



The Calvary Messenger ***January 24, 2025***

Next Messenger will be sent out February 7, 2025.
If you have questions, contact the church office at 320-235-2508.

Dear Friends in Christ,

*“I lift my eyes to the hills – from where will my help come?
My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.” (Psalm 121:1-2)*

Psalm 121 is a favorite of mine. It is a Psalm for sojourners...a Psalm for travelers. In this Psalm we hear a Hebrew poet crying out from a sense of fear and anxiety of what lies ahead in his journey. The psalmist is on a journey and is anxious and afraid of the unknown along the way. Sound familiar?

This Psalm about traveling, Psalm 121, reminds us in an interesting sort of way, that there are many people crying out for help amidst their life's journeys. Many suffer the loss of loved ones, depression, mental illness, physical disease, doubt, and separation from other people and from God. Wrestling with these daily crises on various levels, who of us would argue with the psalmist's question, "from where will my help come?" When we find ourselves sinking in the quicksand of some crisis, we do look up. We believe with the Hebrew poet that our deliverance is from above... "I lift my eyes to the hills." What we are saying is that God is with us in the midst of all that we are experiencing. To be sure, there are times when we think God has deserted us....that the hills are silent...and we too must cry, "from where will my help come?" This Psalm provides a word of strength and comfort for us. God is our helper...our creator...our keeper...our protector...our shade. Moreover, God is not only present in our crises to help, but as this Psalm of trust reassures us, God is with us every step of the way along our life's journey.

As a congregation, members of Calvary Lutheran Church are certainly on a journey together. Historically, Calvary has been a beacon of light and love in the Willmar community and beyond. Looking at the gallery of photos in Bethany Hall, we are reminded of the many women and men who have served as pastors along Calvary's journey. We are so very grateful for each and every one of them along this congregation's journey. Each has been a servant of God – preaching the Word, administering the Sacraments, leading worship, teaching, visiting, and officiating at weddings, funerals and memorial services. We are grateful for Pastor Dwaine's time with us, and we wish him blessings and Godspeed in the next chapter of his life.

As we as a congregation lift our eyes to the hills...I invite us to pray this prayer...
Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through joys and perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not always knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. ("The Ventures Prayer" -- LBW page 153)

With you on the journey...
Pastor Wayne

AV INSTALLATION UPDATE

The new A/V system is up and running!! Yippee!! The video liturgy portion will be a work in progress as that needs to be entered manually. The new system is a blank slate and nothing we had will transfer over from Easy Worship. Every song, prayer and announcement that we have had in the past needs to be typed in and slides made one by one all the while, learning how the new system works. Naomi will be the one tasked with the bulk of creating the new slides so be sure to appreciate her when you see her as she has a big task ahead. Think of it as a surprise each Sunday to see what we have managed to tackle and add 😊 Thank you for your patience with us and a HUGE thank you to those who are willing to learn the new system and all who have made the upgrade possible. If there is anything we can do for you in this transition, please don't hesitate to reach out to the office staff. Have a great week!

Also, we are looking for interested teenagers to adults to be involved in learning our new system. What an awesome experience this could be for ALL! Thank you so much for considering.

ANNUAL MEETING

Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 26th after 10:15am service. A light lunch will be served. We hope to see you there!

The graphic features the words "ANNUAL MEETING" in a bold, sans-serif font. Each letter is filled with a different color, creating a vibrant, multi-colored effect. The letters are arranged in two lines: "ANNUAL" on top and "MEETING" on the bottom.

SCOUT SUNDAY

Sunday, February 2nd, is Scout Sunday. The Scouts will be ushering and lecturing for both services. They will also be having a chili lunch served in Bethany Hall from 11 to 1pm. All are welcome!

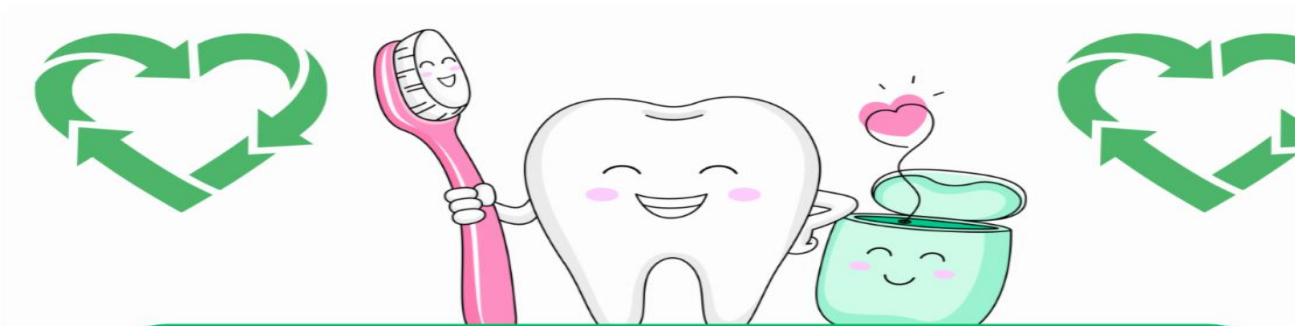
MESSAGE FROM CHURCH COUNCIL

"Heavenly Father, we pray for the hearts of our volunteers, that they may be filled with love, compassion, and a deep sense of purpose. May their service be a reflection of the kindness and grace that you have shown us. Guard their hearts from weariness, and renew their passion for making a positive impact in the lives of others."

A huge thank you to Calvary's volunteers - your time and talents are recognized and appreciated! Thank you for all you do each day to aid Calvary in its mission and work!! With gratefulness and appreciation
Calvary Church Council

YOUTH LED SERVICE / NOISY OFFERING

On Sunday, February 2, youth will be leading our 10:15am service, and we will also have Noisy Offering with money collected to go to the AIM Program. AIM is Advocacy & Inclusion Matter. AIM provides opportunities and resources to support inclusion and independence for people with disabilities. For more information, visit www.aimwcm.org



**Drop off your used dental products
February 8-9**
There will be a drop box in the narthex.
These products will be recycled
and kept out of the landfill.



(Empty tubes-Any brand)



(Empty mouthwash contain



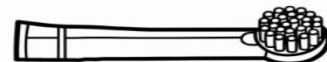
(Used floss picks)



(Empty floss container



(Used toothbrushes)



(Used brush heads)

CREATION CARE

Turn your thermostat down when using your fireplace – Save up to \$10 per year. You may be surprised to learn that fireplaces often lose more heat than they provide. That's because a fireplace must have air in order for the fire to burn. This air comes from your heated living space and is exhausted up the chimney, meaning your heating system must work harder to warm your home. Fireplaces also lose heat continuously even when they are not in use.

Anyone is welcome to join us for our meetings and learn more about the committee. We meet the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm.

FEBRUARY 2025 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, February 1st	5:30pm Traditional Worship in the Chapel
Sunday, February 2nd	8:00am Traditional Worship 9:05am Sunday School 10:15am Praise Band Youth Led/Noisy Offering/Scout Sunday
Saturday, February 8th	5:30pm Traditional Worship in the Chapel
Sunday, February 9th	8:00am Traditional Worship 9:05am Sunday School 10:15am Praise Band
Saturday, February 15th	5:30pm Traditional Worship in the Chapel
Sunday, February 16th	8:00am Traditional Worship with Calvary Bell Choir 9:05am Sunday School 10:15am Praise Band Camp Sunday
Saturday, February 22nd	5:30pm Traditional Worship in the Chapel
Sunday, February 23rd	8:00am Traditional Worship 9:05am Sunday School 10:15am Praise Band

Pastor Dwaine wants all of you to know that he is open to hearing from any of you. Here is his contact information:

Pastor Dwaine Sutherland
gerald.sutherland82@gmail.com
14424 Bentley Way
Rosemount MN 55068
651-500-7657

*Hey Calvary campers, our
camp week is set!*

**OUR CONGREGATION IS GOING
TO CAMP JUNE 15-19!**



NAME TAGS

If you requested a new name tag, please stop by the Church Office to pick it up. Thank you.



SILENT BIBLE STUDY

Have you made a New Year's resolution to spend more time studying the Bible? Join us at Silent Bible Study in the Library on Wednesday, January 29th at 12:00 noon. Watch the calendar for more dates to follow.

WEEKEND ATTENDANCE

January 11-12 - 170
YouTube - 166 households
Sunday School - 35
General Offering - \$12,574.77

January 18-19 - 146
No Sunday School/No YouTube

If you or a loved one would like a pastoral visit (ill, hospitalized, or just because), please contact:

Associate Pastor Amy Juel
(320) 282-2225 - ajuel@calvarywillmar.org

Associate Pastor Wayne Kopitzke
(320) 841-1951 - revwayne100@gmail.com

Our pastors are always willing to provide support in time of need.

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 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!



Calvary Phone: 320-235-2508
Calvary E-mail: calvarylutheran@calvarywillmar.org
Calvary Website: www.calvarywillmar.org

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