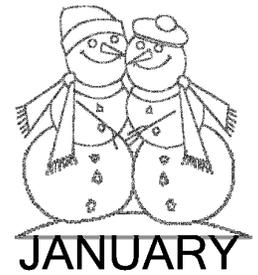


The Calvary Call



Calvary Lutheran Church

January 2016

Sign up today for the Ski Trip/Tubing — January 9, 2016

The youth are planning a ski/tubing trip to Great Bear in Sioux Falls on Saturday, January 9, 2016, and they are inviting the whole congregation to join them.

Sign up sheets are in the Friendship Room. We will meet at the church at 7:15 am and travel together to Sioux Falls and the Great Bear resort.

Costs are: \$10 per person for tubing; \$22 per person for lift tickets; and \$38 to rent ski equipment.

Bring extra funds for meals and other incidentals. We plan to return to Calvary around 2:30 pm.

Call DCE Mike Kipp at 402-394-1557 for more information or to sign up.



Sioux City Date Night

Plan now to attend the “Sioux City Date Night Marriage Retreat” sponsored by Calvary and St. Paul’s LCMS churches January 29 & 30, 2016, at the Stoney Creek Inn Hotel and Conference Center in Sioux City.

Cost per couple is \$50 (\$30 for Calvary Members and guests) for the Marriage Date night and romantic dinner on Friday evening and concludes with another presentation on Saturday morning with our guest speaker Jason Pankau of Life Spring Ministry Network, Itasca, Illinois. Jason Pankau M Div., is a multi-talented man: a football player & discus thrower for Brown University, a mission planter and an all around speaker in God’s church.

Nathanial Pfeil, Redeemer Lutheran’s Music director will provide special music on Friday evening.

Go to siouxcitydatenight.com and register today. Or, follow the link from Calvary’s website: calvaryleeds.com



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The Calvary Call

Keeping up with our Youth

January 9: Great Bear Ski/Tubing Trip

January 10: Super Bowl Sub Sandwich Sales begin

January 10: NYG Bible Study & meetings resume

January 20: Orphan grain Train field trip

February 7: Sub Sandwich pick up And Youth Super Bowl Sunday Party at DCE Mike Kipp's home

February 19: Junior LYF Roller Skating

February 27-28: Senior LYF Cinnamon Roll Fundraiser

Tentative plans are in the works for a Bowling night and/or Lock-in for March, as well as the annual Easter Sunday Breakfast hosted by the Youth.

There are lots of fun things planned for our youth in the coming months — Come and join DCE Mike Kipp and all our great kids.

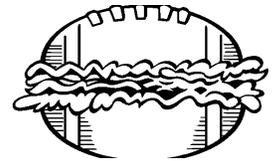
Sub Sandwich Sales Begin!

The youth will be taking orders for delicious Sub Sandwiches and all the trimmings beginning Sunday, January 10. See any youth or use one of the order forms in the Sunday bulletins starting January 10.

Your order will be ready for pick up on Super Bowl Sunday, February 7, 2016, from the Calvary Parish Hall Kitchen

All orders are prepaid and include the sandwich along with chips and a brownie. Soda will also be available for an additional charge.

All proceeds from the sale will support Youth Activities and events.



Do you want to really know Jesus in 2016?

The answer – walk with Jesus!

When I ask children: “Where is Jesus?” or “How can you walk with Him?” They give you a life changing simple answer, “Jesus is at church!” Others will say, “Jesus is Everywhere!”

God our Father and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ have always been everywhere! Psalm 19:1 says, “The heavens declare the glory of God, the skies proclaim the work of his hands.” God’s mighty handiwork is everywhere around us, we admire it, we praise God for it, but we never learn much more than God is mighty from the creation around us.

No, God chose to reveal himself very personally in the scripture. Our God wants us to eat with him, walk with him, and even hear His voice. In the garden of Eden, God walked with Adam and Eve in the cool of the day [Genesis 3:8]. During the Exodus God dwelt in a pillar fire by night and a pillar of cloud by day [Exodus 13:21-22]. To see him you went to the temple/tabernacle [Exodus 33:7-11]. It was there that sins were taken away and it was there where the people prayed.

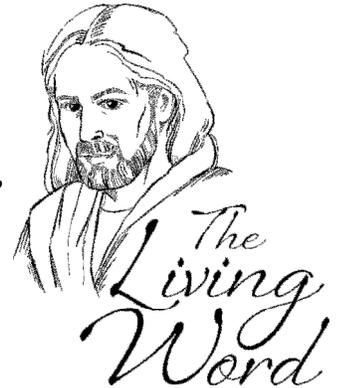
Now in the New Testament times, God abandoned the earthly temple and has chosen to be present wherever His Word is read/preached and wherever his body and blood are given [John 1:14, 2 Timo-

thy 3:15-17, 2 Peter 1:18-21, 1 Corinthians 11:23-25]. God is present in baptism and where two or three are gathered in His name [Acts 2, Matthew 18:20]. We learn more than God is mighty from this special presence. We learn His will for our lives. We learn His great love for us and His merciful nature. We learn that when someone sins and there is no trust they will be condemned.

So, yes this is a simple truth, to know Jesus more in 2016 means hearing His Word, taking the Lord’s Supper. Join a Bible study! Take the Lord’s Supper. Share God’s with others and you will find yourself walking with Jesus very personally. Yes we admire God’s handiwork in the sky and even in the desert, but how much more so closely!

John 14:24

“He who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me.”





I want to give thanks to God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ! 2015 was an eventful year for Calvary Lutheran Church. God's family had ups and downs. God brought us through all of them. God was especially at work in the tough circumstances.

It has been sad to see our 10:30 worship service lose so many people to sickness, the shut-in list, and other reasons. Many do not realize it, but Calvary at the peak this fall had 26 people unable to get to church because of health reasons and they have been on the shut-in list and receive personal visits from a pastor (if we know about it). God has a way of compensating though, our Wednesday 7:00 PM worship has almost doubled in attendance all year long! Praise God! God also blessed us with 19 in attendance of our second worship service at Pheasant Acres!

It was sad to see our DCE Cindy Storm retire after 17 years of service and return to her former church at Redeemer, but a blessing for her to spend more time with family.

It was sad to see so many beloved members go to be with Jesus this past year: Karla Wickstrom; Maisie Kallsen; Vertis & Jeanne Paulsen; Mason Reed; Claire Johnson; Jean Smith; and Ferris Ohl. But it has been a joy to see new babies baptized in the name of Jesus in 2015: Isabella & Olivia Strong; Sunny Rodriguez; Lilly Metzger; Faith Smith; Nora Lias; Raegan Zellmer and Rowyn Rangel.

In 2015 Calvary Lutheran Church spent over \$30,000 to replace and fix two roofs (a brand new roof over the midsection of the building), install new sidewalks, etc. This was done without taking a single dime for a loan. You are very generous givers at Calvary! However, we soon learned that the General offerings did not compensate and the treasury ran dangerously low! Thank-you Troy for your hard

— Pastor Travis

work to find monies we did not know we had (District Grant for \$3750, etc.) Praise God that Calvary members and friends were able to make all that back by January 2016 and even send our pledge to support Persephone James for \$5000 for the year!

2015 brought Mike Kipp among us to serve in a new role at Calvary as a Director of Christian Education with a youth emphasis. He and his wife Andrea and daughter Audrey have already gifted Calvary with unique new ideas and a love of music. Yes, newness comes with bumps as he gets to know us and we get to know him!

2015 was a challenging year for ushers. A number of them have moved or gone to be with Jesus, which means we as a congregation want to recruit from the next generations to help make worship edifying!

Lastly, Calvary was privileged to share a great deal in outreach. The bag-a-lunch, though scaled back to Wednesdays, left volunteers less overwhelmed and we were able to get to know our neighborhood children better.

Another first was Erik Larson's work to get a podcast going, men's ministry, and volunteerism. The podcast has been downloaded 1962 times from April to November 2015. That means roughly 58 people listened to one of the podcast services each week! To put it in Erik Larsen's words, "Calvary has a 4th Service that is 24/7."

Thank-you for a good year, thank-you to the Council, Board of Elders, CLWL, Outreach, Stewardship, Education, Youth, Social Ministries, Trustees, Confirmation Class Volunteers, Clyde Walker and Friends for Mowing the Lawn, VBS volunteers, Bag-a-Lunch volunteers, Cookie Walk – Exceptional Volunteerism for Missions and Support for the Youth, Rummage Sale. Then there are all the behind the scenes work, beautiful landscape work by 10 different families/individuals, cleaning, musicians, and so many food donations to help people! A lot was done in 2015, but it is not about us! Jesus is the real reason for this work and what is in store for 2016.

In Christ,

Pastor James Travis

The Calvary Call

Orphan Grain Train field trip

The 5th—8th Grade Confirmation classes are heading to Norfolk to tour the Orphan Grain Train facilities on Wednesday evening, January 20. All interested members and friends are invited to come along. We will leave from the Calvary Parking Lot at about 5:30 and return between 8:30—9 pm. Pastor Horkey will lead the 7 pm worship service that evening.

Contact Pastor Travis at 712-202-8516 for more information and/or to volunteer to drive.

LCMS 101 Classes

Come and learn about the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and what it means to be a member of Calvary Lutheran Church.

Pastor Travis will be leading classes on the second Sunday of each month beginning January 10, at 1 pm. It takes 4 classes to complete the course.

These classes are not limited to those who wish to join our church, but are open to everyone, including current members, who want to know more about our faith.

No pre-registration is required, but it would be appreciated. Call 712-202-8516 for more information or to register.

Food Pantry News

Each month, the Social Ministries Board requests donations of specific food items to fill our Pantry shelves.

January is “Beans Month.” You are invited to bring canned or dried beans of all kinds to church and place in the box in the Friendship Room. Be sure to check the expiration date on your items. We cannot use food that has “expired.”

Your help is much appreciated in filling our shelves to help our community. Thank you!

Please note: we have an ongoing need for bags to contain the foods we pack for our community. Heav-

National Gathering Meeting & Bible Study

All 8th-12th Grade Youth & their Parents who are planning to attend the National Gathering in New Orleans in July 16-20, 2016, will meet on Sunday, January 10, 2016 at 11:30 am for Bible study and a meeting.

We meet on the second Sunday every month at 11:30 am as we prepare for the Gathering. **Please note!** Attendance is required for all those who wish to attend the Gathering.



Sign up for Lenten Suppers

The Lenten season begins with Ash Wednesday on February 10 this year. The Youth will host a Soup Supper at 5:30 pm and all the congregation is invited. They will have a free will offering for the meal.

We would like to invite the other groups, boards and committees of Calvary to offer suppers for each of the following Wednesdays during Lent: February 17 & 24, and March 2, 9, 16, and 23.

See the sign up sheet in the Friendship Room at church.



ier weight bags, such as those from Bomgaars or Target are preferred, but all grocery bags are welcome.

We also want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for the great support we received this holiday season. We have helped many families in our community through our Food Pantry.

We would also like to remind you that the need is great all during the year and appreciated all that you do to help us meet those needs.

THANK YOU!

January 2016

From Mike Kipp—DCE

Greetings Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! I hope your holidays were filled with joy and happiness, as you spent time with family and friends and celebrated the birth of Jesus together. As the holiday season comes to a close, we are starting a brand new year. I don't know about you, but it seems like that at the start of a new year, I always reflect upon the past year and I think about all the wonderful memories, but I also think about all the mistakes I made as well.

Romans 6:1-4 says, "What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized in Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life."

As we enter a new year, it reminds me that it is a time for new beginnings and a fresh start. It is a time of change where it feels like anything is possible. I don't know about you, but I find myself making a resolution every year, which usually involves trying to improve myself in some way. One year, I promised to spend more time practicing music on my guitar, and another year, I vowed to help Andrea around the house more. You can probably guess how this story ends. I start off with enthusiasm and energy, but my resolutions fall by the wayside in a few short weeks. It is very difficult to change.

Resolutions are a lot like diets for me that start off great but don't last very long. If I want to make a real change, it has to be a committed lifestyle change. My challenge for everyone, including myself, as we enter a new year is not just making a resolution, but making a committed lifestyle change, especially spiritually. I have been challenging people to church plus one, which means going to church every week and then adding something like a Bible study, a small group, or whatever your heart leads you to do. To me, it is all about the heart and being fully committed to wanting to grow in our relationships with God and not just for a few weeks, but for our lifetime.



It's a
New Year

Aside from being the first month of the new year, January also contains a very special day in the church calendar: Baptism of our Lord Sunday. When Jesus was baptized, the heavens tore open and a voice shouted, "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased." We hear the same voice during our own baptisms, although maybe not as dramatically. Baptism assures us that we are beloved children of God.

Baptism also brings change. Paul, writing in the book of Romans, tells us that baptism is about transformation. Jesus died and was raised to new life; this is at the heart of the gospel story. Baptism shows us that this is our own story as well. Baptism assures us that we have died to sin, been made clean by the grace of God, so that we might be raised to new life.

In part, Paul is talking about how we will be resurrected after death, but this is not the whole of his message. Baptism also changes us right now, in the present. If we are assured that we are beloved children of God, then we cannot help but live differently! We try to live in a way that shares grace because we know that God has shared grace with us. We strive to avoid sin, not to earn love, but because we have been inspired by Christ's love.

Baptism truly changes us. It reminds us of the gospel message and moves us to transformation. This year, let us allow ourselves to be daily renewed by the grace of God. Perhaps some days that change will come easily, and other days, it will be as successful as my New Year's resolutions. But, by the compassion of God, we are always being shaped and molded into something new.

Isaiah 64:8 states, "Yet, O Lord, you are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand"

May God bless us all in the coming year!

Your Brother in Christ,

Michael Kipp, DCE

The Calvary Call

From Lutherans for Life

“God needs and wants you in His kingdom-building work. God thinks you are a valuable part of His team. God thinks that you have an important role to play. God thinks you are worth investing in. God actually stoops down to make you great. Seriously.”

Pastor Marke Jeske, www.timeofgrace.org –
 A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life •
www.lutheransforlife.org

Altar Flowers

Commemorate a special occasion or remember a loved one by providing Altar Flowers for the worship services in 2016. Sign your name to the poster in the Friendship Room or call the church office at 712-239-1575, and we will order a bouquet from Terry Lee’s Flower shop for a cost of \$37.45.

If you prefer to provide your own flowers, please let the office know at least one week before your date. We can accommodate up to 2 bouquets each week. Thank you for adding to our services with flowers.

Finance Secretary’s Report

Income Received for November, 2015

Envelopes.....	\$ 19,764.00
Plate.....	775.01
YTD Envelope & Plate Total:	\$213,044.52
Other:	
Sunday School Missions.....	82.00
Building Fund.....	125.00
Altar Flowers	32.10
Thanksgiving Offering	358.00
Advent Offering.....	822.00
Poinsettias.....	402.00
Parish Hall Use	30.00
Memorial Bricks	950.00
Lamplighters.....	10.00
LYF/ Gathering	70.00
Social Ministries/Food Pantry.....	135.00
Birthday Scholarship Fund	50.00
Thrivent Choice Deposit.....	228.00
Total.....	\$ 23,833.11
Deposits:	
11/06/2015 Thrivent	\$ 228.00
11/01/2015.....	4,838.51
11/08/2015.....	5,227.05
11/15/2015.....	3,116.55
11/22/2015.....	3,667.00
11/29/2015.....	6,756.00
Total for Month.....	\$23,833.11

2015 Year-to-Date Total:\$256,956.14

Treasurer’s Statement of Income & Expense

November 2015 —

Checking Account Balance, 11/01/2015	\$ 11,637.44
Plus Income	\$ 23,833.11
Less Expense	— 22,199.71
Plus Interest	.37
Plus transf. from LCEF	<u>0.00</u>
	1,633.77
Checking Account Balance, 11/30/2015	\$ 13,271.12
LCEF Steward Account Balance 11/01/2015	\$ 225.01
Plus Transfers In	\$0.00
Less Transfers Out	0.00
Plus Interest	<u>0.12</u>
	0.12
LCEF Steward Account Balance 11/30/2015	\$ 225.13
Dedicated Funds	
Social Ministries	\$.00
Building Fund	1,324.00
Designated Memorials	9,002.06
Undesignated Memorials	541.89
Dedicated Accounts	25,396.79
Outside Purposes	— 17.18
National Youth Gathering	1,462.15
World Missions	2.94
Capital Improvement	<u>1,001.98</u>
Total All Obligated Funds	\$ 38,714.63
Un-obligated Funds	— 25,218.29

Total Checking & Savings Funds \$ 13,496.34

Bulletin & Newsletter Deadlines: All information for the weekly bulletins must be turned into the Church Office no later than 12 noon on Thursdays. All information for the monthly newsletter must be turned into the Church Office no later than 8 pm on the 3rd Monday of each month. Thank you! The *Calvary Call* is published monthly by Calvary Lutheran Church, 4400 Central Street, Sioux City, Iowa, 51108. **Contact us:** Phone 712-239-1575; FAX 712-239-2466; email — Pastor Travis: Rev.Travis@hotmail.com Church Office: CalvarySecretary@aol.com; Church Website: calvaryleeds.com; Face book- <http://www.facebook.com/CalvaryLeeds>

January 2016

Book Club

Join us at Book Club on Thursday, January 21, 2016 at 11:30 am with a sack lunch.

Discussion of our January book, *Snow Day* by Billy Coffee, begins at noon.

We look forward to seeing everyone there. New people are always welcome!! Here is our book list for the rest of the season:

February: *Winter Dream* by Richard Paul Evans

March: *Thunder Dog* by Michael Hingson

April: *Go Set a Watchman* by Harper Lee

May: *My Antonia* by Willa Cather



Thank You!

“Thank you for the wonderful Thanksgiving Feast that Calvary provided for the Pheasant Acres residents. Words cannot express our gratitude for all of the loving kindness you have bestowed upon us in the last year. Thank you for Sharing your pastor with us each week.” *The Residents of Pheasant Acres.*

“We take this opportunity to thank all of you for the cards, gifts and many kindnesses you have shown our family this holiday season.” *Pastor James & Stacy Travis & Family*

Our Members in the Military

Please pray for these members:

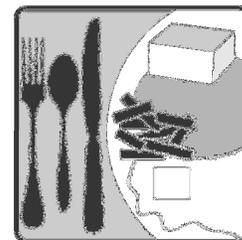
- Trisha Hansen (Home)
- Daniel Musselman (Home)
- Aaron Jessen (Alaska)
- Nick Hickman
- Joe Mansfield



(If your family has someone in the Military, call us and we will add their names to the list. 712-239-1575)

Meals on Wheels Volunteers needed

Can you commit to an hour a week and drive a vehicle? Meals on Wheels needs our help volunteering to deliver hot lunch meals to elderly residents in Sioux City. Please call Stan at 712-279-6900 ext. 2037



Calvary's Members at Home

At Holy Spirit:
Eva Hansen

At North Park:
Neola Carlson

At Bickford Cottage:
Walter Forke
Clarence "Pete"
Petersen

At Westwood:
Barbara Kamradt

At Countryside:
Glenda Hansen

At Whispering Creek:
Arlene Schindler
Marilyn Howe

At Home:
Edith Domnise
Ron Junck
Robert Lacy
Evelyn Miens
Shirley Monroe
Tom Rentel
Walter Schindler
Bill Schindler

At Northern Hills:
Orville DeJong
Donald Grieve



Calvary Lutheran Church
4400 Central St.
Sioux City, IA 51108
Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization
US Postage Paid
Permit No. 886
Sioux City IA



Like us on Facebook - <http://www.facebook.com/CalvaryLeeds>

Bringing Faith, Hope, & Strength to All Christ's People

Mercy Meals Schedule for 2016

Dear Friends of Mercy Meals,
Here are the dates for packaging Mercy Meals at Faith Lutheran Church in 2016:
Sessions begin at 8:30 A.M. and again at 10:30 A.M. running 1.5 hours each.
January 23, 2016
February 27, 2016
March 19, 2016 (3rd Saturday due to Easter)
April 23, 2016
May 28, 2016
June 25, 2016
July 23, 2016
August 13 – Special Event - LWML District Board
August 27, 2016
September 24, 2016
October 22, 2016
November 19, 2016 (3rd Saturday Due to Thanksgiving)
December - to-be-determined
Twenty-three (23) volunteers packaged 8226 Mercy Meals on December 26. This event was a Thrivent Action Team event encouraging people to bring fam-

ily members home for the holidays to package meals. We had five family members home for the holidays who packaged with us, and four new volunteers who packaged.

Mercy Meals of Siouxland packaged 232,782 meals in 2015 bringing the total meals packaged since we began in June 2012 to 805,819. We should surpass 1 million meals packaged in 2016.

There are still 14,000 children under the age of five dying every day from starvation or hunger related diseases. We have much work to do.

Mercy Meals of Siouxland relies on the generosity of donors to purchase materials and supplies to package fortified rice soy meals for starving children in the U.S. and worldwide. Is the Lord calling you to help with our effort?

A huge thank you goes out to everyone who helped in any way to bring food and the love of God to the hungry children of the world in 2015.

Blessings, Larry Joines