



October 2025

# Calvary Lutheran

at the Crossroads of Grace & Service

# Newsletter

## From the Crossroads of Grace:

Enjoy my 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Quiz.

Indulgences:

- A. Yielding to desires, eating too much
- B. Extension of time for payment or homework
- C. Remission of part or all of punishment from purgatory.
- D. Payment to knights for fighting in the crusades.

Purgatory

- A. No man's land during WWI.
- B. Betwixt and Between
- C. Place or state of punishment for past sins.
- D. A football player who does not know what to do.

What happened on October 31, 1517.

- A. Pastor Norby went trick or treating with his friends.
- B. Martin Luther posted 95 statements for debate about the sale of indulgences.
- C. Germany introduced candy to 'Trick or Treating'.

Why is Luther called the "Father of the Reformation?"

- A. He paid his bills.
- B. He was the first person who challenged the authority of the Pope.
- C. He believed that Scripture is the top authority.

What was Luther's reply to the demand that he recant his writing?

- A. Sorry, I need the money from my royalties.
- B. He did recant attacks on certain individuals.
- C. Captive to the Word of God he would not.

Why did Luther hide at Wartburg Castle?

- A. He was taken hostage to protect him from the emperor labeling him as 'outlaw'.
- B. He changed his identity to Knight George.
- C. He took the time to translate the Greek New Testament into German.

What was Luther's simple message?

- A. God loves us so much that God's son Jesus died for us and gives us eternal life.
- B. Marry a nun.

What is one thing you can be sure of in our world of turmoil?

- A. God's Word is true when times are 'good' and when they are 'difficult'.
- B. Jesus loves you.



## Junior & Senior League & Confirmation

October 1 <sup>st</sup>	Sr. League	6:00-8:00 pm
	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation	7:00-8:15 pm
October 8 <sup>th</sup>	Jr. League	6:00-7:30 pm
	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation	7:00-8:15 pm
October 15 <sup>th</sup>	NO League - - MEA Break	
October 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Jr. League	6:00-7:30 pm
	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation	7:00-8:15 pm
October 29 <sup>th</sup>	Sr. League	6:00-8:00 pm
	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation	7:00-8:15 pm

## 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation





October 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Confirmation Gown Pick Up	7:45 am
	Confirmation Rehearsal	8:00 am
October 26 <sup>th</sup>	Confirmation Reception	9:30 am
	Rite of Confirmation Service	10:30 am

## Celebrate Gods Creation!

**October 12<sup>th</sup> Blessing of the Animals!** Bring your pet to the parking lot @ 9:30 am to receive a special blessing. An offering will be given to the Hubbard County Headwaters Animal Shelter.

**Please make sure your pet is on a leash or in a carrier & has current vaccination!**

## Truck or Treat! October 31<sup>st</sup> Looking for Volunteers to:

-  Donate Candy!
-  Decorate Trunks!
-  Hand Out Candy!
-  Help kids cross Hwy 71 safely!

Call or stop by the Church Office if you can help!

**Calvary Owl's** will be meeting for lunch @ 11:30 on **October 7<sup>th</sup>** @ Lobo's. Please RSVP to Dorothy Platz @ 218-252-8029 by noon on October 6<sup>th</sup>. Please join us! It may still be great leaf-peeping!



Faith & Literature meets on **October 14<sup>th</sup>** @ 10:00 am in the Luther Room. The book will be **"Unsinkable"** by Jen Walsh. Any questions call Jo Judson @ 218-252-0156

Riley Cannon	October 1
Ethan Eischens	October 1
Linda Norenberg	October 1
Alana McKeever	October 2
Jeff Peterson	October 2
Madilynn Bergin	October 3
Keith Johnson	October 3
Jason Krabbenhoft	October 4
Cindy Lu Magoon	October 4
Denny Christianson	October 5
Jamie Jokela	October 5
Sharon Nelson	October 5
Matt Sullivan	October 5
Oakley Walker	October 5
Vicki Dannhaus	October 6
Jediah Jordahl	October 6
Estelle Schmidt	October 6
Mike Weideman	October 6
Darlene Hemm	October 7
Isaac Kosel	October 7
Brittany Oswald	October 7
Mya Peterson	October 7
Brenda Wright	October 7
Dale Dannhaus	October 8
Barb Thomason	October 8
Allison Cox	October 9
Nancy Gruchow	October 9
Collin Hoyt	October 9
Sheryl Kosel	October 9
Samuel Ness	October 9
Jone Classon	October 10
Bruce Fischer	October 10
Bruce Krabbenhoft	October 10
Sandy Simmons	October 10
Scott Kosel	October 11
Nova Fischer	October 12
Kamron Hagen	October 12
Levi Johanning	October 12
Lealan Norby	October 12
Hadley Peterson	October 12



Sharon Gorden	October 13
Jaxson Lund	October 13
Collin Bergin	October 14
Wyatt Bergin	October 14
Justin Clack	October 14
Megan Gill (Sullivan)	October 14
Shirley Olson	October 15
Duke Etter	October 16
Charles Johnson	October 16
Jan Kehr	October 16
Logan Noonan	October 16
Dawn Penning	October 16
Denise Knowles	October 17
Bradley Pachel	October 17
Vicki Qualley	October 17
Gere Huebner	October 18
Laura Pritchett	October 18
Katelynn Warmbold	October 18
Ripley Young	October 18
McKinlea Appel	October 19
Gene Osterman	October 19
Bob Bateman	October 20
Gayle Djonne	October 20
Judy Dulski	October 20
Jalen Hensel	October 20
Megan Maetzold	October 21
Ryan Peterson	October 21
Rod Knowles	October 22
Michael Nepsund	October 22
Kyah Simon	October 22

Jay Jorgenson	October 23
Catalina Solien	October 23
Nevaeh Dumond	October 24
Piper Gack	October 24
Leisha Schweitzer	October 24
Clark Smith	October 24
Sonda Tolle	October 24
Melissa Fogarty	October 25
Darcey Fritze	October 25
Tawnielle Jordahl	October 25
Carol Schellack	October 25
Rachel Aanenson	October 26
Jim Davis	October 26
Thomas Litza	October 26
Keegan Smythe	October 26
Dave Benson	October 27
Kathryn Bristow	October 27
Kristy Hanson	October 28
Lois Berghuis	October 29
Linda Gaustad	October 30
Sharon Goplerud	October 30
Tom Molin	October 30
Karen Syvertson	October 30
Rylee Briard	October 31
Bernard Herr	October 31
Bailee Hoffard	October 31
Bret Preston	October 31



### ~ Memorials ~

#### *In Memory of.... Nate Anderson*

Jackie Cheney	Music
Lori & Ted Anderson	Music
Bickey & Frank Bender	Endowment Fund
Karen Roberts	Youth Group
Barb & Mark Thomason	Music



### Calvary Endowment Fund 2025 Awards

The Calvary Endowment Fund Committee is excited to announce the Committee's awards for 2025. This year marks the 6th year in the last 7 that awards have been given. No awards were made in 2020 due to Covid. With this year's awards, over \$10,000 has been granted since 2019.

The constitution of the Calvary Endowment fund allows for periodic distributions of the fund's earnings to ministry expressions in the following percentages:

- A minimum 20% for outreach in the local community
- A minimum 20% for ELCA churchwide ministries
- A minimum 20% for programs/improvements within this congregation
- The remaining 40% distributed through any of the above categories

#### The 2025 awards are:

- Hubbard County Food Shelf - New Building Fund \$420
- Living At Home Park Rapids \$420
- ELCA Disaster Relief – Texas Floods \$420
- Calvary WELCA – Prayer Shawls / Newborn Kits \$420
- Calvary Gardeners \$420

Please consider the Calvary Endowment Fund in your estate planning and beneficiary designations or a memorial.

# Luther. Lutheran.

~ Liz Stone

In 1517, Martin Luther, the namesake of the Lutheran tradition, posted his 95 theses on the door of the local church in Wittenburg, Germany. (A copy of the 95 theses hang in the Narthex of Calvary Lutheran as well.) Always celebrated on the last Sunday in October, Reformation Sunday honors the work of Martin Luther. As the season changes and we approach this day, I find myself reflecting on how the spirit of the Reformation still informs the liturgy and the way we worship today.

Martin Luther, along with other reformers, was committed to making faith accessible to all people. He believed that the Word of God, the sacraments, and the music of the church should be available to everyone—not just reserved for bishops, priests, or scholars. Luther recognized that Jesus wanted all His people to receive the bread and wine and to hear the Word clearly.

One of Luther's most notable and impactful works was his translation of the Bible. Originally written in the ancient languages of Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek, Luther first translated the New Testament into German which was published in 1522. His translation of the Old Testament was published in 1534. Luther shaped his translation so the Word of God could be understood and felt in the hearts of the people, and not just studied by the scholars. In doing so, he made the gospel truly accessible to all.

Luther also believed and taught that baptism is central to Christian life. He viewed baptism as a daily renewal of God's promises. Though a single event, our baptism is in action each day providing freedom from sin and death, and serves as a reminder of God's continuous grace. Luther also brought attention to the power of song in worship and wrote hymns to give voice to the praises of the people. He was adamant that worship be a place of accessibility, hospitality, and joy.

For Luther, the church was never to be an exclusive "members-only" club. The church, both the local congregation and the global body of Christ, is open to all, where everyone should feel welcome, comfortable, and inspired to grow in faith. As we worship during this month of October, let us look towards Reformation Sunday and say a prayer of thanks for Luther and his incredible work!



# 

~ Liz Stone

The afternoon of Sunday, September 14, proved to be perfect for Calvary Lutheran's community celebration! The parking lot of Calvary Lutheran Church was transformed into a joyful gathering of laughter, music, fellowship and togetherness. The sun warmed those in attendance, the leaves showed the first yellow whispers of autumn and Nick the Strolling Magician added wonder & delight.

Families and friends gathered in conversation, as tempting smells of french fries, pulled pork and other food truck fare filled the air. Popcorn popped, Italian sodas fizzed, and sno cones were drizzled with jewel-toned syrups! Children ran from the giant bouncy house to the cotton candy station with parents in toe, for surgary clouds of pink and blue perched on circus striped straws. Cheeks & fingers were sticky, stomachs were full and smiles were wide!

The soundtrack of the day was just as rich with the worship and praise bands of Eastside, Calvary Lutheran, and Faith Bridge lifting hearts and raising voices with music performed from the bed of a bright red truck! Voices and instruments blended harmonies providing the heartbeat of the celebration, weaving together joy, gratitude, and praise for Jesus.

Lots of laughter was heard at the dunk tank, where Pastor Steve, S.A.M. Dana, and S.A.M. Liz took turns dropping into the ice-cold water and making a big splash! With each well-aimed throw, cheers erupted! How much fun it is when we all can simply play and enjoy the gifts of our God together!

Behind it all were the hands and hearts of volunteers, setting up, welcoming, serving, and staying late to clean. Because of their efforts, what could have been just another Sunday afternoon became instead a day to savor: a true celebration of fellowship, family, and God's abundant joy!



**APPROVED Calvary Lutheran Church Council Minutes**  
**August 12, 2025, 5:30 PM**

Members Present: Monica Foster, Mark Harmon, Wayne Koop, Sara Forsberg, Gretchen Pederson, Tony Platz, Joe McKinnon, Shalom Grandy, and Stuart Larson. Staff Present: Pastor Steve Norby, SAM Dana Kocka, and Wayne Pearson.  
President Monica asked Pastor Steve to open the Council Meeting in prayer.

**Reports:**

**Secretary's Report:** Motion by Tony Platz, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mark Harmon, to approve July 8th, 2025 minutes, carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Wayne Pearson presented an Accounts Balance Sheet which was reviewed/accepted. Total July income was \$44,421 and total expenses were \$60,175 which subtracted \$15,754 from the checking account. Mortgage income was \$5,671 plus \$1000 paid to principal reduction. Mortgage payment \$10,428 was made. The mortgage balance is now \$1,241,391.

**Committee Reports:**

**Caring and Outreach:** No meeting. The Pickle Jar donations will go to Community Celebration in August, and SAM Seminary Training in September. New "Welcome to the Table" Groups are forming to begin in October. Faith Community Nursing Health Ministry has high interest.

**Family Ministry:** Young Families picnic at Heartland Park hosted 60-70 on Aug 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Finance:** As written.

**Learning:** As written. Release time changing to afternoons begins Oct 1 – Apr 29.

**Resource Ministry:** As written. Motion to repair south door locking/exit hardware at \$3000 by Joe McKinnon, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tony Platz, carried.

**Worship Ministry:** Cantata well received at Calvary and area churches.

**Youth Ministry:** Youth core will contribute \$600 for bounce houses at Community Celebration.

**Innovation:** As written.

**Business:**

**Community Celebration:** The Celebration Sept 14<sup>th</sup> 1-4 PM will feature spiritual comradery, free food, Dunk Tank, Bounce Houses, and 3 Bands to play. Area churches and Public are invited on Sunday, Sept 14th. Budget at \$6000 was presented/accepted. Several foods, beverages and activities will be donated.

**Core Committees:** Review and forward any changes to Resolutions/Descriptions and Budgets.

**Core Fair:** A Fall Core Fair will be held on September 7<sup>th</sup>, Rally Sunday.

**Trespass:** Motion to allow any Staff member to process trespass against individuals who pose threat to Calvary Staff or property by Stuart Larson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mark Harmon, carried.

**Other Business:** Calvary has arranged to be a designated site for Collaborative Learning to facilitate SAM Liz Stone online classes at Wartburg Seminary.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn at 635 PM by Mark Harmon, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joe McKinnon, carried.  
Meeting ended with Lord's Prayer.

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

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	\$70,456	\$59,524	\$10,932
April	\$49,453	\$68,300	(\$18,847)
May	\$49,529	\$57,430	(\$ 7,901)
June	\$57,272	\$60,695	(\$ 3,423)
July	\$44,420	\$61,075	(\$15,755)
August	\$59,248	\$55,264	\$3,984
September			
October			
November			
December			

**BUILDING FUND  
INCOME**

August Total:

**\$8,803**

Monthly Mortgage:

**\$10,429**

*If you are no longer interested in receiving the Calvary Lutheran Newsletter, please call the church office @ 218-732-7284 and we will remove your name from the mailing list.*

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 Arneson - 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](mailto:calvarylutheranpr@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.calvaryparkrapids.com](http://www.calvaryparkrapids.com)



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

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)

---

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