



The Follower 2021

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

Dear Cross of Calvary Faith Family,

Blessings to all of you as we begin this month of November! Recently I saw a meme that stated something along the lines of “in a world that counts money, that count wins, that counts so many things— stand alone and count your blessings.” This is something that is so profound! You can have all of those things. You can have money. You can have all the wins in the world, but if you do not recognize them as the blessings of God given to you; you will not be happy.

The truth is God has given us all things. God has given us so many blessings in our life that often times we overlook, we focus only on the things that we don't have. But once we take a step back and recognize how many ways and how many things God has given us we can see we are truly rich beyond measure. First and foremost he has given us his son as our savior so that we may know that we never walk alone in life. He has given us one another yet is another sign that we never walk alone. He has given us the air that we breathe. He gives us the food that we eat. He gives us a wonderful country and state to live in. He gives to us over and over again we are blessed beyond measure.

So many times we live in a state of deficit thinking. We look first at what we don't have. Instead we should be focused on what we do have and plan accordingly. God gives to us everything that we need for the purpose which God calls us to. We know that there are things that we wish we had but to find contentment in what we do have. To find purpose and the gifts that God has given specifically to us and then we can move forward in living a fulfilled life in Jesus name! When we discover this, it is truly something to be thankful for!

So, in this month of thanks, let us take a step back and count the many ways God has blessed us and find our happiness and ultimately our fulfillment in that!

God's blessings for a grace filled month of November!

In Christ,

Pastor Matt

Council & Committee Meeting Dates

Outreach Meeting: Wednesday, November 10th at 8:30 PM
Equipping Meeting: Sunday, November 14th at 10:00 AM
Missions Meeting: Tuesday, November 9th at 5:30 PM
Care Team: Wednesday, November 17th at 6:30 PM
Parish Life: Tuesday, November 16th at 7:30 PM
Church Council: Wednesday, November 17th at 7:30 PM

All committees are looking for members; if anyone is interested please contact the church office at crossofcalvary@gmail.com or 320-523-1574

November Worship Assistants

Ushers: Daren Sagedahl, Curt Weis
Acolytes: Daniel Welchance & Kenley Elfering
Sound Board/Clicker: Jack & Sadie Gross
Communion: Nate Cole
Altar Guild: Jill Hanson & Dawn Gluesing



Sunday, November 7th, 2021

All Saints Sunday falls on November 7th this year, and as we look to remember the saints who've come and gone in our lives, you are invited to light a candle for them as you enter worship. Then, as we gather for worship, we will be surrounded by the light of all the saints with candles, and be reminded of those who we've commended to God. May they have eternal rest in God.

Members that we remember on this day are:

Mary Ann Bentley

Jim McDowell

Kathy Johnson
Marlin Hanson
Steve Helmer
Sonia Grasmon

Donna Greenwell
Larry Baumgartner
Sandy Kubesh
Vi Johnson



Please join us for our Thanksgiving Eve worship on Wednesday, November 24th at 7:00pm

Save These Dates!!

Sunday Dec 12th will be our Holiday Bake Sale and Bazaar, starting during coffee hour until 1 pm. There will not be a breakfast this year, and we are hoping to amp up our 'goodies' sale with more options like small portion freezer meals, pies and soups. We would love more canned goods and of course the cutouts are the most demanded item at our sale! Please contact Dana Boen 320-894-7885 if you have any craft items to donate to the sale. In mid-November, we will also have some raffle items to purchase tickets on. The drawing will take place the following week, right after the Sunday School Christmas program.

Friday, Dec 10th - Come enjoy coffee and fellowship while you decorate those cutouts (and maybe sample a little). Exact time to be determined. That evening, get together at the parsonage for LEFSE NIGHT! Whether you have lefse experience or not, all are welcome. It's a fun evening and I'm sure there is some sampling done there too!

YOUTH activities



November Confirmation Schedule

Make sure you have signed up for acolyte. (1 month)
Make sure you have signed up for Sound Board/Clicker.
Confirmation: November 3rd – 7&8 Grade
Confirmation: November 10th – 9th Grade
Confirmation on November 17th – 7&8 Grades
No Confirmation: Thanksgiving Break
Confirmation on December 1st – 9th Grade

Breakfast Club: Thursdays at 7:07am for 10-12 graders at Cross of Calvary. Friends are welcome! We will not be meeting on November 25th– due to Thanksgiving Break

Jesus Justice League

1-3rd graders are welcome to join us from 3:00 - 5:00 pm the 2nd Thursday of the month for Bible Stories, snack, games, activities, songs and crafts. BOLD students can meet at the bus loop and walk to church with Karen Flom. Questions? Contact Jeni Skeie at 320-579-0406 or jeniskeie@gmail.com

WOW

4-6th graders are welcome to join us from 3:00 - 5:00 pm each Wednesday for Bible Stories, snack, games, activities, songs and crafts. BOLD students can walk to the church on their own. We will plan to be outdoors as much as possible. Questions? Contact Jeni Skeie at 320-579-0406 or jeniskeie@gmail.com

Wanted: Snack Server Once a Month

We're looking for a volunteer to serve and clean up snack for the Jesus Justice League kids. 1-3rd graders meet once a month on the second Thursday of the month. Time commitment would be 3:00 pm to 3:30 pm. Benefit is getting to care for, encourage, and love kids through the act of service. Contact Jeni if you're interested.

Wanted: Adult Volunteers for WOW

Share the love of Jesus with our 3-6th graders Wednesdays from 3 - 5 pm. Help once a month or more. Contact Jeni if you're interested in making a difference in the lives of children.

Thanksgiving Eve Service will be Wednesday, November 24th at 7:00 PM. Our Sunday school youth will be singing. Bring Donations for the Food Shelf for offering.

SWMN Synod Jr. High Youth Gathering 2021

Friday, November 19 - Saturday, November 20

This year's theme is "Faith can move MOUNTAINS" "For truly I tell you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you."

Matthew 17:20

Please keep our group of students and adults in your prayers, that their faith may be deepened by this experience.



Coffee Fellowship Servers

A new sign-up sheet for 2021-2022 coffee fellowship servers is on "The Board". Please consider signing up for a Sunday so that our weekly fellowship time can continue.

Prayers for Healing and Strength

Claire Neubauer – daughter of Mark & Lara Neubauer
Scott Parsons – Gladie Hagen's nephew
Harry Hawkinson – Family & Friends
Laurie Hogberg – Family & Friends
Trevor Solem – Friends and Family
David Lindquist – Family & Friends
Chet Boen – Family & Friends
Tim & Emily Merten family – Angela Cole
Lesley Sagedahl- Sagedahl Family
ALL persons being affected by the Covid-19 pandemic
Military personal and their families



Santa's Closet

Is returning with Santa's Closet Express!

We will be returning to our four sites:

Fairfax – Hector-Olivia-Renville

Donations may be sent to

Santa's Closet-PO Box 115-Oliiva, MN 56277

Please send donations by December 1

Puzzles, toys hats, gloves, coloring books,

Hair products, sports equipment, and so much more!



In November 2021 we pray for ...

1. For all the Saints that have gone before us. We pray especially for those who died this past year.
2. Please be with us as we cast ballots in local elections. Help us to make wise decisions and to respect others opinion.
3. We pray for newly elected public servants, that they may serve You as they serve their constituents.
4. We pray for those who are ill. We especially pray for those listed in our Church Prayer List.
5. Please Lord, help us to listen to your Word and honor you in all we do.
6. We pray for and thank you for all Caregivers.
7. As we Worship together in person and online, we thank you for our faith family.
8. We pray for unity in our families, our communities and our nation.
9. As winter approaches, we thank you for shelter. Please guide us to help those who are in need of adequate shelter.
10. On this Wednesday and every Wednesday, we pray for our WOW students and Confirmation students. Please use their teachers and mentors to guide them through their faith journey.
11. Today we remember all the Veterans of our nation. We thank them for their service and sacrifices.
12. Father, we thank you for listening to our prayers.
13. As the days grow shorter and colder, we pray for those in Long Term Care, Assisted Living and Group homes.
14. We pray for those who suffer abuse in any form.
15. We pray that we may be able to listen and hear your voice. Help us to also listen to those around us and hear their voices.
16. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Please give me the strength to do Your will.
17. We pray for our church leaders and church staff as they meet to do the business of our congregation.
18. Help me to find happiness in forgetting myself and in trying to bring help and happiness to others.
19. We pray for those who have suffered betrayal in their lives that they will learn to trust again.
20. Lord, help me to develop gentle speech that will break down rigid defenses.
21. We pray for those who grieve that they may find comfort in Your loving arms.
22. We pray for those who are afraid, that they may put their trust in you.
23. We pray for the safety of college students and families who are traveling this holiday.
24. We pray for those who suffer loneliness during the holiday season. Guide us to reach out to those who need our friendship and compassion.
25. Today we give you thanks for our many blessings.
26. Lord help me to show kindness even when feeling frustration and impatience.
27. Lord, help me to love what is right and hate what is wrong.
28. On this first Sunday in Advent, we pray that we may be able to focus our attention on what truly matters without being distracted by trivial things.
29. Dear Lord, we pray for freedom from what burdens us.
30. As we look forward to a new month, we pray that we may learn and grow in all areas of our lives.

Cross of Calvary Lutheran Church
Council Meeting
Wednesday, October 13th, 2021 at 7:30 PM



COUNCIL MEMBERS

Terms end at Annual

Meeting in Jan. * Second term

2022

Eric Skeie 2022
Elaine McDowell 2022AB
Gordon Blem 2022*
Nathan Cole 2022
Sam Welchance Youth AB

2023

Sandra Gay 2023AB
Jeff Keltgen 2023
Jena Bruns 2023
Jill Hanson 2023*

2024

Alex Gay 2024*
Laurence Stratton 2024*AB
Robert Erickson 2024
Scott Johnson 2022

STAFF

Pastor Matt Hausken
Sister Sarah Hausken, Parish Minister
Sue Altmann, Recorder

Jeni Skeie, Parish Minister

Craig Boen, Janitor AB

MINUTES

MEETING - Call to Order (President)

1. Devotions – Gordy Blem (Are you prepared?)
2. Approve minutes of the *September meeting* – Motion to approve the minutes by Eric Skeie, seconded by Jill Hanson, motion passed.
3. Treasurer Report – *September meeting* - Motion to approve the treasurer/secretary report by Bob Erickson, seconded by Eric Skeie, motion passed.
4. Pastor's Report
 - Worship Service & Confirmation – Pastor Matt has been working on Advent. Worship Service numbers are up. The council is still deciding on a 2nd service, it will be reviewed at the end of October. Confirmation is going great; splitting the students by grade has help with connecting with students. Matt attending Fall Theology via a Zoom (October 11 & 12) Visitations are in going great; the only place not open is Olivia Healthcare. Confirmation Sunday was wonderful, great group of youth.
5. Parish Ministers Reports
 - Sarah submitted a report.
 - Jeni – Nicolas Serbus has started on the Gaga pit; which looks awesome. He hopes to finish by November. He is asking for donations from the church. Needed \$521.50, possible to use some Thrivent money. Junior High Youth gathering is in November and we have 19 students signed up. Looking for male chaperones.
 - Jeni plans on stay in her current job, so the church will be looking for a part time individual.
6. Office Report (Sue) will add information during reports.
7. Maintenance Update (Craig)
 - Communication is the key.

8. Committee Reports

- Administration – Alex Gay, Gordy Blem, Nathan Cole, Scott Johnson & Bob Erickson
 - Project is removal of the stumps on the east side of the building.
- Care Team – Jena Bruns & Jeni Skeie
 - Distributing food to those in need.
- Children, Youth & Family – Sister Sarah Hausken & Jeni Skeie
 - Project: family ministry, also a new group is forming so may take to get things up and running.
- Equipping – Sister Sarah Hausken, Laurence Stratton & Eric Skeie
 - Will workshop is Oct. 17 at 10:00 AM. An adult workshop is being planned dealing with “Conflict”; this will be 3 Sundays, dates TBD. Moving forward the will continue to have “Moments of Gratitude”, if any one would like to share, please contact the committee.
- Missions – Sister Sarah Hausken, Alex Gay & Jeff Keltgen
 - The committee is looking for volunteers to drive individuals to and from church service on Sundays. Please contact the church office if you are to do this task.
- Outreach – Sister Sarah Hausken, Jeff Keltgen & Jill Hanson
 - Planning on sending a large postcard with invitation to: Thanksgiving, Christmas
 - and information about the new livestreaming system.
- Parish Life – Sandra Gay & Jeni Skeie (did not meet)
- Technology – Nathan Cole & Pastor Matt Hausken
 - New live stream system
- Worship & Music – Jeni Skeie, Jill Hanson & Elaine McDowell
 - The committee will meet again in October to get ready for November.
- AED Maintenance – Sue (Ok) checked on 10/11/2021

9. Old Business

- New picture directory? (Next spring?) Discussion – We would need volunteers to take on this project. If anyone is interested, please contact the church office.

10. New Business

- Read “Growing Young” Chapter 5 (“Warm is the new “Cool”)
- Thank you Sister Sarah for all you have given to Cross of Calvary!!
 - November 7th: during coffee hour, there will be coffee and cake to Thank Sister Sarah for all she has contributed to the church.
- Water dispenser/fountain – Sue is looking into
- Dishwasher – Sue is looking into
 - As of now, neither are working

11. Adjourn – Closing Prayer

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING INFO

Next month:	November 17 th at 7:30 PM (due to Thanksgiving)
Devotions:	Nate Cole
Communion helper:	Nate Cole

NOVEMBER 2021

Cross of Calvary Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee 10:00 Sunday School	1 6:30 PM Library in use 6:30 PM Cub Scout Mtg. Mtg. 6-7 in a Classroom	2 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study Fellowship hall in use 1-3	3 3-5 PM WOW 6:00 PM Confirmation 7&8 Grade Women's Book Club	4 7:07 AM Breakfast Club 8:15 AM Women's Bible Study	5	6
7 9:00 AM Worship - Communion  10:00 AM Coffee Thanking: Sister Sarah 10:00 Sunday School	8 6:30 PM Library in use	9 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study 5:30 PM Mission Mtg.	10 3-5 PM WOW 6:00 PM Confirmation 9th Grade 7:15 PM Theology on Tap 8:30 PM Outreach Mtg.	11 7:07 AM Breakfast Club 8:15 AM Women's Bible Study 	12	13
14 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee 10:00 Sunday School 10:00 Am Equipping Mtg.	15 6:30 PM Library in use	16 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study 7:30 PM Parish Life Mtg.	17 3-5 PM WOW 6:00 PM Confirmation 7&8 Grade 6:30 PM Care Team Mtg 7:30 PM Church Council	18 7:07 AM Breakfast Club 8:15 AM Women's Bible Study 3-5 PM Jesus Justice League	19	20
21 9:00 AM Worship Gideon Sunday Communion 10:00 AM Coffee 10:00 Sunday School	22 6:30 PM Library in use	23 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study	24 9:30 AM Dorcas Bible Study No WOW No Confirmation 7:00 PM Worship service	25 	26	27
28 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee 10:00 AM Sunday School	29 6:30 PM Library in use 1:30 PM Ruth Bible Study	30 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study	1 3-5 PM WOW 6:00 PM Confirmation 9 th Grade	2 7:07 AM Breakfast Club 8:15 AM Women's Bible Study	3	4

