

***The Follower***

*March 2017*



**25 Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he said, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” 26 He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” 27 He answered, “You shall love the Lord Your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all you strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.” 28 And he said to him, “You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.”**

**Luke 10:25-28**

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**PASTOR’S CORNER**



**A blessed beginning to Lent to all of you. Traditionally Christians have given up something for lent (type of food, TV watching, etc.) And while all these practices are good, I have been recommending picking up a spiritual practice. This can be anything! From adding morning, afternoon, evening prayer to reading a specific book of the bible with someone. Make it a habit. Make it something you will want to continue after Easter and it is always helpful to practice this with another person. When you do this, you hold one another accountable in a great way. Plus, we are given the reminder from Christ “Wherever two or three are gathered, there am I in the midst of them. It is a great way to form truly life changing habits.**

**I would also like to encourage regular Lent Wednesday attendance. Lent is 40 days long, but is you look at a calendar you will notice that there are a few more days in between Ash Wednesday and Easter. Why is this? Sundays are not included in the season of Lent. So, if you want to observe Lent the midweek service is the one for you. During the midweek services this year we will be going through Luther’s Small Catechism. This is truly an amazing work that still has a lot to say to us today. Come and find out what it can say to you and how it can become a part of your daily life. Wednesday services are each Wednesday in Lent at 7 pm. Don’t forget to come for the soups suppers’ right before from 5:30 to 6:30!**

**God’s blessings on a great March and a grace filled Lent!**

**In Christ,**

**Pastor Matt**

**PRAYERS OF HEALING AND STRENGTH**

***Prayer for: Submitted by:***

*Vonna Ledeboer A. Ledeboer*

*Diana Adkins B. Hennen*

*Jill Revolinski C. Mallak*

*Greg & Evelyn Rosenow T. Kadelbach*

*Leslie Sagedahl................................................................................................................Daren Sagedahl*

*Pat Aalderks…..………………………………………………………………………………………………………..Pastor Matt*

*Jenna Reynolds…………………………………………………………………………………………….Stan & Sue Malecek*

*Warren Mitchell ……………………………………………………………………………………………………...Angela Cole*

*Donna Greenwell…………………………………………………………………………………………………...Nancy Berry*

*Extended sympathy to the families of: Family of Marie Peterson*

*Family of Caryn Jandl*

*Family of George Rechkemmer*

| ◄ | **March 2017** | | | | | ► |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sun** | **Mon** | **Tue** | **Wed** | **Thu** | **Fri** | **Sat** |
|  |  |  | 1 Ash Wednesday  Confirmation Meal at 5:45, Class at 6:30 pm  WOW at 3:15 pm  Lent Service 7pm  Soup Supper | 2  Quilters – 9:00 am | 3 | 4  Worship 5:30 pm |
| 5  Worship 8:30/10:30  Communion  “Good Gifts” start | 6  Library Reserved  6:00-8:00 pm | 7  Men’s Bible Study  6:15 am and 7:00 am | 8  Confirmation Meal at 5:45, Class at 6:30 pm  WOW at 3:15 pm  Lent Service 7pm  Soup Supper | 9  Quilters – 9:00 am  Craft Retreat | 10  Senior High Youth Gathering  Craft Retreat | 11  Worship 5:30 pm  Senior High Youth Gathering  Craft Retreat |
| 12  Worship 8:30/10:30….  Sunday School 9:30 | 13  Library Reserved  6:00-8:00 pm | 14  Men’s Bible Study  6:15 am and 7:00 am | 15  Confirmation Meal at 5:45, Class at 6:30 pm  WOW at 3:15 pm  Church Council Mtg. 7:30  Lent Service 7pm  Soup Supper | 16  Quilters – 9:00 am | 17 | 18  Worship 5:30 pm  Baby Shower 9-1  Orth Benefit |
| 19  Worship 8:30/10:33  Sunday School 9:30  Communion | 20  Library Reserved  6:00-8:00 pm  Deadline for Follower information | 21  Men’s Bible Study  6:15 am and 7:00 am | 22  Confirmation Meal at 5:45 Class at 6:30 pm  WOW at 3:15 pm  Lent Service 7pm  Soup Supper | 23  Dorcas Bible Study at 9:30 am at church  Quilters – 9:00 am | 24 | 25  Worship 5:30 pm |
| 26  Worship 8:30/10:30  Sunday School 9:30 am | 27  Library Reserved  6:00-8:00 pm  Ruth Bible Study 1:30 at Parkview | 28  Men’s Bible Study  6:15 am and 7:00 am  Kiwanis will be using the kitchen all day! | 29  Confirmation Meal at 5:45, Class at 6:30 pm  WOW at 3:15 pm  Lent Service 7pm  Soup Supper | **30**  Quilters – 9:00 am | 31 | 1  Worship 5:30 pm |

**MARCH VOLUNTEERS**

**COMMUNION 8:30 – Gordy Blem, 10:30 – Jon Hawkinson**

**USHERS 8:30 – Kirk Elfering, Rich Elbert, Greg Helin & Richard Sigurdson**

**10:30 – Dave Altmann & Dan Beckler**

**ACOLYTES: Jordan Sagedahl & Drew Sagedahl**

**ALTAR GUILD: Deanne Beckler, Marie Rauenhorst, Kristi O’Neil**

**NEEDED: April ushers for the 10:30 service (2)**

**Community and Church Information**

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The Spring 2017 Cross of Calvary Craft Retreat "Ordinary Joy"

will be held March 9-11. For your fee you will get a table to work on, four meals, and wonderful fellowship.

**A Day Set Apart for Women Retreat**

We hope you’ll join us for the 2017 Day Set Apart for Women – Break Every Chain Retreat, Friday and Saturday, March 17th and 18th at Grace Community Church in Olivia, MN. Payments should be written out to Grace Community Church or GCC and can be mailed to: Terri Tuma 650 S. 9th Street Bird Island, MN 55310

**New from the ELCA SW MN Synod!**

Thanks for your congregation’s mission support to our ELCA’s SW MN Synod! We received 100.5% of budgeted mission support in 2016. As a result you shared in the support of ministries in our synod and throughout the world. Our Synod shares mission support (51.5%) to our larger expression, ELCA Church wide. As a result **you were there** as people heard the Gospel, received food, and were supported in times of good and sadness. They were loved by Jesus through “God’s Work. OUR Hands” our ELCA’s calling.

Thanks be to God, **for you!**



**Easter Good Gifts – starts March 5th**

Cross of Calvary Soup Supper Signup sheet has been posted on the “BOARD”.

Please sign up ASAP, to get the date your group prefers. Dates open: March 8 & 15.

We are looking forward to yummy soups, sandwiches and desserts!

**Another chance for wonderful table talk!!!**

**Table talk: informal conversation carried on at meals**

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***LOOKING FOR FABRIC!!***

The weekly “Quilters” are in need of additional fabric to construct and finish their quilts for the season. Flat sheets are ideal for backing and any and all additional fabric/remnants will be used for piecing the patterned quilt fronts. Please bring any fabric donations to the fellowship hall and specify on your bundle that it is for the “Quilters”. ***“Thank You!!”***

**The Woodbury Chorus and Orchestra** will be in Olivia presenting “American Impressions” on Sunday, March 19, 4:00pm at St. Aloysius Catholic Church to benefit the Renville County Food Shelf. This concert will include What Wondrous Love Is This, Wade in the Water, The Promise of Living, etc. The concert is free and no tickets are required. A free will offering will be taken, with 100% of the proceeds to benefit the Renville County Food Shelf.

**Renville County Hospice offers Annual Grief Support Opportunity:** “Walking Through Grief” is sponsored by Renville County Hospice. The sessions will be held on Thursday afternoons March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, April 6, 13 and April 20 from 4:00 to 5:30 pm at the Renville County Hospital (Willette Room), 100 Healthy Way on Olivia. All are welcome and invited. Please call Dawn at 320-523-3451 to register.

Thank you to all that gave during Lutheran Food Shelf month. It is greatly appreciated!!!

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**VBS is June 25th-June 29th, 2017**

**** (Meal starts at 5:30 and I believe VBS starts at 6 or 6:30 and runs to 8:30)

There is a VBS planning meeting for anyone interested in helping out with leadership role on February 28th at 7pm at Our Saviors.

March 14th and 28th: Work nights from 6-8pm at Our Saviors

March 25th: Work day from 10-4 at Our Saviors

April 6th and 20th: Work nights from 6-8pm at Our Saviors

May/June TBD if needed

Many hands make this work light and there are a variety of crafts & fairly simple building projects. Any National Honor Society students seeking volunteer hours would be awesome and I am guessing that PM would offer faith elements for Confirmation students to help out as well.

Senior High Youth Gathering: March 10th & 11th, 2017

**Youth Gathering Theme Song Contest**Calling all musicians and writers! The ELCA Youth Gathering is offering people from across our church the opportunity to submit their original music composition to be selected for the theme song of the 2018 Gathering in Houston, Texas. The contest will run from Feb. 15 to April 15, 2017.  The winner will have an opportunity to perform at the Gathering! For details, visit [ELCA.org/YouthGathering/details/theme-song-contest](https://community.elca.org/page.redir?target=http%3a%2f%2fELCA.org%2fYouthGathering%2fdetails%2ftheme-song-contest&srcid=122454&srctid=1&erid=25624230&trid=cbfe9c82-8ad1-4858-96f7-99b51c443239).



Reminder: We are in need of families, groups, clubs, people to host coffee hour on Sundays. Please sign up on the board in the Narthex. Thank you in advance; it is a wonderful time for table talk!!!!

**Breakfast Club**

Thursday – 7:07am

Grades 9-12

**Sunday School**

Sun. – 9:30-10

3 years old – Grade 9

**WOW**

Wed. – 3:15-5:00pm

Grades 1-6

**Confirmation**

Wednesday

Meal at 5:45pm

Class at 6:30-7:30pm

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**March Birthdays**

**03/01 Lachlan Robideau 03/12 Sonja Fostvedt 03/20 Anne Osthus**

**03/02 Karen Barta 03/12 Lynn Plass 03/20 Cody Dale**

**03/03 Cassandra Adamski 03/12 Tyler Hebrink 03/20 Braylon Bohm**

**03/03 Breanna Grund 03/13 Josie Lilja 03/21 Steve Erickson**

**03/03 Brett Grund 03/13 Mollie Carlin 03/21 Annmarie Suess**

**03/04 Duane Mallak 03/14 Traci Rock 03/21 Justin Schrupp**

**03/04 Katie Bahl 03/14 Nanette Serbus 03/21 Karissa Fliflet**

**03/04 Matthew/Angi Senger 03/14 Jackie Aponte 03/22 Danielle Guetter**

**03/04 Jack Hanson 03/14 Rylan Ridler 03/24 Tammy Schwer**

**03/05 Sandy Padrnos 03/15 Mavis Maurice 03/24 Carson Kubesh**

**03/05 Ashley Gilbertson 03/15 Jeff Dale 03/24 Andrew Holland**

**03/06 Emma Nere 03/15 Drew Sagedahl 03/25 Angie Metteer**

**03/06 Eli Skornicka 03/16 Laurence Stratton 03/26 Jacob Gay**

**03/07 Andrew Baumgartner 03/16 Jesse Lingl 03/27 Sheila Pietig**

**03/07 Emily Erickson 03/16 Tatum Mages 03/27 Parker Revier**

**03/07 Jena Reese 03/16 Gavin Gross 03/27 Peyton Kowalski**

**03/07 Breann Mertens 03/17 Kari Wagner 03/27 Avery Blad**

**03/07 Daniel Newville 03/17 August Schmidt 03/29 William Neubauer**

**03/09 Bryon Metteer 03/17 Daylea Stryker 03/29 Jacob Mikosch**

**03/10 Kent Kircher 03/18 Paul Buhr 03/29 Zane Boen**

**03/10 Tara Amberg 03/18 Lorene Hanson 03/29 Alaina Weilage**

**03/10 Randy Paulsen 03/18 Bonnie Wersal 03/30 Janelle Neubauer**

**03/10 Dawn Helmer 03/18 Gage Amberg 03/30 Jan Steffel**

**03/10 Evan Jensen 03/18 Colton Baumgartner 03/30 Bobbi Kopel**

**03/11 Julie Mitchell 03/30 Craig Lothert Jr.**

**03/11 Cindy Johnson 03/31 Florence Malecek**

**03/31 Kevin Wick**

**03/31 Kayla Jansen**

**Fundraising for the new sign at**

**Cross of Calvary on Highway #71**

**WOW, only $2,348.00 to go!!**

**Thank you!!!!**

**Tim Orth Memorial Foundation - Annual Fundraiser**

The Tim Orth Memorial Foundation's annual fundraising event will be held on Saturday, March 18th at the BOLD School in Bird Island. Doors open at 4:00 p.m., Opening Ceremony at 5:45 p.m. Along with the boys and girls basketball game a silent auction and raffle are also held. Proceeds from the event will benefit children from the area battling a serious or life threatening illness.

**Cross of Calvary Lutheran Church COUNCIL MEETING**

**Minutes for: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 @ 7:30pm**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**

(\_) Dana Boen 2020 (X) Jon Hawkinson 2018 (X) Eric Skeie 2019\*

(X) Curt Sather 2020 (X) Bobbi Kopel 2018 (X) Natasha Johnson 2019\*

(X) Jill Hanson 2020 (X) Paul Buhr 2019 (\_) Michelle Jensen 2019\*

(X) DeeAnne Newville 2020\* (X) Gordon Blem 2019

(X) Steve Altmann 2018 Terms end at Annual Meeting (Jan.)

\*Second term

**STAFF**

(X) Pastor Matt Hausken ( ) Minister of Faith Formation (X) Sue Altmann, Council Recorder

**AGENDA**

1. Meeting called to order- ***President Eric Skeie***
2. Devotions –***Eric Skeie***
3. Approve minutes of the ***January meeting*** – Motion to approve the minutes by Steve, seconded by Jill, motion passed.
4. Financial Secretary and Treasurer Reports *–****January -*** Motion to approve the treasurer/secretary report by Gordy, seconded by Natashia, motion passed. (Curt Sather reported that so far we are good shape financially)
5. Pastor’s report

-Lent season starts, the focus will be on Luther Catechism on Wednesdays. The confirmation classes will be planning the Sunday services during Lent.

-2 funerals so far (Meyer & Peterson)

-Marriage Council Retreat will be held the 1st Saturday in May (8hours) and then 3 extra individual sessions after

-4 wedding are scheduled so far this year

1. Minister of Faith Formation’s report

-Senior High Youth Gathering is March 10 & 11, 14 youth from Cross of Calvary will be going

-WOW was led by Pastor Matt in January and February. Sarah Hausken will lead the month of March or until we hire an AIM.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Youth Ministry- none

2. Equipping the Congregation - none

3. Outreach – no report

4. Administration – none

5. AED Maintence – Eric checked.

**OLD BUSINESS**

* Fundraising for sign is at $26,152.00
* Gordy Blem showed a sample of the stone that will be used for the sign, beautiful stone.

**NEW BUSINESS**

* + - * Minister of Faith Formation position (AIM) – A Call committee has been formed with Gordy Blem, Mark Iverson, Chet Boen, Angela Cole, Jeni Skeie, Heidi Gross and Pastor Matt. Goal is to have someone hired by mid-April. The profile forms are ready to submit and will be submitted in the next week. A wonderful discussion on any questions about the position, thank you council for wanting to be informed.
      * There was concern that the committees weren’t meeting enough. A schedule time was talked about. The council wanted to wait until the AIM was hired to revisit the committees.

Next Council meeting: Wednesday, March 15 at 7:30 pm

March Communion: 8:30 – Gordy, 10:30 - Jon

March Devotions – DeeAnne

**Adjourn / Close in prayer.**