



Cross of Calvary

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Cross of Calvary Lutheran Church

1103 W. Chestnut Ave. Olivia, MN

320-523-1574

crossofcalvary@gmail.com

crossofcalvary.net

January

January 17 – January 24

Sunday 01.17

Worship – In person/Camp Sunday

Monday 01.18

Tuesday 01.19

Financial Peace University at 8:30 PM

Wednesday 01.20

Confirmation – 9th Grade in person

Church Council Meeting at 7:45 PM

Thursday 01.21

Breakfast Club starts at 7:07 AM

Friday 01.22

Saturday 01.23

Sunday 01.24

Worship – In person

Individual Church Financial Statements are available in the hall mailboxes or on the bench



Annual Meeting

The Annual meeting was set to take place on January 17th, 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 12th, 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

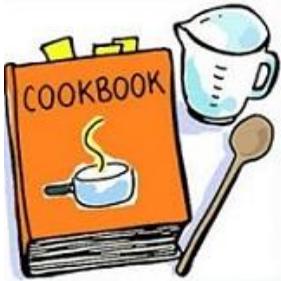
Sunday, January 17th at 9:00 AM only – In person

(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!)

January Confirmation Schedule will start January 20th with 9th Grade in person



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 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.

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 12-18

Luke 2: 41-52

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

Jesus Calling Bible Storybook – John the Baptist, page 154

Bible Story for January 19-25

Mark 1:14-20

Spark Story Bible – The Disciples, Page 258

Jesus Calling Bible – Twelve Helpers, page 156

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
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 mont

January 17, 2021

Second Sunday after Epiphany



God reaches out to us.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 1:43-51	Jesus calls Philip and Nathanael
Monday	1 Samuel 3:1-20	The call of Samuel
Tuesday	1 Corinthians 6:12-20	Honor God in body and spirit
Wednesday	Psalm 40:1-11	Happy are those who trust in God
Thursday	Romans 8:26-30	God reaches out to us
Friday	2 Thessalonians 2:13-17	Be faithful
Saturday	Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18	The Lord knows us well
Sunday	Mark 1:14-20	Jesus calls the first disciples

Scripture Verse For This Week

Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.” 1 Samuel 3:10 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Awesome God, for your desire to have a relationship with us through Christ our Lord, we give you thanks and praise. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

For the food that we eat, for your love that we meet, for this meal that we share as a sign of your care. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God that searches you and knows you give you hope and peace through Christ our Lord. (Psalm 139:1)

Hymn of the Week: “Listen, God is Calling”

CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- ☒ Are you more of a listener or a talker? Explain.
- ☒ Is it easy for you to tell others about Jesus? Why or why not?
- ☒ As a disciple of Jesus, why is listening to God so important?

DEVOTIONS

Read: 1 Samuel 3:1-20.

Human efforts are important for lots of things in this world, but in the Bible, it is God's efforts that make all the difference. It is not first that we as humans call on God to make God a saving presence in our lives. It is God that reaches out to us. We see this in the story of Jesus calling disciples (John 1:43-51). Jesus takes the initiative with Philip, Nathanael, and with us. We see that same pattern when God calls Samuel. God repeatedly reaches out to a boy who does not know God yet. This is also the theme of Psalm 139:1: "O LORD, you have searched me and known me." According to the psalmist, that is unbelievably awesome news. That news is worthy of our full attention, like the boy Samuel saying to the LORD, "Speak, for your servant is listening" (1 Samuel 3:10). With a God who comes to us, knows us, and calls us to do God's work in the world, it is worth taking the voice of Samuel and making it our own: "Speak, Lord, for I am listening." The church, body of Christ, wants to acknowledge that we are listening to Jesus; the faithfulness of each disciple of Jesus says, "Lord, I am listening to you." How do you listen to God? Is it through prayer, reading the Bible, public worship, or listening to the voice of God through others around you? Explain.

Pray: Dear God, just as you pursued Samuel and the disciples Philip and Nathanael, we thank you for pursuing us with your love and grace today through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SERVICE

To care for someone is to listen to them as Samuel listened to God when God called out to him. Is there someone who could use your attentive listening this week?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Psalm 139 is a beautiful and reflective psalm. Read Psalm 139:1-6 this week using a meditational tradition called Lectio Divina. Read it once slowly and pause for reflection. Read it again and pick out a word or phrase that stands out for you. Pause, then read it one last time and wonder how the verses can guide your life this week. Conclude by praying the Lord's Prayer.

WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.