

# ANNUAL REPORT • 2024-25

Ministry Teams • Attendance • Financials



*Prepared for the Annual Congregational Meeting - June 8, 2025*

*Interested in getting involved with a Calvary Lutheran  
Church and School ministry?*

Contact **Kara Hiatt**

Phone: 317-783-2000

Email: [connections@clcs.org](mailto:connections@clcs.org)

## PASTORS AND LEADERSHIP

Senior Pastor  
**Kurt Ebert**  
kebert@clcs.org

Worship/School Pastor  
**Sam Troemel**  
stroemel@clcs.org

Mission Pastor  
**Udhayanesan Raji**  
uraji@clcs.org

Adult Ministry Director  
**Barb Sorgius**  
bsorgius@clcs.org

Children's Ministry Director  
**Heather Marrero**  
childrensministry@clcs.org

Engagement Director  
**Kara Hiatt**  
connections@clcs.org

## PRINCIPAL

School Principal  
**Stephen Rensner**  
rensner@thecalvaryschool.org

## CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

Executive Director  
**Bill Laut**  
execdirector@clcs.org

Treasurer  
**Andrew Brock**  
treasurer@clcs.org

Recording Secretary  
**Bud Pflug**  
recordingsecretary@clcs.org

Asst. Exec. Directors (2)  
**Rob Blazek**  
**Ben Langhammer**

Secretary  
**Paul Brakke**

Member-at-Large  
**Kyle Allen**

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## Note from the Senior Pastor

“Change.” It’s a word that evokes many different feelings. It excites some. It terrifies others. And for most of us it is simply the reality that we face. Life is a continuous cycle of change. We hear a lot of angst and anxiety today about changes within our nation, our cities, and our communities. Even within the church there is much that is ever changing — the names and faces that grace our doors, the dynamics and demographics of our ministries, even the staff members and people of our congregation. And yet, in the midst of all these changes, we give thanks for the changes that God is working in us by His grace. I know there are all jokes about Lutherans and change, we worship a God who is ever changing us in the “reformation” of our life and faith by His powerful Word and Spirit, and that is a very Lutheran thing to celebrate. So, as we reflectively look back over this past ministry year and excitedly look forward to the next one, may God give you this message of peace, *“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever”* (Hebrews 13:8). Know that we continue to labor together to stand firm on God’s timeless truth while reaching out to an ever-changing world. After all, there is one thing that hasn’t changed, and that is our world’s need for Jesus, so may we continue to be faithfully about our calling as a congregation in **Connecting**, **Learning**, and **Caring** for the sake of **Serving** the mission of Christ.

*“Change and decay in all around I see, O Thou who changest not, abide with me.”*



## **From your Executive Director**

Before GPS and other online applications, it was common to get a road map to plan a road trip. I remember when filling stations provided them for free, then AAA took over when the stations stopped giving them away. I'm surprised tourist rest stops on the interstates still have them – perhaps when my generation (Baby Boomers) dies off, another piece of Americana will disappear.

Sometimes I wish our church and school had a nicely defined road map, one that clearly laid out where we are going. Better yet, like the "Triptiks" that AAA produced, one with all the hazards, construction, and other delays which were highlighted and pointed out, so we could avoid the frustration of delays.

Life isn't that simple. Of course, we know where we are ultimately going, as God's children. But getting there can be challenging from time to time. The author and former Roman Catholic priest Andrew Greeley (1928-2013) wrote, "God draws straight with crooked lines." I love that sentence, as it provides a mental image of our journey in life, and our journey as a congregation. We make turns from time to time, but our end goal is always in sight.

Our members, both new and those with long histories at Calvary, have seen our congregation take bold journeys over the past few years, some influenced by external events (like the expansion of our video capabilities during the COVID-19 pandemic), some influenced by internal events (our strategic planning, remodeling and renovation), and others certainly by God's hand, such as former Pastor Reifsteck's call to his current church, Pastor Troemel's ordination after serving as our youth director, and now our new associate, Pastor Schumm. But let's be honest – all things at Calvary have been under God's watch. And for that, we are truly blessed.

While we are a 90+ year old congregation, we are one that is still young at heart, constantly growing, evolving, and improving. We know we have an incredible message of Christ's saving grace to bring or take to our members, our visitors, and our community. We are determined to always seek, find, and implement better ways to deliver that message, continually reviewing how we do that, how we operate as Christ's church, and what better ways may exist to spread that message. We do this without cessation, always moving forward, even when the way is not always neatly laid out on a map.

And at the same time, we are also blessed by our members, our visitors, our Pastors, our staff, and our leaders, who are here for a common purpose: to Engage People In Christ. CONNECTING to Him; CARING for others; LEARNING to grow in faith. All these things we do out of SERVICE to Him who came to serve us as our Savior! God be praised – today, tomorrow, and always!

In His and your service,  
Bill Laut  
Executive Director

## ADULT MINISTRY

Director: **Barbara Sorgius**

Email: bsorgius@clcs.org

### Mission

To provide spiritual, social and educational support and activities for adults.

### 2024 – 25 Activities

- Lunch OUT! – 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday fellowship outings to local restaurants. Average attendance: 15-20
- Lunch & Learn – 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month. Speakers present a variety of educational topics. Meals are prepared by 4 volunteers. Suggested donation: \$5.00. Monthly attendance: 30 - 40.
- Stretching Souls, Thursdays, 12:00 - 1:00, in Narthex area. Stretching exercises to encourage health and fitness. Encourages spiritual health through use of "Jesus Calling," shared Bible verses, and discussions.
- Lead book discussion Calvary's Library, "Plucking One String - Lutheran Ladies Circle" by Kris Knorr. Corina Hendershot will lead the next book talk in approximately. 3 months.
- Day Outings – Free movie outings for 55+ seniors throughout the calendar year. Free popcorn and soda provided to those who attend. Also, a chance to win Visa cards through a drawing at each movie. 10-12 Calvary seniors plus friends enjoy classic movies from the past. Future movie dates: May 1, July 17, Sept. 4, and Dec. 11.

### Community Outreach, Service Projects & Events

- Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes: Held Thursday, Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>. Adult volunteers and Calvary's K - 4 students packed 231 shoeboxes with gifts for international distribution. We surpassed our goal of 225 shoeboxes.
- Grandparent's/Special Person's Day: On Friday, Sept. 27, adult volunteers were "special persons" for Calvary Lutheran students, whose grandparents were unable to attend and for greeting/nametags and parking.
- Christmas-themed Mug-packing: On Tues., Dec. 3, volunteers and Mrs. Springer's 2<sup>nd</sup> graders packed 180 mugs with candy, cocoa and a business card listing Advent and Christmas service times. The goal of this project is to encourage visitors to attend Advent and Christmas services, with the possibility of becoming members of Calvary Lutheran Church.
- Easter Egg Packing Day: On Tues., April 1, volunteers assisted Outreach Ministry and students in grades K - 4 with packing candy and Christian stickers in approximately 5,000 plastic eggs for Calvary's Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, Easter egg hunt and special activities.

### 2025 – 26 Goals

1. Provide educational opportunities of interest to adults nearing or in retirement.
2. Encourage participation in service opportunities.
3. Connect members, families and caregivers with resources for older adults.
4. Collaborate with ministry teams to provide or assist with intergenerational activities.
5. Promote congregational opportunities for worship, activities and Bible studies for connecting, learning, caring, and serving.

### SPECIAL THANKS

To our many treasured volunteers who gave generously of their time and talents, donated supplies, supervised activities, and provided transportation.

## CALVARY INDIA MISSION SUPPORT

Contact: **Marvin Hansen**

Email: marvin.m.hansen@gmail.com

Contact: **Pastor Udhay Raji**

Email: theindiamission@gmail.com

### **Mission**

Support the Calvary India Mission Tamil ministry founded by Pr. Raji in three main areas: 1) sponsor mission trips to India, 2) share God's word through tuition and tailoring centers and through discipleship training, 3) support the monthly worship service and outreach to Tamil speaking Indians in Indianapolis.

### **2024 – 25 Activities**

1. A new Mission Discipleship training program was initiated in Ambur, India on February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The ten trainees in this inaugural class completed their initial training and started field work on April 1<sup>st</sup>.
2. In addition to discipleship training, we now have 5 centers operating in the Ambur, India area (3 tuition and 2 tailoring centers). We thank God for the ongoing support of Calvary and Mt. Olive Lutheran church, along with our individual donors.
3. The addition of a 3<sup>rd</sup> tuition center and a 2<sup>nd</sup> tailoring center over the past few years was made possible by the regular support that CIM receives through the Calvary budget, and by support from our many individual donors.
4. In addition to our regular supporters who provide tuition and tailoring center sponsorships, the congregation provided support through our CIM Christmas giving tree. These extra funds provided Christmas gifts and clothes for the students.
5. The local Tamil church group continues their worship and fellowship at Calvary once per month.

### **2025 – 26 Goals**

1. Share the tailoring/tuition Center student sponsorship vision with more people.
2. The next mission trip is planned for October, 2026.
3. Support the expanding ministry in Ambur, with a special focus on evaluating the new discipleship training program and the potential to expand this program.
4. Maintain a strong Tamil church group at Calvary and look for opportunities to expand our community.

### **Volunteers**

Rhonda Hansen, Kalai Udhayanesan, Alwyn Udhayanesan, Pete Joseph, Bob Wilson and Elwyn Parks.

From Mt. Olive Lutheran: Pr. Jeff Alexander and Janine Owen

### **Volunteer or participation opportunities available to the congregation**

Mission trips, Tamil church worship/fellowship, sponsorship program for Tuition and Tailoring Center students, quilters at Calvary and Mt. Olive.

## CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL

Principal: **Stephen Rensner**

Phone: 317-783-2305 • Email: [rensner@thecalvaryschool.org](mailto:rensner@thecalvaryschool.org)

Christian Day School Ministry Team Director: **Kristina Davis**

Email: [ChristianDaySchool@clcs.org](mailto:ChristianDaySchool@clcs.org)

### 2024 – 25 Activities and Celebrations Completed

Through God's leading and directing:

1. 75 years of Day School ministry
2. Chin/Burmese Liaison part-time position filled. Impact quickly noted and celebrated
3. Celebrating the retirement of Mrs. Kimberly Moore after 40 years of service within the teaching ministry
4. Welcome and applaud the addition of Kinsey Price as our Kindergarten teacher
5. National Hot Lunch Program full audit prepared and completed
6. 10th Year of our Run-Walk-Ride annual school fundraiser
7. FAM Fest held at Calvary exploring and celebrating our Fine Arts in art, choirs, and bands coupled with PTL fellowship and food
8. NLSA Team recommendation Calvary Lutheran School for full accreditation
9. Third year of full-time City Connect Coordinator

### Goals for the 2025 – 26 School Year

Through God's leading and directing:

1. Increase STEM instruction through 8th grade
2. Seek and secure a Preschool 4–5-year-old session teacher
3. Adopt Language Arts and Reading curriculum aligned with the Science of Reading
4. Further develop and expand the Chin/Burmese liaison position and services
5. Apply the Phase #2 Lilly Grant award of \$121,500.00 to Reading, STEM, and student services
6. Expanding our Middle School to six homerooms requiring the addition of another teacher
7. Address school improvement goals as stated in our NLSA accreditation self-study
8. Enter year four with social worker/counselor providing services for our students and faculty and resources for our families

## COMMUNICATIONS

Director: **Bud Pflug**

Email: [communications@clcs.org](mailto:communications@clcs.org)

### Mission

Support Calvary staff and other ministry teams in their efforts to effectively communicate to the Calvary congregation and the community. Ensure that information presented about Calvary is done in a timely, accurate and appropriate manner, and that it presents a positive and consistent image of Calvary and our Lord.



## **2024 – 25 Activities**

1. Coordinated the maintenance and upgrade of the Calvary website, [www.clcs.org](http://www.clcs.org). Complete the annual review process for all website content.
2. Maintained Calvary's presence on Facebook and Instagram. (Search for "clcsindy.")
3. Coordinated the messaging on the informational TVs in the church lobby and the outdoor sign.
4. Began researching and planning for an updated pictorial directory.
5. Submitted articles to local newspapers for significant events at Calvary.

## **2025 – 26 Goals**

1. Continued oversight of the website, informational TVs, and video ministry. Continue to do annual reviews of all website content.
2. Continue upkeep of social media platforms with accurate and timely information.
3. Participate as needed in Calvary's strategic plan projects.
4. Participate with other ministry teams to promote their efforts and special events.
5. Continue to communicate information to help keep Calvary relevant for our congregation and community.

## **Volunteers**

Thank you to the dedicated volunteers on the Communications team: Wade Jackson, Jason Meyer, Julie Pflug, Lisa Pluckebaum. Also, a special thank you to Jennifer Eisberg for her excellent photography skills and Don Fisher Jr. for his efforts to publish our Annual Report.

## **Opportunities for congregation participation**

- Like, comment on, and share, Facebook and Instagram posts.
- Submit photographs that capture events and fellowship at Calvary.
- Submit articles or other content that can be used by Communications to promote Calvary.
- Post a positive review of Calvary on Google and Yelp!
- Consider joining the Communications team.

# **COMPASSION**

Director: **Diane Gibson**

Email: [compassion@clcs.org](mailto:compassion@clcs.org)

## **Mission**

To help and encourage others, seeking to identify care ministry needs of congregation and community. To identify, utilize, and coordinate talents and spiritual gifts of the congregation to meet the needs of our fellow man.

To maintain and administer an emergency assistance fund used for acts of mercy or gifts for those in need.

## **2024 – 25 Activities**

1. Sent 'Care Notes' to those who have lost loved ones and 'thank you' notes to volunteers in the congregation who bless others with their talents.
2. Gathered canned food for Thanksgiving Food Baskets and Gift Cards for families in need.
3. Provided meals to support congregation members after surgery and for families blessed with babies (Love Meals).

4. Provided meals for Wheeler Mission's Women and Children's Center.
5. Conducted twice-yearly Grief Share support sessions for those experiencing the loss of a loved one as well as programs for the Loss of a Spouse and Surviving the Holidays.
6. Conducted a baby shower for the Life Centers of Indianapolis.

## **2025 – 26 Goals**

1. Continue and expand efforts offering encouragement and support to Calvary members experiencing grief, ill-health, and various physical, emotional, and spiritual needs.
2. Outreach to those in Indianapolis and surrounding areas in the event of natural catastrophes, food hunger, and loss.
3. Beginning a Cancer support program for Calvary members and persons in the surrounding communities dealing with cancer.
4. Promoting outreach opportunities to Calvary members serving in areas such as Lutheran Child and Family Services, neighborhood food pantries, and other such organizations.

## **Volunteers**

Special thanks to Mike Loudon and Roxanne Deardurff who continue to offer grief share support throughout the year to Calvary and community persons. Additional thanks to the Compassion Team who is always ready and willing to serve.

## **Volunteer or participation opportunities available to the congregation**

1. Providing meals at funerals, for those returning from the hospital, and for families with new babies.
2. Donations of funds to the Good Samaritan Fund.
3. Providing Christmas gifts to children, teens, and young adults being served through Lutheran Child and Family Services.
4. Supporting life through baby donations given to the Life Centers of Indianapolis.

# **FACILITIES**

Director: **Michael Daake**

Email: [facilities@clcs.org](mailto:facilities@clcs.org)

## **Mission**

The mission of the Facilities Ministry is the proper maintenance and repair of Church property and the general protection of the congregation against loss or damage of any nature.

## **2024 – 25 Activities**

1. Updated the school library with new paint, new LED lighting and new carpet.
2. Made security improvements in the church and school with additional security cameras and keypad access panels at exterior doors.
3. Replaced two Air Handling Units and one roof top unit in the school to provide more efficient and consistent heating and cooling.
4. After much planning, the Calvary Lutheran Church and School Modernization plan kicked off with phase one, which included the remodel of the north Narthex area and the Narthex women's restroom.
5. The old Schwark House at 6119 Shelby was purchased and removed from the CLCS property to "open up" the property from Shelby Street.

6. Tree lines at the vacant lots south of the church were cleared to open views throughout the property.

## **2025 – 26 Goals**

1. Continuation of the CLCS modernization project. Phase 1 kicked off May 2025. Phase 2 will include Men's Narthex restroom and sanctuary carpet.
2. Site grading and storm water management systems improvements to prevent flooding and structural damage. To include mapping existing storm water lines and a survey of the topography of the property.
3. Parking lot maintenance in North and South lots.
4. Development of CLCS building asset management program.
5. Gymnasium upgrades with new Heating and AC unit, new exterior doors, new energy efficient windows, new paint, new bleachers, new score board.

## **Volunteer Recognition**

Thank you to all team members and workday volunteers who helped complete projects throughout the year.

## **Volunteer Opportunities**

Calvary Workdays. Short-term volunteer projects, or project management.

# **FELLOWSHIP**

Director: **Joe Pluckebaum**

Email: [fellowship@clcs.org](mailto:fellowship@clcs.org)

## **Mission**

To share God's love through fellowship events; to encourage one another in God's service, learn from each other what it means to share God's love multi-generationally, celebrate with food, have fun and fellowship together.

## **2024 – 25 Activities**

1. Outdoor Worship & Picnic – Calvary's September annual outdoor service and picnic (over 300 attended).
2. Outdoor Family Fun Night – Evening meal outdoors with a bonfire, and activities afterward (over 300 attended).
3. Ash Wednesday Soup Supper – Coordinated and served with the El Salvador Mission Team.
4. Treat & Greet – Offered worshipers fruit & baked goods after services.
5. Cross-Ministry Team Events (Breakfast for Jesus assisted with serving food for about 100 people and Easter Egg Hunt provided and served food for about 400).

## **2025 – 26 Goals**

1. Connect Calvary's families and friends with each other and our community.
2. Share the opportunity and fun of serving others of all ages & other cultures.
3. Grow the Fellowship Ministry Team to share the joy of serving with others.
4. Work alongside other ministry teams to invite and welcome others to be a part of God's family.

## Volunteers

Kathy Joseph, Sam Jebaraj Udhayanesen, Roxanne Deardurff, Jesica Denny, Jill Bliss, Diane Robinson, Ken Robinson, Stacy Faubion, Suresh Reddy, Deb Stephens, and Erin Woempner

## Volunteer or participation opportunities available to the congregation

Preparing, setting up, serving, and cleaning up after major indoor and outdoor events.

## LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL OF INDIANAPOLIS

Head of School, **Michael Brandt**: 317-787-5474 • mbrandt@lhsi.org

Director of Development and Alumni Relations: **Kathy Anderson**,

317-787-5474 • kanderson@lhsi.org

Admissions Director, **Deidre Barnett**: 317-787-5474, option 3 • admissions@lhsi.org

Athletic Director, **Tom Finchum (retiring June 2025)**: 317-787-5474, option 4 •

tfinchum@lhsi.org; New Director of Athletics, **Dave Pasch** • dpasch@lhsi.org

## Mission

The mission of Lutheran High School of Indianapolis is to prepare young adults for a Christian life while providing academic excellence in a Christ-centered environment.

## 2024 – 25 Activities

1. The students of LHS are blessed to be part of a close family at Lutheran High School. The daily diet of God's Word, academic study, safe social interaction, and spirited extra-curricular activities have been the mainstay during the year. The mission is truly alive from sun-up until sun-down with the joy of the Lord. The forecast for 2025-2026 is an enrollment increase as more families are seeking the best for their children.
2. LHS has 66 seniors who will walk across the graduation stage on May 18, 2025. Nine of these graduates are legacy students (children of alumni). The Academic Honors Core 40 Diploma from the Indiana Department of Education will be awarded to 35 of those seniors with 31 receiving the Core 40 Diploma both of which are college ready diplomas.
3. Students engaged in Community events including the Indiana Blood Center Drive, Indianapolis Prayer Breakfast (thank you to Calvary for this sponsorship), Ray Skillman Clothe-a-Child, The Pink Ribbon Connection Fundraiser, March for Life in Washington D.C., Beck's Seed AP Bio Tour, College Visit Day to IU-Indy, El Salvador Mission Trip, LHS Sunday at Association Churches (Calvary, Mt. Olive, St. John Zion).
4. Saints on Stage once again packed the Ruth Lilly Auditorium with sell-out performances in both seasonal shows this year. All in the Timing and the Annie musical highlighted the God-given talents of our Saints. An Alumni production of "Little Shop of Horrors" is planned for the Summer of 2025. Saints on Stage are thankful for the partnership and support they receive from our community.
5. The Saints athletic teams hit the Indiana spotlight again this year. Student athletes and coaches continue to make a positive impact and have been blessed to compete throughout the year. Praise the Lord for all their accomplishments and the following highlights:

Conference Champion: Football

Sectional Champions: Volleyball, Football, and Boys Basketball

Regional Champions: Volleyball and Football

State: Riley Speer – Individual Boys Champion in Bowling and Caleb Morrow – State qualifier in Wrestling for second straight year.

\*Note: Spring Sports are still in progress at time of this submission.

6. The Saints Indiana Academic Super Bowl Team qualified the English team for the state finals hosted at Purdue University. Competitors were Hannah Mierow, Kendall Bowling, Quinn Bowling, Rafael Piotrowski, and Abigail Ebert. The Saints came home as Indiana State Academic Champions. Congratulations Saints!

## **2025 – 26 Goals**

1. Lutheran High School will welcome another full class of freshmen in the fall of 2025. The goal is to successfully bring more students to maximize the mission and vision of LHS with a future total enrollment of 300 students.
2. Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Lutheran High School. A year of events and highlights will be unveiled as the Saints walk through five decades and “the Wonders He has Done!” Everyone will be invited to a GRAND CELEBRATION in the month of May.
3. Promote the mission and vision of Lutheran High School.
4. Successfully grow new curricular opportunities for the new Indiana Graduation Diploma. Students will have more opportunities in dual credit from Indiana University, work-based learning, and career-ready micro-credentials.
5. Maintain a safe campus with additional curb to core security protocols including surveillance and hardening points of entry. Thank you to the donors at LuFest to support this effort.
6. The annual LuFest Dinner Auction had another record-breaking year! 363 tickets were sold including 72 alumni in attendance. 50 student volunteers shined throughout the evening. Lutheran was blessed to raise over \$146,000! LuFest 2026 is being planned for Friday, February 6, 2026 at the Indiana Roof Ballroom.
7. “The Together Project” is in its final stage. Over the course of the campaign project we have been able to add baseball fencing, new sidewalks, curb repairs, new classrooms tables and chairs, new stage flooring, remodel and update our weight room, additional outdoor bleachers including ADA ramp, debt reduction, and merit scholarship funding. Auditorium house lighting and buses for transportation are still in the process of being completed.

## **Volunteers**

LHS would like to thank the Calvary delegates to LHS, Diana Langhammer and Wendy Wilson, as well as the LHS Board of Director members, Arden Redding and Rev. Kurt Ebert, for their work and support of the mission of the school. We also appreciate all the families who have supported LHS through donations, prayers, time, and talents.

## **Volunteer or participation opportunities available to the congregation:**

Alumni Connections Event coordinators, Church Delegates or Board Members, International Student host(s), LuFest volunteers, Athletic and Fine Art Booster Club participation, golf outing volunteers or coordinator, athletic event volunteers, Saints on Stage production volunteers, LHS student tutors, and others.

## MEN'S SATURDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Contact: **Rich Wilson**

Email: mensbiblestudy@clcs.org

### Mission

To read, study and apply God's word as written in the Bible readings contained in the church bulletins. To offer support to participants and to the Calvary family.

We at the Men's Saturday Morning Bible Study are aware of our need for the study of His word to be a part of His Ministry, through His Word. Through our participation, we recognize how much we need His Word and how to apply it to our daily lives. The Men's Saturday Morning Bible Study is a contributing part of our ministry to the community and the congregation.

We gather on Saturday mornings at 7:30 a.m. The first half-hour is a light breakfast with time to share blessings and challenges from the previous week. The next hour is spent diving into the scriptures assigned for the weekend services: Old Testament, Epistle, and Gospel. No preparation is required beforehand. We close with prayer requests from the group.

### Additional Contacts

Ray Ford, Ken Kettler, Bob Langhammer, Paul McMichael, John Mowery, and Richard Weiss.

## MUSIC PROGRAM

Director: **Tony Spelde/Ryan Rosenau** (Ryan will transition to Music Director/ Organist/Chorale and Handbell Director in June of 2025.)

Email: tspelde@gmail.com • jrosenau1@gmail.com

### Mission

To provide musical support for the worship life of Calvary.

### 2024 – 25 Activities

1. Chorale — High School age to adult choral
2. Handbells — High School age to adult
3. Contemporary Worship — instrumentalists and vocalists for Blended Worship
4. Soloists/ensembles — instrumentalists and vocalists for service music.

### 2025 – 26 Goals

We are always actively seeking new and continuing participants to sing or play.

### Volunteers:

Tony Spelde — Director of Music (current)

Ryan Rosenau — Calvary Chorale and Handbell Director, and successor to the Director of Music

### Volunteer or participation opportunities available to the congregation

1. Chorale — High School age to adult choral
2. Handbells — High School age to adult
3. Contemporary Worship — Instrumentalists and vocalists for blended worship.
4. Soloists/ensembles — Instrumentalists and vocalists for service music able to enhance the worship experience of the congregation.

## OUTREACH

Director: **Marv Hansen**  
Email: outreach@clcs.org

### Mission

The Outreach Ministry Team connects members of the church with the community, learns about the community, cares for lost people, and shares the love of Christ Jesus.

### 2024 – 25 Activities

1. Hosted (along with Kara Hiatt) the Foundations of Faith class for new members (spring and fall).
2. Coordinated and hosted the Calvary Touch-a-Truck in September, 2024, with support from the Fellowship team, the Children's Ministry and the Puppet Ministry. We had 18 trucks and other vehicles, 63 volunteers and approximately 400 attendees.
3. Collaborated with the Fellowship team on the Fall Outdoor event in October, 2024.
4. Coordinated and hosted the Community Easter Egg Hunt in April, 2025, with support from the Fellowship team, 80 adult volunteers and 40 volunteers from the school. This was our largest attendance so far with 322 kids and a total attendance of more than 700.
5. Helped with school Trunk-or-Treat, the Women in Mission Yard Sale and the Holiday Bazaar.
6. Community Garden Team – continued to conduct the spring petunia and fall mum sale as a fundraiser for Committee projects. We added one additional concrete block raised bed this year. As in prior years nearly all the beds have been reserved. Beds that are not reserved are used to grow fresh vegetables for Hunger Inc. We made a cash donation to the Emmaus Food Pantry and Perry Township Hunger, Inc. We are undertaking a "beautification" project at the south end of the church - with the assistance of Diane Noe we are adding a flower bed.

### 2025 – 26 Goals

1. Facilitate the introduction, orientation, reception, and integration of new members.
2. Promote and direct congregation-wide outreach endeavors. Provide volunteer help and advertising support for VBS, school and Fellowship team events.
3. Collaborate with Calvary Lutheran School to encourage students and faculty to engage in outreach to the church and community - would like to involve students in our projects.
4. Develop a new scheduling system for greeters.
5. Develop a team of lobby hosts and welcome center hosts.

### Volunteers

Allison and Andrew Sullivan, Derek and Ally Friederich, Angie and David Beed, Jessica Harmon, David Bliss, Randy Irwin, Paul McMichael, Patty Rothkopf, Linda Simons, Amber Greathouse, Rachel Deardurff, Marvin Hansen, Kara Hiatt.

### Community Garden Team

Jake Allen, Joe Pluckebaum, Wayne Mayo, Pr. Art Wehrmeister, Mark Jung, Paul Woodburn and Jim Richert.

### **Volunteer or participation opportunities available to the congregation**

1. Greeters before services, lobby host, welcome center host.
2. Volunteers are needed for garden maintenance and to support Hunger, Inc. with vegetables.
3. Participate in welcoming new members through the Foundations of Faith class.
4. Volunteer for Easter Egg Hunt, Touch-a-Truck, Fall Outdoor Cookout (with Fellowship).
5. Volunteer for church/school activities (fall bazaar, yard sale, Trunk-or-Treat, Sunday School carnival, PTL back-to-school event).

## **PARISH EDUCATION**

Director: **Dennie Morrison**

Email: [parished@clcs.org](mailto:parished@clcs.org)

### **Mission**

The Parish Education Ministry Team shall, by the power of the Holy Spirit, share the Gospel of Jesus Christ and make available opportunities for spiritual growth to the body of Christ at Calvary Lutheran Church.

### **2024 – 25 Activities**

1. Supporting Adult Bible Study opportunities through onsite, offsite, and online groups.
2. A successful Fall 2024 congregational study using “The Forgiving Challenge” materials by Zach Zehnder.
3. The Children’s Ministry Director and Children’s Ministry team continue to provide monthly special activities for our children and families to help build relationships and attract new connections with other families.
4. A successful Faith Buddies opportunity pairing students and adults was coordinated by Heather Marrero, our children’s ministry director.
5. The Church library continues making books available.

### **2025 – 26 Goals**

1. Integrate Pastor Mark Schumm into the Adult Bible study planning and coordination process.
2. Fall 2025 congregational study in Oct-Nov (In the Footsteps of the Savior by Max Lucado).
3. Spring 2026 topics study in Jan-Feb (Irresistible by Andy Stanley)
4. Encourage and stimulate development of small group leaders for new and current Bible studies.
5. Continue developing and encouraging ALL to be involved in personal Bible study classes: weekly small groups, online offerings, before or after weekend worship services.
6. Continue supporting growth of Sunday School and Vacation Bible School with meaningful and appealing curriculum that teaches God’s Word to children.

### **Volunteers**

Karen Hand, Rhonda Hansen, Dennie Morrison, Judy Morrison, Bob Langhammer, and Marilyn Rothkopf.



## SPIRITUAL CARE

Director: **Eric Eisberg**

Email: [spiritualcare@clcs.org](mailto:spiritualcare@clcs.org)

### **Mission**

The main objectives of the Spiritual Care Ministry Team are the spiritual welfare of the Pastor(s) and congregation members, individually and corporately, and the supervision of everything pertaining to congregational worship. The nature of the duties of this ministry requires that only men noted for their Christian knowledge, zeal and experience in the spiritual work of the Kingdom of Christ shall be elected to membership. The members of this ministry are referred to as Lay Ministers.

### **2024 – 25 Activities**

1. Continued to support on site and online worship services.
2. Encouraged the Pastors and supported the worship services with liturgy, scripture readings (liturgist) and administration of Holy Communion (Communion Assistants).
3. Provided Men's Bible Study during the summer.
4. Provided a fund-raising meal to support the missionaries within Calvary.

### **2025 – 26 Goals**

1. Provide more opportunities for Men's Small Group Bible Study
2. Provide opportunity to engage with the Community
3. Continue support of pastors and staff with prayer.

### **Volunteers**

Many thanks to the volunteers on the SCMT for their commitment and dedication this past year – Bob Behning, Matt Francis, Phil Hendershott, Tony Kochan, Andrew Lee, Tim Meier, Ellwyn Parks, Bob Romack, Mark Tatlock, Rick McWilliams, and Doug Wright.

### **Volunteer or participation opportunities available to the congregation**

1. Pray for the pastors and staff.
2. Serve within one of our worship teams: ushers, v-tech, light & sound, video ministry, or altar guild.

## STEWARDSHIP

Director: **Jake Allen**

Email: [stewardship@clcs.org](mailto:stewardship@clcs.org)

### **Mission**

Develop overall stewardship education programs; develop and maintain a program to discover and enlist for service the talents God has given members of Calvary; foster support for missions and charities; develop, maintain, and evaluate processes involved in giving, including estate planning, bequests and memorials; and coordinate door offerings and fundraisers.

## **2024 – 25 Activities**

1. Continued support of international, national, and local missions including: LCMS Missionaries; Lutheran High School; Camp Lakeview; Wycliffe Bible Translators; Lutheran Child and Family Services; and Habitat for Humanity. Provided tuition support for four (4) Lutheran High School students pursuing a career in church work.
2. Educated members about online giving options.
3. Continued to recognize different Calvary Ministry Partners each month through promotion and partnership with other ministry teams.
4. Provided members with information on programs and opportunities that have tax benefits, such as the Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO) and Qualified Charitable Distributions.

## **2025 – 26 Goals**

1. Coordinate and lead the capital campaign to add space and improve existing spaces that will allow Calvary to better connect with the community.
2. Continue to educate members on the availability of Thrivent Action grants and Direct Choice dollars as well as other matching funds.
3. Evaluate conducting another financial planning workshop for members and the community to provide information on retirement considerations including estate planning.
4. Continue support of students studying to be church workers through scholarships.

## **Ministry team members**

Phil Borst, Jerry Denny, Pastor Kurt Ebert, Pete Joseph, Kevin Kehlbeck and Steve Vandivier.

## **Volunteer or participation opportunities available to the congregation**

The Stewardship Ministry Team is available to help and encourage each member of Calvary to use their time, talents, and treasures in service. Additional volunteers are always welcome to assist in counting contributions each Sunday. Watch the website, monthly newsletter, and quarterly Stewardship update newsletter for specific opportunities.

## **WOMEN IN MISSION**

Email: [womeninmission@clcs.org](mailto:womeninmission@clcs.org)

## **Mission**

“Growing in love, loving by serving.” All confirmed women and wives of communicant members are also members of Women In Mission (WIM) and are encouraged to serve the Lord with gladness at Calvary and throughout the world. Working together, the women serve God, learn more about Him, and encourage loving friendships as sisters in Christ.

## **2024 – 25 Activities**

1. Hosted the 55<sup>th</sup> annual Holiday Bazaar and the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Yard Sale.
2. Sewed backpacks and collected items from the congregation to fill 127 school bags for Lutheran World Relief.
3. Sewed 250 comfort quilts for IU Methodist Hospital, 24 quilts for El Salvador, 12 quilts for India, and 6 Congregational quilts.
4. Collected food pantry items throughout the year for the Emmaus Food

- Pantry through Extravagant Sharing.
5. Knitted and crocheted around 75 baby blankets for Life Centers of Indianapolis.
  6. Prepared 22 Christmas gift bags for congregational members unable to leave their homes.

### **2024 – 25 Major Mission Support**

1. \$621.50 - Lutheran Women's Missionary League Mites for Missions
2. \$1,556 – Hunger, Inc – Yard Sale Proceeds
3. \$2,360 each for the Calvary Narthex Men's Restrooms, Calvary School Classroom Tables and Chairs, and Lutheran Child and Family Services Emergency Shelter Care – Holiday Bazaar Proceeds
4. \$600 each for Wycliffe Bible Translators, Lutheran Child and Family Services, Lutheran Hour Ministries, and Lutheran High School

### **2025 – 26 Goals**

1. Study God's Word using the LWML Quarterly on the first Saturday of each month at 8:30 am in Calvary's EPIC Library.
2. Collect food pantry items throughout the year for the Emmaus Food Pantry.
3. Sew quilts for IU Methodist Hospital, El Salvador, India, and others in need.
4. Create baby blankets and quilts for Life Centers of Indianapolis.
5. Host a church-wide 5<sup>th</sup> annual yard sale, send school bags for Lutheran World Relief, and organize Calvary's 56th Holiday Bazaar

### **Volunteers**

Thank you to everyone who donated mites, food, school supplies, silent auction or yard sale items, filled baskets or school bags, knit, crocheted, or quilted blankets, attended a Saturday morning Bible study, set up tables or chairs, attended meetings, planned events, or supported the Women In Mission through your prayers. You are all a blessing to this ministry!

## **YOUTH**

Youth Director: **Brian Krohmer**

Email: [bkrohmer@clcs.org](mailto:bkrohmer@clcs.org)

Youth Ministry Team Director: **Jeff Evans**

### **Mission**

The Calvary Youth Program seeks to provide opportunities for youth to engage their faith through relevant and meaningful events. We work to provide age-appropriate ministry to our church, school, and community. Our ultimate goal is to lead our youth into a deeper relationship with God and His people.

### **2024 – 25 Activities**

1. Weekly high school youth events (FLIGHT) with Bible study, snacks, and activities.
2. Monthly 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade youth events (SAIL) with Bible Study, snacks, and activities.
3. Monthly 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade youth events (LAUNCH) with Bible study, snacks and activities.
4. All-congregation family events such as Chili Cookoff and Easter Breakfast.
5. All-youth Kickoff events at the beginning and end of the school year with games and activities, and LCMS Youth Gathering, in New Orleans, LA

## 2025 – 26 Goals

1. Partnering with Heather Marrero to provide a high school Sunday Bible study opportunity.
2. Creating a youth leadership team, made up of youth in the program to help guide decisions within the program.
3. Focus on developing Christian life skills such as Bible literacy, personal devotion time, and finding credible Christian Resources.

## Volunteers

Ruth Deckard, Josh Engelking, Jeff Evans, Angel Gaskins, Beckie Hudson, Kayleigh Jones, Andy Lee, Kristi Pulliam, and Nicole Reese.

## OTHER MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

**Altar Guild**  
(Open)

**Altar Flowers**  
Ann Arnold

**Baptism Banners**  
Jessica Denny

**Blankets for Babies**  
Susan Daniels

**Church Library**  
Corina Hendershott  
Jennifer Daake

**Confirmand Prayer**  
**Angels**  
Diana Blazek

**Counters**  
Ken Carow

**Cradle Roll**  
Melanie Huene

**Informational TVs**  
**and Outdoor Sign**  
Bud Pflug

**Extravagant Sharing**  
**Food Collection**  
Rosie Blazek

**Greeters**  
Marv Hansen

**Lamplighters**  
Ken Kettler

**“Love Meals” Team**  
Compassion MT

**Memorials**  
Ann Arnold

**Nominating**  
**Committee**  
Wade Jackson  
Susan Richert  
Linda Simons  
Pr. Kurt Ebert  
Kara Hiatt

**PTL**  
Rachel Skeens

**Prayer Team**  
Diane Gibson  
Laura Currier

**Quilters**  
Jan Main

**Tech Committee**  
Phil Rothkopf

**Ushers**  
Mike Carpenter

**Visitor Notecards**  
Shari Lipps

**Worship Projection**  
Steve Bardonner  
Rachel Daeger  
Pr. Sam Troemel

If you are interested in any of these opportunities, you can find more information at [clcs.org/volunteer](http://clcs.org/volunteer) or [clcs.org/communities](http://clcs.org/communities), or call the church office at 317-783-2000.

## INVESTING IN CALVARY'S FUTURE

### *Combined Endowment Report – March 31, 2025*

Church Endowment Fund (LCMS Foundation)	767,311
Schwark Endowment Fund (LCMS Foundation)	213,692
Wessler Endowment Fund (LCMS Foundation)	102,980
*Thrivent Charitable Impact and Investing	300,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,383,983</b>

2023-2024 was 1,379,755 on 3/31/24

\* Calvary receives annual revenue streams from four different external endowments where Calvary is the endowment beneficiary, as opposed to being the endowment owner. Those Endowments are with Thrivent Charitable Impact & Investing. The balance above is our estimate of the current value of these estate gifts. Setting up a personal endowment with the church as beneficiary is another way to share God's generosity with Calvary in perpetuity.

## CHURCH ENDOWMENT FUND REPORT

Contributions to the endowment fund may be made at any time through listing "Calvary Church Endowment Fund" on your contribution envelope. Also, when preparing your will or beneficiaries to your retirement accounts, prayerfully consider designating a tithe to the Church or Synod. Funds can be designated to a specific purpose, given to the general fund or given to Calvary's Endowment Fund. The market value is \$767,311 (March 31, 2025). Since its inception in 1987, the endowment fund has provided additional support for Youth and Education Ministry, Music Ministry, Business Manager, Ministry of Assimilation, Admissions Director, Technology support, our Deaconess, our Facilities Manager and our new Video and Digital Media Ministry.

Earnings from the endowment fund are used to help fund new and expanding ministries. Each year the church receives 5% of the Endowment Fund balance for expanding ministries.

Your gift to Calvary's Endowment Fund enables you to continue giving to Calvary forever, providing the church with a dependable source of earnings in future years. You may contribute to the endowment fund through a gift of cash or stock, naming the endowment in your will or as a beneficiary on your life insurance policy, pension plan (401k) or IRA.

Prayerfully consider the opportunities placed before us to enhance the future of Calvary Lutheran Church and School. For questions about Calvary's Endowment Fund, contact Kyle Allen: [Endowments@clcs.org](mailto:Endowments@clcs.org).

## AUGUST C. SCHWARK ENDOWMENT AND ANNUAL FUND

The market value is \$213,692 (March 31, 2025). Each year the distribution from the Endowment Fund is added to the Annual Fund to provide scholarships to a Calvary family that would not otherwise be able to afford a Christian education in our School. We thank God for the generous gifts that provide more families with the opportunity to experience the blessings of a Christian education. Scholarship recipients are supported each school year. Augmenting our ability to give scholarships is the generous giving to the Lutheran Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO) which in turn allows qualified students to receive an IN Choice Scholarship in subsequent years of enrollment at Calvary.

To give using your offering envelope, mark "Schwark Annual Fund" or "Schwark Endowment Fund" on your envelope. Funds given to the Annual Fund may be used in full immediately for financial assistance of Calvary students. Funds given to the Schwark Endowment Fund are for the long-term ministry of Calvary with a distribution of 5% each year available for scholarships. Any funds from the 5% distribution which are unused after three years are returned to the Schwark Endowment.

You may contribute to the endowment fund through a gift of cash or stock, naming the endowment in your will or as a beneficiary on your life insurance policy, pension plan (401k) or IRA. For questions about Calvary's School Endowment Fund, contact Kyle Allen: [Endowments@clcs.org](mailto:Endowments@clcs.org).

## WESSLER ENDOWMENT FUND

Established in 2018, the Wessler Endowment Fund provides scholarship support for members studying to be church workers. The market value is \$102,980 (March 31, 2025). Please prayerfully consider this opportunity to support the studies of our future church workers. Funds given to the Wessler Endowment Fund are for the long-term ministry of Calvary with a distribution of 5% each year available for scholarships. Any funds from the 5% distribution which are unused after three years are returned to the Wessler Endowment. You may contribute to the endowment fund through a gift of cash or stock, naming the endowment in your will or as a beneficiary on your life insurance policy, pension plan (401k) or IRA. To give using your offering envelope, mark "Wessler Endowment Fund" on your envelope.

For questions about the Wessler Endowment Fund, contact Kyle Allen: [Endowments@clcs.org](mailto:Endowments@clcs.org)

*"Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work." - 2 Corinthians 9:7-8*

## WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Year	5:30 p.m.	8:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.	Online	Total Weekend	Avg. All Services
2019	106	130	201	n/a	436	504
2020	55	66	74	No records	210	231
2021	67	81	101	No records	247	289
2022	75	93	136	40	333	384
2023	87	98	156	29	357	415
2024	79	103	171	27	374	433

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

### General Fund:

	Current	Budget	Variance	Prior Year
YTD Revenue	\$2,969,724	\$2,861,109	\$108,614	\$2,647,993
YTD Expense	<u>\$2,363,743</u>	\$2,598,569	-\$234,825	\$2,174,155
YTD Net	\$605,980			
Beginning Balance	<u>\$852,074</u>			
Current Balance	\$1,458,054			

Revenue Detail:	Current	Budget	Variance	Prior Year
YTD Contributions	\$875,691	\$882,209	-\$6,518	\$887,666
YTD Matching Gifts	\$70,070	\$68,953	\$1,117	\$83,650
YTD School Gifts	\$89,063	\$71,250	\$17,812	\$83,188
YTD Tuition and Fees	\$1,848,956	\$1,785,457	\$63,499	\$1,537,490
YTD Other Revenue	\$81,624	\$53,240	\$28,384	\$55,998

Outflow to Missions:	Amount*	Special Mission Focus
Q1 (Aug-Oct)	\$28,437	Good Samaritan, Emmaus Food Pantry, Perry Township Hunger, Shepherd Community, India Mission, Wessler College Scholarships, Operation Christmas Child, Synod, LHSI, Hispanic Ministry, LCMS Disaster Response
Q2 (Nov-Jan)	\$24,196	Good Samaritan, Wycliffe Bible Translators, Schwark School Scholarships, Synod, LHSI, Hispanic Ministry, Lutheran Public Radio, Shepherd Community, Indiana LCMS, Worship Anew, Mission Central, Campus Outreach
Q3 (Feb-Apr)	\$34,134	Good Samaritan, Wycliffe Bible Translators, Synod, LHSI, Hispanic Ministry, Lutherans for Life, Life Centers, Lutheran Child & Family Services, Camp Lakeview, Habitat for Humanity, Lutheran Hour Ministries, Covenant Harbor Bible Camp

Calvary has no mortgage or line of credit balance.

## Debt:

	Current	Prior Year
Mortgage Balance	\$0	\$0
Line of Credit Balance	\$0	\$0

## Endowments:

	Current	Prior Year
Church Endowment	\$752,767	\$760,292
YTDDisbursement	\$38,722	
Mission focus:	Modernization Project	
Schwark Endowment	\$208,531	\$208,308
Schwark Annual Fund	\$18,344	\$16,223
YTDDisbursement	\$8,573	
Wessler Endowment	\$105,987	\$106,377
Wessler Scholarship	\$8,162	\$6,965
YTDDisbursement	\$4,000	

## CONCORDIA CEMETERY

In 1870, the leaders of St. Paul's decided there should be another Lutheran Cemetery in town, the others being at Ebenezer Lutheran on Millersville Road on the city's far north-east side, and St. John's in what was then referred to as Five Points or Little Minden. They purchased property on South Meridian Street, south of Pleasant Run Parkway, in what was then the outskirts of the city. As the number of LCMS congregations expanded, St. Paul's invited other area congregations to become members of an association to own and operate the cemetery: Emmaus, St. Peter's, Grace, Trinity, and eventually, Calvary.

Since its founding, Concordia has been the final resting place for generations of Lutherans, particularly for many members of Calvary, and continues so to this day. Because of the foresight of St. Paul's when the cemetery was plotted, sufficient space remains for decades at Concordia. As one of the owners, Calvary has three appointed representatives to the board, under the direction of the Facility's Ministry Team.

For information about Concordia Cemetery, please visit the website at [www.concordia-cemetery.com](http://www.concordia-cemetery.com).



**Notes:**

**Notes:**



