



Cross of Calvary Lutheran Church
Olivia, MN
First Week of Advent

December 2 – December 9

Today	Worship	8:30 & 10:30 am
	Sunday School	9:30 – 10:20
	Snowflake Bazaar	
	Good Gifts Start – deadline December 17th	
Monday	Library reserved	6:00-8:00 pm
	Boys Scouts	6:30 – 8:00pm
Tuesday	Men’s Bible Study	6:15/7:00 am
Wednesday	Confirmation/Meal	6:00 pm
	WOW	3:15-5:00 pm
	Advent Service	7:00 pm
Thursday	Breakfast Club	7:07 am
Friday	Fellowship Hall reserved at 6:00 pm	
Saturday	Worship	5:30 pm
Sunday	Worship	8:30 & 10:30 am
	Sunday School	9:30 – 10:20 am
	Care Team meeting	9:45 am
	Fellowship Hall reserved for Girl Scouts at 2:00	

Cross of Calvary Youth

Breakfast Club is for Youth in grades 10-12. We will meet every Thursday morning at 7:07 am.

Youth Band will practice on Wednesday evening at 8:30 pm. Let Jeni know if you are interested in participating.

Wonders on Wednesday (WOW) is our weekly after school program for 4-6th graders. Students can ride bus 3 to church on Wednesdays for snack, free time, games, Bible dramas, singing, and interactive prayer time. Kids can be picked up at 5 pm.

Jesus Justice League is our monthly after school program for 1-3 graders. Students can ride bus 3 to church the 2nd Tuesday of the month for snack and an opportunity to "play" Bible stories through games, drama, science, art and singing. Kids can be picked up at 5 pm.

Coffee hour is a time for God's people at Cross of Calvary to minister to each other through caring conversation. All members with youth in grades 1-12 are scheduled one time during the year. Please bring 3 doz. Treats. Directions are posted on the kitchen cupboard. Thank you for serving in this way.

December Coffee Hour	2		No Coffee Hour Snowflake Bazaar – Everyone Welcome!
	9	Youth Families	Tim & Bobbi Kopel Matt & Dani Larson Craig & Jamie Lothert
	16	Youth Families	Greg & Dawn Mertens Kevin & Sandra Whited Ben & Sara Wussow
	23		No Coffee Hour
	30		No Coffee Hour

If a group would like to serve for Coffee Hour on Dec. 23 or 30, please let Jeni or Sue know.

THERE IS *Nothing* TOO GREAT OR TOO SMALL
FOR PRAYER

Prayer Request

Please take your bulletin home and pray for those listed.

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 320- 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.

*Fay Kuznia - Friends

*Luella Norberg – Lynnette Blem’s mother

*Donna Greenwell – Family

*Judy Kopacek – Ron Kopacek

*Jane (Dillon) Bruns – Kathy Brown sister

*Marlys Schumacher – Bruce Metteer mother

*Tracey Becker – Nathan & Angela Cole

*Mikaelson Family – Gordy & Lynnette Blem

*Susie Lothert – Friends and Family

*Pat Schmitz – Michelle Jensen’s mother

Cross of Calvary Events/News

Note for your calendar:

Annual Meeting is January 27th at 9:30 am

Bible Women: “All Their Words and Why They Matter by Lindsay Hardin Freeman will start Dec. 13, 8:15-9:30 am in the church library. Books are \$20.00. (Order thru Sue in the office) If you have already ordered, books have arrived!!

Gideon International would like to thank Cross of Calvary Church for their generous donation of \$801.00 toward their mission.

Offering thru October
YTD receipts – 158,155.00
Needed YTD per budget – 228,975.00

*Snowflake Bazaar:
Sunday, Dec. 2nd*



DECEMBER VOLUNTEERS

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

USHERS 8:30 – Keith Larson, Nate Bahl,
Dave & Sue Lindquist

10:30 – Steve & Sue Altmann

Christmas Eve – 4:30 pm Dave & Sue Lindquist

Christmas Eve – 9:00 pm?

ACOLYTES 8:30 – Cole & Kenzie Visser

10:30 – Leo Adamski & McKenna Siems

ALTAR GUILD Jenny Evenson & Lisa Meints

CLICKERS

Note: if you are the usher for the 8:30 service, you are responsible for the 9:00 service.

Girl Scout Silver Award Ceremony

Sunday, Dec. 9th, 3 pm - Cross of Calvary Fellowship Hall

Honoring Lily Thompson, Kiera Fischer and Jaedan Batdorf

Project: Tied blankets for Santa's Closet and the VA in St. Cloud.

Reception to follow ceremony, All are welcome.





This Christmas: the Altar Guild is promoting the ELCA Good Gifts program.

What are you asking of me?

You are encouraged to join in support of long-term, sustainable solutions that nourish the hungry, heal the sick and respond to needs around the world.

Make your donation in HONOR to or in MEMORY of loved ones and ensure that your good gifts last for more than a couple of days or weeks. They will keep on giving for years to come.

What about poinsettias?

This opportunity for giving is in place of purchasing poinsettias for the Altar. Have no worry, the Altar Guild will be placing a number of poinsettias around the Altar for Christmas.

My donation?

Any donation is welcomed. The amount you give will remain confidential, yet will show up on your yearly giving statement. Please make checks to Cross of Calvary.

Deadlines?

Monday, December 17, is the last day to submit a donation, because the names of those for whom you honor will be listed in the Christmas bulletin.

How do I make a donation?

- Envelopes are in the church entry.
- Fill in the information on the front.
- Place your check or cash inside.
- Seal.
- Put envelopes in the mailbox outside the office door (not in the offering plate, please)



Give
something
unexpected
this
Christmas.



Cross of Calvary

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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.

Community Events/News

Santa's Closet: We are ready to accept referrals, donation and volunteers. All gift items are welcome: toys, logos, science kits, games, art supplies, toy cars, trucks, activity kits, building toys, dolls, clothing, teen items, household goods, warm gloves and mittens, items for men and women, warm blankets and quilts.. A basket will available at church. Please see flyer for more information.

St. Mary's CCW Theme Basket Silent Auction, Bake Sale & BBQ meal, December 8th & 9th at St. Mary's Church Hall in Bird Island. Bake sale & Silent Auction will me Saturday from 3-6 and Sunday from 9:30 – 12:30. (More information on the board)

**December 2, 2018
FIRST SUNDAY OF
ADVENT**



HYMN OF THE WEEK

Wake, Awake, for night Is Flying

We wait for Jesus with faith and hope.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Luke 21:25-36	The coming of the Son of Man
Monday	Jeremiah 33:14-16	The Lord's wonderful promise
Tuesday	1 Thessalonians 3:9-13	Paul's words of thanks
Wednesday	Nehemiah 9:6-15	God's faithful goodness
Thursday	Revelation 22:12-16	Jesus is coming soon
Friday	Malachi 3:5-12	Return to God
Saturday	Psalms 25:1-10	A prayer for help
Sunday	Luke 3:1-6	Prepare the way of the Lord

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long. **Psalm 25:5 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. In you I place my trust, O God, and wait for you all day long. Amen. (Psalm 25:1-2, 5)

Mealtime Prayer:

Lord Jesus, bless us with hope and faithfulness as we prepare for your coming. We give thanks for the gift of food that strengthens us as we wait. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another as we await the coming of our Lord Jesus. (1 Thessalonians 3:12-13)

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What do you hope for during this Season of Advent?
- What does the advertising industry want you to hope for? How is this different from our hope and faith in Jesus Christ?
- Jesus says that when scary times happen, stand tall because God's saving work is near (Luke 21:28, 36). Tell or think about a time you were scared and relied on God's presence.

DEVOTIONS

Read: Jeremiah 33:14-16.

Waiting is not easy, especially for those who are impatient types.

Whether it is described as waiting for the "righteous branch to spring up for David" (v. 15), or Christ's return as the "Son of Man coming in a cloud" (Luke 21:27), the people of God have been a waiting people.

What makes the waiting bearable—even joyous—is that the waiting is joined by God's powerful word filled with glory: "The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made" (v. 14).

Salvation and security are the work of the one who is known by this name: "The LORD is our righteousness." The church, the body of Christ, is given confidence to wait and to endure difficult times. We are strengthened by God's word to be alert, to pray, and to stand boldly (Luke 21:36). What do you wait for boldly with confidence and joy?

Pray: The Lord's Prayer.

SERVICE

While making your own Advent wreath, purchase an extra wreath frame and candles for a friend, neighbor, or someone in your family to use during Advent. Take time to visit with them and light the first candle using the words found below. Make a plan to visit this person each week as you prepare for the coming of Christ.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

The Advent Wreath is a common Advent home tradition. Make or purchase a round wreath frame and decorate with greens, ribbons, or other materials. Place a white candle in the center and four blue candles around it. Light one blue candle this first week, the candle of expectation and hope. Read the following after lighting your first Advent candle:

***Leader:* The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."** (Jeremiah 33:14-16)

***All:* Lord, thank you for your promise to us filled with expectation and hope. Amen.**