Weekly Announcements for April 17-24

Today Worship 6:30/9:00

 Sunday School 9:30

Mon Library reserved 6-8pm

Tues Men’s Bible Study 6:15am / 7am

 Women’s Bible study 6:30pm

WedWow/Wee WOW 3:15-4:30pm

 Confirmation 5:45 meal 6:30 class

Sat Saturday Worship 5:30

Sun Worship 8:30/10:30

 Sunday School 9:30

**\*\***Activities and times change periodically. Please check the website calendar at crossofcalvary.net. It is updated daily. **\*\*\***

**Coming up: April**

20 Spaghetti Supper 5:00-7:00pm

20 Church Council Meeting 7:30pm

25 Ruth Circle @ 1:30pm

28 Dorcas Bible study @ 9:30am

28 CCNI Food Program Training 5:30-8:30

**May** Flower Sale Pick up: May 6 & 7

**APRIL WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS**

**Communion** 8:30 – Eric Skeie, 10:30 – A. Thompson

**Altar Guild S**. Larson, S. Iverson

**Acolytes** A. Trongard, E. Thompson (except April 17)

**Ushers** 8:30 – R. Fahse, L. Fahse, E. Skeie, C. Mallak

10:30 **-\*\*\*OPEN\*\*\***

**PRAYERS OF HEALING & STRENGTH**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Prayer for | Submitted by | Prayer for | Submitted by |
| Pat Aalderks | *Carol Senkyr* | Diana Adkins | *B Hennen* |
| Vonna Ledeboer | *A Ledeboer* | Jill Revolinski | *C Mallek* |
| Rhonda Stauffer | *Teeny Kadelbach* | Greg & Evelyn Rosenow | *Teeny Kadelbach* |
| Joann Keyser | *Mary Ann Bentley* | Lyle Jacobs | *Joanne Balgaard* |
| Mary Ann Bentley | *M Hausken* |  |  |

Paraguay Missionaries – The Kevin and Rebekah Howell family

Bolivia Missionaries – Paul and Jay Mikaelson

**PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING:**

The opportunity for a season of prayer and reflection: Easter

**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.

**No one was able to answer your call?** 320-523-1574

-Wait for the extension of the staff member you want to contact.

-Call the cell number given. They will pick up the call if able.

-Leave a message on their cell phones. Staff can check cell messages while

 out of the office and are more likely to return your call faster.

-If you prefer, leave a message on the church answering system.

**Spaghetti Dinner**

Hosted by the Men’s Group in support of youth scholarships

 for camps and mission

**Wed. April 20th 5:00pm-7:00pm**

Adults - $7.00 Confirmation Students - $5.00

Children, ages 5-12 - $4.00 Children 4 and under are free

**Volunteers needed:** If you have a child in one of the programs below, please consider serving. Sign up is on the board. Thank you very much.

*Confirmation Suppers*: *April –Thank you (all dates are filled)*

*Provide WOW snacks: May 4 & 11 only*

*Breakfast Club food: April (Thurs, 7am)*

Summer Stretch: If you are a 6th, 7th, or 8th grader and you are wondering what to do with all your free time this summer, your solution is here! Summer Stretch is a fun program that meets once a week during July offering lots of exciting activities! Registration forms can be found on the Youth Board and they are due on May 1st. Talk to Ashley if you have any questions!

The fundraiser of 8 apple pies for the Renville Co. Back-the-Pack Program was a success as all the pies are gone! If you forgot to pay for your pies please leave $15.00 in the church office. Checks can be made out to RCBPP. Thanks for your support!!

**Women’s Bible Study by Angela Thomas**

New Series (brave: honest questions women ask)

When: Tuesdays at 6:30pm

Book available @ amazon.com for $16.00

Questions: contact Bobbi Kopel or Cindy Johnson

CCOC: Our Cross of Calvary is responsible for bringing snacks for CCOC in April, every Monday & Thursday. The program prefers healthy snacks! There are about 40 to 50 children. Please contact the church office if you plan on bringing a snack. (Snacks should be brought to the CCOC building by 3:00pm on the day you are providing.

**Church Directories are now available.** They have been placed in your church mailbox. If you did not receive a directory, please stop in the office.

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**April 17, 2016**

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 patience and acceptance, although Paul and Silas preached a message of love, people responded with fear and anger. Help us to proclaim your message of love so that it may be received with acceptance and hope. Amen.

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

And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three sabbath days argued with them from the scriptures, explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Messiah to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying, “This is the Messiah, Jesus whom I am proclaiming to you.” Acts 17:2-3

Study: Study the reading and consider the background.

Paul and Silas took on the religious authorities directly, arguing on the Sabbath and proclaiming Christ the Messiah. Religious authorities tried to quell the rebellion by imprisoning those who aided the Christians. But Jesus’ message of love endured, despite the culture of fear.

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

Sunday, Acts 17:1-9, Church at Thessalonica

Monday, 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10, Thanks to Thessalonica

Tuesday, Acts 6:1-7, Seven Chosen to Serve

Wednesday, Acts 6:8-15, The Arrest of Stephen

Thursday, Acts 7:1-53, Stephen’s Speech to the Council

Friday, Acts 7:54-8:1a, The Stoning of Stephen

Saturday, Acts 8:1b-3, Saul Persecutes the Church

**Why do you think Stephen’s message so threatening?**

**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?**

What words are spoken or heard in your community that are threatening to you? To others? How might you hear or speak those words differently so that they can be received with acceptance and hope?

**What does it mean to you that Jesus is the Messiah?**

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

Our words can be powerful. Write a one- to three-page story of something about your life as you live it right now. What creates meaning in your life? Create a tag cloud with your story (try tagul.com). What word or words are biggest? Which are smallest? Share your tag cloud with a friend.

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

**May God fill you with words of love, acceptance, and hope. Amen.**

**CHECK THE COMMUNITY BOARD**

**\*\*\***Fliers are posted at the East entrance\*\*\*

* **Powerful Tools for Caregivers**: March 23-April 27th from 10:00-11:30am at Zion Lutheran Church in Olivia.
* **Spring Flower Sales: Start March 25th and end April 15th. ☺ Contact any youth to order or use the form attached to this bulletin. The Spring Fling order pickup will be Friday, May 6th from 4:30pm-7:30pm, and Saturday, May 7th from 8:00am-10:00am. Contact Sue Erickson @ 523-5010, Cheryl Mallak @523-5029 and Sandy Padrnos for more information.**

**\*\*\*\*pick order forms in the church office or see attached\*\*\*\*\***

* **Safe Avenues:** Mardi gras: 10th Annual Hope for Tomorrow Gala at the Willmar Conference Center on Friday, April 29, 2016, starting at 5:00pm.
* **Talent Show Contest**: Show Us Your Talent: Renville Community Center on Friday, April 22 at 7:30pm (sponsored by Friends of the Arts) see Community Board for contact information
* **Hospice Community Memorial Service:** Monday, May 2 at 6:00pm at the Redwood Area Hospital Education Room
* **Annual Pork Chop Dinner:** United Lutheran Church in Lake Lillian on Friday, May 6th. Serving from 4:30pm – 7:00pm
* **Renville County Mental Health Fair**: Saturday, May 14 from 10:30am-3:30pm at Bird Island Ballroom. Lunch served from 11:30am-1:00pm – Free Admission
* **Lutheran Mideast Development**: Speaker: Matthew Hand will be speaking on Thursday, April 28 from 7-8:30pm at St. Stephen’s Lutheran Church Sanctuary. He will be speaking about what can be done to achieve a better and more secure future.