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NewsHopper

Long Lake Conservation Center unveils camp schedule



New family camp and classic adventures await you at Long Lake Conservation Center. LLCC is an accredited Environmental Education school, operating as an enterprise of Aitkin County. Opened in 1963, LLCC sits on a lake in the middle of 760 acres with miles of hiking trails, ski trails, a bog boardwalk, geocaches, and more. Long Lake's mission is to inspire a deep appreciation of nature, promote wise use of our natural resources and foster a lifelong stewardship of the environment.

Are winter's long nights getting you down? Focus on longer sunnier days and get ready for an exciting summer

of exploration, learning, and outdoor fun at Long Lake Conservation Center. LLCC has just announced

its expanded 2025 summer camp schedule. The new lineup includes a variety of camps for all ages—highlighted by the addition of the Outdoor Explorers FAMILY Camp, a unique experience designed to bring families together in the great outdoors.

Starting January 1, 2025, families and individuals can sign up for one of the six camps being offered throughout the summer. The full schedule provides nearly every week of summer filled with adventure, learning, and hands-on activities.

Outdoor Explorers FAMILY Camp: a new adventure for all ages

This exciting new camp, running from June 8-11, invites entire families to step away from the hustle and bustle of daily life and immerse themselves in nature together. Whether it's bonding around a campfire, taking a scenic phenology hike, exploring bogs, or simply enjoying classic outdoor recreation activities, this camp is designed to create lasting memories for everyone—young or old.

"Whether you're young or old, the memories made during summer camps last a lifetime," said Beth Haasken, Long Lake's Education Coordinator. "We're thrilled to bring back a multi-generational camp for the first time in many years. The Outdoor Explorers FAMILY Camp will provide a perfect opportunity for families to disconnect

from technology and reconnect with each other and the natural world."

Returning favorites for young adventurers

For youth looking to dive into specific outdoor skills, Forkhorn I /Firearm Safety Training Camp will be available in three sessions: June 15-19, June 29-July 3, and July 13-17. This camp provides an important hands-on learning experience, focusing on firearm safety, responsibility, and conservation, all while fostering a sense of respect for nature.

Additionally, the Outdoor Explorers Adventure Youth Camp (running July 27-31) promises a week filled with outdoor activities to build skills in nature including wilderness meals, building survival shelters and more.

For young stargazers, Astronomy Camp (August 2-5)

Continued on Page 6

Toby's Christmas Shop

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Pictured above (left to right)t back row are Julie Jensen, Michael Ellis, Jackson Dalchow, hunter Rian, Rich Aulie, Carter Sample, Katie Murphy, Doyle Jelsing and front row: Lynn Sandberg, Colleen Miller, Mary Aulie, Lori Nelson, Brianna Millsop.

MLEC Trust Board awards \$16,200

Thanks to the generosity of Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative (MLEC) members, the Mille Lacs Community Trust Board is making a big impact this holiday season by awarding \$16,200 in grants to local non-profit organizations. The board's quarterly meeting this December distributed funds raised through the Operation Round Up program, which helps support a variety of community initiatives throughout the area.

The latest round of grants went to several worthy causes, including the Aitkin Youth Bowling League, Crosby-Ironton Grad Blast, Cuyuna Range Youth Center, Depot Studios, Great River String Ensemble, Long Lake Conservation Center, McGregor Area Scholarship Foundation, McGregor Post

Prom Committee, Minnesota Historical Society / Mille Lacs Indian Museum, Nexus - Mille Lacs Family Healing, Rippleside PTO, and Riverwood Auxiliary. Each of these organizations plays a vital role in enhancing the local community, from youth programs and arts initiatives to historical preservation and family support services.

Since its inception, Operation Round Up has raised over \$1.6 million, directly benefiting the communities served by Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative. This innovative program allows MLEC members to voluntarily round up their electric bill payments to the nearest dollar, with the extra change going into the Trust Fund for local charitable grants. It's a simple yet powerful way for residents to contribute to the betterment

of their communities.

The Mille Lacs Community Trust Board, which oversees the distribution of funds, includes members Lisa Anderson, Kim Waffensmith, Mavonne Prokop, Bethany Sellers, Charles Schotzko, Becky Joerger, Bob Nelson, and Doyle Jelsing. The Board meets quarterly, with the next meeting scheduled for March 12, 2025. Applications for grants are accepted year-round, with deadlines for consideration a week before each meeting. Those interested in applying for a grant can contact Deb Chute at 218-927-8221 or 1-800-450-2191 for an application.

MLEC is a not-for-profit electric distribution cooperative, proudly serving over 13,000 members in parts of Aitkin, Crow Wing, and Mille Lacs counties.

“Busy Hands of Love” grows



What started as a small group of 4-6 members knitting and crocheting with the simple goal of giving back has blossomed into a vibrant and caring community. The “Busy Hands of Love” outreach program at Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church in Garrison now boasts more than 20 members, all working together to create handmade items for those in need.

In the early days, the group supported just three charities. This year, they've expanded their reach and donated to seven local organizations, spreading warmth and kindness to people in Aitkin, Brainerd, Deerwood, and Garrison.

“We love to give to charities around Christmas time in hopes to make someone's Christmas brighter and warmer,” said Cindy Kuehl, the group's leader.

This year, the group donated over 225 items, including scarves, hats, mittens, lap blankets, shawls, cowls, headbands, socks, baby blankets, baby hats, booties, and stuffed toys. Currently, these handmade items are given to seven local charities, which include Lakes Area Pregnancy Support Center (LAPS), Brainerd; Women's Shelter, Brainerd; Garrison Caregivers, Garrison; Hope House, Aitkin; Deerwood Fire Department, Deerwood; Aitkin Health Services, Aitkin and Operation Christmas, Aitkin. Each item is crafted with care and a desire to share God's love. Whether it's a cozy scarf or a warm baby blanket, every stitch is a message of support and hope for those who need it most.

The “Busy Hands of Love” group meets twice a year—during the spring and fall—at Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church, located on Highway 169 in Garrison. The spring session runs every Thursday from March through May, while the fall session meets every Thursday from September until the week before Thanksgiving.

For those who can't make it on Thursdays, but still want to contribute, the group welcomes donations of handmade items or yarn.

For those new to knitting or crocheting, the group is always happy to teach and share their skills.

If you're interested in joining or donating to the group, or if you have any questions, you can reach out to Cindy Kuehl at 712-840-9715.

Ruttger's Resort hosts mitten tree

This winter, Ruttger's Bay Lake Resort is inviting guests and community members to spread a little extra warmth by participating in their annual Mitten Tree donation drive. Now on display in the resort's main lobby, the Mitten Tree is a symbol of generosity and holiday spirit, and it's waiting for your contribution.

Whether you're a guest visiting for the weekend or a local resident passing through, the Mitten Tree is

a simple yet impactful way to give back. The resort is seeking donations of mittens, gloves, hats, scarves, and other cozy winter accessories for those in need. These items will go directly to individuals and families who are facing hardship this winter season.

The Mitten Tree will remain on display through Friday, Dec. 31, providing plenty of time to drop off donations at the resort. Each donated item is not just a piece of winter wear—it's a reminder that

small acts of kindness can make a big difference.

Whether you're in the area for a winter getaway or simply looking for a way to help, Ruttger's Mitten Tree is an easy way to contribute to those in need. A small donation can go a long way in ensuring that no one has to face the cold without the warmth they deserve.

For more information, or to make a donation, call Ruttger's Bay Lake Resort at 218-678-2885.



Ruby's on the Lake

New Year's Eve Special

Saturday - Tuesday,
December 28- 31 • 5-8 p.m.
(Reservations are recommended)

Surf n' Turf for Two \$150

20oz Black Angus Ribeye, grilled to your liking, served with Mushroom Bordelaise & Bearnaise Sauce, One Pound of Snow Crab Legs, Two Lobster Tails, your choice of two Soups or Salads with choice of Dressing, Bread service for two , White Cheddar Au gratin Potatoes , Grilled Asparagus and Assortment of Cheesecakes



Regular Menu Items Also Available to Order

Ruby's on the Lake Thursday 4 - 8 p.m.
Friday 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. • Saturday 8 a.m.-8 p.m. • Sunday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Holiday Hours:

Sunday, December 29 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Monday, December 30 4-8 p.m.
New Year's Eve Tuesday, December 31 4-8 p.m.

HUNGRY? Stop In for Our Daily Specials:

Thursday: All-You-Can-Eat Broasted Chicken
Friday: All-You-Can-Eat Fish Fry
Saturday: All-You-Can-Eat Flying Flapjacks
8 a.m.- 11 a.m.
Sunday: Crepes 10 a.m.- 2 p.m.



Ruttger's Winter Market at Ruby's on the Lake

Thursday-Saturday 10 a.m.-7 p.m. • Sunday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Holiday Hours:
Dec. 26-28 10 a.m.-7 p.m. • Dec. 29 10 a.m.-7p.m. • Dec. 30 4-8 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 31 4-8 p.m. • Jan 1 & 2 CLOSED



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Breezy Point Resort Ice Fest a weekend of winter fun for all ages

Celebrate winter's chill with ice fishing, face painting, music, and more.

Breezy Point Resort is gearing up for its biggest winter celebration of the year—the Ice Fest 2024, and you're invited to join the frosty fun on Saturday, Jan. 4. Starting at 9 a.m., the resort will host a full day of exciting events, perfect for families, friends, and anyone looking to embrace the beauty of a Minnesota winter.

But the fun kicks off a day earlier, with the Welcome Party at Dockside on Friday, Jan. 3. From 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., enjoy open skating, food and drink specials, plus happy hour deals before the live band "Tami and the Bachelor" take the stage at 9 p.m. The first clue for the Medallion Hunt will be revealed at 5 p.m., adding a little mystery and excitement to the weekend.

Saturday's ice fest highlights:

Dockside Opens at 9 a.m.: Start your day with a warm welcome and a bite to eat before jumping into the festivities.

Face Painting by "Oh Fer Cute": Bring the kids by Dockside for some creative fun with face painting to kick off the day.

Medallion Hunt Clue #2: The second clue will be unveiled at 9 a.m., so put on your thinking cap and see if you can solve the mystery!

Kids Ice Fishing Tournament: Calling all young anglers! The tournament starts at 9 a.m., with Bryan at 218-820-0989 or heldsguideservice@yahoo.com for sign-ups.

Winter Market: From noon to 4 p.m., browse unique crafts and local goods at the Winter Market on the Dockside deck. You can also sip samples from local brewers and distributors while you shop.

On the ice bags tournament: Sign up for the ice bags tournament by calling Charlie at 218-562-7135 or emailing Sam at sftich@breezypointresort.com.

Kids Penguin Race: Watch little ones race in the adorable penguin race at 1:30 p.m. Contact Bryan for more details at 218-820-0989.

Open Skating: Lace up your skates and glide across the ice—rentals are available at the activities desk!

Horse-Drawn Hayrides: From 2 to 4 p.m., take a ride through the winter wonderland with a classic horse-drawn hayride. Inquire at the front desk to book your spot!

Bonfire and S'mores: Stay warm by the bonfire on the beach, where you can roast s'mores and enjoy the winter chill all day long.

Food & Drink Specials + Happy Hour: From 5 to 7 p.m., enjoy delicious food and drink specials at Dockside, followed by a second performance from "Tami and the Bachelor" starting at 9 p.m. to keep the party going.

Interested in being a vendor at Ice Fest? Email David at dsoos@breezypointresort.com to reserve your spot at the Winter Market.

With activities for all ages and a full day of fun, Breezy Point Resort's Ice Fest 2024 promises to be a chillingly good time. So, gather your friends and family, bundle up, and come celebrate the magic of winter in style at Breezy Point Resort!

For more information or to sign up for events, visit Breezy Point Resort's website or contact event coordinators directly.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- January**
- 4th - Breezy Point Resort Ice Fest 2024
- 4th & 11th - Northland Arboretum Full Moon Snowshoe Hike, 7:30 8:30 p.m., guided by Bryan Pike. Bring snowshoes and/or winter boots, and a headlamp for an hour hike. Class size is limited. The cost is \$10 for members and \$20 for nonmembers. Payment is due at registration.
- 8th & 9th - Snowmobile Trail Grooming Show at Rutger's Bay Lake Resort, 25039 Tame Fish Lake Road in Deerwood 8 a.m.- 4 p.m. on Wednesday and 8 a.m.- 2 p.m. on Thursday
- 16th - Cuyuna Lakes Chamber Annual Dinner at Rutger's Bay Lake Resort. Social hour 4:30 p.m., dinner 6 p.m. and presentations begin at 7 p.m. Tickets \$80. Call 218-546-8131 for more information.
- 18th - Icykel Fat Bike Race Cuyuna Country State Recreation Area at Miner's Mountain Rally Center in Iron-ton. Winter races are the 10K at 10:30 a.m., 20K at 11 a.m., 40K at 10 a.m.
- February**
- 8th - Cuyuna Lakes Chamber of Commerce Ice Fishing Contest and Scorpion Homecoming. Call 218-546-8131 for more information.
- 8th - Winter Indoor Farmers' Market at Deerwood Auditorium, 9 a.m.- 2 p.m. with hand-crafted items offered.
- 9th - Northland Arboretum Full Moon Snowshoe Hike, 7:30 8:30 p.m., guided by Bryan Pike. Bring snowshoes and/or winter boots, and a headlamp for an hour hike. Class size is limited. The cost is \$10 for members and \$20 for nonmembers. Payment is due at registration.
- 15th - Pikes for Pups Darkhouse Spearing Contst on Nokay Lake from sunrise to sunset. Two-man teams, \$40 per team. Prizes awarded on the lake at 6 p.m. Proceeds benefit Northern Lakes Rescue.
- 22th - 2nd Annual Erin's Wish Bar Olympics at the Town Tavern in Ironton. Proceeds benefit CRMC Courage Cabinet. For more information call the Town Tavern at 218-546-5997.

Cascade United Methodist Church



Cascade United Methodist Church held two fund-raisers recently, the Thanksgiving Eve Service and the annual Thanksgiving Day Dinner to benefit the local food shelf. This year marked the 30th anniversary of the Thanksgiving Day Dinner, during which they served 174 people. Pictured left Mark Carlson from the Cuyuna Range Food Shelf receives checks totaling \$1,715 from Ken Schulz and Marie Nyberg of Cascade UMC in Deerwood.



Send Us Your Photos!

Got an interesting photo and story to share? Just send it to hopper@crosbyironton.net, along with your name, city and a description of the photo. We also accept news and community events. And who knows, you may see your submission next week in the **NEWSHOPPER!**

LEGAL NOTICES

- (Published in NewsHopper Saturday, Dec. 28, 2024 & Jan. 4, 2025)
- WEALTHWOOD TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF CANDIDATE FILING FOR TOWNSHIP OFFICE**
- Notice is hereby given for the time of filing affidavits of candidacy for the Township officers to be elected at the Wealthwood Township Annual Meeting and Election which will be held Tuesday, March 11, 2025.
- Filings will be open Tuesday, December 31, 2024 and will close January 14, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.
- Filing hours from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the office of the Clerk Office will be closed on legal holidays.
- Call for an appointment 218-678-2880.
- Offices to be filled are one Supervisor for a (3) three year term and a Clerk/ Treasurer for a (2) two year term.
- Filing fee is \$2.00.
- Dated: December 12, 2024 LINDA WENDLANDT, Clerk Wealthwood Township 5.1
- (Published in NewsHopper Saturday, Dec. 28, 2024 & Jan. 4, 2025)
- WEALTHWOOD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF AUDIT**
- The Board of Audit for Wealthwood Township will be held on Tuesday, January 14, 2025 at the town hall at 7:00 p.m. with the regular meeting to follow.
- Dated: December 12, 2024 LINDA WENDLANDT, Clerk Wealthwood Township 2.4



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OBITUARIES

REVEREND LAURENCE GREGORY FOOTE



Reverend Laurence Gregory Foote, 86, died Monday, December 16, 2024 at Johanna Shores care home, Arden Hills with his loving wife, Lynn and caregivers by his side. A private service was held and a memorial is planned in the spring. Memorials may be made to Pine Lake Chapel, 43472 240th St., Aitkin, MN 5643. Larry was born in Trenton, NJ to Georgia May and Rev. Dr. Edward Foote. A graduate of Mpls, Washburn, high school, Hamlin University, and seminary

in KC,MO, Rev. Foote was ordained in 1962. He faithfully served two United Methodist churches in KS, and 10 in MN in his 45+ years of ministry. After twice retiring, Pastor Foote delivered his final sermon at his beloved Pine Lake Chapel in 2020. He is survived by wife Lynn, sister Maryanne (Paul) Sunde, children Chris (Kim), Joanna (Lee), David (Nancy) Foote; step-children Cullen (Pam), Mark (Billie), Mike (Tadam), Davis, Rachel (Bob) Klindworth; 15 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren. Proceeded in death by his parents, sister Judith, brother-in-law, John Law, and daughter-in-law, Darlene Foote.

DONALD FORTE



Donald J. Forte, 102, formerly of Brainerd, died Monday, December 16, 2024, in Minneapolis. Catholic memorial service was held at Halvorson-Taylor Funeral Home in Brainerd on December 26, 2024. Visitation will be one hour prior. Interment was at Ft. Snelling National Cemetery on Friday, December 27, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. Memorials are preferred to the CLC Foundation (Band Account) or Wild & Free (Garrison). Don was born in Eveleth, MN, on November 7, 1922, to Wallace and Jennie (Nelson) Forte. He graduated from Eveleth High School with academic honors in 1941 and attended Virginia Junior College. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1942 and worked as a Sonarman First Class for 3 years in New Guinea. Don graduated with an electrical engineering degree from the University of Minnesota in 1949, played right wing for the 1947-48 Gopher Hockey Team, and served as Circulation Manager for the Minnesota Daily. He worked for Honeywell in Aerospace

Engineering for over 38 years. He married Mary E. Schlumberger on May 20, 1950, and the couple raised their family in Robbinsdale until retiring at Platte Lake in 1988. Don's avocation was trombone. He played in band and orchestra throughout high school, the Eveleth and Virginia City Bands, Robbinsdale City Band, Central Lakes College (CLC) Community Band, Heartland Symphony Orchestra, and his last concert at age 97 with the CLC Wind Symphony in Brainerd. Don enjoyed life at the lake including fishing, hunting, walks, time with family, and his dogs. He lived at Woodland in Brainerd since 2015. When asked about his longevity, he replied, "I never smoked". Outside of rehabilitation, he spent less than 12 days in a nursing home his entire life and had lived with his daughter in Minneapolis since late October. Don will be remembered for his genuine, pleasant, and positive demeanor, grateful heart, self-discipline, persistence, light and witty humor, and thought-provoking one-liners. He is survived by his son, Michael (Janel) Forte of Emily; Rita Forte of Hillman, MN, and Mary L. Forte of Minneapolis; nieces, nephews, and friends. He was preceded in death by his wife Mary, two infant daughters, parents, and brother Robert.

DENIS BURGWARD



Denis Henry "Denny" Burgwald, 80, of Deerwood died on Thursday, December 19, 2024 at his home. A visitation was from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 26, 2024 at the Koop Funeral Home in Crosby. Burial was at the Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery in Little Falls at 2:00 p.m. with military honors. Denny loved bright colors, in his honor attendees were asked to wear something bright. He was born in Crosby on March 14, 1944 to Ernest and Mary (Grimler) Burgwald. Denny graduated from the Crosby-Ironton High School, class of 1962 and Dunwoody Institute in Minneapolis. He was a U.S. Navy Veteran serving during Vietnam. He married Leann Siegersma on March 24, 1972 in Crosby. Denny started his career in autobody work in Minneapolis. He moved back to Crosby where he did autobody work

for Carney Middleton Ford and then was the owner and operator of DB's Collision in Crosby. He was a former member of the Walter Scott Erickson American Legion Post #557, Deerwood; former member and past president of the C-I Quarterbacks Club and a recipient of the Quarterback of the year award. Denny enjoyed traveling, camping, sports, and fishing with his wife, kids and grandchildren in his spare time. Denny is survived by his wife Leann; son, Chad (Tammy) Burgwald of Carver; two daughters: Tonya (Bryan) Merta of Goose Creek, SC and Kristi (Chad) Layon of Cloquet brother, Thomas Burgwald of Ironton; sisters: Cecila Burgwald of Ironton and Katherine (LeRoy) LaForce of Little Falls; and 11 grandchildren: Emily (Justin) Merta, Alyssa, and Tanner Merta, Jackson and Gavin Burgwald, and Finn, Abel and Hartlee Layon, Lexi (Jared) Sewall and Kiya and Onnaka Danielson. Preceding Denny in death are his parents. Arrangements were with the Koop Funeral Home of Crosby. To leave a message of condolence go to www.koopfuneralhome.com.

THERESA BLANCK



Theresa "Tessie" (Bisson) Blanck, 79, of Brainerd died on Wednesday, December 18, 2024 at CentraCare St. Cloud. Visitation and services were held at Zion Lutheran Church in Brainerd on Monday, December 23. Tessie was born on August 30, 1945 in Brainerd to Leo and Alice (Anderson) Bisson. She grew up in the Brainerd area and graduated from Brainerd High School in 1963. On April 25, 1964, Tessie married the love of her life, Gerald Blanck. Tessie devoted much of her life to serving Jesus, spending 25 years as the administrative assistant to the president of the Minnesota North District Office of the Lutheran Church Missouri

Synod. Her faith in her Lord and Savior was strong and she and Gerry raised their three children to know and love Jesus. She was the family's prayer warrior, fervently lifting her family up in prayer. She loved her family deeply. Tessie is survived by her husband, Gerry; children: Angela (Todd) Headlee, Beverly (Will) Koenig, Gerald (Tracey) Blanck; six grandchildren: Taylor (Jackson) Ronnei, Mackayla (Jacob) Gubbrud, Jordan (Leah) Koenig, Grace Koenig, Gavin and Miranda Blanck; six great-granddaughters: Esther, Grace, Ruth and Hannah Ronnei, Magdalene Gubbrud and Amelia Koenig; sister, Sharon (Ray) Fitzner and brother, Marty Bisson. She was preceded in death by her parents; brother, John, and sister, Janet (Don) Norr; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Howard and Lois Blanck.

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CHURCH DIRECTORY

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

ALLIANCE
Aitkin* — New Life Church of the CM&A; Worship 10:15 am; Services on Sunday at 10:15am and 6pm; 11-1st Street SW; newlifeaitkin.com 218-927-2823.
Baxter* — Pointway Alliance Church; Rev. Charles Bolstridge, 218-537-6505; 7756 Highland Scenic Road; Worship 10; 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; 8:30, 10 & 11:30 Sundays, 6:30p Wednesdays, 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; 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, Pastor William Verbeke, Worship 10:30, northwoodscommunitychurch.org
Baxter - The Journey North, Worship 9 & 10:30; 218-824-5617 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
Brainerd- The Church On The Wise Road, Pastor Todd Stumbo 218-829-4673, Worship 11:00, SS 9:45 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 a.m.; Wed 6pm Glory Family night, KidMin grades kindergarten - 6, Mad4Christ grades 7-12. 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.ihmstemilys.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; 10:30 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 — The Lighthouse 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
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 Connect 6:30 pm
Malmö — 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 followed by Sunday school at 10:00 am. 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 Ingleswood and Cherrywood). 218-829-4105. 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-lutheran.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 flicbrainerd.com 424 8th Street South, Brainerd
Brainerd* — Good Shepherd Free Lutheran Church (AFLC), Pastor David Franz, find service info at 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)
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. Email: 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.
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 Kristin Oltmann, Pastor / Becky Swanson, Pastor 218-692-3682 September 8-Mid-May: Sunday at 8:30am & October-Mid-May: Wednesday at 6:15pm
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
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.
Giese — Immanuel, Rev. R. Langhorst & Rev. R. Lovaa; 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), Pastor Josh Blair; 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)
Malmö — 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), Worship 9; SS 9.
McGregor/Big Sandy Lake — Grace Lutheran Log Church (LCMC), Pastor Lorelei 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; 1st, 3rd and 4th 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. Pastor Walter Starr, 763-316-7230, Sunday Worship 10:00am, Wednesday Bible study 6:30pm
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 Irontonale 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.
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

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST
Aitkin — Pastor Josh Jeresek; Worship Sat. 9:30, Prayer Meeting & Bible Study Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.; www.aitkinadventist.org; 423-805-0933; 830 Minnesota Ave S Brainerd — Pastor Josh Jeresek; Worship Sat. 11:10, 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 Thursday 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 bks 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.

Crow Wing County Landfill new operating hours starting January 2

Starting January 2, 2025, the Crow Wing County Landfill will be operating on new hours, offering residents a convenient and accessible way to dispose of waste. The landfill will be open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., ensuring extended weekday access for those looking to drop off household waste, recyclables, and more.

Located at 15732 State Highway 210, just east of Brainerd, the landfill serves as an essential resource for residents across Crow Wing County.

What you can dispose of at the landfill

During these hours, the Crow Wing County Landfill will accept a broad range of items for disposal, including:

- Household garbage
- Mattresses and furniture
- Recyclables (such as cardboard, paper, plastic, and glass)
- And more

When visiting, customers are required to stop at the landfill office to speak with the attendant. The attendant will guide residents to the

correct drop-off areas, collect any applicable fees, and ensure that all waste is disposed of properly.

Important reminder: covered loads required

To help ensure the landfill remains safe and clean, all loads must be covered. Any uncovered loads will incur an additional fee, so it's important to take the time to secure your waste before heading to the landfill.

Free recycling at the crow wing recycling center

Residents can also take advantage of free recycling services at the Crow Wing Recycling Center, located at the landfill. The following items can be recycled or properly disposed of at no cost:

Household Hazardous Waste

- Lead-acid car and marine batteries (keep batteries separate from other waste)
- Used oil, oil filters, and antifreeze (available at several drop-off locations around the county)
- Residential recycling (cardboard, paper, plastics, glass)

Items Requiring a Fee

For certain materials, a

nominal fee will apply. These items include:

- Demolition materials
 - Large appliances
 - Fluorescent bulbs
 - Tires (with or without rims)
 - Scrap metal
 - Mattresses
 - Electronics
- For the complete list of

fees, please visit the Crow Wing County website at www.crowwing.gov/727/ Fee-Schedule and check the fee schedule.

What's coming in summer 2025

In May 2025, the landfill will resume summer hours with expanded weekend access. On Saturdays, the

landfill will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., making it even easier for residents to handle weekend waste disposal.

For more Information

The Land Services Department is dedicated to providing top-notch customer service, ensuring that residents can easily make informed

decisions that protect the county's natural resources. For more details or to ask questions, you can contact the Solid Waste Office at 218-824-1010 or visit the Crow Wing County website at www.crowwing.gov and search for "Solid Waste."

Help keep Crow Wing County clean and green.

Long Lake Conservation Center unveils camp schedule | Continued from Page 1



Explore the terrestrial world by day, and stars at night during the Astronomy camp, as you learn how telescopes work.

will be a cosmic experience, complete with telescope sessions and lessons on the mysteries of the universe.

More than just camps—scholarships available

Long Lake Conservation Center is committed to making these camps accessible to all, and scholarships are available for families who may need financial assistance. The Long Lake Conservation Foundation provides camp scholarships to ensure that every child has the opportunity to experience the wonder of the outdoors, regardless of their financial situation.

How to register

Parents and campers can get a sneak peek of the full

summer camp schedule and register for their preferred camp starting on January 1, 2025. Visit the Long Lake Conservation Center website at www.longlakecc.org/summercamp to find camp details, session dates, and registration information. For additional questions or assistance, call 218-768-4653.

The perfect summer awaits

From family bonding to outdoor adventure, Long Lake Conservation Center is offering an unforgettable summer experience. With a mix of new and returning camps, there's something for everyone, whether you're looking to spend quality time with loved ones or dive deep into nature's wonders.

CROW WING COUNTY LANDFILL

Open Mon – Fri / 8am – 5pm (Through Dec. 31)
Open Mon – Fri / 8am – 4:30pm (Starting Jan 2)

The Following Items are Accepted

- Household Garbage
- Mattresses
- Fluorescent Bulbs
- Household Hazardous Waste
- Free recycling of lead-acid car/marine batteries - Batteries must be SEPARATED from other waste and CANNOT be disposed of in the landfill!
- Free compost of lawn and garden material (please separate brush and branches)
- Free oil, oil filter, and antifreeze recycling at the landfill and several drop-off locations within the County. Visit our webpage for drop off locations: www.crowwing.gov/recycling
- Demolition materials may be disposed in the demolition landfill for a fee
- Large appliances, electronics, tires with or without rims, and scrap metals can be disposed at the site for a nominal fee for recycling.

The landfill is open only to residents of Crow Wing County for recycling and disposal needs.

For more information, please call 218-824-1010.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

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- Window Installation
- Siding
- Garages
- Doors
- Decks
- Handicapped Bathrooms

Dozer & Backhoe Work

- Basements
- Driveways
- Ponds
- Wild Life Food Plots
- Land & Lot Clearing
- Stump Removal
- Rip Rap
- Demolition
- Building Pads
- Ditches and Ditch Cleaning
- Black Dirt, Sand & Gravel
- Roads / Road Building
- Boulder Walls
- Trail Brushing

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- Stump Grinding
- Storm Damage Cleanup
- Aerial Truck

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Making Old Wood Look New!

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