



July 2024

CRC NEWSLETTER

LOVE. GROW. SERVE.



A NOTE ON THANKFULNESS

I hope you all are enjoying the summer weather as much as we are. Summer in Minnesota is tough to beat, and our family is soaking it up! We recently spent a long weekend visiting my sister in Arizona, and let me tell you - the winters here are not so bad compared to the summers out there! (every day was 110+ degrees...)

With the 4th of July here, I got to thinking - July is a great month to focus on being thankful. "But Pastor Ben - how do you get to the topic of thankfulness from the 4th of July?" I'm glad you asked!

Why do we celebrate most holidays, really? We celebrate Christmas because we always have, sure. But the real spirit behind Christmas is the rejoicing of our Savior's birth. It's being thankful for the life of Jesus who took it upon Himself to make Himself like us to bear our sins so we don't have to. It's being thankful for each other and showing that appreciation through the giving of gifts.

Why do we celebrate Easter? Same concept - we rejoice in our Savior's triumph over death and the grave - His atonement for our sins. I sure am thankful for that. I'm thankful for the life, death, and resurrection of Christ because without it, what's the point?

What about Memorial Day or Veteran's Day? We honor those who have served and given their lives for our country and our freedoms. We are thankful for their immeasurable sacrifice so that we can enjoy freedoms that much of the rest of the world does not.

Why do we celebrate Thanksgiving? I'll skip that one. I think you get the picture.

But why save the act of being thankful for holidays? Why not extend that to the rest of the month? Why don't we start the month of July by being thankful for our country and the freedom we have, but then extending that to the rest of our lives? Because we sure do have a lot to be thankful for!

Are you healthy? Do you have family or friends? Do you have a roof over your head and means of transportation? Do you have a bed to sleep in at night? Do you have other people in your life who care about you?



A NOTE ON THANKFULNESS

Last month we talked about how the summer is a great time to slow down and spend time reflecting and growing. Let's continue that seasonal challenge with a focus on thankfulness in our time of rest. We have so much to be thankful for. What do you think your life would look like if you adopted a more thankful heart and approach to the world around you? How would that translate to the other areas of your life? Don't you think you'd be a happier person? I know I would. I'm not very good at remembering to be thankful. I get swept up in daily tasks and forget to slow down and be thankful. Holidays are often some of the only times I'm forced to process just how thankful I am. But I want to get better at it. Will you join me?

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

Psalm 95:2

Blessings,

Pastor Ben

Upcoming events

COMMUNITY worship service

SUNDAY, JULY 7 ~ 9:30 AM



NEW LOCATION!

MEET @ THE RTC
(BEHIND THE MAIN BUILDING)

CRC POOL NIGHT

@ BRECKENRIDGE AQUATIC CENTER

WEDNESDAY JULY 17 6-8 PM

CONCESSIONS AVAILABLE
ALL ARE INVITED! (NOT JUST KIDS!)

Women's Ministry SUMMER PICNIC

Wednesday, July 24 @ 6 PM

- hosted by Sherri Money
1822 Shoreview Dr. FF
- bring a salad to share & a serving utensil

CAR WASH

at CrossRoads Church

A LOCAL OUTREACH EVENT



Volunteers
Needed!

Saturday, August 10th
10 AM - 2 PM

Women's Ministry Potluck

Calling all women.... We have an opportunity to join with the women from the Battle Lake Alliance Church on Wednesday, July 17, 11-1pm, for a potluck picnic at their church. Address: 401 West Gilbertson Street West, Battle Lake.

Batel Lowenthal, a Jewish pastor's wife, will share with us her mother's heart for ministry as she/they reach out to their Jewish neighbors and their community. (Moshe and Batel Lowenthal are the Jewish couple that several of us from the area were privileged to meet and stay with in their home while we toured Israel. A tour that was arranged through Al Gaines.) It was an incredible experience!!

Our goal will be to not only learn about and be informed about our brothers and sisters in Israel, but to pray for and encourage Batel through our prayers as they continue to minister on the front lines.

Eating utensils, coffee and water will be provided. No RSVP needed. Bring a friend.

Questions? Need transportation to Battle Lake? Contact Esther Zosel at 218-671-0401.

MINISTRY STAFF

Joey Kalan	Senior Pastor
Ben Ellison	Associate Pastor of Discipleship
Trisha Grove	Children's Ministry Director
Nancy Nelson	Care Coordinator
Bridgett Raph-Formo	Office Administrator
Lisa Ripley	Treasurer

OVERSEER BOARD

Dave Anderson	Dave Bjork
Ben Ellison	Kathryn Enderson
Dan Heikes	Joey Kalan
Katrina Mouser	Tim Swedberg
Sue Wilken	

FINANCIAL UPDATES

MINISTRY CENTER BUILDING FUND RECAP	
January 2022 to June 2024	
Total Pledge (3 Yrs.) \$565,214	
Pledged Gifts Received (to date)	\$511,870.17
Non-Pledged Gifts Received (to date)	\$70,600.77
Donation from Church Reserves	\$150,000.00
Total Receipts	\$732,470.94
Total Expenses (to date)	\$(732,271.53)
Returns/Refunds/Rebates	\$21,896.95
Total Project Cost (to date)	\$(710,374.58)
Balance in Building Fund	\$22,096.36



CROSSROADS CHURCH

629 E Channing Avenue,
Fergus Falls, MN
218-739-3391
crcff.com
OFFICE HOURS:
MONDAY–FRIDAY 8 AM –12 PM

GENERAL FUND SUMMARY	
April 1, 2024 through June 30, 2024	
Budget	\$134,350
Expenses	-\$122,226
Income	\$110,624
Expenses Exceed Income by \$11,602	

RESTRICTED FUND SUMMARY			
April 1, 2024 to June 30, 2024			
FUND	Revenue	Expenses	Balance
Camp Fund	\$805	\$970	\$4,224
Trout Lake Camp Fund	\$0	\$0	\$4,243
Ukraine Fund	\$8,207	\$7,650	\$2,238
Youth Mission Fund	\$10,360	\$16,933	\$20,519

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
JULY						
	1 6:30 PM Unwind	2	3	4 Independence Day CrossRoads Office Closed	5	6
7 9:30 AM Community Worship Service at the RTC No Services at CrossRoads	8 6:30 PM Family Prayer	9	10 10 AM Youth Biking and Beach Day at Glendalough	11	12	13
14 9 AM Worship Service 10 AM Family Fellowship 6:30PM Youth MC Sunday	15	16	17 11 AM Women's Potluck at Battle Lake Alliance Church	18 6:30 PM Bridal Shower for Jesse Slothower	19	20
21 9 AM Worship Service 10 AM Family Fellowship	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 9 AM Worship Service 10 AM Family Fellowship	29	30	31 5:30 PM Youth Redhawks Game	<div> <i>The Nursery is available each week during the Sunday service.</i> </div>		

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

If you have something you would like to submit for inclusion in the newsletter, please email to **office@crcff.com** by the 22nd of the month (to be published in the following month's issue).