



CALVARY LUTHERAN

CHURCH AND SCHOOL



Church Newsletter

September 2025

From the Pastors

The Path of Leadership

"... though [Jesus] was in the form of God, [he] did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ... he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." (Philippians 2:5-11).

What attributes make someone a leader? Is it someone with charisma and charm? What about creative talent and a sharp mind? How important is power and authority? To you, what does it mean to be a leader?

Images come to mind of the clean-cut power suits and the freshly shined shoes of those who have climbed that corporate ladder and made it to the top. It's interesting how many of our leadership descriptions have to do with our location in relation to others. We say things like, top of the food chain, higher up the ladder, higher up the chain of command. In our minds, leaders are the ones who have navigated the winding path that kept going up and up to more and more success. Today, however, in John 13 we have reached a fork in the road. While other roads lead higher and higher, this path of leadership begins a rapid descent. It isn't a path that leads upward in power, but downward in service. It is a path of servant leadership. It's at the very essence of Jesus' invitation to "Come, follow me!"

In John 13, the disciples followed Jesus into the "upper" room. As the Passover drew near, great joy and great tension filled the room, for his time had finally come. After three years of public ministry, **now** all the preparations were made and **now** it was time to show his disciples the full extent of his love! As the evening meal began to be served, all eyes turned to the quiet face of Jesus who seemed to be deep in thought, a thought that John records for us, for "Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God..." (13:3). Jesus knew that he had all power, authority, and leadership. He knew where he had come from and where he was going, but now the question remained, "What would he do with that power and authority?" It continues, "he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist...poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet" (13:4-5).

Yet again in his ministry, Jesus took the downward leading path of service, placing others higher than himself. He began to wash his disciples feet. And when he finished he asked, "Do you understand what I have done for you? You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord' and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet" (13:12b-14).

I can confidently say that not even one of them understood the full extent of what Jesus had just done. Certainly, there were some who learned a valuable lesson of humbly serving another. Certainly, some of the disciples were moved by what they had just seen their Lord do, but none of them and I mean none of them could have seen what was yet to come. You can almost sense the full weight of that question, "Do you understand what I have done for you?" "Do you understand the path that I now take—a path that doesn't rise steadily higher to a seat of power and prestige. No, the path I take through the foothills of Jerusalem doesn't lead to a triumphant welcomed by all. The path that I now take leads downward in a steady march to death. It is a path of service and sacrifice, for all my power and all my authority is worthless without those whom I have been entrusted to serve." Jesus knew exactly where the path that lay before him led. He also knew that the Father had given him the power over all things. It was what he did with that power that was unique. He used that power to lay down his life in service to others. As Jesus said earlier, "The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again" (10:18). That night in which he was betrayed, our Lord laid before us both the path and the power that we need to follow Him. He laid down a path of service to others that he invited us to follow, but more importantly he laid before us the power of His transforming grace, the only thing that can rescue us from hopelessly trying to climb our way to heaven. And so we praise Him for the depths of His love.

In Christ, *Pastor Kurt Ebert*

General News

Outdoor Worship & Picnic at German Park on September 28th

Just a couple of weeks away! Come and worship OUTSIDE (under a pavilion) at German Park, 8600 S. Meridian Street. Worship begins at 11:00 a.m. and then enjoy a wonderful meal of fried chicken and country BBQ, beans & coleslaw, mac 'n cheese plus fried biscuits with apple butter! DELICIOUS (all catered by Jug's Catering). After the meal, we play games and enjoy time with each other, FRIENDS & FAMILY! Invite the whole crew to join you!

* We ask that every family please bring a dessert to share! Please mark if "nut-free," "gluten-free," etc. Our team will be sure to keep these special desserts separate.

* We are looking for Picnic Patrons to help offset the costs. If you'd like to donate, please select the "Picnic Patron" option when giving online or write it on your check or offering envelope. Thank you!

* Be sure to mark Sept 28th on your calendar! Looking forward to eating & fellowship time with you!

* We are looking for volunteers! We need help with the church picnic including parking assistance, greeter, game and bounce house moderators, setup and clean up. Each activity only involves a small amount of time. If willing and able, please use *the sign-up sheets in the Lobby/Narthex or contact Joe Pluckebaum.*

Head-to-Heart Confirmation Prayer Angels Needed

Do you want to be a positive influence on the faith of our young people? Prayer angels encourage our 2nd year confirmation students throughout the year with prayers, cards, and little gifts. At the end of the year, we host a special banquet where our secret prayer angels are revealed and connect with their confirmand. Contact the church office (churchsecretary@clcs.org) or our Prayer Angel Coordinator (Diana Blazek) if you are interested in serving as a prayer angel.

GriefShare

Faith-based grief support, help & encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member, friend. Wednesdays through November 13, 6:00- 8:00 p.m. Led by trained facilitators Mike Loudon and Roxanne Deardurff. Sessions include videos by experts in grieving, support group discussion, personal study/reflection. Open to everyone. Begin attending at any time; sessions are not sequential. Contact Mike Loudon or Roxanne Deardurff for more information.

General News

Calvary's Fall Mum Sale

Orders are being taken now. The last day for orders is Thursday, August 28th, as orders must be in to Schlegel's Greenhouse by Friday, August 29th. Mums again cost \$10.00. Flowers will be picked up and delivered to Calvary on Friday, September 26. Your order can be picked up at Calvary at Saturday evening service September 27th, Sunday morning service September 28th, or at the church picnic grounds on September 28th. Order now and pay at time of delivery. Proceeds will benefit the Community Garden outreach, Hunger, Inc. of Perry Township, and Emmaus Lutheran Food Pantry in Fountain Square. Various colors of mums are again available (red, orange/bronze, yellow, white, pink/purple) but cannot be guaranteed as Schlegel's reserves the right to substitute. Place your order at the Mum Sale table in church narthex or online by emailing Pastor Art or Jake Allen. Sponsored by Outreach Ministry and the Community Garden Committee. Community Garden Committee members are Jake Allen, Mark Jung, Wayne Mayo, Joe Pluckebaum, Jim Richert, Art Wehrmeister, and Paul Woodburn.

Choir & Handbell Kick-Off + Meet & Greet

A new season of music ministry is just around the corner — and whether you're a returning member or thinking about joining for the first time, we'd love to connect with you!

Come to our Music Ministry Meet & Greet + Potluck Social

Thurs., Aug 28 at 7:00 p.m. in the Narthex

This relaxed, informal gathering is for anyone interested in Adult Choir or Handbells. Meet the group, ask questions, enjoy food & fellowship, and see what being part of the music ministry is about! **We're having desserts!** You are welcome to bring a dessert, or there will be plenty provided.

Regular Rehearsals Begin:

- **Adult Choir** – Thurs., Sept 4, 7:00–8:00 p.m.
- **Handbells** – Thurs, Sept 4, 8:00–9:00 p.m.

No need to read music! If you can count and are willing to learn, you can ring or sing. Many friendly folks are happy to help you get started. Music ministry is a meaningful way to serve, grow in faith, and build community. Open to all —

7th grade and up. Questions? Ryan Rosenau.

REMINDER - All Ministry Team Meeting (Tues., Sept 16th at 6:30 p.m.)

All members of Calvary's 10 ministry teams are invited to join us in the Sanctuary on September 16th for an informational meeting. We look forward to the year ahead of ministry together. Please pay attention to communication from your team's director for specific information of when and where your team will meet for your individual meeting.

Stewardship Ministry

Financial and Estate Planning Workshop – Wednesday October 8

Mark your calendars – The Stewardship Ministry Team is hosting a Financial and Estate Planning workshop on Wednesday, October 8 at 6 PM. There will be presentations made by practitioners who will provide insights on Elder Law, Medicare Planning and Investment Strategies. Dinner will be provided. This workshop is open to everyone so please help us spread the word to your friends and neighbors.

Capital Campaign to Launch in Early October

We've all seen the progress that has already been made as we begin to upgrade our facilities. The new Calvary Café and the remodeled women's restroom will soon be completed. Facility improvements and upgrades are much needed and are consistent with the actions recommended by the most recent Calvary strategic plan to better connect Calvary with the community. Calvary's leadership decided early this year to move forward with some initial projects with the understanding that a capital campaign would be launched to fund the majority of the work. Please watch for additional details the on the upcoming capital campaign.

Lutheran Child and Family Services – September's Partner in Ministry

Each month's the Stewardship Ministry Team designates a different Calvary Partner in Ministry. Emphasizing the different ministries that Calvary supports each month provides a better understanding of the many ways your gifts are being used and emphasizes the extent of Calvary's external reach.

For September, the Partner in Ministry is Lutheran Child and Family Services (LCFS). Calvary's support to LCFS is in the form of time, talent and treasures. The congregation provides an annual monetary gift as well as our members donating volunteer hours and supplies to The Sharing Place.

The LCFS mission is "Engaging and Empowering Families and Community with Love, Compassion, Faith, and Support". The LCFS vision is that their community will experience safety and stability, in an environment of respect, healing, and hope. LCFS engages with clients and empowers them to develop the opportunities, tools, and skills needed to change the trajectory of their lives

Information for this and other Calvary supported ministries can be found at the "Partners" page at our website. <https://www.clcs.org/partners/>

3rd Quarter Mission Gifts Designation – Shepherd Community Center

Gifts received in the third quarter of this year (July through September) either in the red-lined "Mission" envelopes or designated generically for "Missions" in your online giving or on the regular offering envelopes are going to the support the work of the Shepherd Community Center. Shepherd is located at 4107 East Washington Street. Shepherd works to build assets into people's lives so they can break the bonds of generational poverty. By fighting systemic causes and serving with life-long, relationship-based care, Shepherd makes a difference — physically, socially, and spiritually, <https://shepherdcommunity.org/>.

Compassion Ministry

Cancer Companions is Ready to Welcome You!

Several Calvary members have been busy training this summer with *Cancer Companions*, a faith-based program that provides hope and encouragement to those facing cancer as well as for their caregivers. This program has two components: Prayer Support and Group Support.

Prayer Support

We are currently accepting requests for a prayer partner if you so desire. Several Calvary members are trained to provide support on a weekly basis, offering a listening ear, scripture, and prayer. You will also be given a devotional book that offers encouragement. Your prayer partner will walk with you through the devotional, helping you to find strength and hope.

Call the church office or Diane Gibson if you would like to be connected with a prayer partner.

Group Support

Beginning October 5, Calvary will offer group support that meets the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 3:00 p.m. in the conference room. Nine sessions will be held on a 'come-as-you-can' basis. Participants will be encouraged through sharing, scripture, prayer, and a Bible study book entitled: *Seeing God in Your Cancer Journey* by Karen Tripp. This book includes 41 readings that speak to many of the questions and fears you may be facing on your cancer journey.

Registration begins now for either obtaining a prayer partner or for joining the support group. Flyers with more information are available in the church office. You may call the church office or Diane Gibson to register.

This program is available to both Calvary and non-Calvary members. If you know someone who might benefit from such a program, share a flyer or invite them to call to register. We are looking forward to supporting you!

A preview of this program is available at www.cancercompanion.org.

Produce Table to Benefit the Good Samaritan Fund

Check out the produce table in the narthex this month. Vegetables grown by our various members are available to you for a freewill donation. All proceeds will be placed in the 'Good Samaritan Fund' which provides resources for Calvary members in need.

Addresses needed for College Care Packages

Compassion Ministry Team supports our Calvary college students by sending them care packages.

If you are an undergrad college student or have an undergrad college student in your family,

please email Linda Bugher at thebughers@att.net or text her at 317-432-1865 **by Tuesday,**

September 9th the following information:

*Student Name	*College Attending	*Student Address	*Year (e.g., Junior)
*Major/Area of Study	*Student Email Address	*Student Cell Phone (optional)	

To confirm our information is current, we need to hear from you even if you supplied information last year. **Please let Linda know any changes throughout the year.**

Adult Ministry

Lunch OUT! Wednesday, September 3

For our "First Wednesday" in September outing, we're meeting at Carrabba's Italian Grill Restaurant, 4690 Southport Crossing Drive, Indianapolis.

Tables will be saved for Calvary Lutheran, no reservation needed. Adults of all ages are welcome – come join us for good food and some fun Christian fellowship.

Questions? Contact Barb Sorgius, 317-783-2000.

Lunch & Learn Wednesday, September 17

Presenter: Randy Ollis, Retired Meteorologist, WISH-TV

Program: His personal Christian testimony and a brief overview of weather

Lunch: Pulled Pork BBQ, Pasta Salad, Assorted Chips, and Dessert

Cost: Suggested donation: \$5.

Questions? Barb Sorgius, 317-783-2000.

Youth Ministry

FLIGHT (High School Youth Group)

The high school youth group meets weekly on **Sunday nights from 5:30-7:00 p.m.** Check the church bulletin for weekly updates regarding specific weekly events.

LAUNCH (5th-6th grades)

All 5th and 6th grade youth are invited to the next LAUNCH event on **Wednesday, Sept 17th from 5:30-7:00 p.m.** for our End of School Event!

SAIL (7th-8th grades)

All 7th and 8th grade youth are invited to the next SAIL event on **Wednesday, Sept 24th from 5:30-7:00 p.m.** for our End of School Event!

Parish Education

Bible Study: From Anxious to Peaceful

Ever wonder what the Bible says about anxiety or how to apply the teachings to our day to day lives? Then find out as we study anxiety in the Bible and learn practical stress relief tips. High schoolers and adults of all ages are invited to come to the Jackson's house in Greenwood. The study is August 28, September 11, and September 25 from 7:00-8:00 pm.

Executive Director

From Your Executive Director

In August, your Parish Council met to set goals and objectives for the congregation and ministry teams for the 2025/26 program year, based on our three principles of Connecting, Learning, and Caring.

We did this for two reasons: first, to be certain our plans are coordinated and not in conflict. Second, we do this to keep our congregation focused on the overall goal of Engaging People in Christ – through programs that seek to fulfill that mission.

These are not taken lightly nor are they “busy work” – we all have enough to do these days. Instead, they are established to keep us focused on why we are here.

I have been involved in setting goals and objectives in my career, as have many people in our congregation. And I have set them in the many non-profit organizations with which I've been involved over the years. Sometimes it's been a formal process, with documented action plans to accomplish the goals. Other times it's been less formal, perhaps just vocalized in a meeting. Either way, a path is established, and measurements taken along the way to establish our progress. What we do at Calvary is no different: we set goals, we set action plans, and then we set measurement steps to determine how well we are achieving our goals.

Without planning, we are just aimlessly wandering around, hoping something works.

Think of it this way: would you get in your car, start driving, and just hope you arrived at the destination? Or would you think about your route, possibly check Google Maps or Waze looking at traffic conditions, listen to traffic reports, and then start driving with the knowledge of the best and/or most effective way to reach your destination?

I think we all know the answer.

The prophet Jeremiah writes “For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope” in Chapter 29, verse 11. We've all likely heard this verse before, but the next two verses are just as important: “Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.”

As we implement plans for our goals and objectives, please consider how you can be involved and engaged with them: this is your church, and your involvement and participation is always needed and appreciated! While your leaders can and do set these goals, our church needs everyone to be a part of how we accomplish those goals. This is how we Learn. This is how we Care. This is how we Connect: Serving God, seeking Him with all our hearts.

In His and Your service,

Bill Laut

Calvary Lutheran School News from Principal Rensner

Our God Is...

God said to Moses, "I am who I am." And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'I am has sent me to you.'"

Exodus 3:14

We have our common names that we are called by our peers and general acquaintances. We may hold a more formal name required for professional interactions and document references. Many may have a nick name that is called by our closest family members and friends. Most hold a middle name often concealed unless as a child when an inappropriate behavior is exhibited then the full name is heard addressed resoundingly. Besides our names we also have titles and relationships that accompany them. Mr., Mrs., Miss, Dr., Pastor, Judge, President, Mayor, Governor, Uncle, Aunt, Grandpa, Grandma, and many others. Each is a descriptive account of ourselves and carries with it our attributes and characteristics.

God holds many names throughout scripture identifying Him and His attributes and characteristics. God is revealed to us in many ways during the Old Testament accounts. Jesus reveals His Father throughout His ministry. During this school year the students, faculty, and staff will be exploring and studying who our God is as He invites us to greet Him as our Father. The possessive pronoun "our" indicates that we share a common Father. As God's children we are also related as we carry His Name within our hearts and hands as we glorify Him as we witness and serve other.

We thank God for the opportunity to join with your family in sharing God's love with your children. This is God's calling of parents, teachers, and pastors. This is our charge as a community of believers. We lift one another in prayer.

We grow and mature in Christian love and service through the power of the Holy Spirit as we gather for worship, hear His Word, partake in the sacraments, and pray. We thank God for the opportunity and privilege to share in this daily walk at Calvary Lutheran School. We ask the Lord to bless you with His love as we walk each day together in the shadow of the cross as we share our faith through actions.

Many tasks and projects were accomplished over the summer months in preparation for the start of school.

Classroom carpets were cleaned. Tiled floors stripped and waxed. Many mechanical needs were also repaired. This highlights most of the projects. Many more items were accomplished as well. We thank all involved for their giving and assistance throughout this summer. We especially thank Mr. Steve Harrison, our Facilities Ministry Team, and our Technology Ministry Team for their effort and hours given for us to enjoy these facilities. We thank and praise God for the gift of helping hands and celebrate the wonderful facilities that we are blessed to have at Calvary Lutheran Church & School.

Delayed Start

School will begin at 8:30 a.m. each Wednesday when school is in session. The students will be released to their classrooms beginning at 8:15 a.m. This delayed start has been scheduled to permit additional professional growth opportunities for our faculty and staff.

School Chapel Services on Thursdays

School chapel services will be held on THURSDAYS. The starting times for chapel will remain at 8:15 a.m. for Kindergarten-8th school grades worship times. Preschool will worship together at 9:00 a.m. on these chapel days.

SMILE SMILE SMILE Save the Date

The students at Calvary Lutheran School will have their school photographs taken on Tuesday, September 23. This will be a non-uniform day allowing the students greater choices for their photographs. Any absentees from Tuesday will have their pictures taken on re-take day in November.

Labor Day

Calvary Lutheran School will be closed on Monday, September 1st in observance of Labor Day. We thank God for the gift of work. We strive to use His gifts to our very best potential as His created beings.

Outdoor Education

Our Sixth-Grade class will be experiencing Outdoor Education on Wednesday-Friday, September 3-5. The class will travel to the wilds of Camp Lakeview. Mrs. Strohm and Ms. Childress along with parent chaperones will lead this 3-day camp expedition. For further information please contact Mrs. Strohm. We ask the Lord to go with our 6th graders, granting them safety in their travels. We ask the Lord to grant to them His Spirit as they grow together through this experience.

1st Trimester

Our first trimester mid-term is Friday, September 19. Students in second through eighth grade will receive their midterm reports on Wednesday, September 24 via FACTS/Renweb. We ask that our parents review these reports with their children. We strive to provide many evaluations throughout the school year.

Grandparents and Special Person's Day Scheduled – Save the Date

Our Special Person's Day is scheduled for Friday, September 26. Special person's are defined as grandparents, aunts, uncles, parents, and others special to you. With increased enrollment we are asking the number of guests to be no more than four per family. Specific information will be communicated as plans are made. Please share the word and save the date.

Our incremental 5-year anniversary celebration will be held in January during National Lutheran Schools Week.

We are richly blessed with the gifts of God through these individuals as they serve in His Name and Love.

Scholarship Tax Credit Information

"Too Good to Be True?!"

God has provided a unique opportunity to help fund the Christian education of our Calvary students. The Lutheran Scholarship Granting Organization of Indiana, Inc. has been identified as a Scholarship Granting Organization. Scholarships through private and corporate donations are granted to Calvary student families whose income is less than 400% of the Federal free or reduced hot lunch guidelines.

New Information

- Over \$920,000.00 has been contributed at Calvary Lutheran through the state tax credit initiative over the past 13 years.
- The donor base has been virtually unchanged over these years.
- Donors are increasing their gifts. Why? The "Too Good to be True" aspects
- We are asking for previous year participants in this program to communicate all the benefits inviting two-three others to prayerfully consider involvement in increasing our donor base.
- Personal tax credits that remain against your tax liability may be used for up to 9 years.
- All is preferred to be accomplished online. www.lutheranSGO.org
- Be sure to identify **Calvary Lutheran School, Indianapolis** as the recipient of your donation.

How may I help?

Donations are currently being accepted. We are in need of \$95,000.00 to fully fund this year's grants. Please prayerfully consider your involvement and support in this most worthwhile program.

\$18.5 million in tax credits are available during the state fiscal year. Please make your donation prior to December 31 to ensure your Indiana state tax credit.

Multiple Benefits for Calvary Lutheran School students, the private or corporate donor, and Calvary Lutheran Church

1. The donor will receive a 50% Indiana State tax credit for every dollar donated. Example: A donation of \$1000.00 will result in a tax credit of \$500.00 towards your Indiana income tax liability. Private as well as corporate donations will receive this benefit.
2. The Universal Charitable Deduction has been restored. Taxpayers can receive a \$1,000.00 Federal Charitable Deduction (\$2,000.00 joint filers) even if they can't itemize. This begins January 2026.
3. Students in our Preschool 4-5 class who are 4 years old before August 1 are now eligible to receive an SGO scholarship.

Where Do I sign up?

Donor forms are available at www.lutheranSGO.org.

What will happen in the future?

Children will have the opportunity to hear God's Word through your giving. God continues to open doors to others once thought closed due to financial needs. Your assistance in this program is so greatly appreciated!

The Together Project

We're in the final stretch of our Together Campaign which has focused on campus improvements, debt reduction, and merit scholarships. We're thrilled to share that our community has stepped up in a big way pledging over \$1 million! Help us cross the finish line and email for more information.

Lutheran High School - 50 Years

We have opened our doors for the 50th year of Lutheran High School. God has blessed Lutheran High School and our families! Join us for LHS Trivia Time weekly on our social media pages. If you have memories to share, please email those to Kathy Anderson.

LHS Walk-a-thon - September 17

The LHS Annual Walk-a-thon will take place on September 17. Our students and staff look forward to this annual event, and we can't wait to share more information with you in the coming days.

SAVE THE DATES

Grandparents' Day will take place on October 2 and Homecoming will follow on October 3. Mark your calendars for these two very special events.

Outreach Ministry



Fun for all ages! Join us and learn about different vehicles and careers. Vehicles expected:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|
| - Fire engine | - Ambulance | - Police car, Crime Stoppers |
| - Roller truck | - 4-wheeler | - Backhoe tractor |
| - Concrete pumping truck | | - Gator |
| - Sleeper truck | - DMC DeLorean | - Roadster race car |
| - Camper | - Bookmobile | - Scavenger hunt |
| - Build your own birdhouse! | | |

We will also have free food, bounce houses, face painting, games and crafts!

Women in Mission

Save the date for the Annual Holiday Bazaar!!!

The 56th Annual Holiday Bazaar will be **Saturday, November 8, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Bazaar planning has begun! *You can find details at clcs.org/bazaar.*

Are you looking for a way to serve and have great fellowship with others at the same time? We are currently looking for many volunteers to help with the planning stages. Coordinators are needed to organize various aspects of the bazaar. Team members are needed to work with coordinators to accomplish tasks. It takes many hands and minds to make a successful bazaar. To volunteer please contact Karen Wright.

Proceeds from this year's bazaar will benefit Calvary School STEM supplies and materials, Renovation of the church's Welcome area, and Support for Servant's Heart who helps families by providing year-round support for those struggling to make ends meet.

Booth sales are open. If you or someone you know is interested in having a booth at the bazaar they should contact Angie Ransdell. A booth can also be reserved at <https://calvary-women-in-mission.square.site/>.

Do you have an auction item? Are you willing to donate a service? Can you ask the company you work for to donate items and/or services? You can help make this year's SILENT AUCTION a great success! Pick up a form at the Women in Mission table or table outside the church office and return to the church office or Karen Hand's church mailbox. Items must be received by Sunday, October 19.

Save things to be sold in The Attic (No shoes, clothing, building materials, large pieces of furniture, or large electronics). Please price the items at no less than \$.25 before bringing them to Calvary on Friday, November 7, between 3:30 and 7:00 p.m. or Saturday, November 8 between 7:30 and 8:30 a.m.

Is baking your thing? You can bake and freeze now. Then bring your goodies to Calvary on Friday, November 7 to be sold in the Country Kitchen.



Women in Mission

Ladies' Pinochle Club

Whether it's your first time or you're an old pro, join us for Pinochle! We meet the 2nd Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the Conference Room. Pinochle will meet **September 8th**. Please join us.

Questions? Contact Sandra Wilson.

Ladies' Bible Study, Saturday, September 6, 8:30 a.m.

The August Ladies' Bible study will be on **Saturday, September 6th** and will be from the Lutheran Women's Summer 2025 Quarterly and shared by everyone.

Join us in the Church Library on **Saturday, September 6th** at 8:30 a.m.

Extravagant Sharing

The following note was sent to Calvary from the Emmaus Food Pantry:

We have shared together the blessings of God. Philippians 1:7

Calvary Lutheran Family,

Just want to thank you for your continued support of the Emmaus Pantry. We honestly could not provide enough food for all our clients without your donations. In July we served a record 404 households representing 1,563 individuals in just 14 days. Blessings! Thank you, From Emmaus Pantry

In the month of **September** please place your donations of **canned soups and soup mixes** on the Extravagant Sharing shelves in the church lobby, across from the center aisle church doors. Boxes of **cereal** are always appreciated. We come with an additional request this month. Please pray for the health and strength of the volunteers at the Emmaus Food Pantry so their clients are served to the glory of God!



Blankets for Babies Fall Schedule

Our Fall meeting dates are **Tuesdays, September 2nd, October 7th, and November 4th** from 4:00-5:30 p.m. in the café area.

We have been meeting for 17 years to knit / crochet blankets for newborns. The need is great. The blankets are donated to Life Centers located at Southern Plaza.

Our group is usually 4-5 ladies, so we really need additional help. We have teachers, yarn, and crochet hooks to get you started.

Questions? Call Susan Daniels. Hope to see some new faces!

Calvary Lutheran Church and School Financial Summary
Fourth Fiscal Quarter Ended 7/31/2025

General Fund:	Current	Budget	Variance	Prior Year
YTD Revenue	\$3,504,859	\$3,402,510	\$102,349	\$3,174,549
YTD Expense	\$3,300,576	\$3,427,816	-\$127,240	\$2,867,678
YTD Net	\$204,283			
Beginning Balance	\$852,074			
Current Balance	\$1,056,357			

Revenue Detail:	Current	Budget	Variance	Prior Year
YTD Contributions	\$1,144,206	\$1,159,000	-\$14,794	\$1,163,215
YTD Matching Gifts	\$95,528	\$84,000	\$11,528	\$101,904
YTD School Gifts	\$96,174	\$95,000	\$1,174	\$100,541
YTD Tuition and Fees	\$2,037,266	\$1,970,035	\$67,231	\$1,707,135
YTD Other Revenue	\$131,685	\$94,475	\$37,210	\$101,755

Endowments:	Current	Prior Year
Church Endowment	\$813,194	\$800,430
YTD Disbursement	\$38,722	
Mission focus:	Modernization Project	
Schwark Endowment	\$226,470	\$213,880
Schwark Annual Fund	\$18,344	\$16,223
YTD Disbursement	\$8,573	
Wessler Endowment	\$109,138	\$103,935
Wessler Scholarship Fund	-\$838	\$6,965
YTD Disbursement	\$13,000	

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, LHSL, Hispanic Ministry, LCMS Disaster Response
Q2 (Nov-Jan)	\$24,196	Good Samaritan, Wycliffe Bible Translators, Schwark School Scholarships, Synod, LHSL, 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, LHSL, Hispanic Ministry, Lutherans for Life, Life Centers, Lutheran Child & Family Services, Camp Lakeview, Habitat Humanity, Lutheran Hour Ministries, Harbor Bible Camp
Q4 (May-July)	\$20,337	Good Samaritan, Perry Township Hunger Inc, Emmaus Food Pantry, Japanese Mission Society, Tamil India Mission, Wessler College Scholarships, LHSL, Hispanic Ministry, Synod

Calvary has no mortgage or line of credit balance.

Worship Anew

Lutheran Ministries Media, Inc.

Toll-Free: (888) 286-8002 www.worshipanew.org

Sunday 7:00 a.m. - WRTV-TV 6.1 (ABC) Sunday 11:30 a.m. - Direct TV Channel 377

September 2025

Being Totally Committed

September 7, 2025 – Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Scott Zeckzer

Being a disciple of Jesus is more than just contributing; it is being totally committed to Jesus. How far are you willing to be committed to Jesus? How far is Jesus committed to you?

Sermon Text: Luke 14:26

Readings: Psalm 1; Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Luke 14:25-35

Featured Choirs: St. Paul Lutheran School, Munster, Ind.; Lincoln Lutheran High School, Lincoln, Neb.; Holy Cross Men's Chorus, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Featured Art and Architecture: Rivercliff Lutheran Church, Sandy Springs, Ga.

Zealous for Your Salvation

September 14, 2025 – Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Dr. Walter Maier III

That you have been brought to faith in Jesus and have forgiveness and everlasting life is not by coincidence. No, this is because God is zealous for your salvation. God wanting you to be saved is seen in the history of Israel, in the earthly life of Christ, and in your own life. All this shows that you are precious to the Lord.

Sermon Text: Ezekiel 34:11-16

Readings: Psalm 119:169-176; Ezekiel 34:11-16; Luke 15:1-10

Featured Choirs: St. Paul Lutheran School, Concordia, Mo.; Concordia Lutheran High School, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Featured Art and Architecture: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Gainesville, Ga.

The Buck Stops Here

September 21, 2025 – Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer

Material riches are a wonderful thing ... rightly understood and ordered. Jesus teaches us to love the right things in the right order. Understanding this, we can faithfully say, "The Buck Stops Here!"

Sermon Text: Luke 16:10-13

Readings: Psalm 113; 1 Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13

Featured Choirs: St. Paul Lutheran School, Munster, Ind.; Holy Cross Junior Choir, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Featured Art and Architecture: All Saints Lutheran Church, Blairsville, Ga.

Heaven and Hell

September 28, 2025 – Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Shayne Jonker

So, who would you rather be? The rich man or Lazarus? We are all Lazarus: Helpless and hopeless in our poverty, sick unto death, and longing to even eat the crumbs that fall from God's table. Lazarus is each of us, and unless we see ourselves in him, we cannot be saved. In fact, we won't want to be saved.

Sermon Text: Luke 16:31

Readings: Psalm 146; Amos 6:1-7; Luke 16:19-31

Featured Choirs: St. Paul Choristers, Fort Wayne, Ind.; Holy Cross Men's Chorus, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Featured Art and Architecture: St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Dahlonega, Ga.

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

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Return Service Requested

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

Worship: Saturdays 5:30 PM

Sundays 8:00 & 10:45 AM

Family Education Hour (Bible Study & Sunday School) 9:25 AM

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