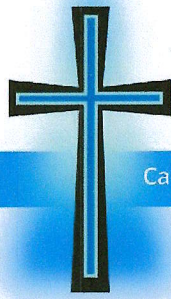


September 2026



The Calvary Corner

Calvary Lutheran Church, 112 South Park Ave, P.O. Box 187 Park Rapids, MN 56470, (218) 732-7284

Behold, the New! ~ Liz Stone

The word behold means to look—to really see something with attention and interest. In Scripture, behold invites us to stop, pay attention and notice what God is doing.

For much of the church's history, worship, faith practices, and teaching were central to forming people for lives of faith. The church gathered people not simply to fill pews, but to teach, nurture, and send them into the world to live out their baptism.

Behold, the New!, a project led by Wartburg Theological Seminary and embraced by the ELCA, invites us to think differently about the church's purpose: How can we better equip baptized people to live out their faith in their daily lives?

What does it mean to live as a baptized child of God? Who are we because we are baptized? Baptism is not a "one and done" event. Baptism is a promise we continue to live into each day. In baptism, we promise to live among God's faithful people, hear God's Word and share in the Lord's Supper, proclaim the good news through word and deed, serve all people following Jesus' example, and strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

The promises of baptism don't require that we must all do the same things. They remind us who we are and how we are called to live. Each of us has a unique life, unique relationships, unique gifts, and unique opportunities to serve. As a result, each of us has a unique, individual ministry.

Living out our baptism looks different for everyone. For one, it might mean taking an extra shift to provide for the family. For others it might mean listening to someone who is dealing with the struggles of life, praying with someone, or inviting someone to church. Maybe it means trusting God when money is tight or taking care of something that you have been putting off.

God does not need us in order to be God. We do not have to earn God's love by doing enough, serving enough, giving enough, or getting everything right. God's love has already been given to us in Jesus Christ. God does not need us, but our neighbors do and our neighbors need what God has given us. They need our compassion, generosity, patience, courage, and willingness to listen. They need us to speak up for justice, work for peace, and share the hope we have received through Christ.

Behold, the New! isn't about starting another church program. It is about rediscovering that the church exists not simply to preserve itself, but to form and send baptized people into the world God loves. We gather at Calvary Lutheran to worship, hear God's Word, receive Christ's gifts, and encourage one another—but none of this is meant to stay within the church doors.

We are sent. We are sent into our homes, workplaces, schools, neighborhoods, community, and everyday relationships. We are sent to live as people who know that we belong to God and that our lives have purpose.

So, consider once more your baptism. Look again at your ordinary life and the people God has placed around you. Look for the places where you are already living out your baptism—and then look for new places where God might be calling you to serve.

Slow down and notice! Behold! Recognize where God is already at work! Behold the things in our ordinary lives that are extraordinary expressions of God's love!

Justin Dennis	September 1
Asher Kocka	September 1
Don McGregor	September 1
Larry Sundsrud	September 1
Bonita Larson	September 2
Jean Anderson	September 5
Brooke Jerger	September 5
Karen Onstad	September 5
Jillian Albrecht	September 6
Ryan Cook	September 6
Jodi Gruchow	September 6
Tiffany Hansen	September 6
Florence Jacobson	September 6
Cal Broughton	September 7
Mark Hamborg	September 7
Betsy Meyer	September 7
Lynn Johnson	September 8
Emmett Lingle	September 8
Susan Ryan	September 8
Jeff Adolphson	September 9
Jennifer Bateman	September 9
Craig Becker	September 9
Berry Crist	September 9
Kayley Eberhardt	September 9
Marsha Clukey	September 9
Greg Johnson	September 10
Wayne Jordahl	September 10
Wyatt Newman	September 10
Jack Bugge	September 11
Sarah Bugge	September 11
Tina Crabb	September 11
Charity Ridlon	September 11
Troy Roberts	September 11
Allie Snelling	September 11
Kim Splett	September 11
Brian Johnson	September 12
Ruth Luetmer	September 12
Ben Stumbo	September 12



Eric Haugland	September 13
Oakley Peterson	September 13
Sarah Schultz	September 13
John Vaadeland	September 13
Rob Anderson	September 14
Mary Niklaus	September 14
Wyatt Bruce	September 15
Darrin Hoverson	September 15
Madison Johnson	September 15
John Lageson	September 15
Kathy Peterson	September 15
Jenna Jordahl	September 16
Corrine Neisess	September 16
Jace Weller	September 16
Lilian Alberg	September 17
Jerald Anderson	September 17
Sharon Hansen	September 17
Kim Hoff	September 17
Scotty Kyllonen	September 17
Allison Jenson	September 18
Michael Jenson	September 18
Henry Johnson	September 18
Spencer Fritze	September 19
Debbie Junge	September 19
Chelsea Dennis	September 20
Taylor Graham	September 20
Bryce Klasen	September 20
Joan McKinnon	September 20
Keith Mikus	September 20

Allison Pachel	September 20
Kyja Penning	September 20
Jaime Eischens	September 21
Christopher Baumann	September 22
Dave Carrier	September 22
Kathy Larson	September 22
Jamie Linkowitz	September 22
Rian Soderberg	September 22
Joan Hensel	September 23
Joan Jacobson	September 23
Sharon Schinnert	September 23
Nicole Shaw	September 23
Kaden Crabb	September 24
Chuck Dennis	September 24
Jenny Eischens	September 25
Tara Strasburg	September 25
Macy Boyd	September 26
Dale Johnson	September 26
Ann Krenik	September 26
Rollie Nevins	September 26
Holly Roepke	September 26
Mark Hewitt	September 27
Lili Lawhorn	September 27
Anna Miller	September 27
Emma Miller	September 27
Tucker Coborn	September 28
Clarence Davis	September 28
Pat Dove	September 28
Andrew Eischens	September 28
Drew Hilmanowski	September 28
Jill Hughes	September 28
Beth Baker-Knuttila	September 29
Macie Lichter	September 29
Gary Mills	September 30
Dion Pederson	September 30

Faith & Literature meets on **September 8th** @ 10:00 am in the Luther Room. The book will be *"Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close"* written by Jonathon Sufran. If you have any questions, please call Jo Judson @ 218-252-0156.

The Calvary Owls will meet @ Ice Cracking Lodge for **lunch on Tuesday, September 2nd @ 11:30**. RSVP to Chris Luckeroth @ 218-255-7467

In search of Sunday School and Release Time Teachers. Tag teaming is another option. If you are interested, please contact Dana Kocka @ 218-732-7284

Looking for Volunteers to Help With SUDS OF SERVICE

WHEN is Suds of Service?

2nd Saturday of the Month:

Suds of Service at Kinkle's Laundry from 9:00-12:00

WHAT is Suds of Service?

Suds of Service is a mission outreach, that helps people pay for their laundry. Suds of Service is organized by Calvary Family Ministry and supported through your generous offering.

If you are interested, contact Dana Kocka for details @ 218-732-7284

Calvary Happenings

Junior & Senior League

(Jr. League: Grades 6-8 / Sr. League: Grades 9-12)

September 16th Senior League Kick-off (6-8)
 September 23rd Junior League Kickoff (6-7:30)
 September 30th Senior League (6-8)
 Meet in Fellowship Hall

Sunday Breakfast Club

Grades: 9th – 12th

Sunday Mornings 9:35 – 10:20
 Meet in Youth Room – Instructor Dana Kocka

Sunday School

3 year olds to 8th Grade

Sunday Mornings 9:35 – 10:20
 Meet in Sunday School Commons prior to classroom

Adult Christian Education

**You are invited to the Luther Room
 for Faith Conversations @ 9:30 Sundays**

September 20 th	Galatians Chapter 1
September 27 th	Galatians Chapter 2
October 4 th	No Class
October 11 th	Galatians Chapter 3
October 18 th	Galatians Chapter 4
October 25 th	No Class
November 1 st	Galatians Chapter 5
November 8 th	Galatians Chapter 6

Hope to see you there – Pastor Steve

Confirmation

Grades: 8th – 10th

8th Grade

Classes will meet Sunday morning 9:30-10:20
 Meet in the Community Room –
 Instructor Liz Stone

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ➤ September 13 th | ➤ September 20 th |
| ➤ September 27 th | ➤ October 4 th |
| ➤ October 11 th | ➤ October 18 th |
| ➤ October 25 th | ➤ November 1 st |

9th Grade

Class meets Wednesday evenings 7:00 – 8:15
 Meet in the Luther Room–
 Instructor Pastor Steve Norby

First Semester

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ➤ September 9 th | ➤ September 16 th |
| ➤ September 23 rd | ➤ September 30 th |
| ➤ October 7 th | ➤ October 21 st |
| ➤ October 28 th | ➤ November 4 th |
| ➤ November 11 th | ➤ November 18 th |

10th Grade

- Final Confirmation Meeting –Parent/Child
 September 27th @ 11:30 in Fellowship Hall

Continue to work on:

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| ➤ Sermon Notes | ➤ Mentor Forms/Meetings |
| ➤ Mentor Sermon Notes | ➤ Final Interview |

- Wednesday, October 21st
 7:45 pm Confirmation Gown Pickup
 8:00 pm Confirmation Rehearsal in
 Sanctuary

- Sunday, October 25th
 9:30 am Reception in Fellowship Hall
 10:30 am Rite of Confirmation Service

CALVARY

RALLY SUNDAY THE KICKOFF TO THE SCHOOL YEAR!



KICK-OFF THE YEAR BY MAKING CHURCH A PRIORITY!

SERMON SERIES: **GAME ON**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13
SEASON OPENER

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20
PASS THE BALL

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27
GAME TIME



SEASON OPENER

SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 13



TEAM EVENTS:

8:30 WORSHIP *with Blessing of Backpacks*

9:30 SERVING SUNDAY

Nothing makes a person more hungry than sitting in the stands waiting for the game to start. Join us between services for an ice cream Sundae while tailgating and hearing about the abundance of opportunities for you to get involved.



SUNDAY SCHOOL PEPFEST
JOIN THE FUN!

10:30 WORSHIP *with Blessing of Backpacks*



PASS THE BALL

SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 20



TEAM EVENTS:

8:30 WORSHIP

9:30 SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:30 WORSHIP *with 3 year old Bible handoff*

11:30 TAILGATE LUNCH (Hot Dogs, chips, cookies)
Activities include Bounce Houses and Fun for all



WEAR YOUR JERSEY TO CHURCH SUNDAY!



GAME TIME

SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 27

BEHOLD
THE NEW!



TEAM EVENTS:

8:30 WORSHIP *with Blessing of Teachers*

9:30 SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:30 WORSHIP *with Blessing of Teachers*



COME READY, BRING A FRIEND. LET'S MAKE THIS THE BEST SEASON YET!

~ Memorials & Honorariums ~

In Memory of.... Ed Novak

Erna & Wayne Johnson	Endowment Fund
Ruth Swenson & Paul Gilbertson	Bell Tower
Sharon Goplerud	Youth Group

In Memory of.... Marie Knapek

Kathy & Stuart Larson	Quilters
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In Memory of.... Cynthia Johnson

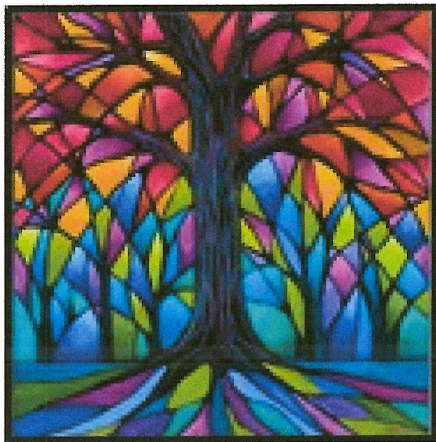
Jill & Deane Johnson	Quilters
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In Memory of.... Ruth Helgren

Kathy Olsen	Pastor's Discretion
Anne & Steven Skoe	Endowment Fund

In Memory of.... Vera Jensen

Betty McCabe	Creator's Place
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"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted."

Matthew 5:4

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

2026	Income	Expenses	Difference
Dec '25	\$196,645	\$ 65,993	\$130,652
January	\$ 61,088	\$ 69,124	(\$ 8,036)
February	\$ 77,922	\$ 63,066	\$ 14,855
March	\$ 74,832	\$ 65,929	\$ 8,903
April	\$ 43,510	\$ 70,379	(\$ 16,653)
May	\$ 61,245	\$ 57,583	\$ 3,661
June	\$ 43,906	\$ 60,819	(\$ 16,913)
July	\$ 40,007	\$ 60,327	(\$ 20,319)
August			
September			
October			
November			
December			

Music Ministry Opportunities

As the Minnesota summer comes to a quiet close, we are excited to kick off Calvary's Music Ministry this fall season. Please prayerfully consider joining the Bell Choir and/or the Calvary Singers choir this year. Both groups will begin on **Wednesday, September 2, with the Bells rehearsing at 5:00 p.m. and the Choir at 6:00 pm.** We would love to have you join us. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Nepsund at 952-738-1841.

BUILDING FUND

INCOME

July Total:

\$ 6,012

Monthly Mortgage:

\$10,429

Monthly Council Minutes are posted on our website, www.calvaryparkrapids.com

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

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

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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

763-286-8535 Clark Ameson, President
218-255-3052 Monica Foster, Past President
218-790-3489 Richard Gilbery - 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
218-255-0911 Tony Platz, Finance Core
218-616-0429 Lynn Litzau, Learning Core
218-556-4674 Joe McKinnon Resource Core
206-434-1950 Renee Brauer, 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

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