



**Calvary
Lutheran**

at the Crossroads of Grace & Service

Newsletter

From the Crossroads of Grace ...

The Ten Commandments, Minnesota Style



1. Der's only one God, ya know.
2. Don't make dat fish on yer mantle an idol.
3. Cussing ain't Minnesota nice.
4. Go to church – even when yer up nort.
5. Honor yer folks.
6. Don't kill. Catch and release.
7. Der's only one Lena fer every Ole. No cheatin!
8. If it ain't yer Lutefisk, don't take it.
9. Don't be braggin' about how much snow ya shoveled.
10. Keep yer mind off yer neighbor's hotdish.

Blessings,
Pastor Steve

Palm Sunday April 13th

Calvary Lutheran Sunday School will lead a Palm Processional & share special music during 10:30 worship.

Easter Egg Hunt & Walk Through Holy Week @ 11:30 Easter Egg Hunt with Faith Impacting Lesson & Challenge for all kids

Calvary OWLS will be meeting for breakfast @ The Cotty in Menahga on April 1st @ 9:00 am. RSVP to Dorothy Platz @ 218-252-8029.

Faith & Literature Group: Our book for April is **Rules for Visiting**, author, Jessica Francis Cane. We will be meeting April 8th @ 10:00 am in the Luther Room. Questions, call Jo Judson @ 218-252-0156

Upcoming Important Dates

- April 17th - Maundy Thursday Services @ 4:30 & 6:00
 - April 18th - Good Friday Service @ 6:30 pm Riverside Methodist
 - April 20th - Easter Sunday Service @ 8:30 & 10:30
 - April 30th - Last Day of Release Time
 - May 3rd - Calvary Petting Zoo
 - May 4th - Last Day of Sunday School
 - May 4th - New Member Sunday @ 8:30 Service
 - May 11th - Youth Pie Auction
 - May 11th - Blessing of the Quilts
 - May 16th-17th - Rummage Sale**
 - May 18th - 2025 Senior Recognition
 - June 2nd - 5th - Vacation Bible School
- ** Donations can be brought to Calvary beginning May 4th

5TH Grade First Communion

First Communion Classes:

- † Sunday, March 23rd (9:30-10:25)
- † Sunday, April 6th (9:30-10:25)
- † Sunday, April 13th (9:30-10:25)

Orientation for Parents & 5th grader will be:

- † Wednesday, April 16th (5:00-6:00)

First Communion:

- † Thursday, April 17 (6:00 Worship)

Jr. & Sr. League Schedule & 9th Grade Confirmation

- April 2nd Sr. League (6:00 – 8:00)
- April 9th Jr. League (6:00 – 7:30)
- April 16th Sr. League (6:00 – 8:00)
- April 23rd Jr. League (6:00 – 7:30)
9th Grade Confirmation (7:00 – 8:00)
- April 30th Sr. League (6:00 – 8:00)
9th Grade Confirmation (7:00 – 8:00)

~ Happy Birthday ~

Brian Flynn	April 1	Robert Glimsdahl	April 15	Kinley Nordin	April 25
Norman Pederson	April 1	Bode Lee	April 15	Kylee Pachel	April 25
Lydia Grandy	April 2	Devin Mykland	April 15	Wyatt Soderberg	April 25
Jean Anderson	April 3	Erik Norby	April 15	Byntlee Walker	April 25
Kaisa Coborn	April 3	Ray Anderson	April 16	Lori Behrens	April 26
Kendra Coborn	April 3	Al Judson	April 16	Blake Lane	April 26
Jaclyn Tomperi	April 4	Autumn Kietzman	April 16	Madelyn Jenson	April 27
Brayden Kohrs	April 5	Sandra Lichter	April 16	Carolyn Spangler	April 27
Scott Mercer	April 5	Sean Bergeson	April 17	Colton Weller	April 27
Linda Benson	April 6	Lisa Carlson	April 17	Lauren Cunningham	April 28
Nancy McDowell	April 6	Jay Roepke	April 17	Jason Dennis	April 28
Logan Rogness	April 6	Samantha Boyd	April 18	Nikki Ellingson	April 28
Terrance Siegford	April 7	Sandy Schweitzer	April 18	Steve Maanum	April 28
Joanne McGregor	April 8	Kristi Smythe	April 18	Rachel Palmer	April 28
McKenna Norton	April 8	Mary Arneson	April 19	Alessia Harmon	April 29
Levi Stevenson	April 8	Julia Harmon	April 19	Paul Pederson	April 29
Terisa Dillard	April 9	Elaine Thomas	April 19	Matthew Cunningham	April 30
Joshua Walker	April 9	Clara Kent	April 20	Jordan Massie	April 30
Chuck Yliniemi	April 9	Carmella Weller	April 20		
Mark DeSchane	April 10	Ariana Boxell	April 21		
Blayze Hagen	April 11	Dorothy Meyer	April 21		
Colter Uscola	April 11	Allie Michaelson	April 21		
Annette Mellesmoen	April 12	Tami Turnquist	April 22		
Pastor Gail Bach	April 13	Lorna Cunningham	April 23		
Oakley Ness	April 13	Aarin Galzki	April 23		
Lee Edelman	April 14	Rebecca Larsen	April 23		
Debra Sorenson	April 14	Samantha Roberts	April 23		
Thomas Van Bruggen	April 14	Heather Steffel	April 23		
Bode Lee	April 15	Vicki Stewart	April 23		
		Gary Hensel	April 24		
		Peggy Lund	April 24		
		Brandon Tomperi	April 24		



~ Memorials ~

In Memory of... Jim Musburger

Karen Roberts	Youth Group
Jo & Al Judson	Youth Group
Nancy McDowell	Youth Group
Steve & Deb Maanum	Youth Group
Jane & Curt Carlson	Library



Thank you, Calvary Lutheran members, for being blessings to others as you show your value of being compassionate and engaged to all within our community. Helping Hands-Century PTA has been a recipient of your compassion over the years, and as founder, I would like to thank you so so much for your gifts. Next school year, a new group of women will be running the Helping Hands program through Century PTA. After close to twenty years, I'm stepping back, but I'm so thankful for the new leaders to continue helping students in need at Century School. Please continue to support Helping Hands as it serves hundreds of students every year through snacks, shoes, winter clothing, blankets, and more. Most important, if anyone would like to be a volunteer to be notified when help is needed, please let me know. Thanks for being a blessing!

Rhonda Lageson
 Helping Hands Founder
 218-252-7139
irlageson@unitel.com

April 2025

Faith Carving

~ Liz Stone

A man of God, Glenn Anderson used his talent of woodworking and carving to give thanks and praise to our Lord. Churches grow and evolve, and as our church expanded, Glenn provided Calvary Lutheran with gifts that filled church needs and enhanced the many experiences to be had at Calvary Lutheran. Whether reading a devotional by the fireplace, sharing conversation and a cup of coffee in the Fellowship Hall, or witnessing the Baptism of a new child of God, the works of Glenn Anderson throughout the rooms of Calvary provide warmth and a sense of home.

Like the vision for the blocks of wood Glenn set before him, shaping of faith requires a vision as well. Scripture, prayer and community are the carving tools available to shape each of us into the person the Lord calls us to be. Glenn could see the beauty within the block of wood and what needed to be cut away. Forming of faith requires cutting away what doesn't belong such as doubt, selfishness, fear and an unwillingness to surrender. As we remove what isn't needed, as we sand down the rough edges and smooth out the imperfections, our faith can start to be seen by others. Creation of the beauty isn't easy, but the hard work will pay off.

Wood carving is a slow, deliberate process. Mistakes might be made, but the carver doesn't discard the whole work when this happens. The work is reexamined. It is looked at differently. The vision is modified and the work is refined. Faith is similar. It is shaped over time, through trials, mistakes and prayer. Mistakes are examined, our understanding of faith is refined and we learn. We are met with challenges. We struggle. But we need these in order to strengthen ourselves; To learn to persevere; To learn to have faith.

Glenn's works didn't carve themselves. The wood needed his hands. Our faith doesn't just happen. It needs our commitment and the hands of God to shape us according to His vision. Glenn trusted his hands, to use the right tools and work with the grain to eventually create something beautiful. When working on your faith, don't work against yourself through sin. Work with the Lord. Surrender to Him. Let Him use his tools to form you; To carve you into a beautiful work of faith.



Do U Measure Up?

April 2025

~ Liz Stone

The 10 Commandments. A moral compass. A spiritual foundation. Fulfilled in Christ. A bullet point list of what the Lord values and expects from us. The Lord's extended hand of help to guide us in shaping our lives. The first four intended to help us understand how to relate to Him. Five through ten intended to direct us in how to relate to one another.

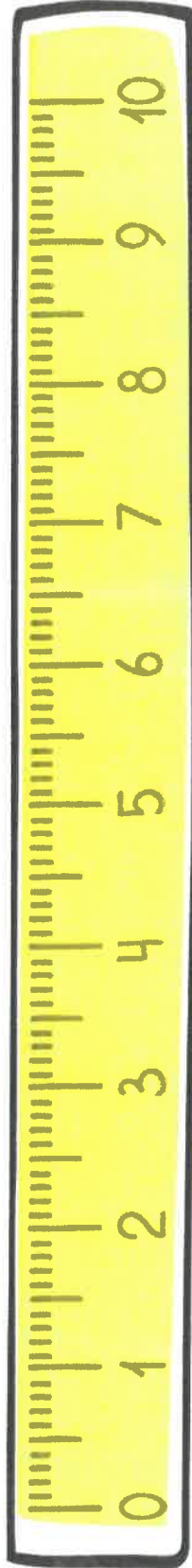
We are made aware of our sins when we examine our behavior. How do you measure up when you compare your thoughts and actions to the divine, numbered, list etched on the stone tablets and given to Moses? Take a look at them in Exodus 20: 1-17 and then reread them in Deuteronomy 5:4-21. The Law of the Lord, the agreement made between God and the people of Israel which, when simplified wants us to do two things: Love God and love others. When we work to follow the 10 Commandments, loving the way God desires is easier to do.

Don't let anything take His place. Everything should take a spot behind Him. **Have no other gods before Him.**

Without realizing it, the focus of your life can be on so many things other than the Lord. Be careful your worship is directed only towards God. **You shall not make for yourself an idol.**

Pay attention to the words you speak. You choose each one. When using the name of God, it should be done so only from a place of appreciation and love and not from a place of disregard or anger. **You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.**

What do you do with your week? Where in it, is the time for rest, to reconnect with your family and your home, to praise God for all his goodness and work on your relationship with Him? We typically think of



Sunday as the Sabbath day. Work or some other circumstance might not allow Sunday to be your Sabbath so choose a different day of the week and protect it.

Remember the Sabbath and keep it holy.

How do you treat and think about those in authority? You may not agree with them, but God does require that we treat everyone with respect. **Honor your father and mother.**

How do you manage your frustration and anger? When we lash out towards others with hate and harm we can cause hurt and damage to the mind, body and soul. Manage your feelings in positive and respectful ways to protect not only the head, heart and health of others, but of yourself as well. **You shall not murder.**

In your relationships, are you kind and faithful? Are you truthful? Can you keep your promises? Whether friend or spouse, be a loyal and trustworthy one. **You shall not commit adultery.**

Do you take what isn't yours? Whether an item, an idea or an individual, do not take it, do not pursue it. **You shall not steal.**

Are the words you choose honest and accurate? When we exaggerate, gossip, overstate or mislead others, our voices are anything but truthful. If it's not your story to tell, don't tell it. If you aren't speaking truth, don't speak at all. **You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.**

Don't be jealous of others. God gave you blessings. Give thanks for those. If you desire more, turn to the Lord for guidance. Tell him the desires of your heart. Above all, desire His will for your life more than anything else and you will receive more than you could ever anticipate or hope for. **You shall not covet.**

APPROVED
Calvary Lutheran Church Council Minutes
February 11, 2024

Members Present: Monica Foster, Mark Harmon, Wayne Koop, Clark Arneson, Maurice Spangler, Tony Platz, Erika Randall, and Shalom Grandy. **Staff Present:** Pastor Steve Norby, SAM Dana Kocka, SAM Liz Stone and Wayne Pearson. President Monica asked SAM Dana to open Council meeting in prayer.

Reports:

Secretary's Report: Motion by Mark Harmon, 2nd Erika Randall, to approve January 14, 2025 minutes, carried.

Treasurer's Report: Wayne Pearson reported on Accounts Balance Sheet. January offering was below expectations at \$41,035. Total January income was \$51,425 and total expenses were \$64,272 which required taking \$12,847 out of the checking account. Quarterly expenses included insurance \$4292 and offering envelopes \$446. Mortgage income was \$8,603 plus \$300 paid to principal reduction. Mortgage payment \$10,428 was made. Mortgage balance is now \$1,286,941.

Committee Reports:

Caring and Outreach: As written. Plan to invite Pastor Merlin Goode of local Hispanic Congregation (worships at Riverside Methodist Sundays at 730) to share about their ministry in April.

Family Ministry: Holy Week adventures and egg hunt planned. Petting zoo planned in May.

Finance: As written. Core asked to explore on-line and ACH giving. Motion to transfer LSS Meals on Wheels, \$200, to Carl Hammer Campership by Tony Platz, 2nd Shalom Grandy, carried.

Learning: As written. Planning for Summer activities.

Resource: As written.

Worship: As written. Core duties and responsibilities revised. Motion to approve Worship Core job description by Shalom Grandy, 2nd Mark Harmon, carried.

Youth: Youth Mission Trip June 15-21 to Perry FL and/or Crystal River FL has 30 youth committed. Fundraiser goodies sold for Valentines Day raised more than \$2000. Mother's Day Pie Auction to be held. Sunday School learning about enjoying singleness/marriage and leadership opportunities to serve God.

Innovation: No meeting.

Business:

Pathways: Motion to approve 3 delegates Bob Berdahl, David Simmons, & Dennis Aanensen by Tony Platz, 2nd Clark Arneson, carried.

Worship Core: Duties and responsibilities are revised.

Council Orientation: March Council meeting will include a light meal and orientation/discussion.

Community Meal: Motion to designate Sept/Oct meal as a "Community Appreciation Meal" for all by Mark Hanson, 2nd Clark Arneson, carried. Suggested to invite Hispanic Congregation and Creators Place.

Carl Hammer Fund: Learning Core will research/recommend scholarship awards.

Core Fair: The March 30th Core Fair to be held between Sunday services will showcase service opportunities with table displays, conversations and on-site training. Come join our mission teams like VBS, OWLs, WELCA, Gardening, Quilting, Choir, Bells, PR to PR, Bethel Cemetery and more!

Ash Wednesday: Services to be at 4:30 and 6 PM with 5:15 PM meal.

Synod and Conference Assemblies: A Conference Assembly will meet at 6:30 Feb 20th at Calvary in Bemidji. The Synod Assembly to meets May 30-Jun 1 and will need 3 voting members TBD plus Pastoral Staff.

Chili Feed: Congregation encouraged to vote for Calvary Teams at this event.

Adjourned at 6:43PM with Lord's Prayer.

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

Adjournment: Council adjourned at 650 PM with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted, Wayne Koop, Council Secretary

GENERAL FUND (Operational) MONTHLY FINANCIAL- Monthly Goal: \$62,945			
2025	Income	Expenses	Difference
Dec '24	\$133,537	\$121,327	\$12,210
January	\$51,425	\$64,272	(\$12,847)
February	\$76,015	\$57,485	\$18,530
March			
April			
May			
June			
July			
August			
September			
October			
November			
December			

BUILDING FUND INCOME
February Total:
\$7,274
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
SAM / Media Specialist - Liz Stone
Treasurer - Wayne Pearson
Office Coordinator - Debby Hanneman
Worship Coordinator - Sandy James
Custodian - Collin Current
Custodian - Ronnie Benton
Organists - Sandra Lichter, Mary Nepsund, Shalom Grandy
Adult Choir & Bell Director - Mary Nepsund
Nursery Coordinator - Gracie Eischens
Bethel Cemetery - Jim Ertl

Calvary Church Council

218-255-3052 Monica Foster, President
317-796-8529 Mark Harmon, Past President
763-286-8535 Clark Ameson - 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
952-988-6961 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

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

Calvary's Office Hours
Monday-Thursday 8:00am-2:00pm
Phone-218-732-7284
Office Email- calvarylutheranpr@gmail.com
Website: 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

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