

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

TOGETHER IN CHRIST

EMPOWERED TO BE AND MAKE DISCIPLES

Come Worship With Us

Wednesday:

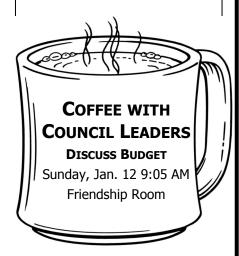
6:00 PM – Dinner Church/ Confirmation

Saturday:

5:30 PM - Chapel Worship

Sunday:

8:00 AM – First Word Worship 9:05 AM – Education for All 10:15 AM – Foundation & Praise Worship

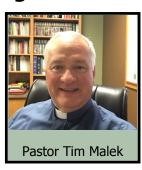




A monthly publication for Calvary Lutheran Church www.calvarywillmar.org January 2020

Faith Seeking Understanding Want to be happy? Be grateful

That's what a David Steindl-Rast says. The Benedictine monk is known worldwide for his teaching of practices of gratitude. "Practices" may actually make it sound more difficult or complex that it needs to be, however, as Brother David's counsel is really rather simple. Reminding us of the three instructions we were given as children when approaching a street corner, he tells us to "Stop, look, and go." Stop – slow down, take a break, pause long enough



to take a breath. Look – notice and pay attention to just how many things are given to us freely and without expectation (for such is the heart of gratitude). Go – move back into your life and the world animated by this sense of undeserved privilege and gratitude.

Brother David starts with an assertion that I think often seems counter-intuitive but that I firmly believe is true: it's not that happy people are grateful, but rather that grateful people are happy. And it struck me at this time of year, moving from Christmas to the beginning of a new year, when there seems to be so much going on that it can be just dizzying, that this message of practicing gratitude would be just perfect. So whether it's by singing Christmas carols the next two Sundays in church, or enjoying all the Christmas cards you received before discarding them (I rarely have a chance to read them until after Christmas), or gathering with family and friends to celebrated the dawning of a new year, I hope you take time today to stop to notice the many gifts and graces of this life that you may head into the daily responsibilities and opportunities of your life grateful...and happy.[I am grateful for the Rev. Dr. David Lose who posted the source material about Steindl-Rast a few years ago]

Grateful and happy to serve our Lord with you another year, Pastor Tim



Early Childhood Family Sunday School

- † Sunday, January 5th
- + Meet from 9:05-10:05 am in the Youth room (1st floor education room).
- For parents and children who are pre-Sunday school age. We gather once a month and grow in faith together with a fun early childhood curriculum. This month's story is "Baby Moses." Invite a friend. All are welcome!



Singing in Worship

Sunday, January 19th
Sunday School children in Grades 1-5
sing at the 10:15 am worship service.

CREATIVE HEART

Wednesdays - January 8, 15 & 22nd - 5-6pm
Mask Making Workshop All ages and abilities
are invited to join local theatre artist Nikki
Bettcher Erickson to create your own hand made
masks. You will get your hands dirty, create a
mask that represents you and have fun adding
many finishing touches to truly make it unique!

Faith Formation Resumes in 2020

We are ready to begin the second half of the Faith Formation year!

Sunday, January 5th – Sunday School resumes! Wednesday, January 8th – Creative Heart, Dinner Church and Confirmation resumes!



Sunday School/Noisy Offering update

September through December our Offering was designated to go to support Lutheran World Relief's Baby Care Kit program. We raised over \$650.00! A huge thank you to the children and to all who donated through our monthly Noisy Offerings during worship for making this contribution possible!

January through May our Offering will go to support Green Lake Lutheran Ministries. This is the bible camp many of our Calvary kids attend during the summer! Help us support the camp as they continue a much needed remodel of youth cabins. We continue to collect money every week during Sunday School and will again take a Noisy Offering on Sunday, January 5th during the 10:15 am worship service. Thank you for your continued support!



Family Sunday School/Camp Sunday

Sunday, January 26

9:05AM meet in Bethany Hall

ALL Children and Families join us as we learn together about CAMP! Everyone is invited to wear their best Camp Attire!

High School Youth Group

Will start up again on January 5th. High Schoolers are invited to youth group! Activities include night games, movie nights, service projects, and of course time to build community and spend time with friends!

When: Sundays from 6:30-8:30 PM

Where: Bethany Hall

Any parents, guardians or adults interested in

volunteering can contact -KJ at kj@calvarywillmar.org or Karina at karina@calvarywillmar.org.

Green Lake Lutheran Ministries High School Lock-In

When: January 24th, 6:30 PM – January 25th, 11:00 AM

Who: Anyone grades 9th – 12th **Where:** Green Lake Bible Camp

Why? There will be campfire worship, pizza, night

games, and a song-fest worship!

Need more information? Flyers outside of KJ and Karina's office or email Karina at karina@calvarywillmar.org



Planning for Summer? How About a Camp House Family Get-Away? July 15-20, 2020

Join friends and families, from Calvary and beyond, for a relaxing north woods get-away at Camp House in Brimson, MN! (Come for all or part of the time). Camp House is one of GLLM's bible camps located 30 minutes from Two Harbors, MN. It is remote and removed from the hustle and bustle of "regular" life on a small quiet lake. You can enjoy all kinds of fun on-site activities such as swimming, fishing, boating, paddleboards, nature walks, playground and board games. Potential off-site activities include exploring Two Harbors, a visit to Gooseberry Falls, North Shore activities, and Duluth or Ely attractions. Sleep in comfy, but rustic cabins (toilets and showers are in a bath house on site, not in cabins), or bring your camper/tent.

Cost: (If you come for part of the time your cost can be prorated based on your schedule).

- Adults for 4 Nights/10 Meals \$173 per person
- Youth for 4 Nights/10 Meals \$86.50 per person
- Preschool/Infants No Charge
- RV's \$15 per night with meals not included

A first timer discount is available – contact Pastor Naomi for details 235-2508.



Skatin' Place Outing

When: January 17 from 5:30-11:00 PM

Who: Grades 6-8 & friends!

What: Willmar Area Churches is sponsoring a middle school outing to Skatin'

Place: St. Cloud.

Cost: \$20 - Includes transportation, unlimited roller skating, pizza, pop and laser tag.

Arcade games are available, but not included in the price.

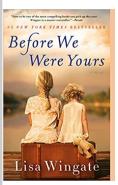
Any questions, contact KJ or Karina. Money & forms are due by January 14.



YOGA!

Take time to slow down and relax. Join us for Yoga Wednesday at 5:15- 5:45pm and Fridays 12:15-12:45. A \$5.00 donation is suggested to cover cost of class, but come and pay what you can!





CALVARY'S BOOK CLUB: A Place to Belong & Thrive

January's book will be "Before We Were Yours" – by Lisa Wingate.

A 2017 New York Times bestseller, Lisa Wingate's Before We Were Yours is a haunting and compelling work of historical fiction told in polyvocal form with two alternating

principle voices narrating a story of complex family history. From chapter to chapter, the book goes back and forth between present day South Carolina (in settings of Southern power and prestige) and Tennessee in the late 1930s and early 1940s (in settings of squalor and abuse). In attempting to map out a family's history, the novel also reads as an engaging mystery with a smart, soulful young lawyer leading the detective work, hunting to learn the full truth of her now senile grandmother's life.

Our group is going to monthly meetings. Our first meeting of the new year is Monday, January 20th @ 7:00pm in the Friendship Room at Calvary. Everyone is welcome; join us when it fits your schedule. If you have questions or would like to be added to our Facebook group please contact Sara Bennett (320) 444-3769/sarabennett26@gmail.com



Thank You to everyone who helped in any way with the Christmas programs. A special thank you to all the teachers, helpers, ALL the children that sang, played instruments, danced and narrated, the Calvary Bells, the Calvary Choir, the parents and all who attended!

Faith Formation

Thank you to Calvary Pastors, friends and my family for all the prayers, visits, cards and care given to me during my cancer treatments. Blessings to all.

Jean Holmgren

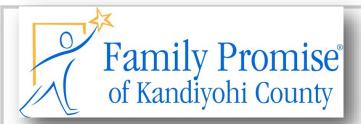
We would like to Thank our church family for all the wonderful birthday wishes celebrating our 90th birthdays. It was a great day! God is good. Thank you!

Bob and Elaine Howell

A Special Thank You

As we begin a new year, we want to say THANK YOU to all who have worked with the children's ministry this past year. Thanks to all who teach our children during Sunday School and all who help with our Family Sunday Schools. Thank you to all who teach music to our children. We are richly blessed to have so many who love and care for our children. We thank God for your dedication and service to all our children at Calvary

Faith Formation



We are so grateful to everyone who took time during Christmas to help with our host week, what a wonderful way to share with others during the Christmas season.

With the New Year we will be hosting the weeks of February 2-8th, May 24-30th, July 12-18th and October 4-10, in 2020. Please mark these dates on your calendar and watch for the Sign Up for these upcoming host weeks. February sign up is now out so please take the time and sign up, we can't do this without your willingness to serve.

We need your help to step up and help volunteer for the Family Promise leadership. It is important that we get new individuals serving on the Family Promise Committee and also be willing to serve as co-coordinators helping to strengthen Calvary Family Promise and keeping this ministry at Calvary and in the community. Please contact the Board of Outreach and volunteer to help with this ministry!



CALVARY'S GIVING TREE

With a joyful heart we thank all of you for your Giving Tree gifts given to the children, adults and seniors in

our community. Your gifts bring love, hope and joy to all of the recipients. This year Calvary members gave a total of 274 gifts and many monetary donations. The gifts went to 166 children and teens, 92 adults and 16 staying in shelter at Safe Avenues. All of you are a wonderful reflection of God's special Love. Thank you.

-Social Concerns Committee

FOOD SHELF DONATIONS

Our December Food Shelf donations totaled 74 pounds of food and \$360.63 in monetary donations. Please remember to bring items for the Willmar Food Shelf on the first Sunday of each month. We thank everyone for their donations!

- The Social Concerns Committee



GRIEF CARE

Monday's resuming on January 6. **5:00 PM -** Refreshments **5:15–6:30 PM -** Presentations, Support & Discussions.

NTY: NOT THROUGH YET

NTY will not meet for the months of January, February and March. It will resume again in April, 2020!

Help Wanted!

Calling all woodworkers! The Faith Chest work group is looking for a few good helpers to share in this important ministry of making the faith chests that we give to children at their baptism. They are especially in need of someone to stain and varnish the finished chests. If you are interested or want to learn about how to get more involved please contact Pastor Naomi. 235-2508 (office) or pastornaomi@calvarywillmar.org



January is Glaucoma Awareness Month

Some things you can do:

Talk to your do

Talk to your doctor about mediation

Exercise regularly

Eat nutrient-rich foods, such as salmon and spinach

Protect your eyes with sunglasses

Social Concerns Committee

Our Parish Leadership

President: Brett Aamot
Vice President: Mike Haugsby
Secretary: Val Amberg

Our Parish Staff

Staff Contact Information:

Pastor Tim Malek pastortimmalek@calvarywillmar.org
Pastor Naomi Mahler pastornaomi@calvarywillmar.org
Pastor Dean E. Johnson pastordean@calvarywillmar.org
Vicar David Severtson david@calvarywillmar.org

Faith Formation Coordinator

Janel Skindelien janel@calvarywillmar.org

Ministry Associates

KJ Farhat kj@calvarywillmar.org
Karina Rice karina@calvarywillmar.org

Office Manager

Teri Sokulski teri@calvarywillmar.org

Ministry Coordinator

Dawn Fisch dawn@calvarywillmar.org
Keith Neumann keithn@calvarywillmar.org
Ron Keith, Cemetery Sexton ronbon@charter.net
Enola Dowdell, Kitchen Coordinator 320-235-1815

Check out Calvary's web site at www.calvarywillmar.org

Weekday Adult Education

MONDAY | 9:00 AM Amazing Collection

The Bible, book by book. All women are welcome to join. Held in the Friendship Room. Any questions call Marcia Knutson -

320-295-3753 or Karen Rinke - 320-295-1872

TUESDAY | 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study

All men are invited to join, meet in Bethany Hall.

WEDNESDAY | 9:00 AM Beliveau Women's Bible Study All women are welcome to join. Led by Annette Beliveau in the

Friendship Room.

THURSDAY | 9:30 AM Worship Text Bible Study

Everyone is invited to focus on the Bible texts that will be read and proclaimed the following Sunday.

Circle Bible Study

First Tuesday of the Month Various circle groups meet. Please let your hostess know if you are unable to attend.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7

HOPE CIRCLE 8:00 AM - BETHESDA BROTHERS CAFÉ

HUMILITY CIRCLE 8:30 AM - FRIENDSHIP ROOM

JOY CIRCLE9:30 AM - McMILLAN'SPEACE CIRCLE9:30 AM - McMILLAN'SGOOD FAITH CIRCLE1:00 PM - BETHANY HALL

CHARITY CIRCLE 7:00 PM - FRIENDSHIP ROOM

The 2019 Annual Meeting
Calvary Lutheran Church
Sunday, January 26, 2020
11:15 AM in Bethany Hall

THE MESSENGER

General Fund Treas. Report	2019 November Ending	2019 YTD Total	YTD Budgeted Amount	2018 November Ending	2018 YTD Total	2017 November Ending	2017 YTD Total
Total	\$107,619.96	\$753,376.52	\$755,425	\$57,821.46	\$709,982.63	\$66,476.64	\$643,775.20
Total Expenses	\$70,950.06	\$804,223.24	\$846,730	\$69,009.21	\$815,192.72	\$67,972.14	\$624,826.89
Contribution Deficit/Surplus	\$36,669.90	\$(50,847.72)		\$(11,187.75)	\$(105,210)	\$(1,495.50)	\$18,948.31
Avg. Weekly Attendance for November	404			361		405	

Calvary Lutheran Church

Parishioners Executive Financial Summary

November 2019

The following explanations supplement the church's monthly financial reports and are intended to provide a brief & simplified overview of financial activity.

Contributions for November 2019 – Novembers 2019's contributions General Fund and Special Offerings totaled \$107,620 which is significantly higher than 2018.

Expenses for November 2019 – Novembers 2019's expenses totaled \$70,950 which is within 1% 2018.

In Summary that leaves a Surplus for November of \$36,670 and an eleven month ending deficit of \$(50,847). Our Contributions are right on compared to Calvary's projected contributions and our expenses are currently 5% ahead of our projected Expenses.

Remarks from the President

My term as President of our congregation will end next month, and I have been reflecting on the opportunities and challenges that our Church Council addressed over the past 12 months.

Like all churches in today's world, Calvary is undergoing many changes, and these transformations can be hopeful & exciting - or threatening & disappointing - depending on your perspectives. I can assure you that our Church Council and pastoral staff will continue to work diligently to act in the best interests of our congregation as a whole as decisions are made, and plans are laid for our future.



Brett Aamot

Fortunately, many things are staying the same at Calvary we continue to have an active, vibrant congregation, full of faithful Christians who readily volunteer and work to uphold our mission to serve our Lord - "Together in Christ, empowered to be and make disciples."

- t We have a healthy place where your faith can be cultivated, relationships can be built and enjoyed, and from where ministries can be launched.
- t We have a welcoming culture and atmosphere, developed and crafted over the years by the efforts of every member of Calvary.
- † We have dedicated and talented pastors, who lead enjoyable and relevant worship services and experiences, along with providing meaningful and helpful ministries for our members in their daily lives.
- † We have skilled and dedicated staff, who provide a wide array of impactful programming for youth and the elderly—and for everyone in between—while providing excellent administrative support and care for our beautiful facilities.

I have been blessed by the opportunity to serve as Congregational President, and have appreciated the ideas, comments, and suggestions that many of you have provided - Thank You!!!



Calvary Lutheran Church

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2020 Equipping Congregations Day



Equipping Congregations Day

Saturday, February 29, 2020 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM Vinje Lutheran and Bethel Lutheran Willmar, MN

All are welcome and encouraged to attend! Congregation Members, Council Officers, Christian Educators & Leaders, Pastors...Everyone! For information on the event, please visit www.swmnelca.org/events page. Calvary will pay the registration fee (includes all materials, refreshments & lunch) and will register as a congregation. More information to follow soon!





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Happy New Year! Office Closed	2 9:30am Bible Study 1pm Doing Days/ Quilting	3 12:15pm Gentle Yoga 7pm Building Grounds & Maintenance	9am Foundation & Praise Rehearsal 5:30pm Chapel Worship
5 Communion Sunday 8am First Word Worship 9:05am Sunday School 9:05am Early Childhood Family Sunday School 9:05am Adult Forum - 10:15am Foundation & Praise Worship/ Noisy Offering 6:30pm SR High Youth Group	6 9am The Amazing Collection - Women's Bible Study 10:30am Prayer Time 5:15pm Grief Care 6pm One Accord practice 6:30pm Cub Scouts - Pack #224 6:30pm Building, Grounds & maintenance 7pm Scouts - BSA	7 Circles Meet 8am Men's Bible Study 10am Staff Meeting 10:30am Program Staff Meeting 5:30pm Executive Committee Meeting 5:30pm Social Concerns 6pm Daisy Girl Scouts Troop # 3655 7pm Board of Stewardship	8 9am Beliveau Women's Bible Study 10am Christ Care (Kopitzke) 1:30pm Deaconess 5pm Creative Heart 5:15pm Yoga 6pm Dinner Church/ Confirmation 7pm Adult Education	9:30am Bible Study 1pm Doing Days/ Quilting 6pm Girl Scouts Troop #3516 6:30pm Trailblazer Boy Scouts	10 12:15pm Gentle Yoga	9am Foundation & Praise Rehearsal 10am Bridal Shower - Gonnerman/ Henrickson 10:30am Bridal Shower - Liebl/Hanson 5:30pm Chapel Worship
12 8am First Word Worship 9:05am All Ages Sunday School 9:05am Adult Forum 10:15am Foundation & Praise Worship 3pm Girl Scouts Troop #3500 6:30pm SR High Youth Group	9am The Amazing Collection - Women's Bible Study 10:30am Prayer Time 5:15pm Grief Care 6pm One Accord practice 6:30pm Cub Scouts - Pack #224 7pm Scouts - BSA	14 8am Men's Bible Study 10am Staff Meeting 10:30am Program Staff Meeting 5:30pm Board of C&F 6pm Board of Wesh 6pm Board of Worship 5:45 Board of Finance 6pm Board of Outreach 6pm Daisy Girl Scouts Troop # 3655 7pm Church Council	9am Beliveau Women's Bible Study 5pm Creative Heart 5:15pm Yoga 6pm Dinner Church/ Confirmation 7pm Adult Education	16 9:30am Bible Study 1pm Doing Days/ Quilting	17 Newsletter Articles Due 12:15pm Gentle Yoga 5:30pm Skatin' Place Outing	18 9am Foundation & Praise Rehearsal 5:30pm Chapel Worship
19 Communion Sunday 8am First Word Worship 9:05am All Ages Sunday School 10:15am Foundation & Praise Worship/ Grades 1-5 sing 4pm Christ Care (Berg) 6:30pm SR High Youth Group	20 9am The Amazing Collection - Women's Bible Study 10:30am Prayer Time 5:15pm Grief Care 7pm Book Club: A Place To Belong & Thrive	21 8am Men's Bible Study 10am Staff Meeting 10:30am Program Staff Meeting 6pm Daisy Girl Scouts Troop # 3655 7pm Church Council	7:15am Courge Retreat 7th Grade 9am Beliveau Women's Bible Study 5pm Creative Heart 5:15pm Yoga 6pm Dinner Church/ Confirmation 7pm Adult Education	9:30am Bible Study 1pm Doing Days/ Quilting 7pm Trailblazer Annual Awards Banquet 7pm Alterguild	24 12:15pm Gentle Yoga 6:30pm High School Lock in	25 9am Foundation & Praise Rehearsal 5:30pm Chapel Worship
26 8am First Word Worship 9:05am Family Sunday School /Camp Sunday 9:05am Adult Forum 10:15am Foundation & Praise Worship 6:30pm SR High Youth Group	27 9am The Amazing Collection - Women's Bible Study 10:30am Prayer Time 5:15pm Grief Care 6:30pm Cub Scouts - Pack #224 7pm Scouts - BSA	28 8am Men's Bible Study 10am Staff Meeting 10:30am Program Staff Meeting 6pm Daisy Girl Scouts Troop # 3655	29 9am Beliveau Women's Bible Study 5pm Creative Heart 5:15pm Yoga 6pm Dinner Church/ Confirmation 7pm Adult Education	30 9:30am Bible Study 1pm Doing Days/ Quilting	31 12:15pm Gentle Yoga	

2020—January Worship & Volunteer Schedule					
Date	Acolytes	Office Volunteers	Saturday Lectors	Lectors	Sound System
2 Christmas January 5	8:00 am Emery Holwerda Carson Eichhorst 10:15 am Macy Loge Gavin George	7:45-9:45 am Nancy Fritz 9:45-11:30 am Olive Beck	Lois Shaw	8:00 am Nancy Hultgren 10:15 am Brad Rice	8:00 am Victoria Larson 10:15 am Shawn Swenson
Baptism of Our Lord January 12	8:00 am Alexandria Eckhoff Jordan Gorans 10:15 am MaKayla Johnson Allyse Swanson	7:45-9:45 am Mary Ellen de Cathelineau 9:45-11:30 am Carol Toutge	Wayne Johnson	8:00 am Bob Dickerson 10:15 am Cindy Dean	8:00 am Doug Sawatzky 10:15 am Nate Hultgren
<i>2 Epiphany</i> January 19	8:00 am Ryley Gulbranson Rae Holwerda 10:15 am Solenne Ruff Julia Severtson	7:45-9:45 am Amy Gilbertson 9:45-11:30 am Debbie Johnson	Julie Neumann	8:00 am Barb Swenson 10:15 am Darlene Damhof	8:00 am Victoria Larsen 10:15 am Kim Larson
<i>3 Epiphany</i> January 26	8:00 am Izaiah Sweep Paige Akerson 10:15 am Allyse Swanson Kadin Brabender	7:45-9:45 am Marie Fett 9:45-11:30 am Marcia Knutson	Paul Steigerwald	8:00 am Jill Tollefson 10:15 am Mary Jo deCathelineau	8:00 am Doug Sawatzky 10:15 am Mark Johnson

Thank you Calvary Volunteers! We couldn't do it without all of you!

Communion Assistants

January 5 - 8:00 am - Nikki Erickson & Sara Bennett 10:15 am - Jena Berget & Peter Johnson

January 19 - 8:00 am - Trinity Trooien & Isaac Akerson 10:15 am - Emma Anderson & Emily Ashburn

January Altar Guild

Caryn Behr, Carolyn Gripentrog, Linda Weitzel, Ellin (Elli) Wentzell

Greeters

8:00 am - Daryl & Cathy Pederson, Don & Sandy Kemnitz

10:15 am - Jan & Colleen Ruby,

Mark & Beth Bloomquist

January 12 - 8:00 am - Ralph & Eileen Olson,

Allan & Elaine Simon

10:15 am - Eric & Alice Weiberg,

Sara Bennett

January 19 - 8:00 am - Jim & Bobbie Peterson,

Gayle & Linda Larson

10:15 am - Marlin & Annette Beliveau,

Dave & Darlene Damhof

January 26 - 8:00 am - Carolyn Gripentrog,

Ron & Ione Andreen

10:15 am - Don & Julie Mathews,

AJ & Teresa Clark