



# ***The Calvary Messenger***

## ***January 2, 2026***

**Next Messenger will be sent out January 16, 2026**

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**Dear siblings in Christ at Calvary-**

**After careful consideration, your Church Council has decided to withdraw the proposed Bylaw change and vote from the January 25 Annual Meeting agenda.**

**The proposed change was recommended by interim Pastor Rick Hoyme. He suggested that the bylaw, as currently written, is a process that he has not seen churches use for several years. Most churches have amended their bylaws to take the onus off the pastor of the church to make individual visits to people who have not been active in the life of on congregations for multiple years. Interim Pastor (former Bishop) Hoyme wrote the amended version of this bylaw prior to his departure. Church council moved forward with placing this on the agenda for the annual meeting, but we realize now that more discussion within the congregation is necessary prior to holding such a vote.**

**We apologize for any confusion or frustration that this has caused. We thank Paula and Marie in the church office for doing their best to alleviate people's worries. We appreciate those congregation members who have asked questions and brought concerns in a loving and constructive manner.**

**In His humble service.**

**Calvary Church Council**

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

**Dion Warne – 320-222-0050 – [dwarne@hsbofmn.com](mailto:dwarne@hsbofmn.com)**

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### **GATHER & GROW FORUM**

**(formerly Adult Forum)**

**\*Sunday, January 4th following Worship**

**\*Lyle Loge will teach us about our AED (Automated External Defibrillator) and how to give immediate medical aid in a church setting - Held in the Friendship Room**

**\*Coffee and goodies will be served**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES SUNDAY, JANUARY 4 at 10:15am.** Remember to bring your Bible- we'll be keeping track from now until the end of the Sunday School year and giving prizes for those who bring their Bibles each week!!!

**CONFIRMATION RESUMES WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7!** Supper at 6pm. Classes from 6:15-8pm. Bring your Bible- we'll be keeping track from now until the end of the Confirmation year and giving prizes for those who bring their Bibles each week!!!

### **YOUTH LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING**

**Sunday, January 11 at Noon - Koinonia Room**

**CHRISTMAS GIFTS for Sunday School  
and Confirmation families**

If your family did not receive a Christmas gift following the Christmas Program on December 14, please let Pastor Amy know or stop by the church office to pick one up!

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**PLEASE NOTE: The Quilting Group resumes Thursday, January 8th at 1pm. Please join them for the many jobs for putting together a quilt and wonderful fellowship. Yummy treats are also served!**

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**BIO OF BROTHER DOUG DOCKTER, n/OLF**

Brother Doug Dockter, n/OLF, is a senior seminarian at Luther Seminary and serves as Lutheran Chaplain at Willmar Campus Ministry Center (serving Ridgewater students and the community). He retired as a commissioned officer after nearly 24 years in the U.S. Air Force, then managed North American supply chain and materials management operations for a Japanese semiconductor firm until 2009. Before seminary, he worked in music, entertainment, and radio. Pastor Amy has supervised his contextual training in both parish and campus ministries.

Brother Doug also belongs to the Order of Lutheran Franciscans, the ELCA's first vowed religious community, which has grown from three to over 150 members since 2011. The order follows Franciscan traditions of prayer, poverty, chastity, obedience, and a commitment to supporting the poor, caring for creation, bridge-building, spiritual renewal, and nonviolence.

**THANK YOU** to Brother Doug Dockter for assisting in Worship through Christmas Week! Thank You also for providing pulpit supply and being on call in case of pastoral emergency while Pastor Amy is on vacation December 31 through January 7.

\*If you have an emergency or are in need while Pastor Amy is gone, please call the church office at 235-2508 or Brother Doug at (320) 444-7716.

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**Creation Care Plastic Recycling**

We are working toward our 7th bench!

A reminder that even though we love earning the benches, our #1 goal should be to **REDUCE our use of plastic.**

Thanks for all your efforts!

***\*\*A special thanks to Deb and Leon Lentz who transfer plastics and textiles from Calvary to the businesses that collect for recycling.\*\****

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**Hutchinson Anyone?**

**Creation Care is looking for anyone who happens to drive to/thru Hutchinson as that is where we bring our hard styrofoam (polystyrene) for recycling. We don't want you to make a special trip but if you're headed that way, please contact Jack Behr, Cathy or Joel Halbritter or Naomi Baker.**

**Thanks!**

## **McLeod County Environmental Services**

in Hutchinson accepts a wide variety of polystyrene (Styrofoam) materials for free drop-off, provided they are **clean, dry, and free of tape or labels**.

### **Accepted Polystyrene Materials**

- **Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) Packaging:** Large rigid blocks used for shipping electronics, appliances, and other household goods.
- **Food-Service Foam:** Clean cups, egg cartons, meat trays, and carry-out containers.
- **Packing Filler:** Packing peanuts, air pillows, bubble wrap, and miscellaneous foam fillers.

### **Not Accepted Materials**

- **Dirty or Wet Foam:** Any food-service items with food residue or moisture cannot be recycled and should be placed in the regular garbage.
- **Contaminated Foam:** Materials with tape, stickers, cardboard, or glue still attached.
- **Curbside Recycling:** Polystyrene is strictly prohibited from curbside single-sort recycling carts and must be taken to the Hutchinson drop-off facility.
- **Extruded Polystyrene (XPS):** While the facility focuses on EPS, certain local guidelines specify that pink or blue insulation foam sheets are generally not accepted for standard recycling.

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#### **CREATION CARE TIP**

**Clear or replace air filters** – Save up to \$70 per year. Heating comprises up to 70% of total home energy use. Dirty air filters make your furnace, central air conditioner or room air conditioner work harder to circulate air. By cleaning or replacing your filters monthly, you can improve energy efficiency and reduce costs.

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#### **BEFRIENDERS VIRTUAL EVENT JANUARY 13, 2026**

Teepa Snow's Normal Vs. Not Normal Aging

Calvary BeFriendsers welcome you to join us for this virtual event on Tuesday January 13, 2026, from 6:30-8:00 pm in the Friendship Room. In this session you will learn what normally changes in our minds as we age, and what changes may not be normal and possibly a sign of dementia or other illnesses. Amy House, a recognized leader in dementia care and education, will discuss what to do if something is not normal and how to approach the subject with a loved one or family member. Pre-registration is required with a cost of \$10 per person. Please call the church office by Friday, January 9<sup>th</sup> to register or for more information. Calvary BeFriender Leaders, Beth Bloomquist and Nancy Holt

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#### **LIBRARY NEWS**

The Calvary library has two new Narwhal books - #8 and #9. The library has also added 14 additional Elephant & Piggie books. Stop in and check out all the new books.

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#### **FAMILY PROMISE HOST WEEK**

We need 1 family to provide a meal for Tuesday, January 13th. If you are able to help, please contact Joni Hanson at 320-220-1324. Thank you!

*Thank you SO much for welcoming me back to the piano and organ benches. Your love through words, actions and notes speak volumes. I can't think of a better Christmas gift! Blessings, Naomi*

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### **NEW for 2026 - MISSION of the MONTH**

We had so much fun bringing you the Mission & Ministry Fair this past fall- and were SO impressed by the participation of our many outreach and in-house ministries that we decided to continue to celebrate these Missions and Volunteer Opportunities throughout the year! Each month we will invite a Calvary Mission/ Outreach/ In House ministry to prepare a small table or easel display to be placed in the Narthex. Please check out the display and take whatever information is interesting to you! Contact ministry representatives to join in the fun

### **MISSION of the MONTH for January 2026 is SOCIAL KINDNESS**

Our Social Kindness Committee meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 1pm. During the year they have various fundraisers such as:

March - Food Shelf

May - Mental Health

July-August - Stuff the Bus

September - LSS Personal Items; God's Work Our Hands

October - Hats, Mittens, and Sock Drive

November/December - The Giving Tree

**\*\*Contact Linda Nelson at 320-905-2333\*\* for more information.**

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<b>JANUARY 2026 WORSHIP SCHEDULE</b>	
<b>Saturday, January 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>5:30pm Traditional Worship in the Chapel</b>
<b>Sunday, January 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:00am Array Worship/Youth Led/Noisy Offering</b> <b>10:00am Gather &amp; Grow (Adult Forum)</b> <b>10:15am Sunday School</b>
<b>Saturday, January 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>5:30pm Traditional Worship in the Chapel</b>
<b>Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:00am Traditional Worship</b> <b>10:00am Gather &amp; Grow (Adult Forum)</b> <b>10:15am Sunday School</b>
<b>Saturday, January 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>5:30pm Traditional Worship in the Chapel</b>
<b>Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:00am Array Worship (coffee following)</b> <b>10:15am Sunday School</b>
<b>Saturday, January 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>5:30pm Traditional Worship in the Chapel</b>
<b>Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:00am Traditional Worship</b> <b>10:00am Annual Meeting</b> (Coffee & treats will be served) <b>10:15am Sunday School</b> (led by Youth Leadership Team)
<b>Saturday, January 31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>5:30pm Traditional Worship in the Chapel</b>
<b>Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>9:00am Array Worship/Youth Led/Noisy Offering/Scout Sunday</b> (coffee following) <b>10:15am Sunday School</b> <b>11:00am Annual Scout Chili Feed</b>

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

