



The Calvary Messenger

January 30, 2026

Next Messenger will be sent out February 13, 2026

GATHER & GROW FORUM

(formerly Adult Forum)

***Sunday, February 1** following Worship - The Willmar CommUNITY Closet

The Willmar CommUNITY Closet is a local nonprofit that provides free clothing and shoes to people and families. It is 100% donation-based and run by volunteers, meaning all items come from community members who donate clothing and volunteers help to sort, organize and distribute the items. We are a dedicated safe space where all are welcome, always.

What the CommUNITY Closet does:

Provides free clothing and footwear for people. Individuals and families can pick up clothes and shoes at no charge to help meet their basic needs.

We help reduce textile waste and support sustainability. By giving new life to donated items, it helps keep usable clothing out of landfills and extends the life of these resources.

We help build community support. The closet is a welcoming place that helps reduce clothing insecurity and foster a sense of support and inclusion in the community.

We are local. The closet operates in partnership with local groups including but not limited to Presbyterian Church, Bethel Church, Calvary Church, League of Women Voters, local youth groups, local group homes and so much more!

CommUNITY Closet is always in need of men's and boy's clothing sizes 3T-4XL but no dress pants please.

SCOUT SUNDAY IS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1

The Scouts will be sharing special music, ushering, and reading scriptures. They will also be having a chili lunch served in Bethany Hall from 11am to 1pm. Free will offering. All are welcome!

CALLING ALL THRIVENT MEMBERS

With the start of the new year, don't forget to designate your Thrivent Choice Dollars. Log into your Thrivent account and designate Calvary Lutheran Church as a recipient. Choice Dollars lets members choose where Thrivent distributes a portion of its funding each year.

Another way to take advantage of your Thrivent Membership is by forming a Thrivent Action Team. Organize an educational event or fundraiser and Thrivent will give you \$250 seed money and T-shirts for your group. It's easy to sign up and will allow you to donate more money back to the organization that you are working for. Our quilters have done this to purchase batting and supplies for their quilts. You only need a Thrivent eligible member to sign up an activity or event.

If you have any questions on these Thrivent opportunities, please contact the church office staff or log into your Thrivent account. Thank you!

Sharing appreciation - For those who would like to join us in offering a word of appreciation or well wishes to Naomi Powers-Baker, the following is her current contact information:

Naomi Powers-Baker, 1620 18th Avenue NW, Willmar MN

Cell # - 320-905-6576, Email: bakersrule@icloud.com

Dear Calvary Lutheran Church-

Thank you for your generous support of our young adult ministry. You're helping change and shape our world by your generous support through time, money, and faith.

We are using this toward a startup of a new young adult ministry at the campus ministry center called "Gather Ridgewater". Gather is the new expression of the ELCA-led young adult ministries. We are forming the fourth Gather group in Minnesota!

Peace be with you,

Brother Doug

Brother Doug Dockter, OLF/n

Chaplain, Lutheran Campus Ministry

CREATION CARE TIP

Open your shades on winter days for natural light and warmth – Save up to \$10 per year. Taking advantage of winter sunlight can help make a dent in your heating costs. Open blinds during the day to provide natural lighting and capture free heat.

FEBRUARY

2026 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, Feb. 1st	9am Scout Sunday/Youth Led/Noisy Offering 10am - Coffee/Gather & Grow - "Community Closet" 10:15am Sunday School 11:00am-1:00pm Scouts Chili Feed
Saturday, Feb. 7th	5:30pm Chapel Worship
Sunday, Feb. 8th	9am Worship/Rite of Confirmation for Samantha Miller 10am Coffee Time 10:15 Sunday School
Saturday, Feb. 14th	5:30pm Chapel Worship
Sunday, Feb. 15th	9am Worship 10am Coffee/Gather & Grow - "Campus Ministry" 10:15am Sunday School/ "God & Me"
Wednesday, Feb. 18th	6:30pm Ash Wednesday Worship
Saturday, Feb. 21st	5:30pm Chapel Worship
Sunday, Feb. 22nd	9am Worship 10am Coffee with Council 10:15am Sunday School
Wednesday, Feb. 25th	5:30 Meal; 6:15pm Lenten Worship
Saturday, Feb. 28th	5:30pm Chapel Worship

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



***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.**

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

2026 Calvary Council Leaders

Dion Warne - Chair - 320-212-3556, dwarne@hsbofmn.com
Jan Ruby - Vice Chair - 320-248-8647 - jcruby@outlook.com
Cathy Halbritter - Secretary - 320-979-0129, jchalbritter@gmail.com
Harley Aalfs - 320-894-4446, hlaemc@icloud.com
Lori Holmgren - 320-905-8431, clholmgren@hotmail.com
Meghan Knott - 320-894-3024, meghanreneeknott22@gmail.com
Kim Hanson - 507-317-8072 - lieblkim@gmail.com
Dane Kallevig - 952-491-3791 - pennys35981@msn.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



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.or