



# CALVARY CALLING

News that serves and ignites people for Christ

October 2022



September is always a massively busy time of the year. On the 11th we celebrated our Kick-Off event by providing fun games and food. We welcome back our 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship and 5:30 PM Wednesday evening worship. Sunday and Wednesday school are starting off great! Just over 300 students have registered so far, which surpasses last year's total number.

Every month Julie Pedersen holds a backpack packing event that sends weekend food to children at Lewis and Clark Elementary. This month's donations were lower than what we received in September but that did not stop Julie and her crew in gathering what they needed and packed them up.

On the 16th some of our staff went to Castaway for the weekend to help guide 26 youth who attended from Calvary with a total of 150 youth from the Eastern North Dakota Synod. Six of Calvary's high schoolers also went to work as "Work Crew". During their time at Castaway the students were introduced to Pastor Lori Fuller, a wonderful speaker. Pastor Fuller is deaf and shared with everyone her life of being born deaf and how going to Seminary is where she first felt welcomed.

## A NOTE FROM PASTOR KIRK



### *I'm Pretty Sure Jesus Was a Blood Donor!*

“Then Jesus took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. He said to them, ‘This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.’”

One blood donation can help save up to three people!

Like so many of you, I have been donating my blood since I was a teenager. I imagine the number of gallons must be getting up there by now, but of course the way to value this “investment” isn’t the amount of blood I’ve offered but the number of people I’ve never met who have received this gift of life. For about a decade, I donated “double reds,” which meant I couldn’t give as regularly as a normal donation. But for most of my adult life I have given a pint of blood every other month – six pints a year. And because the organization that collects my blood gives me a call when my next appointment date nears, I normally get surprised that it’s time to give again. As some of you know, I am no fan of needles. I have no doubt I have never, ever seen the hose attached to my vein. (I also have never watched the nurse stab my finger to check for the minimum iron content in my blood either!) So the truth is, I love being able to help others survive, I enjoy being surprised by the appointment person, but I do not enjoy the stabs or the insertions! Now you may not know that even though only 37% of the U.S. population is eligible to donate, less than 10% of eligible donors in the U.S. actually donate. This last factoid tells us 63% of us can’t give blood, but think how many donations this population offers to others! These “in-kind” donations are the difference between life and death for many. Instead of a phone call to remind us of a need, these people perhaps get a call from a family member or a neighbor in trouble. Their actions matter!

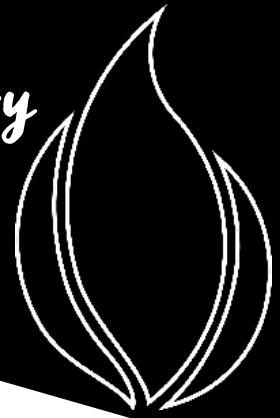
Beloved members of Calvary, this article is your “call” to action. So, this is your pastor calling around to remind you that our regular giving to Calvary is about 10-15% below our normal giving for this time of the year. Since I’ve served as your Lead Pastor, the month of December has been a rush to the finish line but the way I see it, just like blood donations, it doesn’t really work if there are months of no blood to carry to the needy. Just think if we all waited to come to the aid of our neighbor six months after a calamity. In both cases, commitments, actions matter to others.

And just as a blood donation doesn’t remain a pint of fluid sitting in a lab, so your commitment to Calvary (in-kind or financial) doesn’t remain just words or a ten dollar bill – both are transformed into life and hope for others. Dare I say that just as Jesus’ precious blood gives life to sinners like us, Jesus’ words of compassion to the wounded, the lonely and the destitute give them hope through us? I believe this is at least a part the kingdom of God.

**GET INVOLVED**  
Connect with People at Church



# Calvary CONNECTS



## **INTERGENERATIONAL BOOK CLUB**

**Oct 16 @ 3 pm**

Our book club is open to people of all ages. We come together to discuss one book per month.

The newest book that we are reading *Shelter* is located in the office.

## **PUMPKIN PATCH**

Calvary families join us on Sunday, October 9 from 3:00-5:00 pm at Nelson's Pumpkin patch for some fall fun!

## **KNITTING & CROCHETING GROUP**

**Join us October 15 @ 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!

## **FLU SHOT CLINIC**

Calvary will host our annual Flu Shot Clinic on Sunday, September 25 and Sunday, October 2 from 8:30-11:45am. We will have the Covid Vaccine, high dose flu shots for seniors, and flu mist available as well as the regular flu shots. Other vaccines such as Novavax's Covid-19, pediatric Covid vaccines, Shingrix, Tdap, and whooping cough will be available upon special request by calling WelCore Health at (701) 330-4216

## **READING RELIGIOUSLY**

**October 10 @ 6:00 pm**

Everyone is welcome to join our group that meets monthly to read and discuss a contemporary book. This month we are reading *The Arctic Fury: A Novel* by Greer Macallister. Join us at the Blue Moose. Contact Julie Pedersen with any questions.

## **THE UNFORGETTABLE CHOIR**

The Fall Semester for the Unforgettables Choir began on September 21, 2022. The choir rehearses weekly on Wednesday from 9:30-11:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. We begin with time for Coffee and Conversation from 9:30-10:15am followed by rehearsal from 10:15-11:30 am. The Unforgettables Choir is a community chorus for people living with Alzheimer's or other types of dementia and their care partner. Singers are welcome to join anytime during the semester by contacting Mary Ann at 701-772-4897.

## **MEMORY CAFE**

The Memory Cafe will be held on October 11, 2022 in the Fellowship Hall at Calvary from 12:00 - 4:00pm. The Memory Cafe is sponsoring a Service Fair featuring twenty local businesses that provide services for people and families living with dementia. The program will begin at 1:30 pm with Danielle Freitag, MS Gerontology, Regional Care Consultant with the Alzheimer's Association, presenting Understanding and Responding to Dementia-Related Behaviors. The Memory Cafe is a free community event and all are welcome.

## **INTERESTED IN BEING A PART OF A PODCAST?**

Our Communications & Tech Coordinator Marcus has been working on a podcast called "The Curious Outsider". The podcast is about how Marcus grew up being Catholic and fell out of the church life and is now working for a church. He has loads of questions that he is curious about and his counterpart provides answers to those questions. So, Marcus is looking for people who are wanting to be a part his journey. If you are interested please reach out to him via email: [marcus@calvarygf.org](mailto:marcus@calvarygf.org)

# Highlights of the CHURCH COUNCIL

## FINANCE

Income in August was slightly lower than we saw in the prior year, but comparable. We can look at monthly income over the last 10 years and see the current month income is similar. Income from year-to-year is generally close on a monthly basis but can be skewed by large one-time gifts or the timing of Easter.

August activities were numerous and began with wishing well to two staff members as they moved on to their new calls. The congregation celebrated Pastor Ivy with a picnic meal and music by Paint the Town. Calvary held the first opportunity to pack backpacks with food for the weekend for Lewis and Clark students. There was an all-ages book club that concluded with making cookies. Kindergarten through fifth grade students were invited to an art camp. Noisy offering in August continued to be collected for St. Joseph's Food Pantry and the total collected for July and August was \$1,074.

Income through August was 6% lower (\$32,000) lower than the five-year average and expenses were 15% (\$113,000) higher than the five-year average. As we move into the fall schedule, with all the excitement that accompanies it, let us join together to encourage each other in how we are all called to Calvary.

## CALL TO ORDER

### DEVOTION

### OLD BUSINESS

#### **Global Friends!**

Cynthia Shaab, who represents both the Grand Forks Global Friends Coalition, and the new to Grand Forks Church World Service affiliate, informed our Council of sixty people arriving in Grand Forks at some point in October!

We have yet to receive any details about where in the world these folks are coming from but we do know they will need support in a number of ways. Cynthia talked about congregations like Calvary supporting a family or two with wrap-around services that include the following six areas:

#### **1. Education 2. Transportation 3. Housing 4. Health 5. Cultural Adjustment 6. Jobs and Finance**


The plan is to form a committee of at least one person in each of these stated areas, become educated in this whole process through the support of Global Friends Coalition and CWS and then remain advocates for three or more years. This is a big ask, a huge commitment, so it is with great trepidation that the Council is putting out an invitation to join in this hospitality committee. When Calvary says "All are welcome" did any of us see this coming? Can you even imagine God in the midst of all this? Well, if you talk to members who have been around awhile, they will tell you we've been a part of something like this in the past so it's not our first rodeo!

And so, of course, Cynthia reminded us that the GF area has been doing this work for many years now with literally hundreds of refugees. In other words, not only can it be done, it's been done with amazingly success, (though not without some struggles) - you know, like most if not all of our own families!

In conjunction with this new influx of neighbors, Calvary will be hosting a "Slice of Thanksgiving" celebration in our Fellowship Hall on the Sunday before Thanksgiving, November 20 at 3:00 pm. All are welcome to share a slice of pie and some ethnic desserts.

**ROOF UPDATE:** Will be getting repaired Spring 2023 so we have time to do some fundraising.

**Next Council Meeting: October 11th at 7 PM**

 **MAIN OFFICE**  
1405 S. 9th St.  
Grand Forks, ND 58201  
Mon - Thurs | 8:00am - 4:30pm

#701.772.4897

place4u@calvarygf.org

**CALVARYGF.ORG**

# OFFERINGS



Offerings through 9/15/22:

\$523,106

# BUDGET/LOAN



2022 Budget 1,174,369

Expenses through 7/14/22 770,536

Balance of Building Expansion Loan

as of Sept 30, 2022 670,258.2

# MEMORIALS

## BUILDING EXPANSION FUND

In memory of **Ronald Lunde** by Ruth Larson, Peter and Melanie Hoistad, Forrest and Emily Nielsen

## ELCA WORLD HUNGER

In memory of **Juel Hilde** by Gregory and Cathy Mannel

## FOUNDATION FUND

In memory of **Juel Hilde** by Larry and Ellen Hoiberg, Andrew and Gail Swanson

In memory of **Ronald Lunde** by Larry and Ellen Hoiberg, Andrew and Gail Swanson

## GENERAL FUND

In memory of **Juel Hilde** by Bev Snyder, Eleanor Hendrick

## GOOD SAMARITAN

In memory of **Ronald Lunde** by Calvary Lutheran Church Women

## LEWIS & CLARK BACKPACK

In memory of **Ronald Lunde** by Fay McPhail, James Hoverson, David and Judith Loer, Russel Stahl, Mark Engelstad and Linda Ose, Duane and Arleen Loven, Richard and LoAnn Stallmo, Nancy Andrews, Robert and Peggy Alderson

## MEMORY CAFÉ

In memory of **Myrnia Tveter** by Bernitta Hougum

## SANCTUARY ROOF

In memory of **Juel Hilde** by Kathy McCue

In memory of **Ronald Lunde** by Kathy McCue

## YOUTH FUND

In memory of **Juel Hilde** by Dale and Diane Hilde

In honor of **Craig Tweten** by Wayne and Shawn Spidahl

# PRAYERS & SYMPATHY

Mavon Lofstrand, mother of Beth Hemming died 8-20-22

# FUND BALANCES

Youth	75,242.10
Honduras Mission	21,070.07
Foundation	810,256.46
Good Sam	(873.51)
Refugee	5,994.87
Campership	1,256.96
Music	3,890.60
Library	2,998.57
Undesignated Memorials	42,633.44
Landscaping	230.98
Contemporary Worship	10.14
Education	3,550.92
Fine Arts	2,201.29
Missions	29,824.94
Memory Café	5,867.26
Unforgettables Choir	3,984.70
Prayer Chain	12,618.50
LaGrave on First	0.00
Lewis & Clark Partnership	7,573.00
Hymnal & Bible Fund	1,226.25
Coffee Shop	(1,234.32)
Columbarium	26,820.98
Stephen Ministry	1,033.75
Operation Technology	9,517.01
Organ/Piano	82.29
General Maintenance	5,435.17
Sanctuary Projector/Screen	579.91
Hearing Aid Loop	837.00
Furnace	0.00
Roof Repairs	10,510.00
Building Expansion	227,659.85
Seminary	1,703.95

**CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

1405 South 9th Street  
Grand Forks, ND 58201

(701) 772-4897

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Nonprofit Org.  
US POSTAGE PAID  
Grand Forks, ND  
Permit NO 342

**CALVARY STAFF**

Pastors: Kirk Meseck, Aaron Bye  
Receptionist: Cathy Bubb  
Finance: Heather Vandervort  
Parish Nurse: Mary Ann Devig  
Communications and Tech: Marcus Vivier  
Education: Nichole Bye  
Youth: Morgan Olson  
Director of Faith In Action: Julie Pedersen  
Building & Ground: Danny Navarro



**CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
*Serving & Igniting People for Christ*



Calvary Lutheran Church - Grand Forks  
@calvarygf  
@calvarygrandforks



# Youth and CONFIRMATION

## CONFIRMATION

### Classes

Sep 28 - Oct 12

**Wednesdays: 6-6:45 PM**

- *Animated Faith*

**Wednesdays: 7-8 PM**

- *Seven Habits*

- *Bible Basics*

- *Creeeds & Commandments*

- *Sacraments & Lord's Prayer*

**Wednesday: 8-9 PM**

- *Spark*

October 2

**Sunday 4:30-7:30 PM**

- *Rite of Confirmation Pictures*

- *Faith Expressions*

October 16

**Sunday 6:00-7:00 PM**

- *Mentor Event*

October 26

**Wednesday 5:30 PM**

- *Rite of Confirmation Service*

October 30

**Sunday 9:00 | 10:30 AM**

- *Rite of Confirmation Services.*

known  
and  
noticed

### CASTAWAY

Twentyfive 6-10 graders traveled to Castaway club from September 16-18 for the EaND SynodYouth Retreat. This year we explored what it means to be completely known and noticed by God through Psalm 139. In the world of Snapchat, Tik Tok and

Instagram, our youth understand what it is like to be "seen" - but to be KNOWN - that's a different story. We are true masterpieces!

### RISE AND SHINE!

**September 9**

Rise and Shine is a time for high school breakfast and Bible study. We meet Friday mornings at 6:30am for yummy breakfast before the kids head off to school. Would you consider supporting these young people (10-14 kids) in their faith journey with some breakfast? Sign up to make or sponsor a meal by contacting Morgan via email at [morgan.olson@calvarygf.org](mailto:morgan.olson@calvarygf.org) or calling the church office.

### Calvary Nursery Update

Calvary is so thrilled that a group of members have taken on making our nursery more functional and safer for our littlest members. This project includes adding a bathroom so that nursery workers and volunteers are able to help kids without leaving the rest of the group! Construction is expected to begin this month! Until construction is finished, the nursery will temporarily be located in **Room 18**.

***This project is being funded completely in-kind, from materials to labor. Way to go Calvary!***





## GIFT SUNDAYS

We are excited to be introducing GIFT Sundays this year. It is our goal to provide opportunities for our young people to participate, learn, grow and be strengthened in their faith in God. To help foster and support families and kids' participation in worship we have dedicated the following dates as a **Generations in Faith Together (GIFT) Sundays**. On these days, faith learning will bring us out of the classroom setting and into an interactive worship experience for all ages. Families are invited to experience worship together through GIFT in the Fellowship Hall at 9:00 or 10:30 am, on the last Sunday of each month in place of regular classroom Sunday School. GIFT dates: September 25, October 30, November 27, December 18, January 29, February 26, March 26, April 30. We can't wait to see you there!

## OUTDOOR MOVIE

Join us for some Fall movie fun. September 30 @ 7:00 pm in the parking lot. Concession snacks will be available. Bring your own blanket!

## THIRD GRADE BIBLE MILESTONE EVENT

You are invited to attend this event with your child on Thursday, October 6 at 5:30 pm. We will enjoy a pizza supper and explore our new Bibles together. Then your 3rd grader will be recognized in worship & presented with their Spark Bibles on Sunday, October 9 or Wednesday, October 12.

## TRUNK OR TREAT

Round up your family and some costumes and come for a bit of trick-or-treating fun in the parking lot! This event is free and open to all. October 30 from 3:00-5:00 pm. We are looking for people to volunteer to decorate a trunk and to donate candy for this community event! If you are interested, please contact Nichole Bye.

