

# ANNUAL REPORT • 2025-26

**Ministry Teams • Attendance • Financials**



## **Calvary Lutheran Church & School**

*Prepared for the Annual Congregational Meeting - May 31, 2026*

*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)

## MINISTRY STAFF

|                                                                                      |                                                                            |                                                                     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Senior Pastor<br><b>Kurt Ebert</b><br>kebert@clcs.org                                | Education/Care Pastor<br><b>Mark Schumm</b><br>mschumm@clcs.org            | Worship/School Pastor<br><b>Sam Troemel</b><br>stroemel@clcs.org    |
| Mission Pastor<br><b>Udhayanesan Raji</b><br>uraji@clcs.org                          | School Principal<br><b>Stephen Rensner</b><br>rensner@thecalvaryschool.org | Music Director<br><b>Ryan Rosenau</b><br>rrosenau@clcs.org          |
| Children's Ministry Director<br><b>Heather Marrero</b><br>childrensministry@clcs.org | Youth Ministry Director<br><b>Brian Krohmer</b><br>bkrohmer@clcs.org       | Adult Ministry Director<br><b>Barb Sorgius</b><br>bsorgius@clcs.org |
| Website Administrator<br><b>Ben Parker</b><br>bparker@clcs.org                       | Video Ministry Director<br><b>Michael Finke</b><br>mfinke@clcs.org         |                                                                     |

## CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

|                                        |                                               |                                                   |
|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Executive Director<br><b>Bill Laut</b> | Asst. Executive Director<br><b>Rob Blazek</b> | Asst. Executive Director<br><b>Ben Langhammer</b> |
| Treasurer<br><b>Andrew Brock</b>       | Secretary<br><b>Paul Brakke</b>               | Member-at-Large<br><b>Julie Pflug</b>             |

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## Note from the Senior Pastor

What do you desire most that God would do in and through our church and school?

We do not simply pray for more ... More people ... More buildings ... More money. Nor do we simply pray for better... Better ministries ... Nicer facilities ... A better education.

These are all great and good things to pray for, but what is at the heart of God's desires for this congregation and for you as a part of it? He does not simply want more of you or better of you. He wants you. He wants you to know how deeply he loves you. He wants you to live joyfully amid the challenges and the triumphs of your callings and vocations. He wants you to glorify him. My prayer for this congregation is not that we would simply grow or build or become. My prayer for this congregation is that we may live in his grace, love his truth, and serve with our heart.

There's a lot of bad news out there (in the world). There's a lot of worry in here (in our hearts).

There is much that we may grieve that we have lost of our past or fear of what may come with the future, but God's word is clear in its calling.

- We are a light in the darkness (Mt. 5:14a).
- We are a city on a hill (Mt 5:14b).
- We are a living temple built together to glorify the One who has created us, redeemed us, and has loved us (1 Peter 2:5).

In the face of the challenges and troubles of his own time, Joshua proclaimed for all to hear, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15b). This message is just as applicable today, as it was over 3,000 years ago. God's deepest desires for us is that we may:

- 1) **Live in His Grace.** *Where do we need to hear anew the heartbeat of our Savior, who assures us of His goodness, His faithfulness, and His forgiveness?*
- 2) **Love His Truth.** *Where is God inviting you personally and us collectively to take a step in faith?*
- 3) **Serve with our heart.** *How are we connecting with our neighborhood and surrounding community?*

May God continue to lead and guide us as a congregation, as we continue to be about the tasks of **Connecting**, **Learning**, and **Caring**, all for the sake of **Serving** Jesus and His mission.

Kurt Ebert  
Senior Pastor

## From your Executive Director

It's likely everyone has heard the saying "a chain is no stronger than its weakest link," meaning no matter how strong individual links might be, all it takes is one poorly formed link to fail – and that chain becomes a worthless pile of scrap metal.

In many ways, our congregation is no different: we have many members who commit their time to the church or the school, who contribute their money to keep our mission alive. Yet sometimes we are overly reliant on them, expecting them to help us carry our mission and vision forward. This leads to one of two things: people don't become engaged with Calvary (so much for our stated vision of "Engaging People In Christ") and are marginalized; or, when one of these stalwarts can no longer continue to be a rock of the congregation, we crumble like that house built on a foundation of sand.

Organizations have a life cycle, and Calvary is no exception. Allow me to now ask this open question: what kind of links are we developing at Calvary? Are we forging our members to be strong links, ones who will continue to carry the church forward for the next ten, twenty, or more years? Ones who will help Calvary effectively carry out our commitment to **CONNECT** with others, to **LEARN** more about God's Word, to **CARE** both inside and outside our congregation, doing these things out of our **SERVICE** to God?

Or are we instead forging links of paper, who will crumble at adversity, who instead of continuing our message of Christ Crucified instead fall into the worldly trap of not wanting to be viewed as proselytes? Ones who fall for the "we all worship the same God" lie told by so many?

In his 1967 inauguration speech as governor of California, former president Ronald Reagan stated "Freedom is a fragile thing and it's never more than one generation away from extinction. It is not ours by way of inheritance; it must be fought for and defended constantly by each generation, for it comes only once to a people." The same holds true for our congregation: unless we develop new leaders and strong links for and in the congregation, we run the chance of becoming ineffective and even potentially shrinking – or worse. One can see churches – Lutheran and others – around us who became inward focused and stopped building new leaders (and the older leaders didn't let go) and are no longer open.

I challenge our members, both new and old: work to become a strong link – or become a stronger link than today. Look for ways to strengthen what we as Christ's church at Calvary can and will do. As the German philosopher Goethe said: Dream no small dreams. Bring big, challenging dreams to our church, and more importantly, to each other. What we can accomplish together is unknown and is also unlimited. And in whatever we do, or whatever we dream, we must always remember to always give thanks to God!

*Verbum Domini Manet in Aeternum* – The Word of the Lord Endures Forever!

In His and your service,  
Bill Laut  
Executive Director

## ADULT MINISTRY

Director: **Barbara Sorgius**

### **Mission**

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

### **2025 – 26 Activities**

1. Lunch Out – 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday fellowship outings to local restaurants. Average attendance: 15-20
2. 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.
3. Stretching Souls, Thursdays, 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m., in Narthex area. Stretching exercises to encourage health and fitness. Encourages spiritual health through use of "Jesus Calling," shared Bible verses, and discussions.
4. Day Outings – Free movie outings for 55+ seniors throughout the calendar year. Free popcorn and soda provided to those who attend. Chance to win Visa cards through a drawing at each movie, also occurs. 10-12 Calvary seniors plus friends enjoy classic movies from the past. This calendar year we have seen "An American in Paris," "Easter Parade," "Wizard of Oz," and "Ma & Pa Kettle at Home" (July 16).
5. Senior Promise Events: 4 seniors joined me in attending "Living Well with Pain" and "Tips and Tricks to Spring into Gardening" at Senior Promise Office, 8778 Madison Ave.

### **Community Outreach, Service Projects & Events**

1. Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes: On Thurs., Nov. 20, adult volunteers and Calvary's K-4 students packed 244 shoeboxes.
2. Grandparent's/Special Person's Day: On Friday, Sept. 26, adult volunteers were "special persons" for Calvary Lutheran students whose grandparents were unable to attend.
3. Christmas Themed Mug-packing: On Tues., Dec. 2, volunteers and Mrs. Springer's 2<sup>nd</sup> graders packed 185 mugs.
4. Easter Egg-Packing Day: On Tues., March 17, volunteers assisted Outreach Ministry and students for Calvary's Sat., April 28, Easter egg hunt.

### **2026 – 27 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. Will continue attending small group Bible studies.

### **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

Contact: **Marvin Hansen**

Phone: 317- 358 - 7733

Contact: **Pastor Udhay Raji**

Phone: 317- 408 - 2356

### **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.

### **2025 – 26 Activities**

1. A new Mission Discipleship training program was initiated in Ambur, India on 2025. The eight trainees in this inaugural class completed their training and field work. Pr. Raji was in India for their graduation ceremony on May 1, 2026.
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.

### **2026 – 27 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: **Amber Conrad**

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

### 2025 – 26 Activities and Celebrations Completed

Through God's leading and directing:

1. 76 years of Day School ministry
2. Chin/Burmese Liaison part-time position filled. Impact quickly noted and celebrated
3. Celebrating the teaching ministry of Mrs. Stacey Faubion
4. 11<sup>th</sup> Year of our Run Walk Ride annual school fund raiser surpassing our goal of \$40,000.
5. FAM Fest held at Calvary exploring and celebrating our Fine Arts in art, choirs, and bands coupled with PTL fellowship and food
6. NLSA Team recommended Calvary Lutheran School for continued full accreditation
7. STEM program expanded to include 8<sup>th</sup> grade students
8. Scheduled Intergenerational activities again- Operation Christmas Child, Christmas Mug Packing, and Easter Egg filling, etc.
9. Licensed Comfort dog on site each day continues
10. Secured School Safety Grant applied for and received through the Indiana Department of Homeland Security

### Goals for the 2026 – 27 School Year

Through God's leading and directing:

1. Increase STEM instruction two days a week for each grade level through 8th grade
2. Enter year five with wellness/social worker/counselor providing services and resources for our students, faculty, and families
3. Utilize the awarded Lilly Phase 3 grant of \$2.3 million to build a 4000 square foot STEM and Resource addition
4. Continue Comfort Dog onsite each day
5. Maintaining our Middle School to six homerooms with certified staff
6. Further develop/expand the Chin/Burmese liaison position and services
7. Continue to renew intergenerational activities
8. Special event days to be continued to be developed and explored- Grandparents' Day, FAMFest, National Lutheran Schools Week, and Run Walk Ride, etc.

## COMMUNICATIONS

Director: **Bud Pflug**

Phone: 317- 695 - 7675

### Mission

The mission of the Communications Ministry Team is to support Calvary staff and other ministry teams in their efforts to effectively communicate to the Calvary congregation and the community. We strive to ensure that information presented about Calvary is done in a timely, accurate and effective manner, and that it presents a positive and consistent image of Calvary and our Lord.

## **2025 – 26 Activities**

1. Coordinated the maintenance and upgrade of the Calvary ([www.clcs.org](http://www.clcs.org)) website. Completed an 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. Created a new pictorial directory.
5. Submitted articles to local newspapers for significant events at Calvary.

## **2026 – 27 Goals**

1. Continue the oversight of the website, informational TVs, and video ministry. Continue to do annual reviews of all website content.
2. Continue upkeep of website and 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: Rachel Daeger, Wade Jackson, Jason Meyer, Lisa Pluckebaum. Also, a special thank you to Corina Hendershot for spearheading the pictorial directory project, 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**

## **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.

## **2025 – 26 Activities**

1. Gathered canned food for Thanksgiving Food Baskets and gift cards for families in need.
2. Provided Christmas gifts for teens at Lutheran Child and Family Services
3. Provided meals to members after surgery and for families blessed with babies.
4. Conducted twice-yearly Grief Share support sessions and a Caregiver Support dinner.

5. Began a Cancer Support program (Cancer Companions) for any experiencing cancer.
6. Provided a 'Community Supports' booklet to congregational members.

## **2026 – 27 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. Building the Cancer Companions program, securing interest in the community.
4. Inviting Calvary members to become involved in Lutheran Church Charities, building heart crosses for those killed in natural disasters, school shootings, and the like.

## **Volunteers**

Special thanks to team members: Ann Arnold, Pattie Bardonner, Katie Ceder, Denise Fix, Diane Gibson, Brenda Irwin, Julie Sessions, Susie Stainbrook, Vickie Struben, Dawn Tellinghuisen. Thanks also to Mike Loudon and Roxanne Deardurff for offering grief support through the Grief Share program.

## **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. Providing Christmas gifts to the teens of Lutheran Child and Family Services
3. Becoming prayer partners for the Cancer Companions program.
4. Assisting with assembling meals for homeless communities.
5. Providing canned goods for our annual Thanksgiving food drive.

# **FACILITIES**

Director: **Michael Daake**

## **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.

## **2025 – 26 Activities**

1. Completed the modernization of the Calvary Café and the Women's Narthex Restroom.
2. Plans developed for South parking lot storm water management.
3. Installation of new roof top unit in gymnasium providing more efficient heating and cooling.
4. Initiation of The Calvary Modernization Project – Remodel of the Men's Narthex Restroom.
5. Upgrades to the garage at 6119 Shelby (Schwark Property) to provide critical and safe storage of Calvary equipment. This allowed for the elimination of the two old, worn-out yard sheds.
6. Replacement of old fencing around dumpster in North parking lot, and replacement of gymnasium interior and exterior doors.

## **2026 – 27 Goals**

1. Men's Narthex restroom modernization.
2. Site grading and storm water management system improvements to prevent flooding and structural damage.
3. Gymnasium upgrades to windows and lighting.
4. West side landscaping refresh.
5. Sanctuary carpet replacement and final plans for Narthex modernization.
6. Fall and Spring volunteer workdays.
7. Development and installation of a Building Management System to more efficiently control heating and cooling throughout the building, thus saving money.

## **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**

## **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.

## **2025 – 26 Activities**

1. Outdoor Worship & Picnic – Calvary's September annual outdoor service and picnic (over 320 attended).
2. Outdoor Family Fun Night – Evening meal outdoors with a bonfire, and activities afterward (attendance was small due to severe weather on the night of the event).
3. Ash Wednesday Soup Supper – Coordinated and served with the El Salvador Mission Team.
4. Treat & Greet – Offered worshipers fruit & baked goods after services (April 2026).
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; Touch a Truck served 300 hotdogs)

## **2026 – 27 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, Jill Bliss, Susan Drattlo, Angie Ransdell, Suresh Reddy

## 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

Director of Admissions and Communications, **Deidre Barnett**: 317-787-5474 •

admissions@lhsi.org

Athletic Director, **Dave Pasch** • dpasch@lhsi.org

## Mission

Lutheran High School of Indianapolis prepares young adults for a Christian life while providing academic excellence in a Christ-centered environment.

## 2025 – 26 Activities

1. Celebrating 50 Years has been a year-long celebration in sharing “The Wonders He Has Done.”
2. 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 forecast for 2026-27 is an enrollment increase as more families are seeking the best for their children.
3. LHS has 65 seniors who will graduate on May 17, 2026. The Academic Honors Core 40 Diploma from the Indiana Department of Education was awarded to 34 of those seniors with 31 receiving the Core 40 Diploma both of which are college-ready diplomas.
4. Students engaged in community events including the Indiana Blood Center Drive, Indianapolis Prayer Breakfast, Ray Skillman Clothe-a-Child, The Pink Ribbon Connection Fundraiser, March for Life in Washington D.C., College Visit Day to IU-Indy, El Salvador Mission Trip, LHS Sunday at Association Churches (Calvary).
5. New Curriculum was introduced for students. I.U. Bloomington Dual Credit was available in American History, Chemistry, Biology, Political Science, and Discovering Literature. These additional courses now provide for 37 I.U. University credits for LHS students to gain in high school while being taught by LHS teachers.
6. Highlights of the Saints athletic teams this year:
  - **Marion County Champion**: Logan Kennerk (wrestling)
  - **Conference Champion**: Football, Wrestling, Softball (Conference Schools: Covenant Christian, Greenwood Christian Academy, Cardinal Ritter, Scecina, Heritage Christian, Lutheran)
  - **Sectional Champions**: Football, Baseball (2025), Softball (2025),
  - **Regional Champions**: Baseball (2025), Softball (2025)
  - **Semi-State Qualifier**: Logan Kennerk (wrestling)
  - **State**: Baseball Champions (2025)
7. Strategic Planning was accomplished by the Board of Directors, School Administration, and key stakeholders. The mission statement

was confirmed with the addition of a new vision statement, value statements, mission goals, and strategic initiatives.

8. Lutheran Golf Outing took place June 1, 2025 at Martinsville Golf Club with 76 golfers participating. 2026 Lutheran Golf Outing returns to Martinsville Golf Club on June 7.
9. 455 tickets were sold for the annual LuFest Dinner Auction. Lutheran was blessed to raise over \$167,000! LuFest 2027 is being planned for Friday, February 19, 2027 at the Indiana Roof Ballroom.

## **2026 – 27 Goals**

1. Fill the seats and welcome another full class of freshmen in the fall of 2026. 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. Promote the strategic goals developed by the Board of Directors, School Administration, and Community Stakeholders. They are:
  - Positive Christian Culture: Immerse all students in a distinctly Lutheran Christian ethos, supporting growth in faith, character and vocation.
  - Academic Excellence: Cultivate an environment of accountability and support, delivering excellence in teaching and learning that equips each student for post-secondary success.
  - Whole Student Growth: Advance holistic student development that prepares graduates for college, career pathways, and faithful life beyond high school.
  - Campus Development: Provide quality, functional, and comprehensive facilities that support learning, spiritual development, and community life.
  - Enrollment and Sustainability: Build relationships and systems that provide optimal enrollment and long-term financial strength that ensures access for future generations.
3. 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 pathways. Successfully introduce the first of nine **Project Lead The Way** curricular courses in Computer Science, Engineering, and Biomedical Science.
4. 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.

## **Volunteers**

LHS would like to thank the Calvary delegates to LHS, Diana Langhammer, Wendy Wilson and Jill Jupin, 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. LHS is a special place for the families of central Indiana that is made possible by the people who support it. Thank you!

## **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.

## MUSIC PROGRAM

Director: **Ryan Rosenau**  
Email: rrosenau@clcs.org

### **Mission**

To enhance the worship life of Calvary by spreading the Gospel through the gift of Music.

### **2025 – 26 Activities**

1. Chorale — High School age to adult choral (opening to 8<sup>th</sup> grade)
2. Handbells — High School age to adult (opening to 8<sup>th</sup> grade)
3. Contemporary Worship — instrumentalists and vocalists for blended worship
4. Soloists/ensembles — instrumentalists and vocalists for service music

### **2026 – 27 Goals**

We are always actively seeking new and continuing participants to sing or play. This year we hope to increase involvement of younger generations within the congregation.

1. Chorale — High School age to adult choral, opening to 8<sup>th</sup> grade students
2. Handbells — High School age to adult, opening to 8<sup>th</sup> grade students
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**  
Phone: 317- 358 - 7733

### **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.

### **2025 – 26 Activities**

1. Hosted (along with Kara Hiatt) the Foundations of Faith class for new members (spring + fall).
2. Hosted the Calvary Touch-a-Truck in September, 2025, with support from Fellowship, the Children's Ministry, Steve Bardonner, David Leim and Mike Daake. We had 20 trucks/vehicles, 60+ volunteers and approximately 500 attendees. The birdhouse building was a big hit!
3. Collaborated with the Fellowship team on the Fall Outdoor event in October, 2025.
4. Coordinated and hosted the Community Easter Egg Hunt in March, 2026, with support from the Fellowship team, and 80+ adult volunteers. Despite overlapping with Calvary's spring break, we had near record attendance with 315 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 flower sales as fundraisers for Committee projects. As in prior years nearly all the beds were reserved. For several years the

committee has used beds that are not reserved to grow fresh vegetables that are then supplied to Perry Township Hunger Inc. Reserve funds were used to make a cash donation to the Emmaus Food Pantry and Perry Township Hunger, Inc. With the assistance of Diane Noe we completed a “beautification” project at the south entrance that included a new flower bed.

## **2026 – 27 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, Mike and Amanda Sanders, David Bliss, Randy Irwin, Paul McMichael, Patty Rothkopf, Linda Simons, Amber Greathouse, Rachel Deardurff, Marvin Hansen, Kara Hiatt.

## **Community Garden Team**

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

## **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: **Rhonda Hansen**

## **Mission**

The Parish Education Ministry Team, empowered by the power of the Holy Spirit, strives to share the gospel of Jesus Christ and provide opportunities for spiritual growth to all members of Calvary Lutheran Church.

## **2025 – 26 Activities**

1. Support for Adult Bible Study was offered through multiple formats, including onsite, offsite, and online groups, ensuring accessibility and engagement for all participants.
2. The team coordinated a successful congregational study for Fall 2025, utilizing “In the Footsteps of the Savior” by Max Lucado to foster spiritual development and community involvement.

3. The Children's Ministry Director, along with the Children's Ministry team, continues to organize monthly special activities for children and families. These events aim to strengthen relationships within the church community and attract new connections among families.
4. Faith Buddies, a program pairing students and adults, was effectively coordinated by Heather Marrero, the Children's Ministry Director, to build mentorship and intergenerational relationships.
5. The Church library maintains its commitment to making books available, supporting the educational and spiritual needs of the congregation.
6. A social event was held to express gratitude and appreciation for small group lay leaders, recognizing their dedication and service.

## **2026 – 27 Goals**

1. The team will continue to integrate Pastor Mark Schumm into the planning and coordination of Adult Bible studies, enhancing collaboration and leadership.
2. A congregational study is scheduled for Fall 2026, to take place in October and November, providing continued opportunities for spiritual growth.
3. In Spring 2027, topics study sessions will be hosted in January and February, with pastoral support offered to small group leaders for guidance and encouragement.
4. The training, development and encouragement of small group leaders will be a priority, supporting both new and existing Bible studies to promote leadership and engagement.
5. Emphasis will be placed on personal involvement in Bible study classes, including weekly small groups, online offerings, and sessions held before or after weekend worship services, to foster deeper connections and spiritual growth.
6. The team will continue to support the growth of Sunday School and Vacation Bible School, ensuring meaningful and engaging curriculum that teaches God's Word to children.

## **Volunteers**

The following individuals are recognized for their contributions and service to the Parish Education Ministry Team: Karen Hand, Rhonda Hansen, Dennie Morrison, Judy Morrison, Bob Langhammer, Marilyn Rothkopf, Glenda Roundtree, and Darwin Tellinghuisen.

# **SPIRITUAL LIFE**

Director: **Phil Hendershott**

## **Mission**

The main objectives of the Spiritual Life 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.

## **2025 – 26 Activities**

1. Continued to support on-site and online worship services.
2. Encourage the Pastors and support 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. Coordinated Ryan Rosenau call and installation.
5. Coordinated Tony Spedle's 50<sup>th</sup> year celebration.
6. Provided Maundy Thursday meal
7. Coordinated Mother's and Father's Day celebrations, and Christmas decoration setup and tear-down.

## **2026 – 27 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 Spiritual Life team for their commitment and dedication this past year – Bob Behning, Bob Wilson, Phil Hendershott, Tony Kochan, Andrew Lee, Tim Meier, Bob Romack, Rick McWilliams, Trevor Weaver, Joe Soberalski, Eric Eisberg 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**

## **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.

## **2025 – 26 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 a member of the Calvary staff and three (3) 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. Conducted a Financial Planning Workshop where members were provided information on programs and opportunities that have tax benefits, such as the Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO) and Qualified Charitable Distributions.

5. Calvary Connects capital campaign was initiated in September with a goal of raising \$750,000 in contributions. Funds received from the capital campaign are being used to add space and improve existing spaces that will allow Calvary to better connect with the community. Initial projects have included the Calvary Café and a remodel of the Women's Restrooms. The pledge goal of \$750,000 was achieved in April, 2025.

## **2026 – 27 Goals**

1. Calvary Connects Campaign – focus will shift from fundraising to administering campaign fund collection and tracking. Periodic reports will be provided to individuals regarding the status of their campaign pledges.
2. Lilly Endowment Grant - Grant is providing funds for increased STEM opportunities in the school. Calvary is required to provide a 20% match to this generous gift. Assist in fundraising activities for this second Capital Campaign to provide the required matching funds.
3. Continue to educate members on the availability of Thrivent Action grants and Direct Choice dollars as well as other matching funds.
4. Consider conducting another financial planning workshop for members and the community to provide information on retirement considerations including estate planning.
5. Continue support of students studying to be church workers through scholarships.

## **Ministry team members**

Jerry Denny, Becca Goldsberry, Pastor Kurt Ebert, 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 members of WIM and LWML, 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.

## **2025 – 26 Activities**

1. Hosted the 56<sup>th</sup> annual Holiday Bazaar and the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Yard Sale.
2. Sewed backpacks and collected items from the congregation to fill 185 school bags for Lutheran World Relief. Sewed comfort quilts for IU Methodist trauma patients, quilts for El Salvador and India mission trips, and congregation quilts. Knitted and crocheted baby blankets for Life Centers of Indianapolis.

3. Collected food pantry items throughout the year for the Emmaus food pantry.
4. Prepared Christmas gift bags for congregation members unable to leave their homes and provided supplies for Confirmation banners
5. Fellowshiped through Bible Study (1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month), meetings (Tuesday following the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month), Pinochle (2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month), Pickleball (Saturday morning at 10 in the gym), and Christmas luncheon in December.

### **2025 – 26 Major Mission Support**

1. \$881.50 – Lutheran Women’s Missionary League Mites for Missions
2. \$1,209 – Life Centers – Yard Sale Proceeds
3. \$2,767 – each for the narthex welcome area renovation, preschool rolling tricycle merry-go-round, and Servant’s Heart – Holiday Bazaar proceeds
4. \$600 for Wycliffe Bible Translators, and \$100 each for Lutheran High School, Lutheran Child and Family Services, and Lutheran Hour Ministries

### **2026 – 27 Goals**

1. Connect women to and through God’s Word
2. Provide women opportunities to serve the Lord through mission and service projects
3. Support congregational, local, and national mission projects through fund raising
4. Minister to the world with the collection of mites for LWML missions
5. Network with women to build relationships and provide opportunities for spiritual and emotional growth and support

### **Volunteer or Participation Opportunities Available to the Congregation**

- Attend Ladies Bible Study on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month
- Assist with the Spring Yard Sale
- Work at the Holiday Bazaar
- Make knitted and crocheted Blankets for Babies
- Sew quilts for trauma patients and mission trips
- Serve as Confirmation Prayer Angels
- Contribute funds for missions with LWML mite collections
- Donate pantry food items for the “Extravagant Sharing” project
- Attend WIM meetings on Tuesday after the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month

## **YOUTH**

Youth Director: **Brian Krohmer**

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.

### **2025 – 26 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 Summer Mission Trip to Wilmington, NC (15 attendees)

## 2026 – 27 Goals

1. Adjust high school youth events to make them more accessible to our youth.
2. Continuing the creation and implementation of our youth leadership team (FLIGHT Pilots), 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, Gina Schultz, Jeff Evans, Angel Gaskins, Beckie Hudson, Kayleigh Jones, Andy Lee, Kristi Pulliam, and Nicole Reese.

## OTHER MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

### Altar Guild

Ann Arnold  
Corina Hendershott

### Altar Flowers

Ann Arnold

### Baptism Banners

Jesica Denny

### Blankets for Babies

Susan Daniels

### Church Library

Corina Hendershott  
Jennifer Daake

### Confirmant Prayer Angels

Diana Blazek

### Counters

Jake Allen

### Cradle Roll

Melanie Huene

### Informational TVs and Outdoor Sign

Ben Parker

### Extravagant Sharing Food Collection

Rosie Blazek

### Greeters

Marv Hansen

### Lamplighters

Ken Kettler

### “Love Meals” Team

Compassion MT

### Memorials

Ann Arnold

### Nominating Committee

Linda Bugher  
Brenda Irwin  
Susan Richert  
Pr. Kurt Ebert  
Kara Hiatt

### PTL

Rachel Skeens

### Prayer Team

Diane Gibson  
Laura Currier

### Quilters

Jan Dunaway

### Tech Committee

Jay Springer

### Ushers

Mike Carpenter

### Worship Projection

Steve Bardonner  
Rachel Daeger  
Glenda Roundtree  
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

|                                           |                  |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Church Endowment Fund (LCMS Foundation)   | 854,106          |
| Schwark Endowment Fund (LCMS Foundation)  | 238, 332         |
| Wessler Endowment Fund (LCMS Foundation)  | 115,509          |
| *Thrivent Charitable Impact and Investing | 300,000          |
| <b>Total</b>                              | <b>1,507,947</b> |

2024-2025 was 1,383,983 on 3/31/25

\* 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 \$854,106 (April 30, 2026). 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, our Video and Digital Media Ministry and our new Music Director.

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.

## AUGUST C. SCHWARK ENDOWMENT AND ANNUAL FUND

The market value is \$238,332 (April 30, 2026). 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.

## WESSLER ENDOWMENT FUND

Established in 2018, the Wessler Endowment Fund provides scholarship support for members studying to be church workers. The market value is \$115,509 (April 30, 2026). 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.

*"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 |
|------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|---------------|-------------------|
| 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               |
| 2025 | 72        | 99        | 173        | 22         | 358           | 415               |

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

### General Fund:

|                   | Current     | Budget      | Variance   | Prior Year  |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| YTD Revenue       | \$3,177,216 | \$3,098,397 | \$78,819   | \$2,971,745 |
| YTD Expense       | \$2,751,288 | \$2,784,073 | (\$32,785) | \$2,391,183 |
| YTD Net           | \$425,927   |             |            |             |
| Beginning Balance | \$1,056,357 |             |            |             |
| Current Balance   | \$1,482,284 |             |            |             |

| Revenue Detail:      | Current     | Budget      | Variance  | Prior Year  |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| YTD Contributions    | \$843,057   | \$884,550   | -\$41,492 | \$877,216   |
| YTD Matching Gifts   | \$70,963    | \$61,614    | \$9,348   | \$70,070    |
| YTD School Gifts     | \$103,402   | \$91,217    | \$12,185  | \$89,063    |
| YTD Tuition and Fees | \$2,051,529 | \$2,002,844 | \$48,684  | \$1,848,356 |
| YTD Other Revenue    | \$108,266   | \$58,172    | \$50,094  | \$87,041    |

| Endowments:      | Current   | Prior Year |
|------------------|-----------|------------|
| Church Endowment | \$757,843 | \$752,767  |
| YTD Disbursement | \$40,660  |            |

Mission focus:

|                     |           |           |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Schwark Endowment   | \$230,890 | \$212,888 |
| Schwark Annual Fund | \$1,697   | \$18,344  |
| YTD Disbursement    | \$29,471  |           |

|                          |           |           |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Wessler Endowment        | \$106,322 | \$105,897 |
| Wessler Scholarship Fund | \$4,618   | \$8,162   |
| YTD Disbursement         | \$0       |           |

| Outflow to Missions: | Amount*  | Special Mission Focus                                                                                                                                                         |
|----------------------|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Q1 (Aug-Oct)         | \$22,318 | Good Samaritan, Shepherd Community Center, Habitat for Humanity, Lakeview Ministries, El Salvador Mission, Lutheran Child and Family Services, LHSI, Hispanic Ministry, Synod |
| Q2 (Nov-Jan)         | \$56,300 | Good Samaritan, Wycliffe Bible Translators, El Salvador Mission, LHSI, Hispanic Ministry, Synod, India Mission Projects, Sowark Scholarship Awards                            |
| Q3 (Feb-Apr)         | \$30,734 | Good Samaritan, Wycliffe Bible Translators, Synod, Hispanic Ministry, LHSI, Mission Central, Japanese Mission Society, Worship Anew, Lutheran Public Radio, Indiana District  |

Calvary has no mortgage or line of credit balance.

## 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. There are plans for some upgrades to the Cemetery, including a beatification project over the next 18 months.

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:**