



JEDI Tool Shed

one seed at a time

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S STITCH

SEEDS COME IN ALL SIZES



Hello friends.

This was the first summer in many years that I didn't have a garden filled with a variety of flowers and vegetables. Instead, I had a few small pots, with tomatoes, zucchini and flowers, filling my small apartment patio. While my harvest wasn't nearly enough to do much with besides eat a few BLTs and a make a loaf of zucchini bread, I was still grateful to be able to tend to my plants and enjoy the fruits of my labor.



Building community is like that. Sometimes, we have the space to do big things- host a neighborhood picnic, volunteer for the annual church rummage sale, or coach a youth soccer team. And other times, we need to shift to a smaller space, where inviting a neighbor for coffee or standing and chatting with a stranger who just needs someone to talk to is enough.



No matter the size, each seed we plant, tend to, and celebrate meaningful and necessary for all.



Come and sow with us!! There is room for you here, too!

Dawn Espe, Executive Director



Bring a friend!

Gaymes and Prizes
Friends and Community
Egg bake, fruit, pastries and beverages
First Congregational Church (UCC)
in Brainerd

[RSVP](#)

PRIDE

in the

PARK

Brainerd Lakes Area Celebration

Join us September 12th for our annual
Pride in the Park celebration. With lots
of vendors, food, live entertainment,
silent auction, and more!
It's a family-friendly event for everyone!

[LEARN MORE](#)



Medicine Ball Film Screening

WHERE BASKETBALL BECOMES CEREMONY

Monday, October 12th at 7:00pm
Gichi-ziibi Center for the Arts, Brainerd
Medicine Ball follows Native college athletes,
Lexus Redthunder and Leroy Staples
Fairbanks IV, as they navigate college life
and basketball at the University of
Minnesota Morris located on the site of a
former Native boarding school.

[ABOUT THE FILM](#)



Community Impact Fair

CROSBY: SEPTEMBER 19 11AM-2PM

This family friendly event is designed to inspire
civic engagement and strengthen democratic
participation across rural Minnesota
communities. It will feature hands-on action
booths, educational presentations, and
community dialogue that empower residents to
learn, act, and connect around civic life.

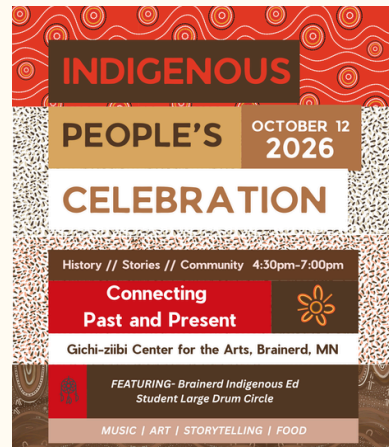
[MORE INFO HERE](#)



Chatty Hour

Chatty Hour is a “drop-in” opportunity designed to foster meaningful conversations, reduce loneliness, and build new connections through simple, low-stakes interactions.

[MORE INFO AND DATES](#)



Join us!

This 4th annual event includes music, demonstrations, vendors and a community meal. We are honored to be joined by the Mille Lacs Band Color Guard and the Indigenous Ed large drum student group.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Third Space Thursdays

SEPTEMBER 24TH AND OCTOBER 22ND

6:30-8:00pm

Lil Fish Studio, Franklin Art Ctr, Brainerd
All are welcome in this inclusive, gender-affirming, creative, and welcoming space. Hands on activities, snacks and beverages provided. FREE to attend!!

[DETAILS HERE](#)



September 10-19, 2026

NATIONWIDE CELEBRATION

This annual campaign that celebrates the work in communities to become welcoming places for all, including immigrants. Welcoming Week provides individuals and organizations the opportunity to showcase their values through events and initiatives that foster connections and collaboration between immigrants and non-immigrants, as well as belonging for all.

[FIND EVENTS NEAR YOU](#)

Other Community Happenings

Healing the Healthcare System:
The Case for Universal Healthcare in MN

EDUCATION FORUM

Saturday, October 3
1p-3p

Lutheran Church of the Cross
5064 County Rd 13
Nisswa, MN

Community discussion includes 5 local panelists (healthcare providers, administrators and patients)

There are currently about 250,000 Minnesotans without any health insurance, and at least a million more who have insurance, but still cannot afford their medical bills.

Keynote Speaker:
Senator John Marty
Senator Marty is the author of the proposed Minnesota Health Plan, a single statewide plan that would cover everyone for all their medical needs, while saving money through prevention, efficiency, and eliminating bureaucracy.

Join the discussion and learn more about Universal Healthcare in MN.

Free!
Bring a Friend!

Hosted by:
People for Informed Communities
Lutheran Church of the Cross - Creation Care Team

SPONSORS:

League of Women Voters
Youth, The Clinic
Brainerd Lakes Area Indivisible
Northern Neighbors
ADW
The Sowing Room
The Justice Table

CLC CENTRAL LAKES COLLEGE

SAVE THE DATE!

CELEBRATION of NATIONS

A MULTICULTURAL CELEBRATION OF ALL PEOPLES

OCTOBER 7TH
3:00pm - 7:00pm

FOOD (PURCHASE AVAILABLE) DANCE TRADITIONAL DRESS LANGUAGE AND MORE!

CENTRAL LAKES COLLEGE
501 W. College Dr.
Brainerd, MN 56401

FREE TO ATTEND!
FOOD WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

VENDORS AND PERFORMERS CAN SIGN UP BY EMAILING
Amanda Small
amanda.small@clcmn.edu

SPONSORED BY Sourcewell

Donations are always welcome- big or small

Every dollar helps to bring inclusive places and spaces to rural communities



- *General Operating Fund
- *Third Space Thursdays
- *2SLGBTQIA+ Programs
- *Care Team

Please indicate which project/program you would like your donation to impact.

Stay connected

WE LOVE HEARING FROM YOU!!

What seeds need planting in your community?

DROP US A LINE!

@thesowingroommn | director@sowingroom.org

WWW.SOWINGROOM.ORG/CALENDAROFEVENTS