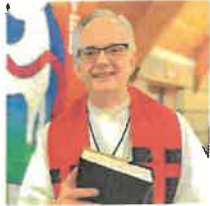


# Calvary Lutheran Newsletter

at the Crossroads of Grace & Service



**From the Crossroads ...**

April showers is my prayer. It is also the **Season of Easter** that runs 40 days. *It corresponds to the 40 days Jesus walked the earth from his resurrection to ascension.*

On April 6-7 the Gospel reading is John 20: 19-31. The first Sunday after Resurrection (Easter) Sunday is always about **'Doubting Thomas.'** *Personally, I find it a comfort that Thomas is not condemned for 'doubting'.* Why? Because many have their doubts.

April 13-14 is Luke 24: 36b-48. This reading speaks about our Lord inspiring the disciples to **understand the Old Testament** as a prediction of our Lord.

April 20-21 is John 10: 11-18. The Fourth Sunday after Easter is always **"Good Shepherd"** Sunday. *In addition to the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm, the reading is about the 'Good Shepherd' who lays down his life for the sheep.*

April 27-28 is John 15: 1-8. As we are in the growth of Spring this reading is the **'Vine and the Branches'.** *Abiding in the Lord we bear our fruit just as a grape branch produces grapes when it is attached to the Vine.*

See you at worship!  
Pastor Steve

**CELEBRATING THE WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD  
PETTING ZOO  
CELEBRATING THE WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD**


**Who:** Children Birth – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

**What:** Petting Zoo (an assortment of animals)  
Plus, Animal-Puppet Making Station

**Where:** Calvary Lutheran Church  
Youth Common Area/Classrooms

**When:** Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 – 11:30

**Snack:** Chicken Scratch



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!	
Last Day of Release Class	April 24 <sup>th</sup>
Last Day of Sunday School	May 5 <sup>th</sup>
Youth Pie Auction	May 12 <sup>th</sup>
Youth Rummage Sale*	May 17 <sup>th</sup> – 18 <sup>th</sup>
(* Donations can be brought to Calvary beginning, May 5th)	
Silent Auction	May 11 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup>
2024 Senior Class Recognition	May 19 <sup>th</sup>
Vacation Bible School	June 3 <sup>rd</sup> – 6 <sup>th</sup>
Youth Mission Trip	June 23 <sup>rd</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup>

JR & SR LEAGUE, CONFIRMATION	
(Jr League: Grades 6-8 / Sr League: Grades 9-12)	
April 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup>	Sr. League (6:00-8:00)
April 10 <sup>th</sup> & 24 <sup>th</sup>	Jr. League (6:00-7:30)
April 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup>	9th Grade Confirmation (7:00-8:00)
April 17 <sup>th</sup>	Final 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Class & Parent Meeting (7:00-8:00)

SAVE THESE DATES!	
April 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Calvary OWLS Breakfast @ Zappy's Café @ 9:00 am. RSVP Jan Braun 218-732-9212
May 11 <sup>th</sup>	WELCA Spring Program <i>Gratitude – A Joyous Gathering</i> (More information to follow)

MISSION TRIP MEETING	
<b>Who:</b>	2024 Youth Mission Team and Parents
<b>What:</b>	Mission Trip Meeting
<b>Where:</b>	Calvary Lutheran Fellowship Hall
<b>When:</b>	Sunday, April 14 <sup>th</sup> @ 11:30

~ Happy Birthday ~

Brian Flynn	April 1	Autumn Kietzman	April 16	Kinley Nordin	April 25
Lydia Grandy	April 2	Sandra Lichter	April 16	Kylee Pachel	April 25
Jean Anderson	April 3	Sean Bergeson	April 17	Wyatt Soderberg	April 25
Kaisa Coborn	April 3	Lisa Carlson	April 17	Byntlee Walker	April 25
Kendra Coborn	April 3	Jay Roepke	April 17	Lori Behrens	April 26
Jaclyn Tomperi	April 4	Samantha Boyd	April 18	Blake Lane	April 26
Brayden Kohrs	April 5	Kristi Smythe	April 18	Madelyn Jenson	April 27
Scott Mercer	April 5	Mary Arneson	April 19	Carolyn Spangler	April 27
Linda Benson	April 6	Julia Harmon	April 19	Colton Weller	April 27
Nancy McDowell	April 6	Elaine Thomas	April 19	Lauren Cunningham	April 28
Izaiah Paulson	April 6	Clara Kent	April 20	Jason Dennis	April 28
Logan Rogness	April 6	Carmella Weller	April 20	Nikki Ellingson	April 28
Joanne McGregor	April 8	Ariana Boxell	April 21	Steve Maanum	April 28
McKenna Norton	April 8	Dorothy Meyer	April 21	Rachel Palmer	April 28
Levi Stevenson	April 8	Allie Michaelson	April 21	Alessia Harmon	April 29
Joshua Walker	April 9	Tami Turnquist	April 22	Paul Pederson	April 29
Mark DeSchane	April 10	Lorna Cunningham	April 23	Spencer Adolphson	April 30
Blayze Hagen	April 11	Aarin Galzki	April 23	Matthew Cunningham	April 30
Colter Uscola	April 11	Rebecca Larsen	April 23	Jordan Massie	April 30
Oakley Ness	April 13	Samantha Roberts	April 23		
Lee Edelman	April 14	Heather Steffel	April 23		
Debra Sorenson	April 14	Vicki Stewart	April 23		
Thomas Van Bruggen	April 14	Gary Hensel	April 24		
Robert Glimsdahl	April 15	Peggy Lund	April 24		
Bode Lee	April 15	Joel Maxwell	April 24		
Devin Mykland	April 15	Brandon Tomperi	April 24		
Erik Norby	April 15				
Ray Anderson	April 16				
Al Judson	April 16				



~ Memorials & Honorariums ~

*In Memory of... Glenn Anderson*

Patti & Barb Norman     Hard Hat Ministry  
Cheri & Cedric Gustafson     Hard Hat Ministry

*In Memory of... Carol Frisby*

Jack Schultz     Hard Hat Ministry

*In Memory of... Larry Swenson*

Ruth Swenson     Easter Flowers

*In Memory of... Delores Schneider*

Bickey & Frank Bender     Music

*In Memory of... Norm Leistikow*

Jackie Cheney     Vacation Bible School  
Carol & Lowell Schellack     Endowment Fund  
Carole & Loren Evenrud     Endowment Fund  
Dorothy & Tony Platz     Endowment Fund  
Catherine Dicks     Endowment Fund  
Elanie Landrigan     Endowment Fund  
Vickie & Mark DeSchane     Pastor's Discretionary  
Jill & Deane Johnson     Pastor's Discretionary  
RW & MR Larson     Pastor's Discretionary  
Jo & Al Judson     Pastor's Discretionary  
Renee & Kevin Brauer     Pastor's Discretionary  
Carol & Patrick Munt     Pastor's Discretionary  
Mark Lundgren     Pastor's Discretionary  
Marie & Rod Nordberg     Pastor's Discretionary  
Bickey & Frank Bender     Youth

# The Worship Carriage

*For if we have been united in a death like his,  
we will certainly be united with him  
in a resurrection like his.*

*- Romans 6:5*

**Easter Sunday is the first Sunday after the first full moon after March 21st.** Floating above, as you enter the Narthex of Calvary Lutheran, is a warm hued butterfly. Like the butterfly emerges from a cocoon, reminding us of its' incredible transformation within the cocoon, our beautiful, glass, butterfly symbolizes Jesus' transformation and emergence from the tomb. As we enter death to this life, we are resurrected to a glorious existence with God in Heaven, in a fullness of life that is beyond our current ability to comprehend.



## *Wayne Pearson, Being Jesus' Hands and Feet...*



**Wayne Pearson, Finance,** has been a member of the Calvary Lutheran Staff since 2015. Wayne monitors the day-to-day financial operations of the church and attends monthly Finance, Executive, Resource and Church Council meetings. Wayne can also be found assisting with custodial duties as needed, opening the church on weekdays and is the all-around go-to person for almost any church facility question that one might have. Calvary Lutheran is lucky to have Wayne on staff providing one of the many sets of hands and feet to serve our Lord and bring folks closer to Jesus!

# ARTS ADVISORY GROUP

## MEMBERS NEEDED!

**More hands make for light work. The AAG would love to have your hands helping to make our church as beautiful as it can be!** The AAG (Arts & Advisory Group) decorates the Calvary Lutheran Sanctuary for Easter and Christmas, curates the artwork that graces the church walls & adds seasonal touches to the entryways, Narthex & Fellowship Hall.

The efforts of this lovely group make our church more welcoming and festive throughout the year and they would love your help! The AAG meets only 3 times a year during August, November, February & via email as needed. If you would like to become a member of the Arts Advisory Group please contact Mary Arneson at: [Arneson.mary@gmail.com](mailto:Arneson.mary@gmail.com) or call (763) 302-9848. Donations for Easter Lilies, Christmas Poinsettias or other miscellaneous decorating needs to the AAG are welcomed and truly appreciated.



## WILD GAME FOR THE WIN!

The Chili Challenge held on March 6th, at the Park Rapids American Legion Club raised almost \$14,000 for the Hubbard County Food Shelf. The Calvary Lutheran Mens Group, represented by Bob Berdahl & Tom Vanbruggan earned the title of Crowd Favorite AND People's Choice AND their secret wild game chili recipe raised the most money (\$3,068) of all 22 contenders! Way to go Chili Challenge Champions!



**Approved**  
 Calvary Lutheran Church Council Minutes  
 February 13, 2024

Members Present: Mark Harmon, Bob Hansen, Wayne Koop, Sara Forsberg, Gretchen Pederson, Erika Randall, Shalom Grandy, Nicole Brandt. Also Present: S.A.M. Dana Kocha, and Wayne Pearson.

President Mark Harmon opened meeting with S.A.M. Dana Kocha leading Council in prayer.

**REPORTS:**

Secretary's Report: Motion by Hansen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Forsberg, to approve Jan 9, 2024 minutes with minor typo corrections and clarification the Hard Hat Ministry will not accept projects that require licensed trade work or contain unsafe work conditions, carried.

Treasurer's Report: Pearson reported Jan offering was \$55,704, 2<sup>nd</sup> best month in last 4 years. Mortgage income was \$8,113 plus principal payment of \$750 was received. Monthly mortgage payment \$10,429 was made. Construction loan balance is now \$1,445,138.

**Business:**

New Council Member Introductions: New and existing Council Members introduced themselves to improve comradery and efficacy.

Council Member Installation: Motion by Hansen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Brandt, to install new Council Members

at March 10, 1030 worship service, carried.

Northwestern Minnesota Synod, ELCA: The NWMN Synod Assembly will meet May 17 – 18 at Concordia College. Motion by Grandy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Brandt, to authorize President Harmon to appoint 3 voting members to Conference & Synod Assemblies, carried. Motion by Hansen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Pederson, to appoint Al and Jo Judson as voting members at Pathways meetings, carried.

Calvary to receive 2024 "Christ Award" as a strong supporting partner with Lutheran Social Services. The Award Presentation will be at the NWMN Synod Conference. Hubbard County Lutheran Social Services Senior Nutrition Council thanks Calvary for \$4080 annual gift to support "Meals On Wheels" for seniors 60 years and over.

Motion by Grandy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Hansen, to pay \$1,180.70 bill for electrical line damaged when fence posts were installed at north lot, carried.

Motion by Hansen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Forsberg, to move unused \$2,986.99 Stephen Ministry Travel funds to Caring & Outreach, carried.

**Caring and Outreach:** A "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner" event planned for date in June. Pickle Jar donations averaging approx. \$1000/mo fund to various ministry actions.

**Family Ministry:** Family Bingo meal/fellowship well attended/enjoyed. Purchased 150 Family Lent Worship books.

**Finance:** As written.

**Learning:** Bibles to be given to 3<sup>rd</sup> graders Feb 25<sup>th</sup>. Bookshelves planned for book sharing in Sunday School Ed Wing. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade Communion instruction begins in March. More effective inclusion of youth in worship support roles like acolytes, junior ushering, etc. planned to foster meaningful worship experience contributions.

**Resource:** Discussed contrast and handrails at altar, NARCAN in church, tree planting by sign, kitchen painting, kitchen floor repair, and new columbarium at cemetery.

**Worship:** Last Supper Table of 12 Communion to be served at Maundy Thursday Service. Song selection cards will be available at Welcome Table. Kids devotional for lent. Working to streamline/build visual information streams for Worship Services.

**Youth:** Mission trip location may change.

**Innovation:** No meeting.

**Council Agenda items/Reports need be submitted to the office by no later than Noon, Thursday prior to each meeting.**

**The Meeting adjourned with Lord's Prayer at 7:50 PM.**

**Respectfully submitted, Wayne Koop, Council Secretary**

**GENERAL FUND (Operational) MONTHLY  
 FINANCIAL- Monthly Goal: \$62,945**

2024	Income	Expenses	Difference
Dec '23	\$122,811	\$45,782	\$77,030
January	\$69,123	63,318	\$ 5,805
February	\$41,066	\$59,943	(\$18,876)
March			
April			
May			
June			
July			
August			
September			
October			
November			
December			

**BUILDING FUND  
 INCOME**

February Total:  
**\$5,516**  
 Monthly Mortgage:  
**\$10,429**

Calvary Lutheran Church  
112 Park Avenue South  
P.O. Box 187  
Park Rapids, MN 56470

NON-PROFIT ORG  
U.S. Postage/PAID  
Park Rapids, MN  
56470  
PERMIT #7

Address Service Requested



*Lead Pastor - Steve Norby*  
*SAM / Education & Youth - Dana Kocka*  
*Treasurer - Wayne Pearson*  
*Office Coordinator - Debby Henneman*  
*Worship Coordinator - Sandy James*  
*Media Specialist - Liz Stone*  
*Custodian - Collin Current*  
*Organists - Sandra Lichter, Mary Nepsund, Shalom Grandy*  
*Adult Choir & Bell Director - Mary Nepsund*  
*Nursery Coordinator - Nicole Roepke*  
*Bethel Cemetery - Jim Ertl*

**Calvary Church Council**

317-796-8529 Mark Harmon, President  
218-255-3538 Bob Hansen  
218-255-3052 Monica Foster, President Elect  
218-616-2087 Wayne Koop, Secretary  
651-206-3673 Wayne Pearson, Treasurer  
612-708-6548 Sara Forsberg, Caring & Outreach  
612-827-8236 Gretchen Pederson, Family Ministry  
952-988-8961 Tony Platz, Finance Core  
218-791-0801 Erika Randall, Learning Core  
218-556-4674 Joe McKinnon Resource Core  
612-325-0804 Shalom Grandy, Worship Core  
320-894-3199 Nicole Brandt, Youth Core  
701-430-7466 Stuart Larson, Innovation Core

**Calvary's Office Hours**

Monday-Thursday 8:00am-2:00pm

Phone-218-732-7284

Office Email- [calvarylutheranpr@gmail.com](mailto:calvarylutheranpr@gmail.com)

Website: [www.calvaryparkrapids.com](http://www.calvaryparkrapids.com)



<http://www.facebook.com/calvarylutheranchurchparkrapids>

[e-mail.prayer.chain](mailto:e-mail.prayer.chain)

Join Calvary's e-mail prayer chain to share, receive & pray for the needs of others. Contact Lin Norenberg at 218-255-3414 or [lindanorenberg@gmail.com](mailto:lindanorenberg@gmail.com)

Mission Partners: Iglesia Luterana San Lucas, Eagle Pass, Texas/ Mission Partner in India/San Pedro Lutheran in Toa Baja, Puerto Rico

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Calvary Lutheran Church, at the Crossroads of Grace and Service, shares Jesus Christ with others so that all may discover and experience God's Hope