

# Cross of Calvary Lutheran Church

1103 W. Chestnut Ave. Olivia, MN

320-523-1574

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**February 9, 2020**

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.**

## **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.





## February 9 – February 16

Sunday 2-9	<b>Worship</b>	<b>8:30 AM &amp; 10:30 AM</b>
	<b>Sunday School</b>	
	Adult Class	9:30 – 10:20 AM
	Equipping Meeting	11:30 AM
	Dodgeball	5-9 PM
Monday 2-10	Library reserved	6:00–8:00 PM
Tuesday 2-11	Men’s Bible Study	6:15 AM/7:00 AM
Wednesday 2-12	WOW	3:15 – 5:00 PM
	Confirmation	5:30 – 7:30 PM
	Theology on Tap	7:30 PM
Thursday 2-13	Breakfast Club	7:07 AM
	Women’s Bible Study	8:15 AM
	Quilters	9:30 AM
Friday 2-14	Parkview	9:30 AM
Saturday 2-15	<b>Worship Service</b>	<b>5:30 PM</b>
	<b>Baptism</b>	
Sunday 2-16	<b>Worship/Sunday School</b>	<b>8:30 AM &amp; 10:30 AM</b>
	Adult Class	9:30 – 10:20 AM

**2019 Financial Giving Statements** have be placed in everyone’s mailbox. (Or on the bench in the Narthex) **Please stop and pick yours up!**

**Science & Faith Adult Forum:** Mark Thiesse will facilitate participants through a process of wrestling with the tension between faith and science; opening the door for honest questioning and the suggestion that the two just might be able to work together to make each more meaningful. Sundays at 9:30 AM in the Sanctuary; Feb 2, 9, 23 and March 1

# Cross of Calvary Youth

## Coffee Hour Servers for February

February 9 - Ryan & Natasha Johnson  
Ken & Lisa Meints  
Alison Johnson  
February 16 - Tom & Alicia Osthus  
Freddie & Monica Ridler  
Brian & Heather Weis  
February 23 - Robert & Nanette Serbus  
Dalen & Jamie Stryker  
Tina Garberich



## Confirmation Meals for February

February 12 – Papa Murphy Pizza  
February 19 – Cassandra Adamski, Elisha Garcia & Tina Garberich  
February 26 – Ash Wednesday, Soup Supper

**DODGEBALL LEAGUE** for 9-12 grades: Our area churches are sponsoring a Dodgeball league on four Sundays: Jan. 12, Feb. 9, Mar. 8, and Apr. 5. If you are not on a team yet, come play anyway and have fun! Don't want to play? No problem, come and cheer on your friends.

**Boundless: God beyond measure** is the theme for the National Youth gathering in 2021, June 29-July 3 in Minneapolis. It is based on Ephesians 3:19 CEV. If you are now in grades 8-11, you will be eligible to attend this event. Please sign up on the drinking fountain board/youth board if you are interested. Put the dates on your calendar and start raising money. Check this link to get a preview.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ghdWHO5Ajkw&t=8s>

## **More Fundraisers ahead:**

Ash Wednesday Soup Supper - February 26 (Person needed to organize)  
Palm Sunday Breakfast and Auction - April 5 (Person needed to organize)  
Spring Fling flower sales - Mid-April with delivery before Mother's Day

# February Volunteers



8:30 – Zane Boen + need 1 more

10:30 – Parker Ridler  
Maddie Ridler



8:30 – Daren Sagedahl, Brian Boen,  
Todd Gay & Stan Malecek  
10:30 – Corey Gluesing & Aaron  
Thompson



## **COMMUNION:**

8:30 AM – Alex Gay  
10:30 AM – Reggie Lothert

## **CLICKER**

8:30 AM – John Morse  
10:30 AM – Bjorn Hausken

**ALTAR GUILD:** Lynnette Blem & Lowanda Frank

## Sign up form is on “The Board”

### **Dates:**

February 26 – Youth  
March 5 – Men’s Group  
March 18 –  
March 25 –  
April 1 -



## **Community News**

**Restorative Justice Volunteers Wanted:** Information Meeting on Thursday, Feb. 20 & 27 from 5-6 PM Open Community Circles on Tuesday, March 3, 17, 31 from 5:30-7:30 PM –for more information see the Flyer on the east board.

**Briar Lippert Benefit:** Feb. 29 from 4-8:00 PM at Max’s Grill

# 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.



Phil Bahl – Nate Bahl father

Family of Larry Amberg

Tim & Emily Merten family – Angela Cole

Military personal and their families

Linda Cole – Nathan Cole's mother

Kathy Brown – Family and Friends

Kathy Johnson – Scott Johnson

Bev Beckman – Blem Family

Ron Balgaard – brother in law to Joanne Balgaard

Maggie Bauer – Hausken family

Nancy Dykes - Friends

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**Equipping Congregations Day:** Saturday, Feb. 29 from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM in Willmar, MN. Please check out the poster on the east entrance bulletin board. This is for anyone in the congregation; please consider experience this wonderful event.

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**THRIVENT  
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*Connecting faith & finances for good.®*

**Thrivent members: 2019 Thrivent Choice Dollars need to be designated on or before March 31st, 2020.**

# Hope for safety and stability

Manhal says that the day in June 2009 when Lutheran Services Carolinas (LSC) met him at the airport was the best day of his life. A refugee from Iraq, Manhal says he realized that starting over wouldn't be easy, but with hard work he's forged a career for himself in the Columbia hospitality industry. He began his hotel career doing things that no one really enjoys, like cleaning bathrooms. Some days, he said, he'd go home and cry. But he never doubted that he could make something of himself. Within a year and a half he was promoted to supervisor, and later, he earned his current job as a manager. Manhal is not alone in his success. Dylan Gunnels, a job recruiter for LSC's refugee services program, explained that 96% of LSC's refugee clients in the Columbia area become self-sufficient within the first 180 days of arriving in this country, which means they are getting and maintaining jobs and able to cover their expenses. In the long term, Gunnels said, studies have shown that refugees will eventually contribute more in taxes than they received in relocation benefits and other public assistance. Manhal already has a good hotel job but says he hasn't achieved all of his goals — he aspires to be a general manager one day. "I will never stop dreaming about my future," he said. Gifts to ELCA World Hunger have supported Lutheran Services Carolinas and other ministries as they provide support for refugees who are working to build a new life in a new home. WH40Days2020



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**MAIL:** Make your check payable to "ELCA World Hunger" and write "40 Days of Giving" on your check's memo line. Place your gift in your congregation's offering plate or mail it to: ELCA, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009. **ONLINE:** [ELCA.org/40Days](http://ELCA.org/40Days) **PHONE:** 800-638-3522 Your gifts to ELCA World Hunger support innovative solutions that fight hunger and poverty in more than 60 countries around the world, including the United States. Will you help with your gift today? **YES!** I would like to support ELCA World Hunger (WHG0038) I have enclosed my gift of \$100 I have enclosed my gift of \$250 Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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## GIVING ONLINE at Cross of Calvary

Cross of Calvary is reminding you can now manage your giving online! Giving online is easy and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the Internet.

### **Simply follow these easy steps:**

- 1) Visit the church website at [crossofcalvary.net](http://crossofcalvary.net)
- 2) Click on the GIVE button,
- 3) Click on HERE TO GIVE, then
- 4) Follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your recurring contributions.



**February 9, 2020**

## **Fifth Sunday After Epiphany**



### **HYMN OF THE WEEK**

Let Us Ever WSalk with Jesus

***See the world through the cross of Christ.***

### **DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

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

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Matthew 5:13-20</b>	<b>Salt and light</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Isaiah 58:1-12</b>	<b>False and true worship</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>1 Corinthians 2:1-16</b>	<b>True wisdom of God</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Galatians 2:17-21</b>	<b>Everyone is saved by faith</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>1 Peter 2:21-25</b>	<b>Example of Christ's suffering</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>1 Corinthians 1:18-31</b>	<b>Christ is God's power and wisdom</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Psalms 112:1-10</b>	<b>Blessings of the righteous</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Matthew 5:21-37</b>	<b>Teachings of Jesus</b>

### **SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK**

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. 1 Corinthians 2:1-2 (NRSV)

### **PRAYERS AND BLESSING**

A Prayer for the Week:

Eternal God, help us to see that through the cross of Christ we are made your people and to be the salt of the earth to share your saving work with others. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, may the gift of this food remind us of your generosity and your desire for us to provide food for the needy. Amen. (Isaiah 58:7)

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord bless you with a generous heart that trusts in God. (Psalm 112:5-7)

## CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- ❑ When have you helped someone go through a sad time?
- ❑ Talk or think about a sad time you have experienced. Who helped you?
- ❑ The cross of Christ is about Jesus' suffering and death so that we may know God's eternal love. How does knowing that Christ suffered help you in daily life?

## DEVOTIONS

*Read:* 1 Corinthians 2:1-16.

Paul contrasts the strength and wisdom of the world with the strength and wisdom of God. What is most important is knowing "Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles" because it is "the power of God and the wisdom of God." The Corinthians are fixated on their spiritual gifts and special wisdom, but that only divides the community. Paul wants to unite the community as the body of Christ in the world. Spiritual gifts are all based on the work of God, not on people's own spiritual powers. Therefore, Christians are not to get caught up on who has the "better" spiritual gifts. What does matter is to know that the uniqueness of the spiritual life is to see everything through the death and resurrection of Christ, which is the true wisdom and strength that gives faith, hope, and love to a world in need. How does seeing the world through the cross of Christ help you as a follower of Jesus?

*Pray:* **God of wisdom and might, give us faith to see in the cross of Christ your healing and redeeming work in the world. Amen.**

## SERVICE

Jesus tells his followers "you are the salt of the earth" (Matthew 5:13). Think about what this means for us. In Jesus' day salt was used for many things from preserving and flavoring food to using it as money. Make a bowl of popcorn and set aside a salt shaker. Place several pieces of popcorn on a napkin. For each piece of popcorn, name someone who is in need. Then shake salt on the popcorn and as you taste its saltiness think about how "you are the salt of the earth" and can add flavor and a little something extra to the lives of those who are in need.

## RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Faith is caught more than it is taught. Praying in the faith community is visible as we kneel, fold hands, or bow our heads. The ritual of prayer is important and something that is "caught" through years of worship together. The ritual of daily prayer in our homes is important also. Make a list of the different ways you pray in your home. Practice getting "caught" in the act of prayer by family members or when others visit to establish a tradition in your home that many will learn and look forward to doing with you for generations to come.