

Come and Prepare the Way!

Advent is here, bringing a feeling of anticipation, longing, and waiting. For what? For the coming of our Savior, Jesus the Christ. We take this time to focus inward on our own brokenness, outward at the brokenness in the world, and upward to God's continued faithfulness to all. How can we prepare the way for Jesus to come into our own lives? This season, Calvary has many opportunities to assist you in this self-preparation, so come and worship!

DECEMBER 1 ~ ADVENT 1 - 8:30 am Traditional and 10:00 am Contemporary Services with Communion (no Sunday School)

- ~ Education "What is Advent" led by Pastor Jeremiah
- ~ 3rd Annual Calvary Community Christmas Concert 2:00 pm with treats following. A fun(d)raiser for Calvary's continued pursuit of sustainability throughout our facility. \$10 suggested ticket donation. Come and hear some great Christmas music by a wide variety of local well-known talents!

DECEMBER 8 ~ ADVENT 2 - 8:30 am Traditional and 10:00 am Contemporary Services (Sunday School)

DECEMBER 15 ~ ADVENT 3 - 8:30 am Traditional and 10:00 am Contemporary Services with Communion and Baptismal Festival; Sunday School Christmas program at both services.

DECEMBER 22 ~ ADVENT 4 - Christmas Cantata presented by the Calvary Choir at both the 8:30 am and 10:00 am Services (with Sunday School)

CALVARY ALIVE 6:15 PM WORSHIP, WEDNESDAYS, DECEMBER 4, 11, AND 18

We will again be hearing adult statements of faith as our message in worship during Advent. Come and share their experiences, growth, and faith journeys as we make our own preparations for the Christ Child. Come early and share the Calvary Alive meal each week.

CENTERING PRAYER 4:00-4:30 PM, MONDAYS, DECEMBER 2, 9, AND 16

This is a special opportunity to quiet our busy lives and be fully present with the Lord. This time usually starts with a short greeting and explanation, continues with a scripture reading to meditate on, and then gives the opportunity for a silent communing with the Lord, ending with the group sharing the Lord's Prayer. Psalm 46:10 "Be still and know that I am God".

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES, DECEMBER 24

3:30 pm Family Worship with Baptismal Festival; 5:30 pm Worship with Holy Communion; 8:00 pm Worship with Holy Communion. Come and welcome Christ with us ~ Bring a friend for this great celebration! Volunteers will be needed at all Christmas Eve services! If you would like to help with worship, please sign up on the poster in the Narthex or contact Kim Warren (kwarren@calvarybemidji.org) in the church office.

DECEMBER 25 ~ CHRISTMAS DAY - No worship at Calvary; Calvary offices are closed.

DECEMBER 29 ~ "LESSONS AND CAROLS" - Traditional Worship 8:30 am and 10:00 am



TABLE OF CONTENTS

| Angel Tree Lutefisk Dinner & Bake Sale | |
|--|---|
| New Music Intern! | 2 |
| Advent at Calvary | 2 |
| Birthdays | 3 |
| Preschool Programs | 3 |
| This Little Light of Mine | 3 |
| Happenings | 3 |
| Calendar | 4 |
| Second Offering Partner | 5 |
| Save the Date: Annual Meet | 5 |
| Nominate a Leader | 5 |
| Community Christmas Meal | 5 |
| RebelGive Transition | 5 |
| Amazon Smile | 5 |
| Calvary Alive Meals | 5 |
| Financial Report | 5 |
| Bell Ringers Needed | 6 |
| Hat, Scarf, & Mitten Tree | |
| 3 rd Annual Christmas Concert . | 6 |

January newsletter deadline: 8 am, December 16, 2019

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!



Angel Tree

It's that time of year again when we are planning our Christmas lists! Unfortunately, there are many people in our community who are struggling to survive. We are in the process of collecting the names of families, children, and adults who are in need of our help. We are looking for cash donations, food items, personal care needs, and toys. If you are in need of help, please contact Pr. Genelle in the church office.

The Angel Tree will be up the week of Thanksgiving. There will be Angel Tags listing whether the recipient is male or female, as well as the age of the recipient. Please feel free to take an Angel Tag! Once you find

a gift you'd like to give, place it in a gift bag and attach your Angel Tag to the bag. You can then return it to Calvary. Please have the gifts returned to the church by Wednesday, December 18th. After all the gifts are gathered, we will sort them and deliver the gifts.

As you prepare your gifts, also please pray for those you are gifting. For any questions or information, call Bonnie Jevning at 766-9264.



Calvary's Lutefisk Dinner & Youth Bake Sale

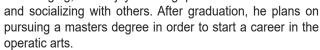
It's lutefisk and meatball time again! Mark your calendars for December 5, 2019. We will be serving our lutefisk dinner from 4:00-7:00 pm alongside a bake sale (we have lefse!) supporting our youth. Entertainment will be provided in the sanctuary. Cost for the supper is \$16.00, with children's tickets available for \$7.00 (age 10 and under). Tickets are available in the Calvary Church office. There are also opportunities to donate food items, pans of bars, and your skillful services! Volunteers are needed in many areas! You can find sign up sheets for donations and volunteering opportunities in our front office.

Come see us in Calvary's office to purchase your tickets or sign up to help out today! Ve hope ta see ya der!!



Welcome Calvary's New Music Intern - Tayler Borders

Tayler, originally from Brainerd, is a Senior vocal performance major at Bemidji State University, where he participates in the Bemidji and men's chorus. He just got married last May to his wife, Rissa. Along with singing, he enjoys writing poems



Tayler Borders joined Calvary as our Worship and Music Intern in October. He will be working primarily with both the Kids and Adult Choirs and the Praise Team. Please welcome Tayler as he grows along with us this year.

Advent Centering Prayer

In order to prepare for the birth of the Christ child, you are invited to come for centering prayer, led by Pr. Ron Gladen, on Mondays during Advent, December 2, 9, & 16 from 4:00-5:00 pm in classroom 1. Centering Prayer is a method of meditation used by Christians placing a strong emphasis on silently reflecting on God's Word.

All are welcome!

The Importance of Advent

Come join Pr. Jeremiah as we learn about the importance of the Advent season and why we celebrate it! All ages are welcome, so bring the whole family! For our younger folks, we'll also be making some Christmas decorations using symbols of our faith and the promises of God. Lets learn of this powerful time while creating items and connections in the spirit of Christmas together in Room 9 on Sunday, December 1, at 9:30 am.

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-Dec Jen Knutson, Hayden Mueller, Kasey Stenseth
- 02-Dec Curt Peterson, Jenny Pirkl, Ben Schram, Brooklynn Tisdell
- 03-Dec Bryce Sherwood, Sarah Sherwood
- 04-Dec Jodi Lindsey, Addison Maish, Emilie Robinson, McKenna Schrage, Vicki Turn, MaryAnne Wilimek
- 05-Dec Tom Della Paolera, Ryan Domeier, Dennis Dorr
- 06-Dec Don Carlson, Bella Renbarger, Gracie Staker
- 07-Dec Sondra Gudmundson, Kris Pellin, Roxanne Schmidt, Leann Schreiber
- 08-Dec Rosemary Bakke, Lori Fillipi, Brenden Rentz-Molde, Chelsey Rypkema
- 09-Dec Ann Cease, Allen Ettesvold, Aiden Fillipi, Benjamin Fischer, Marshall Fjosne, Nancy Swanson, Susan Vraa
- 10-Dec Robert Blank, Gunter Brakner, Mike Douglas, Tessa Large, Matthew Lee, Joann Risland, Harold Sanders
- 11-Dec Kelly Aderman, Sawyer Erickson, Chase Fillipi, Lowell Vagle
- 12-Dec Sarah Bendorf, William McFarlane, Gene Moen, Alexander Olson, Alicia Quello
- 13-Dec John Olson, Corinna Prestegard, Griffin Senenfelder
- 14-Dec Sheri Minske, Charlotte Rongstad, Jaron Skjonsby
- 15-Dec Stacy Kinnen, Lisa Lund, Bev Matson, Natalie Rader, Cathy Thompson
- 16-Dec Kenneth Gudmundson, Nicole McKinnon, Marc Osowski, Tanner Solheim
- 17-Dec Jacob Hassebroek, Josh Meyer, Carla Quinn, Carol Sele, Mackenzie Stoebner
- 18-Dec Vernon Erickson, Blake Melberg, Jake Netland, Zoey Schrage
- 19-Dec Karen Dunn, Bev Hodgson, Reed Kuzel, Gordie Pierce, Tyler Sandland
- 20-Dec Corey Boen, Bryce Kondos, Debbie Tuck
- 21-Dec Katie Peterson, Nicholas Rautio
- 22-Dec Bill Pirkl
- 23-Dec Dylan Hardy, Amanda Ireland, Veronica Lukowski, Adam Minske, Kerry Nelson
- 25-Dec Alesa Bjerke, Mattea Carlson, Abby Hinrichs, Linda Newby
- 26-Dec Sarah Bock, Mary Lou Maciey, Angela Morris, Julia Pirkl
- 27-Dec Clara Anderson-Cameron, Ken Johnson
- 28-Dec Sharon, Hill, Karen Jacobson, Evie Mack, Donna Olson
- 29-Dec Greg Carlson, Timothy Evje, David Gill, Jeffery Loewe, Kathy Luepke, Krystie North, Jordan Pemberton, Wayne Potter
- 30-Dec Charley Aderman, Tamara Brown, Julie Carlson, Andrew Dokken, Victoria Gack, Shawn Quello, Gregory Snyder
- 31-Dec Wendy Crane, Eric Sand

Calvary Preschool Christmas Programs

Come and watch our preschool students sing songs and tell the story of Jesus's birth!

Programs are Wednesday, December 18 and Thursday, December 19 at 10:00 am, 2:00 pm, and 2:45 pm.

This Little Light of Mine

Nearing the light at the end of the tunnel, we can say that we are almost there!! We are so close to calling our LED retrofit a complete success! Let's all pitch in and finish this year's annual project together!

HAPPENINGS

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

GATHER BIBLE STUDY

Every other Thurs. at 6:30 am - Room 1 Contact Vicar Daphne (751-1893) Materials will be provided to you!

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)

JOHN EGGERS' BIBLE STUDY Weekly on our website or via Enews.

ZUMBA CLASS at Calvary, 11:00 am most Sundays. <u>sarahbendorf.zumba.com</u> Find her on Facebook w/ <u>Sarah B Zumba</u>

QUILTERS at Calvary, 9:00 am - Room 4, in the quilting room most Thursdays.

CRAFTERS at Calvary, 7:00 pm the 2nd and 4th Monday of every month. Contact Cheryl with any questions - 368-3098

| | | DE | DECEMBER 2019 | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Advent CHRSTMAS CHRSTMAS Advent Baptivaria Baptivaria Baptivaria Baptivaria Bab Ma Voisilip Bab Ma School for PK-grade 2 9:30 AM Education: Importance of Advent with Pr. Jeremiah 1:00 DM Calvary Community Christmas Concert 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM Northwind Martial Arts | 2 Cooo AM Marigold Circle (in members homes) 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM - 5:40 PM - 5 | 3:16 AM - 3:30 PM Northwoods Chaeschool Chasses 3:45 AM - 10:00 AM Pres chool Chapel 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM Just for Kix 7:00 PM Narcofics Anonymous | 4 6.30 AM Nen's Breakfast & Bible Study-Now at Perkins 9.45 AM 10.30 AM Preschool Chapel 10.30 AM Vedersedsty Blibe Study 3.00 PM -5.00 FM Ringdom Kids Fall 5.30 PM -5.00 FM -5.00 FM -6.30 PM office Sout Troop #442 5.30 PM -5.00 PM (Sout Troop #442 5.30 PM -6.10 PM Calvary Alive Meal 5.30 PM -6.10 PM Calvary Alive Contemporary Worship 7.15 PM Confirmation 9.00 PM PM Confirmat | TUTTERTISK TOTTERTISK TOTTERTISK S00 AM - 12:00 PM Culting Ministry Team A15 AM - 12:00 PM Culting Ministry Team A15 AM - 12:00 PM Cather Bible Study with Vicer Daphne A100 PM - 7:30 PM Vouth Bake Sale Junior Lurdisk Dimer A100 PM - 7:30 PM S10 PM Just for Kix A100 PM - 7:30 PM Just for Kix A20 PM - 7:30 PM Just for Kix A30 PM - 7:30 PM GaleShare at Sangelical Free Church A70 PM Praise Team Rehearsal | 6 Basketbell Basketbell Book A. Prine Tree Mg Book PM A. Prine Tree Mg 9:00 PM - 3:30 PM BIC.AP All Staff Training | 8:00 AM - 12:30 PM Christmas Tea for DKG |
| 8 8.30 AM Worship 9.00 AM -11.00 AM -11.00 AM Coffee Fellowship 9.00 AM sinday School for PK-grade 2 10.30 AM Sunday School for PK-grade 2 11.30 AM Sunday School for PK-grade 2 11.30 AM Sunday School for PK-grade 2 13.00 PM Bemulgi Chorale Christmas Concert 5.30 PM -8.30 PM Northwind Marital Aris 7.30 PM Bemulgi Chorale Christmas Concert | 9 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM Centering Prayer 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Boy Scout Troop 82 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Boy Scout Troop 82 | 10 Preschool Shaff Meeting 9:06 AM - 10:30 AM MTL Shaff Meeting 9:15 AM - 10:30 PM Northwoods Homeschool Classes 9:45 AM - 10:30 PM Northwoods 4:30 PM - 8:30 PM Just for Kix 7:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous | 11 12 | 2 80M - 12.00 PM Cutiling Ministry Tead 16 AM - 3.30 PM Northwoods mneschood classes and 200 PM - 8.30 PM Just for Kix 00 PM - 8.30 PM Just for Kix 00 PM - 8.30 PM GriefShare at angelical Free Church compelical Free Church 100 PM - 8.45 PM Boy Scouts Round ble 100 PM - 8.45 PM Boy Scouts Round ble 100 PM Praise Team Rehearsal | 13 iii 6:00 AM - 8:30 AM Santa Lucia Breakfast 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM Friday Iven's Baskerball 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Just for Kix Show I Rehearsal 8:00 PM AA - Pine Tree Mg | 44 |
| gram ogram | 0.01 | 17 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM Hope Circle 1:30 PM Martina Circle 4:30 PM 8:30 PM All Staff Writer 8:30 PM All Staff Writer Retreat 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous | 18 Preschool Programs: 10am, 2pm, 2.45pm (a.30 AM Men's Breakfast & Bible Study- Now at Perkins (b.30 AM Werkerschool Chapel (10.00 AM Werkerschool Chapel (10.00 AM Werkerschool Bible Study- 3.00 PM - 5.00 PM (Shiple Study- 4.30 PM - 5.00 PM (Shiple Study- 4.30 PM - 5.00 PM (Shiple Study- 3.00 PM - 5.00 PM - 5. | E <u>></u> | 00 AM - 12:00 PM Preschool Christmas Violand - 13:00 PM Friday Men's 1:00 AM - 13:00 PM Friday Men's 1:00 PM Decade Group - Lunch at covarni's 00 PM AA - Pine Tree Mg | 2.1 AM Calvary Choir Cantata 10:00 AM Calvary Choir Cantata Rethearsal |
| 22 830 AM Worship with Choir Cantata 930 AM -11:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 10:00 AM Worship with Coffee Fellowship 11:30 AM Zumba with Sarah Bendorff 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM Northwind Martial Arts | 23 No Preschool or Childcare 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM Centering Prayer | 24 Onstruction No Preschool or Childcare 3:30 PM Criterians Eve Family Worship N with Baptism Festival 5:30 PM Criterians Eve Vership with Holy Communion and Candel eight 7:00 PM Natrocios Aronymous 8:00 PM Criterians Eve Worship with Holy Communion and Candel eight Holy Communion and Candel eight Holy Communion and Candel eight | Christmas Day On Preschool or Childrane Office Closed Office Closed Tato Part 1:30 PM Christmas Holiday meal at First Lutheran Church 6:15 PM No Calvary Alive Worship 8:00 PM AA - Pine Tree Mg | 26 No Preschool or Childcare 3300 AM - 12:00 PM No Quiling Ministry Team | 27 No Preschool or Childcare 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM Fridsy Nen's Basketball 8:00 PM AA - Pine Tree Mg | 28 7:00 AM Calvary Women's Coffee Break |
| 830 AM Worship – Lessons and Carols 930 AM - 11:00 AM Coffee Fellowship 10:00 AM Worship – Lessons and Carols 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM Northwind Martial Arts | 30 No Preschool or Childcare Painfing Projects: Library, coat hallway, room #7 | 31 No Preschool or Childcare Paning Projects: Library, coat hallway, room #8 1:30 PM Calvary Office Closed 7:00 PM Narcolics Aronymous | 1 New Year's Day No Preschool or Childcare Office Closed O | 2 3 8 No Preschool or Childcare No Preschool or Childcare No 9300 AM - 1230 PM Culting Ministry Team No AM - 1230 PM Cather" Bible Study 8 With Vicen Depine 430 PM - 8 20 PM Just for Kix | 3 No Preschool or Childcare 8:00 PM AA- Pine Tree Mg | 4 |

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 Polity at pmerhar@calvarybemidji.org by the newsletter deadline.

2ND OFFERING MINISTRY PARTNER - VILLAGE OF HOPE

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.



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 volunteering with Village of Hope by talking to Sandy Hennum at Village of Hope, 751-0722.

While we will take a second offering one Sunday and Wednesday per month (December 8 and 11), 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.

Save the Date: Annual Meeting

AT CALVARY ON JANUARY 26 AT 9:30 AM

This will be held in the Fellowship Hall with treats served by Calvary's youth. Your presence is important as we plan for our future!

Amazon Smile

Calvary Lutheran Church has been issued a \$70.43 donation from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of AmazonSmile program between July 1 and October 31, 2019. To date, Calvary has recieved \$830.35 from AmazonSmile users. Wow!!

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.

Nominate a Leader

We are looking for council members, Calvary Foundation members, Financial review members and people to attend the Synod Assembly June 12 & 13, 2020 in Moorhead. If you are interested in serving in one of these areas, please contact President Bethany Wesley at bwesley@ calvarybemidji.org. Nominations will be accepted through the end of the year and the vote will happen at our Congregational Annual meeting on January, 2020.

An Update on Our Transition to RebelGive

We're almost there! There are only a few people still using Calvary's old online giving system. If you are one of the few, contact Polly or Garrett in the office and they will help get you moved over, (they have to turn off your giving on the old system.) We will begin calling again this month to get the last folks moved over to Calvary's new giving platform, RebelGive. The new system has saved Calvary Church and Preschool over \$250 in fees in the last two months alone!

40th Annual Community Holiday Christmas Meal

Join us at First Lutheran Church of Bemidji, 900 Bemidji Ave. N (wheel chair accessible,) on Wednesday, December 25, 2019 for this great holiday meal!

Doors open at 11:45 am, and serving begins at 12:00 noon and will contiue until 1:30 pm. This meal will include a hamm dinner with all the delicious trimmings, and will be free to all guests! Everyone is welcome, and no reservation is required!

Deliveries are available only to those who are hombound, upon request. Requests can be made by noon, Monday, December 23 to guarantee delivery. Call Karen at 218-214-6301 to make a request for homebound delivery.

December Calvary Alive Meals:

4th – Mex<mark>ican Lasagna</mark>

11th - Chicken Sandwiches

18th - Cook's Choice

25th - No Meal, Merry Christmas!

If you wou<mark>ld like to volunteer for this great ministry, or even help cook, please contact Karin Harrison! You can obtain more information or sign up to help in the office, or by emailing kharrison@calvarybemidji.org.</mark>

FINANCIAL REPORT

| <u>October</u> | Income | <u>Expenses</u> | | | |
|--|------------|-----------------|--|--|--|
| General Fund | \$73,729 | \$89,642 | | | |
| Y-T-D | .\$672,303 | \$686,825 | | | |
| Preschool | \$21,013 | \$30,221 | | | |
| Y-T-D | .\$126,675 | \$96,682 | | | |
| Gen. Fund is JanDec.; Preschool is July-June | | | | | |
| Cash & Receivab | oles | \$103,449 | | | |
| October Ministry Partner: | | | | | |
| Lutheran Campus | Ministry: | .\$1,826.92 | | | |
| Calvary Foundation Balance:\$38,366 | | | | | |



Thank You to All of Our Previous Bell Ringers! More Help is Needed!

Dear Calvary Lutheran Church Members,

Please allow me to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Calvary Lutheran Church on behalf of the Beltrami County Service Extension of the Salvation Army for the time contributed to ringing the bell for the Christmas Kettle Program.



There were four major groups who rang the bell: The Bemidji Rotary, Calvary Lutheran Church members, Lion's Club, and Sons of Norway. Several other individuals also donated many hours, which brought our total donations to almost \$50,000!

I hope your group enjoyed ringing the bell. Without the bell ringers, that total would be much lower. Thanks again for all the hours your group contributed to this worthwhile cause.

May God bless you and your families!

- Carol Lauderbaugh, Christmas Kettle Chair Beltrami County Salvation Army

Calvary Lutheran will again be in charge of scheduling bell ringers at Lueken's South, so we are looking for volunteers. We will have a sign up poster in the Narthex of Calvary, or you can call Glen Anderson at 444-8620 to sign up. All are welcome! You can stand or sit, just be sure to bring some holiday cheer! Last year we raised \$6,190, let's see if we can top that this year! Ringing begins on Tuesday, November 26.

Calvary Crafters' Hat, Scarf, & Mitten

Tree

Donate hats, scarves, and mittens (all sizes) for Churches United to distribute to those in need in our community. Calvary Crafters have set up their tree and baskets across from our gym for you to bring your donated items. We can use lots of mittens!



Thank You!



Come and hear some amazing music from a wide variety of local talents ~ from the Calvary Choir to Cory Renbarger; from Lance Benson to the Ring for Joy Bells! Suggested ticket donation is \$10, which will go to support Calvary's sustainability project! We transitioned all our lightbulbs to LEDs this year! WhooHoo!

Calvary is a well-used space in its entirety by our community. Being more sustainable helps us all in our outreach opportunities! And it's a bonus to hear some great Christmas music kicking off our Advent season while we support a great cause!

