

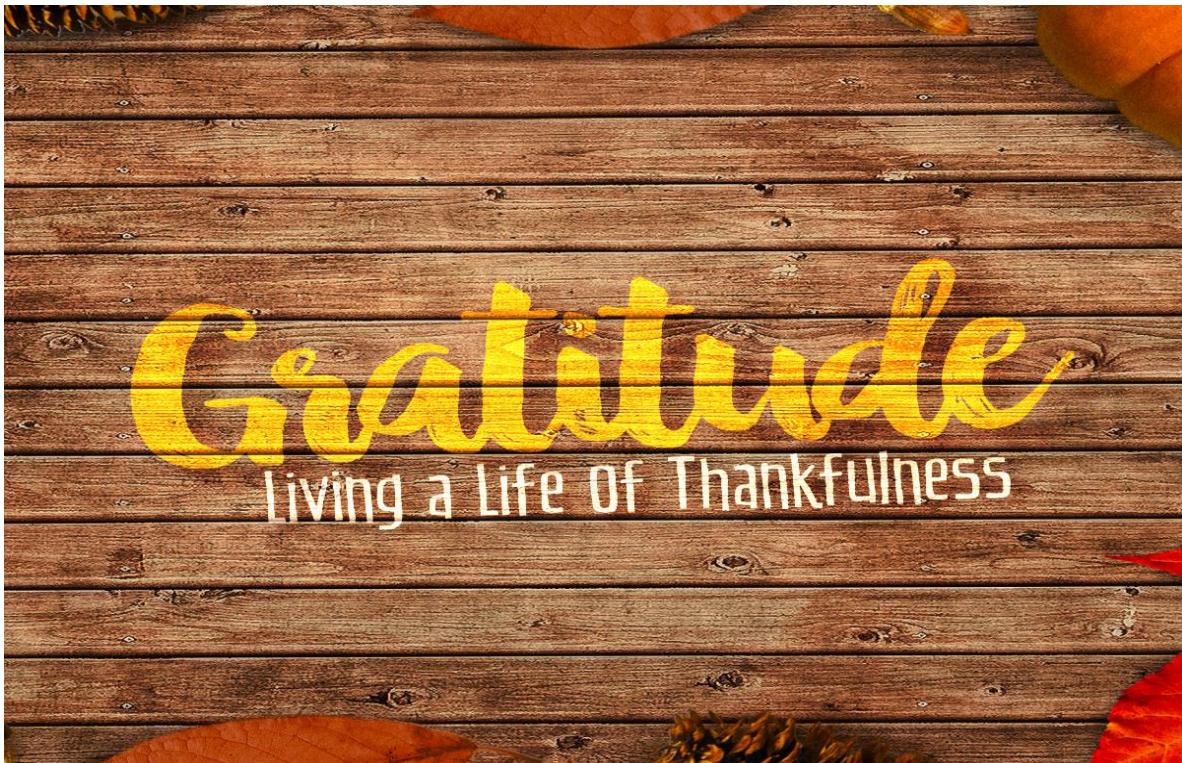


## ***The Calvary Messenger*** ***October 3, 2025***

**Next Messenger will be sent out October 17, 2025**  
**If you have questions, contact the church office at 320-235-2508.**

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### **Our Four Week Sermon Series for October-**



**Receiving Bibles this weekend are:**

**3 Year Olds:** Rennick Ashburn, Maddyn Berget, Mia Bonnema, Kelton Hurley, Xavier Beecroft, Kiaya Beecroft

**4 Year Olds:** Olivia Baker, Haidyn Chouanard, Benjamin Goosmann, Sabrina Jaeger

**3rd Graders:** Marek Ashburn, Harper Chouanard, Soren Larson, Blake Nurmi, Bailey Steinbeisser

# OCTOBER

## 2025 WORSHIP AT CALVARY

<b>Saturday, Oct. 4<sup>th</sup></b>	5:30pm Traditional Worship in the Chapel
<b>Sunday, Oct. 5<sup>th</sup></b>	9:00am Array Worship - Youth Led/Noisy Offering Bibles presented to 3 Year Olds and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade 10:00am Coffee/Fellowship 10:15-11:15am Sunday School
<b>Saturday, Oct. 11<sup>th</sup></b>	5:30pm Traditional Worship in the Chapel
<b>Sunday, Oct. 12<sup>th</sup></b>	9:00am Traditional Worship 10:00am Coffee/Fellowship 10:15-11:15am Sunday School
<b>Saturday, Oct. 18<sup>th</sup></b>	5:30pm Traditional Worship in the Chapel
<b>Sunday, Oct. 19<sup>th</sup></b>	9:00am Array Worship 10:00am Coffee/Fellowship 10:15-11:15am Sunday School, God and Me
<b>Saturday, Oct. 25<sup>th</sup></b>	5:30pm Traditional Worship in the Chapel Coffee w/ Council following
<b>Sunday, Oct. 26<sup>th</sup></b>	9:00am Traditional Worship 10:00am Coffee with Council in <u>Friendship AND Koinonia Rooms</u> Stewardship Job Fair 10:15-11:15am Sunday School
FYI...	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Weekends-Communion by intinction 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> Weekends-Communion with cups



PreK - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade will be singing  
October 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am Array Worship!

## FAITH FORMATION / SUNDAY SCHOOL & CONFIRMATION UPDATES & REMINDERS:

**\*\* Sunday School begins at 10:15 and ends at 11:15. There is coffee fellowship in the Friendship Room as well as a new COFFEE BAR in the Koinonia Room on the second floor of the Sunday School Wing. Parents are invited to stay and socialize, join in when Adult Forums are offered, check out the Library, or just relax!**

**\*\* Students in grades 1-5 have Opening in the Sanctuary at 10:15- they can go to the Sanctuary before going to their classroom. Students in 3 year old, 4 year old, and Kindergarten classes can go to their classrooms to begin their day.**

**\*\* Offering Envelopes were given to each student. We are going to receive Sunday School offering during music time in the Sanctuary. Students were told about why offerings are collected (to help others) and we plan to decide as a Sunday School where our offerings will be donated. Just a reminder that there are many types of offerings and sharing of gifts- helping a friend is an offering; donating a coin is an offering; praying a prayer or singing a song is an offering. Please have a conversation with your child/children about loving others by giving of our time, skills, talents, or finances, and be blessed to share in whatever way is best for your family.**

**\*\* "God & Me" monthly EARLY CHILDHOOD FAMILY SUNDAY SCHOOL for families and their students younger than three years old will be held the THIRD SUNDAY of each month. Elissa Nelson is leading the group. We will meet in the Gathering Space from 10:15-11:15. Elissa will lead parents and children through a Bible Story and activities, songs, toys, and crafts that connect with the story of the day.**

**\*\*THREE YEAR OLDS and THIRD GRADERS will receive Bibles during worship on Youth Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. If you have a student who is older than 3 or older than 3<sup>rd</sup> grade who has not received a Bible, please contact Pastor Amy or the church office and we will present a Bible to your student as well!**

**\*\* BRING YOUR BIBLE CHALLENGE FOR ALL AGES!!!- Each Sunday and Wednesday our classes will be tracking who brings their Bible to Sunday School/ Confirmation with them! Before Christmas Break and at the end of the school year we will award PRIZES to those who have brought their Bibles THE MOST 😊. EACH STUDENT who has brought their Bibles EVERY SUNDAY or WEDNESDAY will receive a \$10 DAIRY QUEEN GIFT CARD!!!! (Students who do not have a Bible can get one from Pastor Amy).**

**\*\*PIZZA or SUBS will be served at CONFIRMATION each Wednesday night! Food will be ready by 6pm – students are welcome to come early and relax/ eat before Confirmation starts at 6:15.**

**\*\*HOPE FOR OUR CITY / CONFIRMATION SERVICE PROJECT NIGHT is scheduled for October 15<sup>th</sup> from 5:15pm – 6:30pm. More information will be sent out via email in the coming days.**

**\*\*YOUTH LEADERSHIP TEAM will meet Sunday, October 12 at 5pm to finish plans for the Halloween Party for the congregation on Friday, October 24.**

### **HALLOWEEN PARTY FOR ALL!**

**Bring friends, bring neighbors! Dress up if you'd like! Everyone is welcome!**

**Friday, October 24 – 6pm to 8pm**

**GAMES + TREATS + CRAFTS + CONTESTS + BOB for APPLES + MUSIC + FUN!**

**Hosted by the Youth Leadership Team**

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Calvary's **Family Promise** Host Week - We need a volunteer for a meal on Thursday, October 23 and a grocery shopper for Monday, October 20. If you can help, please call Joni Hanson at 320-220-1324.

# Disturbing News



Flowers and grave decorations have gone missing from many cemeteries in the community.



Be assured, the Calvary Cemetery Staff has not removed these items.

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## **NTY, Friday, October 10, 12:00 Noon**

Jenny Bork, Membership Coordinator/Speaker at Hawk Creek Animal Shelter in Willmar will be sharing pictures and stories of her experiences with pets at the animal shelter. If you can't make it for the noon lunch, come and enjoy the program at 1:00. Please call the church office by 4:30 Wednesday, October 8, to register for the catered lunch. Cost for lunch is \$7.00, payable in Bethany Hall and not at the church office. Thank you. If any questions, please call Diane Asche at 295-8938.

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**Altar Guild** meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 14 at 5pm in the Friendship Room.

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**Flu & Covid Shots at Calvary** by Cub Pharmacy - Monday, October 13th, 10am-12pm in the Friendship Room. Bring your insurance card if you have one.

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## **Cemetery News**

We are reorganizing the Cemetery Committee.  
Anyone interested in volunteering and helping at the Calvary Cemetery, please contact Kevin Hanson at [kevinhanson@edinareality.com](mailto:kevinhanson@edinareality.com) or 320-894-7949





GREEN LAKE LUTHERAN MINISTRIES  
*is becoming* WATER'S EDGE MINISTRIES



Take a holy pause. Step away from daily stressors and escape to Shores of St. Andrew for a weekend of spiritual freedom, fellowship, and fun. Together, we'll dig deeper into the stories of women in the New Testament and explore how their witness continues to shape our faith lives today.

Through discussion, reflection, and creative practices—like watercolor, journaling, doodling, prayer pebbles, and hands-on prayer stations—you'll be invited to encounter scripture in new ways. Each participant will create their own scripture journal, a personal space to write, create, and reflect while sharing perspectives with others.

Come ready to meet incredible women and connect with friends—whether it's your best gal pals, staff alumni besties, church buddies, or even that neighbor God has been nudging you to invite.

**Retreat Leader: Amanda "Ace" Hoefs**

Amanda serves as the Youth Ministry Director at Decorah Lutheran Church in Decorah, IA, and brings a creative, hands-on approach to faith formation. With a background in art and a Master's in Children, Youth, and Family Ministries from Luther Seminary, she has spent over 15 years serving in Bible camp and congregational ministry.



Amanda lives in Spring Grove, MN, with her husband Ryan, their two daughters, and their fluffy cat Freyja. In her free time, she enjoys pottery, running, hiking, and exploring with her family.

**REGISTER  
ONLINE AT  
GLLM.ORG**



The Interior Decorating committee is looking for a donation of 8-10 real pumpkins to use in our Fall Harvest decorating in November. A few gourds would also be welcome. If you have any that we could use, please contact Lori Holmgren (320-905-8431) or Cathy Halbritter (320-979-0129). We can take them prior to November and store them.

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### LIBRARY NEWS

The Calvary Library is looking for volunteers to work in the library after the 9am Sunday Worship during the Sunday School hour. This is a no stress volunteer opportunity and training will be provided. If this is something that you might be interested in helping with, please contact Beth Bloomquist (320-905-8678), Kristi Glup (320-979-0295), or Cathy Halbritter (320-979-0129).

### Book Summary

**The Giving Tree** by Shel Silverstein is a favorite book of many. This moving parable for all ages offers a touching interpretation of the gift of giving and a serene acceptance of another's capacity to love in return. Every day the boy would come to the tree to eat her apples, swing from her branches, or slide down her trunk...and the tree was happy. But as the boy grew older, he began to want more from the tree, and the tree gave and gave and gave. This is a tender story, touched with sadness, aglow with consolation



Willmar Middle School Gateway to Technology classes are looking for 1/2-gallon cardboard containers. The goal is to have 40 by December for their upcoming project. Be sure to rinse the containers and can be dropped off near the harvest share table at the east entrance. Thank you!

## GOOD NEWS in Minnesota: Clean Energy & Climate Action

MONDAY, OCTOBER 13  
6:00 PM



**J. Drake Hamilton**  
*Featured speaker*

Kennedy Elementary School  
824 7th St SW, Willmar  
Little Theater

J. Drake Hamilton serves as Fresh Energy's Managing Director of Science Policy and is recognized nationally as an expert on the economic opportunities in green energy. She holds degrees from Dartmouth College and the University of Minnesota, where she specialized in climatology and water resources. An energizing public speaker, J. Drake Hamilton will highlight how Minnesota's climate and energy resources affect our daily lives and impact our family budgets.

**LWV** LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF WILLMAR AREA

**WILLMAR**  
COMMUNITY  
EDUCATION  
*Inspire. Engage. Learn.*



**WEST CENTRAL SINGERS**  
presents  
**A BIT OF NORWAY**

Director Naomi Powers-Baker  
Accompanist Kari Stadem  
Special Guests Fiddlers  
from Sunburg Community Music



**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2025 | 4 PM**  
First Lutheran Norway Lake  
6338 Cty Rd 40 NW | New London, MN

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2025 | 4 PM**  
Calvary Lutheran Church  
302 Olen Ave SE | Willmar, MN

**westcentralsingers.com**  
Tickets Available at the Door  
Children & Students free! | Adults \$10

This activity is funded in part with a grant from the Southwest Minnesota Arts Council made possible by the voters of Minnesota, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

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# TRANSITION TEAM Update

This past weekend the Transition Team hosted a brief summit with members of the Church Council at Green Lake Bible Camp. The purpose of the meeting was to explore the results of our recent CAT survey and start coming up with immediate actionable items. Worship and Hospitality has been identified as the key areas in need of improvement. Ensuring Calvary is a warm and welcoming place needs to be a top priority.

Creating a lively and highly impactful worship environment will ensure that we, together in Christ, continue to "be empowered to BE and MAKE disciples"

We are so thankful for everyone who participated in the survey and answered earnestly. This data has given us immediate direction and we are excited to begin making the improvements you have all asked for. Reminder: be on the lookout in your inboxes for Pastor Kurt Jacobson's CAT survey report. Also, as a reminder the Transition Team will be hosting a meeting Thursday, October 9th at 7pm in the church to field any unanswered questions and dive deeper into the results.

Thank you again for all of your support,  
Calvary Transition Team

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**\*If you or a family member has a health update, is hospitalized, or is in need of a visit, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE and we will visit you. We appreciate the opportunity to share all aspects of your life with you- both the celebrations and the sadness. You are not alone... and you are loved.**

Associate Pastor Amy Juel  
(320) 282-2225 - [ajuel@calvarywillmar.org](mailto:ajuel@calvarywillmar.org)

Interim Pastor Rick Hoyme  
(715) 579-6208 - [rhoyme@calvarywillmar.org](mailto:rhoyme@calvarywillmar.org)

**If you would like to contribute to the mission of Calvary Lutheran Church, please click on our QR code. Thank you!**



## WEEKEND ATTENDANCE

*September 20-21 - 210  
YouTube - 117 households  
Offerings - \$7,851.60*

*September 27-28 - 212  
YouTube - 76 Households  
Last Week's Financials  
IRA/QCD/s \$4650.00  
Online Giving \$1913.85  
Sat/Sun Giving \$2315.50  
Total \$8879.35*

### **2025 Calvary Council Leaders**

**Brian Henrickson - Chair** - 218-770-0318, [brian.henrickson60@gmail.com](mailto:brian.henrickson60@gmail.com)  
**Dion Warne - Vice Chair** - 320-222-0050, [dwarne@hsbofmn.com](mailto:dwarne@hsbofmn.com)  
**Bridget Pederson - Secretary** - 320-262-2638, [bridgetpederson@yahoo.com](mailto:bridgetpederson@yahoo.com)  
**Harley Aalfs** - 320-894-4446, [hlaemc@icloud.com](mailto:hlaemc@icloud.com)  
**John Dean** - 320-212-5235, [jaydeawillmar@gmail.com](mailto:jaydeawillmar@gmail.com)  
**Cathy Halbritter** - 320-979-0129, [jchalbritter@gmail.com](mailto:jchalbritter@gmail.com)  
**Lori Holmgren** - 320-905-8431, [clholmgren@hotmail.com](mailto:clholmgren@hotmail.com)  
**Meghan Knott** - 320-894-3024, [meghanreeneeknott22@gmail.com](mailto:meghanreeneeknott22@gmail.com)  
**Jan Ruby** - 320-796-0247, [jcruby@outlook.com](mailto:jcruby@outlook.com)

### **Calvary's Worship Services are available:**

**Sundays - 10:45am KWLM 1340AM or 96.5FM**

**- 1 & 8pm WRAC 181**

**Tuesdays - 6:30pm WRAC 181**

**Anytime on YouTube -**

**[www.youtube.com/@calvarywillmar](http://www.youtube.com/@calvarywillmar)**



***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](mailto:calvarylutheran@calvarywillmar.org)  
Calvary Website: [www.calvarywillmar.org](http://www.calvarywillmar.org)