# **CROSSROADS**



APRIL 2023



Atonement Lutheran Church

1980 Silver Lake Rd NW, New Brighton, MN 55112

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church

5472 Adams Street, Mounds View, MN 55112

## From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Siblings in Christ,

I'm having trouble believing that we are this far into Lent. This year the season feels like it's moved quickly. Perhaps it is partially because we were snowed out for Ash Wednesday, but more than likely it has more to do with our perception of time: as every year passes, our view of time is shifted. Think of it this way: when you were 4



years old, a year equaled 25% of your lifetime. At age 40, 25% of your life would be 10 years. That's quite the difference!

No matter how quickly it seems time is moving, we know that the aim of this season of Lent is to mark the time. We observe 40 days of preparation, including Jesus' last days. Even so, we also remember that Jesus lives! On Easter, we celebrate the good news that death does NOT get the final word.

As I'm writing, it is the week before Holy Week. There is much to plan and prepare. And still two more soup suppers and 4 worship services to enjoy together as a parish before we get to Easter. Even though this is a season of preparation, of reflection, and so much more. As we prepare, remember to invite your neighbors to join us for this spectacular season:

#### **Palm Sunday**

8:30 at Cross of Glory 10:30 at Atonement

#### **Maundy Thursday Worship**

with Christ the King and Cristo Rey--New Brighton joining in us in worship at Atonement 5:30pm Soup Supper and 6:30pm Worship

#### **Good Friday Worship**

6:30pm at Cross of Glory

#### **Easter Sunday Worship**

7:30am Sunrise Easter Worship at Cross of Glory
Youth Pancake Breakfast immediately follows 7:30 service. Everyone is invited!
10:30 Easter Worship at Atonement

In God's Peace, Pastor Cassie



# Bishop Eaton Issues Statement on Anti-Transgender Legislation

As we approach March 31, many people are preparing to recognize Transgender Day of Visibility, an international day to celebrate the contributions of transgender people and raise awareness about the deadly injustices they face.

As bishop of this church, I am concerned that the rights of transgender and nonbinary Americans have been targeted all over this nation. Nearly 400 anti-LGBTQIA+ bills were introduced across the United States in 2022, most of them targeting trans youth. That is twice the number from 2021 and almost eight times the total from 2020. The language in many of these bills attacks the humanity of trans and nonbinary people, often erasing the dignity that should be afforded to everyone.

While members of our church hold various convictions regarding gender, the teaching of our church supports legislation and policies to protect every person's human dignity and civil rights. (Human Sexuality, p. 19) As Christians we believe every human being is created in God's image, and we must honor and celebrate God's creation. Our church teaches that we affirm transgender and nonbinary siblings as God's children, who are loved unconditionally. Our social statement *Faith, Sexism, and Justice: A Call to Action* (2019) also declares that this church commits itself to "advocate for and support laws, policies, and practices that respect diverse bodies rather than discriminating against, objectifying, or devaluing them" (p. 60).

I urge us, as people of faith, to love our neighbors, care for the vulnerable and marginalized, and work for justice and equality. We may have differing opinions on "matters related to sexual orientation and gender identity," (FSJ, p. 61) but we must always uphold the dignity and humanity of everyone. These disagreements do not allow us to accept actions that dehumanize, discriminate against or objectify any individual or group.

We must stand together, dear church, faithfully advocating for the full humanity and dignity of all people. Let us recognize and affirm the humanity of our transgender and nonbinary siblings. Let us advocate for their dignity. Let us continue to be guided by God's love and compassion as we seek justice and equality for everyone.

In Christ,

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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## About the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America:

The ELCA is one of the largest Christian denominations in the United States, with 3 million members in more than 8,700 worshiping communities across the 50 states and in the Caribbean region. Known as the church of "God's work. Our hands.," the ELCA emphasizes the saving grace of God through faith in Jesus Christ, unity among Christians and service in the world. The ELCA's roots are in the writings of the German church reformer Martin Luther.



# Tools for the Church: Reaching Outside Our Walls Saturday, April 29 - 9am-3pm/Gustavus Adolphus, St. Paul

We are called as the church to be church with our neighbor and it is hard to do if we don't know who they are. This event will help you answer the questions listed above about how to reach outside your walls. Using demographics and asset mapping, we will begin to explore who your neighbor is, as well as the gifts your congregation offers and the challenges it faces.

Bring a team from your congregation to discuss the importance of being inviting instead of just welcoming and to contemplate how we are called to share our faith story. Includes lunch.



If anyone is interested in attending, please let Dawn, Pastor Cassie or Deacon Brad know to get signed up. This would be a great event for a couple people from both of our churches to attend.

# Growing Through Loss – Support for Those Experiencing Loss in their Lives

Abiding Savior Lutheran Church in Mounds View hosts the Growing Through Loss series beginning April 16. Anyone experiencing grief or loss is invited to attend Growing Through Loss, a six-week series providing support for those who have lost a spouse, child, parent, friend or sibling; or for those dealing with a divorce or separation; pregnancy loss; loss to suicide; job change; or relocation.

Grief: A Journey presented by Linda Cherek: licensed therapist, educator, consultant and educator; kicks off the spring series on Monday, April 17, at Abiding Savior Lutheran Church, 8211 Red Oak Drive, Mounds View, MN 55112. Each weekly session begins with registration at

6:45pm, followed by a professional speaker at 7pm, and small group gatherings from 8-9pm. There is no fee but donations are welcome.

For more information, call 763-755-5335 or visit its website at www.growingthroughloss.org.

# April is More Than the Beginning of Spring

April is Sexual Assault Awareness month. Our community is fortunate to have Alexandra House, a local shelter for battered women and children. If you know anyone who is experiencing domestic violence, call Alexandra House at 763-795-5471.

The Atonement Charitable Giving Team

24-Hour Helpline 763-780-2330

## Faith and a Pint Monthly Fellowship Group

Join Deacon Brad and others for Faith and a Pint—a monthly Fellowship Group—all are invited!

When: April 28 @ at 6:30pm at Torg Brewery

Where: Torg Brewery in Spring Lake Park - 8421 University Ave NE, Spring Lake Park, MN 55432

**Who:** All ages welcome! Blue Sun Soda and other non-alcoholic options served.

What: A social get together with folks from church! Come talk about faith, the world, and your life while

sipping a craft brew with your friends.

**Cost:** Bring a few bucks and check out their tap selection at https://www.torgbrewery.com/

# ABCD Atonement Book Club Daytime

The Atonement Book Club Daytime book discussion group will be held in the Fellowship Hall at Atonement Lutheran Church on Monday, April 3 at 1:00 pm. We will discuss *Take Me with You* by Catherine Ryan Hyde. In May we will discuss *Honey Bus: A Memoir of Loss, Courage and a Girl Saved by Bees* by Meredith May. People

from both Atonement and Cross of Glory are welcome. You can attend all of the discussions or only those that interest you. Please bring a mask and your own beverage.

## Atonement Parking Lot Fundraiser Garage Sale

Atonement will host a garage sale April 27 – 29 and will need good quality items to sell. Please bring in your gently used items to support this worthy cause. We may be able to pick up your items at your home, if necessary.



We also plan to have a bake sale. Please bring one or two items. Quick breads, cookies, or special snack foods are good sellers.

We will need the support of every member especially the three days of the sale. Other food may be served to customers.

Any concerns, thoughts or questions please contact Carol Hoiby or Virginia Cahow. If you're a Thrivent member, please consider donating Thrivent Choice Dollars towards the parking lot fundraiser. Thank you for your positive support.

# Cross of Glory Plant Sale Fundraiser Deadline Sunday, April 9

The deadline to order plants is Sunday, April 9. The plants will be delivered at Cross of Glory and available for pick up Friday, May 12 between 5:30 and 6:30 only.

Questions or to receive an emailed order form, contact Jeff Kinsel 651-249-8099 or jeff3121961j@gmail.com or Bob Reed 763-227-8597 or rareedmn@gmail.com.

# Sunday School Singing Palm Sunday Collecting Items for Hygiene Kits

We continue our journey thru Lent. Easter (and Spring) will be here soon! **There will be no Sunday School on Easter Sunday.** 

The Sunday School classes will be singing with the choir at Cross of Glory on Palm Sunday, April 2. We have been meeting in the choir room each week to practice. Please have children at church that morning by 8:15am to get prepared.

We are collecting sample size products for hygiene kits that will be donated. These can be dropped off at boxes at each of the churches. **Collection will be through May 1** and will be assembled into kits after that. See the list below. Thank you for your support.

Marilyn, Cheryl & Dani

The Crossroads Parish Sunday School youth are partnering with Ralph Reeder to help participants "Look Good" and "Summer Safe". We will be collecting personal hygiene essentials and assembling "Looking Good" packs. Collection boxes are available in the narthex of both churches. Donations will be collected throughout the Lenten/Easter season. Kits will be assembled and read for blessing and delivery to Ralph Reeder on Pentecost, May 28.

Full-size and Trial Size Items Needed:

#### **Looking Good Pack Needs**

- Toothbrush (2)
- Toothpaste
- Antiperspirant/Deodorant
- Shampoo/Conditioner
- Lotion
- Bar Soap/Body Wash
- Razor

### **Summer Safe Items Accepted**

- Sunscreen
- Kid-friendly Bug Spray
- Band-aids
- Triple Antibiotic Ointment
- Aloe
- Facial Tissues

Marilyn, Cheryl & Dani

## Mr. Rogers Said to "Look for the Helpers"

In our neighborhood, the Community Service Center is a helper – to prevent homelessness. On April 20 they are hosting a luncheon (soup and sandwich) at II:30 (lunch) with a noon-1:00 program at Messiah Lutheran Church at 2848 County Road H2.

During the program you will hear specific examples of how CSC helps community members...and you will have an opportunity to contribute. Call 651-387-8050 to RSVP.

Members of the Atonement Charitable Giving Team are attending and we would love your companionship.



**Neighbors Helping Neighbors** 

The Charitable Giving Team



# BWCA Boundary Waters Canoe Trip August 1-6

We have two permits for entry #16 Moose/Portage River North and can take a total of 18 people up to the Boundary Waters on an intergenerational adventure trip!

**When:** August 1, we will leave in the evening at 6pm and arrive at Grace Lutheran in Ely, MN and spend night in church. We will be on trail 4 full

days and then come off water Sunday morning August 6 and arrive home around dinner time.

Who: Intergenerational, all ages welcome, however if under 9th grade an accompanying adult is required.

**Cost:** \$350 approximate depending on group sizes.

**Register:** Sign up and put down a \$50 deposit by May 31! Sign up sheets in the narthex. Or go here to register through Sign-Up Genius: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c084aa4aa2da7f94-bwca#/

**Bring:** Full packing list will be coming but you will need your own sleeping bag & pad, canoe pack (rental available), clothes, tent, personal plate/spoon/cup set, and LifeStraw water filter bottle.

**Provided:** Church will provide (with help of outfitting) Kevlar canoe, paddle, all food and camp kitchen, maps, permits and legal documents, and leadership/canoe guide over a dozen group trips I have guided. We will also provide spirituality content, firs word, bible study, prayer and more.

Questions? Contact Deacon Brad at 612-242-7250 or brad@crossroads55112.org.

# Crossroads 2023 Men's Retreat Weekend Get-Away!

Cross of Glory and Atonement men, of any age, are invited to join us Friday, May 5 to Sunday, May 7 at Heartwood Resort in Trego, WI for a weekend of relaxation and spiritual connection.

Let's do bonfires, hanging out, card games, fishing, hiking, boating, golf,

disc golf and lots of tasty food! Sound good to you? Deacon Brad will lead discussions on "Me, We, Everybody—Spiritual Dynamics as a pathway forwards to understanding how to end divisions and fighting.". It will be a low-key weekend to bond, relax and discover a spiritual connection together.

Cost is \$200. Save your spot and register with a \$100 down payment by April 14.

Sign-up sheets are in the narthex of both churches. Questions? See Deacon Brad or Steve Klaers.



# Notes & Care

## Atonement Birthdays & Anniversaries

Apr 2 Deacon Brad & Karen Mills (2011)

Apr 7 Vicki Klaers

Apr 12 Jim & Janet Zastrow (1969)

Apr 20 Aili Vasel

Apr 20 Bob & Tami Kinney (1995)

Apr 26 Deacon Brad Mills



## Thanks & Joy—Atonement & Cross of Glory

- On March 29, 3 large bags of non-perishable groceries were delivered from the Atonement collection box to Ralph Reeder Food Shelf. Thank you to Bonnie Anderson for bringing them over and thank you to everyone who donated these foods to make mealtime more pleasant for local residents! The Atonement Charitable Giving Team
- Thank you to Peg Lindner who emptied the shopping cart at Cross of Glory and brought food donations to the Ralph Reeder Food Shelf. Many thanks to everyone who donated food!
- Many thanks to Kevin Gaylor for researching and coordinating the LED bulb replacement at Cross of Glory and for helping remove snow from the roof and patching a critter hole in the eave.
- Thank you to everyone who has helped with soup suppers in March!
- And thank you everyone for all you do for Atonement and Cross of Glory every day!

## In Our Prayers

- † Bob & Paula Reed's grandchildren Lincoln & Tallulah
- † Ruby Ryan
- † Baby Leo, Kolleen Olsen's niece's son
- † Kelly, Carol Tilden's daughter
- † Arlene Drier
- † Royce King

	PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 2		SUNDAY, APRIL 23	
	8:30	10:30	8:30	10:30
Worship Assistant	NA	Andrea Weatherly	NA	TBD
Lector	Kolleen Olsen	Steve Klaers	Claire Verkuilen	Beverly Knapp
Ushers/Acolyte	Melanie Thomalla	Judy Hill	Linda Thorson	Judy Hill
Greeter	Annette Steichen	Carol Tilden	Paula Reed	Janice Schmidt
Bread Baker	NA	Laurel Nelson	NA	Andrea Weatherly
Comm Setup	Janice Wikstrom	Judy Hill	Roberta Olson	Lynn Miller
Comm Servers	Gwen Lentsch, Gretchen Davis	Andrea Weatherly	Claire Verkuilen, Gretchen Davis	TBD
Counters	Bob Reed, Roger Steen	TBD	Gretchen Davis, Linda Thorson	TBD
Coffee Setup/Clean	Dawn Saros-Kirk	NA	Annette Steichen	NA
COG Closer	Bob Reed	NA	Marilyn Goldsworthy	NA
	EASTER SUND	EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 9 SUNDAY, APRIL 30		PRIL 30
	7:30/Pancake Breakfast	10:30	8:30	10:30
Worship Assistant	NA	TBD	NA	TBD
Lector	Monika Cook	Jim Nelson	Jeanette Lundgren	Laurel Nelson
Ushers/Acolyte	Leslie Bjork, Jeff Olson	Carol Hoiby	Paula Reed	Lindsey Fabian
Greeter	Jeanne Boyle	Steve Klaers	Linda Radtke	Carol Hoiby
Bread Baker	NA	Andrea Weatherly	NA	Andrea Weatherly
Comm Setup	Jeanne Boyle	Carol Hoiby	Linda Radtke	Judy Hill
Comm Servers	Linda Radtke, Gretchen Davis	TBD	Linda Radtke, Leslie Bjork	TBD
Counters	Gretchen Davis, Jason Emerson	TBD	Jason Emerson, Bob Reed	TBD
Coffee Setup/Clean	Pancake Breakfast	NA	Paula Reed	NA
COG Closer	TBD	NA	Bob Reed	NA
	SUNDAY, APRIL 16		SUNDAY, MAY 7	
	8:30	10:30	8:30	10:30
Worship Assistant	NA	TBD	NA	TBD
Lector	Jaime Verkuilen	Scott Carlson	Gretchen Davis	TBD
Ushers/Acolyte	Linda Radtke	Bonnie Anderson	Redding/Benson	Virginia Cahow
Greeter	Linda Thorson	Nancy Jahnke	Janice Wikstrom	TBD
Bread Baker	NA	Andrea Weatherly	NA	TBD
Comm Setup	Kolleen Olsen	Judy Hill	Janice Wikstrom	TBD
Comm Servers	Jaime Verkuilen, Leslie Bjork	TBD	Gwen Lentsch, Jaime Verkuilen	TBD
Counters	Rob Reed, Roger Steen	TBD	Linda Thorson, Roger Steen	TBD
Coffee Setup/Clean	Jeanne Boyle	NA	Dawn Saros-Kirk	NA
COG Closer	Dani Gow	NA	Dawn Saros-Kirk	NA

**Maundy Thursday at Atonement**—We will need help with communion set-up, servers and ushers this evening. **Good Friday at Cross of Glory**—We will need ushers this evening.

If you can help, please let us know. Thank you.

# April 2023—Crossroads Parish

Apr 2023 (Central Time - Chicago) # N 8 00 3pm - A-Girl Scout Event **Cross of Glory Lutheran Church** Sam - A-Mount of Sam - C-Now Birth Sam - C-New Birth Sam - A-Mount of Sam - C-Now Birth Sam - A-Mount of Sam - C-Now Birth Sam - A-Mount of Sam - C-Now Birth Sam - A-Mount of Mounds View, MN 55112 5472 Adams Street 763-784-2528 # N ö 6:30pm - Faith and a Pint 4pm - Charitable Giving **CROSSROADS** 6:30pm - C-Good Fri Spm - C-New Birth Spm - C-New Birth 5pm - C-New Birth Ē **Atonement Lutheran Church** New Brighton, MN 55112 1980 Silver Lake Rd NW 8 8 N œ. 6:30pm - A-Maundy Thur 530pm - A-Soup Supper 10am - C-Prayer Shawls 9:30am - A-Mary Circle 10am - C-Naomi Circle 6pm - C-Girl Scouts 1pm - A-Game Day 6pm - C-Girl Scouts 6pm - C-Girl Scouts Ipm - A-Game Day 1pm - A-Game Day 1pm - A-Game Day 651-633-2240 Ē Crossroads55112 Calendar, Birthdays, calendar@atonementnb.org, calendar@crossot@lorymv.org, Holidays in United States 8 in. 8 6:30pm - C-Cub Scouts 6:30pm - C-Councils 4pm - C-Worship 89 10 10 10 1pm - A-Elizabeth Circle 6:30pm - C-Cub Scouts 6:30pm - C-Girl Scouts Tax Day Ħ 1pm - C-Fellowship Circle 1pm - A-Kitchen Kutups 1pm - A-Kitchen Kutups 1pm - A-Kitchen Kutups 1pm - A-Klitchen Kutups Sam - A-Men's Bible 7pm - C-Cub Scouts Sam - A-Men's Bible pm - C-Cub Scouts Sam - A-Men's Bible 6pm - A-Girl Scouts 7pm - C-Cub Scouts pm - C-Cub Scouts Sam - A-Men's Bible 6pm - A-Girl Scouts 6pm - A-Property Ipm - A-ABCD Easter Monday Office Closed P N 12:30pm - A-Faith Comm 9:30am - Confirmation fpm - C-Private Event 10:30am - A-Worship 8:30am - C-Worship 7:30am - C-Worship 8:30am - C-Worship 8:30am - C-Worship 8:30am - C-Worship A-Prayer Ministers 12pm - Cantata 9:30am - C-Sun 9:30am - C-Sun 9:30am - C-Sun 9:30am - C-Sun

# Cross of Glory Council Meeting Highlights March 8, 2023

#### **Cross of Glory Council Meeting:**

Approved February minutes, reviewed treasurer's report.

#### **Old Business:**

Property update (Kevin Gaylor):

Kevin Gaylor will purchase reflective numbers for each of the doors in the building for easy identification in case of emergency. Also working on getting a reflective address sign for above the main entrance. Approved up to \$100 to purchase these items.

Dishwater totes have been purchased are in use for collecting dirty dishes for the dishwasher. Kevin is working with the county to receive a grant for recycling/compost bins throughout the church. Jon Thomalla has been researching AEDs. Motion passed to approve the purchase of an AED.

#### **New Business:**

Improvement Fund—Discussion about purchasing a new drinking fountain with a water bottle dispenser. Jumbo Sale—Discussion about donation storage. Official collection will begin the end of June. Adjourn for joint council meeting.

#### **Joint Council Meeting:**

Joint Councils met & reviewed Pastor's & Deacon's reports. Review of Lent & Holy Week schedule. Discussed having a joint council retreat, Reconciling in Christ, aligning counting procedures, parish website and VBS planning/dates. Adjourned at 8:44pm.

Thank you to everyone for all you do for Cross of Glory and the Crossroads Parish!

## Men's Assemble

The Men's Assemble performed on Sunday, February 26. Our Ash Wednesday service was cancelled due to weather so the Imposition of Ashes was done this Sunday.



## From Cross of Glory's Council President

## Lights, AEDs, Fountains, and... raccoons? Oh my!

Well to say that our first three months of 2023 have been anything but dull would be a bit of an understatement. Your council and property crew have been working hard on some new initiatives, some of which will be very noticeable very soon.

- We were approached with an offer from Xcel Energy to replace current fluorescent bulbs with more energy-efficient bulbs throughout the church. This program, which was at no cost to our church, resulted in 446 bulbs being replaced, giving us an estimated savings of \$1,437 each year on our electric bill. Thank you to Kevin Gaylor for heading up this project!
- With a special thank you to one of our donors, an AED (Automatic External Defibrillator) is being purchased for our church and will be installed in a location to provide easy access in case of an emergency. Studies have shown the faster that an AED can be applied for a cardiac emergency, the higher chance of the person surviving. We will also be offering training in the near future, once the unit is installed, for anyone wanting to know CPR, refresh their CPR knowledge, and learn how to use the AED. Thank you to both our donor and Jon Thomalla for heading up this project!
- Did you know, drinking water is HEALTHY? Also did you know carrying a water bottle is the new cool thing? That's right independent studies of otherwise forgetful and easily distracted people like myself have found that carrying a water bottle equates to drinking more water! Who would have thought? With an aging water fountain, it was decided to replace our current water fountain and add a water bottle fountain to it as well. Kevin Gaylor and our property crew will be working on the installation soon ... and we may just have to have a.. blessing of the fountain (there's something biblical in that right?)
- And finally, I am proud to be part of the welcoming community that is Cross of Glory. Over the years, since I have been here, we have welcomed new members, new families, new congregations, new staff... and even the occasional wildlife wanting to join our worship. Recently that was no exception when a raccoon (who has been named "Rocky") found shelter from the cold in our attic. While normally, guests are welcome with no strings attached, Rocky became a bit of an exception. Again with thanks to Kevin Gaylor and his crew, Rocky has relocated and the vent repaired and painted.

As a council, we continue to be blessed and encouraged by your continued support and faith in us and our partnership with Atonement as part of this Crossroads Parish. With Spring around the corner and the hope that this snow and ice may finally be leaving us for a while, I wish you all good health and welcome to Spring.

Matthew Verkuilen
Cross of Glory Council President

# Contact Us

## **Church Office Hours:**

Both Atonement and Cross of Glory church offices are open <u>Monday - Friday</u>.

Atonement's office is open mornings until noon. Cross of Glory's office is open afternoons until 5:00.

## How to Contact Us:

Pastor Cassie Nault Cassie@Crossroads55112.org

Cell: 612-910-2697

Atonement: 651-633-2240 Cross of Glory: 763-784-2528

Deacon Brad Mills

Brad@Crossroads55112.org

Cell: 612-242-7250

Atonement: 651-633-2240 Cross of Glory: 763-784-2528

Office Administrator—Dawn Saros-Kirk

Dawn@Crossroads55112.org Atonement: 651-633-2240 Cross of Glory: 763-784-2528

Atonement Minister of Music—Shannon Rosas

Shannon@AtonementNB.org

Cell: 651-387-0662

Cross of Glory Choir Director—Jaime Verkuilen Jaime@CrossOfGloryMV.org

Like Us on Facebook!
Find us on our websites:
Crossroads55112.org
AtonementNB.org
CrossOfGloryMV.org

You are welcome to contact the church staff at either site, regardless of where you attend worship.



Please submit newsletter articles by the THIRD MONDAY of the month.

# WE are CROSSROADS



Atonement Lutheran Church
1980 Silver Lk Rd, New Brighton, MN 55112



Cross of Glory Lutheran Church 5472 Adams St, Mounds View, MN 55112

Two churches.

One big community in faith.