

Calvary News

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF BEMIDJI | DECEMBER 2017

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

Christmas Eve Worship

Join us at one of our four Christmas Eve worships:

- 9:30 AM - Calvary Advent Worship with Carols
- 3:30 PM - Family Worship with Baptismal Festival
- 5:30 PM - Candlelight Worship with Holy Communion
- 8:30 PM - Prelude/Christmas Carols
- 9:00 PM - Candlelight Worship with Holy Communion

We are in need of almost 50 volunteers for our Christmas Eve worship services. If you would like to help please call the church office or sign-up on the board in the gathering area.

Come for special Wednesday evening Advent worship services in December as well! We will be holding these services on Dec. 6, 13, and 20. We'll be using the beautiful music of "Holden Evening Prayer" and hearing statements of faith from youth and adults.

New Times!

Come & Worship!

Church Office Closed:
Dec. 25-30, & Jan. 1



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*From our Calvary family
to yours, have a
merry Christmas!*



January newsletter deadline:
8 am, Dec. 18 2017
Please e-mail submissions to
communications@calvarybemidji.org
May be edited as space requires.

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

Grow • Give • Serve

A Message from Russ & Marlene Sletten

Dear Calvary members, staff, and preschool,

We want to thank you for the beautiful and heartfelt retirement party that you threw for us! We appreciate all of the effort that was needed to put this on, and we enjoyed our incredible Calvary Preschoolers' singing too!

Thank you for so many years of love and support! We have truly been blessed to have such great jobs that we both enjoyed doing. The great people of Calvary have become a family to us through the years.

God Bless,
Russ & Marlene Sletten

Our Angel Tree is Back!

It's that time of year again where we are planning our Christmas lists. Unfortunately, there are many people in our community that are struggling to survive. We are in the process of collecting for families, children, and adults that are in need of help. We are looking for cash donations, food items, personal care needs, and toys. If you or someone you know could benefit from this ministry, please contact Pastor Genelle.

The Angel Tree is currently stationed near the front entrance of the sanctuary. There are angel tags listing boys and girls along with their age. Please, feel free to take an angel tag. You may return your gift in a gift bag with your angel tag attached to Calvary by Sunday, December 17. We will then sort and deliver the gifts. As you prepare your gifts, please pray for that individual. If you have any questions, call Bonnie Jevning at 218-751-3118.

Confirmation, High School, & Family Tubing Night at Buena Vista on Jan. 3!

Come for a refreshing evening of tubing on Wednesday, January 3, from 6:00-8:00 PM at Buena Vista. This is a family night activity for confirmation and a great opportunity for families, friends, and anyone from the Calvary community to have some fun fellowship. Drop off and pick up is at Buena Vista, not the church building. The recommended donation is \$5/person who is tubing. Make sure to bring warm clothing. There will be games and food inside.



Calvary's Community Christmas Concert
Sunday, December 10 at 4:00 PM

Our lineup of great musicians includes: Deb McGregor, Anne Meredith, Kristi Tell-Miller & Miriam Tell, Kari Pickett & Rachel Munson, Bell Ringers from Calvary and First Presbyterian Church, Joe Vene, the Calvary Choir, the Calvary Youth Jazz Group, and more!

Come to get into the Christmas spirit through song while supporting our Bridge Capital Appeal! Treats to follow!

Tickets are available in the church office, or at the door. Suggested ticket price is \$5.00 (additional donation greatly appreciated!) with the funds going to our Bridge Capital Appeal.

Calvary's Christmas Cantata - Hope

Come and hear a message of Hope through song this Christmas during worship on December 17, as the Calvary Choir presents their Christmas cantata, "Hope," at both the 8:15 and 10:45 services! We will also be hearing our Pre-K through 2nd grade Sunday school kids sing during the 9:30 service that day.

Advent Centering Prayer

Calvary will be hosting 3 more sessions of centering prayer during the season of Advent. We'll meet on the three Mondays of the season – Dec. 4, Dec. 11, Dec. 18 – at 4 p.m. We'll meet in room 1, the room with blue couches, next to the bathrooms and accessed through the fellowship hall. Centering prayer is a form of silent prayer. When we gather, we'll visit for a few minutes, light a candle, read a verse of Scripture, sit in prayerful silence for 20 minutes, and end with the Lord's Prayer. This is an open group, so all are welcome.

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.

- 1-Dec Jay Campbell, Jen Knutson, Kasey Stenseth
- 2-Dec Curt Peterson, Ben Schram
- 3-Dec Sarah Sherwood, Nick Conner, Brandon Kuznia
- 4-Dec MaryAnne Wilimek, Jodi Lindsey, Vicki Turn
- 5-Dec Dennis Dorr, Tom DellaPaolera, Ryan Domeier
- 6-Dec Don Carlson
- 7-Dec Leann Schreiber, Sondra Gudmundson, Roxanne Schmidt
- 8-Dec Rosemary Bakke, Lori Fillipi, Chelsey Rypkema, Brenden Molde
- 9-Dec Allen Ettesvold, Ann Cease, Nancy Swanson, Susan Vraa
- 10-Dec Robert Blank, Gunter Brakner, Mike Douglas, Harold Sanders, Matthew Lee, Tessa Large, Joann Risland
- 11-Dec Lowell Vagle, Kelly Aderman, Chase Fillipi
- 12-Dec Gene Moen, Sarah Bendorf
- 13-Dec John Olson, Corinna Prestegard
- 14-Dec Annette Nyland, Sheri Minske, Jaron Skjonsby
- 15-Dec Bev Matson, Cathy Thompson, Lisa Lund, Jennifer Lintelmann, Natalie Rader
- 16-Dec Marc Osowski, Kenneth Gudmundson, Nicole McKinnon-Crenshaw, Tanner Solheim
- 17-Dec Carla Quinn, Carol Sele, Josh Meyer
- 18-Dec Vernon Erickson, Blake Melberg
- 19-Dec Karen Dunn, Gordie Pierce, Bev Hodgson, Reed Kuzel
- 20-Dec Debbie Tuck, Corey Boen, Bryce Kondos
- 21-Dec Katie Peterson, Nicholas Rautio
- 23-Dec Kerry Nelson, Amanda Ireland, Adam Minske, Veronica Lukowski, Dylan Hardy, CJ Merhar
- 25-Dec Linda Newby, Abby Hinrichs, Mattea Carlson, Alesa Bjerke
- 26-Dec Angela Morris, Sarah Bock, Becca Mathenev
- 27-Dec Ken Johnson, Clara Anderson-Cameron
- 28-Dec Sharon Hill, Karen Jacobson, Donna Olson, Madison Nelson
- 29-Dec Kathy Luepke, Krystie North, Wayne Potter, Greg Carlson, Jeffery Loewe, Timothy Evje
- 30-Dec Julie Carlson, Tamara Brown, Gregory Snyder, Andrew Dokken, Shawn Quello
- 31-Dec Wendy Crane, Eric Sand

DID YOU KNOW? CALVARY COMMUNICATIONS

We have made some changes in our forms of communication with a revamp of our the newsletter, website and enews and more intentional use of social media. Being good stewards of our resources, we have also eliminated or reduced many printed pieces and mailings via the post office. Worship servants, acolytes, and service groups are notified via postal communication. In attempt to see how we are doing and what we can do better, please take 5-10 minutes to fill out this survey.

Thank you,
Calvary Lutheran Church Council

COMMUNICATION SURVEY:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HWM6P3Z>

Please complete this survey by Tuesday, December 12.

HAPPENINGS

MEN'S BREAKFAST & BIBLE STUDY
Southside Restaurant, Weds., 6:30 am

MARTHA CIRCLE BIBLE STUDY at Calvary, 3rd Tues. each month, 1:30 pm

HOPE CIRCLE BIBLE STUDY at Calvary, 3rd Tues. each month, 9:30 am

MARIGOLD CIRCLE BIBLE STUDY
1st Mon. each month, 10:00 am. Contact Linda Arnold (759-9702)

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDIES
10:00 am in Calvary's Lounge.

JOHN EGGERS' ONLINE BIBLE STUDY

Weekly on our website or via Enews.

GRIEF SHARE Tuesdays, 5:45-7:45 pm
Tuesdays at Calvary

ZUMBA CLASS at Calvary, 12:15 pm
most Sundays. sarahbendorf.zumba.com

MARTIAL ARTS at Calvary, 7:00 pm
most Sundays
Northwinds Martial Arts (218-333-3806)

QUILTERS at Calvary, 9:00 am weekly
in the Quilting Room, room #4

CRAFTERS at Calvary, 7:00 pm the
2nd Monday of every month. At Lueken's
Fireside, Noon 4th Monday, of every
month; Cheryl - 444-9036



DECEMBER 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>26 Baptismal Festival 8:15 AM - 9:15 AM Worship - Traditional 9:00 AM - 10:45 AM Coffee Fellowship 9:30 AM - 10:15 AM Calvary Express Worship 9:30 AM No Sunday School - Families please attend 9:30am worship service 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM Worship - Contemporary 11:45 AM - 1:15 PM Baptismal Celebration - Miller Family 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM Church Decorating for Advent & Christmas 6:30 PM - 6:30 PM Jamaica Mission Trip Participants Meeting</p>	<p>27 12:00 PM Calvary Crafters at Luke's North Firsidge Room 4:00 PM Centering Prayer 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM Just for Kix 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 5:45 PM - 7:45 PM Grief Share at Calvary 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>29 6:30 AM Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 10:15 AM Wednesday Staff Worship 11:00 AM Kidz Choir Rehearsal 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM Calvary Alive Meal 5:45 PM Youth Choir Rehearsal 6:30 PM Calvary Alive Contemporary Worship 7:15 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:45 PM Confirmation 8:00 PM AA - Pine Tree Mtg</p>	<p>30 9:00 AM - 12:00 AM Quilting Ministry Team 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM Calvary's Lutefisk Dinner 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM Youth Bake Sale during Lutefisk Dinner 4:15 PM - 8:00 PM Just for Kix 7:00 PM Praise Team Practice</p>	<p>1 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM Bi-Cap Annual Staff Meeting 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM Friday Men's Basketball (private) 8:00 PM AA - Pine Tree Mtg</p>	<p>2 8:00 AM Kangoo Dance/Power Class with Bemidji Bounce 9:15 AM RIPPED Exercise Class with Leah</p>
<p>3 Advent 8:15 AM - 9:15 AM Worship - Traditional 9:00 AM - 10:45 AM Coffee Fellowship 9:30 AM - 10:15 AM Adult Faith Formation 9:30 AM - 10:15 AM Calvary Express Worship 9:30 AM No Sunday School - Families please attend 9:30am worship service 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM Worship - Contemporary 12:15 PM - 1:15 PM Zumba by Sarah 6:30 PM T. Jamaica Mission Trip Meeting 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Northwind Martial Arts</p>	<p>4 10:00 AM Marigold Circle (in members homes) 4:00 PM Centering Prayer 4:30 PM - 8:30 PM Just for Kix 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Christ Care Bible Study 7:00 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>5 9:45 AM - 10:00 AM Preschool Chapel 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM Just for Kix 5:45 PM - 7:45 PM Grief Share at Calvary 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>6 6:30 AM Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 9:45 AM - 10:00 AM Pine Tree Chapel 10:00 AM Wednesday Staff Worship 11:15 AM Wednesday Staff Worship 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM Kingdom Kids 5:00 PM Kidz Choir Rehearsal 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM Calvary Alive Meal 5:45 PM Youth Choir Rehearsal 6:30 PM Calvary Alive Contemporary Worship 7:15 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:45 PM Confirmation 8:00 PM AA - Pine Tree Mtg</p>	<p>7 6:30 AM - 12:00 PM Staff Wellness Meetings 9:00 AM - 12:00 AM Quilting Ministry Team 4:15 PM - 8:00 PM Just for Kix 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Praise Team Practice</p>	<p>8 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM Friday Men's Basketball (private) 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM T. Just for Kix Rehearsal 8:00 PM AA - Pine Tree Mtg</p>	<p>9 8:00 AM Kangoo Dance/Power Class with Bemidji Bounce 9:15 AM RIPPED Exercise Class with Leah</p>
<p>10 8:15 AM - 9:15 AM Worship - Traditional 9:00 AM - 10:45 AM Coffee Fellowship 9:30 AM - 10:15 AM Adult Faith Formation 9:30 AM - 10:15 AM Calvary Express Worship 9:30 AM No Sunday School - Families please attend 9:30am worship service 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM Worship - Contemporary 12:15 PM - 1:15 PM Zumba by Sarah 6:30 PM T. Jamaica Mission Trip Meeting 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Northwind Martial Arts</p>	<p>11 4:00 PM Centering Prayer 4:30 PM - 8:30 PM Just for Kix 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM Christ Care Bible Study 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Calvary Crafters meet at Calvary</p>	<p>12 3:45 PM - 4:45 PM Preschool Staff Meeting 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM Just for Kix 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM Calvary All-staff Meeting 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM Am Swedish 8:00 PM Santa Lucia Breakfast set-up 7:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>13 6:00 AM - 8:30 AM Swedish Intuitive Santa Lucia Breakfast 6:30 AM Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 10:00 AM Wednesday Bible Study 11:15 AM Wednesday Staff Worship 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM Kingdom Kids 5:00 PM Kidz Choir Rehearsal 5:30 PM - 6:00 PM Church Council 6:30 PM - 6:15 PM Calvary Alive Meal 5:45 PM Youth Choir Rehearsal 6:30 PM Calvary Alive Contemporary Worship 7:15 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:45 PM Confirmation 8:00 PM AA - Pine Tree Mtg</p>	<p>14 8:00 AM Newsletter Deadline 9:00 AM - 12:00 AM Quilting Ministry Team 4:15 PM - 8:00 PM Just for Kix 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM Boy Scouts Round Rehearsal 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Praise Team Practice 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM DivorceCare Surviving the Holidays</p>	<p>15 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM Friday Men's Basketball (private) 12:00 PM (50's) Decade Group - Lunch at Spaulding Waters 4:00 PM - 12:00 AM Middle School Overnight Retreat at Calvary 8:00 PM AA - Pine Tree Mtg</p>	<p>16 -10:30 AM Middle School Retreat at Calvary 8:00 AM Kangoo Dance/Power Class with Bemidji Bounce 9:15 AM RIPPED Exercise Class with Leah</p>
<p>17 8:15 AM - 9:15 AM Worship - Choir Cantata 9:00 AM - 10:45 AM Coffee Fellowship 9:30 AM - 10:15 AM Adult Faith Formation 9:30 AM - 10:15 AM Calvary Express Worship - PreK-2nd Grade Sunday School Program 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM Worship - Choir Cantata 12:15 PM - 1:15 PM Zumba by Sarah 6:30 PM T. Jamaica Mission Trip Meeting 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Northwind Martial Arts</p>	<p>18 4:00 PM Centering Prayer 4:30 PM - 8:30 PM Just for Kix 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Christ Care Bible Study 7:00 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>19 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM Hope Circle 1:30 PM Martha Circle 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM Just for Kix 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>20 Preschool Christmas Programs, 10m, 2pm, 2:45pm 6:30 AM Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 10:00 AM Wednesday Bible Study 11:15 AM Wednesday Staff Worship 5:00 PM No Confirmation, Kingdom Kids & Youth Choirs, and no meal 6:30 PM Calvary Alive Contemporary Worship Youth Club 8:00 PM AA - Pine Tree Mtg</p>	<p>21 Preschool Christmas Programs, 10m, 2pm, 2:45pm 9:00 AM - 12:00 AM Quilting Ministry Team 4:15 PM - 8:00 PM Just for Kix 6:00 PM No Confirmation, Norway Potluck Christmas Dinner</p>	<p>22 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM Friday Men's Basketball (private) 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM Preschool Gingerbread House Making Event 8:00 PM AA - Pine Tree Mtg</p>	<p>23 8:00 AM Kangoo Dance/Power Class with Bemidji Bounce 9:15 AM RIPPED Exercise Class with Leah</p>
<p>24 Baptismal Festival 9:30 AM Calvary Advent Worship - Traditional 9:30 AM No Sunday School - Families please attend 9:30am or a Christmas Eve worship service 3:30 PM Christmas Eve Family Worship with Baptism Festival 3:30 PM Christmas Eve Worship with Holy Communion and Candlelight 8:30 PM - 9:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship Music Prelude 8:30 PM Christmas Eve Worship with Holy Communion and Candlelight</p>	<p>25 Christmas Day No Preschool - No Childcare OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>26 No Preschool - No Childcare OFFICE CLOSED 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM RIPPED Exercise Class with Leah 6:30 PM - 7:15 PM Kangoo Jumps Exercise Class with Leah 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>27 No Preschool - No Childcare OFFICE CLOSED T. Todavich - Gym light install & Nora light replace in FH & Sanctuary 5:30 PM Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 6:00 PM No Confirmation, Kingdom Kids & Youth Choirs, Youth Club and no meal 6:30 PM No Worship Tonight 8:00 PM AA - Pine Tree Mtg</p>	<p>28 No Preschool - No Childcare OFFICE CLOSED T. Todavich - Gym light install & Nora light replace in FH & Sanctuary 5:30 PM Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 6:00 PM No Confirmation, Kingdom Kids & Youth Choirs, Youth Club and no meal 6:30 PM No Worship Tonight 8:00 PM AA - Pine Tree Mtg</p>	<p>29 No Preschool - No Childcare OFFICE CLOSED 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM Friday Men's Basketball (private) 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Home for the Holidays - Bemidji Community Theatre - Concert & Dessert Reception 8:00 PM AA - Pine Tree Mtg</p>	<p>30 8:00 AM Kangoo Dance/Power Class with Bemidji Bounce 9:15 AM RIPPED Exercise Class with Leah</p>
<p>31 8:15 AM - 9:15 AM Worship - Traditional 9:00 AM - 10:45 AM Coffee Fellowship 9:30 AM - 10:15 AM Calvary Express Worship 9:30 AM No Sunday School - Families please attend 9:30am worship service 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM Worship - Traditional 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Northwind Martial Arts</p>	<p>1 New Year's Day No Preschool - No Childcare OFFICE CLOSED 10:00 AM Marigold Circle (in members homes)</p>	<p>2 No Preschool - No Childcare 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM RIPPED Exercise Class with Leah 6:30 PM - 7:15 PM Kangoo Jumps Exercise Class with Leah 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>3 6:30 AM Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 10:15 AM Wednesday Staff Worship 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM Kingdom Kids Session 2 5:00 PM No Kidz Choir, Meal, Worship or Adult Choir 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Confirmation, High School & Family Tubing Night at Buena Vista 8:00 PM AA - Pine Tree Mtg</p>	<p>4 6:30 AM - 12:00 AM Quilting Ministry Team 4:15 PM - 8:00 PM Just for Kix</p>	<p>5 8:00 PM AA - Pine Tree Mtg</p>	<p>6 Epiphany</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@calvarybemidji.org by the newsletter deadline.

2ND OFFERING MINISTRY PARTNER - VILLAGE OF HOPE & SERVANTS OF SHELTER



Calvary cares about homelessness and families, so Village of Hope is a natural partner, especially in these cold winter months. Village of Hope, a family shelter located in downtown Bemidji, “promotes self worth and independence through the provision of temporary shelter and supportive services for families experiencing homelessness.” The team of advocates there provides a spectrum of essential services to children and families. We’re grateful for the work of this organization and for the chance to support them. Part of our December second offering will support our SoS fund, used for food and other expenses when we host the area shelter.

Remember: Our partnerships are about more than just money. The Bemidji community needs your voices, ideas, and support as we work together to consider needs, including a detox center and a drop-in center. You can get involved by helping with SoS or talking with a neighbor in need of shelter (talk to Sandy Hennem or Pr. Andrew for details.)

While we will take a second offering one Sunday per month (December 10), 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.

Calvary to Host SOS Program in Early January

From January 7-14, Calvary will be hosting neighbors experiencing homelessness through our area SOS (Servants of Shelter) program. Volunteers are needed to provide meals and fill daily volunteer shifts from 3:30 PM - 8:30 AM. To sign up online simply visit this link: <http://www.tinyurl.com/sos-january2018-calvary>. You can also find the poster in the entry area or Calvary.

Year End Donations

We thank you for your incredible financial gifts that you have given to the glory of God here at Calvary. Together, we do far more than we could ever do alone! Year end donations need to be postmarked by December 31 (or bring them to church that Sunday) to be counted as a 2017 donation. Thanks for your part in moving God’s mission and ministry forward at Calvary Lutheran Church!

What are We to Say in the Face of Devastation?

From natural disasters like hurricanes and fires to human disasters in senseless shootings of innocent people, we may be, “wondering what are we to say as Christians living in this reality?”

The fall of 2017 has definitely been a tough one to swallow. So many people who are hurting. We cry out, “Why, God?” How long, God? Lord, have mercy!” And all these cries are echoed by others and heard by our loving God. We live in a broken world where sin is pervasive. But this is nothing new. Natural disasters and violence have been around since the beginning of time and yet we do not glorify these realities, we name them for what they are. We do not let them claim us or identify us. Rather, we shake our fists at the evil and then cling to a God who is no stranger to brokenness and ask for God to renew and restore us and all creation. And we move forward, choosing to see the world through the lens of God’s love.

Safety remains a top priority at our church. Calvary uses and follows a Safe Haven Policy for how we proactively keep safety at the forefront of our mind. Your staff is trained in CPR/AED, ALICE protocol and all have background checks completed. We practice emergency procedures so we are ready to guide others who may be in the building to safety too. Yet, we know that all the training and policies and procedures doesn’t ultimately protect us from bad things happening. We simply put our trust and hope in a living God who desires to be in an intimate relationship with you, lowering your fears and increasing your hope day by day. We give thanks for a mighty Savior who fights on our behalf so that not even disaster, tragedy or death itself will separate us from God. (To read the Safe Haven policy, [click here](#), or visit the documents page on Calvary’s website.)

December Calvary Alive Meals:

- 6th – Tatertot Hotdish
- 13th – Italian Chicken
- 20th – No Meal
- 27th – No Meal or Worship Service

FINANCIAL REPORT

October	Income	Expenses
General Fund	\$63,981.....	\$59,538
Y-T-D	\$608,807.....	\$655,188
Preschool	\$24,904.....	\$30,560
Y-T-D	\$121,548.....	\$101,273
<i>Gen. Fund is Jan.-Dec.; Preschool is July-June</i>		
Cash & Receivables		\$176,283
October Ministry Partner:		
Lutheran Disaster Relief:		\$1,343
Calvary Foundation Balance:		\$34,125
Capital Appeal: THE BRIDGE		
Received in October.....		\$12,748
Received to the pledge so far.....		\$725,028
Pledged to date		\$834,015
Households pledged to date.....		218

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



SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS

Discover ways to handle social events and holiday traditions while grieving or healing from divorce or separation.

GRIEF SHARE | **DIVORCE Care**

Dec. 17 | **Dec. 14**
3:00 - 5:00 PM | **7:30 - 9:30 PM**

**TO REGISTER, CALL OR EMAIL:
 CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH
 2508 WASHINGTON AVENUE SE, BEMIDJI, MN
 (218)751-1893 | CALVARY@CALVARYBEMIDJI.ORG**

Support the Salvation Army, Be a Bell Ringer This Holiday Season!

It is that time of year again when you hear the Salvation Army Bells Ringing in our community as you go shopping. Last year the Salvation Army Kettle at Leuken's South collected \$4,244. The year before we collected \$8,062. Bell ringers at Leuken's South were almost all Calvary members.

An unattended kettle does not generate much in the way of donations whereas an attended kettle collects an average of \$30.00 an hour. The Salvation Army supports many local needs as well as being the first on scene when there is a disaster or someone in need.

Last year some rang the bell as a family activity which would seem to be a good training tool in stewardship. It also may be a good activity for youth groups to participate in. Glen Anderson will again be coordinating the scheduling. Contact him at 444-8620. He will be in the fellowship hall on Sundays and have a sign up schedule available in the Narthex.

Calvary Cemetery Plot Price Increase

Cemetery plots will increase in price on January 1, 2018. The new price will be \$400 for the first burial and \$200 for the second burial on the same plot. The prices have not been changed since 2001 and those prices are still in effect until the end of 2017 (\$250 for members, \$350 for non-members for the first burial and half of that for the second on the same plot). See Polly in the church office to purchase a plot at the Calvary Cemetery.

Amazon Smile

Calvary Lutheran Church has been issued a \$47.37 donation from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of AmazonSmile program between July 1 and September 30, 2017. If you shop online, please consider shopping at smile.amazon.com and Amazon will donate to Calvary Lutheran Church! Apply this to all of your holiday shopping and your eligible purchases will benefit Calvary! To do this more easily, bookmark the following link: smile.amazon.com/ch/41-0872489.

Charitable IRA Distribution

For many of us it soon will be time to review our end of the year charitable giving and get ready for tax time! Our members have been very generous in their support of Calvary's mission. The IRS makes it easier and more advantageous for many to donate from an IRA if you are 70 1/2 or older.

A qualified charitable distribution can be a win-win for both the donor and the organization. For more information, please contact your financial advisor. A sample request form can be found in the documents section of our website, or by clicking [this link](#).

COMMUNITY MEAL

All are welcome and invited to the free Community Christmas Dinner hosted by Evangelical Free Church. Serving will be from 12:00-1:30 pm.

Community Meal Committee Members Needed
 If you are interested in being a part of this great effort, contact Kathy Luepke at 218-556-3364.



Free Community Christmas Dinner

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