**January 1, 2017**

**Devotion:** Use this resource at home to guide your household’s daily devotions. You can do this alone or with others; 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.

**O Lord, sometimes we encounter you in unexpected places. May we meet you with joy and honor you in our speaking and acting. In your holy name we pray, Amen.**

**Reflect:** Reflect on the key verses from Sunday’s reading.

***Simeon took [Jesus] in his arms and praised God, saying, “Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.” And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him.* Luke 2:28-33**

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

Only eight days old, and Jesus is already making waves in the temple. Two long suffering servants, Simeon and Anna, are about to have the moment for which they have spent their lives waiting.

**Consider:** Consider this theme for the week’s text.

If we pay attention, we might recognize Jesus in unexpected places in the new year.

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

Sunday: *Simeon and Anna,* Luke 2:21-38

Monday: *Purification of a Woman after Childbirth,* Leviticus 12:1-8

Tuesday: *The Law Concerning Dedication of Firstborns,* Exodus 13:1-16

Wednesday: *Levites Become Substitutes for Firstborns,* Numbers 3:40-51

Thursday: *God’s Servant,* Isaiah 42:1-9

Friday: *The Boy Jesus Is Found in the Temple,* Luke 2:39-52

Saturday: *Laws Concerning Festivals,* Exodus 23:10-17

**What kinds of rites and rituals are tied to infants in Jesus’ day?**

**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?**

**Where do you see Jesus in the world? Where would you like to see Jesus in the world?**

**What’s the meaning of your name? Do you have a title or an identity? How does your name, title, or identity shape how behave in the world? How does it shape how people treat you? How can you honor your family name? How can your name honor you?**

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

**Volunteer to work in your church’s nursery. While you are there, pay attention to each child. Get to know their name and who their parents are. If they are infants, sing to them. If they are toddlers, play with them. If they are preschoolers, find out their favorite color, animal, and song. Praise God for the gift of children.**

**Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God bless you with wisdom to share with future generations. Amen.

**Mission**

Paraguay Missionaries – The Kevin & Rebekah Howell family

Bolivia Missionaries – Paul and Jay Mikaelson

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**Prayer Concerns**

*Prayer Matters! Please take your bulletin home and pray for those listed.*

*Prayer concerns are listed for one month.*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Pray for: | *Submitted by:* | Pray for: | *Submitted by:* |
| Warren Mitchell | *Cole Family* | **Diana Adkins** | *B Hennen* |
| Vonna Ledeboer | *A Ledeboer* | **Jill Revolinski** | *C Mallek* |
| Family of  Red Fostvedt | *Pastor Matt* | **Greg & Evelyn Rosenow** | *Teeny Kadelbach* |
| Leslie Sagedahl | *Daren Sagedahl* | **Caryn Jandl** | *Karen Barta* |
| Joe Besledahl | *Mattie family* | **Pat Aalderks** | *Pastor Matt* |
| Family of Abbie McGregor | *A & H Thompson* | **Family of LaVone Wurm** | *Pastor Matt* |
|  |  | **Family of Carol Johnson** | *Ryan Johnson* |

Emergency/Pastoral Care-Please have a family member or friend notify the church. You may also request hospital staff to call on your behalf. Call day or night at 523-1574. Never feel as though you are bothering Pastor or the staff. We are here to serve as a comfort and as a resource.

**Ushers needed for the 2017 church year.**

**The week of Jan. 1 – Jan. 8**

Today Worship 9:00 am

Mon Library reserved 6-8 pm

Tues Men’s Bible Study 6:15/7:00 am

Wed WOW 3:15

Confirmation 6:30 pm

Thur Breakfast Club

Fri MIA 6:00 pm

Sat Worship 5:30 pm

Sun Worship 8:30 am & 10:30 am

Dates needed: January late service (2), April late service(2), September early services (2), October early services (2) and 1 ushers for January early service, May early service, August service, November early service. Please contact either Daren Sagedahl or the church office. Thank you for volunteering!!

**JANUARY VOLUNTEERS**

Communion – 8:30 - Bobbi Kopel/10:30 – Jon Hawkinson

Altar Guild – Ronda Berg & Tami Stovern

Acolytes – Noah Boen & Ben Whited

Usher – 8:30 – Greg Mertens, Trey Mertens, Bill Kopel

**10:30 – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

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**COMMUNITY BOARD**

CHECK THE EAST BULLETIN BOARD for more information /details

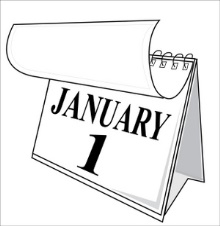
**Confirmation Suppers.** Would you consider working with a friend/family to prepare and serve a simple meal to our confirmation student on Wed nights? Approximately 25 kids roll in after school activities…hungry for supper and for time spent with Pastor and the small group leaders! The meal is served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

**Dates with openings: Jan. 4, 18, 25, Feb. 1, 8, 15 and 2**

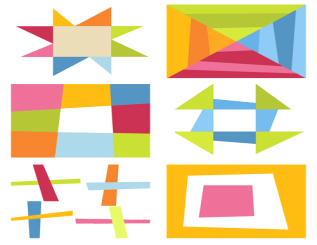
**Reformation Events:**

**January:** MIA Luther Exhibit on January 6th at 6:00 pm Cost of ticket is $12.00 per person. Tickets available from Pastor

Matt or sign up on The Board.

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**Check out the calendars on the table by youth board. A great way to get a wonderful calendar and help with the sign fundraising!!! (Thank you Dr. Buhr)**



**Quilters will start the 1st Thursday in January at 9:00 am**

Come and go open house baby shower for Sara Benson to be held Saturday, January 21, 2017, from 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Cross of Calvary Lutheran Church in Olivia. Sara and Mike are expecting a Baby Boy in February and are registered at Target. Grandparents are Kenten & Joyce Damhof and Jeff & Sandy Benson

**Cross of Calvary Lutheran Church**

**1103 W. Chestnut Ave. Olivia, MN 56277 320-523-1574**

**January 1, 2017**

**Weekly Announcements**

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Cross of Calvary is the ELCA church in Olivia. We are an intergenerational (fancy word for young and old) community that follows Jesus out the building to where we live. We are all learners (disciples) here. This is a safe place to practice worship. And, believe us, it takes practice. Your questions, critical thinking, doubts and imperfect lives are welcome here.

**Holy Communion**

Holy Communion is open to all who are baptized and trust that Christ is present in the meal, regardless of your tradition or affiliation. Wine (red)/grape juice (white).

**Participation**

**Bold type means all of us read or pray together. Out loud.** \* Please stand as you are able.

**Children in Church**

They belong here! They are hearing God’s Word, music and prayers. We don’t mind fidgeting and chatter! If you like, there are activity bags available in the entry.

**Announcements**

They are as printed or any new information please give to Pastor Matt prior to worship, please hand a note to Pastor with any announcements, including prayer requests.

**Restrooms**

They are located in the hallway to the left of the stairs. Changing table located in the Women’s bathroom.

**Pastor Matt and Sarah (and boys) would like to thank everyone who gave a card or gift this holiday season. It is greatly appreciated.**

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**WorshipTimes**

Saturdays: 5:30 pm

Sundays: 8:30 & 10:30

**Coffee Hour**

Sunday at 9:30 am

**Sunday School**

Sunday at 9:30 am

**Building Hours**

Mon-Thurs 8:30-7:00

Fri-Sun 8:30-2:00

**Our Mission**

That all may know the love of God

Matt Hausken

Pastor

[hauskenmatt8@gmail.com](mailto:hauskenmatt8@gmail.com)

Ashley Schmidt

Minister of Faith Formation

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

Sue Altmann

Office Administrator

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

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320-523-1574

Web:crossofcalvay.net

Online giving is now available. Go to website listed above.

**Coming up January**

**WOW & Confirmation resume on Jan.4th**

**January 1 – Service at 9:00 am only**

**January 5 - Quilters begin at 9:00 am**

**January 8 – Sunday School Program at 10:30 am service**

**January 18 – Church Council Meeting at 7:30 am**

**January 22- Annual Meeting at 9:30 am**

**Annual Congregational Meeting**

**January 22, 2017 at 9:30 am**

**(Alternate date: 1/29/2017)**

**-please submit any reports for annual booklet by**

**January 13th!**

**Opportunity to Serve**

Cross of Calvary is accepting applications for the position of Minister of Faith Formation (currently filled by Ashley Schmidt). Please submit applications and any additional office or drop box outside the office door. Any questions regarding the position or process may be directed to Eric Skeie, President of the congregation.

**Please remember to check your mailbox!!**

**Thank you!!**

GOOD GIFTS DONATIONS

**Thank you! The money will go towards a farm for a family in need!!!**

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| --- | --- |
| **Given By:** | In **MEMORY** of |
| David Torgelson | John Torgelson |
| Ron and Linda Fahse | Joni Erickson |
| Edith Vogt | Loved Ones |
| Keith and Stacey Larson | Paul and Mark Vogt; Mildred Larson |
| Mark & Sonia Grasmon | Delmer & Lydia Buerkle; Marv & Alvina Beckman: Marnold Ostby |
| Steve, Sue, Chloe & Lanie Altmann | Paige Altmann & Del Altmann |
| Barb Hausken | Terje Hausken |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Given By:** | In **HONOR** of |
| Doug and Kristi O’Neill | Barry O’Neill |
| Stacey & Keith Larson | Eva, Hanna and Cam Larson |
| Stan and Sue Malecek | Our grandchildren |
| Duane & Karen Flom | Tyler & Gavin Flom; Gabriel & Elijah Suess |

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| **Donation Given By:** |
| Dennis & Karen Barta |
| Rosalie Sheggeby |



**Annual Report Committee & Financial Reports**

I’m writing to make sure everyone is getting ready for the Annual Meeting which will be held on Sunday, January 22nd. Since this is my first “behind the scenes” take on this meeting, I’m not as prepared as soon as I’d like to be, but soon enough to complete on time.

I need the following reports from the following committees:

**Committee Review Reports**

Parish Life

Evangelism

Parish Education

Property

Technology

Youth and Family Ministry

Missions

Worship and Music

**Financial Reports**

Financial Secretary

Altar Guild

Bazaar

Endowment Fund

Lutheran Church Men

Passing on the Faith

Church Women (W.E.L.C.A.)

Youth Account

I truly appreciate your cooperation in getting these reports to me by January 13th so that I have time to prepare the full packets. I would also appreciate it if whomever will be the responsible person for these reports, please email/call me so that I may be aware. That way if things come up, I’ll know who to go too directly.

Thank you so very much and I anxiously wait to hear from you all. Remember, preferred deadline – January 13th.

Sue Altmann

Office Administrator