

Callings from the Lakeshore

Calvary & St. Paul Lutheran: Two Churches, One Body

October 2024



Notes from the Pastor's Chair

My dad was stationed in Turkey and the Philippines before I was born. My family lived at both of these locations for about two years. Over the years, I have heard many stories from my mom about their time there. Our living room was filled with things from both places. Our living room furniture was from the Philippines. We had decorative brass pieces from Turkey in the dining room. The things that I loved were the carved animals of deep dark rich wood that filled a side table in the living room. I had to oil them every week when I polished the furniture. I longed to play with them, but they were sacred items not to be played with. They were to be cherished and looked at only.

When my mom passed, they got packed into a box to decide who would receive them among the remaining children. As much as I loved them, I will give priority to my siblings who lived in the Philippines because these items represent a moment in time for them.

So, why have I told you this story? Because churches have and are sacred items or places. They are filled with touchstones that bring back specific moments in time. Each church has its own sacred items.

At my home church we had to change the carpet in the sanctuary. It had been there

since the church was built in the late 60's. It was bright red and no longer matched the tile that had been put in some time in the mid 80's. It was quite worn, and it was time. This was a painful process because that carpet was part of so many moments for people in the church. They had been married on it, their children had been baptized on it, and some of those children had grown up to be married on it as well. It was a sacred item. The carpet, this inanimate thing, took on so much emotion throughout the process. It was hard for those of us that had no attachment to it to understand.

Church is hard. In a previous article, I published a poem about all the ways that church is hard, but the biggest reason church is hard right now is that we are living in the unknown. It's not just us, the ELCA. It's all denominations. Post-COVID, the number of people attending church is not what it used to be, but those numbers have been declining for the last ten-plus years outside of rural America.

There is an organization called the Pew Research Center that puts out regular research data about Church attendance across all denominations. I have seen these reports for several years before becoming a Pastor. Yes, there was a time for the church when the pews were overflowing, the classrooms were filled, the confirmation classes were bursting, and getting volunteers was easy. I didn't experience those years. I went to military base churches, which ebbed and flowed with station changes. I attended a local Lutheran Church before the ELCA was formed, which had an average attendance of about seven kids and a Sunday class of maybe twenty to twenty-five. Our children's choir was maybe twenty to twenty-five. In high school and college, I drifted

in and out of church. (I'll save those stories for a different article.) I have only known churches this size, with limited volunteers and similar troubles.

As your Pastor, I am called to teach and preach and lead you all forward. Forward is scary because we don't know what that looks like. We don't know what it will bring. I can't tell you because I don't know either. I am here to walk with you.

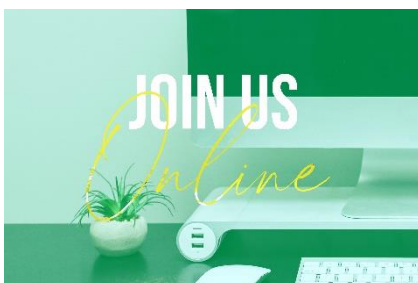
I am here to love and care for you, to help you find a faithful path forward—a path that aligns with who we are as a church. That path will be different for Calvary and St. Paul. We are yoked, but the two congregations have different paths and different missions.

I am here to help you identify who you are as a church, to identify that mission and help find a path to act on it. Doing this can cause some upsetting conversations. It can cause me to move some sacred items. I don't mean to upset, offend, or hurt anyone. It is the work you called me to do. It is the work we are called to do as the church. The church is not stagnant. It can't be, or it dies. The church is a living organism that changes, evolves, and adapts along the way. Each of us here is sacred, each of us here is holy, and each of us here is important to the process. I understand it's scary - I feel it, too - but let's be scared together and trust in God to walk with us.

Pastor Heather

CALVARY WORSHIP TIMES:
Sunday mornings at 8:30am.

ST. PAUL WORSHIP TIMES:
Sunday mornings at 10:15 a.m.

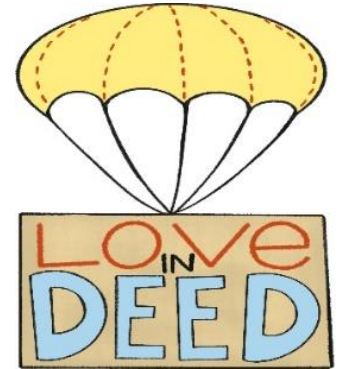


WORSHIP SERVICES ONLINE

Worship services for both churches continue to be

recorded and shared for everyone who is unable to come to in-person worship. Recorded services can be found on each church's website. The link for online worship is included in weekly emails for both churches. If you need help finding services online, please call the church office.

Sharing God's Love with our Community & Beyond



MONTHLY TREP FOOD DRIVES (CALVARY)

Calvary is hosting monthly food drives for TREP. Each month is a specific focus. **For October the focus is on items that TREP will use for Thanksgiving dinner kits: cake mixes, Jello, stuffing, and mashed potatoes**, but all donations are welcome. Any items for TREP can be placed in the grocery cart inside the main entrance.

PETER'S PANTRY DONATIONS (ST. PAUL)

There is a basket near the church office at St. Paul to drop off donations for Peter's Pantry. Thank you for all the donations we find in the basket each month! Your generosity to those in need is appreciated.

BLESSING BOX (ST. PAUL)

During the summer months, please consider adding non-perishable, easy to prepare items to the Blessing Box. Any items should be able to withstand the summer heat. Any overflow items can be placed in the church office.

MEALS ON WHEELS

Did you know that St. Paul has a wonderful team of people who deliver Meals on Wheels in our community? This service enables the homebound to receive one hot meal and one cold meal each day Monday through Friday. St. Paul has one of the easiest routes as we deliver to about 20 individuals in four or five locations. We

always work in pairs, and it only takes about an hour. St. Paul is responsible for one week's deliveries every four to six weeks. When we have enough volunteers, each set of partners is responsible for one day.

Our volunteers find gratification when they give their time to the needs of the recipients and enjoy working with their Meals on Wheels partner! **A few more volunteers would be great! If interested, please contact Jan Chermak.** Thank you to our wonderful team of volunteers!

NOISY OFFERING AT ST. PAUL

The October Noisy Offering will be going towards Hope House in Manitowoc. This offering will be collected on Sunday, October 20th.



***THIS MONTH WE'D LIKE TO BRING EXTRA
ATTENTION TO THESE ITEMS.***

DOSE OF HOPE: STIGMA REDUCTION & AWARENESS FUNDRAISER

St. Paul is excited to be a sponsor at this year's Dose of Hope event for the Lighthouse Recovery Center! Get your tickets now and enjoy an evening of delicious food & drinks, live music, an art gallery, guest speakers, raffle baskets, & silent auction.

Saturday, Nov 9th, 2024
4pm-8pm

Franciscan Center, Manitowoc

- \$50 in advance (\$65 at the door)
- \$30 for LRCC Members (\$40 at the door)
- \$30 for Recovery Ally Award Nominees (\$40 at the door)

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

Please note the following changes or out-of-office times for the month of October.

- **Monday, Oct. 7** – Office hours for Alyssa 9am-1pm instead of 10am-2pm.
- **Tuesday & Wednesday, Oct. 8 & 9** – Pastor Heather out of office for Synod meetings.
- **Monday, Oct. 14** – Office hours for Alyssa 10:30-2:30 instead of 10am-2pm.
- **Tuesday, Oct. 15** – Office hours for Alyssa 10:30-2:30
- **October 16-28** –Bon voyage Pastor Heather! Enjoy your vacation!



WINTER WARMTH DRIVE AT CALVARY

Calvary will once again sponsor a Winter Warmth Drive. The timing will coincide with the fall "Coats for Kids" campaign in our area.

We will collect hats, mittens, and scarves. All sizes are requested – for both children & adults. They may be donated to TREP, InCourage, The Warming Shelter, The Haven, or Hope House.

We will continue collecting items until the end of October. Please leave donations on the pew under the office window in the Gathering Space. Let's see if we can have as successful of a drive as we had last year!

**BECAUSE OF
GOD'S GREAT MERCY** 
a stewardship program for our congregation

"Because of God's Great Mercy" is the title of our stewardship emphasis this year at St. Paul. The scriptural basis of this focus on our stewardship of all that God has entrusted into our care is I Peter 2:9, "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of

him who called you out of darkness and into his marvelous light.”

We begin by proclaiming all that God has done for us, hence the title “Because of God’s Great Mercy.” God has made us God’s own people. We will also consider how generous giving is an important part of every Christian’s life, and how our combined generosity can make even greater things possible through our congregation.

We will think together about how our giving to St. Paul is an important part of our Christian faith, and how St. Paul uses our offerings to do God’s work within the congregation’s walls, in our community, and around the world.

“Because of God’s Great Mercy” will ask you to do two things. First, you will be asked to increase your giving to St. Paul by at least ½ of 1% of your household income.

“Because of God’s Great Mercy” will use mail, e-mail, and time in worship to share information with you. Please make a special effort to watch for material during this important time in our congregation’s life.

Pastor Heather & the Stewardship Committee



NEW MEMBER SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS!

On Sunday, September 15th both Calvary & St. Paul officially welcomed new members.

Calvary welcomed Deborah Holt and St. Paul welcomed the Veit Family (John, Carissa, Mary, Abby, Kelly, and James).



DAYS FOR GIRLS AT ST. PAUL Monday, October 14th at 1-4pm

Days for Girls International is a group that helps to provide reusable period products for millions of girls and women around the globe. No sewing experience (or experience of any kind) is necessary. Men & women are welcome to lend a helping hand.

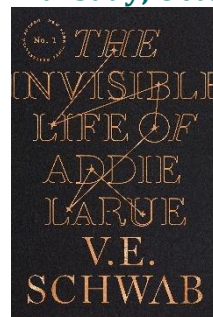
WOMEN OF WORSHIP (WOW) AT ST. PAUL Wednesday, October 2nd at 11am

WOW meets monthly at St. Paul for planning of events & fellowship. All women from Calvary & St. Paul are welcome to attend.

FAITH CIRCLE AT ST. PAUL Tuesday, October 15th at 10am

Faith Circle is a group of women who meet monthly for a Bible study along with some Fellowship time. All are welcome!

BOOK CLUB AT ST. PAUL Thursday, October 24th 3-4pm



In October the book club will be reading **The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue by V.E. Schwab.** We’ll meet to discuss the book in the Gathering Room. If you’re interested in joining, please let Joy know (joycarlson4@gmail.com) and you can be added to the Book

Club email list for updates and news. We have library copies available to borrow.



Chili Lunch & Fall Clean Up Day at St. Paul

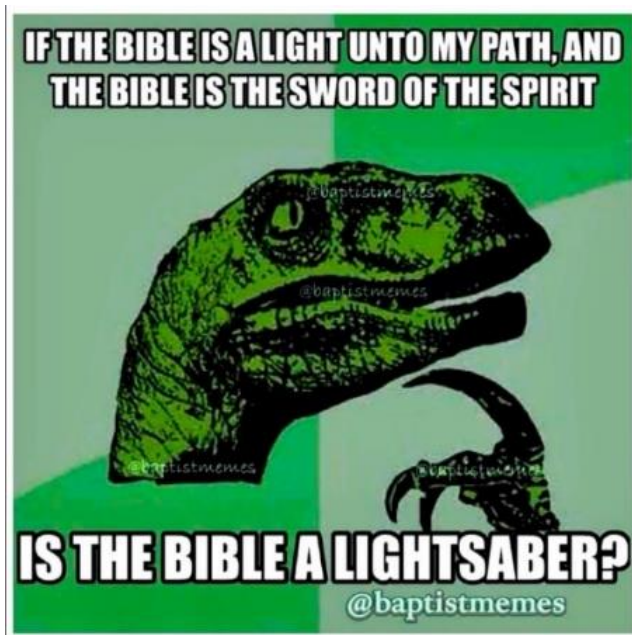
Fall Clean Up Day is Sunday, October 6th! Help clean up and join us for a great bowl of chili

and fellowship after the work is done. Please bring a few serving of your favorite chili. Before church we will dump them together to create the greatest chili ever! Please feel free to wear your cleaning clothes to worship. Worried about missing the Packer game? They don't play until 3pm that afternoon! Plenty of time for some clean up and chili! We hope to see you there.

Questions? Please contact Linda Wallander.

**FOR A FULL LIST OF EVENTS,
PLEASE SEE THE CALENDAR PAGE!**

A LITTLE BIT OF LAUGHTER!



ST. PAUL RUMMAGE SALE REPORT

We raised \$6,345.77

A huge thank you to all who helped in any way – their time setting up or taking down, baking, bringing items or shopping, etc. It all helped to make the sale a success. It takes the whole congregation.

\$2,000 of the money was given to St. Paul. \$1,345.77 will go to the St. Paul WOW (Women of Worship) for their ministry work; \$600 each will go to the following nonprofits: CareLink, Crossways Camping Ministries, Pink Heals, Gumby's Club for a Cure, Lighthouse Recovery Center (as a Sponsor for The Dose of Hope event). Besides the money raised, we also donated items to other area charities that are in need. Below is a list of places and items donated, in no particular order.

1. Gracious givers of Manitowoc – lamps, pictures, kitchenware, socks, shoes, scarves, warm hats, small bags and other misc.
2. 1st Lutheran snip and sew – material for quilts which will also go to LWR.
3. St John's Warming Shelter in Sheboygan – men's shirts, pants, shoes, socks, hats and gloves
4. Lakeshore Humane Society – old blankets and towels
5. St. Vincent DePaul – books, tablecloths, placemats, napkins, curtains, fabric, laces and notions
6. InCourage (domestic abuse center) – towels, wash clothes, caps, gloves, pots, pans and kitchen utensils
7. First Presbyterian Church Manitowoc – small bags, backpacks and small blankets
8. Maribel Sportsman Club – outerwear, hunting items
9. Mishicot FFA – vases, flowerpots, dry and silk flowers, anything for gardening
10. Salvation Army – coats

11. Homemakers – items to be used for craft projects
12. “Hoarders Release” – CDs, DVDs, VCRs and greeting cards
13. Habitat ReStore – light fixtures and sink
14. The Crossing – toys and clothes
15. The Haven – clothes
16. Roncalli – 3 ring binders
17. Melnik Presbyterian – kitchen and bake ware
18. Homeless shelter in Minnesota – mugs, blankets, sheets and socks

It takes the whole congregation: so many people donated items, baked, set-up and priced items or helped pack up and clean up. It is a huge project and takes all of you to make this happen. We logged over 700 hours of volunteer time. Thank you all!!!!

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

St. Paul blessed all the School Kits for Lutheran World Relief and had a special blessing for students as they headed back to school in early September. Thank you to everyone who donated toward the school kits, helped to pack the backpacks, and then prepare the backpacks for shipping!



RECYCLING OPPORTUNITY

Do you have ink cartridges lying around? Calvary has a box in the gathering pew for the recycling of used ink cartridges. They take all types except the long toner cartridges from larger printers. St. Paul members if you would like to bring yours in to be recycled arrangements can be made to get them over to Calvary. The more we recycle the less that end up in the landfill!

SCRIP

It's easy to buy cards and support this ongoing Calvary and St. Paul fundraiser.

- At Calvary see Cindy Schmidt.
- At St. Paul stop into the office before worship.

If you have any questions about our Scrip program or what type of gift cards are available, please ask. **Scrip gift cards are a practical, easy way to give a little extra to Calvary and St. Paul while shopping for items you already need!** Just a reminder: at St. Paul Alyssa does not currently handle SCRIP. You will need to purchase SCRIP on Sundays.



CROSSWAYS
CAMPING MINISTRIES

2024-2025 Retreats

- Nov. 1-3: Fall Crafting Retreat @ Pine Lake
- Nov 1-3: Jr. High Blast @ Imago Dei
- Jan 31-Feb 2: Winter Camp (grades 3-8) @ Pine Lake
- Feb 28-Mar 2: Family Weekend @ Pine Lake
- Mar. 7-9: Building Youth Groups (Upper Elementary and chaperones) @ Imago Dei
- May 27-28: Rooted (for adults) @ Pine Lake

Registration open now!

Email info@crosswayscamps.org with any registration questions. Go to crosswayscamps.org to sign up!



IN OUR PRAYERS

Calvary

- Scott and Samantha Spiering (Roxanne Spiering, family)
 - Mary Keck (Kristin Keck's mother) cancer
 - Harold Keck (Kristin Keck's father) cancer
- Prayer requests can be made by emailing the office at churchcalvarylutheran@gmail.com or by calling the church office at (920)793-3917.

St. Paul

- Linda, Mary, Holly, Harold, & Karen
- Prayer request can be made by emailing the church office at stpaulmanitowoc@gmail.com or by calling the office at (920)-682-2228.

If you would like prayer but would like to keep it confidential, please feel free to contact us with those as well.



Calvary	St. Paul
2 - Diane Grasee	3 - James Heyduk
10- Richard Jones	5 - Marie Fellbaum Korpi
16 - Beth Dow	7 - Gregg Gaedtke
19 - Gay Wavrunek	8 - Barb Yindra
25 - Nick Clark	12 - Joe Rathsack David Rittich Marty Schuch
31 - Marcia Nolan	13 - Nancy Duckart
	16 - Carter Neu
	18 - James Veit Patricia Maedke Makaila York
	19 - Jim Revolinsky

	20 - Brayson Coenen
	23 - Sheila Cherney
	26 - Randy Murray Joey Weaver
	27 - Julie Dahleen
	28 - Ella Coenen Becky Koch
	29 - James Trost

Happy
ANNIVERSARY

Calvary

14th - Doug & Jean Hoffman

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed or is listed incorrectly, please notify the church office.

Calvary Lutheran Church

1921 Adams St. Two Rivers, WI. 54241
 Email: churchcalvarylutheran@gmail.com
 Website: www.calvarytworivers.org
 Phone: 920-793-3917

Church Office Hours

Wednesdays 9:00am-1:00pm

**CALVARY CHURCH COUNCIL
 EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

President & Treasurer, Joe Bitto
bittohoney@charter.net
 (920) 304-6808

Vice President, Cindy Schmidt
Cas3761@gmail.com
 (920) 901-7449

Secretary, Kim Braun
Kbalma1@charter.net
 (920) 905-5303

Financial Secretary, Lori Williams
drlwilliams2010@gmail.com
 (920) 588-0109

CALVARY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Diane Grasse (920) 764-8065
Stan Phelps (920) 901-3887
Bruce Larson (920) 755-4069
Kerry Rivest
Lisa Shimanek

St. Paul Lutheran Church

2601 S. 10th St. Manitowoc, WI. 54220
Email: stpaulmanitowoc@gmail.com
Website: **New website coming soon!**
Phone: 920-682-2228

Church Office Hours

Mondays 10:00am-2:00pm
Tuesdays: 9:00am-1:00pm
Thursdays 9:00am-1:00pm

ST. PAUL CHURCH COUNCIL EXEUTIVE OFFICERS

President, Dave Kriewald
Dkriewald1@gmail.com

Vice President, Sharon Schwantes
Sharonretired64@gmail.com

Secretary, Cindy York
Cyork9786@gmail.com

Financial Secretary, Julie Dahleen
Neil Erickson
Marie Felbaum-Korpi
Shirley Oseiczaneck
Lana Sieracki
Linda Wallander

Pastor Heather Yerion Keck
pastoryerionkeck@gmail.com
cell: 816-820-4108

Office Hours:

Mondays 1:00-4:00 – St. Paul
Tuesdays 9:00-1:00 – St. Paul
Wednesdays 9:00-1:00 Calvary
Thursdays 9:00-1:00 – Calvary
*Other times by appointment.

Calendar of Events

AA & NA meetings happening weekly at Calvary:

Mondays – AA Meetings 7pm @ Calvary
Wednesdays NA Meeting 7pm @ Calvary
Thursdays: Bible Study with Matt from AA in
Fireside Room 5:30pm @ Calvary
Saturdays – AA Meeting 6pm @ Calvary

Date	Event	Time	Location
1 st	Calvary Quilters	9am	Calvary
2 nd	WOW	11am	St. Paul
5 th	James Veit's baptism	11am	Two Rivers Coast Guard unite
8 th	Calvary Quilters	9am	Calvary
8 th & 9 th	Pastor at Synod meetings	No office hours for Pastor	Calvary & St. Paul
14 th	Days for Girls	1pm	St. Paul
15 th	Calvary Quilters	9am	Calvary
16 th -28 th	Pastor on vacation		
17 th	Newsletter articles due	End of day	
20 th	Noisy Offering		St. Paul
24 th	Book Club	3pm	St. Paul
29 th	Calvary Quilters	9am	Calvary