



*Cross of Calvary*

LUTHERAN CHURCH

## Cross of Calvary Lutheran Church

1103 W. Chestnut Ave. Olivia, MN

320-523-1574

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[crossofcalvary.net](http://crossofcalvary.net)

January

### **January 10 – January 17**

**Sunday 01.10**

**Worship – In person**

**Monday 01.11**

**Fellowship Hall used at 6:30 – 7:30 PM**

**Tuesday 01.12**

**Financial Peace University at 8:30 PM**

**Wednesday 01.13**

**Confirmation – On line**

**Thursday 01.14**

**Individual Church Financial Statements will be available  
in mailboxes**

**Friday 01.15**

**Saturday 01.16**

**Sunday 01.17**

**Worship – In person/Camp Sunday**



## Annual Meeting

The Annual meeting was set to take place on January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Due to the Corona Virus the Church Council has voted to postpone the meeting to mid-March.



**All organizations need to turn in the following to the church office by Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021 for auditing:**

1. Checkbooks and Bank Statements
2. Financial Reports for the Annual Report
3. Report of Activities for the year.

## Offering Envelopes are here!!!

Please stop by the church and pick your box up!  
They will be placed in your mailbox, if you do not have a mailbox, they will be placed on the bench in the Narthex.  
Another easy way to give anywhere and anytime is through our secure online giving portal on our webpage:  
<https://crossofcalvary.net/> or think about setting up automated monthly or quarterly gifts...



## **Worship Times**

**Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM only – In person**

**(Mask required, please stay home if you are not feeling well, service will also be online)**

**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.

**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. 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!)

## Church Cookbook Project



Dear Cross of Calvary Members,  
In years past, Cross of Calvary has put together a cookbook of recipes from its members. Since 2020 has been a crazy year and we've been spending more time at home, I figure it's time to make an updated cookbook. In this new cookbook we would include old recipes from the past cookbooks and we would also like to include recipes from our new members. Feel free to send in recipes, old or new! All recipes will be included. If you'd like to submit recipes, email your submissions to Olivia Hanson - [ojhanson0220@gmail.com](mailto:ojhanson0220@gmail.com) if you'd

like to help put the cookbook together or have suggestions, text or call 320-400-9005. Thank you! -  
Olivia Hanson



**Women's study** will be 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.

**Our next topic: Isaiah**

### **2021 Bishop Election**

SW MN Synod Assembly voting members will be electing the bishop for our synod. Bishops are elected every six years. They are the highest elected office of synod leadership. Given the importance of this role, the Bishop Election Committee is starting the process to elect the bishop now! We believe the Holy Spirit is at work in us all as we wrestle and discern together about the future for the ELCA and our future leadership.

Prior to the 2021 Synod Assembly, our synod has a process in which congregations, conference assemblies, and individual members of congregations may nominate people to serve as bishop. Congregations and individuals may submit names to the Bishop Election Committee until February 15, 2021. Conference Assemblies may submit names to the Bishop Election Committee until March 25, 2021. At the Southwestern Minnesota Synod Assembly on June 11-13, 2021, voting members will officially nominate by ecclesiastical ballot (first nominating ballot) any ELCA pastor (Minister of Word and Sacrament) in good standing to be bishop.

**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. 320-523-1574



## **SUMMER CAMP!**

"Guided by the Light" is the theme at Green Lake Lutheran Ministries – Summer Camp 2021! The camping ministry has spent time learning ways to be open this summer for growing in faith through fun, games, activities and learning. For more information visit the website at [www.gllm.org](http://www.gllm.org).

Summer Camp registration opens January 25, 2021 and the Early Bird Discount of \$40 ends on March 1, 2021.

Cross of Calvary offers great financial support for each student who attends camp. Pick up a scholarship form at church on the youth board or one will be emailed to you. This form helps you to see all the scholarships available. We will be celebrating CAMP SUNDAY on January 17 and 24, with camp songs, skits and more information about camp. We will also announce which week Cross of Calvary staff will be at camp if you want to go on a week when others from our church are going. We missed out on camp last year, but it is back - don't miss it! If you have any questions, please call Jeni 320-579-0406 or Sister Sarah 320-579-0838.

Watch for dates for Day Camp - where we bring Green Lake and Shores Bible Camp staff to Cross of Calvary for kids who have finished grades K-6! We will run Monday - Thursday, 1-4PM. There is a camp program for everyone!

## **Cross of Calvary Faith @ Home/Sunday School**

### **Faith @ Home Weekly Bible Story**

#### **Bible Story for January 5-11**

Mark 1:4-11

Spark Story Bible – Jesus' Baptism, Page 242

Jesus Calling Bible Storybook – John the Baptist, page 154

#### **Bible Story for January 12-18**

Luke 2: 41-52

Spark Story Bible: The Boy at the Temple, page 230

Jesus Calling Bible Storybook – Jesus the Boy, page 152

### **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"

**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.

### **Prayer Request**

Sonia Grasmon – Family & Friends  
Marlin Hanson – Family & Friends  
Gena Amsden – Family & Friends  
Sharon Alton – Family & Friends  
Bobbi Jo Abrahamson – Family  
Steve Olson – Family  
Denise Revier – Family  
Ralph Taylor – Becky Nelson’s father  
Sherry Wold – Courtney Kopel grandmother  
Sonja Fostvedt – family  
Ardith Glockzin – Carol Senkyr sister  
Chet & Angie Boen – Friends & Family  
Donna Greenwell  
Tim & Emily Merten family – Angela Cole  
Kathy Johnson – Scott Johnson



Lesley Sagedahl- Sagedahl Family  
Briar Lippert – Friends & Family  
Darwin – Sonia Grasmon’s brother  
Teri Vogt – Stacey Larson  
ALL persons working tirelessly to help with the  
Covid-19 pandemic  
Military personal and their families

## **New Council Members Needed!**

We are in need of new council members to serve on our council beginning Mid-March 2021. If you are interested in serving the church in this way, please contact a current council member, church office (320-523-1574) or Pastor Matt  
(It is a 3 year term and the council meets once a month)

January 10, 2020

Baptism of Our Lord



Jesus is God's beloved, and so are we.

#### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Mark 1:4-11	The baptism of Jesus
Monday	Genesis 1:1-5	God creates light
Tuesday	Acts 19:1-7	Paul baptizes in Ephesus
Wednesday	Mark 15:33-39	Death of Jesus
Thursday	Ephesians 4:1-6	Unity in the body of Christ
Friday	Galatians 3:19-29	The purpose of the law
Saturday	Psalms 29	The voice of God in the storm
Sunday	John 1:43-51	Jesus calls Philip and Nathanael

#### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." Mark 1:11 (NRSV)

#### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

##### A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, we thank you for Jesus, your Beloved Son and our Savior and for claiming us in baptism as your loved children now and always. Amen.

##### Mealtime Prayer:

God of tender care, as we are given strength from this meal, may we remember with joy that we are your beloved children through Christ our Lord. Amen.

##### A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord give you strength and bless you with peace. (Psalm 29:11)

Hymn of the Week: "You are Mine"

## **CARING CONVERSATIONS**

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

- ☒ What is a dramatic event you have witnessed or heard about?
- ☒ Have you experienced a baptism as a life-changing event? Explain.
- ☒ How was Jesus' baptism a life-changing event for the world?

## **DEVOTIONS**

**Read: Mark 1:4-11.**

Jesus' baptism is marked by dramatic events. Not only did Jesus go out to John in the wilderness, but so did "all the people of Jerusalem" (v. 5). John, who has a strong following acknowledges that Jesus, the one to come after John, is so much more important, that John is not worthy to untie Jesus' sandals. Jesus' own baptizing will bring with it the Holy Spirit, not just the call to repentance, as was the baptism of John. The Holy Spirit will make Jesus' baptism and the Christian baptism different (see Acts 19:1-7). Then, the most dramatic moment happens, the moment that defines Jesus' baptism as a cosmic shattering event: the heavens were torn apart and the Spirit of God came down, appearing like a dove. The tearing apart of the heavens will be matched by the tearing apart of the curtain in the temple at the time of Jesus death (Mark 15:38). Jesus' baptism is linked with the cosmic shattering event of his death that changes for all time our relationship to God. This is something that we participate in through our own baptisms, another earth-shattering experience filled with love that claims us as God's beloved children. Is being claimed by God in baptism earth shattering to you? Why or why not?

Pray: God of glory and might, help us to see and believe in your earth-shattering power and love for us and to see that love embrace us in the remembrance of our baptisms. Amen.

## **SERVICE**

The baptism of Jesus took place using water. Water is essential to life. It is important that rivers, lakes, and oceans stay clean but they can get and have been contaminated by people's actions. What are some things we can do to help keep our waters clean and free of pollution?

## **RITUALS AND TRADITIONS**

The "Baptism of our Lord Sunday" is a time to recall our own baptisms. This week in your home, light a candle, perhaps your own baptismal candle. Dip your fingers into a bowl of water and mark the sign of the cross on your forehead or the foreheads of one another. As you mark the sign of the cross, give this blessing:

Say: You are God's beloved child.