



**Cross of Calvary**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

# *The Follower*

## January 2019



Happy New Year!

We begin another new year and there seems to be something every single year that brings hope and promise. We have a fresh slate, a new beginning, new hopes, freedom. There is a joy that comes with all of this.

But, even in the midst of all this excitement of a new beginning we have a hard time letting go of the old. The one thing that I am thinking of is when we sit down to write the date. It can be a struggle for a while to write down the right year. Try practicing writing 2019 for a while, it might help.

The thing is that we get this new start every single day as followers of Christ. Every morning when we wake up we are made new in the waters of baptism. We enter everyday as freed, forgiven and loved by a God who has given his son to us so that we may have life. It is a fresh slate, a new beginning, new hopes, freedom—every single day!

Similar to the way we have a hard time writing the new date down, we have a hard time remembering this new beginning we receive every single day. But, we can do it. Remember I said practice writing 2019 down over and over? Well, practice remembering you are a child of God. It's hard to remember in the morning, but a well-placed note card or post it in a mirror is a great way to remember that you are loved Child of God set free this day and every day to live in his grace!

Blessings for a grace filled beginning of the year (and day)!

In Christ,

Pastor Matt

**Annual Congregational Meeting**  
**January 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am**

**The 2019 proposed budget will be available January 20th.**

### Annual Report Committee & Financial Reports

I'm writing to make sure everyone is getting ready for the Annual Meeting which will be held on Sunday, January 27th I truly appreciate your cooperation in getting these reports to me by January 14th so that I have time to prepare the full packets Thank you so very much and I anxiously wait to hear from you all. Remember, preferred deadline – January 14th.

Sue Altmann, Office Administrator

# Cross of Calvary Youth

**Breakfast Club** is for Youth in grades 10-12 and will begin at 7:07 am on Thursdays at Cross of Calvary

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

**Wonders on Wednesday (WOW)** are 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, Cooking club, serving at the Food shelf, 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.

**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 240 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. Sign-up sheet are on the BOARD. Dates with openings: Jan. 2, 23, Feb. 6, Feb. 27, April 24 and May 1. There are also 2 spots open on Jan. 16 and Feb. 13, for one more family to join.

**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.

January Coffee Hour	6	Youth	Reggie & Jessica Lothert Craig & Becky Mages Brandon & Amanda Malvin
	13	Youth	Ken & Lisa Meints Jeanne Welchance Ashley Roach & Jon Hawkinson
	20	Youth	Jeremy & Kris Kopel Justin & Jodi Gilberts Kelsey Wertish
Annual Meeting	27		Cross of Calvary Staff

## **JANUARY VOLUNTEERS**

COMMUNION:           8:30 – Dana Boen, 10:30 – DeeAnne Newville  
 USHERS                8:30 – Greg Mertens, Trey Mertens, Bill Kopel & Jeff Keltgen  
                               10:30 – Ushers needed  
 ACOLYTES             8:30 – Jack Iverson & Jerson Kopka  
                               10:30 – David Garcia & George Garcia  
 ALTAR GUILD   Ronda Berg & Tami Stovern

# Cross of Calvary Church News/Events

## **Bible Studies**

**Dorcas Bible Study** will meet the 4th Wednesday of the month at 9:30 am. Please meet in the Fellowship Hall.

**Ruth Bible Study** will meet the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday at 1:30 pm. Please meet at Parkview place.

**Men's Bible Study:** Tuesday at either 6:15 am or 7:00 am. Please meet in the Church Library.

**Bible Women:** "All Their Words and Why They Matter" by Lindsay Hardin Freeman is Thursday at 8:15-9:30 am in the church library. We have covered Eve, Sarah, Lot's older daughter and Rebekah. If you cannot be there on Thursdays, consider getting the book and following along. If you have any ideas about how we might do a group online, please talk to Jeni.

**Cross of Calvary Care Team:** We will meet every month on the 2nd Sunday from 9:30 – 10:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. Contact DeeAnne Newville if interested in joining.

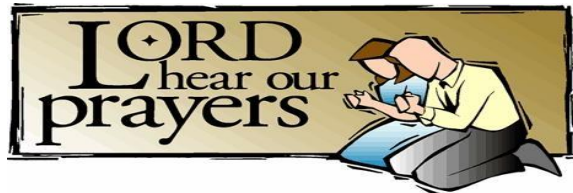
**Worship Committee Meeting:** Tuesday, January 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. - anyone interested in helping choose hymns and plan worship is welcome!!

Does anyone know who takes care of the Children's busy bags?? If you know, please contact the church office. Thanks☺ 320-523-1574



Quilters will start the 1st Thursday in January at 9:00 am (January 3<sup>rd</sup>)

## **Prayer Request Prayer Matters!**



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 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.

- \*Bob Smith – Casey Elfering grandfather
- \*Luella Norberg – Lynnette Blem's mother
- \*Judy Kopacek – Ron Kopacek
- \*Mikaelson Family – Gordy & Lynnette Blem
- \*Susie Lothert – Friends and Family
- \*Neva Geweke – Angie Boen sister
- \*Gordy Straw – Angie Boen nephew
- \*Alexa Fischer – Alicia Osthus Family
- \* June (Dillon) Bruns – Kathy Brown's sister

**NEEDED:** I will need a sub for the church office January 7-11, 2019. I will be at a church related class. Please let me know if you are able to help. The need is for someone to be in the office to answer phone calls and help anyone in need.

Thanks, Sue

# 12/23/18 Stewardship Temple Talk

*Given by Gordy Blem, Council President and representing the Church Council*

Last January we as a congregation voted on adopting the budget for this year in the amount of \$277,200. This seemed doable as we met last year's budget and had a positive fund balance.

The only additional project that was done here this year was the new shed and NO funds were used from the General Budget. While the shed did cost \$18,000 the congregation members that were interested in that separate project only gave about \$4,000 toward it. The majority was paid by previously earned funds donated from Ham Dinner group, Bazaar group, Men's Club, and Thrivent funds.

If you look back year after year no matter the economy we as a congregation have made our budget.... and we thank **YOU** for making that happen. Yes, thank you for sharing your time and talents as you are able.

For whatever reasons this year we realized during the summer that we were falling behind the norm. Therefore on Rally Sunday we gave a brief budget update temple talk with a touch of humor stating how "God didn't take the summer off but some of us apparently did".

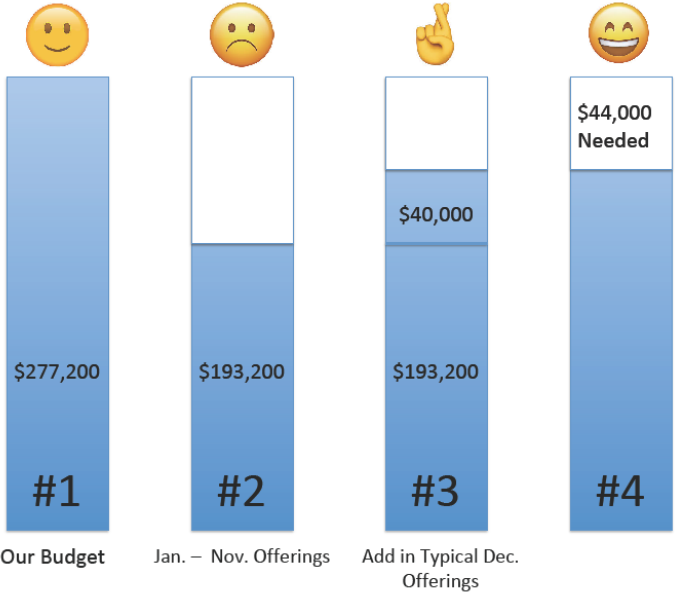
Since then Pastor gave a wonderful sermon based on the joys of stewardship and we have placed **many notes** in the Follower and your weekly bulletins about the fact that the offering is lagging way behind monthly expenses.

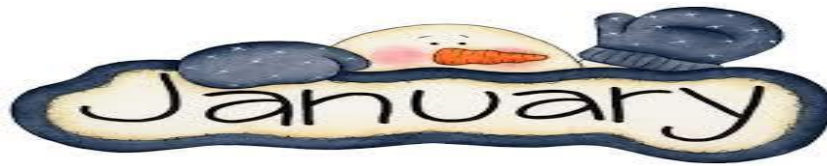
Therefore, as Council President I stand before you today in the awkward position of having to show you the year end problem with our financial position.

1. Annual budget \$277,200
2. Offering received through November \$193,200
3. Average of December and Christmas offerings over past years \$40,000
4. So if that anticipated December offering does happen again we will have received \$233,200 to finish year (\$193,200 plus \$40,000=\$233,200)
5. That means we are still **SHORT** \$44,000 to pay commitments here.
6. Final note is that we did enter the year with a \$70,000 fund balance. As many of you know that fund balance has now **diminished** to \$20,000. **WHY?** That's because we decided to heat the church, pay the organists,...well you get the picture. However, without replenishing that balance it means we will enter 2019 with a limited reserve and if this trend continues we would be forced to look at some painful options. As I prayed over preparing this message I kept focusing on line 6 in the Lord's Prayer....Give us this day our daily bread...Which means our **NEEDS**.

Are we as a church family willing to **TRUST** that God will work through us and provide this need? **SO....**What's the good news? First, We still have a week left to make this happen and, Second, No matter how big the debt, God's love for US is bigger yet.

Pastor Matt concluded with a wonderful prayer calling on the Holy Spirit to move in us that we work to fulfill our budget commitment.





01/02	Alan Kircher	01/09	Haeden Honzay	01/20	Ella Jo Mages
01/02	Connor Weber	01/10	Jeanne Welchance	01/20	Cade Morse
01/03	Tom Revier	01/11	Breanna Balderston	01/21	Abby Steffel
01/04	Shane Malvin	01/11	Jessica Altmann	01/21	Devin Nere
01/04	McKenna Lilja	01/12	Stephanie Wallert	01/21	Martin Mittelstadt
01/04	Landon Robideau	01/14	Aiden Grund	01/22	Dennis Barta
01/04	Emma Dahl	01/16	Faye Johnson	01/22	Pamela Dettmann
01/05	Matt Holland	01/16	Sandy Balderston	01/23	Taylor Sagedahl
01/05	Henry Helin	01/17	Nancy Berry	01/24	Nancy Mages
01/06	Michelle Jensen	01/17	Rebecca Thiesse	01/24	Julie Slaughter
01/07	John Balgaard	01/17	John Morse	01/25	Kathie Zimmer
01/07	Sara Wussow	01/17	Avery Kopel	01/25	Brian Klinghagen
01/07	Krista Nelson	01/17	Doug Knudsen	01/26	Bob Honzay
01/08	Myra Lindquist	01/18	Heidi Gross	01/27	Duane Senger
01/08	Max Kingery	01/18	Sara Benson	01/27	Cameron Larson
01/08	Becky Nelson	01/18	Cheryl Mallak	01/27	Andrew Woelfel
01/08	Alex Gay	01/19	Jason Dobmeier	01/28	Jazlynn Cluka
01/08	Elsa Skeie	01/19	Logan Triplett	01/29	Elaine Livingood
01/09	Nolan Ditterich			01/30	Hank Larson
01/09	Hunter Evenson			01/31	Sandy Gay
				01/31	Tim Kopel
				01/31	Travis Honzay



## *“Good Gifts” for Christmas”*

*Thank you!*

*The money will go towards a farm for a family in need!!!*

### **Given By:**

David Torgelson  
Keith and Stacey Larson  
Joanne Balgaard  
Steve, Sue,  
Chloe & Lanie Altmann  
Edith Vogt  
Steven Erickson  
Ron and Linda Fahse  
Stan & Sue Malecek  
Ken & Eleanor Ziesmer  
Barb Hausken  
Pastor Matt, Sarah, Leif & Bjorn Hausken

### In **MEMORY** of

John Torgelson  
Paul and Mark Vogt; Mildred Larson  
Denny Balgaard  
Paige Altmann & Del Altmann

### Loved Ones

Joni Erickson  
Claire, Selma & Roger Moe  
Our many cousins  
Our parents  
Rev. Terje Hausken  
Rev. Terje Hausken

### **Given By:**

Stacey & Keith Larson  
Rosalie Sheggeby  
Grasmon Family  
Bjorn Hausken

### In **HONOR** of

Eva, Hanna and Cam Larson  
Emerson and Noah Sheggeby  
In thankfulness for Cross of Calvary's Caring Support  
My Sunday School teacher: Stacey Larson

### **Donation Given By:**

Dennis & Karen Barta

# January 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>New Year Day</b>	1 Men's Bible Study 6:15 am and 7:00 am	2 Confirmation Meal 5:45 Class 6:30-7:30  WOW 3:15-5:00	3 Quilters at 9:30	4	5 Worship 5:30 pm
6 Worship 8:30 am and 10:30 am Sunday School 9:30-10:20	7 Library Reserved 6:00-8:00 pm  Boy Scout 6-8 pm  Pastor Matt, Jeni, Sarah and Sue – out of office	8 Men's Bible Study 6:15 am and 7:00 am  Jesus Justice League 3:15-5:00  Pastor Matt, Jeni, Sarah and Sue – out of office	9 Confirmation Meal 5:45 Class 6:30-7:30  WOW 3:15-5:00 <b>*Nominees due</b>  Pastor Matt, Jeni, Sarah and Sue – out of office	10 Quilters at 9:30  Pastor Matt, Jeni, Sarah and Sue – out of office	11  Pastor Matt, Jeni, Sarah and Sue – out of office	12 Worship 5:30 pm
13 Worship 8:30 am and 10:30 am Sunday School 9:30-10:20  <b>*Baptism Anniversary (both services)</b>  Care Team Mtg. 9:45	14 Library Reserved 6:00-8:00 pm  Boy Scout 6-8 pm  <b>*Annual Meeting Committee reports due by noon</b>	15 Men's Bible Study 6:15 am and 7:00 am	16 Confirmation Meal 5:45 Class 6:30-7:30  WOW 3:15-5:00  Children Youth & Family Mtg. 6pm  <b>Church Council Mtg. At 7:30 pm</b>	17 Quilters at 9:30	18	19 Worship 5:30 pm
20 Worship 8:30 am and 10:30 am Sunday School 9:30-10:20	21 Library Reserved 6:00-8:00 pm  Boy Scout 6-8 pm  <b>February Follower deadline</b>	22 Men's Bible Study 6:15 am and 7:00 am  Giving Statements will be mailed	23 Confirmation Meal 5:45 Class 6:30-7:30  WOW 3:15 – 5:00  Dorcus – 9:30 am at church	24 Quilters at 9:30	25	26 Worship 5:30 pm
27 Worship 8:30 am and 10:30 am Sunday School 9:30-10:20  <b>*Annual Meeting at 9:30 am</b>	28 Library Reserved 6:00-8:00 pm  Boy Scout 6-8 pm  Ruth at 1:30 at Parkview	29 Men's Bible Study 6:15 am and 7:00 am	30 Confirmation Meal 5:45 Class 6:30-7:30  WOW 3:15 – 5:00	31 Quilters at 9:30	1	2 Worship 5:30 pm

**Cross of Calvary Lutheran Church COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Minutes for: Wednesday, November 14, 2018 @ 7:30pm**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Dana Boen	2020	Jon Hawkinson	2021*	Eric Skeie	2019*
Curt Sather	2020	Laurence Stratton	2021	Natasha Johnson	2019*
Jill Hanson	2020	Paul Buhr	2019	Alex Gay	2021
DeeAnne Newville	2020*	Gordon Blem	2019		
Steve Altmann	2021*				

Terms end at Annual Meeting (Jan.)  
\*Second term

**STAFF**

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

**(All Present at meeting)**

**AGENDA**

1. Meeting called to order- Gordy Blem
2. Devotions – *Steve Altmann*
3. Approve minutes of the **November meeting** – Motion to approve the minutes by Eric Skeie, seconded by Dana Boen, motion passed.
4. Financial Secretary and Treasurer Reports – **November** - Motion to approve the treasurer/secretary report by Steve Altmann, seconded by Jill Hanson, motion passed.
5. Pastor's report - Staff is getting ready for Christmas with a lot of special music being shared this year. Thank you to all who will be participating.

January 2<sup>nd</sup>, service Olivia Hanson will be sharing her faith talk with the congregation in place of the sermon. Confirmation will start with new material in January. Working with the 3 grades has been working wonderfully. Pastor Matt will be attending a class, which will be paid for by a scholarship.

He will be receiving an Executive Certificate for Stewardship/Fundraising this June from this class.

6. Parish Ministers report – reports were printed, stop in the office or call to receive a report.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS (2018)**

1. Administration – Gordy Blem, Curt Sather & Steve Altmann – The old shed has been removed. The new shed is working out wonderfully. Shelves are being placed in the shed to store items. (Thank you Mark Schломann and Chet Boen)
  7. The front door on the parsonage has been replaced. There is still a need to fix the tile around the door.
    - A motion was made by Curt Sather and seconded by Eric Skeie to approve a \$1500 furniture allowance at the parsonage – motion passed.
    - A large discussion on the present budget and the 2019 budget was discussed. A temple talk is scheduled for December 23<sup>rd</sup>, given by Gordy Blem (President of Council)
2. Children, Youth and Family- Natasha Johnson: No report
3. Equipping – Eric Skeie & Laurence Stratton – Larry Strenge from the SW MN Synod came to the meeting to help with ideas on Stewardship in our congregation and how to improve our giving.
4. Missions – Paul Buhr & Alex Gay: No report
5. Worship and Music – Paul Buhr & Jill Hanson: No report
6. Care Team – DeeAnne Newville: No report
7. Parish Life – Dana Boen: They will be meeting next month, there has been a committee formed!!
8. Outreach – Jon Hawkinson & Jill Hanson: They are working on a brochure for new members/working on updating the information on the website/will be working to get more information about Cross of Calvary on Facebook.
9. Technology – Steve Altmann: Concern with the copy machine and how long it will last?
10. AED Maintenance – Steve Altmann

**OLD BUSINESS**

- Dick Alton has taken all the parts he wants, piano needs to be disposed of.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Annual meeting will be January 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am
- Annual Meeting Committee reports are due January 14<sup>th</sup>; please have the reports in to the office ASAP.
- Endowment funds: Ronda Berg is on the committee. She will be researching what, if anything to use the funds.

Next Council meeting: Wednesday, January 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm  
January Communion: 8:30 – Dana Boen, 10:30 – DeeAnne Newville  
January Devotion – Dana Boen

**Adjourn / Close in prayer.**