

Calvary Lutheran Church
Tuesday, February 10, 2026 @ 6:00pm
Koinonia Room

Attendance: Harley Aalfs, Kim Hanson, Lori Holmgren, Dane Kallevig, Jan Ruby, Dion Warne, Meghan Knott, Cathy Halbritter

Staff: Pastor Amy

Guests: Mike Schroeder

The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Amy.

Mike Schroeder shared that he wants the church to succeed. He asked if the church completes exit interviews when members leave. He feels we need to find out why people are leaving so that any issues can be addressed. Calvary also needs to look at what would attract younger people/families. Mike thanked the council for their work. He identified two things he feels Calvary needs: music coordinator, IT services person responsible for AV systems and building computers.

Approval of Agenda - Jan moved to approve the agenda with the addition of approving the organizational meeting held January 25. The motion was seconded and passed.

Approval of January 13, 2026 Council Minutes - Jan moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and passed.

Approval of January 25, 2026 Organizational Meeting Minutes - Jan moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and passed.

Approval of January Treasurer's Report - Jan moved to approve the report. The motion was seconded and passed.

Pastor Report

Pastor Amy reported on the following:

1. Office Update - Things have settled down and people are understanding why changes were needed. People are helping out. Thank you to Paula, Elsa, Kristi, Cathy in learning how to create the screens for worship.
2. Samantha Miller was confirmed this past Sunday.
3. The Middle School choir director led a group in music at confirmation and has volunteered to help on other evenings when available and is willing to lead a group on the first Sunday of the month during the youth led service.
4. Pastor Amy is meeting tomorrow with a representative from Holden Village and may hold a Gather and Grow forum in the future.
5. Elsa is working on filling in the Gather and Grow forum calendar.
6. Holden Evening prayer will be used during Lent.
7. Conversations with the Stingers - July 19 is Faith and Family Night. \$40 includes a game ticket, food, and beverages. Positive feedback was received from last year. Meghan moved to spend \$2000 to buy 50 tickets to sell to the congregation Motion was seconded. No discussion. Motion passed.
8. Kaleb Krupa works for the American Red Cross and asked if we would be a host site for donations. He would organize this. The council agreed.
9. Thank you to Paula, Marie, and Elsa for taking care of things while Pastor Amy was out ill last week. Working on coverage for her vacation in March.

Board Reports

Board of Worship- Cathy reported that the board compiled a list of Calvary members to contact about serving on the board and is currently reaching out to them. Molly Aalfs will be playing the piano for all of the Lenten services and we will be using Holden Evening Prayer. Sound and video volunteers are in the process of writing up instructions for their jobs in case of an emergency. Youth name tags will be in plastic sleeves and confirmed students will have the same as the rest of the congregants.

Board of Faith Formation- Lori reported that the board met last night. Discussion about confirmation and when it should take place. The board is talking about different options. CWELCA is having a synod gathering May 1 and youth will be having a lock-in the night before and will assist with loading quilts for Lutheran World Relief that the women will be bringing. Open skate is scheduled at the end of February. A meeting about a garden with Creation Care will be Feb. 18.

Board of Finance- Jan Ruby reported the board is starting to set aside money for regular maintenance. A monthly report of our finances will be in the bulletin.

Board of Stewardship and Outreach - Pastor Amy reported the board is working on an appreciation of greeters/ushers after worship in April and discussing how we can be even more hospitable. First Fruits discussion and how to educate people prior to next year's meeting was held. There was also discussion about a 50's Drive along with a ministry fair.

Special Reports

First Fruits Giving Commitment - on the agenda as a reminder of this ongoing ministry.

Coffee with Council February 22nd - The topic will be to find out what are the parishioner's goals for the next year and what would they like to see accomplished. It will be held in the Friendship Room and the Koinonia Room.

Unfinished Business

Assign Liaison to Board of Stewardship - none as of now, discuss in March

Update on Naomi Baker Severance Agreement - On vacation until we are assured she has continuing health care coverage with Portico.

New Business

Appoint Council member to finish John Dean's Term - Kim moved to appoint Bryan Hurley to complete John Dean's term. The motion was seconded and passed.

Move Carlson funds to different investment -The funds can stay invested where they are currently. Discussion of moving them to the Community Foundation Fund for investment with a fee of 1.3%/year. This will go to the finance committee for a recommendation.

Discussion of goals to accomplish in 2026

Each council member was asked to share five goals they would like to see accomplished at Calvary. This was a general discussion with no action items. Ideas included the following: increase church attendance and giving, stay under or meet budget, greeter orientation (beef up), plan for music (CAT results), part-time pastor, plan for Jerry Anderson funds, make our church usable for today, redefine what Calvary is today (not what we were), commitment to being good stewards, education for all ages, engaging worship for all, finding ways to become more welcoming, create more meaningful relationships, robust Sunday School, focus on social media, IT, Facebook, YouTube, ride share for members that need rides to church, volunteerism, transparency, exit

interviews, stewardship, website, music coordinator, air condition education wing, plan to engage students from the Middle School

Meghan moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Council Meeting – Tuesday, March 10, 2026