Oct 12	<b>Worship</b> Sunday School	<b>8:30/10:30</b> 9:30am	
	Council Meeting	7:00pm	~
Mon	Library reserved	6-8pm	SAVE THE DATE
	Kettle Bells	6:15pm	COM
Tues	Kettle Bells	5:30am	COMING
	Men's Bible Study	6:15, 7am	
Wed	NO WOW		
	<b>NO</b> Confirmation		
	Financial Peace University	7:00pm	
	NO Kettle Bells	-	
Thurs	NO Kettle Bells		
Sat	Worship	5:30pm	
Sun	Worship	8:30/10:30	
	Sunday School	9:30am	

#### **Communion - October 19**

#### **Coming up in October**

19	Baptism – Linde, FH reserved 10:30-2:30
20	Follower deadline
22	NO WOW or Kettlebells
22	Confirmation Banquet – grade 10 (serve – grades 8 and 9)
23	Dorcas Circle
23-25	Craft Retreat
26	Confirmation Service – grade 10
26	Altar Guild meeting at 7pm
27	Ruth Circle
28	Assemble the Follower at 1pm
29	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Bible class begins

November 2 - First Communion

#### PRAYERS OF HEALING & STRENGTH

Prayer for	Submitted by	Prayer for	Submitted by
Leslie Sagedahl	D Sagedahl	Diana Adkins	B Hennen
Jean Stadtherr	A Boen	Betty Mowitt	D Boen
Bob Sagedahl	D Sagedahl	Jon Hackmann	M Hackmann
Maddie Travers	K Barta	Kristin Luckey	S Metteer
Kensleigh Luckey	S Metteer		

Paraguay Missionaries – The Kevin and Rebekah Howell family Bolivia Missionaries – Paul and Jay Mikaelson

# PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

For those who provide Confirmation meals!! What a gift to the staff to have the sign-up sheet filled in.

#### **OCTOBER VOLUNTEERS**

Communion 8:30 – D Newville 10:30 – D Altmann Altar Guild E Ziesmer, E Vogt Acolytes J Newville, E Larson Ushers 8:30 - R/G Hagen, J Dotson, J Johnston 10:30 - S/L Johnson



Our annual Confirmation Dinner will be on October 22. We are asking the congregation to please sign up to help with this memorable event by donating food items. The tear sheets are posted on the Conformation bulletin board. Thank you for your contributions!

**SERIOUSLY...need NEW CLICKERS?!?!** Two or three new volunteers would be great! Training takes about 30 minutes, and for the first several times you click, a trained person is sitting with you. How often, and at which service, you'd like to volunteer is up to you. Give Laurie a call 320-523-1574.

**Santa's Closet.** It's never too early to be thinking of donating to Santa's Closet. While you are out and about, keep this ministry in mind. Keep an eye out for a drop off box in the entry way.



**Confirmation Suppers.** Would you consider working with a friend/family to prepare and serve a simple meal to our confirmation student on Wed nights? Approximately 25 kids roll in after school activities...hungry for supper and for time spent with Pastor and the small group leaders! The meal is served from 5:45 to 6:20. The confirmation parents are the first to volunteer, but there are more class dates than families. More information and a sign-up sheet are on the BOARD.

**Reminder** - There is a locked mailbox outside the office door for notes, offering envelopes, registrations, etc. Please do not leave these items on Laurie's desk.

# --General Reminders-

- New Members are welcomed anytime. Contact Pastor or Laurie.
- Contact the office when needing to borrow anything from church.
- The FOLLOWER and weekly bulletin are available at crossofcalvary.net.
- Coffee Hour and Altar Flowers sign-up on the board
- The Faithful 15 is a weekly, 15-minute podcast available on our website and on iTunes.
- The order of service is available in large print at the display rack
- We are no longer accepting used printer or toner cartridges.

# Flowers for the Altar?

- Choose a date and sign up on the Board.
- Call/email the office to indicate what you'd like in the bulletin in celebration of, in honor of, in memory of. Note: without a designation, no reference will be printed.
- Have flowers delivered by 4pm on Saturday (Thursday in the summer).

# Adding loved ones to the Prayer & Praise Lists:

- Please gain permission.
- Please contact Laurie ... even if you have mentioned it to Pastor.
- Names will remain on the list for a maximum of one month.
- Names for the Follower must be submitted before the deadline date.

**Note to all Sunday volunteers:** As a courtesy to all those who volunteer alongside you, please try to find a fill-in whenever you are unable to be at church to serve as an usher, reader, acolyte or to serve communion.

## Worship and Bulletins

- The <u>order of worship</u> is the larger, white handout. Please return it after Saturday 5:30 and Sunday 8:30 services for use at later services.
- The <u>bulletin</u> (announcements) is the smaller, colored handout. Please take just one per family.

## CHECK THE COMMUNITY BOARD - East Entrance

(take-home fliers often available)

- Oct. 12/13 Dementia Education at Willmar Evangelical Free Church.
- Oct. 12 Fall Dinner and Bazaar at St. Al's
- Oct. 15 BOLD FFA Pancake Breakfast, 6-9am, Bold Ag room
- The food shelf is in desperate need of used plastic grocery bags. Drop them off at the food shelf, please.
- Oct. 25 WELCA Fall Bazaar at St. Luk's, Franklin





Any folks from Cross of Calvary who want to help with the benefit, please contact Michelle Erickson at michelle-erickson@hotmail.com

**God's Story** Your Story

October 12, 2014

**Devotion:** Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions. You can do this alone, as a couple, as a family; in the morning,

during the day, or at night. Find a routine that works best for you.

**Pray:** Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer. God of renewed hope, you reestablished your covenant with the people of Israel after you led them into the Promised Land. Remind us of all that you have done for us, so that we might live in gratitude for your faithfulness, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**Reflect:** Reflect on the key verse from Sunday's reading. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord. Joshua 24:15

**Study:** Study the reading and consider the background.

The first generation of Israelites to be freed from slavery in Egypt proved unfaithful to God, creating and worshiping idols for themselves, despite the overwhelming evidence that God had just delivered them from bondage. As a punishment for their wickedness, God did not allow them to enter the Promised Land, but instead they wandered the wilderness for 40 years; essentially a generation.

The second generation of Israelites were given the gift that their ancestors were denied. God led them into the Promised Land. The land God promised to Abraham and his descendants had finally been given to them. God remained faithful to God's promise to Abraham, even when God's people remained unfaithful to God.

**Read:** Read the following daily readings to deepen your understanding of Sunday's text. After the reading, ask the follow-up questions.

Follow the story of how Samuel became the judge who anointed David as king.

Sunday, Joshua 24:1-15, Joshua Renews the Covenant

Monday, 1 Samuel 1:1-28, *Samuel's Birth and Dedication* Tuesday, 1 Samuel 3:1-18, *Samuel's Calling and Prophecies* Wednesday, 1 Samuel 7:3-15, *Samuel as Judge* Thursday, 1 Samuel 8:1-22, *Israel Demands a King* Friday, 1 Samuel 9:27 – 10:8, *Saul Anointing as King* Saturday, 1 Samuel 16:1-13, *David Anointed as King* Why did the people want a king? What did God want for the people? How did Samuel choose the kings?

**Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household. Discuss the following questions, or simply check in with "Highs" and "Lows."

- What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?
- How are leaders in your community chosen? What might it look like to trust in God rather than trusting in people?
- What covenants or agreements have you made with God? Are these healthy (commitment to follow) or unhealthy (bargaining) agreements? What commitment can you make to God this week?

**Do:** By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Participate in a political event. Decide what you stand for. Stand for it.

**Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing. God of grace, your word inspires our faith. Speak so that we may clearly see the options we face and have wisdom to choose those that draw us to you. Amen.

OCTOBER 12, 2014



# Sharing GOD'S STORY @ home

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK — Joshua said to the Children of Israel, "... As for me and my household, we will serve

the Lord."—Joshua 24:15

**PRAYER FOR THE WEEK**—To be used in a variety of ways over the course of the week—first thing in the morning; before you go to bed; as an opening or closing to household devotion time (see reverse); etc.

God of the Story—You have kept Noah, Abraham and Sarah, Moses, and the Children of Israel through flood and wilderness. You have made promises to us to do the same. Help us to see you. Help us to serve you. Amen.

<u>A BLESSING TO SHARE</u>—A blessing can be a powerful ritual that reminds us of God's promises and presence, both through the words, as well as the touch that we share. This can be used as a "good-bye." It could be used as a bed-time blessing. Be creative in the way you bless and are blessed by the people in your life.

As you mark one another with the sign of the cross on the forehead, say,

"Choose this day whom you will serve. As for me and our house, we will serve the Lord. Amen."

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS**—The scope of our readings follow the Children of Israel's growth from a wandering band of nomads, to a loose confederation of tribes ruled by a military judge, to a nation with land and a king, over roughly 400 years. As with previous parts of our story, even through some rather violent episodes, the point is less about the faithfulness of God's people and the heroism of their leaders and more about the faithfulness of GOD to God's people. (In fact, if you were to read some of what is left out in between each day's readings, you would discover just how flawed many of these "heroes" really were.)

Sunday	Joshua 24:1-15	Joshua Renews the Covenant
Monday	Judges 6:1-17, 36-40	The Call of Gideon, the Judge
Tuesday	Judges 7:1-21	Gideon Delivers the Israelites from Midian
Wednesday	Judges 16:1-31	The Judge, Samson
Thursday	1 Samuel 8:1-22, 10:17-19	Israel Demands a King; Saul Anointed King
Friday	1 Samuel 16:1-23	David Anointed King
Saturday	Psalm 72:1-14	A King After God's Own Heart
Sunday	2 Samuel 12:1-9	David and Bathsheba
	Psalm 51:1-9	

If your household includes younger children, use a child-friendly Bible like the Spark! Picture Bible (Augsburg Fortress) or The Jesus Storybook Bible (Zondervan). The Children's Illustrated Bible (New Leaf Press) is a good Bible for young readers that also includes nice illustrations and explanations. Often, you might find that the children's bible you are using may not include the very story assigned for the DAILY BIBLE READINGS. Read to your kids anyway. Just pick a story!

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<u>CARING CONVERSATIONS</u>—Each week, a topic for discussion is introduced that is connected to the weekly theme introduced by Sunday's Bible reading. This topic can be used at any time during the week. But it is not by any means the only Caring Conversation you can have—try checking in with "Highs & Lows" (What was the best/worst part of your day?) or "God moments" (Where do you think you saw God's love active and present today?). The main point is to be on the look-out for opportunities to move your household's talk from the surface toward intimacy.

- In the reading from Joshua this week, Joshua gathers the Children of Israel together and helps them review their story of how God has been with them. Starting with the "Noah's Ark" story from the beginning of September, can you review where you've been through this story?
- After reviewing the stories that have been read in worship (some of which are mentioned in Joshua's speech), talk about which one has been your favorite and why.
- Sometimes Christian households include some decorations in their house that indicate what Joshua says in this week's reading: "As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15). It might be a cross or a picture or even Joshua's very words. Talk about what your household has in it that points to Joshua's words.

**DEVOTIONS**—One way of thinking about devotions is as a continuation of our community's worship, or at least as a connection with it. The following basic pattern could be one way of forming your household's devotions:

- Gathering Prayer—This might include a lit candle; the PRAYER FOR THE WEEK from the front; or a suggestion from the RITUAL & TRADITION below.
- Caring Conversation—As suggested above, this could be as simple as a daily check in with each other or an extended conversation using the topic(s) suggested above.
- Daily Bible Reading—Read aloud from the DAILY BIBLE READING from the front. What do you want to remember from this reading? Households with small children might simply review the basics of the story read from an age-appropriate Bible.
- Closing Ritual—Some way of signaling the end: A BLESSING TO SHARE from the front; the Lord's Prayer; or a song, either sung or recorded. If you used a candle, extinguish it as a sign of the end of the devotion time.

Note: This is only a suggested pattern. It will vary with YOUR household's context and patterns. What works best for you? First thing in the morning? Over breakfast? Bed time? Even if you don't have children in your household, or if you live alone, be creative and flexible with how you practice and keep your devotions.

#### SERVICE — SERVICE is how we enact God's great love for the entire world.

According to Joshua 24:14, the Children of Israel's responses to all that God has done are two-fold: worship ("...revere the Lord") and service ("...serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness"). Our offerings at worship may be one place where those two come together for us. Could your household put together some sort of "collection box" for loose change that could be dedicated to some mission or ministry?

**<u>RITUALS & TRADITIONS</u>**—Since SERVICE is at the heart of this week's text, focus on that part of building a "holy habit" with your household.

The "4-Key Faith Practices"—Caring Conversation, Devotion, Service, and Ritual & Traditions—are part of a framework developed by Vibrant Faith Ministries, Bloomington, MN and used by permission. For more information about the Vibrant Faith Frame, go to www.vibrantfaith.org/free-information/vibrant-faith-frame/.