



# THE CALLER

Christ Episcopal Church, Red Wing, MN

March 2024

A Special Message From . . .



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Jr. Warden: Kris Blaney  
Randy Pastorius (2027)  
Gretchen Lee (2027)  
Elaine Hoisington (2025)  
Pam Dressen (2025)  
Ron Weitnauer (2026)  
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*Dear Friends,*



My eyesight has been a little wonky ever since I hit the magic age of 45 a couple of years ago, so last Friday I got my first set of “progressive lenses” And let me tell you, these things are crazy! Being able to read something and then type without having to fiddle with my glasses is great. But lots of things aren’t the same any more, because I have to use different parts of the lens to see near, far, and in-between. So I’m having to relearn how to use my peripheral vision and work out where exactly to put the book on the altar so that I can see it clearly on Sunday mornings! With enough work, though, I’m sure I’ll get it figured out.

**Maybe I’ve got to learn how to use the trifocal lenses of justice, mercy, and forgiveness to bring the Kingdom into sharp focus.**

I’ve been thinking a lot about “seeing” lately when it comes to the Kingdom of God – or as Deacon Vicki puts it so well, the Community of God. I think we often want to associate the Community of God with the afterlife – some sort of perfect place without sin or evil and everyone is blissfully happy in the God’s presence. But the Kingdom is much bigger than that. As Anglican theologian and bishop N.T. Wright writes in *Surprised by Hope* “Jesus’ resurrection is the beginning of God’s new project not to snatch people away from earth or heaven but to colonize earth with the life of heaven.”



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Continued from . . .



Pastor Aaron Twait

Jesus says over and over in the Gospels that the Kingdom of God has come near. And so I've realized that I need to be looking around for the places where the Community of God appears in the world around me. It takes some retraining of my theological imagination to see the life of heaven is colonized here on earth. The tough part is that we usually see it in the everyday. Wright says in the same book that the sorts of activities that build God's kingdom include "painting, preaching, singing, sewing, praying, teaching, building hospitals, digging wells, campaigning for justice, writing poems, caring for the needy, [and] loving your neighbor as yourself". These usually aren't the sort of miracles I might be looking for.

Maybe I've got to learn how to use the trifocal lenses of justice, mercy, and forgiveness to bring the Kingdom into sharp focus. It takes a lot of work. But with a healthy dose of God's grace, I have faith that my journey into discipleship will help me figure it out more and more each day.

***Blessings on your own Lenten journeys of discipleship.***

*Yours in Christ,  
- Pastor Aaron*





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Into the Wilderness of Change

Deacon Vicki Lambert

Dear friends,

According to Mark, the heavens were torn open, and God announced Jesus's identity loud and clear: "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." But what happened to that certain sense of identity and belonging, I wonder, as Jesus was compelled to go into the wilderness and his wilderness wanderings stretched into week two, week three, week four? Did it begin to waver? Did the Son of God have to keep reminding himself of who he was? Did he have to be nudged each time he forgot?

I am wondering why did Jesus need the wilderness? Why do we? If we are honest with ourselves, we try our best to avoid the wilderness. Things happen in the wilderness and we would rather not have things change. The wilderness is where we are forced to see ourselves as we are, without filter or finery. It is there we wander and wait to encounter the holy. Like Jesus, we are sometimes driven against our will, by the Holy Spirit, to the wild places we would rather not go. But the wilderness is where we as individuals and as community must go, because out of the wild comes new life.

We can be beloved  
and uncomfortable  
at the same  
time. We can be  
beloved and unsafe  
at the same time.

At his baptism, Jesus heard the absolute truth about who he was. That was the easy part. The much harder part came in the wilderness, when he had to face down every vicious assault on that truth. When the memory of his Creator's voice from heaven faded, and he had to learn how to be God's beloved in a lonely wasteland. Maybe we, like Jesus, need long stints in the wilderness to learn what it really means to be God's beloved.



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The Wilderness..... continued

Deacon Vicki Lambert

**Because the unnerving fact is: we can be beloved and uncomfortable at the same time. We can be beloved and unsafe at the same time. In the wilderness, the love that survives is flinty, not soft. Salvific, not sentimental. Learning to trust it takes time.**

**Please notice: there were angels in the wilderness. As I've said before, Jesus was never really all alone. This, too, is a startling and comforting truth — one that we can recognize if we open our eyes and take a good look around. Somehow, somewhere, help comes. Rest comes. Solace comes. Granted, our angels don't always appear in the forms we might prefer, but they come.**

**I wonder what Jesus's angels looked like. Did they manifest as winged creatures from heaven? As comforting breezes across the sun-scorched hills? As a trickle of water for his parched throat? As a wild beast that offered him a tame and tender gaze? As a rock to lay his head upon? As the swirl of constellations on a clear, cloudless night?**

**What do your angels look like? What have they looked like in the past? When they ministered to you, held you, braced you, did you hear a new version of God's voice, calling you his beloved? If yes, then what would it be like for you to enter into someone else's barren desert now, and become an angel for their journey?**

**As we continue the wilderness journey of Lent, I pray that we'll walk with courage into the deserts we can't choose or avoid. I pray that we know we are not ever really alone. I pray that our long stints in the wilderness will teach us who we really are. And I pray that when angels in all their sweet and secret guises whisper "beloved" into our ears, we will listen, and believe.**

*~Deacon Vicki*



# THE CALLER

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## ECW Presents ~ Lenten Retreat

### *“Prayer and Potatoes”*

**When: March 16**  
**Time: 9:00am to 3:00pm**  
**Registration begins at 830am**  
**Where: Parish Hall**



**Guest Speaker**  
**Pastor Aaron Twait**

### **Is your prayer life stuck in a rut?**

Do you need to have your prayer horizons expanded? Do you have questions about prayer? Join the Episcopal Church Women for a “Prayer and Potatoes” Lenten retreat on Saturday, March 16. This retreat for men and women will be led by Pastor Aaron and will include a mix of presentations, group discussion, and individual experiences all related to prayer. The event runs from 9 until 3 in the Parish Hall, and a baked potato bar lunch will be included. The event is free, with good will donations accepted. Same-day registration is available, but to ensure we have enough food for lunch we would prefer advance registration – you can sign up on the sheet outside the office, call the church at 651-388-0411, or by email to Dawne at [office@christchurchrw.org](mailto:office@christchurchrw.org). Come for a day of mutual learning and discovery and leave with a new perspective on prayer.

*All are  
Welcome!*

**Look for the  
sign up sheet  
on the bulletin  
board.**



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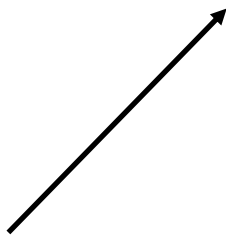
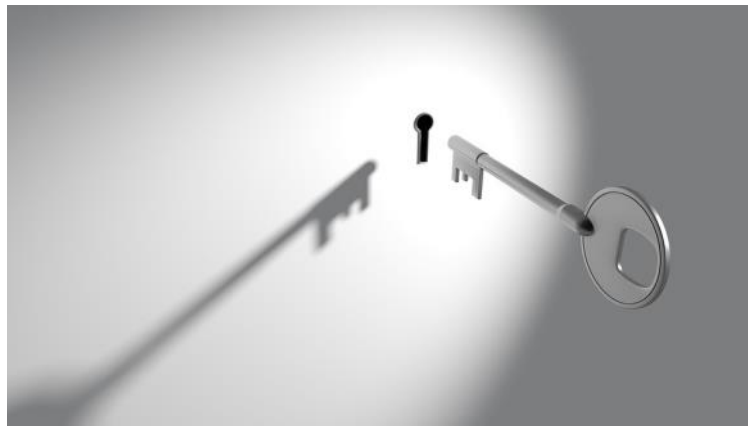


## BUILDING SECURITY



In January 2024, the vestry approved a facility security risk assessment. As part of this assessment, the congregation has been asked to complete a Risk Assessment Survey.

**Please take the time to complete this by Easter Sunday.**



Click the picture to unlock the survey. It should take about 5 minutes to complete. Contact Pastor Aaron or Deacon Vicki with any questions.

For those of you who get a hard copy in the mail, a paper survey has been attached to your Caller.



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## Community Engagement Team

## March Needs

Whatever you can provide, will be welcomed!  
None of this goes to waste.

Please place donations in the Food Shelf bins in the Parish Hall or the back of the church. Monetary donations are also welcome.  
Checks may be made out to "Red Wing Area Food Shelf."



## Soup and Evening Prayer



*Soup and Evening Prayer every Wednesday is offered until Easter.*

*It includes a simple supper at 5:00 pm followed with Evening Prayer at 5:45 pm.*

*Please join. This helps to center us during the Lenten season.*





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## Holy Week & Easter Services



*You are invited to join us for Holy week.*

*Experience the passion, of Jesus through song, prayer, communion, and reflection.*



### ***Palm Sunday***

*8:00am*

*Communion Service*

*10:00am*

*Communion Service*

### ***Wednesday Service***

*10:00am*

*Gospel Discussion & Communion*

*5:00 pm*

*Simple Supper & Evening Prayer*

### ***Maundy Thursday***

*6:00 pm*

*Communion Service*

*Stripping of the Altar*

### ***Good Friday***

*7:00 pm*

*Stations of the Cross*

### ***Holy Saturday***

*8:00pm*

*Easter Vigil with Communion*

### ***Easter Sunday***

*9:00 am*

*One Easter Celebration with Communion*







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It's b-a-c-k!!!



***Coming Soon!***



Watch the service Bulletin and the board for some new and exciting events for our Fun Fridays!

If you have any ideas please let Pastor Aaron know.



## Food for Thought . . .

**Pledge Envelopes** ~ If you would like envelopes, Contact the office and the Finance Dept will get you taken care of.



### **Another Reminder Coat Shed**

It's hard to believe, but we are already running low on coats, hats & gloves. If you have any available please bring them by the church.



*Thanks!*



### **Library**



We have a lovely library in our church! Anyone have any suggestions on how to encourage people to use it more? What about having a potluck/quiet time where we use our library or bring something to read?

***Just a thought...***



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**Recipes!!! Recipes!!! Recipes !!!**

## Lemon Bars



Below is Mary Christiansen's recipe for **Lemon Bars**. She was famous for these and many parishioners have mentioned them to me as a memory of Mary this week.

1 Cp butter, softened  
2 Cp flour  
1/2 Cp powdered sugar  
4 eggs, beaten  
2 Cp sugar

1 tsp baking powder  
4 T. flour  
4 T lemon juice  
Grated rind of 2 lemons

Combine flour, powdered sugar and butter. Place in 9 x 13-inch pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 15 minutes. Combine eggs, sugar, baking powder, flour, lemon juice and lemon rind. Pour over baked crust and bake at 350 degrees for 25 minutes. Cool. Dust with powdered sugar. Yield: 24 bars.



## Guinness Corned Beef



4 lb corned beef brisket  
1 pkg seasoning that comes with the beef  
1 cp brown sugar  
1-12 oz Guinness Dark Beer bottle



1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Rinse the beef completely in water & pat dry
2. Place the brisket on rack in a roasting pan or Dutch oven. Rub the brown sugar on the corned beef to coat entire beef, including the bottom. Pour the bottle of Guinness beer around, and gently over the beef to wet the sugar. Sprinkle the seasoning packet over top.
3. Cover, and place in preheated oven. Bake for 3 hours. Allow to rest minutes. You can add carrots & potatoes and cabbage wedges. Cover with foil and bake 1 more hour.

NOTE: You can also use in a crockpot.



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## March 2024 Scheduled Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>31</b> <b>EASTER</b> 					<b>1</b> 7:00 pm Crossroads NA in Youth Room	<b>2</b> 10:30am Community Engagement Team 7:00 pm Crossroads NA in Youth Room
<b>3</b> 9:00 am First Sunday Celebration!  8:00 am Eucharist 10:00 am Eucharist	<b>4</b> 12:00pm Junior Guild Meeting	<b>5</b> 1:00pm Sewing Group 	<b>6</b> 10:00 am Eucharist 5:00 pm Hospitality Meeting 5:00 pm Women's AA 5-5:45 Soup Supper & Evening Prayer 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>7</b> 6:30pm MOPS	<b>8</b> 7:00pm Crossroads NA	<b>9</b> 7:00pm Crossroads NA
<b>10</b> 8:00 am Eucharist 10:00 am Eucharist 7:00 pm Recovery Worship @ Colvill Park 	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 5:30 pm Property Committee	<b>13</b> 5:00 pm Women's AA 5-5:45 Soup Supper & Evening Prayer 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 7:00pm Crossroads NA	<b>16</b> 9:30 am ECW Meeting 7:00pm Crossroads NA 9 to 3 Lenten Retreat 
<b>17</b> 8:00 am Eucharist 10:00 am Eucharist 	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 5:00 pm Vestry Meeting	<b>20</b> 10:00 am Eucharist 5:00 pm Women's AA 5-5:45 Soup Supper & Evening Prayer 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>21</b> 6:30pm MOPS	<b>22</b> 7:00pm Crossroads NA	<b>23</b> 7:00pm Crossroads NA
<b>24</b> 8:00 am Eucharist 10:00 am Eucharist	<b>25</b> 4:30 pm Altar Guild	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 10:00 am Eucharist 5:00 pm Women's AA 5-5:45 Soup Supper & Evening Prayer 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 7:00pm Crossroads NA	<b>30</b> 7:00pm Crossroads NA



**3/16 (Saturday) ~ ECW presents a Lenten Retreat  
 "Prayer & Potatoes" ~ 9am to 3pm**



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## March Birthdays and Anniversaries



### Birthdays

- |                         |                       |                |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| 1 Ken Christianson      | 16 Tari Carpenter     | 30 Jaysa Dille |
| 1 Mary Heckman          | 16 Rex Miller         |                |
| 3 Stella Johnson        | 17 Zachary Shefveland |                |
| 6 Marilyn Grosse        | 19 Pat Welke          |                |
| 7 Angela Shefveland     | 20 Roy Neufeldt       |                |
| 8 Alan Smith            | 21 Jeanette Wilson    |                |
| 11 Anthony Hemenway Jr. | 23 Katie Casci        |                |
| 11 Ben Miller           | 25 Marissa Kinney     |                |
| 15 Aiden Miller         | 30 Ann Florine        |                |

### Anniversaries

- 1 Mike & Pat Martin
- 8 Jared & Jill Fanslow
- 29 Raymond & Becky Schafer



## Altar Memorial Flowers for March



### March 3

#### Chapel

**In memory of Lois Carlson Huron**  
*Barb Nelson*

#### Church

**In memory of Katy, Kenny, Ken Jr. and Brad**  
*Annette Johnson*



### March 10

#### Chapel

**In thanksgiving for Arthur and Samantha**  
*Clair Hemenway*

#### Church

**In loving memory of mother, Lorraine Remus**  
*Lori Remus*

### March 17

#### Chapel

**In loving memory of Art & Violet Mann, Jerome Mann & Cheryl & Lowell Mann & Karen Hemenway**  
*Judy Mann and Clair Hemenway*

#### Church

**In memory of granddaughter, Katie Hennek**  
*Don Prinz memorial fund*

### March 24

#### Chapel

**In memory of husband, Jack**  
*Char Friedrich*

#### Church

**In thanksgiving for grandchildren; Briana, Caleb, Justin, Haley, Shelby, Carson, Lincoln, Shane, Savannah, Nathan & Hudson and Flora**  
*Sharon Bryan*

### March 31

***EASTER***