



## ***The Calvary Messenger*** ***March 22, 2024***

**Next Messenger will be sent out April 5, 2024.**  
**If you have questions, contact the church office at 320-235-2508.**



### **PASTOR'S MESSAGE**

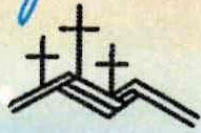
As we move into Holy Week, I am reminded of how Jesus' ministry was going to take a sudden change of direction and how this would affect the Disciples future ministries. Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem to his arrest, death on the cross to his resurrection 3 days later. It reminds me of how a river flows and moves through a valley. The Scriptures are rich in this river language, the life-giving rivers that flow through the Garden of Eden, the Nile River that Moses was placed into that saved him. Lest we forget as we are in the Gospel of Mark this year, Jesus' ministry started with him being baptized in the Jordan River. Rivers are life giving. Growing

up in East Tennessee in a broad valley, the Holston River was the main feature that flowed through this valley. It was fed by hundreds of mountain streams and springs and the water from the springs is so cold and refreshing. Growing up around flowing water I learned quickly that a person can't drink from a water source that wasn't moving. Stagnate water is poisonous and will make a person very sick, it can't be used for irrigation as it would harm the plants that need the water. Life needs water to survive and the water must be moving water to be life giving water. The church is like water, when it is moving and flowing in its community it is life giving and it provides so much to its neighbors and we are living into Christ's calling to love our neighbor as ourselves. Unfortunately, sometimes a church becomes stagnated, maybe because of its struggling with some grief and loss, maybe it got complacent but once it stops flowing it can become stagnate and ceases to be life giving. Grief and loss need to be dealt with in a timely and compassionate manner, and if a church becomes complacent it is usually because it is looking backwards not forward. A church can't be a flowing river if it is looking backwards; when the church looks forward and starts moving it becomes the life-giving water God has intended for the church to be. I pray that we continue to look forward and when we do, we will the life-giving water to our neighbors in Willmar and move into our calling to love our neighbor as ourselves.

Pastor Dwaine Sutherland  
Senior Pastor  
Calvary Lutheran Church  
Willmar MN  
651-500-7657

John 13:35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

Together



Calvary Lutheran  
Church Willmar

302 Olena Avenue SE, Willmar

[www.calvarywillmar.org](http://www.calvarywillmar.org)

320-235-2508

## HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES

### MARCH 23RD

5:30 pm - Calvary Chapel

### MARCH 24TH – PALM SUNDAY

8:00 & 10:15 am – In Person at Calvary and Online

11:00 am – In Person at Svea

### MARCH 28TH – MAUNDY THURSDAY

6:15 pm – In Person at Calvary and Online

7:00 pm – In Person at Svea

### MARCH 29TH – GOOD FRIDAY

12:30 pm - In Person at Calvary

3:00 pm – In Person at Svea

7:00 pm – Joint Service In Person at Vinje

### MARCH 31ST – EASTER SUNDAY

8:00 & 10:00 am – In Person at Calvary and Online

10:30 am In Person at Svea

#### WORSHIP SERVICES

Saturday Chapel Service: 5:30 pm

Sunday: 8:00 & 10:15 am Services



\*\*\*If you or a loved one would like a pastoral visit (ill, hospitalized, or just because), please contact Senior Pastor Dwaine Sutherland at (651) 500-7657 - [dsutherland@calvarywillmar.org](mailto:dsutherland@calvarywillmar.org) or Interim Pastor Wayne Kopitzke at (320) 841-1951 - [revwayne100@gmail.com](mailto:revwayne100@gmail.com). Pastor Dwaine and Pastor Wayne are always willing to provide support in time of need.\*\*\*

## COUNCIL NEWS

On February 28, 2024, Calvary Lutheran Church was notified by the president of Svea Lutheran Church, that the congregation would no longer be needing Pastoral support as of April 1, 2024. The youth will continue to be involved in confirmation classes for the Spring of 2024. We continue to pray for the people of Svea Lutheran Church and are thankful for their partnership in ministry.

At Calvary's Council meeting on March 12, 2024, the council approved moving forward with working on a new strategic plan. A motion was made and approved by council to reconvene the Strategic Planning Committee that was put on hold in 2022. If you are a member of this committee or would like to join the committee, please contact, Congregation President, Mary Jo de Cathelineau.

Mary Jo de Cathelineau, President

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Our Call Committee has met and received a Rostered Minister Profile (RMP) from a candidate interested in our Associate Pastor position. An interview has been scheduled in the upcoming weeks. Thank you for your continued prayers and support in our Call Committee work.  
Wayne Nelson, Chairperson

### *Singing Opportunities*

A Good Friday joint choir with  
Vinje & First Presbyterian,  
March 29, 7:00pm at Vinje.  
Contact Naomi asap if interested.



*A Calvary  
Easter Choir!  
Contact  
Naomi  
asap if  
interested.*

# FOOD SHELF MONETARY DONATION



## MARCH IS FOOD SHELF MONTH

March is the month that we emphasize the need to stock the shelves at the Kandiyohi County Food Shelf. We have a goal of \$1,600.00 for monetary donations. Last year we more than doubled our goal. Let's do it again.

April 7th is Food Shelf Sunday. There will be a table in the Narthex to drop off your food that Sunday. Donations can be received any time. The amount of grant money the Food Shelf receives is determined by how much food and money they bring in between February 26th and April 9th.

Thank you, Calvary, for giving to the needs of our community.

Social Kindness Committee



**Sunday April 7th from  
9:05am - 10am in the  
Gathering Place. Ages  
birth - 3. We will be  
talking about Jesus  
blessing the children**



**Join US For  
Early Childhood  
Family Sunday  
School**

## NTY

It's Spring!!! That means NTY will resume again!! We will meet on Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at noon. It was decided last December to have a potluck in April so if you are able, please bring whatever you wish. After lunch we will be entertained by the Sunburg Fiddlers led by Darlene Schroeder, the teacher. It should be a very enjoyable time! Please call the church office by 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> to register. I challenge you to ask someone new to join us. If they can't come for the potluck, anyone is invited to the program which usually starts about 1:00 p.m. Thank you. Wishing all of you a very Blessed and Happy Easter. If any questions, please call Diane Asche at 295-8938.



### Notice/Thank You

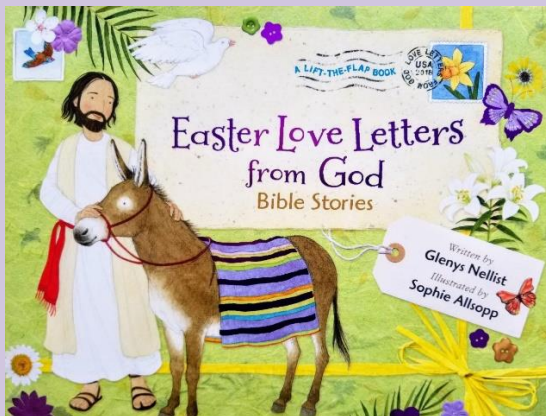
I'm writing this with a heavy heart. Sunday March 10th I gave my notice. I have many mixed feelings. Some of you are aware that I have been working part time for my niece's husband to help with his finances and office duties. His businesses have been growing and they are in need of a full-time person. I have been offered and have accepted that position. My last day working will be March 29th since I will start there on April 1st. I want to thank you all for the opportunity to be a part of Calvary's staff. I also want to thank all of our wonderful volunteers. We can't do it without you! Thank you for your support. I will see you in church!

God Bless.  
Teri Sokulski

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### Office Manager

Calvary Lutheran Church is looking for a full-time Office Manager. Contact Pastor Dwaine Sutherland if interested at 651-500-7657 or email [dsutherland@calvarywillmar.org](mailto:dsutherland@calvarywillmar.org)



### Library News

Are you looking for a way to teach your child about Holy Week and Easter? What if your child could also receive, open, and read his or her own personal mail from God to make the lessons come alive? *Easter Love Letters from God*, written by Glenys Nellist, contains seven beautifully illustrated Bible stories, each accompanied by a special Bible verse and an encouraging letter tucked away in its own lift-the-flap envelope.

**LIBRARY HOURS**  
The library will be open every  
Sunday between the  
8:00 and 10:15 services

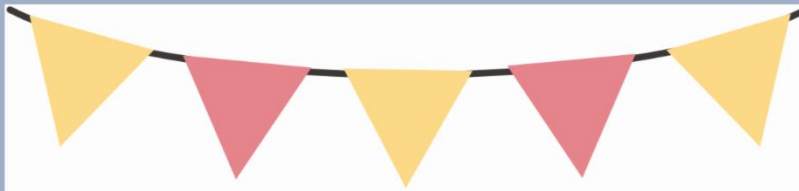
The image is a poster for an Easter Egg Hunt. It has a yellow background with a scalloped top edge. There are three white rabbits with pink ears and black eyes. At the bottom, there are several colorful Easter eggs in shades of pink, purple, and blue. The text on the poster reads: "Easter EGG HUNT", "Join us at Calvary Lutheran Church at 1PM for our annual Easter egg hunt. We will plan to hold it on the green space to the west of the church-in case of too much snow the backup will be in the parking lot.", "SATURDAY MARCH 23RD", "1:00PM", "CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH", and "302 OLENA AVE SE".

**Easter**  
**EGG HUNT**

Join us at Calvary Lutheran Church at 1PM for our annual Easter egg hunt. We will plan to hold it on the green space to the west of the church-in case of too much snow the backup will be in the parking lot.

**SATURDAY**  
**MARCH 23RD**

**1:00PM**  
**CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**302 OLENA AVE SE**



# BAKE SALE

*Raising funds for Nashville and Duluth*

*WHEN: March 24th from 8:30-12 in  
the narthex.*

*Buy some yummy treats and support  
the youth!*



## 2024 Financials February & YTD

	February Actual	February Budget	Over/(Under) Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Over/(Under) Budget
Income	\$ 84,120.21	\$ 67,387.50	\$ 16,732.71	\$ 144,904.85	\$ 134,775.00	\$ 10,129.85
Expenses	\$ 77,376.67	\$ 67,352.21	\$ 10,024.46	\$ 148,395.57	\$ 134,704.88	\$ 13,690.69
Net Income	\$ 6,743.54	\$ 35.29	\$ 6,708.25	\$ (3,490.72)	\$ 70.12	\$ (3,560.84)

## **WEEKEND ATTENDANCE**

**March 9 & 10 - 215**  
**March 13 - 115**  
**YouTube - households - 183**  
**General Offering - \$9,191.55**

**March 16 & 17 - 275**  
**March 20 - 116**  
**YouTube - households - 193**  
**General Offering - \$11,383.05**

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Worship service is rebroadcast at 10:45 am on KWLM 1340 AM and 96.3 FM  
(Vikings game rescinds the broadcast)

TV broadcast on WRAC channel 181:  
Tuesdays at 9:30 am & 6:30 pm, Sundays 1:00 pm & 8:00 pm

YouTube channel: Calvary Lutheran Church Willmar



*Announcements and other items for The Messenger are due by Wednesday at noon to be included in Friday's newsletter. Thank you!*

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**Calendar**

**Prayer Requests**

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Calvary Phone: 320-235-2508  
Calvary E-mail: [calvarylutheran@calvarywillmar.org](mailto:calvarylutheran@calvarywillmar.org)  
Calvary Website: [www.calvarywillmar.org](http://www.calvarywillmar.org)