



# The Follower 2021

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

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Happy Spring from Jeni,

I've seen many people posting on Facebook that they are feeling "off" lately, and strangely, I am comforted to see I am not alone. A year ago when COVID began we were in shock, forced to slow down in life, and make adjustments. Now, life is getting busier again as more people are getting vaccinated. On top this rollercoaster, our communities and our world are shaken constantly by injustice. After much study and listening to sermons lately, I am reminded of the comfort that, no matter what happens around us, God remains the same. God seeks us out. God's love is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow. When I take time to spend on my relationship with God, I find God's peace that passes all understanding. God's peace that is not of this world. Take time to be still. Let there be silence. Read the following words slowly and out loud. Listen for God. You are not alone.

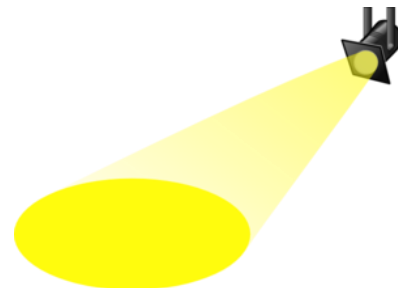
BE

BE STILL

BE STILL and KNOW

BE STILL and KNOW that I AM GOD





We are thrilled to announce that thanks to a generous \$50,000 gift from the James and Mary Page family, we will be significantly upgrading livestream, sound and light capabilities in our sanctuary and fellowship hall!

During the past year of pandemic, Cross of Calvary has primarily offered pre-recorded worship on YouTube. That was well received, and we found many people worshipping with us who had not entered our church building in years or ever. We came to believe that online worship is something we should offer indefinitely.

Once we returned to in-person worship, we started livestreaming instead of doing pre-recorded worship. We learned quickly that our cameras, sound and lights were not up to the task. So, we started researching.

Our "Livestream Team" consisted of Adam Dillon, Tom Osthus, Steve Altmann, Kathy Reese, Leif Hausken, Gordy Blem and the Cross of Calvary staff. We researched options, received advice from neighboring congregations, asked thoughtful questions and checked references. We decided to recommend working with Excel AV Group out of Plymouth, MN. Excel AV Group has been working with congregation's non-stop for the past year to help them find solutions for sharing the love of Jesus Christ in this new era. We found them to be extremely knowledgeable and appreciated their willingness to assist us in making the most of this new system through training and accessible customer service. Our congregational council approved moving forward with this project because of the donation from the Page Family.

The project total is \$60,838. The Page Family is donating \$50,000 towards this ministry opportunity. We ask you to prayerfully consider donating to this project which will share the grace of God with our local community and far beyond.

If you have questions about the project, would like to know details or more of the decision-making process, please contact Sister Sarah Hausken.

*From the Page Family:*

*Jim and Mary Page built their lives on the shoulders of their own family histories while raising their three children to be independent, curious, and community minded. They adored their eight grandchildren and played a key role in their development. By living within their means and investing for the future, they wanted their legacy to extend beyond their own years. Well before their deaths, we discussed their wish that a significant portion of their remaining estate be given to charitable interests.*

*We also wanted to honor Jim and Mary's faith-filled lives at Cross of Calvary. They attended church there regularly for over 40 years, and Mary's work as a trained Deaconess influenced her many contributions, including teaching confirmation. We are pleased to share Jim and Mary's gifts to support upgrades to the Sanctuary Lighting, Audio, and Video, and Fellowship Hall AV.*

*With gratefulness for lives well lived,  
Marcia, David, and Mark Page*



## 2021 SPRING FLOWER SALES

Spring Flower Sale: If you ordered flowers, pick up day will be Friday, May 14, 9am-6pm. We have an amazing team who has worked on this fundraiser for a few years. (Tara Amberg, Amanda Malvin, and Bobbi Kopel) We were not able to use the same floral company, but they took the effort to find a place that was up to the task! Thank you for all the work done to help raise money for camp and other church programming.

## More Youth News!



### **The ELCA National Youth Gathering theme is “Boundless**

God beyond measure” with the theme verse from Ephesians 3:19 “I want you to know all about Christ’s love, although it is too wonderful to be measured. Then your lives will be filled with all that God is.” It will be attended by 30,000 youth in Minneapolis on July 24-28, 2022. Students in class of 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026 are welcome to register. Mass Gatherings, Service learning, Synod Day and Interactive learning space will be part of the event programming. Financial assistance applications open July 22, 2021 and Early Bird Registration is \$350 with a \$150 nonrefundable down payment. This will be due by November 10, 2021. Here is the link to learn more. <https://www.elca.org/YouthGathering/About/Overview>

**2021 Grads and older can volunteer to help with the gathering.** Volunteer Corps applications open on May 22, 2021 and close on July 22, 2021. For more info, go to <https://www.elca.org/YouthGathering/Attend/Volunteer> <https://www.elca.org/>

**Papa Murphy’s Pizza fundraiser:** We sold \$4034 worth of pizza and made \$1008.50 in profit. That’s 20%! Thank you to Sandy Whited for organizing the event. Thank you to Dawn Mertens, Sue Altmann, Kevin Whited, Brad, Bailee, Aaron and Cara McLagan and Kelsey Wertish for all the help. It was a great success!

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

# YOUTH SUMMER ACTIVITIES



## **Day Camp**

\*Here is the link to register for Day Camp with the Green Lake Staff at Cross of Calvary! It is for youth who have completed grades K-6. Cost is \$40. It will be June 28- July 1, Monday through Thursday from 1-5pm. No evening meal will be served this year, but we will serve a snack. We will be ty-dying on Tuesday!!! What could be better than camp that comes to us? Sign up by June 20th.

<https://forms.gle/3HBp75H4aiYkzDtCA>

## **Canoe Trip**

We are going on a Canoe Trip with our 7-12 graders and adults from July 12-15 leaving from Twin Lakes Public Access north of Menahga, to Little White Dog Landing north of Staples. We will sleep in tents at campgrounds along the Shell and Crow Wing Rivers. Traveling with us will be Our Saviors Lutheran from Montevideo and our leader Quentin Markfort. Cost is \$150 and you can use your family church account. This will include food, tent, and canoe. There is a packing list and itinerary if you are interested. Please call Jeni if you want to participate! Deadline to sign up is July 1.



**Watch the calendar for outdoor movie nights,  
game nights and camp fires this summer!!!**

**Adopt a Grandparent is coming your way.** If you are interested in being adopted or adopting, please email, text, or call Jeni at 320-579-0406, [jeniskeie@gmail.com](mailto:jeniskeie@gmail.com).

**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.

## **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](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

**Deadline: end of May**



## **Prayers for Healing and Strength**

Mallory Klaes – Teeny Kadelbach  
Rachel Kadelbach – Teeny Kadelbach  
Sandy Kubesh – Family and Friends  
Kirk Toltzmann – Cheryl Mallak & family  
Merlene Bratsch – Family & Friends  
Justin Meyer – Mike Benson's Uncle  
Larry Baumgartner – Family & Friends  
David Lindquist – Family & Friends  
Jean Maresch – Family & Friends  
Susie Meyer – Family & Friends  
Chet Boen – Family & Friends  
Donna Greenwell  
Lesley Sagedahl- Sagedahl Family



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.



## **Cross of Calvary Graduating Class of 2021**

### **Graduate**

Taylor Amsden  
Noah Boen  
Ashley Frank  
Caeden Gluesing  
Will Hanson  
Leif Hausken  
Andrew Holland  
Maddison Jensen  
Carson Kubesh  
Ella Mages  
Drew Sagedahl  
Brady Stovern  
Benjamin Whited  
Kya Young

### **Parents**

Chad & Gena Amsden  
Brian & Dana Boen  
Dale & Lowanda Frank  
Corey & Dawn Gluesing  
Chris & Jill Hanson  
Matt & Sarah Hausken  
Katy Holland & Matt Holland  
Ryan & Michelle Jensen  
Bobbi Jo Abrahamson & Scott Kubesh  
Craig & Becky Mages  
Daren & Melissa Sagedahl  
Derek & Tami Stovern  
Kevin & Sandra Whited  
Dennis & Mandi Young

**Individual Graduation parties will be posted at a later date.**



## **May 2021 Prayer suggestions....**

1. Lord, may I be alive to the beauty of your creations and to the beauty of the changing seasons.
2. We continue to pray for those suffering the effects of COVID 19. For those who are currently sick and those suffering long term effects.
3. Lord, help me to find happiness in forgetting myself and in trying to bring help and happiness to others.
4. We pray for our young people as they make decisions about their futures. Our High School and College seniors as they go on to the next stages in their lives. Be with them and guide them.
5. We thank you for diversity, and that you have introduced us to the foods and traditions of others.
6. We pray for those doing seasonal jobs. That they may be safe as they do the work you have called them to do.
7. We pray for those struggling with addiction.
8. Lord, help me to be conscious of the words I speak. Help me to be slow to speak and quick to hear.
9. We thank you for Mothers and for all the mother figures in our lives.
10. We pray for our friends and neighbors who are dealing with illness, especially those named on our church prayer list.
11. We pray for those who reside in group homes, assisted living and long-term care.
12. Lord, help me to love what is right and hate what is wrong.
13. We pray for those who mourn. May they feel your loving arms around them
14. We pray for young parents as they plan for summer experiences for their children.
15. We thank you for your creation and pray for safety for all those enjoying today's fishing opener.
16. We pray for those facing food insecurity and hunger. Help us to serve You by serving them.
17. Today I pray for fresh motivation to follow Your will and your way.
18. We pray a prayer of thanks for the parents who have been charged with teaching the faith at home this past year.
19. We pray for our church leaders as they conduct the business of our church.
20. We pray for and thank you for all caregivers.
21. We pray for those suffering with mental health issues. Please guide them to seek help.
22. We thank you for the gift of life and for babies in our church, community and families.
23. Lord, continue to fill me with Your Holy Spirit and then turn me loose on Your purposes.
24. We thank you for those who have Mentored our young people, especially our confirmation students, this past school year.
25. We pray for those who suffer loneliness. Help us to reach out to them and show them Your love.
26. We pray that we may take the time to listen and hear Your voice.
27. We pray for unity. In our world, our country, our community and our relationships.
28. Lord, I pray for wisdom and courage.
29. As the school year winds to a close, we thank you for all teachers. Those in our schools and in our churches.
30. We pray for our young people who are attending camp this summer. May this experience help them grow their faith.
31. On this Memorial Day, we honor those men and women who have laid down their life for their country. Loving Lord, bless them forever in Your eternal peace.

# Cross of Calvary Lutheran Church

## Council Meeting

### Wednesday, April 19, 2021 at 7:30 PM (ZOOM & in person)



COUNCIL MEMBERS		Terms end at Annual Meeting in Jan.		* Second term	
Eric Skeie	2022	Sandra Gay	2023 AB	Alex Gay	2024*
Elaine McDowell	2022	Jeff Keltgen	2023	Laurence Stratton	2024*AB
Gordon Blem	2022*	Jena Bruns	2023	Robert Erickson	2024
Nathan Cole	2022	Jill Hanson	2023*AB	Tiffany Herdina	2024
Sam Welchance	Youth				

#### 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 – Gordy Blem (Christ in Our Home) Welcomed new board members and everyone introduced themselves, stating what brought them to Cross of Calvary and the year they joined.
2. Approve minutes of the ***March meeting*** – Motion to approve the minute's by Alex Gay, seconded by Jeff Keltgen, motion passed.
3. Treasurer Report – ***March*** - Motion to approve the treasurer/secretary report by Elaine McDowell, seconded by Bob Erickson, motion passed.
4. Pastor's Report
  - Worship Service & Confirmation: Easter services were wonderful. Bible studies have begun again, which Pastor enjoys very much. Nursing home visit are opening with wonderful visits with members.
  - Pastor Matt is hoping to restart Theology on Tap on Wednesdays, beginning in May. Topic: "Freedom"
  - A few funerals for both members and non-members. Also, weddings this summer: 1 scheduled for June, July & August.
5. Parish Ministers Reports
  - Papa Murphy sales were \$1008.50.
  - Flower sales went great, with pick up date on May 14<sup>th</sup> from 9-6.
  - Jeni has been busy delivering meals to people in need; also she is having wonderful visits.
  - Confirmation is coming to an end; Daren Sagedahl will be sharing his Faith Talk with the students.
  - Senior Recognition Sunday is May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:30 AM. (Graduates & Family only)
  - Summer plans: Day camp is set, canoe trip planned for July, campfires and movie nights.
  - July 2022 will be the National Youth Gathering: in need of an adult chaperone. (held in the Twin Cities)
  - Discussed the use of a portion of the band money for scholarships for band members.
6. Office Report (Sue)
  - I am working on Faithlife: importing data.
7. Maintenance Update (Craig)
8. Committee Reports: goals for the committees will be to have large and small projects taken care of each month.
  - Administration – Alex Gay, Gordy Blem, Bob Erickson & Nathan Cole
    - Branches outside will be pick up at the end of April
  - Care Team – Jena Bruns
    - No meeting, Meal trains are done.
  - Children, Youth & Family – Sister Sarah Hausken & Tiffany Herdina
    - reorganizing

- Equipping – Laurence Stratton & Eric Skeie
  - Continuing Moments of Gratitude, FPU class are done, October there will be a workshop on Will & tax sharing charitable giving.
- Missions – Alex Gay & Jeff Keltgen
  - \$money to ELCA World Hunger and Sponsor 2 students to Green Lake Camp
- Outreach –Jeff Keltgen & Jill Hanson
  - The committee is working on a brochure for “Welcome to Olivia” packet,
  - still yard signs to be given away
- Parish Life – Sandra Gay
  - Planning an outdoor movie night
- Technology –Nathan Cole
  - Notes from staff about updating technology for sound, lights & cameras. See below
- Worship & Music – Jill Hanson & Elaine McDowell
  - Hymns for May & June are being worked on
- AED Maintenance – Sue (Ok)

#### 9. Old Business

- Webcam & Conference Speaker by Sister Sarah Hausken -
- Page Memorial donation
- Election of Officers (done) and Council members pick a committee they would like to help with.
  - ✓ President: Gordy Blem, Vice President: Nathan Cole
- Book Discussion, Chapter 4

#### 10. New Business

- MnDot – HWY 71 resurfacing project scheduled for 2022 – presented project for the 2022 year.
- Bishop Jon Anderson Gift? – information was passed to Mission committee
- Custodian duties (Gordy) – Eric Skeie & Gordy Blem will meet with Craig Boen and go over duties
- Betsy from the prayer garden (available funds: \$2,246.47)
  - 1) Requesting to use funds from the prayer garden account to install a cement platform by the garden to place a table and chairs on. Council agreed to have the money used for this project.
  - 2) Inquiring if tree by main church office can be removed as it appears to be in tough shape or if some serious work can be done with it. Tree will be taken down.
  - 3) Bushes in front of Sue's office could be trimmed back or updated. Council decided that bushes will be removed, a fence will be installed with wild grasses planted in front of the fence.
- Council Members sign up for devotions – please bring your calendar!

#### 11. Board Discussion

- ✓ Livestream project handout – if you would like a copy please stop in the church office.
- ✓ A wonderful presentation by Sister Sarah explaining the process of selecting the company that will install a new lighting, sound and camera packet. These items will be used for better livestream services.
- ✓ Council asked about how this project is going to funded. Jim & Mary Page family has donated \$50,000.00
- ✓ A motion was made by Nate Cole to move forward with the updates for sound, lights & cameras, with determining where the extra money will come from, Jena Bruns seconded. Motioned passed.

#### 12. Adjourn – Closing Prayer



### **NEXT COUNCIL MEETING INFO**

Next month: Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM  
 Devotions: Alex Gay





# Cross of Calvary Lutheran Church 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 <b>Worship service-9:00 AM</b>	26 6:30 PM Library in use	27 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study	28 6-7 PM Confirmation 7:30 – 8:30 PM Seniors choice gifts (Quilts	29 7:07 AM Breakfast Club 8:15 AM Women's Bible Study	30	1
2 <b>Worship services-9:00 AM Communion</b>	3 6:30 PM Library in use 6:30 PM Cub Scout Mtg.	4 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study 1-3 PM Women's Bible Study	5 6-7 PM Confirmation (7th Gr.)	6 7:07 AM Breakfast Club 8:15 AM Women's Bible Study	7	8 8-2 Fellowship Hall in use
9 <b>Worship service -9:00 AM</b> 	10 6:30 PM Library in use	11 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study	12 6-7 PM Confirmation (8th Gr.)	13 7:07 AM Breakfast Club 8:15 AM Women's Bible Study	14 <b>Pick up Flower order 9-6</b>	15
16 <b>Worship service-9:00 AM Communion</b>	17 6:30 PM Library in use	18 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study	19 6-7 PM Confirmation (9 <sup>th</sup> Gr.) <b>7:30 PM Church Council</b>	20 7:07 AM Breakfast Club 8:15 AM Women's Bible Study	21	22
23 <b>Worship service-9:00 AM</b> 10:30 AM-Senior Recognition Sunday  Jensen Graduation 1-4 In Fellowship Hall	24 6:30 PM Library in use	25 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study	26	27 7:07 AM Breakfast Club 8:15 AM Women's Bible Study	28	29
30 Worship service-9:00 AM	31 6:30 PM Library in use 