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DEERWOOD DAYS

Friday & Saturday,
August 8 & 9

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Downtown Deerwood, MN

Saturday Only Events:

Children's Tractor Pull
Behind Salem Lutheran Church
near Dollar General
Reg. 10 a.m. / Races 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Bingo Auditorium 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Touch-a-Truck Emergency Vehicles
Kid's Area 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.
Silent Auction
Salem Lutheran Church 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Live Music by *Sheltered Reality* near
Salem Lutheran Church 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.
Babinski Foundation
West End
Animal Adoptions 12 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Dog Fashion Show at 2 p.m.
Raffle Prize Drawings
American Legion 6 p.m.

Both Day Events:

Wide Variety of Arts, Crafts & Merchandise Booths
Kids Games 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Face Painting 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Live Entertainment East End 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Live Entertainment American Legion 3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Bake Sale

Raffle Ticket Sales + Great Prizes

Numerous Food & Beverage Vendors/Food Trucks including
coffee, soda, donuts, cotton candy, lemonade, chips, kettle corn,
snow cones, gyros, BBQ, pork chops on a stick, hamburgers, hot
dogs, Mexican, tacos, walking tacos, pulled pork, ice cream,
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Outdoor Festival • Fun for the Entire Family!

Food & Beverages • Crafts • Music • Kids Activities

Follow us on Facebook @Deerwood Days
Contact us at DeerwoodDays@gmail.com

CORN FEED

Saturday,
August 16, 2025
4:30 - 7:00 p.m.



Adults \$15
Children 12 & under \$5

All-You-Can-Eat Corn

Pulled Pork Sandwich,
Calico Beans,
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Event sponsored by Thrivent

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Aitkin's Kristi VanCamp saddles up as she competes for WSCA queen bid

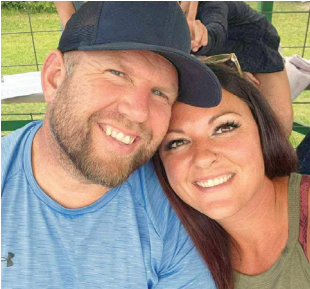


Auli and Kristi VanCamp show their Western wear style.
Photos submitted by the VanCamps

By ANN SCHWARTZ
Your summer plans might include some days at the beach, the campground or the baseball field.
For the mother and daughter horse folks, Kristi and Auli VanCamp of rural Aitkin, summers are all about horses.

Starting in May and going well into the fall, they spend their weekends traveling to rodeos and shows for barrel racing, pole weaving and other events.
Kristi, 40, who is the queen of the local Bit N Bridle Saddle Club, whose members are

from Aitkin County, is chasing her dream to become the queen of the Western Saddle Club Association, a statewide horse organization. She has thrown her cowboy hat in the ring and will spend the next couple of months pursuing her goal—to represent Minnesota horse folks as the WSCA queen.
“I was Bit N Bridle’s first princess in the 1990s when I was in my teens and now I want to expand my dreams and represent horsemanship and traditions as the WSCA queen.”
Miss American candidates have no more of a rigorous course than Kristi will pursue. First, she finished her application and an essay about herself and what she will accomplish, if coronated as queen.



Gabe and Kristi center their life around children, animals, extended family and their Christian faith.



Kristi and her horse Dassi show their moves in Effie.

Then, on August 22 at a big banquet in Monticello, MN, she’ll be put through her paces with an interview, a written test on horsemanship, giving a public speech and answering an impromptu question. She estimates there will be 10-15 candidates vying for the queen position.
Then, in September at the Simon Arena in Cannon Falls, she’ll show her stuff. She and her muscular horse Dassi compete in speed events: barrel racing, pole weaving and keyhole. She will also do public relations and service events and the new queen will be coronated on the last day of the show. (Dassi is a quarter horse, a red dun. These horses are speedy with thick muscles.)
Kristi and daughter Auli, 11, will cap off this horse season traveling to Georgia in October to compete in the nationals for barrel horse

racing.
A horsey lifestyle
Kristi’s life on their farm is centered around kids and animals. She and husband Gabe have mostly self-directed jobs

where she works with horses and is the director for Kix dance program. She also designs hats for her husband’s Branded Barrell specialty products company and Gabe is also a carpenter. They also have a 17-year-old daughter, Zoe, who is pursuing interests beyond horses at this time.
At any given time, they have all their family horses as well as horses that they board and train—about nine total now on their acreage. “We rescue horses and help them to heal and be bright and shiny again,” she explained in an interview.
They also breed miniature Australian Shepherd dogs.
Every weekend, the family loads up to four horses



Daughter Auli and her horse Smooch at the Effie, MN, rodeo.

and heads to competition at rodeos or horse shows all over Minnesota. Their horse trailer has living quarters in the front and they have a generator so they can camp anywhere.
Auli has four competition horses, with her main one, Smooch, a 17-year-old bay and white

Continued on Page 4

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

- August**
- 2nd - Last day of Crow Wing County Fair at the Crow Wing County Fairgrounds
- 2nd - Last day of Aitkin's Riverboat Heritage Days with Pancake Breakfast, Car Show, Farmers Market, Kiddy Parade, Main Parade, STAY Walk & Color Run For Life, Pancake Breakfast, Craft & Vendor Fair, Bake Sale, DJ&Karaoke, Historical Society Garage Sale, Duck Run, Kid's Zone, Vendor Fair, Sip N' Stroll, Ripplesippi Music Fest
- 2nd - LAMF Sound Garden, 9 am-11 am, Venture through the scenic forest trails of the Northland Arboretum, discovering musicians from every section of the orchestra along the way. Free and open to the public; no tickets required. Call 218-825-8112 for more information.
- 2nd - Crosslake Library Book Sale, 10 am-3 pm Crosslake Community Center 14126 Daggett Pine Rd., Crosslake, For more information call (218) 692-4271
- 2nd - Log Village 50th Anniversary Party, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Join us as we celebrate our 50th Anniversary with a Family Picnic and Celebration! Lunch at Noon. Play fun games, enjoy live music, and watch some demonstrations. Fun for the whole family.
- 3rd - 7th - Immanuel of Iron Hub and Zion of Crosby Family Vacation Bible School, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Zion Lutheran Church in Crosby (225 4th St. NW). The topic for the week will be "River of Life". A light lunch will be served at 5:30 pm, followed by lessons, music, & crafts. We ask that all children be accompanied by an adult. Please contact the church office 218-546-6910 for further information and to sign up.
- 7th - Music in the Park at Crosby Memorial Park on Serpent Lake, 5-8 p.m. featuring "Seth Doud". Bring lawn chairs or blankets for your comfort. Call the Cuyuna Lakes Chamber at 218-546-8131 or visit www.cuyunalakes.com for more details.
- 8th & 9th - Deerwood Days - Crafters line the streets of Deerwood, live music, food, entertainment, bake sale, ice cream, face painting, games, and more.
- 9th - Cardboard Boat Races, noon - 5 p.m. Enjoy an afternoon cheering for your favorite team from the deck (or slope side). Moonlite Bay Family Restaurant & Bar, 37627 County Road 66, Crosslake. Paddlers meeting 12:45 p.m., Kids Race (12 and under) 1:00 p.m., and Adult Race 2:00 p.m.
- 9th & 10th - LAMF Brings a Fairytale Forest to Life with a fully staged production of Engelbert Humperdinck's Hänsel & Gretel, a heartwarming opera for audiences of all ages. Performances take place Saturday, August 9 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, August 10 at 3:00 p.m. at the Gichi-ziibi Center for the Arts in Brainerd.
- 11th - Join Lakes Area Unlimited Learning, 1:30-3:30 p.m. at Heartland Senior Living Community Crosby to hear author Aaron Brown speak about the original old growth forests of northern Minnesota.
- 14th - Music in the Park at Crosby Memorial Park on Serpent Lake, 5-8 p.m. featuring "The Fabulous Stool Pigeons". Bring lawn chairs or blankets for your comfort. Call the Cuyuna Lakes Chamber at 218-546-8131 or visit www.cuyunalakes.com for more details.
- 14th-16th - Heritage Days. Enjoy Music in the Park, Night to Unite, Car Show, Arts & Crafts Show, Story Hour, Children's Festival of Games/Activities, Heritage Highland Games, Loon Calling Contest and so much more!
- 16th - Lakers Lions Annual Corn Feed from noon to 4 p.m. at Pickled Loon Saloon in Emily.
- 19th - American Cross Blood Drive at the Deerwood Auditorium, noon-6 p.m., sponsored by the Garrison Bay Lake Area Lions.

Send your community events to hopper@crosbyironton.net

Bethesda Lutheran Church corn feed

Make plans for Saturday, Aug. 16 as Bethesda Lutheran Church of Malmo located at 21590 State Hwy. 47 is hosting its annual Corn Feed from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Picture this: steaming piles of sweet, buttery corn on the cob, fresh from local fields, paired with juicy pulled pork sandwiches that melt in your mouth. Add a scoop of hearty calico beans, a crisp helping of coleslaw, and a sweet finish with homemade bars that'll have you reaching for seconds. Wash it all down with your choice of coffee, water, or refreshing lemonade. At \$15 for adults and just \$5 for kids 12 and under, this is a deal that's as satisfying as the meal itself.

The Corn Feed isn't just about the food—it's about coming together. Families, friends, and neighbors will fill the church grounds, swapping stories and savoring the tastes of summer. The welcoming folks at Bethesda Lutheran Church know how to make everyone feel at home.

Hosted at the church's scenic location along State Hwy. 47, the Corn Feed is a chance to support a community tradition while enjoying a hearty meal.

Free well water testing this August

Get ready to take charge of your water's safety. Crow Wing County. The Crow Wing Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) is rolling out free well water nitrate testing events this August, bringing peace of mind to residents in Brainerd, Garrison, and Crosslake. If you rely on a private well, this is your chance to ensure your water is safe to sip—no cost, no hassle.

Mark your calendars for these testing events, all running from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.:

- Brainerd—August 8: Crow Wing County Land Services building (lower level), 322 Laurel Street, Brainerd
- Garrison—August 14: Garrison City Hall, 27069 Central Street, Garrison
- Crosslake—August 22: Crosslake City Hall, 13888 Daggett Bay Road, Crosslake

Why test for nitrates? The Minnesota Department of Health urges private well owners to check nitrate levels annually. While nitrates occur naturally in foods like spinach and carrots, high levels in your drinking water could spell trouble. Runoff from fertilized fields, wastewater, landfills, animal feedlots, septic systems, or urban drainage can spike nitrate levels, potentially putting your health at risk.

Collecting a sample is a breeze. Just run your cold tap for 5–10 minutes, grab about a cup of water in a clean jar or double-bagged plastic bag, and keep it cool until you drop it off at one of the testing events. Can't make it to an event? No worries—you can also swing by the Crow Wing SWCD office at 322 Laurel Street, Suite 22, in Brainerd to submit your sample.

For more details, visit cws-wcd.org/nitratetesting or give the Crow Wing SWCD a call at (218) 828-6197. Don't miss this opportunity to keep your well water safe and you and your family healthy.



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- **Thurs., Aug. 21, 10 a.m. - Cloquet, MN**
Lyn's Body Shop / Body Shop Sellout | Rae Johnson, Owner
- **Tues., Sept. 9, 10 a.m. - Iron, MN**
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- **Sat., Sept. 13, 10 a.m. - Virginia, MN**
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Aitkin Public Schools to host community meeting on referendum

Aitkin Public Schools has invited all residents to a community meeting on Monday, Aug. 4, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Rippleside Elementary to learn more about the district’s upcoming referendum. Families, children and residents are welcome to drop in anytime during the hour-and-a-half period. Tours of the building will be available, along with refreshments.

On Tuesday, Nov. 4, the referendum will present voters with two ballot questions that address the district’s most urgent facilities needs and invest in the future of Aitkin’s students and community:

- Question One proposes a \$59.44 million plan to replace the nearly 70-year-old Rippleside Elementary school with a new PreK-6 building and a new school transportation center to replace the existing bus garage.
 - Question Two proposes a \$6 million investment in a new community wellness and recreation center attached to the new PreK-6 school.
- Question Two can only pass if Question One also passes. “Having served our district since 1957, Rippleside is deteriorating and no longer meets the needs of our students and staff,” said Superintendent Dan Stifter. “This

meeting will give residents a chance to tour Rippleside, see some of our challenges, and learn about our plan to build a safe, healthy, modern school—and a new community gathering space.”

The August 4 event will feature information stations about the proposed plan, the challenges it addresses, the tax impact, and voting. District leaders and consultants will be available to visit with residents and answer questions. Staff members will be available to give guided tours of Rippleside Elementary, and refreshments will be provided.

Aitkin School Board Chair

Cindi Hills spoke about the broader impact of the referendum: “This isn’t just about a new school—it’s about investing in Aitkin’s future. A

modern elementary school and community wellness and recreation center would help attract families, support businesses, and strengthen

our local economy.” Residents can find more information on the November referendum by visiting WeAreAitkin.org.

Kristi VanCamp vies for WSCA queen bid | Continued from Page 2



Bit N Bridle Saddle Club Queen Kristi VanCamp and her quarter horse Dassi.



Kristi and Dassi competing in pole bending.

Jumpin’ Jeehosafats concert Aug. 20

Get ready to tap your toes and lift your spirits on Saturday, Aug. 20 as the Emily United Methodist Church is hosting a free concert by the beloved local band, The Jumpin’ Jeehosafats, at 6 p.m., right after a community picnic at 5 p.m. The evening promises a vibrant mix of Dixieland, Gospel, and Jazz that’ll have the whole town swaying.

The Jumpin’ Jeehosafats,

known for their infectious energy and soul-stirring melodies, are a staple in the Minnesota music scene. With their brassy horns, rollicking keyboard, and heartfelt vocals, they’ll deliver a performance that blends the foot-stomping joy of Dixieland, the soulful uplift of Gospel, and the smooth improvisations of Jazz. Whether you’re a longtime fan or new to their

sound, this is a show you won’t want to miss.

The concert is free, but a free will offering will be collected to support Minnesota Wounded and Homeless Veterans, a cause close to the heart of the Emily community. Every dollar donated will go toward providing essential services and support for veterans in need, making this a night of music with a purpose.

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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 - Eagle Brook Church , Worship 9 & 11, www.eaglebrookchurch.com/locations/brainerd-lakes/
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 am.; 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; 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 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.
First* — (ELCA) Pastor Reggie Denton, worship Sun. 9am (also available via livestream on YouTube –First Lutheran Church, Aitkin) and (broadcast on KKIN 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. Office open M-Th 7:30am – 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) Rev. Paul Mattson; Sun. 9:30 worship; SS (Sept.-May) 10:15; 10:30 fellowship
Crosby — Zion (LC-MS) Worship 8:30, Pastor Donald Klatt 218-546-6910
Crosslake Lutheran Church (ELCA) www.crosslakelutheran.com • Kristin Oltmann, Pastor • Becky Swanson, Pastor 218-692-3682, May 18-Labor Day: Sun. Indoor 8:30am, Outdoor 10am Indoor: 35960 CR 66, Outdoor: 14019 Daggett Pine Rd. - All are welcome!
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 Worrell. 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. 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 10:30, Pastor Donald Klatt 218-534-3069
Isle — Faith (ELCA), Pastor Josh Blair; Worship 9:30; handicapped accessible.
Isle — Holden (ELCA), Worship 9:15
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 Christina Kadelbach; 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
Aitkin—Cedar Lake Norwegian Lutheran Church, service is the 3rd Sunday of the month May-October at 11am , 3100 Pioneer Ave., Aitkin.
Brainerd—Oak Street Chapel, Pastor Todd Wooden, Worship service is Sunday at 9:30, 523 E 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, 763-316-7270, 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 Irondale 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. www.uccbbrainerdmn.org

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 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.

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Aitkin's Riverboat Heritage Days a fun-filled community celebration

Aitkin is gearing up for its annual Riverboat Heritage Days this Aug. 1 and 2 , and it promises to be a weekend packed with fun, history, music, food, and plenty of local flavor. Whether you're a local or just passing through, there's something for everyone at this iconic event.

Historical Society garage sale

Start your Riverboat Days weekend by getting your hands on some unique treasures at the Aitkin County Historical Society Garage Sale. Swing by the Aitkin County Fairgrounds on Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., or Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. for vintage finds, antiques, and more.

Medallion Hunt

A favorite tradition for treasure hunters, the Medallion Hunt kicked off at 9 a.m. on Monday, July 29. Keep your eyes peeled—this medallion could be hidden anywhere. Sponsored by Mid Minnesota Federal Credit Union, the hunt is on until it is found.

FRIDAY, AUG. 1 ONLY:

Root beer floats/lawn games

Beat the heat with a refreshing root beer float at the Aitkin Public Library from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. While you're there, enjoy some old-school lawn games, perfect for families and friends.

STAY Walk and Color Run for Life race registration

Get active and show your support at the STAY Walk and Color Run for Life, register from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Friday for Saturday's race. Or

skip the line and pick up your race kit early at the Petals of Peace Community Resource Center.

Little Nashville

Experience the best of country music at Little Nashville from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. With four venues throughout downtown Aitkin, you're sure to find your groove. [See story below.]

Karaoke at Riverside Pub

Karaoke lovers, this one's for you. Riverside Pub invites you to belt out your favorite hits from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. It's your time to shine.

SATURDAY, AUG. 2 ONLY:

Pancake Breakfast

Head over to St. John's Lutheran Church from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. for a hearty pancake breakfast to start your day, courtesy of

Aitkin All Starz.



Aitkin Farmers Market

The Aitkin Farmers Market runs from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Tractor Supply Company parking lot. Get your hands on fresh, local produce, baked goods, and more.

American Legion events

From 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., the American Legion will host a Craft & Vendor Fair, a Bake Sale (starting at 10 a.m.), and Comfort Food with an outside bar.

Duck Run at Riverview Lodge

Join the Duck Run at 11 a.m. (registration starts at 10

a.m.) at Riverview Lodge for some good old-fashioned fun, courtesy of Rosalini's, Hazelwood Corp, and Riverview Lodge.

Jagues Art Center art classes

Feeling creative? Head to the Jagues Art Center from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. for mini art classes. Perfect for all ages, and a great way to bring home a souvenir.

Kid's Zone at Bremer Bank

From 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., the Kid's Zone at Bremer Bank offers games, crafts, and loads of fun. Sponsored by Aitkin Churches Together.

Kiddy and main parade

All kids are welcome to decorate their bike, scooter or wagon. The Kiddy Parade will line up at 2:15 p.m. with judging at 2:30 p.m.

The Riverboat Heritage Days Parade will roll down downtown Aitkin at 3 p.m. lead by the kiddy parade. Whether you're in it or cheering from the sidelines, the parade is a must-see. So why not enter your own float? It's free to participate.

Sip N' Stroll

From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., you can explore downtown Aitkin's bars and businesses during the Sip N' Stroll. Grab a drink and wander around—it's the perfect way to discover new spots in town.

Ripplesippi Music Fest

Of course, the Ripplesippi Music Fest continues on Saturday, from 4

p.m. to 11 p.m. [See story below.]

Bag toss tourney

Ready to compete? The American Legion will host a Bag Toss Tournament starting at 1 p.m. (registration begins at 12 p.m.). You might just take home the win!

For more information

Want to learn more or get involved? Visit the Aitkin Area Chamber of Commerce at (218-927-2316 or email info@aitkin.com.



Take musical journey during RippleSippi Music Fest in Aitkin

Aitkin Riverboat Heritage Days is going to be filled with tunes as the Ripplesippi Music Fest takes over downtown Aitkin. Catch live music from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Friday and 3:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday, courtesy of the Aitkin County Friends of the Arts.

Friday, August 1

Kick off the weekend with the Little Nashville event, happening from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. across four downtown venues. Whether you're wandering around or choosing a favorite spot to settle in, the music will be flowing freely throughout the evening. This is a fantastic chance to discover some amazing local

and regional talent. Best of all? It's FREE!

Where to catch the music: **Fortunado Art Studio and Gallery** (The Ripple Center, 1st Floor) • Holly Shaw (Harpist 5 p.m.)

The Terrace Stage

- Aurora Baer (Rock) 6 p.m.
- French Hillbillies (Variety) 7 p.m.

The Beanery Stage

- Amanda Standalone 6:15 p.m.
- Bruce Archer 7:15 p.m.

Block North's Locker Room Stage

- Mike & Jan Cherry 6:30 p.m.
- SongBridge 8:00 p.m.

Whether you're into the

soothing melodies of a harp, the raw energy of rock, or the timeless sound of folk and country, Little Nashville is your go-to event for exploring this area's rich musical scene. **Saturday, Aug. 2 Street Party** Saturday's Street Party is the centerpiece of the fest, running from 3:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. If you love hard-edged rock, classic country, and high-energy pop covers, then you're in for a treat. And while the event is suggested at \$20, but there's no need to break the bank—pay what you can. The lineup includes:

- **The4onthefloor** (3:30 p.m.- 4:45 p.m.)

The4onthefloor is sure

to get the crowd moving. Known for their energetic performances and gritty sound, they'll set the tone for a wild night ahead.

- **Songs of the South** (5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.)

If you're a fan of classic country, you're in for a treat with Songs of the South, an Alabama tribute band. Let them take you on a musical journey through the heart of the South with timeless hits that will have you singing along.

- **Verge** (8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.)

To close out the festival in style, Verge, one of Minnesota's hottest rock and pop

cover bands, will take the stage. Expect high-energy covers of your favorite hits, from pop anthems to rock classics. The perfect way to cap off an incredible evening of music!

Tickets & admission:

The Street Party follows a "pay what you can" model, allowing everyone to enjoy the music regardless of budget. The suggested ticket price is \$20, but you can pay whatever you can afford. It's all about making sure everyone has access to great live music.

Tickets are available for purchase in advance <https://www.aitkin.com/rvbd2025> or on the day of the event.

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