

# CALVARY LUTHERAN

CHURCH AND SCHOOL



## Church Newsletter

March 2026

## *From the Pastors*

### **In Christ Alone**

*"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." (2 Corinthians 5:17).*

What do you consider the key factors that shape someone's identity? Is it what they "do" (e.g., job, hobbies, activities, accomplishments? Is it their roles and relations (e.g., I am a ... mother, father, sister, brother, wife, husband, grandma, grandpa)? Is it their age? Is it their experience? Is it a matter of their nationality or politics or social clubs? Is it their genetics? Or is it some combination of all these things?

We live in a world in which we believe that we "create" our own identity. Our culture celebrates the stories of those who "make something of themselves." Our society extols those who have gone on the "journey of self-discovery" or those who have "gotten in touch with themselves. But, what about Christians? How would we define our identity? Where does our identity come from?

For all of the contributing factors that go into shaping our identity, Paul would argue the most important factor of our identity as Christians is that we are "in Christ" and Christ is "in us." Over and over again in the Scriptures, Paul celebrates the powerful message of what it means to be "in Christ."

- In Christ – we are a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17)
- In Christ – we are raised to new life (Romans 6:1-11)
- In Christ – we stand free and forgiven for there is NO condemnation for those in Christ (Romans 8:1)
- In Christ – we know that all things will work together for our good (Romans 8:31-39)
- In Christ – we are children of God, heirs of God's eternal kingdom (Galatians 3:26)
- In Christ – we are covered with His righteousness (Galatians 3:27)
- In Christ – we who were once far off have been brought near (Ephesians 2:13)

So, the question is how do I know that I am "in Christ"? When we once again turn to the Scriptures, we hear a common theme, believe and be baptized! In Baptism, we have been brought into Christ and Christ has entered into me. It is always amazing to me to see how many of the passages referenced above are connected to the gift of Baptism. As Lutheran Christians, we believe that Baptism "does" something! Baptism is God's work within our lives, where He is busy naming and claiming and saving us from the power of sin, death, and the devil. We do not simply say, "I WAS baptized." No, each and every day we have the opportunity to proclaim to ourselves and others, "I AM baptized." And that baptismal identity helps shape who we are and how we live. It gives us confidence as we trust the promise that the good work that God has begun in us, He will certainly bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

May you live this day in these gifts of your Baptism. For in the gift of Baptism, we celebrate the core belief of salvation by grace. God comes to me by no action of my own, and he washes me of my sin and makes me part of his family.

God's Peace, *Pastor Kurt Ebert*

*Outside of Christ, I am only a sinner, but in Christ, I am saved. Outside of Christ, I am empty; in Christ, I am full. Outside of Christ, I am weak; in Christ, I am strong. Outside of Christ, I cannot; in Christ, I am more than able. Outside of Christ, I have been defeated; in Christ, I am already victorious. How meaningful are the words, "in Christ."*

Watchman Nee

*"Remember, you are not a tree, that can live or stand alone. You are only a branch. And it is only while you abide in Christ, as the branch in the vine, that you will flourish or even live."*

Robert Murray M'Cheyne

## General News



### 2026 Midweek Lent Worship Schedule

#### MIDWEEK LENT SERVICES

Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m.  
 Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m.  
 Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m.  
 Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m.  
 Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m.



*Our midweek services will look at the Passion of Jesus through the lens of St. Matthew.  
 Series Theme: **Not our Plans, HIS Plan** (Matthew 26:1-28:10).*

### **Lenten Midweeks “Not our Plans, HIS Plan”**

**Wednesdays onsite & online at 6:30 p.m. (Feb 18-Mar 25)**

During Lent, we will be exploring the implications of God’s love for us. Our midweek worship will focus our attention on the Passion of Jesus through the lens of St. Matthew’s gospel.

Feb 25 - “Let’s Talk about Performance” (Matt 26:30-46)

Mar 4 - “God’s Powerful Weakness” (Matt 26:47-56)

Mar 11 - “The Problem is with Jesus Himself” (Matt 26:57-68)

Mar 18 - “The Tale of Two Disciples” (Matt 26:69-27:10)

Mar 25 - “See How Low He Stoops” (Matt 27:11-32)

### **GriefShare (Wednesdays, March 4<sup>th</sup> - May 27<sup>th</sup>)**

Faith-based grief support, help & encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member, friend. Wednesdays, March 4<sup>th</sup> – May 27<sup>th</sup>, 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.

### **Picnic with the Puppets!**

**Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup> 12:00-1:30 p.m.**

**Calvary Lutheran School gymnasium**

Ready for Spring? Come beat the winter blues with an indoor picnic featuring our Praising Hands Puppet Ministry. Enjoy an afternoon of food, puppets, and crafts. This is a free family event open to all ages. Parking is available in the North Lot for access through door #2.

Contact Calvary Lutheran Church (317-783-2000) with any questions.



## General News

### Daylight Savings Time (March 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 a.m.)

"Spring forward you must or late to church you will be." Set your clocks forward one hour the night before Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>.

### Save the Date—Vacation Bible School

**Mon., Jun 22—Fri., Jun 26 9:00-11:30 a.m.**

Step through the mist into Rainforest Falls, overflowing with wild waterfalls, towering trees, and colorful creatures. Beneath a canopy of chattering birds and howling monkeys, kids plunge into a lifelong adventure of discovering the nature of God. They'll explore what it means to be rooted in relationship with God, their creator, a safe place in life's storms.



**Interested in volunteering?** Email Kara Hiatt.

### Family Bingo Night

The Children's Ministry Team is hosting a Family Bible Bingo Night, **Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup>** from 6:00-7:00 p.m. This event is open to all ages and family types. We are also asking the wider Calvary family to consider supporting this event by donating prizes (e.g., \$3-\$15 items for kids and adults, such as art items, games, toys, candy). Please, no adult puzzles or toddler toys. Ensure all items are new. Bring donations to the church office by **Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>**.



### March Memorials

#### **In Memory of Jill Radcliffe:**

*Bud & Julie Pflug*

#### **In Memory of Lavell & Mary Ann Mayo:**

*Melissa & James Mayo*

#### **In Memory of Ed Steinbeck:**

*Melissa & James Mayo*

#### **In Memory of Mark Hasz:**



*Steve & Pattie Bardonner, Phil & Patty Rothkopf, Roxanne Deardurff,  
Pastor Art & Joy Wehrmeister, Jim & Kristen Schwark, Bob & Sandra Wilson,  
Steve & Laura Currier, David & Kyle Jones, Jim & Susan Richert,  
Marv & Rhonda Hansen, Jim & Jan Dunaway, Bob Polk, Margie Leive, Denise Fix,  
Dennis Meyer, Judy Stanford, Ellwyn Parks*

## General News

### Serving Where God Has Placed You

"Your labor is not in vain." (1 Corinthians 15:58)

There is no better place to serve God than right where He has set you. Every act of service, no matter how small, has significance and contributes to God's work in our world.

### Share Your Service Beyond Calvary

Are you volunteering outside of Calvary? We want to know! Calvary is currently gathering information about the community service roles undertaken by our members. By sharing your experiences, you help us celebrate and recognize how God is working through you in our neighborhoods, community, and beyond. It will also provide an opportunity for others to discover ways they can serve in our community.

### How to Participate

- Please take five minutes to complete a short form consisting of nine questions for each of your areas of service ([clcs.org/volunteersurvey](https://clcs.org/volunteersurvey))
- Paper forms are also available in the church office.



### Receive a Gift

The first 75 completed submissions will receive a voucher for Culvers/Chick-Fil-A, etc.

### What's Next?

Watch for details for upcoming service celebration opportunities.

### Easter Lily Order Form

\$20.00 each Order deadline is March 1st

Leave order with payment in the church office.

(Checks payable to *Calvary Lutheran Church.*)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Attached \_\_\_\_\_

*Easter is marked by many beautiful signs of life. If you want to add a personal touch to our Day of Resurrection, please order a lily to decorate the altar on Easter. Flowers can be picked up following our Easter services.*

## Executive Director

### **From Your Executive Director**

If one looks at the bottom of the left column on the front of our weekly announcements, our theme this year is clearly stated, from Joshua 24 :15: "As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD." A bold profession of faith, clearly stating to all our priority. This particular verse is personally near and dear to my heart: in our guest bedroom is the painted glass artwork that hung over my Opa's bed: "Jeb und mein Haus wollen dem HERRN dienen." As long as I can remember this was prominently displayed by him, a statement of his faith. I have no idea the age of this item, other than it's from the 1800s. And remarkably, last year I saw a near-identical version of it hanging, of all places, at the Indianapolis Liederkrantz.

The words "serve" (and "service") appear over 1,100 times in the Bible, in both the Old and the New Testament. It is an important word, one that Christ specifically used to emphasize His reason for being present, in Matthew 20:26-28: "But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, even as the Son of Man **came not to be served but to serve**, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

From that verse in the Gospels, Robert Greenleaf formulated his concept of Servant Leadership, which emphasizes the role of a leader is to first serve, establishing an example, providing support and tools, and letting others achieve. Some may recall I have taught classes at Calvary on this topic, as it has been my personal model for my adult life. I grew up in a family that served both the church and the community, and I hope I have set an example my children will follow: we are here to serve, not to be served. We have a responsibility to others, not just ourselves.

Sadly, there are many who expect to be served, placing their wants and desires above the needs of others. They expect others to cater to their whims, to fulfill their cravings, to place themselves in subordinate and inferior positions to them.

That's not who we are at Calvary. We know we are called to serve: we are to Engage People In Christ, CONNECTING others to Him and His church, LEARNING so we can help others learn, CARING to carry His love to others – all out of SERVICE to God.

Our congregation will soon begin the process of identifying servant leaders for the coming program year: finding those who will help continue the mission of Calvary established 95 years ago – ensuring our Pastors faithfully bring us His Word and Sacraments on a regular basis, and taking that message of the Crucified and Risen Christ into the world around us.

My request – perhaps even more forcefully, my plea – if a request is made by the current leaders and the nominating committee to serve in a leadership position, answer that request in an affirmative manner, knowing there is a reason for that request. Or, if asked to consider serving on a Ministry Team, or on a project, answer that in a positive manner as well. Our church's future depends on our future leaders who are servants of both Christ and our congregation.

As the prophet Isaiah responded in Isaiah 6:8: "Here I am! Send me."

Yes, send me.

In His and Your service,

Bill Laut

**Words of Promise**

Are you familiar with the "Marshmallow Test?" The premise of the test is to present a marshmallow to a child, but if the child can wait until the adult returns to the room the child will receive two marshmallows. The concept originally designed was to seek and understand the level of patience of the child. This test has been video-taped and results documented. It is fun to watch how some of the children pass the time away until the adult returns. Some children are unable to wait and eat the sole marshmallow. Others do indeed fight off the temptation and are rewarded with a second treat.

Perhaps other areas to consider with this test of time and patience should be further explored. For me the wait would be easy since I do not like marshmallows. In hot chocolate or summertime 'S'mores' I do not like them Sam I am (to quote Dr. Seuss). To sit and wait for something that does not interest the participant would fit into a category of not applicable. It must be understood that those being tested have a strong affinity to the item placed as a temptation.

What about the concept of trust? Another facet to ponder would be does the child trust that the words of promise are in fact valid and will be rewarded if waiting is successful? The choice may not solely rest on the child's willpower or resilience, but within the context of trust. Could the child rely on the adult's promise? Would the child feel secure that the reward would actually come? Was the child growing up in an environment where waiting felt safe, possible, and worthwhile? Those questions and considerations would all need to be factored into the results of the study.

God has given to us His Words of Promise. His Words are absolute. His Words are faithful and trustworthy. We have the privilege each day of proclaiming His Words with the students of Calvary Lutheran Church and School. Through the power of the Holy Spirit faith is created and nurtured through His Word. What a joy it is to share this message of promise. As we wait for His return, we stand sure in the hope of His promise. God's promise is eternal and not fleeting or temporal. We walk by faith and not by sight. When doubts or temptations come, we seek the Lord while He may be found. May the God of peace fill your hearts with the sure promise of life eternal in paradise with Him.

**Kindergarten through Eighth Grade Registration - 2026-27**

Registration for the 2026-27 school year continues. Registrations received will allow us to better prepare for the new school year. Staffing needs, equipment, facilities, and classroom assignments will be determined and finalized based on the enrollment numbers through this registration process. A few grade levels have already reached capacity. Families are urged to act as soon as possible to ensure an open seat.

Families re-enrolling for the new school year may do so through FACTS. You are asked to meet Ms. Brannon, our bookkeeper, in the school office to complete all financial paperwork. Your re-enrollment is not complete until BOTH the online and financial portion are done. Please contact the school office with any questions. We would be happy to help!

Please contact the school office with the names of neighbors, coworkers, and friends that may be interested in sending their children to Calvary Lutheran School. Heather McFarland, our Director of Admissions, will be happy to share the blessings of a quality, Christian education with all interested families. We share and extend this ministry to our Indianapolis Community as well.

**CHOICE Student Scholarship Application Window Opens March 2nd**

Calvary Lutheran School will begin accepting CHOICE student applications on Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Students that are enrolled for kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade for the 2026-27 school year may apply. Household income and size will guide this application process. For example, a family of four may have an adjusted 2025 gross income tax reported of \$235,000 and qualify for a CHOICE scholarship. Please contact the school office with any questions. We will be happy to assist you with this process.

## Calvary Lutheran School News from Principal Rensner

### **Second Trimester completed**

The second trimester is completed on Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup>. Report cards will be emailed on Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup>. We commend to the Lord all who teach and learn in this place for their tremendous efforts.

### **Spring Vacation**

Calvary Lutheran School will be closed for spring vacation beginning at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>. Our first day off is Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>. School will resume on Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. We ask the Lord to be with all those who travel during this vacation period.

### **IREAD 3 Testing**

Students in our 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> grades will take the IREAD 3 test the weeks of March 2<sup>nd</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>. 2<sup>nd</sup> graders will take the test as a means of assessment for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. All 2<sup>nd</sup> graders that pass the IREAD 3 test will not be required to retake it when they arrive in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. This test will be administered online. We desire the students to do their best on these tests. Please assist them by providing early bedtimes and nutritious breakfasts. Studies have also shown that limiting video games for one-two weeks prior to the testing will improve scores. Thank you.

### **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip to LHSI**

Our 7<sup>th</sup> graders will get a glimpse of high school life as they travel to LHSI on Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup> for Saints for a Day Adventure. The students will be paired with mentors and visit various classes and attend chapel. The day concludes with lunch being served to the students as well. We as the Lord to bless this day as He guides and directs decisions for future Christian Education years opened to our students.

### **SciFest at LHSI**

Students of Calvary Lutheran will compete with area Lutheran Elementary Schools in our Egg Drop SciFest event on Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. The students will create an apparatus in hopes of sustaining and protecting an egg dropped from increasing heights. We thank Mrs. Stacey Faubion for leading this event.

### **Daylight Saving Time**

Get ready to spring forward at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>. That's right! We push our clocks forward one hour. Rest up!



### **Calvary's 11<sup>th</sup> Annual CrossWalk/Run/Ride Event**

Our annual fundraiser provides supplies for the classroom, facility, security and technology while promoting a healthy lifestyle through walking, running and riding. This year our goal is \$40,000. A 3k/5k walk/run will be held on Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>. The school Walk-a-thon will take place during the day on Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup> followed by a Bike Rodeo for PS-5th graders in the evening. We are currently looking for individuals and businesses to sponsor our event with donations of \$100 or more.



Many volunteers will be needed for the many events being provided. In April, our students will be asking for sponsors for the walk on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. In the coming weeks, a Giving Tree will be placed in the church lobby to gather specific items needed for the various events. If you see a need that you can fill or would like more information about being a sponsor, please email Dawn Schultz at Schultz@thecalvaryschool.org or contact the school office.

## Women in Mission

### Ladies' Pinochle Club (Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup>)

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 **March 9<sup>th</sup>**. Questions?

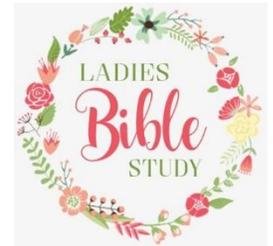
Contact Sandra Wilson.



### Ladies' Bible Study (Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 a.m.)

The March Ladies' Bible study will be on **Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup>** and will be from the Lutheran Women's Winter 2025 Quarterly and shared by everyone.

Join us in the Church Library on **Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup>** at 8:30 a.m.



### Extravagant Sharing

Please share, during the month of March. **Hygiene items, like toothpaste, soap, deodorant, shampoo, etc.** for those coming to Emmaus Lutheran Food Pantry. These items are also necessary to meet the needs of their clients. Boxes of cereal are always accepted!

Place your donations on the Extravagant Sharing shelves in the narthex across from the main church doors. Your care and support are greatly appreciated by our needy community and are a blessing to those who receive your kind donations.



### Blankets for Babies

Blankets for Babies will meet in March. Watch the bulletin announcements for more information.

We look forward to seeing some new faces!

Questions or interested in joining? Contact Susan Daniels.



## Adult Ministry

### Lunch Out! (Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 a.m.)

For our "First Wednesday" in March outing, we're meeting at Maple Breakfast & Brunch, 210 S. Emerson Avenue (next to Main St. Grille)

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, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 a.m.)

**Presenter:** Jill Lane, Proprietor of the Historic Doc Tilton House

**Program:** History of Doc Tilton House

**Lunch:** Beef Stroganoff, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, 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.**

Contact Brian Krohmer to be added to the email list for event updates.



### LAUNCH (5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grades)

All 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade youth are invited to the next LAUNCH event on **Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.**



### SAIL (7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades)

All 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade youth are invited to the next SAIL event on **Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.**



**Thank You for Supporting our College Students**

Many thanks for helping us mail care packages to our 25 college students. A package is always a welcome thing when you are away from home and as the studies continue. Even though it's a small gesture, it means a lot to them to be remembered by their church home. Thank you for caring!

**You Helped to Keep the Homeless Warm**

The donations for the homeless kept coming! We are so thankful for our school family joining us on this initiative. We were able to take over 4 loads of warm blankets, clothing, sterno cans, and other necessities in support of Trio Homeless Ministries. Your donations were especially appreciated during this very cold winter. Thank you!

**A Community Resources Booklet**

The Compassion team has put together a booklet listing community supports that may be helpful to you. Copies are available in the church office. Categories include the following:

- Addiction and alcohol programs
- Aging and caregiver support
- Children and family resources
- Disability support
- Employment
- Energy assistance
- Food pantries
- Gas cards
- Housing support
- Shelters
- Social security/Medicare/Medicaid/SHIP
- Transportation

**Thank You to our Church and School Staff**

The staff of our church and school have been working diligently day in and day out. Join us in thanking them when you come into the church or school. The Compassion team is providing a thank you breakfast to the staff on March 17<sup>th</sup>, and we invite you to extend your thanks as well.

## Stewardship Ministry

### Calvary Connects Update

As you are aware, in September, we initiated a capital campaign (Calvary Connects) to enhance our ministry by making much needed improvements to our facilities. Two of the projects for this campaign (the Café and the women's restroom in the Narthex) are already completed. The upgrade of the men's restroom is expected to be the next phase for this project. While we are still getting pricing for the project phases, it is expected that all the phases of the project to have a total cost of approximately \$1,250,000. Calvary's leadership initially designated \$500,000 from our reserves as a challenge match to encourage participation in the capital campaign.

As of February 2026, we are well over halfway to our initial goal of \$750,000 in pledges from our members. With over \$600,000 pledged by our members to date, we have more than met the \$500,000 challenge and are at about 80% of the initial goal of \$750,000.

If you have not yet made a pledge to the Calvary Connects campaign, please prayerfully consider doing so by completing one of the pledge cards found at the entrances to the sanctuary.

### Lenten Offerings Designated to the Student Assistance Fund

Contributions received in the purple-trimmed Lent envelopes or designated as "Lent" or through online giving will be used to support the Student Assistance Fund. The Student Assistance fund provides scholarships for Calvary members studying to be church workers. These scholarships are made possible by funds from both the Wessler Family Endowment and the Student Assistance Fund. Anyone who is considering pursuing an education in church work and would like more information on scholarship opportunities please reach out to the Stewardship Ministry Team.

### Calvary's March Partners in Ministry – Lutherans for Life and Life Centers

Each month we designate a different Calvary Partner in Ministry each month. This is to give our members an insight into external ministries supported by your gifts. This month's Ministry Partners are **Lutherans for Life** and **Life Centers**. For a complete list of Calvary Partners in Ministry please visit the "Partners" page at our website. <https://www.clcs.org/partners/>

**Lutherans For Life** exists to equip Lutherans and their neighbors to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life. We do this through our quarterly journal, "LifeDate," countless resources produced for local congregations, Life Sunday materials, speaking and preaching, online Chats 4Life, Frontline conference calls, Life Teams, Life Chapters, and Life Advocates, as well as national and regional conferences.

<https://lutheransforlife.org/>

**Life Centers** is an Indianapolis based organization whose mission is to affirm the value of life by providing a network of care to those experiencing pregnancy-related decisions and by compassionately presenting biblical truth resulting in changed lives to the glory of God.

<https://lifecenters.com/>

## Outreach Ministry

JOIN US FOR OUR  
**EASTER  
EGG HUNT!**

11 AM - 1:30 PM  
MARCH 28, 2026



All  
Free!

Egg  
Hunt  
@12:30

Chemistry Show  
Bounce Houses  
Petting Zoo  
Hot Dogs,  
chips, and  
drinks!

Volunteers Needed! Contact Marv Hansen  
marvin.m.hansen@gmail.com 317-358-7733  
Calvary Lutheran Church, 6111 S Shelby St  
www.clcs.org 317-783-2000

## Travel Together

### Travel Together 2026 and Beyond

Where might you like to go? We've found it most pleasant when you travel with friends and with a group, making new friends along the way. On **Sunday, March 1st at 4:00 p.m.** let's gather together in the Conference Room and discuss some possible travel locations. Pastor Art will lead the discussion, so fishing in Canada will be part of the conversation. But where else might you like to go? A Gulf beach? The Mediterranean? Frankenmuth, Michigan?? Join the conversation on March 1st.

## Portals of Prayer

### Portals of Prayer Renewal/Order Form

It is time to order or renew your subscription to Portals of Prayer—a daily devotion book.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ PH# \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$13.25 regular print; \$24.00 large print)

Make checks to "Calvary."

Drop forms off in the church office by March 23rd.

**Calvary Lutheran Church and School Financial Summary**  
**Second Fiscal Quarter Ended 1/31/2026**

<b>General Fund:</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Variance</b>	<b>Prior Year</b>
YTD Revenue	\$2,019,758	\$1,899,762	\$119,995	\$119,995
YTD Expense	\$1,818,202	\$1,837,555	-\$19,353	\$1,587,104
YTD Net	\$201,556			
Beginning Balance	\$1,386,196			
Current Balance	\$1,587,752			

<b>Revenue Detail:</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Variance</b>	<b>Prior Year</b>
YTD Contributions	\$553,634	\$595,122	-\$41,488	\$603,937
YTD Matching Gifts	\$11,950	\$10,572	\$1,378	\$12,023
YTD School Gifts	\$86,007	\$64,600	\$21,407	\$63,074
YTD Tuition and Fees	\$1,276,056	\$1,192,520	\$83,536	\$1,088,435
YTD Other Revenue	\$92,111	\$36,948	\$55,163	\$55,378

<b>Endowments:</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Prior Year</b>
Church Endowment	\$827,024	\$820,279
YTD Disbursement	\$40,660	
Mission focus:	Full-time Music Director	
Schwark Endowment	\$230,890	\$212,888
Schwark Annual Fund	\$1,697	\$18,344
YTD Disbursement	\$29,471	
Wessler Endowment	\$112,230	\$102,708
Wessler Scholarship Fund	\$4,618	\$8,162
YTD Disbursement	\$0	

<b>Outflow to Misstions:</b>	<b>Amount*</b>	<b>Special Mission Focus</b>
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, Scwark Scholarship Awards
Q3 (Feb-Apr)		
Q4 (May-July)		

Calvary has no mortgage or line of credit balance.

## Worship Anew

Lutheran Ministries Media, Inc.

Toll-Free: (888) 286-8002 [www.worshipanew.org](http://www.worshipanew.org)

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

### March 2026

#### Land, Legacy, and Life!

**March 1, 2026 – Second Sunday in Lent**

**Rev. Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer**

God holds your entire world in His hands through three special gifts: Land, Legacy, and Life! Learn how these gifts, promised more than four thousand years ago to Abraham continue to share our past, present, and future.

**Sermon Text: Genesis 12:1-3** Readings: Psalm 121; Genesis 12:1-9; John 3:1-17

Featured Choirs: Holy Cross Junior Choir, Fort Wayne, Ind.; St. John Lutheran Adult Choir, Indianapolis, Ind.

Featured Art and Architecture: Immanuel Lutheran Church, Grand Rapids, Mich.

#### Living Water

**March 8, 2026 – Third Sunday in Lent**

**Rev. Shayne Jonker**

Our sin has left us parched and thirsty. No mere water can quench our thirst for God. Oh, how we try the alternatives. But, the polluted puddles of this world's religions and spiritualities can't quench the deep thirst we have for righteousness, for wholeness, for peace. Only God can provide that Living Water which flows freely like a stream. Only God in the flesh opens up that stream to us so that we may drink and live.

**Sermon Text: John 4:10** Readings: Psalm 95:1-9; Exodus 17:1-7; John 4:5-26

Featured Choir: Lincoln Lutheran High School, Lincoln, Neb.

Featured Art and Architecture: Christ Lutheran Church, Woodburn, Ind.

#### Eyes That See

**March 15, 2026 – Fourth Sunday in Lent**

**Rev. Paul Shoemaker**

Jesus performs a miraculous sign, giving sight to a man born blind. What a tremendous gift! But the religious leaders, who were spiritually blind, refuse to see with the eyes of faith that the Man before them is the Christ. We thank God for spiritual sight and the opportunities we have to lead others to spiritual sight.

**Sermon Text: John 9:1-7, 13-17, 34-39** Readings: Psalm 142; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-7, 13-17, 34-39

Featured Choirs: Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School, Centralia, Ill.; Indiana District LWML Choir

Featured Art and Architecture: Zion Lutheran Church, Woodburn, Ind.

#### Is, Not Was

**March 22, 2026 – Fifth Sunday in Lent**

**Rev. William Mueller**

John 11 brings us to one of the greatest miracles of Jesus: raising Lazarus from the dead. In this account, Jesus also teaches us two powerful truths. He shows what it means that He is the Resurrection and the Life, and He moves us to discover that believing this resurrection truth greatly impacts our life.

**Sermon Text: John 11:17-27, 38-53** Readings: Psalm 130; Ezekiel 37:1-14; John 11:17-27, 38-53

Featured Choirs: Saint Paul Singing Saints, Concordia, Mo.; Lincoln Lutheran High School, Lincoln, Neb.

Featured Art and Architecture: Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Van Wert, Ohio

#### Do You Understand?

**March 29, 2026 – Palm Sunday**

**Rev. Scott Zeckzer**

We are told that the disciples did not understand what was going on during the first Palm Sunday. The crowds were excited about Jesus but were confused, too. What about you? Do you understand Palm Sunday?

**Sermon Text: John 12:16** Readings: Psalm 118:19-29; Philippians 2:5-11; John 12:12-19

Featured Choirs: Holy Cross Angelis Choir, Fort Wayne, Ind.; Holy Cross Men's Chorus, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Featured Art and Architecture: Emmanuel Lutheran Church, New Haven, Ind.

**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**

<b>Senior Pastor:</b> Kurt Ebert	kebert@clcs.org
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