



CALVARY CALLING

News that serves and ignites people for Christ

February 2022



We leaned into the things we love best at here at Calvary in these cold winter months...worship, music, gatherings and family and kids events.

In December we enjoyed seeing so many of you for Christmas Eve services and of course for the services that the kids led as the told the Christmas Story! We enjoyed the Unforgettables Christmas concert, the middle schoolers had a Christmas party of their own and delivered poinsettias to many of you. Thank you for letting our kids come and greet you and share some Christmas spirit.



In January, we had a family sledding and skating event at Lincoln Park and we warmed up with some treats and hot chocolate when we were all done. It is so nice to work in some "normal" events into the calendar each month.

Look into these pages for more events and ways to connect with your church family outside of worship.

AN UPDATE FROM PASTOR KIRK

February Newsletter



Welcome to February Calvary! Because of deadlines, I am writing my February newsletter article two weeks before our Annual meeting on January 30 – but just after our Council’s January meeting and five days after Pastor Aaron Bye’s ordination and installation.

In case you missed our Annual meeting, there are a couple of items I’d like to highlight. First, because God calls us to be a loving, generous community, Calvary’s giving, reflected in our annual budget, came in at 99% of our expenses. In case you think that is some kind of defeat or hollow victory, let me remind you that at the (hopefully) tail end of a 21+ month pandemic, when our worship attendance was historically low and our programming was dramatically affected, God blessed us through your support.

Second, our three year capital campaign, Forward in Faith, has been nothing short of awesome! Back in November, with one year left to go on our total pledged amount of \$801,207.87, we received \$571,931.55. In addition to those committed dollars, an unpledged amount of \$147,087.32 was given for a grand total of \$719,018.87. Thanks be to God!

Third, Calvary isn’t sitting back waiting for “things” to improve. We just voted to call Pastor Aaron Bye to be our third pastor, we hired Julie Pedersen to be our Volunteer Coordinator earlier this year and we just recently hired Marcus Vivier to be our full-time tech coordinator. For the sake of the gospel, we hit the road running. Please introduce yourself to these fellow “runners” when you get a chance.

Ok, that gets us up to date. So what about 2022? How is God stirring Calvary in the days and months to come? Amid all the unknowns, not knowing how God’s future will impact us, I can think of three opportunities to engage as a congregation:

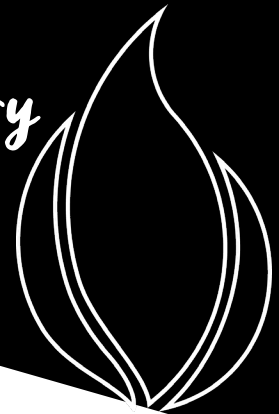
1. Because we have come to believe that Calvary’s “super power” is carrying children, by way of our Christmas Angel Tree event, we started a relationship with our neighbors over at the Lewis and Clark Elementary School. We’re hoping God will build this relationship up over the next year.
2. We are putting together an informal relationship with the Northwood two-point parish (Northwood Lutheran and Washington Lutheran). Please join us in prayer for all parties as we learn how to be sister congregations throughout 2022 and beyond.
3. The season of Lent (Ash Wednesday is March 2) is always a highlight of Calvary’s worship life - a beautiful, Christ-centered bridge from the brightness of Epiphany stars hidden in the dark of ND winter to the season of Christ’s glorious resurrection – a brilliant display that defines us as God’s beloved.

May God continue to bless and deepen the relationships we all share here at Calvary for the mission that really does take all of us.

Peace!

Pastor Kirk

Calvary CONNECTS



GET INVOLVED

Connect with People at Church



CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN CIRCLES

Mark your calendars!

Ruth Circle will meet at 4:00 pm on February 16. Priscilla/Sarah circle will meet on their usual date and time. They will meet at Calvary at 9:30 am on February 16. Calvary Church Women Bible study will be on February 1 at 1:00 pm.

KNITTING/CROCHETING GROUP

Join us February 19 @ 10:00 am

- Patterns available
- Learn about prayer shawl ministry
- Come and work on your own projects
- Learners always welcome--supplies and patient teachers available!

SEWING CLUB

February 3 & 17 @ 1:30 pm

Meets the first and third Thursdays of the month in the Library. This is open to all women who want to bring their "handiwork" for an afternoon of fellowship and sewing.

QUILTING DAY & POTLUCK

February 22 @ 9:30 am

Join us in the Fellowship Hall for Quilting Day on the last Tuesday of the month. Potluck lunch will begin at 12:00 p.m. Come for an hour or two or the day!

Calvary quilters participated in the fall Lutheran World Relief collection with the following:
36 Quilts 4 Baby Care Kits

Calvary packed 68 quilts and 20 baby care kits in 2021.

MEMORY CAFE

February 15 CANCELED

Due to the COVID numbers in our area, the hospital capacity and the already compromised population that this group is geared towards we are canceling this month's Memory Cafe. For resources, questions or concerns please reach out to Mary Ann Devig through the church office.

FOOD DRIVE SUNDAY

February 6

The first Sunday of each month Calvary hosts a food drive. Consider picking up a few extra items at the grocery store and bring them to church with you! There are shopping carts available on both ends of the building or you can bring food to the office.

Ideas include:

- nonperishable canned fruits and vegetables
- peanut butter and granola bars
- soup, macaroni, spaghetti, rice, pasta

GOD TALK ON TAP

February 3 @ 7:30 pm

People ages 20-40! Join us and those from other ELCA churches in the area at Archives on the UND Campus for conversation and connection.

Questions? Contact Pastor Aaron through the church office.

BAND DAY:

VOLUNTEERS & BAKERS NEEDED

February 8

Calvary once again has the honor of hosting the EDC Small Ensemble Contest. Students from the area Class A schools will come to participate in this festival. We will be selling breakfast, lunch and snack items all day as a fundraiser for the church. If you are interested in baking bars or volunteering for the event or, please contact Aaron Bye or Nichole Bye through the church office or sign up in the office. This is a wonderful way to hear some amazing music as well as provide hospitality to the students and teachers from around the area.

READING RELIGIOUSLY

Sunday, February 20 @ 6:00 pm

This group reads a contemporary story and together unpacks religious themes and where God is present among the characters and stories. Join us at the Blue Moose.

There are two book choices this month. Read, *The Silent Patient* by Alex Michael idea OR *Bear Town* by Frederick Backman and we will discuss them at Reading Religiously. Questions? Contact Pastor Ivy through the church office.

Highlights of the **CHURCH COUNCIL**

January 11, 2021 @ 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. | Calvary Lutheran Church

Pastor Aaron, Opening Prayer

Pastor Kirk made a motion to approve December's minutes with Dexter seconding the motion. All voting in favor. Pastor Kirk talked about the book "Opening Israel's Scriptures" written by Ellen Davis. The book reflects on our relationship with God and how he yearns for a closer relationship with his people. He is as dependent on us as we are on him. He reflected that the church's mission will be more important than ever after the pandemic. People have had more problems to deal with and issues related to covid to recover from after things get back to the new normal.

Pastor Ivy added that the Lead Journey Team has been invited to do a video for promotional purposes on what they have been doing. Matt reported that the stewardship committee finished strong with the video presentation and the \$45,000 matching funds. Didn't quite meet the goals but was close.

Nominating Committee: Pastor Kirk reported most of the positions had candidates but were still waiting to hear back from a few individuals. Parish Nurse, Mary Ann Devig, reported that Omicron is increasing quickly and now is not the time to stop wearing masks. It will be an ongoing discussion. Other countries show the increase in cases is very sharp but once it peaks it drops very quickly too. It's ok to shake people's hands but use hand sanitizer and wash your hands.

Budget 2022: Dexter handed out the proposed budget and discussed the rationale for the changes from last year. Many items in the past several years have been significantly different in the budget and actual dollars due to Covid. The staff is getting a 5% salary increase and with the addition of Pastor Aaron the salaries have increased significantly. Brian Harris moved to approve the proposed budget and Matt Vanderpan seconded with all voting in favor. Bylaw Updates Erin Navarro presented her proposal to change the wording of the bylaws to have a member of the Youth or Education committee have a vote on the council as well as an Evangelism or Worship committee member. Erin made a motion to bring it to the congregation at the annual meeting, Brian Harris seconded and all voted in favor

Next Council Meeting: Tuesday February 8 at 7:00 pm

Committee Chairs Present

Erin Navarro, Council President X

Shari Elgin, Vice President X

Jana Hanson, Secretary X

Dexter Albrecht, Treasurer X

Brian Harris, Property X

Danny Navarro, Worship

Jon Nord, Evangelism

Matt Vanderpan, Stewardship X

Rostered Ministers & Staff Present -Pastor Ivy and Pastor Aaron



MAIN OFFICE

1405 S. 9th St.

Grand Forks, ND 58201

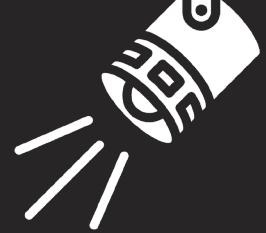
Mon - Thurs | 8:00am - 4:30pm

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CALVARYGF.ORG

Scripture SPOTLIGHT



MATTHEW 11:28-30

I remember a time when watching television provided opportunities for bursts of cardiovascular activity. Picture (or remember) this: your show hits a moment of suspense when all of a sudden a jingle begins and products and services appear on the television screen. Your heart begins to race and a challenge begins. It's a race against time - a race against commercial time. In these precious moments you need to make it to the refrigerator to grab a beverage, rummage through the cupboard to find a snack, or the more daring souls might even try to pop a bag of popcorn, trying not to miss many moments of the television show. But this wasn't the only challenge with television. The final moments usually led to a cliffhanger or a big reveal making us so impatient for the next week. Today, I intentionally wait until an entire season is available on a streaming service before beginning to watch it because then there's only one cliffhanger at the end of the season that I have to endure.

And now we find ourselves in the doldrums of winter. Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Eve are done and the cloudy, cold days of January and February are upon us. Seasonal Affective Disorder affects many people. It is frustrating and difficult to drive some days and walking can be treacherous. I don't want to wish time away but I want to wish the cold and challenges of winter away. I want to get to the 'end of the season' cliffhanger by charging through a time of the year that can be miserable.

As a society, even a global one, we are facing grief and trauma due to the pandemic that many people have never experienced before. We want to barrel through, get to the end of the season because we are hurting, tired, frustrated and burned out. It's a cliffhanger that isn't really all that fun. It is in these times that Jesus comes to us and says something very important: "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (Mt 11:28-30)

You who are weary, who are heavily burdened, turn toward Jesus who promises the beginning of a new season for us daily. We don't have to wait for this promise. New seasons are Jesus' specialty and these seasons are better than we expect. They are promised. Will you join me in a moment where we anticipate the next season while living in this one knowing that the promised future is at hand?

Grace and peace,

Pastor Ivy



2021 FINANCE REPORT

For fiscal year 2021, Calvary Lutheran Church reported annual revenues of \$889,618 and total disbursements of \$888,018. Annual revenues in 2021 did see a 3.7% decrease over 2020 levels. Disbursements also followed with a comparable decrease. The decrease in disbursements can be attributed to the ability to do ministry in the ways we have seen in past years. Some of the programs we have done in the past could not be done at the same level so a simplified program was done. With less programming, there has been less of a need for cleaning services which lowered disbursements. The winter of 2021 was milder and not as much snow so there was a savings for snow removal.

While our capital campaign push concluded in 2019, the need to retire the debt on the building is still present in the day-to-day life of Calvary. Our mortgage interest is reported as a budgeted item each year. During 2021 Calvary was able to pay \$200,000 down on the principal of the mortgage. The balance on the mortgage at year-end 2021 was \$700,913.01.

The 2022 proposed budget calls for \$1,141,369 of gross receipts which represents a 22% increase over 2021 actual revenues of \$889,618. As Calvary moves forward into 2022 continued stewardship efforts will be placed on increasing general fund giving which supports the ongoing ministry of the church. The 2022 proposed budget also calls for \$1,141,369 in gross disbursements. A number of items changed within the proposed budget over 2021. The majority of the increase was related to staff configuration. Positions added to the staff include a technical coordinator, worship technology support, worship cantors, and a third pastor for the entire year. A 5% staff pay increase of \$20,006 was included in the budget. In closing, we would like to recognize all Calvary members and friends, for the continued support of Calvary and our ongoing mission of "Called by God, Centered in Grace, Calvary Serves and Ignites People for Christ."

MEMORIALS

GENERAL FUND

In memory of Dale Andrews by Nancy Andrews
In memory of Lorene Johnston by Gregory and Rebecca Horner
In honor of Natalie Durka's confirmation by Judy Sylte
In memory of Don Heier by Rod Mittelsteadt
In memory of Karen Peach by Abner and Lorraine Lee
In memory of Tony Telken by Roberta Zick
In memory of Karen Peach by Diane Obrecht, James and Corinne Satrom

GOOD SAM FUND

In memory of Donald Heier, Roy Lindvall, Estelle Bjerke, Ron Cady, Dorothy Hoistad, Marge Miner, and Jack Peterson by Calvary Lutheran Church Women
In memory of Carol Anderson by Joel and Carolyn Tangen

SANCTUARY SCREEN

In memory of Marge Miner by Juel and Jan Hilde

SENIOR CHOIR FUND

In memory of Ron Cady by Kathy McCue

BUILDING EXPANSION FUND

In memory of Curtis Knudsvig by Ruth Nord
In memory of Joan Smith by Marilyn Lundberg
In memory of Stuart McDonald by Arlette Stanlake
In memory of Jean Mandt by Melbourne and Kathleen Hertel

HONDURAS LUNCH PROGRAM

In memory of Donald Leslie by Randi and Carma Hanson
In memory of Karen Peach by Robert and Joan Hill, Heather Foote, Duane and Tami Bertsch, Lynda Hartmann, Scott and Colleen Dennison, Time and Jane Meyer, Tom and Margaret Meyer, Todd and Sherrie Meyer, Cathy Meyer, Art and Kay Culver, Dennis and Joan Johnson
In memory of Jean Mandt by Randi and Carma Hanson

YOUTH FUND

In memory of Meinhardt and Delores Bader by Michael and Mary Bader



Youth and CONFIRMATION

CAMP 2022

CAMPERSHIPS

- Calvary offers a campership of \$100 per student when they attend ELCA Bible Camps.
- Park River Bible Camp (code is CLC2022 when registering)

CONFIRMATION CAMP

6-8th graders are invited to travel to Camp Metigoshe with Morgan and Pastor Aaron! We will take in all that Camp Metigoshe has to offer while also getting some time to talk about faith and the Lutheran Church.

June 26-July 1

MIDDLE SCHOOL SPARK

Wednesdays @ 8:00 pm

Middle schoolers! Join us for youth group each week on Wednesdays. We will meet in the Youth Room downstairs. Join us!

CONFIRMATION

New classes begin in February! Sign up for a class that works in your schedule. Classes can be found in the office and online at calvarygf.org/confirmation. If you are hoping to earn more Confirmation credit this year, you are always welcome to contact me about doing some volunteer hours at the church or in the community.



RISE & SHINE

Thursdays @ 6:30 am

High Schoolers! Come to Holy Grounds for breakfast, coffee and a Bible study before school! We will start our day with food, faith and fellowship. Contact Morgan for more information through the church office.

LENT

is coming soon! Here are some of the ways that you can earn credits.

- Worship Assistants

Students can sign up to assist at Lenten worship services. You will earn 1/2 credit for each service that you assist.

- Lenten Dancers

Interested in liturgical dance during the Lenten worship services? Make sure to let Morgan know! We are gauging interest to see if this is something that we would like to have as a part of our Lenten worship services.





FAMILY EVENTS

JANUARY SLEDDING EVENT

It was snow much fun to enjoy the warm-ish weather. Sledding, ice skating, hot chocolate and fresh air made for a fun afternoon for all!

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

You are invited to bring your favorite blanket and enjoy a movie on the BIG screen in the Fellowship Hall. Friday, February 18 @ 5:30 pm. We will have the popcorn poppin' along with movie candy and beverages.



LEARNING EVENTS

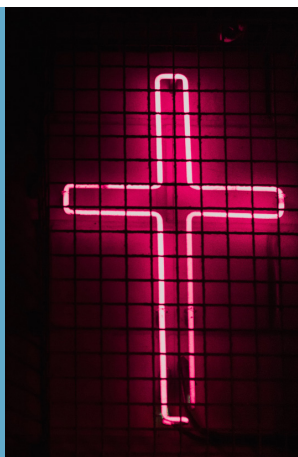
SECOND GRADE MILESTONE EVENT

Second grade families, join us for your milestone event on Sunday, February 20 @ 2:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Our theme is baptism! This time is designed for parents, guardians or grown ups to engage with their young people, to wonder, create and spend time engaging with your faith, together.

Volunteer!

THERE'S ALWAYS A NEED FOR HELP!

We are still always looking for caring adults to help teach on Sundays and Wednesdays. If you are interested in helping out, contact Nichole Bye.



ALBUQUERQUE NEW MEXICO

HIGH SCHOOL SERVICE LEARNING EXPERIENCE



WHO

Students currently enrolled in grades 9-12



WHAT

An experience to travel, listen, learn, serve and connect



WHEN

July 24-30, 2022



WHERE

Join us as we travel to beautiful Albuquerque, New Mexico. Our group will partner with different community agencies and organizations to learn and assist with the varied needs of this complex and diverse city. We will learn about the city's history, explore, serve and have some fun along the way.

COST: \$400

- Includes travel, registration costs, all food and lodging, and extras for activities. Total cost for each participant will be around \$1800. We will be fundraising and receiving support from the congregation for the remaining amount.



CALVARY'S

PAJAMA DAY

FEBRUARY 23 & 27

WAYS TO PARTICIPATE



BRING JAMMIES OF ALL SIZES AND PLACE IN THE LAUNDRY BASKETS OUTSIDE OF THE WORSHIP SPACES DURING THE ENTIRE MONTH



BRING COINS TO WORSHIP FOR NOISY OFFERING DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY



WEAR YOUR PJ'S TO WORSHIP AND SUNDAY/WEDNESDAY SCHOOL
FEB 23 & 27



PRAY FOR ALL PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO'S BASIC NEEDS ARE NOT BEING MET AT THIS TIME. HELP US REMEMBER WE BELONG TO EACH OTHER.



OCTOBER 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>3</p> <p>Food Drive Sunday Flu Shot Clinic 9:00 am Traditional Worship 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Contemporary Worship 10:45 am Sunday School 5:30 pm Call Committee</p>	<p>4</p> <p>8:00 am Men's Breakfast Perkins 10:30 Community Connection 1:00 pm CLCW</p> <p>6:00 pm Confirmation Class 8:00 pm Open & Unafraid Book Study</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:30 am Unforgettables 10:00 am Coffee & Conversation 2:00 pm Maple View Worship 5:30 pm Worship 5:45 pm Wednesday School 7:00 pm Confirmation Classes 7:00 pm Choir 8:00 pm Spark</p>	<p>6</p> <p>6:30 am Rise & Shine High School Bible Study 9:00 am Powerful Tools for Caregivers 5:30 pm Third Grade Milestone Event</p>	<p>7</p> <p>12:00 Christus Rex Lunch</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p> <p>4:00 pm Gendron/Lee Wedding</p>
<p>10</p> <p>Flu Shot Clinic Third Grade Bible Sunday 9:00 am Traditional Worship 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Contemporary Worship 10:45 am Sunday School 11:30 am Confirmation Class 3:00 pm Pumpkin Patch 6:00 pm Confirmation Classes</p>	<p>11</p> <p>8:00 am Men's Breakfast Perkins 1:00 pm Memory Café 6:00 pm Finance 7:00 pm Council</p> <p>6:00 pm Confirmation Class 8:00 pm Open & Unafraid Book Study</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:30 am Unforgettables 10:00 am Coffee & Conversation 4:00 pm Ruth Circle 5:30 pm Worship 5:45 pm Wednesday School 7:00 pm Confirmation Classes 7:00 pm Choir 8:00 pm Spark</p>	<p>13</p> <p>6:30 am Rise & Shine High School Bible Study 9:00 am Powerful Tools for Caregivers</p>	<p>14</p> <p>LWR Truck in GF</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>10:00 am Knit/Crochet</p>
<p>17</p> <p>9:00 am Traditional Worship 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Contemporary Worship 10:45 am Sunday School 6:00 pm Mentor Event 7:30 pm Youth Gathering Preview Mtg.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>6:00 pm Honduras Team Mtg. 8:00 pm Open & Unafraid Book Study</p>	<p>19</p> <p>8:00 am Men's Breakfast Perkins 10:30 Community Connection</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9:30 am Priscilla/Sarah Circle 9:30 am Unforgettables 10:00 am Coffee & Conversation 5:30 pm Worship 5:45 pm Wednesday School 7:00 pm Choir, Confirmation Classes 8:00 pm Spark</p>	<p>21</p> <p>6:30 am Rise & Shine High School Bible Study 9:00 am Powerful Tools for Caregivers 1:30 pm Sewing Club</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24</p> <p>9:00 am Traditional Worship 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Contemporary Worship 10:45 am Sunday School 1:00 pm Confirmation Class 6:00 pm Reading Religiously</p>	<p>25</p> <p>8:00 pm Open & Unafraid Book Study</p>	<p>26</p> <p>8:00 am Men's Breakfast @ Perkins 9:30 am Quilting</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9:30 am Unforgettables 10:00 am Coffee & Conversation 5:30 pm Worship 5:45 pm Wednesday School 7:00 pm Choir, Confirmation Classes 8:00 pm Spark</p>	<p>28</p> <p>6:30 am Rise & Shine High School Bible Study 9:00 am Powerful Tools for Caregivers 1:30 pm Sewing Club 4:30 pm Holy Happy Hour</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>SUNDAY OCT. 31 9:00 am Traditional Worship 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Contemporary 10:45 am Sunday School 1:00 pm Confirmation Class 3:00 pm Trunk or Treat</p>