Cross of Calvary Lutheran Church

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July 4 – July 11

Sunday 07.04	**Worship Service at 9:00 AM**
Monday 07.05	**Library in use in the evening**
	Office Closed
Tuesday 07.06	**Men's Bible Study at 6:30 AM**
	Book Club 1-3 PM
Wednesday 07.07	**7th Grade Confirmation Retreat 10-5:30**
Thursday 07.08	**Women's Bible study at 8:15**
Friday 07.09	
Saturday 07.10	**Memorial Service for Marlin Hanson 1:30 PM**
Sunday 07.11	**Worship Service at 9:00AM**
	Altar flowers in memory of Mark & Sonia Grasmon's 40th Wedding Anniversary (July 11)

No Church Council meeting or Follower the month of July

Rev. Dee Pederson Elected Bishop the Southwestern Minnesota Synod at the June Assembly

We are thankful for our Synod Assembly and look forward to our newly elected Bishop, Rev. Dee Pederson's service. Bishop Jon Anderson will complete his term this fall after 18 years of service.

Rev. Dee Pederson has served as the Director for Evangelical Mission for our synod since 2019. She has been and ordained minister since 1981, and prior to serving as DEM, she served as lead pastor of Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Saint Cloud. Pastor Dee was elected June 12th to serve a six-year term as bishop of the Southwestern Minnesota Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). The election took place during a virtual Synod Assembly. Pastor Dee was elected on the fifth ballot. Assembly recaps of each session and day, as well as the live-stream video of the Assembly will be available in the coming weeks at https://swmnelca.org/.

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, 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/

Announcement: Susie Meyer is now recovering at home. She would like to thank everyone for the cards and prayers. She is very grateful for her faith family and friends!

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

Update on Livestream Project for the Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall

The materials have been ordered! The company is waiting on a few backordered items. Once the items are all in, they will be scheduling a time that works for the church to set everything up. The church is looking at the end of July or beginning of August. The set up will not interfere with any church activities and services. We are so grateful to have this opportunity is improve the ability to reach our faith community with better quality livestream and much, much more!

2021 Confirmation Retreats

7th Grade – July 7th (10:00 – 5:00)

9th Grade – August 5th (1:00 – 9:00)

Faithlife

An email from Cross of Calvary was sent with information about a program called Faithlife. The program is new to Cross of Calvary and will be used as a directory, plus much more. We are asking that you go into the email update your personal information. We are planning on using Faithlife to better stay in contact with all our members. If you have any questions, please call 320-523-1574.

Thank you Cross of Calvary staff.

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

YOUTH SUMMER ACTIVITIES

Faith @ Home Bible Stories 2020-2021

Sunday July 4, 2021 — Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Readings:

Ezekiel 2:1-5 Psalm 123 (2)

2 Corinthians 12:2-10

Mark 6:1-13

Spark Story Bible: Jesus Goes to Nazareth, page 252

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

Cross of Calvary Prayer Garden

The Prayer Garden is being renewed to include a space for table and chairs. The cost for concrete work/labor is roughly $3000.00. The money in the Prayer Garden fund will be used for mulch, (front & back gardens), 2 small tables and 4 chairs. We are seeking donations for the concrete work. Thank You

Prayer Request

Trevor Solem – Family & Friends
Autum Stryker – Family and Friends
Nancy Hague - Friends
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
Lesley Sagedahl- Sagedahl Family
ALL persons working tirelessly to help with the Covid-19 pandemic
Military personal and their families

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.

Memorial/Funeral Services at Cross of Calvary in July

July 10th at 1:30 PM – Marlin Hanson
July 18th at 1:00 PM – Sherry Wold

Homemade Ice Cream Social

Zion United Methodist Church in Danube
Wednesday; July 7th: Serving begins at 5:00 PM
Menu: Homemade Ice Cream, Pies, Brownies, Sundaes, Root Beer Floats and Ice Cream Cones
There will be outdoor seating, drive up service and take outs will be available
Proceeds will go to support our mission fund.

July 4, 2021
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

taking faith home

Disciples trust in the power of Jesus.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	**Mark 6:1-13**	**Jesus sends the twelve**
Monday	**Ezekiel 2:1-5**	**The Lord chooses Ezekiel**
Tuesday	**2 Corinthians 12:2-10**	**Paul's vision**
Wednesday	**2 Peter 1:3-11**	**The Christian's call to love**
Thursday	**Luke 9:1-6**	**The disciples' mission**
Friday	**2 Timothy 1:1-14**	**Thanksgiving and encouragement**
Saturday	**Psalm 123**	**A prayer for mercy**
Sunday	**Mark 6:14-29**	**The death of John the Baptist**

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

But [God] said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. 2 Corinthians 12:9 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, help us to trust that through weakness you show power and through our human frailty you do great acts of love and mercy through Christ Jesus. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, just as you feed us through the work of many hands, help us to be mindful of the kindness of others that blesses us daily. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the power and strength of God bless you with mercy and grace.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

 Tell or think of a time that you needed the help of someone.

 What is it like to depend on the kindness of others when you need help?

 Jesus sends his disciples out into the world needing the kindness and hospitality of others. How is showing hospitality to others and receiving it ourselves the work of the church?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Mark 6:1-13.

Jesus goes to his hometown and is astonished at the people's lack of trust and belief in him. Because of that, he was only able to use his power to heal a few sick people. The townspeople rejected his authority. Ironically, that same authority is given to his disciples and they are able to go out and do many great deeds of casting out demons and curing the sick. This passage makes at least three important points about discipleship: 1) followers of Jesus will experience the same rejection Jesus did, 2) Jesus' authority is enough to do great things in the reign of God, and 3) disciples go out defenseless, without needing extra provisions and depend on the hospitality and kindness of strangers. The third point is a difficult one for us today. We would rather be the host. However, Jesus calls us to receive the help and kindness of others, especially the stranger who welcomes us in and takes care of us. In our weakness, God's power is revealed. When have you been blessed by being the recipient of the hospitality of others, especially someone you don't know well?

Pray: Dear God, in human frailty and need your power is made known. Bless us in our relationships with others that your love may be made known through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SERVICE

It is a valuable gift to host others in your home. However, it is also an important gift to the outreach of the church to accept the hospitality of others. When have you been a guest of another person's hospitality? Did you feel you were the recipient of God's love as you received the hospitality of others? Explain.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Psalm 123 is a psalm for people making a pilgrimage to the temple in Jerusalem. Identify sacred places in your own pilgrimage or faith journey on earth as a follower of Jesus. Maybe it is a place in your own home, congregation, or the home of a loved one. Talk or think about what you like to do in that sacred space, and give thanks for God's presence in your life. Conclude by praying: God of glory and might, thank you for revealing yourself to us and for special places that make us feel especially close to you through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.