



Cross Winds United Methodist Church 2025 Annual Giving Drive



THIS IS OUR
Story

*Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.
Matthew 6:21*

Greetings Cross Winds Friends,

The Holy Spirit is alive in the people of Cross Winds. God has blessed our church. Thank you for the ways you have made the love of Jesus abundantly known in the world this year through your work.

As we celebrate God's work among us, we also recognize that God calls us forward boldly to live as God's Church in the years to come. Doing this requires the joint commitment of all our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness. This fall, I ask that you pray over the included proposals for the year ahead and participate in our fall congregational meetings as we plan for the future together. May we ground our ministry in the love of Jesus, fueled by the Holy Spirit, and guided by our Heavenly Father so that our church may be a place where heaven and earth meet.

With Gratitude,
Rev. Christina Koppes

Join Us For These Congregational Meetings

Share your voice at these church meetings that will direct our ministry for the year ahead.

Sunday, Oct 27th (11:15am) - Church Forum
Congregational meeting to discuss 2025 ministry priorities, budget requests, and 2024 finances.

Sunday, Nov 10th - Pledge Sunday
Consecration of 2025 pledges in worship.

Sunday, Nov 24th - Celebration Sunday
Announcement of pledge drive results in worship.

Tuesday, Nov 26th (6pm) - Charge Conference
Review 2025 pastoral compensation.

Sunday, Jan 19th (11:15am) - Church Conference
Final review of 2025 budget. After collecting our pledges, the church leadership will present a budget for the congregation to review and approve.



Honoring the Present - 2024 Ministry Highlights

Cross Winds is honored to be a church community that...

Strengthens Families

Supporting families to nurture Christ-like loving relationships matters. Whether you have young children at home, are empty nesters, or have just moved into town, our church is here to be your family and support your changing needs. Our ministries are committed to moving beyond programs into nurturing relationships. We are grateful that our children's ministry encourages children to share the love of Jesus and equips parents to live faithfully in the home. We give thanks that our youth ministry includes partnerships between parents and students so that whether they are learning in confirmation classes or serving on a mission trip, there is time spent together to grow in faith. We provide in-depth premarital counseling for young couples, hospitality ministries for those stretched thin when caring for a family member in need, grief support groups for those experiencing loss, and friendly faces to sit with in the pews.

Nurtures Spiritual Growth

Deepening our love of God through worship and study brings joy to God, blesses our lives, and enriches the world. Our vibrant worship experiences reflect our belief that worship is the work of the people, featuring all ages and backgrounds. This year we have also expanded our small groups to provide new opportunities for spiritual friendships through Bible study, book discussions, social groups, and care.

Supports Community Engagement and Wellbeing

Caring for our neighbors locally, nationally, and internationally is an expression of God's love made real in the world. We are excited by our partnerships with Feed My Starving Children (raising over \$35,000 and feeding 319 children in Grenada for an entire year), CROSS Services, UMCOR, Enlighten Nimba, Stitches of Love, Prayer Shawl, and local schools. We are grateful for the diligent work of our leadership which has renovated our facility and administrative needs in order to expand the support of community partnerships such as Scouting, AA, local networking groups, Toastmasters, homeschool co-ops, and new community partners looking for affordable meeting spaces.

We are also incredibly blessed by the ministries and partnerships emerging because of our new commercial kitchen. Last year we served over 2,000 meals on Wednesday nights alone, thanks to the help of over 60 volunteers. We have learned so much and are excited to do more.



Welcoming the Future - Investing in 2025 and beyond

God is on the move and we are excited to be a part of God's work. As we look ahead, we remain committed to supporting the work God has done and are eager to invest in the following ways:

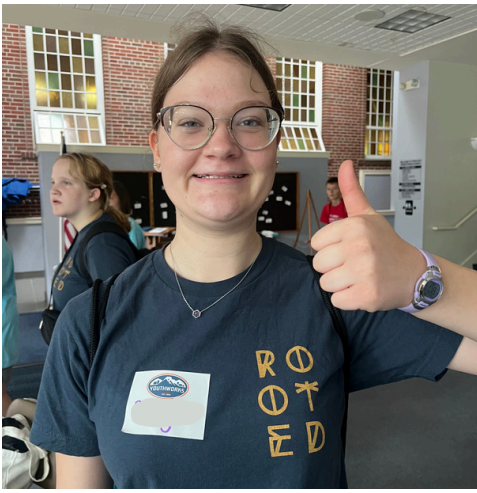
Strengthening Families and Spiritual Growth

We want everyone to experience the goodness of Christ's love so that it may enrich their lives and bless the world. As we reach out to young families, we have recently acquired the tools needed for new digital communication and are developing new ministry pathways for evangelism. We are committed to supporting expansion of new small groups for all ages, including additional Bible studies, social gatherings, and interest based community connections. Our caring ministries are ready to expand the work of lay-led ministries such as a Home Communion visitation ministry, weekly prayer support, grief care, and meal ministries.

Community Engagement and Wellbeing

We are ready to share the gifts of our facility to bless the world. We hope to expand our kitchen usage and community partnerships so that more people may find a welcoming place to gather in our facility as we also support the needs of the Maple Grove community. We also remain committed to doing all the good we can with our existing missional partnerships and look forward to expanding our mission work in the coming year.

Ministry Area	2024 Budget	2025 Proposed Expenses	Informational Notes
Staffing <i>Supporting the people of Cross Winds to lead faithfully and serve boldly</i>	\$261,426.40	\$286,226.30	Includes Pastor, Director of Administration, Director of Worship and Music, Director of Children's Ministry, Treasurer, Pianist, and Nursery staff focused on supporting you to lead vibrant ministry and welcome our neighbors as community partners.
Facility Care <i>Providing a space so all are welcome</i>	\$76,825.00	\$97,883.38	Includes ongoing costs of maintaining the Cross Winds facility so that all may gather in a place of Christlike hospitality and care. Increased costs reflect the rising costs as well as our intention to proactively fund the real needs of our facility.
Mortgage <i>Supporting building costs makes ministry possible.</i>	\$151,512.84	\$151,512.84	Remaining payments - 133. Interest Rate - 4.25% Rate Adjustment Date - 5/14/2027
UMC Conference Support <i>Connecting to the church around the world</i>	\$42,037.00	\$41,354.00	Support of the United Methodist Church, includes support of the MN Annual Conference and work around the world.
Program Ministries <i>Strengthening families and spiritual growth</i>	\$22,950.00	\$25,290.00	Includes budget requests (not including staffing) for worship, children, youth, adult, and hospitality ministries
Administrative Support <i>Supporting community engagement</i>	\$21,400.00	\$22,885.00	Operational expenses including supplies and technological costs so that our facility may be properly managed for all to use.
Kitchen Management	-----	\$12,000.00	Request for staffing assistance and support of annual maintenance costs of operating a commercial kitchen for expanded shared use.
Total Budget	\$576,151.24	\$637,191.52	



Ways to Give

Cash or Check

Your gifts can be placed in the weekly worship offering plate or they can be mailed to Cross Winds United Methodist Church, 15051 Weaver Lake Road, Maple Grove, MN 55311. Make checks payable to Cross Winds UMC.

Online Giving & Text Giving

You can use our secure online system for debit card or credit card contributions. Contributions can be recurring or a one-time gift. You will first need to set up a login account or use your existing account. Directions are available on the website: www.crosswindslife.org/give.

Stock & Mutual Funds

Stocks and other securities are a welcome gift. For stocks or funds that have appreciated over time, many members have found the capital gains tax savings make this an ideal way to fulfill their commitment.

Automatic Withdrawal

One easy step each year guarantees that the church will receive your gifts on a regular basis. To establish an automatic withdrawal, you will need to complete a short form authorizing the withdrawal and attach a voided check for the account you will use. Contact Steve Weeks at finance@crosswindsumc.org to receive the form we will need from you. If you have previously used automatic withdrawal, you do not need to resubmit a form or voided check.

IRA & 401K Distributions

Contributing a portion of your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) directly to Cross Winds is another way to give that can result in tax savings for you. Contact your tax or investment advisor to see how this might be of benefit for your specific situation.

Make Your Pledge by November 10th

As you consider your commitment to the Cross Winds Annual Giving Drive, please submit your Annual Giving Commitment Cards by Sunday, November 10th. Cards are available at Cross Winds or an electronic form is also available online at www.crosswindslife.org. Your annual giving commitment helps your church invest in ministry. Please return a card, even if you can only make a limited financial commitment at this time. Your commitment can be changed and does not set up your donation. It simply tells us what you are planning. You can always increase or decrease your commitment if your situation changes by calling our Church Office or contacting our financial secretary, Steve Weeks.

Thank you for your ongoing generosity and support.

For additional information, please contact:

Church Office – 763-494-9463

Steve Weeks, Financial Secretary (finance@crosswindsumc.org)

David Hughes, Treasurer (treasurer@crosswindsumc.org)

Rev. Christina Koppes, Lead Pastor (stinakoppes@crosswindsumc.org)

Michelle Schober, Director of Administration (office@crosswindsumc.org)

