9:30 am	Literary Huddle
		7:00 pm	Mainstreet AA
Wed.	03/04	10:00 am	Bible Study & Lenten Gathering
Thurs	03/05	10:00 am	Small Group
Sun.	03/08	10:00 am	Worship Service
		11:00 am	Fellowship
Tues.	03/10	9:00 am	Finance Cte Meeting
		9:30 am	Literary Huddle
		2:00 pm	Session Meeting
		7:00 pm	Mainstreet AA
Wed	03/11	9:00 am	Senior Linkage
		9:30 am	Bible Study & Lenten Gathering
Thurs	03/12	10:00 am	Small Group
		5:00 pm	Pub Theology
Sat	03/14	2:00 pm	St. Paddy's Day Parade

WOMEN'S LUNCH

Tuesday, March 17th at 12:00pm
at Riverside Inn in Crosslake

MEN'S LUNCH

Thursday, March 19 at 12:00pm
at Pine Peaks in Crosslake

POTLUCK DINNER

Wednesday, March 25th at 5:00pm

This month's theme is "comfort food" so please bring your favorite dish to share - that satisfies the belly *and* the soul!

Sun	03/15	10:00 am	Worship & Fellowship
Tues	03/17	9:30 am	Literary Huddle
		12:00 pm	Women's Luncheon
		7:00 pm	Mainstreet AA
Wed.	03/18	10:00 am	Bible Study & Lenten Gathering
Thurs	03/19	10:00 am	Small Group
		12:00 pm	Men's Luncheon
Sun	03/22	10:00 am	Worship Service
		11:30 am	Fellowship
Tues.	03/24	9:30 am	Literary Huddle
		7:00 pm	Mainstreet AA
Wed	03/25	10:00 am	Bible Study & Lenten Gathering
		3:30 pm	Deacon's Meeting
		5:00 pm	Potluck—Comfort Food
Sun	03/29	10:00 am	Worship Service
		11:00 am	Fellowship
Tues.	03/31	9:30 am	Literary Huddle
		7:00 pm	Mainstreet AA

CROSSLAKE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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