



# The Follower

**November 2020**  
**Cross of Calvary Lutheran Church**  
**1103 W. Chestnut Ave.**  
**Olivia, MN 56277**

By definition, 20/20 vision is a term used to say that someone sees at a distance of 20 feet what should normally be seen at 20 feet. There is a strange irony in the fact that we are living in 2020 and nothing is really clear at any distance. We are looking for clarity with the virus, politics and racial tension. There doesn't seem to be any clear vision ahead. Living through past struggles in life, you gain hindsight and you can see how God was active in those struggles. You can see that you were not alone. It's explained in the poem "Footprints in the Sand" that in the struggles in life we see only one set of footprints. In those times, on first, blurry glance, we appeared to be walking alone. However, in hindsight, with 20/20 vision, we see that it was then that God carried us. During this year of 2020, we most likely are not seeing clearly. Maybe it is time for corrective vision. As we near the end and look back on this year, what might we see with '20/20' vision? Where did you see God in your life every day? God is with you, always, even to the end of the age.

Jeni Skeie



# YOUTH

## **Faith @ Home Toolbox**

We have had a wonderful time sharing Faith @ Home Toolboxes all over town. Thank you to everyone who came out! For those of you who missed it, we'll be sharing them after Sunday 5:30 pm worship throughout the year. We'll contact you to schedule a time to give you your Faith @ Home Toolbox and teach you how to use it. Weekly Faith 5 Bible stories will be posted at on our website. [sarah.hausken@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.hausken@gmail.com) or [Jeniskeie@gmail.com](mailto:Jeniskeie@gmail.com)

## **Faith 5**

This simple faith practice deeply connects people to God and one another, and connects faith to daily life.

FAITH 5 carries the power to enrich communication, deepen understanding, and promote mental, and spiritual health.

The five steps are:

STEP 1: SHARE your highs and lows

STEP 2: READ a Bible verse or story

STEP 3: TALK about how the Bible reading might relate to your highs and lows or notice what stands out to you in the Bible reading

STEP 4: PRAY for one another's highs and lows

STEP 5: BLESS one another. One examples of a blessing is "I love you and God loves you too"

**Breakfast Club** for 10-12 graders meets every Thursday in the fellowship hall for breakfast, devotions and a prayer. Masks required and there is lots of room for distancing.

**Confirmation lessons** (GREAT for ALL AGES) are taught online by Pastor Matt - they are excellent. We are studying the Gospel of Luke. Check them out on Matt Hausken YouTube channel, or our church website under youth/confirmation. Don't wait too long. We are starting week 3! Each video is 20-25 minutes long. Have your Bible and Highlighter handy. Only 7-9 graders need to send in the assignments. (Wink wink!)

**Junior High Gathering** - This year's theme verse is from Isaiah 43:2 "When you walk through the waters, I will be with you." There will be 3-30 minute sessions, each including a youth faith talk, an element of worship, and a talk by speaker Joe Davis. There will also be service and night life options. It will be an online gathering spread throughout the year. Stay posted for details.

## **November Confirmation Schedule:**

### **Wednesday at 6:30 PM**

November 4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade in person

November 11<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade in person

November 18<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> Grade in person

November 25<sup>th</sup> – No Confirmation

**Our Worship needs Song Leaders** If you would like to lead the hymns at in person worship, please call Jeni or Sue in the office. We would love to hear you and have you lead as we mediate on the words.

**You haven't heard your favorite hymn in a long time?** Please contact someone on the worship committee or call the office to request your favorite hymns. Songs are meaningful and lead us to worship. Help us to include your favorite hymns and worship songs.

### CCOC Thanksgiving Meal

Due to COVID we will be providing Thanksgiving meal Baskets with all the fixings to make a Thanksgiving meal. To register for your Thanksgiving Meal Basket please call 320-523-6318 or email [saraa@ccocmn.org](mailto:saraa@ccocmn.org)

Basket Pick Up: Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> from 1pm - 3pm

At St. Aloysius in Olivia

302 S. 10th Street Olivia, MN 56277

November 1st, 8th, 15 bulletin - Donations

Thanksgiving Dinner is just around the corner and DUE TO COVID this year the CCOC will be doing a Thanksgiving Meal Basket . This basket will contain everything needed to make a thanksgiving meal. We are currently asking for donations of boxes of stuffing, boxes of instant potatoes, frozen turkeys, cans

of corn, cans of cranberries, and gravy packets. Monetary donations are also welcome (please make checks out to CCOC). Donations can be dropped off at St. Aloysius or Master's Cafe.

Thank you for your generosity.

To preorder a basket, please call 523-6318 or email [saraa@ccocmn.org](mailto:saraa@ccocmn.org) , the deadline to order is November 15th. Baskets can be picked up on November 22nd at St. Aloysius from 1pm - 3pm.

Drop off will be available if needed.



### 2020 Community Thanksgiving Dinner News...Donations Needed:

The Christian Community Outreach Center (CCOC) Board has decided to cancel the 2020 In person Thanksgiving Meal. The feeling of community for both diners and volunteers has always been the most important part of the meal and there is no way to replicate the hug at the door this year. So for this year, Thanksgiving Meal Food boxes will be distributed to those requesting them. As the CCOC Board Representative from Cross of Calvary I've volunteered our church to provide Stuffing and gravy mix. After some thought, I think it would be best to ask you for cash donations with food items purchased from local businesses. Any excess donations will be donated to the Food shelf. Make checks payable to CCOC (a 501C3 organization). Watch weekly announcements for how to sign up for a food box.

Please send donations to me at:

Karen Flom, 312 So. 7th St, Olivia, MN 56277 or call me at 320-522-1980 and I can pick them up.



Parish Life Committee presents-in person movie night at Cross of Calvary Sunday, November 1st at 6:45 pm. Meet in the sanctuary to watch and discuss "The Shack". Bring your own snack and covered beverage. Maybe a blanket or a pillow to get comfy in the pews. Distancing and masks required. We reserve the right to cancel if meeting in person becomes unadvised. (Limited number of spaces) Looking forward to growing in community with you! Cost per basket, \$3.00 for one.

Parish Life Committee- Sandra Gay, Dana Boen and Jeni Skeie



Cross of Calvary Yard Signs are in!  
Show your Cross of Calvary pride with a beautiful green and white yard sign!  
Request yours by contacting the church office.  
320-523-1574 or stopping by church to pick yours up!

**Care Team:** A goal of the Care Team at Cross of Calvary has been to develop a Prayer Ministry for our congregation. After reading from Establishing a Prayer Ministry by Bjorn Pedersen, we are including the entire congregation in this ministry rather than limiting it to a telephone chain, or email chain or text chain. Enclosed is a November Prayer Calendar for each of us to post or place in an area in our home where we can be reminded to pray for others every day and see how the power of prayer works in our lives.

We welcome your feedback and hope that you will feel free to email Jeni with your ideas for future calendars.

## **Some suggestions to include in our daily prayers: We Pray For.....**

1. All the Saints who've gone before us....especially those who have died in the past year.
2. For those dealing with natural disasters especially the recent wildfires and hurricanes.
3. The citizens of the US as we cast our ballots and especially for those casting their first ballot.
4. Healing for our divided nation.
5. For all those in Long Term Care, Assisted Living and Group Homes.
6. Newly elected public servants that they may serve You as they serve their constituents.
7. For the gift of new life in newborns
8. For those struggling with their faith
9. For the continued health and safety of our students, teachers and school staff.
10. For the gift of mentors in the faith
11. All US Veterans and their families.
12. For families teaching the faith at home
13. For those struggling with addiction
14. .Our Cross of Calvary Confirmands as they continue their faith journey.
- 15 The Gideons as they spread your Word throughout the world.
16. That God may continue to show us He is guiding us
17. For those struggling with mental health issues
18. Our Church Council and Staff as they meet tonight.
19. For those who aren't able to visit loved ones.
20. All the youth and adults attending the Jr. High Gathering.
21. The safety of all those working in front line occupations
22. Blessings to those in our community who distribute and receive Thanksgiving food baskets.
23. Safe travels for our college students heading home for Thanksgiving.
24. Those who suffer loneliness as the holiday season approaches.
25. Health and safety for all who travel and for those who can't be with family this Holiday.
26. Thank God for our many blessings on this Thanksgiving Day.
27. That members of our church will find ways to share their faith in their everyday lives.
28. Our confirmation students that they will grow in their relationship with God.
29. This first Sunday in Advent we pray with anticipation of the birth of the Baby Jesus.
30. That even through our differences we are able to unite in Your name to work together to serve our neighbors and bring glory to Your kingdom.



## Indoor Worship Times

9:00 AM Indoor service (Mask required)  
5:30 PM Indoor service (Mask required)

### Cross of Calvary In door Service Guidelines

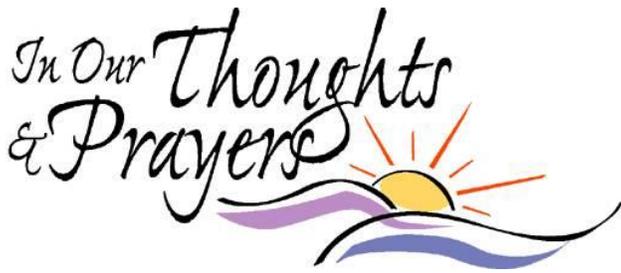
We will follow guidelines to keep your health and safety in mind. Please note the following information below that we will be asking.

Please SELF SCREEN prior to coming to the service. If you have any of the following symptoms which are new or worse than your usual, or you are just no feeling well, please stay home.

- Fever (100.4 F or higher), or feeling feverish?
- Chills?
- Cough?
- Shortness of breath?
- Sore throat?
- Muscle aches?
- Headache?
- Loss of smell or taste?

- If you are over 65 or have underlying health conditions we would encourage you not to attend: we care about your health and safety first! If you feel comfortable attending please come worship. Remember any age is more than welcome. We just want you to be comfortable and safe.

1. Masking – Masks will be required for indoor worship. If you are unable to wear a mask we would recommend a face shield. If you are not able to wear a mask or shield we would ask that you attend remotely by listening on the radio 88.7 FM or watching online.
2. Entering/exiting – Please enter and exit the church thru the same door. When church is done we will exit church from the back to the front of the sanctuary. Please do not crowd the narthex. Please exit the church immediately after the service.
3. Sanitizing – hand sanitizer is placed at all the entrances to the sanctuary. Please sanitize prior to entering the sanctuary to sit down.
4. Seating – We will use every other pew and these are taped to indicate this. Please distance from non-family or household members by 6 feet. The balcony will not be in use.
5. Singing – Due to high rate of virus spread we do not encourage singing. We understand for some this is hard. Humming along to music is a good way to participate. Speaking the liturgy with your mask on is fine.
6. Communion – On communion Sundays there will be communion trays placed inside each door of the sanctuary. After sanitizing your hands you can take your own self-contained communion with you to your seat. We will all commune together and pastor will give instructions on this. There will be garbage cans placed inside the entrances to throw your communion cup when you leave the church.
7. Offering – Offering will be taken but no plate will be passed. Please place your offering in the secure drop box located on the handicapped sign pole on the East side of the church or place your offering envelope in the plate that has been placed at each entrance into the Sanctuary. Remember to maintain physical distance from others when giving your offering.
8. No paper bulletins will be provided. All information/songs/ readings for the service will be on the screen.
9. Restroom will be available. Remember to wash your hands.
10. There will be NO use of the Fellowship Hall and NO coffee hour.



## Prayers of Healing and Strength

Family of Myra Lindquist  
Denise Revier – Family  
Gladie Hagen – Family  
Sandy Alton - Family  
Sandy Kubesh – Family/Friends  
Ralph Taylor – Becky Nelson’s father  
Angie Boen – Family and friends  
Sherry Wold – Courtney Kopel  
grandmother  
Sonja Fostvedt – family  
Paulette Svoboda – family  
Ardith Glockzin – Carol Senkyr sister  
Donna Greenwell

Family of Virginia Draheim  
ALL persons working tirelessly to help with  
the Covid-19 pandemic  
Tim & Emily Merten family – Angela Cole  
Kathy Johnson – Scott Johnson  
Lesley Sagedahl- Sagedahl Family  
Briar Lippert – Friends & Family

Military personal and their families  
Darwin – Sonia Grasmon’s brother  
Teri Vogt – Stacey Larson

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



**Women’s study** will begin again November 5, 8:15-9:30am in person and on zoom. We will be using the book “Lazarus Awakening” by Joanna Weaver (author of Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World). We will be finding our place in the heart of God. There are 12 books available at church. Please pick up in the office or call to reserve one and we can deliver. Cost of the books is \$15

Stephen Ministers are available to visit in person or over the phone if you are in need of someone to talk to about decisions, or you are feeling lonely. During this time when we are physically apart, we want to walk along beside you and want you to know we are here for you. Please call the church office and Sue can pass on your request.

### Faith @ Home Mentors

A central part of Faith @ Home will be mentors for kids and parents. Would you be willing to care for our kids and parents by making a phone call and sending something in the mail once a month?

If so, please contact Sister Sarah 320-579-0838 or sarah.hausken@gmail.com. Thank you!



## **Cross of Calvary Lutheran Church – Council Meeting** **Wednesday, October 21, 2020 at 7:30 PM (ZOOM)**

### COUNCIL MEMBERS

Terms end at Annual Meeting in Jan. \* Second term

Jon Hawkinson	2021*	Jill Hanson	2023*	Jeff Keltgen	2021
Laurence Stratton	2021 AB	Nathan Cole	2022	Jena Bruns	2023
Steve Altmann	2021*	Elaine McDowell	2022	Courtney Kopel	2023-
Alex Gay	2021	Gordon Blem	2022*	Sandra Gay	2021
Sam Welchance	Youth				

### STAFF

Pastor Matt Hausken  
Sister Sarah Hausken, Parish Minister

Sue Altmann, Recorder  
Jeni Skeie, Parish Minister  
Craig Boen, Janitor

## **MINUTES**

### MEETING - Call to Order (President)

1. Devotions – Nate Cole
2. Approve minutes of the September meeting – Motion to approve the minutes by Jon Hawkinson, seconded by Jena Bruns, motion passed.
3. Treasurer Report – September - Motion to approve the treasurer/secretary report by Sandy Gay, seconded by Gordy Blem, motion passed.
4. Pastor's Report
  - There was a wedding in October, along with that Pastor has been busy with pre-marital classes. Visits are getting back to normal; will be done when places open up.
  - Confirmation is up and going. Thank you Jeni Skeie for all your work on organizing classes. This year assignments and homework are being posted on line.
  - Church has been busy with baptism.
  - Pastor has been having a lot of meeting to help with how to handle the holidays coming up.
  - Fall theology conference was done by Zoom. A lot of wonderful information given.
5. Parish Ministers Reports
  - Sarah: Confirmation has been wonderful. Connection with the kids has been great due to only have one class at a time in person. The church is still passing out "Toolboxes". A bible study is posted on the website & Facebook for weekly devotion with families.
  - Jeni: Looking at how to handle the upcoming Junior High Youth Gathering (Nov. 20). Jeni has selected a new book for Women's Bible Study: "Lazarus Awakening". Breakfast Club has started again, very well attended.
6. Office Report (Sue): Nothing to report
7. Maintenance Update (Craig): Nothing to report
8. Committee Reports
  - Administration – Alex Gay, Gordy Blem & Nathan Cole. Hail adjuster has inspected the Church, shed and parsonage. Noted: Church gutters need to be cleaned.
  - Children, Youth & Family - Courtney Kopel. There is no report; this group is working on regrouping.

- Equipping – Laurence Stratton. Moments of Gratitude will continue on Sundays. Financial Peace University Class for October was cancelled due to low numbers. Another class will be offered in January.
  - Missions – Alex Gay. Mission Committee will be giving to Lutheran Disaster Response: \$1,000 for fires, Santa’s Closet: \$1,000, Union Gospel Mission: \$300, House of Hope: \$500, and Project Turnabout: \$370.00
  - Worship & Music – Jill Hanson & Elaine McDowell. Music is all set through November. Thank you, Jeni.
  - Care Team – Jena Bruns. There have been frozen meals donated to church to be distributed to members that are in need. Jeni Skeie and Karen Flom have been delivering. A Prayer Chain and Prayer Calendar are in the works.
  - Parish Life – Sandra Gay. The movie “The Shack” will be shown on November 1st, with a short discussion after.
  - Outreach – Jon Hawkinson, Jeff Keltgen & Jill Hanson. The committee is asking council to help hand out yard signs. They are also working on “Welcome Packet” for new people that move into Olivia.
  - Technology – Steve Altmann & Nathan Cole. Jeni Skeie will be working on the sound system in the balcony as it isn’t working properly.
  - AED Maintenance – Steve: OK
8. Old Business
- Tree stumps have been removed. Grass has been planted.
  - BOLD School K-4 child care during hybrid or distance learning. The church may not meet the requirements.
  - “Growing Young” – wonderful discussion of Chapter One. Chapter 2 next month.
  - Insurance claim from storm damage: the adjustor has completed the inspection and a report was sent. A copy is in the church office.
  - Tree trimming & branch removal – Tanner Mitchell / LightBeam – Will be done when the ground firms up a bit more.
9. New Business
- Piano, TV, benches and backboard have been disposed: thank you Bernie Johnson & Mark Schlomann
  - Winter Service times: Sundays at 9:00 AM & 5:30 PM to Christmas.
  - SW MN Synod & LSS Outreach payments: \$1000.00 to LSS, \$3000.00 to SW MN Synod
10. Adjourn – Closing Prayer

#### NEXT COUNCIL MEETING INFO

Next month: Wednesday, November 18th at 7:30 pm – Zoom

Devotions: November – Gordon Blem