

March 2026

CALVARY CALLING

News that serves and ignites people for Christ



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sun. March 1
Regular Worship Schedule*

Wed. March 4
5:00 p.m. Lenten Meal
6:00 p.m. Wednesday Worship*

Sun. March 8
Regular Worship Schedule*

Wed. March 11
5:00 p.m. Lenten Meal
6:00 p.m. Wednesday Worship

Sun. March 15
GIFT Worship In Fellowship Hall
Normal Worship in Sanctuary

Wed. March 18
5:00 p.m. Lenten Meal
6:00 p.m. Worship *

Sun. March 22
Regular Worship Schedule*

Wed. March 25
5:00 p.m. Lenten Meal
6:00 p.m. Worship*

Sun. March 29 Palm Sunday
Regular Worship Schedule*

* Sunday & Wednesday School

As we step into March and the season of Lent, we invite you to take a few moments to look through the ministries and mission unfolding in the weeks ahead. There are opportunities for worship, learning, service, fellowship, and growth for every generation. We will also have the joy of welcoming new members into our community. It is a beautiful reminder that it is a gift to be the people of God in this time and place. We do not walk alone. We walk alongside one another in faith and in life, strengthened by Christ and sent into the world with hope.

Lent

This Lent, our midweek worship will blend our theme, "Tell Me Something Good," with beloved selections from Holden Evening Prayer.

Together, these services will ground us in the heart of the gospel. Listening again for the good news Jesus lived and taught: love of neighbor, radical welcome, care for the vulnerable, and hope that takes root even in a weary world. Through familiar music and reflective prayer, we gather each week to be nourished by what is truly good. Lenten Meal 5:00-6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall, 6:00-7:00 p.m. Lenten Midweek Worship.



A MESSAGE FROM LEAD PASTOR RACHAEL PUTTBRESE

For much of my younger life, I didn't like Lent. It felt heavy. The hymns seemed sober. The "Alleluia" was put away. As a teenager, I thought it was simply depressing. But over time, I have learned to embrace the season of Lent as I discovered the way it welcomes honesty. It is a time and space in the church calendar that names the realities of life and death, joy and sorrow, brokenness and redemption.

This year, Ash Wednesday did not unfold quite as planned. Weather took center stage. School was canceled. Evening plans shifted. Yet in the middle of it all, some people were still able to stop by for "Ashes Along the Way," a simple moment to pause, receive ashes, and be prayed for. What struck me most were the brief conversations I was able to have before the ashes were given.

Each person carried some reality of life...concern for a loved one, uncertainty about the future, weariness, grief. When I asked, "Is there something you would like me to pray for?" small pieces of holy truth were shared. We are a hurting people living in a hurting world.

Because school was canceled, children of various ages also stopped by. I traced the sign of the cross on their foreheads and said the words, "Remember that you are dust..." How do you look into a child's eyes and tell them they are dust?

What children are always teaching me is this: they seem to understand the love and presence of Jesus that we often complicate. They didn't need a theological explanation. They simply looked up in trust, standing beside their parents, and heard the promise: Jesus loves you. Jesus is with you.

Ashes and Lent invite us to tell the truth: we are finite. We cannot control everything. We will experience loss. Much of life is lived in Lent. But the cross traced in those ashes tells a deeper truth, we are loved. We are claimed. We are not alone.

The cross turns dust toward trust.

Even in our mortality, even in our questions, even in our wilderness seasons, we are held by a love that has already walked through death and come out the other side. This Lent, we will gather. We will pray. We will sing quieter hymns. We will tell the truth about our lives and carry one another's worries. And together, we will listen for holy hope in the midst of it all.

Come walk Lent with us and let's learn together how God turns dust into trust.

God's peace,
Pastor Rachael



MEN'S MINISTRY

This group meets on the **first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.** here at Calvary in the library. This is an opportunity to get to know other men in the congregation. We hope to see you there!

STITCH & CHAT GROUP

March 5 & 19 @ 1:30 p.m.
Meets the first and third Thursday of each month in the Library. This is open to all women who want to bring their "handiwork" for an afternoon of fellowship and crafting.

READING RELIGIOUSLY

March 9 @ 6 p.m. | Blue Moose
Love to read? Looking for great conversation and new perspectives? Our Reading Religiously Book Club is the perfect place to dive into engaging stories, share ideas, and connect with fellow book lovers. Whether you're a lifelong reader or just getting started, all are welcome. **We have changed our meeting date. We will meet on the second Monday of every month at 6:00 p.m.** at the Blue Moose in East Grand Forks. Grab a copy of *Good People* by Patmeena Sabit and meet us at the Blue Moose.

MEMORY CAFE

March 10, 2026 from 1:00-3:30 p.m. | FH
The Memory Cafe will be held once a month on a Tuesday in the Fellowship Hall. The program will begin at 1:30 pm with Mary Ann Devig, RN, our Memory Cafe director, presenting "Surviving Alzheimer's for Caregivers." Refreshments will be served following the program. All are welcome. The event is free. Resources will be available. For questions, call the church office at 701-772-4897.

ALL-AGES BOOK CLUB

March 15 @ 3 p.m. | Fellowship Hall
Discover the joy of reading together! Our All-Ages Book Club is a welcoming space for readers of every generation to share stories, spark conversation, and build community. Each month we explore a new title that's fun, thought-provoking, and perfect for discussion. Come connect through books—you bring the curiosity, we'll bring the stories! **This month we will be reading *Fearless* by Kristin F. Johnson.**

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF QUILT ASSEMBLING AND POTLUCK

March 31 in the Fellowship Hall
We would like to encourage you to join us on the last Tuesday of the month from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. to help assemble the quilts. We also have a potluck lunch at noon. You can come for an hour or two or the whole day, that is up to you. We hope you can join us.



Our youth are serving up something sweet this Easter Sunday! Join us before and during each service for our "Glaze-y the Lord" donut fundraiser.

Fresh, delicious donuts will be available for a freewill offering, with all proceeds supporting our upcoming summer youth road trip.

It's a simple (and tasty!) way to encourage our students as they prepare for a meaningful summer of faith, fellowship, and growth. Grab a donut and help us Glaze-y the Lord this Easter!

Help decorate our worship space for Easter. Sign up in the main office. \$15.



Highlights of Church Council

Mission Plan 2026 (FINANCE REPORT)

January income was higher than last year, even with having worship only on three Sundays. 3 larger annual gifts were given in Jan. this year (greater than \$2,000).

Expenses slightly higher (Snow removal was larger expense in Dec. 2025).

Property insurance went up by \$4500 (Shari is going to help with renegotiating rates).

Utilities are always higher Dec.-Feb.

Getting close to paying off building mortgage debt.

Ideas welcome for next financial goal (ex: raising money for new roof, a scholarship for going to seminary school); keeping money in a fund that can be put toward larger items like that or unexpected repairs/capital improvements.

Discussion about more quotes for snow removal for possible lower rates next year.

COMMITTEE REPORTS & NEW BUSINESS

Building & Grounds

Danny back from medical leave.

Danny says there were no major issues, just some light bulbs to be changed.

Lifts are going into Acme for regular maintenance.

Brad did a great job covering for him while he was out.

Looking for guidance for pipe organ contact for a grant from the pipe organ fund of North Dakota.

Evangelism

Celebrating consistent support for Lewis & Clark backpack program.

Still planning May Book Fair for Lewis & Clark students with root beer floats.

Community Relations

Marcus will coordinate photo of council members/group for the bulletin board near church entry way.

Education

Sunday school classes will be sharing music in upcoming church services.

March 15 is GIFT Sunday.

April 26 is GIFT Sunday with Camp Metigoshe.

Registration open for Summer Youth Service Learning Road Trip.

Pastoral

Reviewed Feedback and Joy from Annual meeting. (Youth raised about \$400 through freewill offering)

Updated staffing and next steps for Associate Pastor Call Committee.

Youth Ministry Vision Team will hold its first meeting with two objectives:

(1) Staffing Model (2) Confirmation Program

Next Council Meeting: March 10 @ 6:30 p.m.

2026 Mission Plan

2026 Proposed Mission Plan	1,014,205.00
Offering through 2/17/26	122,060.61
Expenses through 2/17/26	129,219.53
Balance of Building Expansion Loan as of 2/28/26	365,690.87

Memorials

GOOD SAMARITAN

In memory of Jan Noblin by Joel and Carolyn Tangen

In memory of Gordon Sather by Joel and Carolyn Tangen

In memory of Janet Schauer by Howard and Debbie Swanson

UNFORGETTABLES CHOIR FUND

In memory of Mary Ann McKenna by Timothy and Kathleen McKenna

Foundation Grant Deadline

Due: Wednesday April 8 @ 4 p.m.

Calvary Lutheran Church's Foundation provides perpetual financial support to further Calvary's mission of serving and igniting people for Christ both locally and worldwide. Application forms, information and tax information about giving to the Foundation can be found on Calvary's website (www.calvarygf.org). Foundation grant applications are being accepted through Wednesday, April 8, at 4:00 p.m. Applications can be emailed to heather.vandervort@calvarygf.org or brought to the church office.

Prayers & Sympathies

Lexi Rudnik's sister-in-law,
Monica Rudnik, died 1-24-26.

Brad Towers' mother,
Gloria Towers, died 2-1-26.

FUND BALANCES

Youth	77,783.39
Honduras Mission	41,924.93
Foundation	870,476.48
Good Samaritan	4,760.67
Refugee	6,918.52
Campership	4,997.37
Music	655.31
Library	1,027.46
Unrestricted Reserve	78,000.00
Landscaping	176.20
Contemporary Worship	3,174.39
Education	1,851.84
Fine Arts	934.31
Missions	38,793.26
Quilting	2,140.97
Memory Café	16,255.33
Unforgettables Choir	13,074.73
Prayer Chain	12,618.50
LaGrave on First	988.16
Lewis & Clark General	4,029.83
Lewis & Clark Backpack	31,494.33
Hymnal & Bible Fund	1,923.50
Coffee Shop	3,079.46
Columbarium	33,262.10
Stephen Ministry	1,033.75
Operation Technology	(1,951.94)
Organ/Piano	(617.33)
General Maintenance	4,439.60
Sanctuary Projector/Screen	1.61
Hearing Aid Loop	1,157.00
Roof Repairs	7,012.33
Building Expansion	267,196.97
Seminary	503.95

Feed My Starving Children

The 2026 Greater Grand Forks Feed My Starving Children MobilePack Event will be held on **April 24-25** at Minnkota Power Cooperative.

Calvary will have four volunteer groups:

Friday, April 24, 5:45 to 8:00 pm

Saturday, April 25, 8:30 to 10:45 am

Saturday, April 25, 11:45 am to 2:00 pm

Saturday, April 25, 3:00 to 5:15 pm

**MobilePack Event
Signup Up**



Calvary members are encouraged to join the fun! Volunteers age 5 and up are welcome! Volunteers under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult. There is something for everyone to do! If you have mobility limitations or cannot stand for the length of the session, volunteers are also needed for sit-down tasks.

Please sign up using Signup Genius, see the QR code on the left.

If you have questions, please contact the church office or Lisa Piche, Calvary FMSC representative, at 701-741-1865 or lisapiche87@gmail.com

An email from Jodie Storhaug as they visited a place that receives the meals we pack:

“Bruce and I are having an amazing experience with this team. Therapy MannaPack really **IS** making a difference here in the Dominican among some of the poorest.”



CALL COMMITTEE

**DURING THE MONTH OF MARCH,
WE ARE RECEIVING NAMES OF PEOPLE
WHO WOULD BE WILLING AND ABLE
TO SERVE ON
THE CALL COMMITTEE FOR AN
ASSOCIATE PASTOR**

You can volunteer or share the name of someone you think would be the right fit for this work.

PLEASE EMAIL COUNCIL PRESIDENT:
ANTHONY.SCHROEDER@UND.EDU
OR

PASTOR RACHAEL: REVRACH@CALVARYGF.ORG

Call Committee Members serve on behalf of the congregation to prayerfully lead the process of calling a new Associate Pastor. This includes reviewing candidate materials, conducting interviews, engaging the congregation, and discerning God's guidance in partnership with the synod. The committee's role is one of listening, confidentiality, collaboration, and faithful discernment.

CALVARY CLASSICS

2026



**March 24, 4:00 PM
Nancy Yoshida**

Join us for dessert as Nancy presents her travels to Africa



**April 28, 1:30 PM
Ralph Englestad tour - \$6.00**

Meet at the Ralph at 1:15 PM
Park on the North side.

LENT SCHEDULE

MARCH

Sundays, March 1, 8, 15, 22

9 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
9 a.m. Worship in the Fellowship Hall
10:30 a.m. Worship in the Fellowship Hall

Wednesdays, March 4, 11, 18, 25

5 p.m. Lenten Meal in the Fellowship Hall
6 p.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
7 p.m. *Cost of Discipleship* Book Study

29 Palm Sunday

9 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
9 a.m. Worship in the Fellowship Hall
10:30 a.m. Worship in the Fellowship Hall

APRIL

2

Maundy Thursday

5:30 p.m. Fifth Grade Communion Service in the Fellowship Hall
7 p.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

3

Good Friday

Noon Worship in the Sanctuary
5:30 p.m. Worship in the Fellowship Hall
7 p.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

5

Easter Sunday

7 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
9 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
9 a.m. Worship in the Fellowship Hall
10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
10:30 a.m. Worship in the Fellowship Hall



A Lewis & Clark Partnership

Calvary's It Takes a Village partnership with our neighboring school, Lewis and Clark, continues to thrive in its fourth year of supporting the backpack meal program. This ministry allows us to live out our call to compassion by helping meet the nutritional needs of food-insecure children in our partner school. Each week, students receive weekend meals who might otherwise go hungry.

It costs approximately \$100 to support one child for an entire school year, and we invite you to consider sponsoring one or more students for the 2025–2026 school year. Every contribution, large or small, makes a meaningful difference.

For those who prefer to donate food items, collection tables are located outside each worship space, and an Amazon wish list is available for items shipped directly to Calvary.

Together, we truly can create a village of care around the children at Lewis and Clark. In February alone, we packed 878 meals.



Items For Backpacks

Ramen noodles - chicken flavor
Soup or noodle cups
Mac and cheese cups
Cans of chicken noodle soup
Instant oatmeal packets
Fruit cups/applesauce
Individually packed snack items not containing nuts
Juice boxes (100% juice)

Backpack Packing

Volunteers are needed to assist in filling bags on the third Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. in the church narthex.

Our next meeting date to pack is March 17.

Sponsoring a Child

It costs roughly \$100 to sponsor one child for the entire school year. We ask that you consider sponsoring one or more so we can meet our goal of providing for all students. Your sponsorship provides food and support for a child in need. It's a simple way to make a lasting impact one student, one life, one future changed.

Thanks to your generosity, approximately 31 students are currently sponsored for the school year! Let's keep going and see how many more we can support.

Give \$100 cash or \$100 check designated to Sponsoring a Child to our Finance Director, Heather, or donate online by scanning the QR code then click over to one-time gift, press the drop down and click Lewis & Clark, press second drop down and click Sponsor a Child.





Calvary Lutheran Church

Calvary Lutheran Church was established in 1953 after the announcement of the establishment was made by Reverend L.E. Tallakson of Fargo, president of the North Dakota District of the Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Location

1405 South 9th Street
Grand Forks, ND 58201

Contact

701-772-4897
place4u@calvarygf.org

Our Worship Services

Sunday*

9 a.m. - Sanctuary &
Fellowship Hall

10:30 a.m. - Fellowship Hall

Wednesday*

5:30 p.m. - Sanctuary

*Holiday and summer services may have different times.

All services are streamed online.

calvarygf.org

Calvary's All-Inclusive Team

March is National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month (DDAM).

This month highlights the importance of fostering inclusion, recognizing the contributions of people with developmental disabilities, and removing societal barriers.

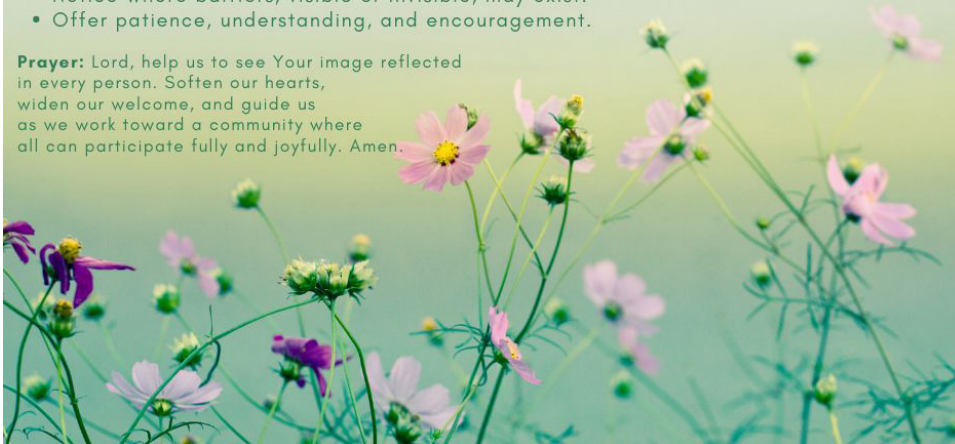
Developmental disabilities may include conditions such as autism, cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, and other lifelong differences that affect physical, learning, language, or behavioral development. While challenges may be part of the story, so too are gifts, resilience, creativity, and deep wisdom.

As a community of faith, we are called to make room, not just physically, but relationally and spiritually. We grow when we listen, learn, and create spaces where every person is valued as a beloved child of God.

This month, the Calvary Inclusivity Team invites you to:

- Learn about the lived experiences of individuals and families.
- Notice where barriers, visible or invisible, may exist.
- Offer patience, understanding, and encouragement.

Prayer: Lord, help us to see Your image reflected in every person. Soften our hearts, widen our welcome, and guide us as we work toward a community where all can participate fully and joyfully. Amen.



WAYS TO GIVE

1. Text

701-922-9020

2. Online

at calvarygf.org

3. In Worship

Drop a gift in the offering plate

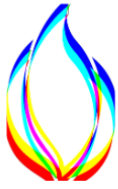
4. Mail checks or money order

Calvary Lutheran Church
1405 South 9th St
Grand Forks, ND 58201

Looking to donate your time?

Call 701-772-4897 or

Email place4u@calvarygf.org



CALVARY
Confirmation

Youth and CONFIRMATION

Summer Youth Service Learning

Roadtrip



Sign up TODAY!



Trip details

- ✦ July 7-14
- ✦ Grades 8-12
- ✦ Faith, Fellowship, Fun
- ✦ Fundraising available



 **CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

The Calvary Youth are getting ready to HIT THE ROAD this summer with our Summer Youth Service Learning Roadtrip! We are setting the GPS to adventure as we explore the areas of Chicago, Pigeon Forge, TN, and North Carolina. Along the way, we aim to find fun, and ways to learn from and love our neighbors, and what God is calling us to in the open road of life. The itinerary is set, sacks are being packed, all we need is YOU! The sign up deadline is approaching fast, contact Nichole with any questions!

Easter
EGG^{ed}
YOUTH FUNDRAISER



REGISTER TODAY!



Support Calvary Lutheran Church youth as they raise funds for their service learning road trip this summer!

- \$25 - 25 EGGS
- \$50 - 50 EGGS
- \$75 - 75 EGGS
- \$100 - 100 EGGS

Make Easter morning extra fun (and extra easy!) with our Easter-Egged youth fundraiser! Families can order pre-filled eggs, and our youth will deliver a bag of candy-filled eggs and a special message from the Easter bunny, right to your doorstep in time for Easter.

It's a stress-free way to support our youth and save some time during the busy spring season! All proceeds will help fund our upcoming summer youth road trip. Order your eggs, enjoy the fun, and thank you for supporting our amazing students!

*Please note that we are delivering your eggs so that your family can hide them at your convenience.

Confirmation

UPCOMING CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES



LENT WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Contact Pastor Rachael to sign up



NURSERY & COFFEE SHOP

Contact Nichole or Allie to sign up



CORE CLASSES

Bible Basics | 7 Habits | Creeds & Commandments | Sacraments & the Lord's Prayer
Wednesdays | April 8, 15, 22, 29 | 7-8PM

To sign up VISIT CALVARYGF.ORG/CONFIRMATION



Kids & Family




CALVARY PRESENTS

Family
GLOW
Dance

Friday, March 20
6:00-7:30 pm
Calvary Lutheran Church

SIGN UP TODAY!



JOIN US FOR A GLOWING GOOD TIME
GLOW GAMES, MUSIC & DANCING

Join Calvary for a night of family fun. Let us light up your weekend with music, dancing, snacks, glow games and fun for the whole family.

Details:
Date: March 29, 2025
Time: 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Cost: \$5 per child

Glow items will be available for purchase to support the Summer Youth Road Trip.
We can't wait to see you there.

Ready. Set. GLOW!

GENERATIONS *in faith* TOGETHER

GIFT SUNDAY

03.15.2025 | 9AM | 10:30AM

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

All are invited to an intergenerational "messy" worship service

 **SUNDAY DONUTS FUNDRAISER**
\$2 each





Palm Sunday | **MARCH 29**

Sunday school kids will sing a special song in worship.
We have been practicing during music time.
Want to practice at home? Look up Hosanna Rock by Yancy.

9AM Sunday School students should arrive by 8:45
10:30AM Sunday School students should arrive by 10:15

Please bring your child directly to classroom 5



Soon we will begin practicing our Kids' Choir song to share in worship on Palm Sunday. We will practice this during our music time on Sundays. Right before kids' time we will sing in contemporary worship at 9:00 and 10:30 a.m.

Upcoming Dates

- March 1 - 2nd & 4th Grade Milestone
- March 15 - GIFT Sunday Messy Church
- March 20 - Family Dance
- March 29 - Palm Sunday Kids' Choir
- March 29 - Kindergarten Milestone

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

1405 South 9th Street
Grand Forks, ND 58201

(701) 772-4897

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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Grand Forks, ND
Permit NO 342

CALVARY STAFF

Pastor: Rachael Puttbrese
Finance: Heather Vandervort
Communications and Tech: Marcus Mandt
Education: Nichole Bye
Receptionist: Cathy Bubb
Director of Faith in Action: Julie Pedersen
Facilities Manager: Danny Navarro

WEDNESDAY MEAL SCHEDULE

4

Sliders & Sides

Meal made by the Council @ 5 p.m.
Worship in the Sanctuary @ 6 p.m.

11

Meatballs & Gravy over Egg Noodles

Meal made by the All-Inclusive Group @ 5 p.m.
Worship in the Sanctuary @ 6 p.m.

18

Taco-in-a-bag

Meal made by Calvary Choir @ 5 p.m.
Worship in the Sanctuary @ 6 p.m.

25

Lasagna, Salad and Bread Sticks

Meal made by Calvary Youth @ 5 p.m.
Worship in the Sanctuary @ 6 p.m.



CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Serving & Igniting People for Christ



Calvary Lutheran Church - Grand Forks



@calvarygf



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