



2025

Callings from the Lakeshore

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

Notes from the Pastor's Chair

Have you ever had a day, maybe a week, when your mind is just unsettled? You sit down to do something, a task on your to-do list, and stare at it. Or you start, and then you derail yourself mentally or physically in a hundred different ways.



This has been my experience trying to write this article for the newsletter. It is the last piece that Alyssa is waiting for. The deadline has come! I will share that I have started three different articles that I thought I wanted to write. They are the start of three pieces, but they stalled out as I tried to conclude them. Don't worry. I was taught never to get rid of any idea that something might come of it, so they are in my ideas for the future folder. You may see them someday.

The world is heavy right now for us all. I don't know if that has anything to do with this month's struggle with the article. It is Lent, which is extra work, which may be some of it. It could be that I really miss the sunshine, and this time of the year, it is the gray and overcast months. I have tried to pinpoint it but to no avail.

In general, my colleagues feel the same way. So, I take some comfort in that. I thought I would let you know some of the things that are weighing heavy on the hearts and minds of at least this Pastor, your Pastor.

This month, the other pastors in Manitowoc and I were asked to be present for a meeting at Faith Lutheran in Valders to provide a space for members of Our Saviors Lutheran in Denmark to come and get clarification about the ELCA. They have already done the initial vote and will vote soon to leave the ELCA. I wish the people of this church and community nothing but the best as they discern the best path for their future and their faith journey. The rising tide of conservative thinking and feeling has me rattled as your Pastor and as a person of faith.

I want to bring you news of good news and hope each Sunday, but I also struggle with not putting our heads in the sand as Christians and standing by as our neighbors are oppressed, deported, and legislated into having no legal standing. The Lutherans have a long history of providing social services to those in need domestically and internationally (our work rivals that of Catholic Charities), and to see that being torn apart brick by brick is hard – it is made harder now that I am part of the system.

I know that people come to church to escape the world outside our doors. They come to connect with the people who are their family and support, and that is priceless. I never want to make people feel like the church is another place where the world is pressing in on them. The conundrum comes for me because scripture tells us Jesus acted. Jesus acted on behalf of the marginalized, the ostracized, the sick, and the needy. Jesus challenged and debated the people who spouted the law and did so with zeal and

passion. Jesus did so without diminishing or belittling those spouting law or ordering his crucifixion. Jesus maintained everyone's dignity.

Jesus is perfect, and we are not. I know and accept that. I will fail at being your Pastor along the way. I will upset some of you. I will push you in ways that you may not want to be pushed. I will also let you sit in comfortable spaces when I should be doing more. But I will love and care for each of you along the way.

I am not sure that this is the most organized article I have ever written, thought-wise, but it feels good like I have offered some thoughts and wisdom to you.

The call from Jesus is daily. Our answer is by the minute. We work to do as much as we can with what we have at the moment.

- With God as our source of all things, we approach this world and each other with love and a forgiving spirit.
- With Jesus as our example, we serve our church and our community in the world
- With the Holy Spirit to guide our way, we choose to do God's will in how we live, treat each other, and make decisions.

Your Pastor

CALVARY WORSHIP TIME:
Sunday 8:30am.

ST. PAUL WORSHIP TIME:
Sunday 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.



In our Community & Beyond

MONTHLY TREP FOOD DRIVES (CALVARY)

Calvary is hosting monthly food drives for TREP. Each month is a specific focus. **April's focus is Easter items: specifically, jelly beans, ham, potatoes, and Jello**, but all donations are welcome. Any items for TREP can be placed in the grocery cart inside the main entrance.

PETER'S PANTRY & BLESSING BOX 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. If you have items for the Blessing Box, please place those directly in the box outside. Items should be able to withstand freezing /melting (depending on the time of year).

MEALS FOR MANITOWOC WARMING SHELTER

The WOW group at St. Paul has (and will continue to) provide meals for the Warming Shelter during it's open season. Calvary will also be providing a meal. If you are interested in helping or contributing to these dinners for the homeless in our community, please contact the church office.



Calvary & Ecumenical Services

The following services are at 6:30pm

April 2nd - Zion United Methodist (Mishicot)

April 9th - Calvary (Soup Supper starts at 5pm)

St. Paul Services

April 2 - 6pm



Please consider sending cards & notes to our homebound members. They are still very much a part of our church family, even if we do not see them. For safety reasons, the list will not be published in the newsletter as anyone can access it online. However, you can pick up a list at church or email Alyssa for a copy.



CALVARY'S QUILTERS
Every Tuesday, 9am-11am

No experience needed. All are welcome. Quilts are made and donated annually to Lutheran World Relief. Meets in the lower level.

BIBLE STUDY WITH REV. BRUCE HANSTEDT
MONDAYS AT 6:15PM & THURSDAYS AT 10AM AT ST. PAUL (SAME TOPIC AT BOTH DAYS/TIMES)

Thursday mornings has several participants. Monday evenings will continue if there is enough interest. Please watch the bulletin, Weekly News, and/or emails from Bruce for further information on Monday's schedule.

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

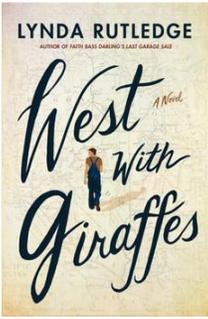
WOW meets monthly at St. Paul for planning of events & fellowship. All women from Calvary & St. Paul are welcome to attend.

DAYS FOR GIRLS AT ST. PAUL
Monday, April 14 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.

FAITH CIRCLE AT ST. PAUL
Tuesday, April 15 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, April 24 at 3pm

In April, Book Club will be reading **West with Giraffes** by Lynda Rutledge. If you're interested in joining, please let Joy know (joycarlson4@gmail.com) and you can be added to the Book Club email list. We have library copies available to borrow.

NOISY OFFERING AT ST. PAUL

The April Noisy Offering will be collected for **Crossways Camping Ministries on Sunday, April 20th.** Crossways is an ELCA ministry and offers many opportunities throughout the year for adults, children, teens, and families.

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



2025 Retreats

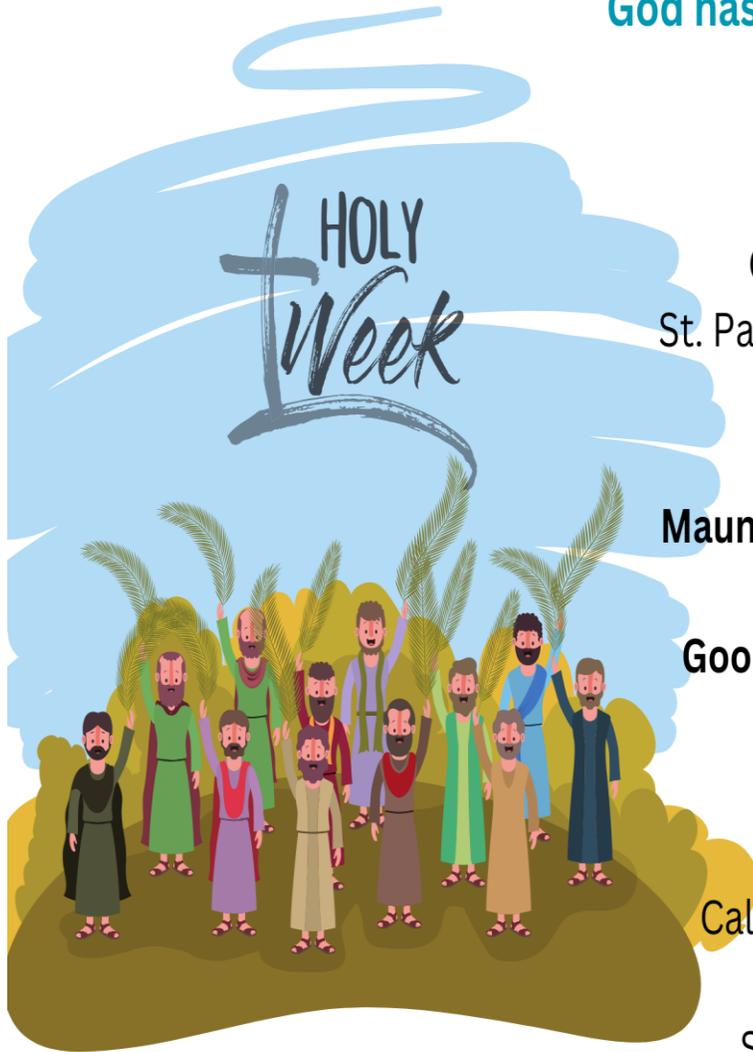
- May 27-28: Rooted (for adults) @ Pine Lake

Summer Camps: So many options! Check them out online - info below.

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

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Join us as we celebrate all that
God has done for us through Christ
Jesus!



Palm Sunday, April 13

Calvary: 8:30am worship
St. Paul: 10:15am worship & brunch
to follow

Maundy Thursday, April 17: 6pm at
Calvary

Good Friday, April 18: 4pm at St.
Paul

Easter Sunday

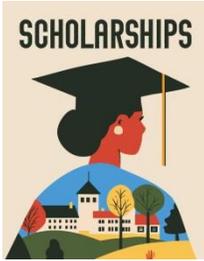
Calvary: 7:15am breakfast and
8:30am worship
St. Paul: 10:15am worship

Palm Sunday Brunch at St. Paul:

Brunch will be served following the 10:15am worship service. Egg bakes, fruit, bakery items, juice, coffee, & milk will be served.
Hosted by WOW.

Easter Breakfast at Calvary:

Breakfast will be served 7:15-8:15am. We will be having pancakes, sausages, scrambled eggs, fruit and sweet breads. Please sign up in the Gathering Space.
Hosted by the Grasee family.



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS AT ST. PAUL

Scholarship applications for St. Paul are due April 1st. If you would like a scholarship application, please contact the church office. Donations can be made at any time throughout the year to the scholarship fund. Please indicate this on your offering envelope.



RECYCLING OPPORTUNITY

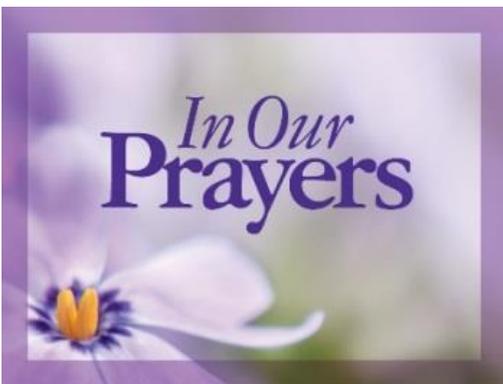
Do you have ink cartridges lying around? Calvary has a box in the gathering pew for the recycling of used ink cartridges. They take all types except the long toner cartridges from larger printers. St. Paul members if you would like to bring yours in to be recycled arrangements can be made to get them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



Calvary

- The Bitto family, as they grieve the passing of baby Frankie.
- Sloane (4-year-old with cancer. Her grandparents are friends of Cindy Schmidt.)
- Scott and Samantha Spiering (Roxanne Spiering's 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

- Dick K., Amy, Linda, Mary, 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.

Your Monthly Church Comic: Perfect for Easter!



(Pictured left to right: Hulk, Captain America, Jesus, Spiderman, Iron Man, Thor)



Calvary	
1 st - Dave & Sonja DeVore	14 th - Jim Williams
8 th - Ken Mittag	17 th - John Kreeger
11 th - Jeremy Arneman	26 th - Dana Arneman
St. Paul	
6 th - Jeff Hanley	12 th - Debbie Wochos
8 th - Isabel Strazny	22 nd - Ann Barry
9 th - Ken Rieckmann	22 nd - Logan Maedke
10 th - Amanda Rittich	27 th - Brian Maedke
	27 th - Madison York

Happy ANNIVERSARY

Calvary

NO ANNIVERSARIES THIS MONTH.

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

Calendar of Events

AA meetings happening weekly at Calvary:

Mondays – 7pm
Wednesdays – 7pm
Saturdays – 6pm

Date	Event	Time	Location
2 nd	WOW	11:00am	St. Paul
	Lenten Service	6pm	St. Paul
	Two Rivers Ecumenical Lent Service	6:30pm	Zion Methodist (Mishicot)
3 rd	Bible Study with Bruce Hanstedt	10am	St. Paul
7 th	Bible Study with Bruce Hanstedt	6:15pm	St. Paul
8 th	Council Meetings	5:45pm	Calvary
		7pm	St. Paul
9 th	Finance Meeting	1:30pm	St. Paul
	Soup Supper Lenten Service	5pm 6:30pm	Calvary Calvary
10 th	Bible Study with Bruce Hanstedt	10am	St. Paul
12 th	WOW Brunch Set up	10am	St. Paul
13 th	Palm Sunday	Coffee Hour following service	Calvary
13 th	Palm Sunday Brunch	After service	St. Paul
13 th	Confirmation Class	11:45am	St. Paul
14 th	Days for Girls	1-4pm	St. Paul
	Bible Study with Bruce Hanstedt	6:15pm	St. Paul
15 th	Faith Circle	10am	St. Paul
17 th	Newsletter articles due		

Date	Event	Time	Location
17 th	Bible Study with Bruce Hanstedt	10am	St. Paul
	Building & Grounds Meeting	1pm	St. Paul
	Maundy Thursday Service	6pm	Calvary
18 th	Good Friday Service	4pm	St. Paul
20 th	HAPPY EASTER! Regular service times at both churches.		
20 th	Easter Breakfast	7:15-8:15am	Calvary
21 st	Bible Study with Bruce Hanstedt	6:15pm	St. Paul
21 st -23 rd	Pastor on vacation		
24 th	Bible Study with Bruce Hanstedt	10am	St. Paul
	Book Club	3pm	St. Paul
28 th	Bible Study with Bruce Hanstedt	6:15pm	St. Paul

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

EXECTUIVE OFFICERS

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

Vice President, Lisa Shimanek
Lisa.Shimanek77@gmail.com, (920) 242-4493

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 (920) 905-1734
Cindy Schmidt (920) 901-7453

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

2601 S. 10th St. Manitowoc, WI. 54220
Email: stpaulmanitowoc@gmail.com
Website: www.stpaulmanitowoc.org
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

EXECTUIVE 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
Shirley Oseiczanek
Lana Sieracki
Linda Wallander
Carissa Veit
Lonnie Erdman

Pastor Heather Yerion Keck

pastoryerionkeck@gmail.com
cell: 816-820-4108

Office Hours:

Mondays 1:00-4:00 – St. Paul

Tuesdays by appointment

Wednesdays by appointment

Thursdays 9:00-1:00 – Calvary

*Other times also available by appointment.