



Country Chronicles  
November 2019  
Cannon River and  
Cross of Christ Lutheran  
Parish, ELCA



## Ministry Notes

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We're back from vacation and catching up... I wish to say thank you for the opportunity to take some time away. It's important in all our lives that we change the scenery and do some reflecting on our routines.

Kris and I spent eight days on a small island off the coast of Scotland called Iona. It was a place where Christian pilgrims have been visiting for centuries.

We stayed in a place called the Bishops House, which was a fully functioning Episcopal church. My morning started with a communion service at eight. The communion chalice and plate were hundreds of years old. Attendance was small and we gathered around the altar for distribution. It was an intimate service.

After breakfast I would go hiking or attend a writing workshop. One of the retreat leaders was an accomplished Poet, and his words were like magic. He had a way of describing things that made me pay attention and wonder.

On a particular hike we went to a place called the hill of angels. A dozen of us stood on the peak and just gazed out in all directions. As everyone stood there, observing the beauty, the group became mysteriously quiet. And everyone honored the

silence as we looked out in all directions-- taking in all that was there to see and hear.

It was unusual. I don't think I've ever been in a group of people who fell quiet, and stayed that way! No one needed to speak, no one needed to break the silence.

A hawk flew overhead, sheep in the distance were quietly grazing, a farmer went about his business... The quiet was unplanned; somehow it fell upon us... And it seemed like it was the way it was supposed to be.

After maybe fifteen minutes of quiet, the retreat leader broke the silence by reading a poem he had written during the time we were standing and quiet. He ended the poem by saying the hill of angels was still a hill of angels. Meaning that we were all those angels...

And I thought, yes, in our baptismal identity, we are also Saints. The sin around us is so visible and prevalent and life can sometimes be so despairing. But, yes, we are also Saints...

In all our pilgrimages through life, may we always remember that we are also Saints. I pray we find those unusual quiet times, and reflect on our being created in the image of God.

Blessing to you and your families this month as we give thanks for all that God has given us.

Deacon Todd Portinga

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***Contact Information for Todd Portinga:***

***Church Phone:*** 651-388-3464 ***Cell Phone:*** 651-983-1795

***Email:*** [pastor@cccchurch.com](mailto:pastor@cccchurch.com)

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# Cannon River News

## Attendance

October 6 <sup>th</sup>	20
October 13 <sup>th</sup>	29
October 20 <sup>th</sup>	20
October 27 <sup>th</sup>	47

## Financial Report

	Income	Expenses	Net
Jan	\$2,481	\$1,661	\$819
Feb	\$2,132	\$4,679	(\$2,547)
Mar	\$3,420	\$4,613	(\$1,193)
Apr	\$2,602	\$2,956	(\$354)
May	\$2,098	\$3,648	(\$1,550)
June	\$4,114	\$3,241	\$872
July	\$2,267	\$3,409	(\$1,142)
August	\$2,300	\$4,347	(\$2,047)
September	\$2,963	\$4,769	(\$1,806)
<b>Year to Date</b>	<b>\$24,377</b>	<b>\$33,327</b>	<b>(\$8,950)</b>

## Cannon Falls Feed My Starving Children Mobile Pack

**Event** will be on **Saturday, November 23**, at Cannon Falls High School. We are looking for over 500 volunteers to pack 124,000 meals and raise \$30,000. The funds raised will pay for the meals as well as a donation to our local food shelves. Packing shift times will be at 8:00 and 10:30. We will also have a set up shift on Friday, November 22 from 3-5PM. Look for sign-up sheets at CC or CR. Donations can be collected at church or mailed to the address below. Checks can be made out to CCIC/FMSC.



Val Docter, CCIC/FMSC, 206 Ridgecrest Drive, Cannon Falls, MN 55009

Once again, Storm Creek is partnering with this event.

Last year they donated over \$3,000. Shop for a cause and check out their sales in Eagan (Oct 25/26) and Hastings (Nov 29/30). They will donate a portion of your sale back to FMSC - Cannon Falls. Coupon

cards will be available at church or mention this event at check out. To find more information on their warehouse sale, check out <https://stormcreek.com/warehouse-sale/>



### SHOP FOR A CAUSE!

Save \$10 on a \$50 purchase, and we give 10% of proceeds to an official Charity Partner of your choice.



### Embrace the Cause

Present this coupon when you shop.  
You **save \$10** on your purchase of \$50 or more, plus **10% of your purchase goes to FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN - CANNON FALLS**

#### MOBILE PACK

or shop online with code **CF10**



+



Cannon Falls Mobile Pack Event



\*LIMIT ONE COUPON PER PERSON.  
CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH OTHER OFFERS



### STORM CREEK®

### 7TH ANNUAL WAREHOUSE SALE

ACTIVE, OUTDOOR, & LIFESTYLE APPAREL

#### WEEKEND ONE: EAGAN, MN

Friday, October 25: 8 AM - 8 PM

Saturday, October 26: 8 AM - 5 PM

Eagan Warehouse: 935 Blue Gentian Rd, Eagan, MN 55121

Extra discounts  
with new items and  
new discounts!

#### WEEKEND TWO: HASTINGS, MN

BLACK FRIDAY, November 29: 8 AM - 5 PM

SUPER SALE SATURDAY, November 30: 8 AM - 2 PM

Hastings Warehouse: 624 Spiral Blvd, Hastings, MN 55033

[stormcreeksale.com](https://stormcreeksale.com)

# Cross of Christ News

*We are called by the Spirit to be a lasting presence in our community,  
faithfully sharing the Word of God through worship, fellowship and  
service to our neighbors.*

***Faithful through Generations***

## Assistants for November 2019

### **Greeters**

November 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Dennis & Jackie Martin
November 10 <sup>th</sup>	Jim & Sue Hill
November 17 <sup>th</sup>	Kelley Mittelsteadt
November 24 <sup>th</sup>	Dean & Dana Dinndorf

### **Readers**

November 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Jim Gustafson
November 10 <sup>th</sup>	David Hill
November 17 <sup>th</sup>	Joan Slingsby
November 24 <sup>th</sup>	Mary Fjetland

### **Altar**

3 <sup>rd</sup>	Joan Slingsby with a Confirmation helper
10 <sup>th</sup>	Joan Slingsby with a Confirmation helper

### **Council Person**

Jean Kehren

### **Attendance**

### **Kitchen**

Jean Kehren

October 6 <sup>th</sup>	83
October 13 <sup>th</sup>	66
October 20 <sup>th</sup>	49
October 27 <sup>th</sup>	53

### **Ushers for November**

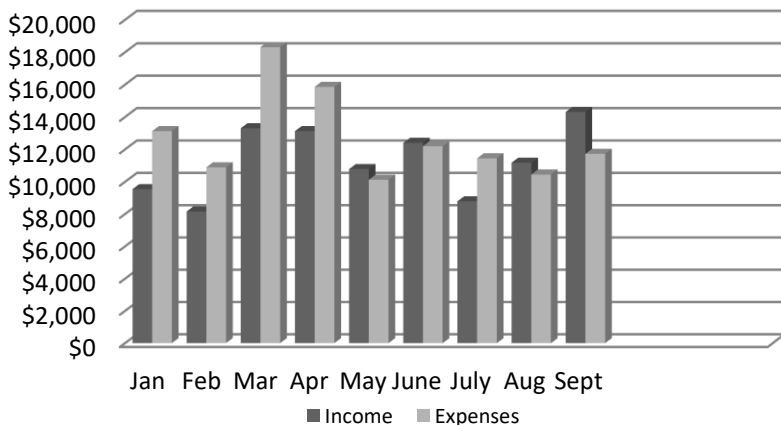
Kelley Mittelsteadt & Jim Gustafson

## Cross of Christ Financial Report

	Income	Expenses
Jan	\$9,543	\$13,128
Feb	\$8,159	\$10,890
Mar	\$13,302	\$18,310
Apr	\$13,126	\$15,858
May	\$10,780	\$10,125
June	\$12,402	\$12,192
July	\$8,788	\$11,447
Aug	\$11,174	\$10,444
Sept	\$14,309	\$11,723

**Year to Date**   **\$101,584**   **\$114,116**

### 2019 Income/Expenses



## Financial News

Thrivent Members: You can designate the **Thrivent Choice Dollars** that you have earned so far in 2019 at any time. Please consider designating Cross of Christ as the recipient, as these gifts are much appreciated! Please contact your Thrivent agent for more information.

**Missions:** In September, \$200 was sent to Lutheran Disaster Response for Hurricane Dorian. \$50 was received in coffee fellowship donations.

**Harvest Festival donations** will go toward our operating costs, unless otherwise specified.

The **new blinds in Dahlen Hall** have been paid for in full by Dan Schaller memorials and 2 other generous donors.

**Memorial/donation suggestions:**

If you'd like to give a memorial or other donation to Cross of Christ, but aren't sure where you want it to go, the Special Funds offer some options. These are:

**Scholarship** (to support Cross of Christ youth attending a Christian college),

**Community Picnic** (to support the annual fall picnic),

**Building and Grounds** (general fund for building projects),

**Accessibility/kitchen** (funds earmarked for accessible bathrooms and kitchen upgrades in Dahlen Hall),

**Education** (supports Sunday school, VBS and adult education),

**For Those In Need** (used at Pastor's discretion to help people in need),

**Missions** (used at the discretion of the Mission Committee to respond to community and worldwide needs),

**Music** (to purchase music for the choir and contemporary Sunday),

**Parsonage Expense Fund** (used to cover expenses associated with the parsonage),

**Youth** (used to fund youth outings)

Undesignated memorials go into their own Fund, to be used at the council's discretion. If you would like more information on specific giving options, please contact Rebecca.

**2020 offering envelopes** will be available by the end of Nov. If you have received envelopes in the past and no longer wish to, OR if you'd like to start using them, just let Rebecca know.

The **Kwik Trip card** sales have made a big difference for us. If you frequent Kwik Trip, contact Julie Schriefels at 388-2326 to buy some pre-paid cards. A portion of your purchase price comes directly to Cross of Christ. It is a very easy way to support your church!

The **Simply Giving Program** allows you to have your church offering automatically deducted from your checking or savings account, biweekly or monthly. Please contact Rebecca Peterson for help with setting up scheduled donations through Simply Giving.

If you make any purchase on **Amazon.com**, you can designate .5% of your order to come to Cross of Christ by using **smile.amazon.com** instead, and designating us as the recipient.

The next Finance meeting will be **Wed, November 6, 7:00 pm at church**. Detailed reports of income and expenditures are always available upon request.

Rebecca Peterson, Treasurer

[crossofchristtreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:crossofchristtreasurer@gmail.com)

651-301-2652



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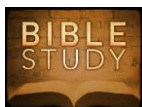
## Kwik Trip Cards



— Help support our Building Maintenance Fund by buying Kwik Trip cards. The cards can be used to purchase anything at Kwik Trip from gas, groceries and car washes to anything else they sell. Available in **\$10, \$20, \$25, \$50 and \$100**. You pay the amount of

the card being purchased; the church makes 5% of the sales and another 10% for non-fuel purchases made with the cards. Contact Julie Schreifels to purchase at [hjschreif@live.com](mailto:hjschreif@live.com) or 651-388-2326. The **next order** will be put in on **Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>** and will be available during church on Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to those who have ordered Kwik Trip Cards.

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## WELCA Bible Study

WELCA Bible Study will meet November 12<sup>th</sup> at 9am at Cross of Christ in Dahlen Hall. Deacon Todd will

lead bible lesson. Janelle Lahr is hostess

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## That's My Pan sale

Personalized pans and many other items. Great for bringing items to events. They also make fantastic presents: weddings, showers, birthdays, other special events and of course Christmas!! *Take orders from friends and family* either using the Fundraiser Order



Form or Better have them go to our web site [www.thatsmypan.biz/WELCA2019](http://www.thatsmypan.biz/WELCA2019)  
*We will send in bulk orders on the following dates: Nov. 15 & Dec. 1*

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The next Red Cross Blood drive will be held on Thursday **November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019** from Noon-6:00PM. If you are interested in helping or donating blood, please contact

Julie Schreifels. Thank you!!

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## Missions

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### Mission Updates:

*Please* continue to save your Family Fare store receipts! Both Cross of Christ and Cannon River churches are collecting receipts and participating in this great mission outreach. Remember that only the store receipts are valid; no e-receipts.



***To date, our collection totals \$91,000!!***

**When** the receipts total \$150,000, we will receive a check for \$1,000 which will go to Feed My Starving Children.

We have already reached this goal twice, and are now on our third collection. It's amazing!

**Shop, bring your receipts to church** and we will support children who are hungry! **Thank you,** the Mission Committee

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### Thanksgiving Meal Donation

**Thank you for being part of the "Turkey Team"!**



Thank you to everyone who made a donation to provide holiday meals to families through Hastings Family Service. We have been able to provide meals to families who would go without them at Thanksgiving.

Your outreach to help others is so appreciated!  
Thank you!

The Mission Committee

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### Greetings for Gabby

On October 27th, the Sunday school kids got together to make birthday cards and create Christmas greetings for our friend Gabby in Tanzania. Gabby turns 14 in December. We want to sincerely thank the SS teachers and kids... these personal greetings and gifts mean so much to her. As we've done in the past, these items are sent from us to the Tanzania Children's Fund headquarters in Cambridge, Massachusetts. They are then hand delivered to the Rift Valley Children's Village by volunteers making the trip for the holidays.

Kris, Sue, Rhonda, Ann  
Missions Committee

# Christmas Shoebox Project for Hope Coalition

*Helping families in crisis rebuild their lives.*

Please join our Sunday school children in remembering others this Christmas!

**The mission committee is sponsoring our annual Christmas Shoebox Project for Hope Coalition.**



Hope Coalition provides assistance to individuals and families who are homeless or struggling with housing. This holiday season we are going to help people in Red Wing find a little happiness on Christmas.

Please help them by filling a Christmas shoebox and reminding them that there are people who care. **(The greatest need this year is for men.)**

**There will be a display in the back of the church on November 10th** with forms that you can use, or if you receive this electronically, you can print the form. The instructions are on it!! Feel free to take a plastic container for your shoebox, or you can cover a shoebox with wrapping paper, if you wish.

**Please return your shoebox and place it in the back of the church by December 8<sup>th</sup>!**

**Thank you for sharing your love on Christmas!!**

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## Youth

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**Sunday School:** We will continue with our a new curriculum from Sparkhouse Digital we will be using the Whirl Lectionary, the lessons coordinate with the Gospel lessons for the church services.

Robin is preparing the Christmas Program and we will begin practicing songs and program parts in November.

*If you are interested in helping with Sunday school in any way please let Julie Schreifels know.*

### **Activities & Reminders:**

November 3 – Daylight Savings “Fall back”

November 10 - Sue H. Shoe Box Mission information KIDS SING  
During church service

November 24 – No Sunday School – Thanksgiving break

### **Mission Projects:**

Weekly offering will be used towards the assistance of Gabby, a child in Tanzania. The Sunday school students made cards for Gabby to be sent for Christmas and her birthday.



**Noisy Offering:** Each Sunday we pass around a globe for the children to put *coins* in for a “noisy” offering.



**Send some coins with the kids for this offering.**

Julie Schreifels

Sunday School Superintendent [hjschreif@live.com](mailto:hjschreif@live.com) h. 651-388-2326  
c. 507-990-7024



The next **WELCA meeting will be Wednesday, November 13<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm.** The agenda will include: TOW, Blood Drive, Triennial Gathering fundraising, Women's Retreat, other.

**That's My Pan sale.** Personalized pans and many other items. Great for bringing items to events. They also make fantastic presents: weddings, showers, birthdays, other special events and of course Christmas!! *Take orders from friends and family* either using the Fundraiser Order Form or Better have them go to **our** web site **[www.thatsmypan.biz/WELCA2019](http://www.thatsmypan.biz/WELCA2019)** *Orders will be placed on the following dates, if we have at least 10 new items ordered: Nov. 15 & Dec. 2*

**Red Cross Blood Drive:** Our next Blood Drive will be November 7<sup>th</sup> from 12:00-6:00. Come and donate blood-Save lives.

**Days for Girls Kits:** We are continuing to work on this necessary mission project. Contact Joan Slingsby or Julie Schreifels for more details or go to the web site **[www.DaysforGirls.org](http://www.DaysforGirls.org)** .

**Taste of Welch:** THANK YOU to all who made this another successful fundraiser!! We made approximately \$2,500 after most expenses were subtracted. We will determine the mission and charitable organizations that we will donate to at the November meeting.



The Eleventh Triennial Gathering of the Women of the ELCA will be held in Phoenix, AZ July 16-19, 2020. There will be a small group of us going, if you would like to join us talk to Julie Schreifels. The That's My Pan and possibly other fundraisers will help with expenses.

## Pie



Pie Auction  
November 24 after church

Proceeds will go to help those going to the Triennial.

Let Julie know if you will be donating pies.

We will need an auctioneer.

**2020 Women's Retreat:** January 24-26, 2020 Cedar Valley Resort, Whalen, MN (near Lanesboro). Come join us for a fun, relaxing, inspiring weekend. Pastor Karna Marks will once again be leading our program. *This year's study topic will be centered on Brene Brown's book "Rising Strong". "Rising Strong" is the Easter story of our lives - how we rise again and again -new every morning.* See the attached registration form for more details or contact Julie Schreifels or Mary Fjetland.

### Future Events:

**Red Cross Blood Drive:** Thursday, November 7, 2019 12-6 pm

**Christmas Smorgasbord:** Sunday, December 8 5:00pm

**2020 Women's Retreat:** January 24-26, 2020 Cedar Valley Resort, Whalen, MN

**11<sup>th</sup> Triennial Gathering:** July 16-19, 2020 Phoenix, Arizona

**Officers: President: Julie Schreifels Vice- President: Tracy Harth Secretary: Joan Slingsby Treasurer: Jean Kehren**

**Kitchen Committee: Doris Gruber, Joan Slingsby, Jean Kehren, Janet Daley & Sandy Luhman.**

**God go with you! Your sister in Christ,**

**Julie Schreifels** phone: 651-388-2326 cell: 507-990-7024 email [hjschreif@live.com](mailto:hjschreif@live.com)

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## **Cross of Christ Joint Council Minutes Draft**

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*Faithful through Generations*

**October 8, 2019**

*Present:* President Ron Hanson, Vice-President Joan Slingsby, Robin Nelson-Williams, Jean Kehren, Ann Kulla, Duke Bjorklund, Jon Peterson, Jim Gustafson, Rhonda Meyer, Dana Dinndorf, Deacon Todd Portinga and Parish Secretary Deanna Gehloff

The meeting was called to order by President Ron Hanson and the mission statement was read.

The agenda was approved with two additions under new business and the September meeting minutes were approved with a small wording correction under finance.

### Unfinished Business

#### **\*Deacons Report**

Todd talked briefly about his time away and some of the places they stayed. He appreciated being able to take time off. Confirmation started on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, with five students. This coming Sunday Cross of Christ will have a baptism.

#### **\*Dahlen Hall Windows, Blinds**

Ken and Joan Slingsby installed all the new window blinds and valances. All agreed they look great. Thank you to Ken and Joan.

#### **\*Kitchen-Bathroom**

Joe Tousignant from JTS will work on providing a bid. It was decided to wait until that bid is received to make comparisons and proceed from there.

### New Business

#### **\*November Council Person-Jean Kehren**

#### **\*Sign**

A portion of the sign along Hwy 61 was damaged by the wind some time ago. This portion had our Sunday school and Worship times on

it. Ron took it upon himself and got a bid from Signworx in Red Wing. The quote came in around \$520 and included a new frame and can be completed and installed within a week.

***A motion was made and seconded have Signworx complete the project and the funds to be taken from the “to be designated memorials” to pay for it. –Motion Passed***

\*Harvest Festival

The annual Harvest Festival is planned for after service on Sunday November 3<sup>rd</sup>. during the meal a dedication will be made for the windows and air conditioners. Council will once again serve the potluck meal and provide the beverages.

\*Those in Need

A brief discussion was held in regards to a couple that has stopped by the church and have asked for donations on several occasions within a few months. It was discuss to possibly get gift cards to accommodate the needs, like Kwik Trip for gas or Aldi’s for food. Todd was going to look into the Hope Coalition in Red Wing as well.

Committee Reports-

Finance

***A motion was made and seconded to have the Harvest Festival donations go towards operating costs. –Motion Passed***

The finance department recommended having October, November and December Parsonage rent go towards operating costs. ***A motion was made and seconded this recommendation, but to hold off until the end of December 2019 to transfer funds. –Motion Passed***

Other financials were discussed briefly.

***A motion was made and seconded to approve the Financial Secretary’s reports as written. –Motion Passed***

\*Property Management

Duke is still working on the lights and will look for help from Wayne Gehloff.

The septic project is still in the works.

\*Worship and Music

They will meet on Sept 22<sup>nd</sup>. Kris will start picking the hymns for service. Extra voices are needed for choir.

\*Missions



Thanksgiving food project is still going on until October 27<sup>th</sup>.

\*Stewardship

A meeting will take place on October 20<sup>th</sup> and will be finalizing the Harvest Festival and Stewardship letter.

The meeting was adjourned and the Lord's Prayer was recited.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 6:30pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Deanna Gehloff

Parish Secretary

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History Moment

By Janet Daley

### **CONSOLIDATION**

120 years ago - the Cannon River, Welch and Prairie Island churches consolidated to become one parish but continued as three separate congregations in 1899. Images of the three churches can be found on a commemorative plate.



Back in 1877 the Vasa, Welch and Cannon River churches met to consolidate congregations to no, avail.

Early in 1960 a resolution by the Prairie Island congregation to consolidate with the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran church of Welch (or Welch Lutheran as it had come to be more commonly known) was made. The Welch Lutheran church unanimously accepted Prairie Island members. The newly merged groups chose the name Cross of Christ Lutheran as their new church designation.

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## Christmas Smorgasbord *Come and Celebrate the Season!*



Our annual Christmas Smorgasbord will be held on Sunday, December 8th, in Dahlen Hall. Please arrive at 5:30pm and bring a dish to pass; beverages and tableware will be provided. Lynette and Ron Hanson will once again prepare the Lutefisk!!

After dinner, we will celebrate the season! We'd like to share your many talents during a program after dinner. **Please let Sue or Jackie know if you have a talent that you're willing to share – children and adults!** We'd love to hear from you!

**What is your best Christmas present?** Please tell us about this gift and the story behind it!

We'll also play a game and you have a chance to win a prize!

So, bring the whole family, invite a friend, and enjoy a wonderful evening of holiday celebration.

***The Sunday school children will be singing!!!!***

***Please help your child attend.***

Sue Hill and Jackie Martin

# Christmas Shoebox Project for Hope Coalition

*Helping families in crisis rebuild their lives.*

Hope Coalition provides assistance to individuals and families who are homeless or struggling with housing. This holiday season we are going to help homeless people in Red Wing find a little happiness on Christmas.

Please help them by filling a Christmas shoebox and reminding them that there are people who care for them. **This is what you do:**

- **choose a category below**, buy items for that child/adult, **circle** who you are buying for
- **wrap the bottom and top of a shoe box** separately with Christmas paper, but don't seal the box – **or use a plastic container provided in the back of the church.**
- put your items **and circled slip from below in the box**
- return by **Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>** to the back of the church

**Thank you for sharing your love on Christmas!!  
(The greatest need is for men; thank you.)**

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**\*\*needs for all boxes are winter hats-gloves-mittens-scarves-socks\*\*  
and a prayer! (no food, please)**

## **4-7 year olds**

toothbrush, toothpaste  
socks  
coloring book, crayons  
Bible story book

## **8-12 year olds**

toothpaste, toothbrush  
socks  
markers, activity book  
Bible

## **Teens**

toothpaste, toothbrush  
socks, deodorant  
pens, notepad  
Bible

## **Adult Man**

toothbrush, toothpaste  
socks, deodorant,  
razor, shaving cream  
card game  
Bible

## **Adult Woman**

toothpaste, toothbrush  
socks, deodorant  
lotion, travel size kleenex  
pens, notepad  
Bible



## Christmas Project

Once again Cross of Christ will be participating in the Adopt-A-Family Christmas Program.



A Christmas tree will be displayed in the back of the church with tags. Please take a tag and buy the gift listed on it for the Adopt-a-Family Christmas Project.

Please return the gifts unwrapped, by **Sunday December 15th**. Any questions please contact Lynette Hanson at (651) 380-7814

Thank you!!