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Sat., June 15, 2024

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## Walk, Run, and Rally— all three events in one The STAY: a celebration of life, hope, and community

In the heart of Aitkin County, amidst the beautiful landscape and the warm embrace of a caring community, an event unlike any other is set to unfold on Saturday, July 20—the STAY: Walk, Run, and Rally. Not just an event, it's a tapestry of compassion, resilience, and unity, weaving together the threads of remembrance, vitality, and support.

The **WALK**, aptly named the Memory and Honor Walk for Wellbeing, is a poignant journey of remembrance and

a pledge to continue the vital work of suicide prevention. As walkers stroll on the path at the Aitkin County Fairgrounds from 9 a.m. to noon, they honor the memory of those lost to suicide while raising funds to support the Committee for the Awareness and Prevention of Suicide. It's not merely a walk, it's a step towards healing, adorned with the symbol of hope—a free t-shirt as a token of gratitude for their fundraising efforts.

But it's not just about walk-

ing, it's about community engagement. Businesses, agencies, and organizations are encouraged to rally together, forming teams to champion the cause and vie for the title of top fundraiser.

Walkers can also take orders for and pass out pinwheels that can be decorated to remember loved ones lost or to honor survivors of suicide. These pinwheels will be used to decorate the walking path. Community Corrections is supporting mental health and assisting with the



walk and pinwheels. They can be contacted at 218-927-7281 or [corrections@co.aitkin.mn.us](mailto:corrections@co.aitkin.mn.us).

There is no cost to participate in the walk.

Envelopes for pledges can  
**Continued on Page 2**



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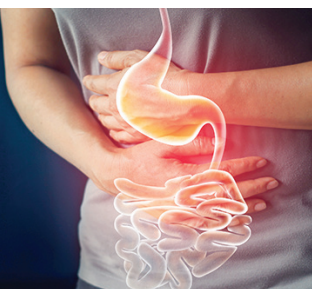
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# GUN SHOW

**Fri. & Sat., June 21 & 22**

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**Friday 4 p.m. - 8 p.m. • Saturday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

**Admission \$5, Children under 12 Free** when accompanied by an adult.  
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# Forgotten Heroes Ranges & Retreat: A dream fulfilled in honor of veterans

On Saturday, June 15 at 1:00 p.m. the community of McGregor will come together at the Forgotten Heroes Ranges & Retreat. If you wish to attend the ceremony, head to 23796-450th St., McGregor. Directions are available on the organization's website, [www.ForgottenHeroesMN.org](http://www.ForgottenHeroesMN.org), guiding attendees 6 ½ miles north of Hwy. 210 on Hwy. 65. In case of inclement weather, the event will relocate to the McGregor High School Auditorium at 148 S. 2nd St., ensuring that the tribute proceeds uninterrupted.

The highlight of the event will be a flag raising ceremony by the esteemed 934th Air Force Civil Engineer Reserve Unit, marking a solemn tribute to the nation's Forgotten Heroes.

Attendees will witness the official presentation and raising of the first flags, each having flown over the Nation and State capitals in honor of these revered heroes. Federal, State, and County Officials are expected to attend, highlighting the significance of this solemn occasion.

Adding to the reverence, the American Legion Honor Guard will perform a civilian fly over, casting a poignant tribute to those who have served. Meanwhile, a silent auction will offer attendees an opportunity to support the cause, with proceeds benefiting the Forgotten Heroes Ranges & Retreat.

For those looking to take a piece of the event home, official Forgotten Heroes Ranges & Retreat merchandise will be available for purchase. Additionally, attendees can commemorate their loved ones by contributing to the First Memory Tree, a touching symbol of remembrance and honor.

The Forgotten Heroes Ranges & Retreat invites all to join in this poignant ceremony, honoring those who have selflessly served our nation. It's an opportunity for the community to come together, pay homage, and support a noble cause.

**Desire into reality**

Behind every noble endeavor lies a dream, a vision fueled by passion and driven by purpose. For the founders of Forgotten Heroes Ranges & Retreat, Chuck Evancevich and Bret Sample, their dream transcended personal challenges to create a sanctuary for veterans, a place where bonds are forged, and memories are made.

to build a range where veterans could gather, bond, and continue the legacy of service.

For Chuck, whose life took an unexpected turn, confined to a wheelchair for the last 12 years, the dream was to reclaim the freedom of the outdoors. With the support of his brother-in-law, Allan Porisch, Chuck found solace in the wilderness, but his longing to share that freedom with others persisted.

Tragically, Chuck's journey came to an end in October 2020, leaving behind a legacy of resilience and determination. Moved by Chuck's spirit, Bret approached his widow, Brenda, with a proposal to build a shooting range in his memory. Thus, Forgotten Heroes Ranges & Retreat was born, a testament to the enduring bond between brothers in arms.

United by a shared passion, a team formed, dedicated to fulfilling Chuck and Bret's dreams. Their vision expanded to include not just a shooting range, but a haven where disabled veterans and individuals could partake in outdoor activities without limitations. With accessible ranges for rifles, pistols, and archery, Forgotten Heroes Ranges & Retreat aims to provide not just recreation, but a sense of belonging and camaraderie.

For information on how to support this noble cause or get involved, contact Forgotten Heroes Ranges & Retreat at 218-851-0969. It is a 501c3 Nonprofit Organization and donations are tax deductible, EIN #87-2167163.



Charles Joseph Evancevich

Chuck Evancevich, an Air Force veteran confined to a wheelchair, and Bret Sample, a combat veteran with a deep-rooted passion for firearms, shared a vision of camaraderie and healing. Bret, having served 21 years in the US Army as a weapons specialist, harbored a dream

The STAY: a celebration of life, hope, and community | Continued from Page 1

be picked up at Paulbeck's County Market in Aitkin, Roadside Market in Hill City, and Ukura's Big Dollar in McGregor. Walkers need to register online by searching for the event on Eventbrite. com.

The RUN, known as the Color Run for Life, is a vibrant celebration enjoyment of and encouraged continuation of life. Check in for the 5K un-timed race is 7:45 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. and the start is at 8:30 a.m. (Handheld

timers will be given to each runner to time themselves, if they wish.) It's not a race against time, but a journey of self-discovery and camaraderie. Each runner receives a white t-shirt transformed into a canvas of memories

by vibrant splashes of color, which will be tossed over runners at six different points along the course from Paulbeck's County Market to the Aitkin County Fairgrounds. As runners travel the scenic Aitkin Walking Trail, colors dance in the air, painting a kaleidoscope of life's hues for a unique memento.

The course is uneven and rough in some areas. Runners must be able to navigate the terrain. Aitkin Fire Department will be assisting with the run and monitoring the course to ensure the safety of runners. They will also be setting up an Incident Command Post at the fire hall, in case an emergency should arise or anyone requires first aid. A donation is requested to help cover the cost of the event, but there is no required fee .

The RALLY, is the crescent



do of the event. Live music will fill the air, courtesy of talented local artists Mike and Jan Cherry, Christian McShane and Aurora Baer. Presentations by Face It Foundation and If We Can Save Only One shed light on mental health and resilience. There will also be craft and food vendors, resource vendors, inflatables, and kids' games by the Women of Today.

As the day unfolds, amidst laughter and shared mo-

ments, the STAY event becomes more than just an event—it's a beacon of hope, a sanctuary of support, and a demonstration of the resilience of the human spirit culminating in a celebration of life, hope, and community.

Sponsored by UCare and the Region V+ Mental Health Initiative, the event is the confirmation of the capacity of collaboration and compassion.


Volunteers, led by CAPS Facilitator Stacey Durgin Smith, embody the spirit of service and caring. If you are interested in volunteering for the event contact Stacey at 218-927-7224 or [stacey.durgin@co.aitkin.mn.us](mailto:stacey.durgin@co.aitkin.mn.us). You can also contact Stacey with any questions and look for posts on the Aitkin County Public Health Education Facebook page.







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OBITUARIES

DURWIN MATUSKA



Durwin Albert Matuska, 70, of Crosby died on May 18, 2024 at his home.

A Memorial Gathering will be held on Saturday, June 15, 2024 at the Koop Funeral Home in Crosby from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

He was born on February 1, 1954 in Minneapolis to Edward and Iona (Ahlbrecht) Matuska. Durwin was a retired employee of Ford Motor Company with 25 years of service. He enjoyed gardening, bee keeping, a good poker game, hunting and fishing.

Durwin is survived by six brothers: Daniel Matuska of Cheyenne, WY; Donald Matuska of Winona; Douglas (Debbie) Matuska of Minneapolis; Darrel (Pam Johnson) Matuska of Port Charlotte, FL; Dwayne Matuska of Crosby; and Delbert (Dawn) Matuska of Pillager; two sisters: Delores Seaman of West Pensacola, FL; and Denise (Tommy) Bryant of Summerfield, FL; many nieces and nephews.

Preceding Durwin in death are his parents; brother, David Matuska and sister, Danielle Benson. Arrangements were with the Koop Funeral Home of Crosby. To leave a message of condolence go to [www.koopfuneralhome.com](http://www.koopfuneralhome.com).

PETER BROWN



Peter Wyman Brown, 91, of Aitkin, died Thursday, May 30, 2024 in Aicota Health Care Center, Aitkin.

Services will be Saturday, June 15, 2024 at 11 a.m. in St. John's Lutheran Church-Cedarbrook with Pastor Sarah Stadler officiating. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service at the church. Military Honors will be provided by Aitkin American Legion Post #86 and Aitkin V.F.W. Post #1727. Interment will be in Cedarbrook-St. John's Lutheran Cemetery.

He was born June 17, 1932 in Brainerd to Oliver and Gladys (McGee) Brown. Peter was a veteran of The United States Army who served during the Korean War. Peter was united in marriage to Charlotte Marie Keil on February 14, 1953 in Aitkin. He worked as a Supervisor for Thermo King for many years until retiring. Peter and Charlotte loved traveling, mainly

to Texas and Alaska where Peter homesteaded. He enjoyed woodworking and built many birdhouses, benches and tables for people. He also enjoyed lapidary and gave away many polished rocks and stones. Peter was also an avid ham radio operator.

Peter is survived by his children: Nancy Watts, Katherine (Greg) Gemlo, Marc (Kim) Brown and Teresa (Chris) Caroon; nine grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; brother, Joseph; sisters-in-law, Bonita Besch and Lois Keil; several nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Peter is preceded in death by his wife, Charlotte; parents; brother, Oliver "Jack"; and sister, Jennie Sather.

Arrangements were with the Sorensen-Root-Thompson Funeral Home and Cremation Service of Aitkin. Leave online condolences at [www.srtfuneral.com](http://www.srtfuneral.com).

JEFFREY BECKER



Jeffrey Alan Becker, 59, died in McGregor on Tuesday, June 4, 2024.

A celebration of life will be held on June 14, 2024 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Fisherman's Bay, 50933 St. Hwy. 65, McGregor. A memorial service will be held at Lake of the Woods for the immediate family at a later date.

He was born on February 7, 1965 in Minneapolis to Jerry and Sharon Becker. Jeff resided in the McGregor area most of his life. He graduated from McGregor High School in 1983. After high school, he went on to work as a logger with his lifelong friend, Mark DeMenge, and continued his enjoyment of logging by starting a business, Becker Forest Products, with his father, Jerry. After his father passed away in 1997, he continued the business for a couple more years and then went on

to work for Darlow Excavating for several years. He ended his career working for Rink Construction in Keene, North Dakota. When he wasn't working, Jeff enjoyed spending time with his children, Kalvin and Corrine. He truly loved his children and enjoyed sharing his passions of fishing at Lake of the Woods, hunting, and being outdoors with them.

He is survived by his children, Kalvin (Lindsey) Becker and Corrine (Steven) Nelson; 4 grandchildren, Walter, Avery and Ailee Nelson and Nora Becker; mother, Sharon Becker; siblings, Debi Becker, Doug (LaVonne) Becker, Robert (Vivian) Becker and many nieces, nephews and friends.

Jeff is preceded in death by his father, Jerry Becker Senior; brother, Jerry Becker Junior; and niece, Chanelle Pratt.

Arrangements were with the McGregor Funeral Home and Cremation Service in McGregor. Leave online condolences at [www.srtfuneral.com](http://www.srtfuneral.com).

DUANE LINDSTROM

Duane C. Lindstrom, 85, of Emily passed away peacefully on Sunday, June 2, 2024 at his home. A Celebration of Life is being planned for July.

A full obituary will be printed in a later issue. Arrangements are with the Koop Funeral Home in Crosby.

VERNICE GRGURICH

Vernice M. Grgurich, 99, of Crosby died on Monday, June 3, 2024 at the Mille Lacs Care Center in Onamia.

A service is being planned for July 5, 2024. A full

obituary will be printed in a later issue. Arrangements are with the Koop Funeral Home of Crosby. To leave a message of condolence go to [www.koopfuneralhome.com](http://www.koopfuneralhome.com).

LESTER RONO

Lester Rono, 80, of Crosby died on Thursday, June 6, 2024 at his home. A June Memorial Gathering is being planned.

A full obituary will be printed in a later issue. Arrangements are with the Koop Funeral Home in Crosby.

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CHURCH DIRECTORY

\* Indicates handicap accessible. NOTE: All times are Sunday morning (a.m.) unless indicated otherwise.

**ALLIANCE**  
Aitkin\* — New Life; Larry Burg & Tyrel LaValle, pastors; Worship 10:15 am & 6pm; youth group Wed. 6pm; 11-1st Street SW; [newlifeaitkin.com](http://newlifeaitkin.com) 218-927-2823.  
Baxter\* — Pointway Alliance Church; Rev. Charles Bolstridge, 218-537-6505; 7756 Highland Scenic Road; Worship 10; [www.pointway.org](http://www.pointway.org)  
Garrison\* — Worship 10:30am  
Onamia — Vineland Native American Chapel, Hwy. 169 north of casino; Worship 11; Pastor Boeringa 320-532-4449

**ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
Aitkin — Pastor Andrew Jergenson; Sunday Morning Service 10.  
Baxter — Heritage Church, Pastor Heath Beard; 9 & 10:45 Sundays, 6:30p Wednesdays, [iamheritage.org](http://iamheritage.org)  
Crosby — Pastor Dustin McCaleb; Worship 10:30  
Crosslake — Crossroads Christian, Rev. Gary Espeseth; SS at 9:30, Worship at 10:45  
Hill City — Interim Pastor John Koppel, Staff Pastor Lisa Jordan; Worship 10; [hillcityagchurch@gmail.com](mailto:hillcityagchurch@gmail.com); 218-697-2662  
Palisade — Pastor Charlie Bell; SS 9; Worship 10; Kids Church; Small groups during the week 218-845-2726

**BAPTIST**  
Aitkin - Northwoods Community Church (formerly The Journey North) Tom Hoffman, interim pastor, Worship 10:30, [northwoodscommunitychurch.org](http://northwoodscommunitychurch.org)  
Baxter - The Journey North, Worship 9 & 10:30, 218-824-5617 [thejourneynorth.com](http://thejourneynorth.com)  
Brainerd\* - Faith Baptist Church, Pastor Jim Stephens, 218-829-3191; SS 9:00, Worship 10:30 and 6 p.m., Wed. Classes and Clubs 6:30 p.m.; [fbcbrainerd.com](http://fbcbrainerd.com)  
Brainerd- The Church On The Wise Road, Pastor Todd Stumbo 218-829-4673, Worship 11:00, SS 9:45 [www.thechurchonthewiseroad.org](http://www.thechurchonthewiseroad.org)  
Breezy Point — Eagles Nest, Pastor Zach Broom 218-562-5252, Worship 9:30, SS 11.  
Crosby — Bible Baptist, Pastor Jon Thorson; SS 9:45; Service 10:45 and 6 p.m., Bible Study Wed. 7 pm  
Deerwood\* — Jeff Shadrick, SS 9:30; Worship 10:30 and 6 pm; Wed. Service, 6:30 pm.  
Glory\* — SS 9:15; Worship 10:30 am.; Wed 6pm Glory Family night, KidMin grades kindergarten - 6, Mad4Christ grades 7-12. [aitkinchurch.com](http://aitkinchurch.com)  
Hill City — Pastor Lonnie Lee; 218-697-2645; Adult SS 9; Worship 10 am; Bible Study, Fri., 7 pm.  
Isle — Pastor Nick Skogen; 676-3171; SS 9:30; Service 10:30; Bible Study, Wed., 7 p.m.  
Opstead — 676-8859; SS 9:30; Worship, 10:30; Bible Study Wed., 7 p.m.

**CATHOLIC**  
Aitkin\* — St. James, Fr. Mike Patullo, 218-927-6581; Mass Sat. 5 pm, Sun. 10:30. Confession Sat. 10-10:45 and 4-4:45 pm.  
Brainerd — St. Andrew's, Fr. Gabriel Waweru, Sat.4:30; Sun. 10:00 and St. Mathias Sunday 8:00.  
Brainerd — St. Francis, Fr. Michael Garry, Sat. 5:00; Sunday 7:30, 9:00, 11:15 and All Saints Saturday 4:00 and Sunday 10:30.  
Cromwell/Wright — Immaculate Conception, Mass: Sat. 5 p.m.  
Crosby\* — St. Joseph's, Fr. Eli Gieske, Mass: Thurs. and Fri. at 8; Tues at noon, Sun. 8:30 & 10:30.  
Crosslake — Immaculate Heart, 218-692-3731; [www.ihmstmileys.org](http://www.ihmstmileys.org); Mass: Sat. 4 pm; Sun. 8:30; Confession Sat. 3 pm.  
Emily — St. Emily, Mass: Mon. & Wed. 8; Sun. 10:30; Confession 1st Sat. 11 or by appt. 218-763-2101.  
Garrison — Our Lady of Fatima, Fr. Eli Gieske, Mass Wed. 9 & Sat. 4 pm, Confession Sat. 3:30 - 3:50 pm  
Grand Rapids — St. Joseph's, Fr. Jerry Weiss, Mass: Sat. 5 pm; Sun. 8 & 10:30. 218-326-2483  
Hillman — Holy Family; Sun. 10 to Mass Sat. 6:30 pm (only through Labor Day) w/ confession before or by appt.  
McGregor — Holy Family, Fr. Mike Patullo, 218-927-6581; Mass Sun. 8; Confessions Tues. 5:30-6:30 pm  
Vineland — St. Therese, Mass Sun. 11; Holy Days 8:30.

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
Baxter, Lakes Area — Nondenominational; 7001 Highland Scenic Road; Bible Study every Wed. 7 pm; Worship 10:30-11:30. 218-828-1362  
Tamarack — Pastor Terry Banker, 608-475-1528, Worship 9:30; SS 10:45; Wed Youth 4 pm.

**CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS**  
Aitkin — Co. Rd. 12, Chapel Ph. 218-927-4454; Kevin Haffner 218-792-5684; Sacrament Mtg. 10

**COMMUNITY**  
Aitkin — Nondenominational; 927-2749; at 219-1st Ave. NE., Aitkin, Services Sun.10, 218-927-6959  
Brainerd - Community of Hope Church of the Nazarene- Pastor Dave McGaffey Sunday worship at 10, SS 9; 16549 Johnson Rd -church phone 218-829-9005  
Glen — Pastor R. F. Stauter, 218-838-1981; Worship 9 May-Oct.  
Grand Rapids — Solid Rock Church of God, Pastor Robert Kimberling; 218-326-0711; Sun. BS 9:30, Worship 10:30; Wed. BS 6:30 pm  
Jacobson — Jacobson Community Church, Pastor George Collins, 218-252-5938, Sun. SS (All ages) 9:30, Worship 10:30; Family Time 2nd & 4th Sundays; Wed. BS 7 pm  
Kimberly — Nature Ave. Rev. Rick Perry; Worship 9; Adult Bible Study & Sunday School 10:30; 218-927-6256.  
McGregor — Amazing Grace Christian Church; Worship 10; 99 South 1st Street (at the McGregor United Methodist church [shared] in downtown McGregor) Pastor Joel Seibel.  
McGregor — Victory Mission, Pastor J. Gould, 218-768-2160; Sun. 10; Wed. Bible Study, 7:30 pm.  
Merrifield — Community Church of the Nazarene, Pastor Ron Christenson; Service 11 & 6 pm. Wed. Prayer Meeting, 7 p.m.; 218-829-7536.  
Merrifield — Ossipee Community, SS 10; Service 11; Wed. Bible Study Prayer, 7:00 p.m.  
Nisswa — Christ Community Church, Pastor Richie Bean; Service 10; Fellowship 9:30-10  
Outing\* - Narrows Community Church, Pastor Kenny Holm, 218-792-5530 Worship 9:30; 6297 Woods Bay NE, just north of Hwy. 6 bridge  
Palisade —Hilltop Chapel (Waukenabo Twp)\*- service 10 a.m.; Adult and Children's SS 9 a.m.; 49448 Osprey Avenue, Palisade.  
Tamarack — Church of Christ, 218-768-3898; Service 9:30; SS 10:45.

**EPISCOPAL**  
Aitkin — St. John's, Holy Communion or Morning Prayer 9 Brainerd\* — St. Paul's, Rev. Joyce A. Rush. In-person worship service at 10 am Sunday. Online at 5 pm Saturday. Call the church 219-829-3834 and leave a message with email to receive a Zoom invitation.

**EVANGELICAL FREE**  
Baxter — Lakewood EFC, Pastor Matt Nagel; Worship at 9:00 and 10:45. Wednesday for all ages 6:30 pm.  
Crosslake — The Log Church 9:30, Pastor Troy Nelson; 218-692-4141, 37218 County Road 66, [www.crosslakeefc.org](http://www.crosslakeefc.org)  
Isle — Pastor Mark Lee; Sunday School 9:00 am; Worship 10:30 am, Sun. Youth group 6:00 pm, Wed. Adult Prayer 6:30 pm and Kids Kconnect 6:30 pm  
Malmo — Pastor Glenn Browning; SS 9:30; Fellowship 10; Worship 10:15  
Wright — Pastor Ken Mitchell, 218-426-5115; SS 9:30; Worship, 10:30; Thu., Bible Study, 7 pm.

**HEBREW/MESSIANIC**  
Glen — Beth Shalom Tabernacle of Truth, for information 320-684-2804

**LUTHERAN**  
Aitkin — Bethlehem (ELCA), Rev. Rebecca Hinz; Worship 9:30; Holy Comm. 1st & 3rd Sun. each month.  
Aitkin — First\* (ELCA) Pastor Reggie Denton; worship Sun. 99am (9am service also available via livestream on YouTube — First Lutheran Church, Aitkin and broadcast on KGIN 94.3 FM radio at 10am), take out community meal every Mon. & Thurs. 5pm and Tues. 12pm; food shelf 2nd & 4th Thurs. each month 9am- 4pm.  
Aitkin (Cedarbrook) — St. John's (ELCA) Pastor Sarah Stadler, 602-318-6876, 27452 St. John's Church Road, Aitkin. Worship on Sundays at 9:00 am and Wednesdays at 6:30 pm. VBS Aug 5-8; register online at [stjohns-cedarbrook.weebly.com](http://stjohns-cedarbrook.weebly.com).  
Aitkin — St. John's (Missouri Synod), Pastor D. Becker; Worship Sun. 9, SS 10  
Baxter — Christ Lutheran Church and Preschool (WELS). Pastor Bill Werth. Sunday Worship 9. Sunday School/ Adult Bible Class 10:15. 13815 Cherrywood Dr. in Baxter. (Corner of Inglenwood and Cherrywood). 218-829-4105. [www.christbaxter.com](http://www.christbaxter.com).  
Baxter — Prince of Peace (LCMS); Communion every Sunday 9, Fellowship 10:15, Adult Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30 am 218-829-7092 [www.princeofpeace-lu](http://www.princeofpeace-lu)

theran.church  
Beaver Township — Finnish EA, Hwy. 27, Worship 1st & 3rd Sun., 10:30.  
Brainerd — First Lutheran Church (ELCA) Pastors: Patty Bjorklund and Jordan Gades, Sunday worship 9, Sunday School following worship. Services also available on YouTube and Facebook. 218-829-9552 [fcbbrainerd.com](http://fcbbrainerd.com) 424 8th Street South, Brainerd  
Brainerd\* — Good Shepherd Free Lutheran Church (AFLC), Pastor David Franz, find service info at [www.goodshepherdfreelutheran.church](http://www.goodshepherdfreelutheran.church), 5878 Pine Beach Road, Brainerd, 218-824-3052  
Brainerd — Laestadian Lutheran Church, 1501 So. 8th St. - Sunday Worship Services 10:30 am. ([www.llchurch.org](http://www.llchurch.org))  
Brainerd — Trinity Lutheran Church (ELCA) 1420 South 6th St. Brainerd, Worship time September through May 8:15am & 10:30am; worship (June through August) 9 am. 218-829-5147. Website: [www.trinitybrainerd.org](http://www.trinitybrainerd.org). Email: [trinity@trinitybrainerd.org](mailto:trinity@trinitybrainerd.org)  
Brainerd — Truth Lutheran Church (LCMC, Pastor James Walth, Corner of 5th and Kingwood, Worship 9  
Brainerd - Zion Lutheran Church (LCMS) Pastor Steve Benson, Sunday Worship 9, Monday Worship 6 pm. Education hour Sunday 10:15 am. 220 N. 8th St. Brainerd. 218-829-4317. [www.zionbrainerd.com](http://www.zionbrainerd.com).  
Cedar Lake, Norwegian Lutheran — Third Sun 11, May - Oct. Crosby — Immanuel (LCMC, NALC) Rev. Paul Mattson; Sun. 9 & 10:30 worship; SS (Sept.-May) 10:40.  
Crosby — Zion (LC-MS) Worship 9 (alternates with Immanuel Iron Hub) 218-546-6910.  
Crosslake Lutheran Church (ELCA) [www.crosslakelutheran.com](http://www.crosslakelutheran.com) Kristin Oltmann, Pastor / Becky Swanson, Pastor 218-692-3682 May 19-Labor Day: Sun. Indoor 8:30am, Outdoor 10am Indoor: 35960 CR 66, Outdoor: 14019 Daggett Pine Rd  
Crosslake —Mission of the Cross (LCMS), Pastor Leslie Uhrinak; Worship 9:30 with every Sunday Communion, Fellowship 10:30, Adult Bible Class 11, 218-692-4228, [www.missionofthecross.org](http://www.missionofthecross.org)  
Deerwood\* — Salem (ELCA), Pastor Amanda Kempthorne; Worship: 9; Sunday School 9:50.  
Garrison — Light of the Cross (ELCA), Worship 9 SS 9; 320-692-4773 or 877-406-9101.  
Garrison — Shepherd of the Lake (LCMS), Rev. Caleb Worrel. Worship 10 with Communion Every Sunday. Adult Bible Study 8:30am, Sunday School Sept-May, 8:30am. Fellowship 11am. 320-692-4581. [www.shepherdofthelake.org](http://www.shepherdofthelake.org).  
Giese — Immanuel, Rev. R. Langhorst & Rev. R. Lovaas; Worship 9; SS 10; Holy Communion 1st Sun. of month 8:45.  
Hill City — Trinity, (Missouri Synod), Pastor M. Eckert; Worship 9; Bible Study 10:15.  
Hillman — Immanuel, (ELCA) Sun. Worship 11, fellowship follows. Located on the corner of Hwy. 27 and Co. Rd. 47. (Handicap accessible)  
Iron Hub — Immanuel (LC-MS) Worship 9, (alternates with Zion of Crosby) 218-534-3069  
Isle — Faith (ELCA), Interim Pastor Rev. Henry French; Worship 9:30; handicapped accessible.  
Isle — Holden (ELCA), SS 9:30; Worship 10:30.  
Isle — Trinity (Missouri Synod), Rev. Mark Maunula; Worship 9; Fellowship follows; SS 10:30; Adult Bible 10:30.  
Jacobson — Carmel, Vicar Mark Wagner; SS 1st & 3rd Sun. 10, Service 11, fellowship follows.  
Lake Shore — Living Savior Lutheran Church, 8327 Interlachen Rd.; Worship 9 Sunday mornings, followed by fellowship and bible study. (Located on Co. Rd. #77 N)  
Malmo — Bethesda (ELCA) Rev. James Muske: Sun. Worship 9am. Fellowship following Service. Communion every Sunday.  
McGrath — Grace; Wed. potluck 5 pm, Bible study 6 p.m.; SS 10; Worship 11.  
McGrath — Zion (ELCA), Pastor Elliott Malm; Worship 9; SS 9.  
McGregor/Big Sandy Lake — Grace Lutheran Log Church (LCMC), Pastor Lorelie Robinson; Worship 9, Fellowship follows, SS 10.  
McGregor — Our Savior's (Missouri Synod), Pastor Joshua C. Reinke; Worship 9; SS 10; Bible Study Tue. 9, Wed. 7 pm  
Outing — Our Saviors ELCA; Pastor Luke Lekander, Worship 9.  
Palisade\* — Bethel (ELCA), Pastor Steven Teff; Worship 9:30.  
Pequot Lakes - Gloria Dei Lutheran Church (LCMS) Pastor Monte Meyer Worship 9 am, Fellowship 10 am, Sunday School and Adult Bible Study 10:15 am  
Pequot Lakes\* - Our Savior's Lutheran Church (ELCA)

Rev. Stephen Blenkush Worship 9:00 a.m., SS 9:15 a.m., Fellowship 10:15 a.m. Wed. Adult Bible Study 11:00 a.m.  
Rossburg — Bethesda Lutheran (LCMC Congregations in Mission for Christ) 11:30 service. Communion 1st & 3rd Sunday each month.  
Tamarack (AFLC) — Pastor Ron Staudinger; 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays 10 am; 41163 Kestrel Ave 3.3 mi. South of Hwy 210  
Thor — Zion, Worship 11; 1st and 3rd Sun. April through December.  
Wright — Bethlehem, Worship; SS 9.  
Wright — St. John's (Missouri Synod), Pastor Joshua Reinke; Worship 10:30; Bible Study and Sunday School Sun. 9:30; Lent services Wed. 5:30 pm.)

**NON-DENOMINATIONAL**  
Brainerd—Oak Street Chapel, Pastor Todd Wooden, Worship service is Sunday at 9:30, 523 SE 11th Street, Brainerd, 218-454-0984  
Brainerd—Remnant Ministry Center, Pastor Ben Davis, Worship service is Sunday at 10am, 512 S 8th St., Suite 2, 218-829-2989.

**PENTECOSTAL**  
Baxter — Christ Alive, 12485 Forestview Drive, Baxter, MN 56425  
Emily — Cornerstone Church; Pastor Earl Ready; Worship 10, 41536 Birchwood Drive, Emily; 218-763-2939.  
Ironton — Iron Range Christian Center; Pastor Dwight Semler; 218-546-6523; meeting at Irontale Town Hall\*, Co. Rd. 12, (Deerwood Shortcut); Worship 10 & Wed. 7 pm.  
Tamarack — Warriors of the Rainbow Ministry, Pastors Ken and Ron Fairbanks, Sat. 11. 218-768-3585

**PRESBYTERIAN**  
Crosslake - Pastor Mark Ford, 218-692-4769; Worship 9; Fellowship 11, 14444 Daggett Pine Road, Crosslake, just passed the Community Center; [www.crosslakepres.org](http://www.crosslakepres.org).  
McGrath — Calvary, Pastor - Todd Oltmann; Worship 9.  
McGregor/Round Lake — Pastor Talley; Worship Sat. 5 pm.  
Tamarack — First, Rev. J. Yingling; Worship 11.

**REFORMED**  
Crosby — Lifespring Church, a member of Fellowship of Independent Reformed Evangelicals; 9:30, 30 Hallett Ave NE 218-545-5433, [www.visitlifespring.com](http://www.visitlifespring.com)

**SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST**  
Aitkin — Pastor Roger Hagen; Worship Sat. 9:30, Bible Study 10:30; Prayer Mtg. Wed. 5:30 p.m.; [www.aitkinadventist.org](http://www.aitkinadventist.org); 423-805-0933  
Brainerd — Pastor Roger Hagen; Worship Sat. 11:20, Bible Study 10; Bible Study & Prayer Mtg. Wed. 6:30 p.m.; 2910 Oak Street, Brainerd, 218-829-1676

**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST**  
Pequot Lakes — 28877 State Hwy 371, Pequot Lakes 10:30 1st and 4th Sundays. 218-330-3476

**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
Brainerd — First Congregational UCC, 415 Juniper St, Brainerd. Sunday worship at 10. Pastor; Leslie Moughty. Handicapped accessible.

**UNITED METHODIST**  
Aitkin\* — Aitkin - Pastor Dawn Houser; Worship 10, Wednesdays at 5:30 pm Bible & Brew, Facebook live.  
Crosby/Deerwood\* — Cascade, Pastor Gary Taylor; Sunday Worship with Youtube live streaming 10 am with fellowship to follow. Cascade Ladies meet on the first Wednesday of each month at noon. Come & Eat Community dinner on the third Wednesday of each month at 5:30 pm. Please call the office to sign up: 218-534-3507.  
Cutler\* (South Aitkin County) — Pine Lake Chapel, Pastor Gary Taylor; Worship Sunday 1 p.m. Fellowship follows.  
Cromwell — Pastor Tim Hornstad; Worship 10; SS 9  
Emily\* — Pastor Gary Taylor; Sunday Worship with Facebook live streaming 8:30 with fellowship to follow. UWF meet on the first Sunday of each month following worship. Men's prayer breakfast 2nd Saturday of each month at 8. Bible Study Thursdays at 6 pm.  
Fleming\* — (Northern Lights Parish) SS 9:15; Worship 10:30; fellowship follows.  
Hill City — Pastor Roger Lynn; Worship 10  
McGregor\* — (Northern Lights Parish) Worship 8:45; fellowship follows.  
Onamia — Pastor Rick & Judy Wilder; Worship 11; fellowship 10, 2 blks north of Post Office; handicap ramp; 320-532-3150; office: 218-546-7656; cell: 218-360-1947

**WESLEYAN**  
Emily — Rev. Jason Gressman; Worship 9; Friendship Time 10; SS 10:30; Wed. Activities 6:30 p.m.; 218-763-HOPE.



## SALES





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Picture this: instead of sipping cocktails in tailored suits, we’re donning our best camouflage gear, ready to cheer on our chosen woodtick athlete. Yes, you heard that right. At noon sharp, the real stars of the show, the woodticks, take to the track for a race unlike any other.

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ries and sharing laughs over lunch. It’s a scene straight out of a Northern Minnesota dream—a celebration of community, camaraderie, and good old-fashioned fun.

And speaking of winners, congratulations are in order for Brend Babineau-Evans, Colleen Gottlieb, Marv Loibold, and Trevor Willhite—the lucky recipients of this year’s raffle prizes. Their victories add an extra dash of excitement to an already thrilling day.



Cheers for charity as civic groups pour pints, raising funds for their causes at the Woodtick Races. Ann Schwartz photos



Cooling off in style: Bloody Mary’s added a zesty kick to the summer heat at the Woodtick Races.



It is tradition to ride your motorcycle to Cuyuna for the Woodtick Races in June.

As the rumble of motorcycles fills the air and the unmistakable scent of pine trees wafts through the breeze, it’s clear that the Woodtick Races aren’t just an event—they’re a celebration of everything that makes Northern Minnesota special. So here’s to another year of roaring engines, spirited races, and the enduring spirit of UpNorth Culture, which rule the second Saturday in June in Cuyuna.

## CWC plat books and maps

Discover more about Crow Wing County by owning a 2023 plat book or wall map. The plat book’s regular price is \$38, but it is now available for a discounted price of \$35. The county wall map size is 36 inches x 54 inches and is available on photo matte paper or deluxe water resistant paper for \$65. For purchase information contact Crow Wing Soil and Water Conservation District at 218-828-6197 Monday - Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or shop online at cwsxcd.org.

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