



“Yea, God” for Annual Meeting, January 31, 2021 2020 Celebrations - Be Thou My Vision Here are some highlights of our year together:

- We began 2020 by decorating eyeglasses sharing our hopes, dreams and visions for how we want to see Jesus more clearly this year. Then Covid came and disrupted all of life and keeping our eyes focused on Jesus was a much larger challenge than anyone could have expected.
- We had a major building repair both on the south facing wall of our new addition and our roof. We were able to complete and pay for both renovations through your faithful offerings.
- We said goodbye to some wonderful staff in 2020. Polly Merhar, Amanda Renbarger, Pastor Nate and Jack McNamara. Due to Covid, we weren't able to keep our LSS custodian worker, our Calvary alive meal coordinator or our BSU interns. The staff situation has changed but the remaining staff is grateful to be employed by such a mission minded church.
- We pivoted (almost overnight) to online worship and faith formation as we have kept the building closed due to the governor's orders. Our online worship blessed a number of families who had moved recently and had not found a church home in their new towns. We also heard that many families worshipped more over the summer than they ever had because weekends were spent on the lake! As much as we would have loved to be in person, we consider some of these learnings a gift that continued to keep the mission of letting people know of God's love alive!
- We tried a number of different parking lot, drive in and faith milestones events and learned a lot from each new experience. When the whole world went on lock down – the whole world was trying to order video cameras, zoom accounts, portable communion and FM transmitters. Calvary was on a long wait list to receive any of these items but by summer we reassessed our needs and were able to offer more opportunities than we could early on in the pandemic. Thanks for your patience and grace as we leaned into that transition.
- Tele-Care Team was formed that essentially served as congregational calling tree so that we could stay in touch with our congregational family. These phone calls were informational and inspirational and we hope were received as a blessing to those who felt disconnected or isolated due to Covid.
- The intergenerational mission trip to Jamaica was the only mission trip that we got to send people out of Bemidji in 2020. Building an addition on to the school was a huge accomplishment led by our missionaries!
- Calvary Lutheran Christian Preschool continued serves throughout the pandemic. The school was considered essential for our communities so children would have safe places to be while their parents worked. Many new safety precautions were put into place for both our staff and families as we do what we can to make faithful disciples and academic leaders.

2021 Theme – Reflect Well, Be Well, Explore Well = Lead Well

It is Well, With My Soul - ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. *Philippians 4:6-7*

- Celebrate and Commission Pastor Genelle's sabbatical. Which will include a fall strategic planning process that will help us regroup and embrace the future post Covid surge.
- 2 Mission Trips: Michigan and Duluth!
- Annual project will be technology. We will change our fiscal year to a programmatic year and our leadership terms will change to reflect that too.
- Possible columbarium to be added to the Calvary Cemetery.

YEA, GOD!