



Message from

Pastor Tony

One of my favorite podcasts is Memory Palace by Nate DiMeo. Each episode lasts anywhere from a few minutes to just about an hour, and in that time DiMeo expertly tells stories that have peaked his interest. Below is one of my favorites. I tried to summarize the story, but I didn't feel I could do it justice.

Samuel Finley Breese Morse spent the first 35 years of his life learning to paint, at Andover, at Yale, in London at the Royal Academy. He studied the works of the Masters, to learn how Michelangelo built bodies that seemed to pulse and shudder out of mere oil and shadow and crosshatch. To learn how Raphael summoned the spark of inner life with a single stroke of pure white in the dusky ocher of a noblewoman's eye. To learn how to create illusions of space and distance. To learn how to conjure the ineffable through the mere aggregation of lines and dots and stretch canvas. He learned how to paint. And in 1825, Morse was living in New Haven, Connecticut, with his wife Lucretia and two young sons, and a third child was on the way, due any day. One night, a courier delivered a message. The city of New York wanted to pay Morse a thousand dollars to paint a portrait of the Marquis De Lafayette. The hero of the Revolution was coming to Washington to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the start of the war, and he would sit for Morse if the painter could leave right away. So he packed his easel and his brushes and his paints and clothes that we're good enough to wear when meeting a man like Lafayette. And he kissed his pregnant wife and he left that night.

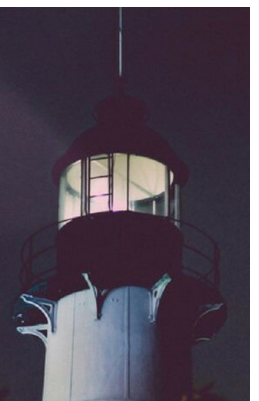
On another night a week later, Morse was in his rented studio in Washington preparing for the arrival the next morning of his distinguished subject. He heard a knock on the door and there was a courier, breathless and dirty from a hard ride on a hard road, handing him a note that was five words long: your dear wife is convalescent. He left that

night. He rode for six days straight on horseback and in the backs of juttering wagons, wrapped in blankets against the cold wind of October nights. And when he made it to New Haven and ran through fallen leaves up to the house on Whitney Avenue, he learned that his wife was dead. In fact, she had died before the courier had knocked on his door in Washington. In fact, she had already been buried some morning while he was on the road, while he was racing home to be by her side and sit with her while she got better.

Samuel Finley Breese Morse spent the next 45 years of his life trying to make sure no one would have to feel the way he felt that night ever again. Samuel Finley Breese Morse spent the next 45 years inventing the telegraph. To turn real space and real distance into illusion in developing Morse code. Dots and lines that could transmit the stuff of real lives and of dying wives.

That last paragraph gets me every time I hear it, and I've heard it more times than I'd care to count. The whole story is deeply moving and always leaves me wondering. Wondering about what motivates people. Is there something in their history that informs their life and keeps them moving in a certain direction; for better or worse.

Let God do his
work in you —
no matter how
long it takes.



I believe we all have "Morse moments". Those times when we are truly shaped and motivated by our experiences. The "Morse moments" propel us into the future with a new direction. These are moments when God is at work in our lives. Regardless of whether our

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motivation is wanting to ensure others escape the pain we experienced, or wanting to help others encounter the joy we experienced, God is working in and through us to bring about his glory in the world. We can use the negatives as motivation for growth and change; in ourselves, others, and the world. We can use the joyous "Morse moments" for the fuel to share God's love and grace with others.

We've had lots of both other the years, as individuals and as a community. Over the last few months I've heard lots of both. What's made the biggest impression on me, is how the church has not only hung together but continued to be faithful witnesses of God love. And, what's more is that through all the struggle, there have been lots of "Morse moments" or God moments.

In the coming weeks, we'll begin our stewardship campaign and as a part of the campaign we'll be for "Morse moments", times when we have seen God working in and through CPC, or just in your life, please let us know! We want to hear how you have seen God!

PUB THEOLOGY CONTINUES!

Pub Theology is back! We took a month off, but we are back, and we will be meeting again at **14 Lakes Brewery**. The first gathering will be Thursday, October 17 at 5:00pm. After October we will be meeting at 5:00pm, on the second Thursday of the month, at 14 Lakes Brewery! Join us if you can, we'll be talking about faith, life, and beer!



THANK YOU!

Ronda Hopkins, who is recovering from herniated disc surgery, would like to give a heartfelt thank you to all her family and friends, for your thoughtfulness of gifts, cards, and flowers during her convalescence. She says she is not quite recovered yet but thank you for all your care and concern.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
Sunday, October 20 @ 11:30 am
Followed by a Celebration!

congregational
MEETING



Ever want to know what the church is up to and you don't have time to read the newsletter, which would be a weird thing since you're reading this in the newsletter? Well, you're in luck! We're having a fall congregational meeting where you can get the lowdown on CPC.

Immediately following worship on Sunday, October 20, we will have a congregational meeting to celebrate the mission and ministry of Crosslake Presbyterian Church! I know, a congregational meeting as a celebration...who knew that was a thing? It's not a thing, but we want to make it a thing, and we want to make it our thing! God has been doing amazing things in and through CPC and we want to celebrate that as well as the mission and ministry God is calling us to in 2020!

Pastor Tony will share about the ministry that has been taking place since January, and he will share the vision of mission and ministry for the next year. At the meeting we'll also elect deacons and elders to serve in leadership roles that will help us carry out that vision.

Most importantly, the fall congregational meeting this year will be a celebration because we paid off our mortgage and we are debt free! What a tremendous statement on God's work in and through CPC. God is living and active, and God wants us to be a presence in the area for a long time to come. Join us for the fall congregational meeting as we hear about the mission and ministry of CPC, what lies ahead for us in the coming year, as we elect the leaders to help us carry out that mission, and as we celebrate the work that God has done over in 2019!

Oh, and one more thing... there will be food! The Fellowship committee is in the initial steps of planning and preparing a meal for us during the congregational meeting.

Join us as we worship and celebrate Crosslake Presbyterian Church on Sunday, October 20, 2019, immediately following worship.



The drive to be a debt free church was a tremendous success; way beyond my wildest dreams. In just about 5 weeks, through generosity of the congregation, we received a little over \$20,000 for *Blessed to be a blessing!* Truly amazing! It's a profound statement of God's presence in our church and a calling for us to remain a presence in Crosslake. While the initial goal has been achieved the drive will continue, but with a shifted focus. The focus is now to remain both debt free (not taking on any new loans) and to limit the number of times we must come to the congregation to ask for money. To do this we will begin saving for the future needs of the church as well as investing in the mission and ministry to which we are called.

In the next few years we will need to refinish the exterior of the building, replace the roof, replace the carpet, and many other needs that come with a facility (and equipment) that's around 20 years old. Rather than coming to the congregation each time there's a need, a project, or something breaks down we're hoping to have the money already in place. Along with limiting the need to come to the congregation and ask for money, having the money already in place allows the church to do the work that's needed, rather than deferring the maintenance until the money comes in.

We are now seeking to be a blessing to future members of the church by gifting them with a debt free church as well as a church that has money to pay for ongoing upkeep of the facility. How awesome would it be if we could remove the financial weight of caring for the facility? What if we could handoff, to future members, a facility that is not only paid for, but a church that had enough wisdom to give them a solid foundation for growth? A foundation on which to stand and continue to share God's love with Crosslake? What truly inspired, generous, and loving statement that would make! Join us as we seek to be *Blessed to be a blessing!*

More information on the *Blessed to be a blessing* drive will be available at the fall congregational meeting on Sunday, October 20, in Friendship Hall, immediately after worship.

2018 CPC FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING AUDIT

On August 13, 2019 Arleen Steele and Loyal Meech performed an audit of the financial records for Crosslake Presbyterian Church. As in past years, a checklist was used to complete the audit and sample invoices, payments, receipts and bank deposits and statements were reviewed. The financial records were found to follow generally accepted accounting principles and were very organized and complete.



A huge thank you to Steve Anderson who made himself available to answer questions and provide information. Pictures have been taken of the physical inventory of church property and a written physical count of all church property is being assembled. The audit findings were forwarded to session for review at the September Session Meeting.



- 6 Earl Angell**
- 8 Bill Lallman**
- 8 Karen Olsen**
- 14 Marge Angell**
- 14 Joyce Jutila**
- 23 Don Hickman**
- 25 Ron Ochs**

CROSSLAKE DAYS CPC ENTERS CHILI COOK-OFF



CPC had a chili booth at Crosslake Days on Saturday, September 28. We were stationed right in front of Kicks on 66. Hope you had a chance to stop by and visit, and taste the chili. Unfortunately, we didn't win but there is always next year! Thank you to **ALL** those involved in buying, cooking, serving and cleaning up the fabulous chili. We think it was a winner!



SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE SERIES

New Sunday morning Bible study lead by Pastor Tony, to start on Sunday, October 13. We'll gather in the Library and beginning around 9am. Stay tuned for more info.



SEPTEMBER'S PONTOONS & PIZZA PARTY

A big thank you to Jerry Norgaard and Bill Bury for captaining the pontoons, and thank you Bonnie and Jane for organizing the pizzas! The weather cooperated after a not-so-nice rainy day.



BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLIES DONATED....

The Deacons and Pastor Tony, as part of the Missions Committee delivered the teacher's school supply items to Pequot Lakes Middle School and Crosslake Community School on September 25.

Thank you to all who helped STUFF THE BUS!





Tues	10/01	9:30am	Literary Huddle
		7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
		7:00pm	Mainstreet AA
Wed	10/02	10:00am	Bible Study
Sun.	10/6	10:00am	Communion Worship Service
		11:15am	Fellowship
Mon.	10/07	1:00pm	Northern Trackers Mtg
Tues.	10/08	9:30am	Literary Huddle
		7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
		7:00pm	Mainstreet AA
Weds.	10/09	9:00am	Senior LinkAge
		10:00am	Bible Study
Thurs.	10/10	2:00pm	Session Meeting
Sun.	10/13	9:00am	Sunday Bible Series
		10:00am	Worship Service
		11:15am	Fellowship
Tues.	10/15	9:30am	Literary Huddle
		12:00pm	Women's Lunch
		7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
		7:00 pm	Mainstreet AA
Weds.	10/16	10:00am	Bible Study
Thurs.	10/17	12:00pm	Men's Lunch

MEN'S LUNCH

Thursday, October 17 at 12:00pm
at Pine Peaks in Crosslake

WOMEN'S LUNCH

Tuesday, October 15 at 12:00pm
at Cedar Chest, Crosslake

MONTHLY POTLUCK DINNER Wednesday, October 23 at 5:00pm

Thurs.	10/17	5:00pm	Pub Theology
Sun	10/20	9:00am	Sunday Bible Series
		10:00am	Worship Service
		11:30am	CONGREGATIONAL MEETING & LUNCH
Tues.	10/22	9:30am	Literary Huddle
		12:00pm	Women's Luncheon
		7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
		7:00pm	Mainstreet AA
Weds.	10/23	10:00am	Bible Study
		5:00pm	Potluck Dinner
Sun.	10/27	900am	Sunday Bible Series
		10:00am	Worship & Fellowship
Tues.	10/29	9:30am	Literary Huddle
		7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
		7:00 pm	Mainstreet AA
Weds.	10/30	10:00am	Bible Study

CROSSLAKE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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