

The Messenger

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

December 2017

TOGETHER IN CHRIST
*EMPOWERED TO BE
AND MAKE DISCIPLES*

Come Worship With Us

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

ADVENT FESTIVAL
2017

December 1, 2 & 3

Friday & Saturday 1-6 PM
Sunday 12-4 PM

Greetings from the Calvary Transition Team,

We are a group that was appointed by Calvary Church Council in October and tasked with gathering information to fill out a Ministry Site Profile (MSP), the first step in preparing to call a new pastor. The MSP is an important tool that will be used to recruit candidates for the position of Administrative Pastor. The completed MSP will be passed on to the church council and call committee so they can continue the call process. The members of the Calvary Transition Team are: Jena Hillenbrand, Shane Baker, Karen Rinke, Stephen Wentzell, Troy Pederson, Kenzie Bennett, Shawn Swenson, Jeanne Ashburn, Mike Haugsby and Amanda Newberg.

We have met several times as a large group and were then broken up into small groups to work on specific aspects of the MSP.

1. Basic demographics and facts.
2. Defining who WE are as a congregation.
3. Defining what we are looking for in a new leader.

We have used tools such as the strategic plan and current Administrative Pastor job description to fill in some of the blanks.

Now, we are asking for your help. We have planned four congregational forums to gather input from you.

- **Tuesday, December 5 at 7 PM in Bethany Hall**
- **Saturday, December 9 at 6:30 PM following Chapel service in the Friendship Room**
- **Sunday, December 10 at 9:05 AM during Ed hour in Bethany Hall**
- **Sunday, December 17 at 4:00 PM in the Friendship Room**

A few questions to think about before the forums include:

- What is our congregation really excited about right now?
- How does Calvary stand out? What makes us different?
- Where do you see Calvary going?

We would appreciate your continued prayers for this process and the steps that will follow. We also look forward to hearing from you at one of the forums.

Sincerely,

Calvary Transition Team



December Special Music

December 3 - 8:00 AM Calvary Bells

10:15 AM OneAccord

December 9 - 5:30 PM Britta Willenbring

December 10 - 8:00 AM Calvary Choir

**10:15 AM Children's Christmas Program
Ages 3 - Kindergarten**

December 17 - 8:00 AM Calvary Choir and Beth Franzen

10:15 AM Beth Franzen

December 24 - 9:30 AM Phillis DeBlieck

3:30 PM Lori Halvorson

5:30 PM Calvary Choir and the Tvette Family

December 1, 2 & 3

Friday & Saturday 1 - 6 PM

Sunday 12 - 4 PM



We are excited about the 2017 Advent Festival. This year's theme is "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come." We invite you to join us for this wonderful Christmas celebration! ALL are welcome, so feel free to invite your family friends, co-workers and neighbors. This event is for all ages, men, women and children. We hope to see you there!



Check out the Advent Festival event on Facebook. Go to Calvary's Facebook page and spread the good news by sharing the event!

GOOD-BYE AND GOD BLESS

PASTOR TIM



Photo by Kelly Welch

Join us as we say good-bye, honor and thank Pastor Tim Larson as he retires.

On Sunday, January 7, at 9:05 AM there will be an informal reception with coffee and rolls in the Friendship Room. At 11:30 AM in Bethany Hall, there will be a farewell luncheon with a short program and celebration of his ministry.

Please join us for at least one of these events to share your gratitude and say good-bye!

"A truly great pastor is hard to find, difficult to part with, and impossible to forget."



Children's Calendar Reminders:

Sunday, December 24
NO Sunday school!

Wednesday, December 27
NO Wednesday school!

Sunday, December 31
NO Sunday school!

Wednesday & Sunday School Resumes:

Wednesday, Jan. 3, 2018

Sunday, Jan. 7, 2018

Sunday & Wednesday School Offering

Through December our Sunday and Wednesday school offering will go to support the **NICU at the Selian Lutheran Hospital located in Arusha, Tanzania** where our missionaries, Dr. Stephen and Jodi Swanson serve. Help us support this ministry as they continue to develop the only NICU in Tanzania as they care for severely ill or preterm newborns and children with malnutrition. Offering envelopes are available in your child's classroom or at Kids' Corner.

Please send an offering each week with your child!



Christmas Program Schedule

Children in Grades 1-6:

Saturday, December 2: 10:30-11:30 AM
Rehearsal in the Sanctuary.

Sunday, December 3: 9:05-10:05 AM
Rehearsal during Sunday school, meet in the Sanctuary.

Sunday, December 3: 1:30 PM
Christmas Program during the Advent Festival! Meet in the Koinonia Room at 1:10 PM.

Children ages 3 years - Kindergarten:

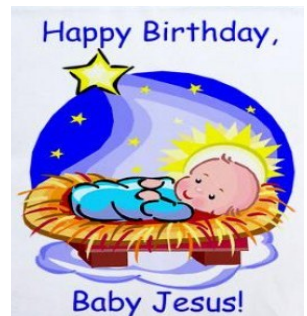
Sunday, December 10: 9:05-10:05 AM
Rehearsal during Sunday school, meet in your child's classroom.

Sunday, December 10: 10:15 AM
Christmas Program during Worship!

Family Sunday School

Sunday, December 17

Meet in Bethany Hall at 9:05 AM. **ALL** children and their families join us as we learn together and celebrate the birth of Baby Jesus!





**ELCA YOUTH GATHERING
FIRST MEETING!**

Who? Youth, Parents AND Leaders
When? Sunday, Dec. 10 at 11:30 AM
Where? Bethany Hall

Calvary has 41 people headed to Houston in June of 2018! 35 youth and 6 adults will be attending this event that happens only once every 3 years! Our group is as follows: Grace Vierhuf, Grace Lynam, Sofia Lynam, Brooke Rowan, Peyton Rodelius, Merron Johnson, Jenna Blackwell, Savana Eckhoff, Isaiah Bennett, Rebecca Laurence, Kaitlin Delfosse, Abigail Mathiasen, Abby Teisinger, Jen Harasyn, Taylor Nichols, Kayla Berg, Emma Anderson, Lexi Tersch, Amanda Mathiasen, Alyssa Blackwell, Nikole Olson, Dylan Buddy, Isaac Nichols, Anna Rice, Jacob Olson, Triston Hillenbrand, Brittney Pina, Keisha Warne, Nate Larsen, Brianna Hanson, Jaidon Bredesen, Megan Bloomquist, Sydnie Staebell, Ashlie Staebell, Alise Staebell, Ashley Gilbertson, Pr. Naomi Mahler, Linda Mathiasen, Sara Bennett, Peter Johnson and Andrew Halbritter.



Sr. High Service Project

When: Sunday, Dec. 17 from 4-6 PM
Where: Calvary Sr. High Room (downstairs)
Who: Grades 9-12 & Friends!
What: Help purchase remaining gifts for the Giving Tree.
Cost: Please bring a few gift bags as a donation.

**High School
Breakfast Club**

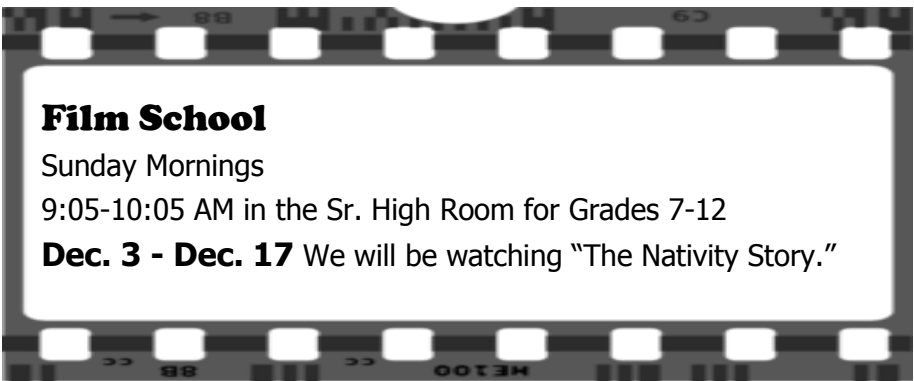


High School Youth
 Wednesday Mornings
 (Dec. 6, 13 & 20)
 7:30-8:30 AM @ the Goodness
 (downtown Willmar)
 FREE rolls. Beverages on your own.
 Come to be a part of community, pray together & start your day right!

After School Program

- Confirmation Age Youth
- Confirmation Wednesday's from 3-6 PM
- We provide a snack, a safe place and adult supervision.

If you like hanging out with awesome young people, we would love to get you involved with our After School Program! Contact Ashley Gilbertson if you want to get involved or have any questions! ashley@calvarywillmar.org or 235-2508.



Film School

Sunday Mornings
 9:05-10:05 AM in the Sr. High Room for Grades 7-12
Dec. 3 - Dec. 17 We will be watching "The Nativity Story."

THE CALVARY GIVING TREE



The Giving Tree is up and full of ornaments! The items on the ornament are suggestions so please purchase what you can from those items that are listed. Please have your gifts into the office by December 10th.

The organizations that have supplied the suggestions are: Bethesda Grand, Rice Care Center, Kandiyohi County Health and Human Services (KCHHS), Head Start, Creative Kids, Earl's Place, Cherie's Place, Safe Avenues, Presbyterian Family Foundation (PFF) and Calvary's Discretionary Fund.

There is a poster by the tree that describes the meaning of the Giving Tree and the mission of the organizations that we are buying gifts for.

Thank you for your generosity! God loves a cheerful giver!

-Social Concerns Committee

Food Shelf Donations

Please remember to bring items for the Willmar Food Shelf on the first Sunday of each month. We thank everyone for their donations.

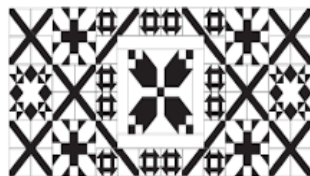
-Social Concerns Committee

HOLY LAND OLIVEWOOD CARVINGS

Hand crafted carvings made by Palestinian Christians in Bethlehem will be on sale at Calvary every Sunday prior to Christmas. Proceeds from the sale go directly to the Christian carvers and their families, who seek to be able to continue to live in the city where Jesus was born. The carvings table will be located by the Welcome Center.

**QUILTING
ANNOUNCEMENT:**

Quilting will not meet for the month of December. Quilters will meet again starting January 4.



As we approach this Christmas season please consider volunteering with Family Promise. We host the week of December 17 through the evening of December 23.

Put CHRIST into Christmas by giving the greatest gift of all, your TIME, to those in need. There are still opportunities to serve as an evening host or overnight host. Please go to Calvary Family Promise sign-up genius or contact Roger Bengtson at 320-905-1762 to volunteer.

December Community Meal

Sunday, December 17 at 6:00 PM in Bethany Hall. The meal will be served by the Boy Scouts and their parents.

Menu: Chicken a la King, Biscuits, Fruit Cocktail and Ice Cream Cup.



**NTY: NOT THROUGH
YET**

DATE: December 8 at 12:00 PM

RSVP: Please call the church office to sign up. (235-2508)

PROGRAM: Dr. David Severtson
Be sure to join us and enjoy lunch and a program.

NTY: A group that claims to be at least 55 years old. Older or not, **ALL** are Welcome!

COST: \$6.00
Please call the Church office by December 6!



WEEKDAY ADULT EDUCATION

TUESDAYS - Men's Morning Bible Study

All men are invited to join either of the two men's Bible study groups that meet in Bethany Hall on Tuesday mornings. Both groups are led by Pastor Tim.

FIRST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH- Circle Bible Study

On the first Tuesday of each month, various circle groups meet at different times and places. Check the church calendar or call the church office for more information.

All women are welcome! Please let your hostess know if you are unable to attend.

Circles meet on **Tuesday, December 5** :

Hope - 7 AM – McMillan's

Humility - 8:30 AM – Friendship Room

Joy - 9:30 AM - Bethany Hall

Peace - 10 AM - Evelyn Freeman's (Pot Luck)

Good Faith - 1 PM - Bethany Hall

Charity - 5:30 PM - The Oaks

WEDNESDAYS - Beliveau Bible Study

Meets every Wednesday in the Friendship Room at 9:00 AM for social time, and from 9:45-11:30 AM for prayer and Bible Study. **New participants are welcome at any time!** Leader is Annette Beliveau.

THURSDAYS - Worship Text Bible Study

This study group meets year around, every Thursday at 9:30 AM in the Friendship Room. Focus is on the Bible texts that will be read and proclaimed the following Sunday.

Everyone is invited to come and prepare for hearing God's Word!

SUNDAY ADULT FORUM

Come get a little familiar with the Gospel of Mark! Join Pastor Naomi on December 3 at 9:05 AM in the Friendship Room, for a one week study of the Gospel of Mark. The Gospel of Mark is the primary Gospel for the upcoming Lectionary Year B (the year of scripture readings for worship) that starts on the First Sunday of Advent, December 3. Pastor Naomi will be using video material from David Lose, who currently serves as Senior Pastor at Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church in Minneapolis.

Our Parish Leadership

President: Dion Warne

Vice President: Bill Fenske

Secretary: Amanda Newberg

Our Parish Staff

Staff e-mail addresses:

Pastor Timothy P. Larson	pastortim@calvarywillmar.org
Pastor Naomi Mahler	pastornaomi@calvarywillmar.org
Pastor Dean E. Johnson	pastordean@calvarywillmar.org
David Severtson	david@calvarywillmar.org
Director of Music Ministry	
Ashley Gilbertson	ashley@calvarywillmar.org
Faith Formation Coordinator	
Janel Skindelien	janel@calvarywillmar.org
Faith Formation Coordinator	
Dawn Fisch	dawn@calvarywillmar.org
Office Manager	
Rachel Gilbertson	rachel@calvarywillmar.org
Communication Specialist	
Keith Neumann	keithn@calvarywillmar.org
Treasurer	
Calvary Library	library@calvarywillmar.org
Ron Keith, Cemetery Sexton	ronbon@charter.net
Enola Dowdell, Kitchen Coordinator	

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

thank you

Thank you to our Calvary friends for the cards and words of sympathy extended to us in the loss of Randy's brother.

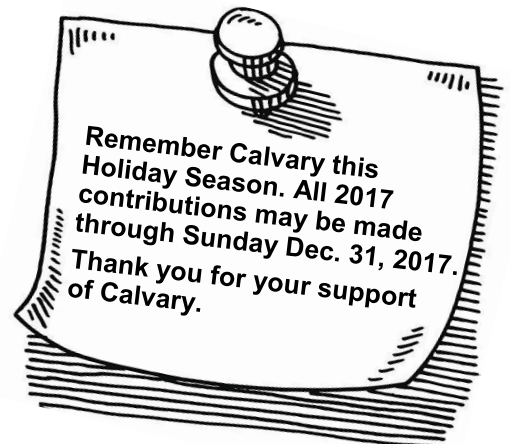
-Randy and Clarice Novak

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH
General Fund Treasurer's Report
Modified Cash Basis
One Month and Ten Months Ended October 31, 2017

	One Month Ended	Ten Months Ended
CASH AVAILABLE AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD	\$ 36,724.98	\$ 17,776.67
CONTRIBUTIONS		
GENERAL CONTRIBUTIONS		
GENERAL UNDESIGNATED	65,591.28	620,985.97
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	5,086.00	6,967.78
CAPITAL FUND INCOME	4,401.00	42,110.50
CHRISTMAS/EASTER	-	6,352.00
SR HI SPECIAL EVENTS	518.01	2,878.01
CHILDRENS SPECIAL EVENTS	652.50	854.83
BULLETIN SPONSORSHIP	250.00	700.00
RADIO BROADCAST SPONSOR	300.00	2,815.00
SUNDAY COFFEE	130.15	926.22
2016 TRANSFERS NOT MADE	-	12,983.50
	76,928.94	697,573.81
SPECIAL OFFERINGS		
LENTEN OFFERINGS	-	11,350.68
COMMUNITY MEAL	-	60.25
COMMUNITY MEAL OUTREACH	105.50	286.65
SPECIAL OFFERINGS	176.60	9,369.85
THRIVENT CHOICE	-	2,025.00
MISSION OFFERING	50.00	320.00
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL	-	50.00
	332.10	23,462.43
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	77,261.04	721,036.24
EXPENSES		
FIRST FRUITS	6,559.13	62,769.97
PROGRAM MUSIC & WORSHIP	10,097.75	82,439.02
EVANGELISM OUTREACH	582.38	4,941.10
EDUCATION	4,571.39	53,849.92
YOUTH	6,419.57	54,886.06
LIBRARY	158.64	741.01
STEWARDSHIP	2,687.34	4,653.94
PROPERTY MAINTENANCE	12,139.31	100,379.83
ADMINISTRATION	34,612.58	314,863.80
SPECIAL OFFERINGS	332.10	23,462.43
TOTAL EXPENSES	78,160.19	702,987.08
CONTRIBUTIONS IN EXCESS / (DEFICIT) OF EXPENSES	(899.15)	18,049.16
CASH AVAILABLE AT END OF PERIOD	\$ 35,825.83	\$ 35,825.83



All Boards, Committee Chairs and staff are asked to have their Annual Reports turned into the church office by December 15, 2017.





Calvary Lutheran Church

302 Olena Avenue SE

Willmar, MN 56201

(320) 235-2508

www.calvarywillmar.org

Non-Profit Organization
Willmar, Minnesota
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Return Service Requested



Advent/Christmas Worship at Calvary Lutheran Church

Advent I

Sun., Dec. 3: 8:00 AM - First Word Worship with Holy Communion
10:15 AM - Foundation & Praise Worship with Holy Communion

Advent II

Sat., Dec. 9: 5:30 PM - Chapel Worship
Sun., Dec. 10: 8:00 AM - First Word Worship
10:15 AM - Foundation & Praise Worship with
Children 3yrs. – Kindergarten Christmas Program

Advent III

Sat., Dec. 16: 5:30 PM - Chapel Worship with Holy Communion
Sun., Dec. 17: 8:00 AM - First Word Worship with Holy Communion
10:15 AM - Foundation & Praise Worship with Holy Communion

Fri., Dec. 22: 7:00 PM - Little Norwegian Christmas Service

Advent IV

Sun., Dec. 24: 9:30 AM - Fourth Sunday of Advent Worship
Christmas Eve: 3:30 PM - Service of Carols, Communion and Candlelight
5:30 PM - Service of Carols, Communion and Candlelight

Christmas I

Sun., Dec. 31: 9:30 AM - First Sunday of Christmas Worship

