



CROSS WINDS



SEPTEMBER 2026

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SEPTEMBER 13

RALLY SUNDAY

10 AM WORSHIP
11 AM MINISTRY INFO

LUNCH • MUSIC & GAMES • FAMILY FUN

www.crosswindslife.org

Cross Winds UMC
Faith in Action: Micah 6:8 presents

2026 Social Justice Fair

Wednesday, September 9, 2026 5:30 pm to 8 pm

Speaker: Joe Mansky
(Former Ramsey County Election Official)

Featured organizations:

Singing Resistance/Voting Defense
Emma Norton
League of Women Voters

Immigrant Defense Network
Palestine/Israel Justice Project
ACLU MN

and more!

Questions?
scan to email



FAITH IN ACTION: MICAH 6:8
Seek justice • Love mercy • Walk humbly
15051 Weaver Lake Rd, Maple Grove, MN 55311

Dinner provided!
All are welcome!



HELLO
SEPTEMBER!

Cross Winds United Methodist Church

15051 Weaver Lake Road
Maple Grove, MN 55311

Phone: 763-494-9463

Website: crosswindslife.org

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Sign Up To Stay Connected

Contact Michelle Schober to be added to the email distribution lists for

- "Cross Winds Life", distributed on Tuesdays
- includes important information about the life of the church, and links for upcoming events
- Prayer Chain email updates

MN Annual Conference News

Stay up to date on news from the MN Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church:

www.minnesotaumc.org

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“...Right Here”

“.....And we pray, not for
new earth or heaven, but
to be quiet in heart, and
in eye, clear. What we
need is here.”

~Wendell Berry



This week I heard this poem read in its entirety. It is a full and beautiful piece of poetry with the title ‘Wild Geese’ but it was these last few lines that gripped my heart and held on for dear life. ‘What we need is here.’

What we need is here. Do we believe this certain and direct statement? I think of all the conversations, both spoken and overheard, tell the opposite story. The story of ‘not enough’, of ‘not now’ is more common, of some distant future in which all will be as it should be, fully realized paradise or at least less pain and heartache. The here and now seems to hold little trust for many.

We live in a culture that lures us into believing that we are not enough, that we do not have the resources, the talent, the brains, the education, you name it, whatever it is we do not have enough of it. But Berry’s wisdom offers us another slice of a much more delicious pie: We have what we need.....right here, right now.

Those of us who make a home in institutions like the church or in other structures created to house the human spirit, schools, universities, hospitals, clinics, neighborhoods, families, often look for someone or something outside the circle to help shape an uncertain future. The present is filled with problems and challenges we did not see coming, and often do not fit neatly into the boundaries those before us created. Our nation and our world, our governments and leaders face this same view of who and what we were while realizing that the sands are shifting toward a future that demands more of us. If we allow ourselves, we see, we feel this tugging and pulling all around.

I believe we live in a pivotal, tilting place and much is being required of us. Perhaps it has always been this way. Perhaps our ability to know so much about what is happening in the world in the blink of an eye, in the brush of a Google keystroke makes it seem more real, more urgent. Whatever the soil into which we have been planted, there is an itching toward change, big change for most of what we have known to be bedrock. Do you sense this?

For this reason Berry’s words have stayed with me. It is so easy to look outside ourselves for answers. And yet, this poem so clearly states that we have what we need to solve whatever perceived problem stares us in the face. We have the right people, the best resources, the answers to the questions, right here, right now. The creativity needed must be fed by a quiet heart and the clarity to see the gifts that often go unnoticed, unopened in our midst.

What challenges do you face this day? What problem seems overflowing in your life? As you look out the window of your soul toward the world that nests you, what seems to be unraveling, shifting?

Today may be the day to quiet our hearts, to see, really see with the greatest clarity. What we need is here.

As one on the journey with you,
Pastor Dianne



Celebrate

The heart of worship is celebration! We celebrate who God is, what God has done for us in Jesus, and the new Spirit-filled lives we get to live because of it. By taking the time to celebrate God's gifts to us—gifts of diversity, unity, promise, and new life—we are attuning ourselves to the good things in life so that, even in times of struggle and hardship, we can be sustained.

September 6 - Celebrate Diversity

1 Corinthians 12:12-20

As the body of Christ, we are called to celebrate the diverse ways God is reflected in each and every person.

September 13 - Celebrate Unity

Ephesians 4:1-16

Celebrate that unity does not mean uniformity! Our diversity is knit together in the unity of faith as we grow into Christ.

September 20 - Celebrate Promise

Romans 4:3, 13-25

We welcome MN Adult & Teen Challenge to worship this day. We will hear their stories of recovery and be blessed by their music.

There will be no livestream of the service on this day.

September 27 - Celebrate New Life

Mark 5:35-43

Celebrating new life is about celebrating how we are transformed for joy and to thrive.

abundance humanity UNCONDITIONAL
FRIENDSHIP offer make a difference
gratitude kindness UNITE gift
altruism support INSPIRE LOVE thank you
volunteer compassion give back charity
service SHARE community
get involved NOW TIME generosity



Finance Update

Thank you for your giving to CWUMC. As we head into the month of September, we continue to maintain a small operating surplus (through July) and our expenses continue to be somewhat below budgeted levels. Our July surplus did decrease slightly as compared to June which is normal for this time of year. Our goal is to continue to maintain this surplus into the fall. This will help to support our missions and necessary expenses during the rest of the year.

You can make a significant difference with any additional giving. No amount is too small. If you haven't pledged yet for this year, it's also not too late. Don't forget that you can also give online. We appreciate your continued giving in support of the ministries at CWUMC.

As has been mentioned, we are addressing two financial challenges, our ongoing mortgage obligation and the road assessment with the city of Maple Grove. We are continuing to work towards options to address both. We have been blessed to receive donations towards paying the assessment and welcome any additional contributions to this fund.

Again, thank you for your giving in 2026 to all our ministries at CWUMC. If you have questions about our Operating Fund, or questions related to our 2026 Budget, other Reserve Funds, Endowment Fund, Property Assessment or Mortgage Balance, please contact finance@crosswindsumc.org.

Property Assessment

Minnesota's construction season has arrived! This year, it has settled on our own very busy Weaver Lake Road and is "visiting" Cross Winds while the city conducts much-needed repairs and upgrades. While construction season isn't exactly welcome when it lands at our doors, we also know the goal is ultimately to offer safer and improved access to our property.

We have now been officially notified that the amount of the assessment is \$56,977.90.

Below is an outline of our obligation and several potential responses:

- Pay off the full amount by November 30, 2026.
- Pay a portion of the amount by this date and have the remaining balance amortized using city-arranged financing over 15 years at 5% interest.
- Have the full amount amortized over 15 years.
- Pay a portion before the November date and pay the balance later using a different financing source.

REGULAR
GIVING FORM



CROSS WINDS CHILDREN



SUNDAY MORNINGS

Year-round, Sundays during 10am worship - Open to children in preschool through 5th grade. We encourage children to begin worship in the main sanctuary for part of worship. Then at the Children's Greeting, students are dismissed for their own time of worship to keep singing, dancing, praying, and experiencing the love of God.

Our nursery is staffed on Sunday mornings from 9:45-11am during Worship. From infancy to preschool, we provide a God-centered space filled with love, laughter and learning. Our trained nursery staff and volunteers care for children age 3 and younger. We consider our nursery ministry to be the beginning of your children's spiritual journey and we take great joy in being part of that.

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

Kids often wonder: What was I made for? They might ask who they are, what makes them unique, and how they're supposed to make a difference in the world. It's easy for them to feel like their interests and talents are just random, but the truth is that God created each of them with a purpose to do amazing things. Through this 4-week series from the Old and New Testaments, here are some ways you can affirm the kids in your ministry: you're made to know God, you're made to be a light, you're made to lead, and you're made to make a difference.



Join us for dinner at 5:30pm as we begin a new school year together. At 6:30pm all families should gather downstairs for a brief orientation about classes, see the space and meet the teachers.

As students of the Word, we celebrate a new program year together by blessing our acolytes, praying for all students and gifting new Bibles to kindergarten and 4th grade students.



Adult Education



BAD BOYS OF THE BIBLE

Wednesdays Sept 16-Oct 7
6:30PM
Led by Lori Walber



Bad Boys of the Bible

Wednesdays at 6:30pm, September 16-October 7

What do Bannah & Recab, Haman, Korah-Dathan-Abiram, Abimelech and Ananias have in common? They're all considered "Bad Boys of the Bible". These men are infamous for their character flaws. Unfortunately, they are flaws we still have. We'll look at these men's lives, their context, and how we can learn from them. Join Pastor Lori on Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm September 16-October 7.

The Gospel of John

Sundays at 9:00 am, September 20-October 25

The Gospel of John provides us with a profound portrait of Jesus! While the other Gospels focus heavily on Jesus's actions and teachings, John dives deep into the identity and mission of Jesus. Written to spark or grow our faith, John wants us to better understand Jesus as divine, truth, love and life. Led by Steve Weeks, our six-week study begins on Sunday, September 20, at 9:00, downstairs in the Adult Ed room. We hope you will join our exploration of this incredible Gospel! Prior to our first class, please read John 1:1-18.



Thank You for a Beautiful Short Book Summer from Jamie Boettcher

Thank you to the **40+ people—and one very special service dog!—** who joined me for one or more of our gatherings on the church deck to read ten of the shortest books of the Bible. Whether you came every week or simply stopped by when you could, your presence helped make this study something truly rememberable.

Together, we discovered that these little books have big things to say. We explored lessons about humility, hospitality, faithfulness, leadership, love, and the everyday ways our faith becomes visible in our lives. Many of you commented that you had overlooked these short books in the past, so what a joy it was to discover that there is so much wisdom tucked into these often-underappreciated pages!

And perhaps most beautiful of all was what happened when we simply made space to listen. During our quiet, individual reading time and our lively times of sharing and discussion, the Holy Spirit was definitely among us—nudging, encouraging, and connecting us in ways we could not have planned.

What a special gift we received—and gave to ourselves and one another—this summer. Thank you for showing up, opening your Bibles and your hearts, and making this little study such a meaningful part of our summer together.

Short books. Big lessons. Blessed community.

Small Groups Ministries



CROSS WINDS United Methodist Church

Prime Timers Brunch

Join us monthly for Prime Timers Brunch at Lynde's Restaurant in Osseo

SIGN UP

**First Tuesdays
11:30 AM**

Prime Timers Monthly Brunch

Tuesday, September 1, 11:30 am

A Prime Timers Brunch has been arranged for the first Tuesday of every month at 11:30 am at Lynde's Restaurant in Osseo. Breakfast and Lunch menus will be available. Everyone invited! [Sign up on the church website.](#)

Ladies Who Lunch

Tuesday, September 22, 11:30 am

Ladies Who Lunch will gather on Tuesday, September 22 at 11:30 am at 3 Square in Maple Grove. Please sign up on the [Cross Winds Ladies Who Lunch Events](#) page or let the church office know by September 20 so reservation can be confirmed with restaurant. All ladies are invited to join.

LADIES WHO LUNCH
September 22, 11:30 am

Join us at 3 Square in Maple Grove. Sign up on the website or contact the church office by September 20.

CROSS WINDS United Methodist Church

CROSS WINDS United Methodist Church

Faith in Action: Micah 6:8 presents:

Understanding and Responding to Christian Nationalism

SUNDAY
October 4, 2026 **11:15 AM**

CROSS WINDS UMC
15051 Weaver Lake Road | Maple Grove

CHRISTIANS AGAINST CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM

Understanding and Responding to Christian Nationalism

Jerry Gale, a member of Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church in Minneapolis, will speak on "Understanding and Responding to Christian Nationalism." Christian nationalism seeks to merge Christian and American identities, damaging both the Christian faith and America's democracy. It implies that to be a good American, one must be a Christian. This workshop provides information about Christian nationalism and ways for Christians, people of other faiths, and secular individuals to respond to Christian nationalism.

You can learn more about Christians Against Christian Nationalism Minnesota at their [website.](#)

Game Night

Thursday, September 17, 6:30 pm

Join together for game night with family and friends. Games for all ages will be there but feel free to bring your favorite game to teach others. This game group will meet in the evening of every third Thursday of the month. We will be playing a variety of games. Please spread the word and join us.

Game Night

3rd Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm

Games for all ages!

Mission Ministries



CHURCH CONFERENCE

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13
11:15 AM

To approve moving forward
with a Capital Campaign

Church Conference - Sunday, September 13, 11:00 am

There will be a church conference following worship on Sunday, September 13. This conference is to approve moving forward with a Capital Campaign.

Townhall Meeting

Sunday, September 27, 11:15 am

Join the Cross Winds Board for a townhall meeting on Sunday, September 27 to get updates on the church and how the task forces are progressing in their work. Any questions, contact Pastor Dianne or the church office.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Monday, September 28, 1:30 pm

Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet Monday, September 28 at 1:30 pm at church. Bring your own beverage, current project, and any completed shawls. We invite you to join us if you knit or crochet or would like to learn. We meet monthly on the fourth Monday.

Stitches of Love

Thursday, October 1, 1:00 pm

Stitches of Love will have its next meeting on Thursday, October 1 at 1pm in the lower level. We welcome any members interested in helping with our mission related sewing projects. We meet every two months except for the summer. We focus on sewing book bags and quilts that go to Midwest Mission. We also sew feminine hygiene kits that are sent to third world countries where feminine hygiene products are not available for young girls trying to go to school. Sewing is done in your own home. We provide the patterns and have funds for material used. Come join us!



Red Cross Blood Drive

Friday September 11, 11am-5pm

Sign up to give the gift of life. Can't donate but want to help? Contact Amber Lahtinen or contact the church office to volunteer in other ways.

2026 Social Justice Fair

Wednesday, September 9, 2026 5:30 pm to 8 pm

Speaker: Joe Mansky

(Former Ramsey County Election Official)

featured organizations:

Singing Resistance/Voting Defense
Emma Norton
League of Women Voters

Immigrant Defense Network
Palestine/Israel Justice Project
ACLU MN

and more!

Questions?
scan to email



FAITH IN ACTION: MICAH 6:8
Seek justice · Love mercy · Walk humbly
15051 Weaver Lake Rd, Maple Grove, MN 55311

*Dinner provided!
All are welcome!*

Social Justice Fair

Wednesday, September 9, 5:30 pm

Our Faith in Action: Micah 6:8 team invites you to a special evening on Wednesday, September 9 at 5:30 PM as we host our first Social Justice Fair, a gathering designed to help us learn, connect, and take faithful next steps toward justice and compassion in our community.

We'll begin with a free community meal, giving everyone a chance to settle in, meet neighbors, and enjoy fellowship before exploring the fair. Throughout the evening, you'll have the opportunity to visit booths from local organizations working in areas such as housing and homelessness, food security, creation care, immigrant and refugee support, disability justice, and more. Each partner will offer simple, practical ways to get involved, whether through learning, volunteering, advocacy, or community support.

As part of the event, we're also welcoming a guest speaker who will share nonpartisan information about election security in Minnesota, helping us understand how our state safeguards the integrity of the voting process. This conversation is meant to be clear, accessible, and grounded in trusted public information.

The Social Justice Fair is designed for all ages and all levels of comfort, whether you're curious, eager to take action, or simply wanting to learn more about the needs and strengths of our community. Come discover how small steps taken together can help us "do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly" in real and meaningful ways.

Questions? Email Erin at er.lorenz@gmail.com



Lifting Every Voice

Music and Worship Ministry

Worshipping Out Loud: Shouting and Singing Methodists

Did you know that “Shouting Methodists” and “Singing Methodists” were once nicknames for our Methodist ancestors? Early Methodists were known for worshiping with enthusiasm—shouting, clapping, singing loudly, praying spontaneously, and even dancing as they experienced the joy of God’s grace.

The Wesley brothers also understood the power of singing. Charles Wesley wrote more than 6,000 hymns, giving people words to teach their faith and express their experience of God. Singing became—and remains—a central part of Methodist worship.

Over the coming year at Crosswinds, we’ll continue this tradition as we explore new songs, new words to familiar tunes, and familiar words set to new tunes. Some will be joyful and exuberant; others may invite reflection and contemplation. All are opportunities to give voice to our faith.

So come ready to sing, shout, and worship out loud!

John Wesley's Rules for Singing

In 1761, John Wesley published explicit directions for the congregation, which included:

- Sing all: Everyone should join in.
- Sing lustily: Lift your voice with strength and courage, not half asleep.
- Sing modestly: Blend in so you do not overpower others.
- Sing in time: Keep the rhythm and pace with the rest of the group.
- Sing spiritually: Focus on God with every word

At Crosswinds, every voice is welcome. Every voice is important. Every voice is heard.

Lifting Every Voice,
Lisa



PAINTED *by Grace*

2026 Women's Retreat

October 23-25 - Second night is optional

Gather with other women from Cross Winds and Saint Michael Community Church for a time of fellowship, study, and renewal. Facilitated by Pastor Laura Cottington, "Painted by Grace" retreat invites women to experience God's creative work in their lives through art, reflection, and worship, emphasizing that each season—joyful or difficult—is a purposeful brushstroke in God's masterpiece. Through interactive sessions, creative activities, and spiritual reflection, participants are encouraged to embrace their unique journeys, release burdens, and celebrate the beauty God is continually painting in them.

There will be free time to enjoy the lake, trails, crafts, games, optional activities, visit or have some quiet time to read your Bible, journal, or take a nap. Costs vary from \$155-\$245 depending on the length of your stay and room choice. Some scholarship assistance is available upon request. The registration deadline is Monday, October 5.

Stop by the information desk on September 13 and September 27 if you have questions or to complete a paper registration and payment. Contact Dianne Roth, Jamie Boettcher or the church office for additional information.

The Retreat will be held at Koronis Ministries. It offers a beautiful lakeside setting for a retreat with the full amenities of hotel-style rooms. The rural setting feels a world away from the daily grind, but is conveniently located just 80 miles from the Twin Cities.

The retreat begins at 6:00pm Friday, October 23. Feel free to come early and enjoy some free time. The facility is available for our use at 3pm. Dinner will be served at 6pm and the opening gathering begins at 7pm. The retreat concludes at 8:30pm, Saturday October 24. There is an option available to stay a 2nd night with check-out at 11am Sunday.

Costs include lodging, bedding, towels, meals, and program supplies.

- Double/Triple Room – One night, 4 meals = \$155
- Double/Triple Room – Two nights, 5 meals = \$205
- Single Room (limited availability) – One night, 4 meals = \$175
- Single Room (limited availability) – Two nights, 5 meals = \$245

* Retreat participants are encouraged to bring a snack to share for break times and evening.

VBS Highlights



VBS Highlights



Cross Winds

United Methodist Church

15051 Weaver Lake Rd
Maple Grove, MN 55311

The Compass

is the monthly newsletter of
Cross Winds United Methodist Church

www.crosswindslife.org

Phone: 763-494-9463

