The Follower

February 2018

Cross of Calvary
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Psalm 23

The Lord is my Shepherd - **That's Relationship!**
I shall not want - **That's Supply!**
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures - **That's Rest!**
He leadeth me beside the still waters - **That's Refreshment!**
He restoreth my soul - **That's Healing!**
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness - **That's Guidance!**
For His name sake - **That's Purpose!**
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death - **That's Testing!**
I will fear no evil - **That's Protection!**
For Thou art with me - **That's Faithfulness!**
Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me - **That's Discipline!**
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies - **That's Hope!**
Thou annointest my head with oil - **That's Consecration!**
My cup runneth over - **That's Abundance!**
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life - **That's Blessing!**
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord - **That's Security!**
Forever - **That's Eternity!**

To God be the Glory...

You are Loved!

"You are loved!" This is the cheer that arose from my high school youth group as we leaned forward into a group hug after each youth event. Every time we met, we were reminded that we were loved by God and loved by one another.

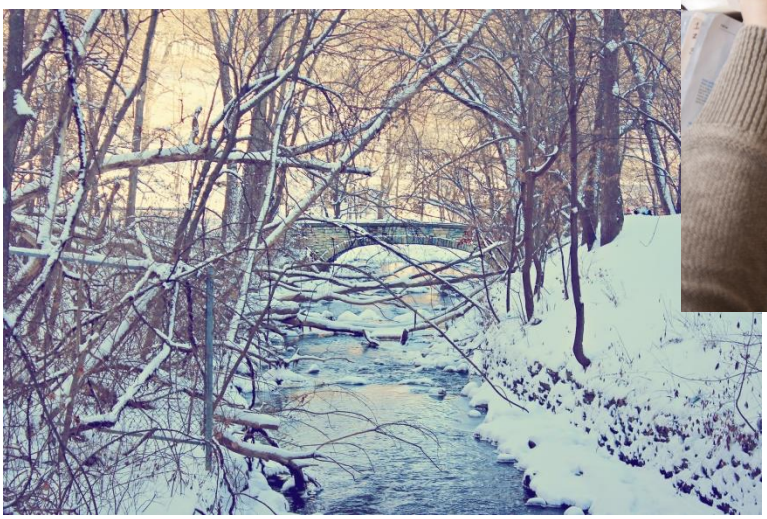
This is why I go to worship, to remember that I am loved. I don't go because I'm good or holy. I don't go because it's my responsibility or in order to show my priorities. I don't go because I feel guilty. I go because I need to hear God's message of love, redemption, power and compassion. I need to hear that the world doesn't rest on my shoulders; that God is God, and I am not. I also need to be surrounded by Jesus' followers; people who are strong when I am weak and people who share my desire to live as a disciple of Jesus.

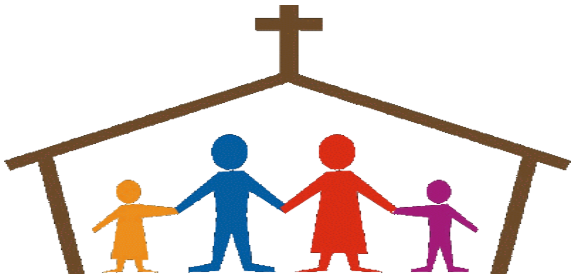
Last week at Luther Seminary's Mid-winter Convocation on Faith and Science I was reminded of the ways God reveals God-self in the pages of scripture, but also in the glory of God's creation. I admire people who regularly make the time to commune with God in nature. This is something I enjoy, but don't do often enough, especially when it's cold outside. But there is something incredible about being connected with God through God's creation that brings peace, perspective, and joy.

And so, I believe we need both – worship in the community of believers and wonder in the beauty of nature. Which kind of communion with God comes easily to you? What kind of communion, if experienced more often, would benefit your body and spirit?

May God lead us all to encounters with the living Christ, the mysterious Holy Spirit and the Creator of the universe.

In Christ,
Sarah Hausken





Youth News

March 11 is Girl Scout Sunday. Girl scouts are encouraged to wear their uniform. If you would like to read a lesson, usher or provide special music, please talk to Jeni. Girl scouts will also be providing the coffee hour and treats.

The Senior High Youth Gathering is March 9-10 in Alexandria, MN at the Lake Geneva Christian Center for youth grades 9-12. Cost will be $65 for Cross of Calvary members and $95 for friends of any kids. Pick up a registration form on the youth board table. Registrations are due: Wednesday, February 14. If you are interested in being a small group leader or running for the LYO Board, visit www.swmnelca.org/event/snyg

Summer Bible Camp registration is coming up. *Early deadlines will be by February 16 for $30 off. Camp Sunday will be February 11th. Camp information is on the back table by the youth board, or online at www.gllm.org*

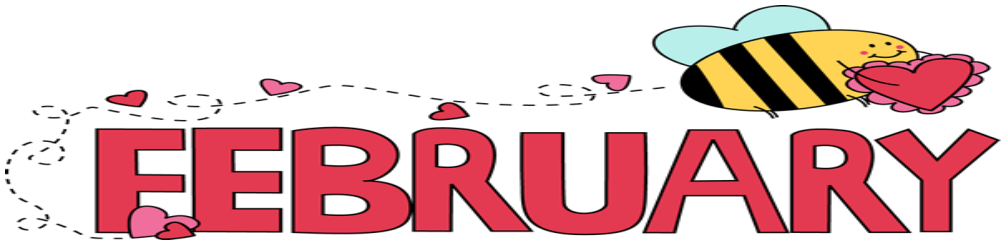
Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday is *on February 4th. Remember to start saving your change (coins). The WOW kids will be collecting nonperishable food items and cash on Sunday, February 4th. Thank you!!! All donations go to the Renville County Food shelf.*

Confirmation Supper *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: April 11, 2018.*

PRAYERS OF HEALING AND STRENGTH

Prayer for:

Diana Adkins.....Hennen
Jill Revolinski .....C. Mallak
Jenna Reynolds.....Thompson family
Leslie Sagedahl.....Daren Sagedahl
Kent Kircher.....Shirley Kircher
Barb Gomarko.....Friends
Cleve Fults.....Bruce & Sharon Metteer
Laura Wacek.....Bobbi Abrahamson
Donna Greenwell..... .....Nancy Berry
Jolynda Luckey.....Bruce & Sharon Metteer
Emily Reetz.....Heather Thompson
Jen Beckler.....Emy Elbert
Keith Beckler.....Family
Isabella (Izzy) Sullivan.....Sharon Alton
Family of Ron Hamborg



02/01 Joanne Balgaard
02/01 Eric Skeie
02/01 Kiah Morse
02/01 Connor Torkelson
02/01 Kaydence Meints
02/02 Dick Hagen
02/02 Bruce Metteer
02/02 Nathan Flom
02/03 Teeny Kadelbach
02/03 Stacey Larson
02/03 Tom Wick
02/04 McKenna Siems (Beckler)
02/05 Porter Youngkrantz
02/05 Brielle Fuoss
02/06 Amy Dietrich
02/06 Clint Olson
02/06 Tosha Hennen
02/07 Tanner Mitchell
02/08 Michael Woltjer
02/08 Susan Lang
02/08 George Garcia
02/08 Kayla Maurice
02/08 Jacob Brustuen
02/08 Emily Revier
02/08 Kaylee Hilgert

02/09 Douglas Agre
02/10 Erma Revier
02/10 Seth Wagner
02/10 Broderick Prokosch
02/10 Connor Blad
02/11 Kelsey Wertish
02/11 Allie Paulsen
02/12 Robin Amberg
02/12 Krista Beckler
02/12 Mackenzie Visser
02/12 Logan Osthus
02/14 John Dotson
02/14 Sue Altmann
02/12 Miranda Braun
02/14 Jill Hanson
02/14 Heather Thompson
02/15 Lynn Tesch
02/16 Bob Wertish
02/16 Dennis Aumer
02/16 Mary Samuelson
02/17 Chloe Altmann
02/18 Judy Kopacek
02/18 Jason Valentin
02/19 Tami Steffel
02/20 DeeAnne Newville

02/21 Jennifer Blad
02/22 Vonna Ledeboer
02/22 Randy Marguth
02/23 Lyn Knoke
02/23 Dirk Siems
02/23 Taylor Serbus
02/23 Travis Mallak
02/23 Brandy Haugen
02/24 Marge Johnson
02/24 Jody Steffel
02/24 Curt Weis
02/24 Tammy Jacobson
02/24 Jennifer Visser
02/24 Delaney Holland
02/24 Chase Schwer
02/24 Brian Pope
02/25 Sharon Alton
02/25 Zach Robideau
02/25 Cassandra Hennager
02/26 Barb Trochlil
02/26 Freddie Ridler
02/26 Cory Kingstrom
02/26 Tyler Rock
02/27 Christopher Honzay
02/27 Ryan Blad
02/27 Carson Serbus
02/27 Amy Pope
02/27 Ryker Benson
02/28 Cody Cole

FEBRUARY VOLUNTEERS

COMMUNION 8:30 – Paul Buhr 10:30 – Paul Buhr
USHERS 8:30 – Daren Sagedahl, Brian Boen, Todd Gay & Stan Malecek
10:30 – Corey Gluesing & Aaron Thompson
ACOLYTES: Caeden Gluesing & Drew Sagedahl
ALTAR GUILD: Lynette Blem, Lowanda Frank

Cross of Calvary News

BAKED HAM DINNER

Sunday, March 18, 2018 11:00 am – 1:00pm

The service group chair people will be calling and asking for workers and to bring desserts. We appreciate everyone's help….it takes many hands to make this event so successful!
Thanks again in advance!

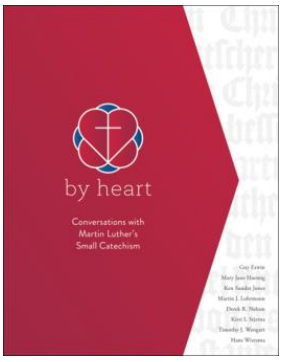
If you are a Thrivent member, 2017 Thrivent Choice Dollars: March 31st is the last date to designate your Dollars

Our new women's bible study will be the book "Keep It Shut" (What to say, how to say it and when to say nothing at all) by Karen Ehman. If you are interested, books can be ordered on your own, thru Jeni or check to see if the library has available copies. We will begin Tuesday, February 13, at 7:30pm and Thursday, February 15 at 8:15 am, or Sunday February 18th at 9:30 am.

Storage needed: We are looking for someone to store the benches on the south/western side of the building. If you are able to move and store them for the winter, please let Sue know who took them & stored them.

Stephen Ministry is coming to Cross of Calvary. We have enrolled our church and Jeni and Carole Buhr will attend the leader training this month. Stephen Ministry provides the training, tools and support that will help our congregation train a team of lay caregivers to provide one-to-one Christian care. If you are interested in being involved in this program, please contact Jeni. Thanks so much for your support of this ministry**.**

Coming Soon: Lenten Soup Suppers – Lenten Soup Suppers will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 14, and continue every Wednesday (serving 5:30-6:30 pm) through March 21st. A sign-up sheet is on the church bulletin board for any group who wishes to sponsor a supper.



2018 Lenten Study

This study will be an in-depth exploration of the Small Catechism. The guide will generate meaningful conversations about the biblical and historical context of the Small Catechisms, its link to the church's faith, and its connection to Luther's life and your life today.
Dates: February 14 (Ash Wednesday) - March 28 (7sessions)
Time: 6:00 PM on Wednesday
Location: Church Library
Please sign up to attend and for a book. (On "The Board")

Adult Grief Support Group will begin on February 5, 2018. If you know of anyone who might benefit from this kind of support, please offer them the information on the east bulletin board.

Redwood Area Hospital is seeking hospice volunteers. We will be holding our annual hospice volunteer training course next month February 22nd and 23rd from 8 am – 4 pm. Please see the flyer for more information. Contact at 507-637-4668.

Build a Burger Fundraiser
Olivia American Legion will host a Build a Burger meal for the BOLD After Prom fundraiser. The event is on Saturday, February 3. 2018. Serving starts at 5:00 pm.

February 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Quilters at 9:30	2 Distribute Pizza	3 **Worship 5:30 pm**
4 **Worship 8:30/10:30** **Sunday School 9:30** **Communion**	5 Library Reserved 6:00-8:00 pm	6 Men's Bible Study 6:15 am and 7:00 am Jesus Justice League at 3:15	7 Confirmation Meal at 5:45, Class at 6:30 pm WOW at 3:15 pm Altar Guild Mtg 7:30	8 Quilters at 9:30	9	10 **Worship 5:30 pm**
11 **Worship 8:30/10:30** **Sunday School 9:30** Baptism - Gass	12 Library Reserved 6:00-8:00 pm	13 Men's Bible Study 6:15 am and 7:00 am Jesus Justice League	14 **Ash Wednesday** Dorcas Bible Study at 9:30 am Noon Service Soup Supper 5:30-6:30 Lenten Service 7:00	15 Quilters at 9:30	16	17 **Worship 5:30 pm**
18 **Worship 8:30/10:30** **Sunday School 9:30** **Communion**	19 Library Reserved 6:00-8:00 pm	20 Men's Bible Study 6:15 am and 7:00 am	21 Soup Supper 5:30-6:30 Lenten Service 7:00 Church Council after service	22 Quilters at 9:30	23	24 **Worship 5:30 pm**
25 **Worship 8:30/10:30** **Sunday School 9:30**	26 Library Reserved 6:00-8:00 pm Ruth Bible Study at 1:30	27 Men's Bible Study 6:15 am and 7:00 am	28 Soup Supper 5:30-6:30 Lenten Service 7:00 Dorcas Bible Study			

Cross of Calvary Lutheran Church COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes for: Wednesday, January 17, 2018 @ 7:30pm

COUNCIL MEMBERS

_X_ 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	resigned
_X_ DeeAnne Newville	2020*	_X_ Gordon Blem	2019	_X_ Lisa Meints	2018
_X_ Steve Altmann	2018			Terms end at Annual Meeting (Jan.)	

*Second term

STAFF

_X_ Pastor Matt Hausken _X_ Jeni Skeie, Parish Minister _X_ Sarah Hausken, Parish Minister
_X_ Sue Altmann, Council Recorder

AGENDA

1. Meeting called to order- ***President Eric Skeie***
2. Devotions – *Dana Boen: Cherish today always*
3. Approve minutes of the ***December meeting*** – Motion to approve the minutes by Curt Sather, seconded by Lisa Meints, motion passed.
4. Financial Secretary and Treasurer Reports – ***December -*** Motion to approve the treasurer/secretary report by Gordy Blem, seconded by Dana Boen, motion passed.
5. Pastor's report
   - 2018 Lenten Services will have the theme: Luther Small Catechism, with the book "Heart". This will be a 7 sessions, about 50 minutes each. (9:00 am and 6:00 pm on Wednesday during the Lenten season)
   - Other activates at church are running smoothly
   -National Youth Gathering students/parents are preparing for the trip.
6. Parish Minister Report
   - see notes

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Youth Ministry- none
2. Equipping the Congregation -none
3. Outreach – none
4. Administration – none
5. AED Maintence – Eric Skeie

OLD BUSINESS

- Equipping the Congregation – February 10th (Emma Thompson and McKenna Lilja are going , any other interest?)
- Stephen Ministry – Jeni Skeie and Carol Buhr will be attending.
- Doors installed
- Copy Machine – take out of budget for 2018
-

NEW BUSINESS

- Annual Meeting
  - January 21 at 9:30 (Alternate Jan. 28)
  - Location: Fellowship Hall
  - Review of Agenda/materials
  - Approve the 2018 budget to move forward at the annual meeting: a motion was made to accept the 2018 Church Budget by Jill Hanson and seconded by Dana Boen. Motion passed.
  - Contact three tellers to count ballots
  - Coffee: in fellowship hall
  - Election of 2018 officers – following Annual meeting
- Endowment Fund Definition – and statement
- Team to invite members to be on committees
-

Next Council meeting: Wednesday, February 21 at 7:30 pm (following Lenten worship)
February Communion: 8:30 – Paul & 10:30 – Paul
February Devotion – Paul

Adjourn / Close in prayer.