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ISSUE DATE: December 2012

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THE FOLLOWER IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY CROSS OF CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

# THE FOLLOWER

Dec 1: Snowflake Bazaar

Dec 2: Gal's Holiday Dinner

Dec 16: Sunday School Christmas Program

Special Services:

Advent—Wednesdays, December 5, 12, 19 at 7pm

Christmas Eve—Monday, December 24, at 4:30 & 10pm

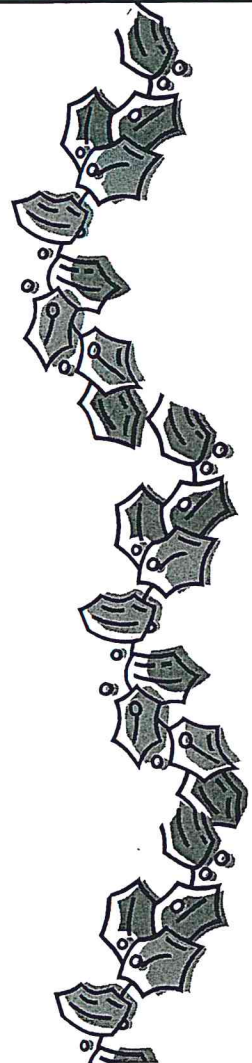
Worship

Times

**Saturday Worship: 5:30 pm**

**Sunday Worship: 8:30 and 10:30am**

**Sunday School: 9:30am**





## *Pastor's Corner*

### *December 2012*

God's richest blessings for a wonderful month of December! This month is so much associated with business and getting things done that sometimes we forget to stop and rest and relax in the moment and the joy of the season. But, instead, we are searching for that perfect present. We are trying to re-create that perfect memory from our childhoods. We try so hard to make it the perfect Christmas that we forget the pressure is not on us. The pressure we put on ourselves is not the message. The message is of God giving of a Savior so we do not need to put the pressure on ourselves.

So as we get set to move into the new year, may we step forward knowing that we don't go alone, but with a Savior who has been given to all of us. It is this Savior who allows us to go forward without the pressure. We take his yoke and can do amazing work and amazing deeds in his name. But, unfortunately, as soon as we forget the focus of the message of this wonderful season, we get into trouble.

In order to remember Christ's message throughout the year....slow down at this time of year. Savor this time when the message is given to us. The message of God's son is one that endures throughout the entire year. And, may we pause long enough to remember that this is the true gift of the season. This is where our focus and our joy should be found. So come and join us for Advent and Christmas worships at Cross of Calvary. And continue to come and hear this wonderful message proclaimed throughout the entire year. Come and join us as a people who so desperately need to hear this message. Come and support one another as we journey together with this powerful message of life.

Before setting our New Year's resolutions or trying to find the perfect gift or create the perfect celebration, let's resolve to slow down and rest and pay attention to the perfect gift God has given to us. May we join in the perfect celebration at our Lord's Supper and be reminded during the entire year of this gift given to us. May we make it our resolution not to be perfect, but to be faithful followers of the One who is perfect, the One who makes us perfect in his grace. This is the gift we celebrate.

God's blessings for a wonderful month of December and grace filled beginning to 2013!

In Christ,



# Cross of Calvary Lutheran Church – ELCA

Pastor Matt Hausken

1103 W Chestnut Ave  
Olivia MN 56277  
crossofcalvary.net  
crossofcalvary@gmail.com  
320-523-1574



## Worship

- Saturday Vespers 5:30 pm
- Sunday Worship 8:30am & 10:30am
- Sunday School and Coffee Hour 9:30am

## Office Hours

Mon - Tues	8:30 - 4:30	Wednesday	8:30 - 7:00
Thursday	8:30 - 4:30	Friday	8:30 - 2:00

## Facility Hours

Mon - Thurs	8:30 - 7:00	Need access?
Fri—Sun	8:30 - 2:00	Craig 522-0266
		Laurie 522-1199

Radio Broadcast of Service: Sundays, 7:30am -K100FM

## COMMUNION

Dec 2, 16, 24 Jan 6, 20

## ADVENT SERVICES at 7pm

Dec 5, 12, 19

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES - 4:30pm and 10:00pm

# CHURCH STAFF

**Pastor:** Rev. Matt Hausken,

hauskenmatt8@gmail.com, Pastor's Study: 523-5857,

Parsonage: 523-1282, Cell: 320-579-0839

**Minister of Faith Formation:** Chelsey Plumley,

320-523-1574 cofeyouth@gmail.com

**Administrative Assistant:** Laurie Schultze

320-523-1574 crossofcalvary@gmail.com

**Music:** Kathy Reese **Sextons:** The Boens

**Sunday School Superintendent:** Jill Hanson

**Council:** Todd Gay, *President*

Dave Altmann Gordy Blem Brian Boen

Jennifer Grund Cindy Johnson Sandra Whited

Keith Larson Greg Mertens Marie Rauenhorst

Nanette Serbus David Torgelson

**Treasurer:** Curt Sather

**Altar Guild—**

# VOLUNTEERS

## Communion

DEC	8:30	G Blem	10:30	C Johnson
Christmas Eve	4:30	G Blem	10:00	C Johnson

## Ushers

DEC 8:30 – S Johnson, R Feil, K Larson, R Nelson  
10:30 – R Pietig, A Pietig, H Pietig, R Elbert

## Acolytes

E Hatch, K Bratsch

## Coffee Host

DEC 2 Youth	DEC 16
DEC 23	DEC 30

**Altar Flowers and Readers** - The sign up sheet is on the BOARD

## Committee Meetings

Committee meetings are usually held on the *3rd Wed. of each month, beginning at 6:00pm* in the Fellowship Hall. This includes the following committees: *Parish Life, Missions, Parish Ed., Property, Technology, Worship & Music, Youth Ministry, Evangelism*

- Committee Meetings—No meetings in Dec
- Council Meeting—December 19 at 8pm

## PRAYERS of HEALING & STRENGTH

*Diana Adkins	[B Hennen]
*Jim Stadtherr	[J Stadtherr]
*Sean Ziesmer	[E Ziesmer]
*Ashley Frank	[D Sagedahl]
*Joann Hawkinson	[Family]
*Joyce Harguth	[S Bratsch]
*Rosalie Sheggeby	[N Hague]
*Marie Peterson	[M Hausken]
*Donna Boese	[K van der Hagen]
*Sonja Fostvedt	[B Fostvedt]
*Joanna Cook	[S Hausken]
*Peggy Evenson	[J Evenson]

## PRAISE

- \*for the gift of giving
- \*for a beautiful fall.

## Adding loved ones to the Prayer & Praise Lists:

- Please gain permission.
- Fill out a request form: found in the pews & office, or use the Prayer Page at crossofcalvary.net
- Names will remain on the list as indicated on the request form and then removed (max of one month).
- If you feel someone should remain on the list, please resubmit the name to the office.

**January FOLLOWER deadline is Dec 13.**

**Assemble the Follower at 1pm on Thurs, Dec 20.**

**Weekly Bulletin Deadline is Thursday by noon.**

# CHURCH NEWS

**Food Shelf Donations** – 59 pounds to the Renville County Food Shelf. *Thank you, donors!*

**Christmas Coffee** - We would again appreciate if Cross of Calvary women (or men) would serve at our Citizens State Bank Christmas Coffee. The event will be held Thur, Dec 13, from 9am to 5pm Please check the BOARD for times and to sign up.

**A big thank you** to all for remembering me on my 90th birthday. It was a fun-filled day with family and friends. The cards, gifts and just your PRESENCE meant so much to me. God Bless All Of You - Ruth Woltjer

**Snowflake Bazaar Sat, Dec 1<sup>st</sup>. 11am—1pm**

Join us for the Christmas Attic, Silent Auction, and Bake Sale. And as always... the luncheon is fantastic!



**Dear Businesses, Churches and Service Organizations,**

Santa's Closet of Renville County is once again ready for operation. We are ready to accept referrals, donations and volunteers.

We continue to notice that there is a strong need for teen items, as well as toys, household goods, and warm water proof gloves and mittens. We also would like board games. We are especially encouraging donations of these items in addition to the usual toys and fun stuff.

We also know that it is inspirational and fun for churches, individual families and/or service organization to sponsor a day or half day at the Santa's Closet Store. The volunteers from the last few years really enjoyed the process.

You may participate as Santa's helpers by:

- ☐ Choosing date to bring items to Santa's Closet
- ☐ Providing cookies and hot chocolate mix for shoppers.
- ☐ Being a host/hostess for shoppers (keep track of total \$ amounts of items)
- ☐ Wrapping gifts for shoppers.
- ☐ Restocking store with collected donations. This would also be an opportunity for the gifts you have collected to be brought to the Santa's Closet Store..

Call Sandy Kubesh at 320-522-0106 if you and your colleagues would like to participate.

Distribution will run from December 3-21. Financial donations can be mailed to Santa's Closet P.O. Box 115, Olivia, MN 56277. Donation of items can be delivered to the former Danube School by appointment only, or we will pick them up by request. If you have any questions, concerns, or ideas call Lori Clasemann at 1-320-329-8202, Nancy Hague 1-320-905-7925, Pat Pederson, 1-320-894-4713 or Sandy Kubesh 1-320-522-0106.

We look forward to another fun Christmas Season.

Sincerely,  
Santa's Closet Committee



**Reservations:** Thank you for taking the time to make your reservations when needing to use the church facility. Simply call the office to guarantee there are no conflicts. 523-1574

**When using the Fellowship Hall:** Please refrain from serving beverages with red and blue dyes – Kool-Aids, sodas, Powerades, etc. Lemonade is preferred. When serving punch, please ask for our “house” recipe.

**NEW CARPET cleaning supplies & directions** can be

**LWR Coffee Project:** The LWR Fair Trade Coffee Project ensures that more of the money you spend on coffee reaches the farmers who actually grow it. Fair trade coffee is a simple solution that means the difference, quite literally, between surviving and not surviving for small-scale coffee farmers. We support the LWR Coffee Project by selling many flavors of coffee and organic tea in the Fellowship Hall. Visit their website at [equalexchange.com](http://equalexchange.com) or see Laurie in the office for more information. You may order directly from the website or feel free to suggest different items/flavors you would like to see offered here. Our display is located in the education wing hallway. All varieties are \$7.00.



**Help Wanted:** Looking for a few people who may be interested in learning more about running the screen. An information/training session will take place after the holidays. Please call Laurie for more information.

**Coffee Hour is hosted by volunteers.** Individuals and groups are encouraged to sign up on the BOARD to host.

- Simple - set out the coffee and tidy up
- Raising funds – set out coffee, cookies/bars and tidy up

**Fellowship Hall Bulletin Board-** Did you ever wonder how the Fellowship Hall bulletin boards “magically” change throughout the year? One volunteer has been doing it for years, and has shared her last one this summer. Let's continue sharing God's word and blessings through the messages on the bulletin boards. The January/February theme has a volunteer, and will remain in place for until the end of Feb. The bulletin boards will be changed out every two months. Who will be the next to come up with one? How about you?? Or your family??? Contact Laurie with questions.

**OFFERING ENVELOPES for 2013**

For those who use direct deposit or prefer not to use offering envelopes, please let Laurie know.



**College freshmen (PARENTS):** A Christmas Care Package has been put together by our Parish Life Committee for your son/daughter. It is available in the office for pick up prior to Nov 26. If the package needs to be mailed, please contact the office.

**Gal's Holiday Dinner:** Open for all ages. Sun., Dec. 2 at 6pm. Registration needed – please sign up on the Youth Board. Don't forget your friends! Spaghetti, garlic toast, green beans or corn, salad and beverage. Cost is \$4.00 at the door.

**Santa's Closet Donations accepted until Dec 13.**

Place NEW/UNWRAPPED- toys, clothing, personal items, small appliances, (don't forget the teenagers) in the Narthex. Volunteers are appreciated. Please call Sandy Kubesh 522-0106

**Thank you:** I would like to thank my church family for remembering me with prayer, cards and goodies after returning home from the hospital. A special thank you goes to those who provided Comfort Meals. They were greatly appreciated. –Lilly Kern

**Adult Choir began Nov 28. Join anytime!!!** Meet in the balcony on Wednesday evenings. During Advent, this would be immediately following the Advent Service, so let's say close to 7:45

## Comfort Meals

In the past, the Parish Life Committee has organized comfort meals for families who need the loving support of a hot meal delivered to their home. This ministry has been much appreciated for those who have received these meals in the past. If you know of a family who is going thru a time of illness, loss or just brought home a new baby and could use a few meals, please contact the church office so we are aware of the need. We typically offer 4 to 5 meals at designated times as determined by the receiving family. Karen Flom or Lynnette Blem will be in touch with each family to determine number of meals being requested, schedule of delivery, likes and dislikes. This is a wonderful ministry, but it takes a community!! Please consider being a part of our meal providers' team. It is a ministry that is easy and rewarding. When we are aware of a need, a 'mass e-mail' is sent out to those who are a part of our team and then can sign up (or not, depending on your own commitments), and reply to the entire group what day you have selected to make a comfort meal. For those of you who do not wish to communicate by e-mail, we will be glad to call and see if you are able to help.

If you are willing to help with this ministry or want more information, please contact Laurie in the office 523-1574 or at [crossofcalvary@gmail.com](mailto:crossofcalvary@gmail.com). You may also contact Lynnette Blem at 523-5083 or at [gblem1977@gmail.com](mailto:gblem1977@gmail.com).

# Happy Birthday

12/01	Greenwell, Donna	12/18	Revier, Tami	12/10	Mogard, Paula
12/01	Erickson, Carol	12/18	Crow, Mitchell	12/11	Harrier, Randy
12/01	Dietrich, Morgen	12/18	Iverson, Jack	12/11	Bellig, Hannah
12/01	Triplett, Michael	12/19	Kadelbach, Adolph	12/11	Bellig, Steven
12/01	Sigurdson, Abby	12/19	Fahse, Ron	12/11	Prokosch, London
12/01	Johnson, Paige	12/20	Honzay, Joshua	12/11	Ridler, Brady
12/02	Wallert, Herb	12/20	Skeie, Jacob	12/12	DeKlerk, Konnie
12/02	Revier, Jeff	12/21	Wick, Joan	12/12	Lingl Sr., Joseph
12/02	Steffel, Adam	12/21	Erickson, Kandi	12/13	Brustuen, Jerry
12/03	Malvin, Emersyn	12/22	Siems, Keshia	12/13	Torkelson, Roxanne
12/04	Revier, Gerald	12/22	Lippert, Briar	12/13	Jensen, Ryan
12/04	Erickson, Clayton	12/23	Sigurdson, Samuel	12/13	Barta, Nathan
12/04	Schrupp, Krista	12/24	Lingl, Barbara	12/14	Knoke, Bruce
12/04	Kemnitz, Michael	12/24	Cole, Nate	12/14	Johnson, Kathy
12/05	Lindquist, Sue	12/24	McDowell, Emily	12/14	Bergren Hanish, Jaime
12/05	Torgelson, David	12/24	Suess, Gabriel	12/14	Hausken, Sarah
12/05	Meuhlberg, Christina	12/25	Johnson, Charles	12/14	Adamski, Matt
12/05	Wertish, Lucas	12/25	Kopel, Tammy	12/15	Wacek, Marcella
12/07	Ryan, Sharon	12/25	Reinert, Kogan	12/15	Wertish, Tim
12/08	Wallert, Brian	12/26	Wertish, Steve	12/15	Blem, Amy
12/08	Matzke, Angela	12/27	Gluesing, Cadden	12/16	Bohm, Kristina
12/09	Enestvedt, Brody	12/29	Johnston, Vi	12/17	Sheggeby, Rosalie
12/10	Limoges, Joyce	12/29	Page, Mary	12/17	Lilja, Lorin
12/10	Feil, Roger	12/29	Fahse, Linda		



## Youth and Family Ministry

Greetings and God's Blessings!

I pray that each of you have a blessed holiday season filled with warmth, family, love, and the knowledge that a Savior has been sent for you. Take time from the hustle and bustle to give thanks to God for sending us the very best present we could ever receive; eternal life, in our savior, Jesus Christ. .

Looking for a way to help out? Ask Chelsey. We are always in need of a snack, meal, or chaperon!

- Chelsey Plumley, Minister of Faith Formation

cofeyouth@gmail.com Facebook: Chels Plumley Check out the Faith Blog at [www.crossofcalvary.net](http://www.crossofcalvary.net)

### UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS

#### DECEMBER

- 2 – Gal's Holiday Dinner
- 9 – NO Bridge Builders – Final Sunday School program practice
- 16 – Sunday School Christmas Program 10:30  
CLOCK Christmas Party @ CCOC 6:10
- 23/30<sup>th</sup> – No Sunday School
- 26<sup>th</sup> – No WoW or Confirmation

#### JANUARY

- 2 – WoW and Choirs begin after school
- 13 – Bridge Builders 9:30 AM birth – Kind.  
Junior and Cherub choirs perform at both services
- 13 – FUEL@CCOC 6:30 snacks, 7:00 Worship

### COFFEE HOUR

We are asking families with children in grades 2-12 to help serve to raise money for their accounts

### COFFEE SCHEDULE

- Dec 2 – M. Hausken, R. Ridler, R. Jensen, A Thompson
- Jan 13 - D. Revier, C. Weis, S Evenson, W. Enestvedt
- Jan 20 – NO Coffee... Annual Meeting
- Jan 27 – Youth Board members

Contact Chelsey if you would like to serve more than one coffee, or if you would like to be removed from the list.

## Gal's Holiday Dinner

Are you ready for a little girl time??

Sign up on the Youth Board  
to be our guest!

**Sunday, December 2**

6:00 – Enjoy dinner.

7:00 - Holiday fun in the Fellowship Hall

Cost: \$4.00 (those who help are free)

This is a night of fun for

**ALL** our ladies of **ALL** ages.

gr 7-12 girls: sign up to serve

(conf. gals earn an element)

**December 2012**

## Christmas Program

Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> During 2<sup>nd</sup> service- 10:30 AM


### Your child has a part!

All students will be singing, and most have a poem or speaking part.


**\*\*Ask them what their part is and help them! – Thank you!**

### WoW, WeeWoW - Junior & Cherub Choirs

Starting on WED, JAN 2, after school until 4:30



Grades K-2 and Grades 3-6  
**\*\*Take bus #1 to the church.**  
Snacks, Bible Time, Activities,  
Junior and Cherub Choir Practice  
**ADULTS— WE NEED YOU!**  
**SIGN UP ON THE BOARD .**



## 12 Christmas PRAYERS dwellart

- 1 Faith** Father God, it is by Your grace we have been saved, and through our faith - this is not from ourselves, but a gift from you - not by our works. Ephesians 2:8-9
- 2 Hope** May the God of Hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in Hope. Romans 15:4
- 3 Love** Help us to love because You first loved us. 1 John 4:19
- 4 Forgiveness** Thank you for being faithful and just in forgiving us our sins and thus purifying us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9
- 5 Mercy** Let us be merciful, just as our Father is merciful. Luke 6:36
- 6 Kindness** Let us be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as through Jesus, You forgave us. Ephesians 4:32
- 7 Generosity** Let us be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, and to give the glory and thanks to you Lord! 2 Corinthians 9:11
- 8 Compassion** Let us live in harmony with one another, be sympathetic and compassionate, love as brothers, and be humble. 1 Peter 3:8
- 9 Joy** Let us be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Romans 12:12
- 10 Salvation** Thank you for providing Jesus who is the way, the truth, the life and the only way to You. John 14:6
- 11 Obedience** Help us to not merely listen to Your Word, and so deceive ourselves. Help us do what it says. James 1:22-25
- 12 Life** Thank you for coming that we may have life, and have it to the full. John 10:10

# DECEMBER 2012



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						<b>1</b> 11am-1pm Snowflake Bazaar Worship 5:30pm
<b>2</b> Worship 8:30 & 10:30 Sunday School 9:30 rehearsal Gal's Holiday Dinner 6pm	<b>3</b> Library reserved 2-4pm Scouts 5:30-6:30pm Library reserved 6:30-8:00pm	<b>4</b> Men's Bible Study 6:15am & 7:00am	<b>5</b> Men's Park View Bible Study 9:00am WOW 3:15-4:30 Confirmation 5:30-7:00 Advent Service 7pm	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Boy Scout Christmas Party	<b>8</b> Worship 5:30pm
<b>9</b> Worship 8:30 & 10:30 Sunday School 9:30 rehearsal FH reserved 11:30 – 1:30 Baptism 10:30	<b>10</b> Den Meeting 3:15 Library reserved 6:30-8:00pm	<b>11</b> Men's Bible Study 6:15am & 7:00am	<b>12</b> 12:00pm Wedding Men's Park View Bible Study 9:00am WOW 3:15-4:30 Confirmation 5:30-7:00 Advent Service 7pm	<b>13</b> Follower deadline	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Communion Worship 5:30pm
<b>16</b> Communion Worship 8:30 & 10:30 Christmas Program 10:30am CLOCK Christmas Party @ CCOC 6:10	<b>17</b> Ruth Unit 12:00 pot luck Library reserved 6:30-8:00pm	<b>18</b> Men's Bible Study 6:15am & 7:00am	<b>19</b> Men's Park View Bible Study 9:00am WOW 3:15-4:30 Confirmation 5:30-7:00 Advent Service 7pm	<b>20</b> Dorcas Unit 10am at Masters Assemble the Follower at 1pm	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Worship 5:30pm
<b>23</b> Worship 8:30 & 10:30 NO Sunday School	<b>24</b> Christmas Eve 4:30 and 10:00 Communion Ruth Unit 1:30 Library reserved 6:30-8:00pm	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> NO WOW NO Confirmation	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Worship 5:30pm
<b>30</b> Worship 8:30 & 10:30 NO Sunday School	<b>31</b> Library reserved 6:30-8:00pm					