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The Follower 2021

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

Oh, the memories from Bible Camp! There were friends, songs, campfires, food, campouts, hikes, swimming, boating, bible study and devotional time, after dinner entertainment and more. I have had the pleasure of interviewing 9 members from our congregation this past month about their experiences of going to camp, all to gain insight about camp and promote it to anyone interested.

The common denominator was a common feeling is that God is with us at camp. Not that God isn't with us at home, but at camp, the atmosphere enhances the experience. You are immersed in the love of God outside of everyday life. Campers have the opportunity to relax in God's Grace for 3-5 days and not be bothered by distractions. Wouldn't that be nice?

You think you are too old for camp? Well, you are not. There is a program for everyone, including family camp for any family. Life is crazy sometimes and we get feeling our Martha soul, working to keep up with all the day to day needs. But we also crave some time for our Mary soul to sit quietly for a while, ignore the work of daily life, and soak in the love of Jesus. Ahhhhh. It sounds really good. If you can't go to camp, can you make some time at home? Jesus is waiting, just for you.

Grace and Peace,
Jeni



Worship will look different beginning February 7th. Worship will be available in person at 9 am or live on Facebook. We will also load it to YOUTUBE and our church website after Sunday morning worship. You will be able to watch by noon. Tune in for lunch!



2021 Lent Schedule – in person

*Lenten Mid-week Services: Wednesdays, February 17, 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31st at 7:00 PM
Maundy Thursday, April 1st, at 7:00 PM
Good Friday, April 2nd, at 7:00 PM
Easter Sunday, April 4th at 6:30 AM & 9:00 AM*



**Annual Meeting will be March 14th,
after the 9:00 AM service.**

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



1. Checkbooks and Bank Statements – **all reported**
2. Financial Reports for the Annual Report – **all reported**
3. Report of Activities, Committees for the year.

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)**



**Offering Envelopes and Individual Church Financial Statements are available!
Please, please stop by the church and pick yours up!!!**

YOUTH

Breakfast Club has resumed for 10-12 graders on Thursdays, 7:07 a.m. (In the fellowship hall)

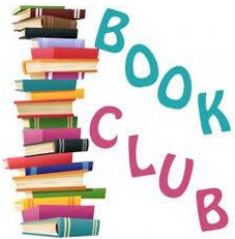
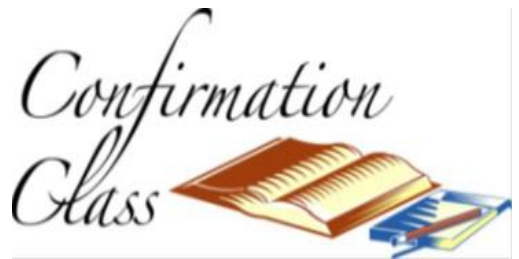
Day Camp with Green Lake Lutheran Ministries will be June 28-July 1 for youth who have finished kindergarten - 6th grade. Put it on your calendar!

Green Lake and Shores Bible Camps have opened registration! Go to gllm.org to register. Be sure to get a scholarship worksheet from church. There is money available for many scholarships. We want everyone to go to camp who wants to.

Are there any 9-12 graders interested in a week in Montana? There is a camp called Christikon and it's beautiful. The hiking is like nothing else, and the food is great too! But also, there is a chance to connect with God. Email Jeni at jeniskeie@gmail.com or text at 320-579-0406 if you are interested.

February Confirmation Classes:

February 3rd - 8th Grade in person
February 10th - 9th Grade in person
February 17th - No Confirmation (Ash Wednesday)
February 24th - 7th Grade in person



BOOK CLUB is coming your way! You want to be in a Bible Study but have a crazy busy life. I loved "Lazarus Awakening" by Joanna Weaver so much, I want to offer a once per month book club and share it with more people. You can order your own book. We can start in February, but I need you to let me know what night and time works best. Contact Jeni at 320-579-0406.

Church Cookbook Project



Dear Cross of Calvary Members

I figure it's time to make an updated cookbook.
Feel free to send in recipes, old or new!
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

HYMN REQUESTS: Songs are meaningful and lead us to worship. Help us to include your favorite hymns and worship songs. Please contact someone on the worship committee or call the office to request your favorite hymns.

If you would like to help with music leading in worship on Sundays, please call the church office.

Prayers for Healing and Strength

Family of Kathy Johnson

Sonia Grasmon – Family & Friends

Marlin Hanson – Family & Friends

Bobbi Jo Abrahamson – Family

Steve Olson – Family

Sharon Alton – Family & Friends

Denise Revier – Family

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

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

February Prayer list

1. As we look forward to the extra minutes of light you give us this month, please help us to be your light in our community and the world.
2. For the continued health and safety of our students, teachers and school staff.
3. We pray for our confirmation students that they will grow in their relationship with God.
4. We pray for all of those who need your healing hand and for their caregivers, especially those on our weekly Prayer list.
5. For the gift of new life in newborns
6. Today I pray that you move me away from distractions, diversions and temptations.
7. Today as we celebrate the annual Super Bowl game, help us to remember that we are one nation, united by more than what divides us.
8. For those struggling with their faith
9. Help those who suffer loneliness and help us to reach out to them and show your love.
10. For families teaching the faith at home
11. Oh Lord, I ask for your wisdom and courage.
12. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Please give me strength to do your will.
13. We pray for individuals, families and businesses struggling financially and especially for the homeless or those facing homelessness.
14. Today we celebrate those we love and we mourn with those who have lost loved ones this past year.
15. On this President's Day help us unite and be thankful for the presidents of the past and to pray for President Biden our current president.
16. We pray for all of those who need your healing hand and for their caregivers, especially those on our weekly Prayer list.
17. On this Ash Wednesday may we observe a Lenten Season filled with self-examination, prayer, practicing works of love and reading and reflecting your Word.
18. Lord, help me to love what is right and hate what is wrong.
19. Lord, continue to fill me with your Holy Spirit and then turn me loose on Your purposes.
20. Dear Lord, help me to find happiness in forgetting myself and in trying to bring help and happiness to others.
21. Forgive me, God, for being so wrapped up in my own troubles and my own problems that I had no time for those of anyone else.
22. We pray for all the healthcare workers who continue to work to advance the health and safety of all of us.
23. Dear Lord, thank You for all the positive influencers in my life today.
24. Lord, please help me to be conscious of the words I speak. Help me to be slow to speak and quick to hear.
25. Father, lead me to the cross, and let me contemplate the amazing sacrifice of Jesus...
26. Please bless our church staff and leaders as they lead our congregation.
27. Today I pray that my words and thoughts will be pleasing to you.
28. As this month ends, let us look forward to the promise of Spring and new life.

Need 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 res



We will begin a study on Isaiah for women, beginning Thursday, Feb 4 at 8:30am - 9:30am. We are meeting on zoom for now. Pick up a book at church, and leave your email address for the zoom link. If anyone is interested in an evening time, please let me know.



Do you need someone to talk to? If you need someone to talk to about decisions, or you are feeling lonely, Stephen Ministers are available to visit over the phone or FaceTime. During this time when we are physically apart, we want to walk beside you. Please call the church office and Sue can pass on your request.

Song Leaders Needed: If you would like to lead the hymns at in person worship, or record hymns for online worship, please call Jeni at 320-579-0406 or Sue in the office. We would love to help you share your talents.

Thrivent members: 2020 Thrivent Choice Dollars need to be designated on or before March 31st, 2021.



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Cross of Calvary Lutheran Church – Council Meeting
Wednesday, January 20th, 2020 at 7:45 PM (Zoom)

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Terms end at Annual Meeting in Jan. * Second term

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

STAFF

Pastor Matt Hausken
Sue Altmann, Recorder

Jeni Skeie, Parish Minister
Craig Boen, Janitor

Sister Sarah Hausken, Parish Minister

MINUTES

MEETING - Call to Order (President)

1. Devotions – Nathan Cole
2. Approve minutes of the *December meeting* – Motion to approve the minutes by Jill Hanson, seconded by Jon Hawkinson, motion passed.
3. Treasurer Report – *December* - Motion to approve the treasurer/secretary report by Nathan Cole, seconded by Sandra Gay, motion passed.
 - Payments will be made to SW MN Synod for \$2000, LSS for \$416 and GLLM for \$2500. This meets Cross of Calvary's obligation to these missions for the 2020 year.
 - 2020 budget balances were good at year end, thank you to the members for their generous donations.
4. Pastor's Report
 - Worship Service: planning for the Lent season with having mid-week services in person.
 - Scheduling wedding and baptisms. (Baptisms: Weilage family & Dahl family in January)
 - Confirmation: has started being in person, by grade & online. The classes will once again meet with individual classes each week.
 - 1st Communion classes will begin March 10th.
5. Parish Ministers Reports
 - Jeni: Women's Bible study will be using the book Isaiah starting Feb. 4th. Big thank you to all who helped with music during the holiday season. Day Camp will be June 28 – July 2nd. Camp Sundays were filled with information for signing up for summer camps, registration are through February. Breakfast Club has started again, Thursday mornings at 7:07. Jeni is looking into a summer Sr. High trip.
 - Sister Sarah: Worship has taken a lot of time, but well worth all the work. Working with committees to get their reports for the Annual Meeting. Trying to figure out if WOW is possible to do this year?
6. Office Report (Sue) – continuing to work on Annual report information
7. Maintenance Update (Craig) - 3 additional sanitizers are still on backorder
8. Committee Reports

- a. Administration – Alex Gay, Gordy Blem & Nathan Cole
 - ✓ A steel roof contractor looked at the roof. There are hail dents but they do not affect the roof and the structure is fine. It may discolor over time from the paint being chipped. A question will be brought to the members at the Annual meeting concerning repair.
 - ✓ Parsonage is having issues with the gas fireplace; the parsonage committee is looking at options. Additional repairs and improvements are planned for the year.
 - b. Children, Youth & Family (Didn't meet)
 - c. Equipping – Laurence Stratton
 - ✓ Financial Peace University class has started and nicely attended. Moments of Gratitude are still in place, but need more members on the committee.
 - d. Missions – Alex Gay (Didn't meet)
 - e. Worship & Music – Jill Hanson & Elaine McDowell
 - ✓ Will get together for February songs
 - f. Care Team – Jena Bruns (Didn't meet)
 - g. Parish Life – Sandra Gay (Didn't meet)
 - h. Outreach – Jon Hawkinson, Jeff Keltgen & Jill Hanson
 - ✓ Working on a video to put on the church website called “We want to tell Your Story”
 - ✓ Working on reaching out to the age group 18 to 29, trying to meet their needs
 - i. Technology – Steve Altmann & Nathan Cole –
 - ✓ All is working fine
 - j. AED Maintenance – Sue (Ok)
9. Old Business
- Annual Meeting date
 - ✓ Date: March 14th after the 9:00 AM service
 - ✓ Staff is looking into having both in person and online available for the meeting.
 - Nicholas Serbus: Eagle Scout plan (Gaga Pit)
 - ✓ A motion was made by Sandra Gay and seconded by Gordy Blem to have Nicholas move forward with his Eagle Scout project on church property.
 - Page Memorial donation – waiting for more information, Pastor Matt will be talking to Mark Page soon.
 - Book Discussion, Chapter 3
10. New Business
- Renville County Grant Program – applied, but did not qualify
11. Board Discussion
12. Adjourn – Closing Prayer

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING INFO

Next month: Wednesday, February 17^h at 7:45 PM
 Devotions: February: Gordy Blem
 March: Jena Bruns