

Calvary News

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF BEMIDJI | MARCH 2017

2508 Washington Ave SE | Bemidji, MN | 218-751-1893 | calvarybemidji.org

Grace in Action - Prayer

The disciples once said to Jesus, "Lord, teach us to pray," and he did: Jesus gave them and us the words that we now know as the Lord's Prayer.

Prayer is a gift from God. Through prayer, we spend intentional time with God - speaking, listening, becoming quiet, growing in intimacy, enjoying God's goodness, being changed by the Holy Spirit. On January 29 and February 1, the people of Calvary took extra time in worship to receive this gift. We prayed together in silence and words, with eyes open and closed, with hands raised and lowered, for the world and the church and our own lives. Keep reading to hear from some Calvary folks who were involved.

"The prayer service in January was a huge blessing. We were concerned about the health of a loved one and this opportunity to pray for him in such a focused manner was wonderful. I pray every night at bedtime, but during this service I found I could really take the time to thank God for all that He's given me, ask for a good diagnosis for my loved one, and ask for strength for my family if my loved one's diagnosis was poor. I felt closer to Him and I felt peace despite not knowing what the future held. Prayer gives me peace. I give my worries, wishes, and thanks to God and He gives me peace. What a blessing!" – Andrea Lewis

On Sunday, January 29th, Calvary had a new type of worship service. The service made us step out of our "worship box" and experience prayer in a new way as a community of believers. For me, experiencing prayer in many different ways as one community was extremely meaningful. After all, if we aren't comfortable with our church family, then who can we be comfortable with? The quiet and reflective time made me realize that although I feel that I pray often, I don't find the peaceful quiet that I need as often as I should. The service showed that no matter where we are physically, emotionally or spiritually that prayer can and should be a part of our lives! It is so much easier, and not nearly as hard as we think to find the time. Thank you for the beautiful service and the gentle convicting reminder about my prayer life! – Wendy Brown



**"I GIVE MY WORRIES,
WISHES, AND THANKS
TO GOD, AND HE
GIVES ME PEACE."**

- ANDREA LEWIS

Calling All Singers!

You are welcome to join us during our choir rehearsals, which takes place Wednesdays, 7:15-8:15pm. We are preparing our Palm Sunday Cantata for Sunday, April 9. We hope to see you there!

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*April newsletter deadline:
8 am, March 16, 2017*

*Please e-mail submissions to
communications@calvarybemidji.org
May be edited as space requires.*

Visit our website to see what is happening at calvarybemidji.org

Grow • Give • Serve

Reflections on Serving Neighbors Experiencing Homelessness

In February, Calvary became an overnight shelter – a welcoming home – for about 20 adults and children in need of housing through our area’s SoS program. Why do we serve like this?



“I continue to volunteer with SoS because it challenges me to put my faith to work in a way that is sometimes not easy. It is much more convenient and less messy to ‘welcome the stranger’ and ‘see the Christ in everyone’ in the abstract. By volunteering with SoS, I must confront my discomfort with poverty, homelessness and mental illness and how this intersects with what God calls me to do as a Christian. I also learn something from the experience every time I volunteer, often through an unexpected source. I am reminded that faith is a journey, and I still have a long way to go in fully using my gifts and talents to live out my faith, so I need to keep working-SoS provides me with that opportunity. ‘Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well’ (1 John 5:1; NIV).” - Kim Williams

“God changed my heart during a SOS shift one cold winter night about 7 years ago. I actually never thought that much about the homeless and if I did, I confess I had major judgement. Then one night I sat and talked to homeless people - people that have had their fair share of way more downs than ups in life. I heard their stories and saw their gratitude and I realized that we are so much more alike than different. I realized that we are all on this journey together and homeless people want what we all do: to be loved and understood, even when we don’t understand ourselves. Jesus commands us to feed the hungry and house the poor - a huge undertaking, but he never told us we have to do it alone. He sends other believers to join us on our journey! That is what Servants of Shelter is for me; a community of believers living out Matthew 25:35-40.” - Sandy Hennum

Do You Ever Have Questions Like These?

Every week we receive some wonderful questions from our confirmation families in their worship notes. They’re probably questions that you share. Here, your Calvary pastors share a response to these questions. This month the response is from Pastor Nate.

“HOW DOES GOD TALK TO US OR CALL US?”

God speaks to us in a number of ways. In fact, God loves communicating with us. God is never hiding from us or not wanting to communicate with us. Some prominent ways God speaks to His world is through the Bible, through prayer, through what I will call Christian conversation, and through creation.

As Lutherans, we understand God communicating (loudly) to us through the Bible in really two ways (or words); the Law and Gospel. The law is that which demands from us: do this, don’t do this (see Exodus 20:13-16). The gospel is that which has already been done to/for us: specifically found in Jesus Christ (for an example see John 1:1, 14). Preaching is the proclamation of God’s Word and another way to hear God’s voice.

God also communicates through prayer, through Christian conversation, and even through creation. When we pray, we speak and listen with God (1 Thessalonians 5:17). In Christian conversation we hear God’s truths contextualized into our circumstances by a trusted friend or family member. Finally, God’s amazing creation continually sings His praise (Psalm 19:1-6).

A great resource to learn more about God talking is a book called “Luther for Armchair Theologians” by Steven Paulson. It is available in our Calvary library. If you would like to hear about how we believe that God calls all people, maybe you would like to ask one of our pastors about their call story.

Silent Auction for Youth Missions

Calvary youth missionaries will be hosting a Silent Auction in the Fellowship Hall from March 22 through April 9. If you would like to donate an auction item, please bring it to the Calvary office. Any bids you make will help defray the costs of summer mission trips.



Birthdays this month

Please pray in celebration for these people on their birthday. *If your birthday is not listed, or is not correct, please call the church office to update our records.*

- 01-Mar Carol Berg, Bobbi Moen, Emily Naegeli, Britt Madson, Mikel Forsberg
02-Mar Nancy Schiltz, Leanne Jaskowiak, Nancy Peterson, Krista Klinke, Scott Smith, Jillian Kobilka, Ashley Pirkl, Claire Evje
03-Mar Bernie Folkert, Troy Sundvall, Billie Farr, Winston Allen, Brennan Beaulieu, Kasey Stokes, Berklee Anderson
04-Mar Elizabeth Eriksen, Craig Collison, Bridget Tews, Suzie Port, Jeff Farr, Beau Peterson, Allison Garrigan, Noah Meyer
05-Mar Chad Wulff, Paul Fenner, Caitlin Orgon, Kodee Paulson, Brooklynn McKinnon
06-Mar Millie Langerak, Jeff Keckeisen, Mara Dahlby, Nathan Alto
07-Mar Thomas Sand, Peggy Nygaard, Tim Port, Jake Coombs
08-Mar Debbie Braaten, Roxie Schumacher, Wendy Boyer, Alexie Tatro, Jack Hildenbrand, Olivia Ford
09-Mar Della Mayer, Bob Honl, Susan Anderson, Kathleen Dehart, Chase Hendricks
10-Mar Kayla Campbell, Anna Garrigan, Kayla Henrickson
11-Mar Dick Labraaten, Steve Roetman, Drew Russ, Rachel LaFriniere, Shari Sorenson, Elizabeth Bolte
12-Mar Arla Fricke, Bruce Tiegen, Linda Chattin, Mike Ohl, Leonore Potter, Anna Hamann, Amber Smith
13-Mar Gordon Pierce, Dale Rader
14-Mar Debbie Grosfield, Jacob Foss, Brady Hagman
15-Mar Pam Redland, Rod Gunderson, Justin Erickson, Codi Yokom, Seth Johnson
16-Mar Jodie McClellan, Rodney Starkey, Tiffany Fettig, Emily Quanrud
17-Mar Rae Potter, Kim Kusler, Ray Holm, Julie Reiplinger, Brian Smith, Allie Papke-Larson, Britney Bennett, Kellen Tharaldson
18-Mar Chad Lawyer, Bryan Sletten, Steven Quinn, Tricia Longfellow, Sophie Warrick
19-Mar Chip Holt, John Lueth, Todd Frauenholtz, Tami Jo Olson, Katelyn Haaland, Miles Erickson, Emma Rohde
20-Mar Anne Andersen, Bonnie Jevning, Jill Wendland, Megann Long Voelkner, Billy Nelson-Splichal, Alexis Hisgun, Mercedes Moulton, Dalton Schlichting, Samuel Pfremer, Lincoln Huerd, Kadin Hoven, Cierra Olson, Zachary Sorenson
21-Mar Andy Iverson, Katie Lintelmann, Tristan Earhart, Taylor Knute, Steven Pribula, Ella Hommes
22-Mar Marge Huewe, Janice Dagen, Randy Strowbridge, Patti Port, Mitch Eickman, Jared Speck, Caleb Klinke
23-Mar Cliff Hill, Deb Bartz, Tim Lundberg, Neil Huewe, Andrew Papke-Larson, Patrick Conner, Catherine Netland, Kelsey Ramberg
24-Mar Gabriel Schwarzlander, Natalie Carlson, Natalie Corcoran, Hattie Rader, Olivia Swedberg
25-Mar Matt Boyer, Ryan Rautio, Xavier Piller, Logan Wilcox, Anika Harmsen, Max Markert, Brooklyn Supalla
26-Mar Roger Hare, Katherine Wheeler, Becky Walberg, Kiah Ward, Michael Fogarty, Clara Sand
27-Mar Steve North, Katie Sanford, Amaya Ickler, Brett Tharaldson, Mattie George
28-Mar Andy Erickson, Florence Lundmark, Suzanne Sorenson, Eric Naig, Beth Malterud, Abigail Timms, Aubrey Meyer, Brooklyn Rognstad, Camden Carlson, James Trepanier
29-Mar Dennis DePew, Michelle Dahlby, Teresa Bruns, Carrie Melberg, Alissa Nollan, Josh Pierce, Austin Anderson, Emily Reimer, Ashley Papenfuss, Archer Roberts
30-Mar Nathan Anderson, Peyton Carlstrom, Brooke Kemp, Jack Zellmann
31-Mar Kevin Cease, Justin Wubbels, Miranda Carlson

MILESTONES

FUNERALS

Feb. 4 - Cameron Clemens

DID YOU KNOW?

Generous Lives

Calvary lives out of an abundance mindset. God provides all that we need and more. It has been a practice at Calvary to model the tradition of the church and give away 10% of what we receive in the general offering to partners in ministry.

Here are some fun facts:

- Each month we honor a partner in ministry through blessing them with our time, talent, and treasure. On the second Sunday of each month we pass the plates a second time with 100% of what is collected to going to support that partner.
- Calvary gave away \$67,000 in 2016!
- Calvary partners with local, national, and international partners to live into God's coming kingdom.

In order to help us grow in our communal understanding of partnering with other non-profits, your leadership team invites you to fill out a short survey regarding our partners in ministry. Log in to the website to complete.

HAPPENINGS

MEN'S BREAKFAST & BIBLE STUDY

Southside Rest. Wednesdays 6:30am

ADULT BIBLE STUDIES at Calvary,

10 am Wednesdays; Goodies: 9:30am

MARTHA CIRCLE BIBLE STUDY at

Calvary, 3rd Tues. each month, 1:30 pm

HOPE CIRCLE BIBLE STUDY at

Calvary, 3rd Tues. each month, 9:30am

MARIGOLD CIRCLE BIBLE STUDY

1st Mon. each month, 10am. Contact Linda Arnold (759-9702).

JOHN EGGERS ONLINE BIBLE STUDY

Weekly on our website or via E-News.

DIVORCE CARE Thursdays 6:30pm

at Calvary. Chip Holt (651-353-0029)

GRIEF SHARE Mondays 3:00pm

Evangelical Free Church
Tuesdays 5:30pm at Calvary

ZUMBA CLASS at Calvary,

sarahbendorf.zumba.com

EXERCISE WITH LEAH HENDRICKS

at Calvary, bemidjibounce.com.

MARTIAL ARTS at Calvary,

Northwinds Martial Arts 218-333-3806

MARCH 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>26 Transfiguration Sunday 8:15 AM - 9:15 AM Worship - Traditional 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM Coffee Fellowship 9:30 AM - 10:15 AM Adult Faith Formation 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Jr./Sr. High Youth Choir 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Family Express: Camp Style Worship 10:45 AM Sunday School for PreK-2nd Grade 10:45 AM Worship - Contemporary 2:00 PM Sons of Norway Meeting 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Zumba with Sarah Bendorf 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Northwind Martial Arts</p>	<p>27 5:15 AM Kangoo Power with Leah 12:00 PM Calvary Crafters at Luken's North - in-reside area 5:00 PM - 5:00 PM Girl Share (at Evangelical Free Church) 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop #862 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Christ Care Bible Study 7:00 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>28 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM Just for Kix 5:30 PM Girl Share at Calvary 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>1 Ash Wednesday 5:15 AM P/Yo Exercise Class with Leah 10:00 AM Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 12:30 PM Noon Lent Worship & Luncheon 12:30 PM - 5:00 PM Kingdom Kids 5:00 PM - 5:30 PM Calvary Alive Meal 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM Calvary Alive Meal Worship 7:15 PM Calvary Choir Rehearsal 7:15 PM Confirmation Mentoring at Wednesday Worship 7:30 PM HS Mission Trip Meeting 8:00 PM AA - Pine Tree Mtg</p>	<p>2 Via de Christo Weekend-Mens 9:00 AM - 12:00 AM Quilting Ministry Team 4:15 PM - 6:00 PM Just for Kix 6:00 PM Prase Team Rehearsal 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Divorce Care at Calvary</p>	<p>3 Via de Christo Weekend-Mens 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM Friday Men's Basketball (private) 8:00 PM AA - Pine Tree Mtg</p>	<p>4 Via de Christo Weekend-Mens Basketball (private) 8:00 PM AA - Pine Tree Mtg</p>
<p>5 Via de Christo Weekend-Mens 8:15 AM - 9:15 AM Worship - Traditional 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM Coffee Fellowship 9:30 AM - 10:15 AM Adult Faith Formation 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Jr./Sr. High Youth Choir 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Family Express: Camp Style Worship 10:45 AM Sunday School for PreK-2nd Grade 10:45 AM Worship - Contemporary 2:00 PM Sons of Norway Meeting 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Zumba with Sarah Bendorf 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Northwind Martial Arts</p>	<p>6 10:00 AM Merigold Circle (in members homes) 5:00 PM - 5:00 PM Girl Share (at Evangelical Free Church) 4:00 PM - 4:20 PM Centering Prayer 4:30 PM - 8:30 PM Just for Kix 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop #862 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Christ Care Bible Study 7:00 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>7 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM Just for Kix 5:30 PM Girl Share at Calvary 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>8 5:15 AM P/Yo Exercise Class with Leah 6:30 AM Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 12:30 PM Noon Lent Worship & Luncheon 12:30 PM - 5:00 PM Kingdom Kids 5:00 PM - 5:30 PM Calvary Alive Meal 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM Calvary Alive Meal Worship 7:15 PM Calvary Choir Rehearsal 7:15 PM Confirmation Mentoring at Wednesday Worship 7:30 PM HS Mission Trip Meeting 8:00 PM AA - Pine Tree Mtg</p>	<p>9 NO PRESCHOOL/YES CHILDCARE Via de Christo Weekend-Mentoms 8:15 AM - 9:05 AM R.I.P.P.E.D Exercise Class with Leah 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM Friday Men's Basketball (private) 8:00 PM AA - Pine Tree Mtg</p>	<p>10 Via de Christo Weekend-Mentoms 8:15 AM - 9:05 AM R.I.P.P.E.D Exercise Class with Leah 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM Friday Men's Basketball (private) 8:00 PM AA - Pine Tree Mtg</p>	<p>11 Via de Christo Weekend-Women's 8:00 AM Kangoo Jumps with Leah</p>
<p>12 Daylight-Saving Time Begins Via de Christo Weekend-Mentoms 8:15 AM - 9:15 AM Worship - Traditional 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM Coffee Fellowship 9:30 AM - 10:15 AM Adult Faith Formation 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Jr./Sr. High Youth Choir 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Family Express: Camp Style Worship 10:45 AM Sunday School for PreK-2nd Grade 10:45 AM Worship - Contemporary 2:00 PM Sons of Norway Meeting 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Zumba with Sarah Bendorf 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Northwind Martial Arts</p>	<p>13 5:15 AM Kangoo Power with Leah 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM Girl Share (at Evangelical Free Church) 4:00 PM - 4:20 PM Centering Prayer 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop #862 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Christ Care Bible Study 7:00 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>14 9:45 AM Preschool Chapel 3:45 PM - 4:45 PM Preschool Staff Meeting 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM Just for Kix 5:30 PM Girl Share at Calvary 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>15 5:15 AM P/Yo Exercise Class with Leah 6:30 AM Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 12:30 PM Noon Lent Worship & Luncheon 12:30 PM - 5:00 PM Kingdom Kids 5:00 PM - 5:30 PM Calvary Alive Meal 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM Calvary Alive Meal Worship 7:15 PM Calvary Choir Rehearsal 7:15 PM Confirmation Mentoring at Wednesday Worship 7:30 PM Youth CLUB 8:00 PM AA - Pine Tree Mtg</p>	<p>16 8:00 AM Newsletter Deadline 9:00 AM - 12:00 AM Quilting Ministry Team 4:15 PM - 6:00 PM Just for Kix 6:00 PM Prase Team Rehearsal 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Divorce Care at Calvary</p>	<p>17 Senior High Synod Retreat (3/17-19) 5:15 AM - 6:05 AM R.I.P.P.E.D Exercise Class with Leah 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM Friday Men's Basketball (private) Giovanni's Pizza 5:00 PM - 9:30 PM Trek North Talent Show and Chili Cookoff 8:00 PM AA - Pine Tree Mtg</p>	<p>18 Senior High Synod Retreat (3/17-19) 8:00 AM Kangoo Jumps with Leah 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Baby Shower</p>
<p>19 Senior High Synod Retreat (3/17-19) 8:15 AM - 9:15 AM Worship - Traditional 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM Adult Faith Formation 9:30 AM - 10:15 AM Family Express: Camp Style Worship 10:45 AM Sunday School for PreK-2nd Grade 10:45 AM Worship - Contemporary 2:00 PM Conference Assembly at Calvary Park Rapids 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Zumba with Sarah Bendorf 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Northwind Martial Arts</p>	<p>20 First Day of Spring 5:15 AM Kangoo Power with Leah 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM Girl Share (at Evangelical Free Church) 4:00 PM - 4:20 PM Centering Prayer 4:30 PM - 8:30 PM Just for Kix 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop #862 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Christ Care Bible Study Meeting 7:00 PM American Swedish Institute 7:00 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>21 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM Hope Circle 1:30 PM Martha Circle 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM Just for Kix 5:30 PM Girl Share at Calvary 7:00 PM Blue Angels Team Awards 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>22 Youth Silent Auction 3/22-4/9 5:15 AM P/Yo Exercise Class with Leah 10:00 AM Wednesday Bible Study 11:15 AM Staff Worship 12:30 PM Noon Lent Worship & Luncheon 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM Kingdom Kids 5:00 PM - 5:30 PM Calvary Alive Meal 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM Calvary Alive Meal Worship 7:15 PM Calvary Choir Rehearsal 7:15 PM Confirmation Mentoring at Wednesday Worship 7:30 PM Youth CLUB 8:00 PM AA - Pine Tree Mtg</p>	<p>23 Youth Silent Auction 3/22-4/9 9:00 AM - 12:00 AM Quilting Ministry Team 9:15 AM - 11:30 AM Bamji Homeschool Coop 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM PEO Chapter AT Meeting 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM PS Green Eggs and Ham 4:15 PM - 6:00 PM Just for Kix 6:00 PM Prase Team Rehearsal 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Divorce Care at Calvary</p>	<p>24 Youth Silent Auction 3/22-4/9 5:15 AM - 6:05 AM R.I.P.P.E.D Exercise Class with Leah 6:30 AM - 3:30 PM Just For Teachers Workshop & Key Note 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM Friday Men's Basketball (private) 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM PS Green Eggs and Ham 8:00 PM AA - Pine Tree Mtg</p>	<p>25 Youth Silent Auction 3/22-4/9 8:00 AM Kangoo Jumps with Leah</p>
<p>26 Youth Silent Auction 3/22-4/9 8:15 AM - 9:15 AM Worship - Traditional 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM Coffee Fellowship 9:30 AM - 10:15 AM Adult Faith Formation 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Jr./Sr. High Youth Choir 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Family Express: Camp Style Worship 10:45 AM Sunday School for PreK-2nd Grade 10:45 AM Worship - Contemporary 2:00 PM Sons of Norway Meeting 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Zumba with Sarah Bendorf 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Northwind Martial Arts</p>	<p>27 Youth Silent Auction 3/22-4/9 12:00 PM Calvary Crafters at Luken's North - in-reside area 5:00 PM - 5:00 PM Girl Share (at Evangelical Free Church) 4:00 PM - 4:20 PM Centering Prayer 4:30 PM - 8:30 PM Just for Kix 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop #862 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Christ Care Bible Study 7:00 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>28 Youth Silent Auction 3/22-4/9 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM Just for Kix 5:30 PM Girl Share at Calvary 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>29 5:15 AM P/Yo Exercise Class with Leah 10:00 AM Wednesday Bible Study 12:30 PM Noon Lent Worship & Luncheon 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM Kingdom Kids 5:00 PM - 5:30 PM Calvary Alive Meal 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM Calvary Alive Meal Worship 7:15 PM Calvary Choir Rehearsal 7:15 PM Confirmation Mentoring at Wednesday Worship 7:30 PM Youth CLUB 8:00 PM AA - Pine Tree Mtg</p>	<p>30 Youth Silent Auction 3/22-4/9 9:00 AM - 12:00 AM Quilting Ministry Team 4:15 PM - 6:00 PM Just for Kix 6:00 PM Prase Team Rehearsal 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Divorce Care at Calvary</p>	<p>31 Youth Silent Auction 3/22-4/9 5:15 AM - 6:05 AM R.I.P.P.E.D Exercise Class with Leah 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM Friday Men's Basketball (private) 8:00 PM AA - Pine Tree Mtg</p>	<p>1 Premarital Weekend Youth Silent Auction 3/22-4/9</p>

PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE CALENDAR : If you are aware of an event that should go in the Calvary calendar, please contact Polly at pmerhar@calvaryhemicjij.org by the newsletter deadline.

Giving of Ourselves

2017 Mission Trips

MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION TRIP:
Duluth, MN - June 18-23

HIGH SCHOOL MISSION TRIP:
Daytona Beach, FL - July 15-22
Meeting March 1st at 7:30pm in Fellowship Hall

SENIOR HIGH RETREAT
The Senior High synod retreat is March 17-19 this year. Registration is available in the Calvary office.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RETREAT
The middle school retreat is April 28-29. Registration is available in the Calvary office.

Registration brochures are available in the office. Talk with Pastor Nate for more information.

Branson Trip

The "Calvary Fun Bus" is warming up for a great tour of Branson, MO, October 11-16, 2017. Sign up in the office to join us before the seats on the bus are all spoken for.

We will continue to take reservations until all seats are sold but we can't guarantee there will be any available after March 1.

For more information call Jim or Diane Wahl at 218-751-7864.

2nd Annual 'Piece of the Pie' Day

We are bringing back our Piece of the Pie Day!

Grab your \$3.00 ticket today and claim your piece of the pie! Tickets are good for two pieces, and all payments received go to support the Bridge Capital Appeal! We will be hosting the event during coffee time on Sunday, March 19.

To go along with our Piece of the Pie Day we are also selling commemorative pie plates. These plates, which are on display in the church office, are available for \$25 for a commemorative design, or \$30 for a custom design. The preorder deadline for our beautiful pie plates lands on Sunday, March 12, and they will be available for pick up at our March 19 Pie Social.

If you would like to sign up to bake a pie, purchase a commemorative pie plate, or get a pie ticket visit us in the office!



2ND OFFERING

MINISTRY PARTNER

Why do we have second offering ministry partners? Couldn't the congregation use the money for its own needs? These are good questions! We give because we value the work of many ministries outside our own walls and congregation. We trust in God's abundance, and we place a high value on partnerships with others. So sharing what we have received makes good sense!

"In 2015, 11% of all Minnesotans and almost 15% of kids in Minnesota lived below the poverty line" (MN Department of Health, 2015). Poverty matters to God and to us ... and especially to those who experience it directly. Part of our response is to share food, which we do this month through the Bemidji Community Food Shelf and our annual Minnesota FoodShare campaign. In 2016, our food shelf distributed 710,705 pounds of food through the help of 828 volunteers. This is big and important work that needs to continue! The Calvary community has been a strong supporter of our food shelf, and we hope that continues this year.

Partnership is more than money! Thanks to the many Calvary people who volunteer on a regular basis at the food shelf. We're thankful, too, for the building that God has given us, as it's allowed us to house long-term Americorps volunteers who are working at the food shelf; we're hopeful that we'll be able to host these volunteers again this year. To volunteer at the food shelf with our Calvary team, call Shirley Olson at 444.6676. To share a meal with hungry people (and aren't we all hungry sometimes?), come for supper at the Community Table (formerly known as the soup kitchen), served Monday through Thursday from 5-6pm (Monday and Tuesday at Mt. Zion and Wednesday and Thursday at the United Methodist Church).

While we will take a second offering one Sunday per month (March 12), you are encouraged to give throughout the month to our ministry partners. We ask that ALL checks be made out to Calvary Lutheran. In the memo line, write our mission partner for the month. This will help with better record keeping.



FINANCIAL REPORT

January	Income	Expenses
General Fund	\$57,246.....	\$51,543
Preschool	\$18,517.....	\$21,497

Cash & Receivables \$202,795

Ministry Partners:
Churches United..... \$1,603
Calvary Foundation Balance: \$33,476

Capital Appeal: THE BRIDGE
Received in January \$5,822
Received to the pledge so far..... \$590,892
Pledged to date \$828,515
Households pledged to date..... 211

To give online go to the giving page on calvarybemidji.org!

Gathered • Transformed • Sent

LENT 2017

Every year, the church turns its attention to Jesus as he sets his face toward Jerusalem, where he will be betrayed, arrested, crucified, and buried. We call this forty-day period the season of Lent. You are invited to participate in these holy days through worship and other faith practices. Here are some of the special happenings over the course of these weeks, from March 1 through April 15.

- **Noon worship services**, followed by a light lunch, for six Wednesdays, beginning March 1
- **Mentoring relationships** for the same six Wednesday evenings, with each of our 6th, 7th, and 8th graders paired with an adult for a time of conversation and prayer
- **All are Welcome to Six Monday afternoon centering prayer gatherings**, beginning March 6. Room 1 at 4 p.m. for 20 minutes of quiet prayer with other Christians
- **An invitation to commit to one specific Lenten practice**, which will help us grow, give, and/or serve in a new or deepened way (watch for details, but here's a summary: GROW through daily Bible reading or participation in centering prayer; GIVE through a commitment to tithe or otherwise increasing our financial generosity; SERVE by volunteering at a non-profit or hosting others in your home three times during Lent)

The point of Lent is what Jesus is doing for us, not the supposedly great sacrifices we make or the acts of piety we perform. These special happenings and practices are simply ways to help us listen to God, follow Jesus, and trust in the Spirit. In Lent – and all the time – our focus is Christ, the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Come, let us worship him.

MISSION TRIP JAMAICA, 2018

Save the Date: 2018 Calvary Intergenerational Mission Trip Calvary is planning another intergenerational mission trip (open to anyone) for a week in late February or early March of 2018. Begin to make plans now to attend this amazing service experience.

Preview meetings: Wednesday, March 22 at 6pm or Sunday, March 26 at 10:15am

SAVE THE WEDDING DATE!

June 17, 2017



The entire Calvary community is invited to Pr. Andrew and Meredith's wedding and reception on Saturday afternoon and evening, June 17, 2017, both held at Calvary. RSVPs will be needed for the reception. Details and RSVP instructions to follow. Be sure to offer them both a hearty congratulations!

PRESCHOOL CORNER

PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Join us on Thursday, April 6, 2017 at 6:00pm for a short informational session, facility tour and pre-registration for our fall 2017 programming. If you have any questions prior to that date, or if you can't attend the open house, please contact Joan in the church office—751-1893. Registration for summer programming will also begin that evening. Forms will be available on the preschool website after April 6.



PRESCHOOL MINISTRY UPDATE

In the month of February we have been studying the letters Q, J, K & U. We have talked about quilts and made some jam in our Friday classrooms. We are hearing about the story of the Fishers of Men! Time to drop what we are doing and follow Jesus. Opposites is also part of our curriculum in February. Up, down; in, out; off, on; over; under; hot, cold...and the list goes on! See what opposites a child remembers—and maybe find some new ones! We celebrated Valentine's Day in our classrooms as well as had a visit from a dental hygienist for our Dental/Nutrition focus.

PLEASE SEE CALVARYBEMIDJI.ORG, HAPPENINGS (PG. 3), OR THE CALENDAR (PG. 4) FOR MORE OPPORTUNITIES