

CALVARY ECHOES

JANUARY 2010

PASTOR KURT RAU
752-4102



 Echoes Online! 

Starting in March the echoes will no longer be mailed out. They will be placed in the newly updated mail boxes outside the Worship Area and will also be available online.

Please visit our website: <http://calvaryinevergreen.org/>. Contact the office (406-752-4102) if you have any questions, concerns or if there is a need to have the Echoes mailed to you.



A Message from Our Pastor

I would like to wish everyone a God blessed New Year. Where has the year 2009 gone? It's hard to believe that we are starting a new year and a new decade of the Twenty-First century. I have it on good authority that 2010 not 2011 is the beginning of a new decade. My reliable source is "Yahoo Answers".

This month we will complete our denominational realignment process. The second vote has been scheduled at a special congregational meeting for January 24th at 12:00 pm. It has been awesome these past months being at Calvary and standing on God's Word by faith. The Bible says "If you do not stand firm in your faith, you will not stand at all (Isaiah 7:9b)."

At Calvary we don't put our trust in people, places or things. If we did then our church would be built on shifting sands and could be washed away by any storm of life be it fear, worry, debt or heartbreak (Luke 6:49). Jesus said any community that's lives out His Word will withstand anything the world or Satan can send its way, including death.

This is the time of New Year's resolutions which come and go, so too the hope they bring. However, Jesus doesn't just come and go like the seconds on a clock. In fact, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever (Hebrews 13:8)." As a church or individually we have nothing to fear or be anxious about regarding this New Year or beyond because we know the One who holds the future.

The beauty of Christmas is that Emmanuel, God, has come to dwell with His people. If God is with us who can really be against us (Romans 8:31)? I want to encourage everyone to get involved in the church because no matter how bad things get in the world, God will still protect and provide for His own (Psalm 23:4).

See you in church!

Pastor Kurt



SUNDAY MORNING PRAYER: There are a few of us who meet with Pastor Kurt for prayer each Sun. morning from 8:30-8:45 a.m. Join us, as partners in prayer, for the awesome privilege of lifting up Calvary, Pastor Kurt, worship, and the needs that God places on your heart. All Welcome!!

FLATHEAD FOOD BANK food item of the month is canned meat.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS!!



- 1 Cory Bitney
- 2 Florence Norby
Alison Olsen
- 7 Russ Olsen
- 10 Danny Johnson
- 11 Alexxandra Belt
- 18 Audy AuClaire
- 21 Laurie Smith
- 22 Georgia Strauss
- 25 Myrtle Carter
- 26 Glenda Davis
Jean Kampf

OUR SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS to Ray Lybeck's family. Ray passed away Dec. 4, 09. Ray's funeral service was at Calvary, Dec. 7th, with Pastor Kurt Rau officiating.





Announcements

SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE SUNDAY

January 17th or 24th is sanctity of Human Life Sunday. Every year in Flathead County, 206 babies lose their lives because of the 1973 Supreme Court's Roe vs. Wade decision legalizing abortion on demand. In the United States alone, there are over 3,200 pre-born deaths due to abortion daily. The theme for Life Sunday is "Speak the Truth of Life". As "For Life" Christians, we are called to apply the Gospel to all of the life issues - abortion, euthanasia, assisted suicide, genetic engineering, contraception, cloning, etc. On Life Sunday, Lutherans for Life is providing bulletin inserts to area Lutheran Churches. Also, a red rose will be given to mothers who gave birth or adopted in 2009.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR THE VICTIMS OF ABORTION

When there is a death, there is need for grief and mourning. Many times we are able to grieve in a funeral or memorial service. Pastor Mark Cutler will conduct a Memorial Service for unborn children on Sunday, Jan., 24th, at 6 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church. This is a time for both personal and corporate mourning over the tragedy of death through abortion. Please come to receive the comforting and forgiving words of Jesus.

RALLY AND MARCH FOR LIFE

Come and show your support for LIFE! Flathead Pro-Life holds its Annual Rally and March for Life on Sat., Jan. 23rd. The Rally begins at 12 noon at Central Bible Church, 902-1st Ave. E., with a soup lunch and speakers. At 2:00 p.m. there will be a March from Central Bible to Depot Park.

NEXT MEETING: Everyone is welcome to the Lutherans for Life meeting on Sun., Jan. 10th, 1:30 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 400 West California Street. For more info, call 756-8344.

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CHURCH DIRECTORY: We are in the process of updating our church directory, if you have address, phone or name changes contact the church office. ***Other items to let us know about are:***
*If you wish your name to be added or taken from the Echoes (newsletter) mailing list. *Mail boxes in the Welcome Area, if you do not have one and would like one. Thanks for helping our records stay accurate!

2010 OFFERING ENVELOPES will be in your church mailboxes the first Sunday of January (1/3/09). If you are not interested in having envelopes or if you would like to have them, please contact the church office, 752-4102.

HELP WANTED!! January is an extra busy month in the church office. If you would be willing to help with putting together the Annual Reports & Telephone Directories (Thursday, January 14th) so the Annual Reports can be in church mailboxes by Sunday, Jan. 17th - please contact the church office for details.



101- DISCIPLESHIP CLASS Do you desire to grow in your relationship with Jesus? Would you like to become a member of Calvary Lutheran church? If you answered “yes” to either question, then class 101 is for you. This class provides the biblical tools to grow a deeper relationship to Jesus. It also covers the biblical expectations and benefits of church membership. This class will be held on Saturdays January 9th & 16th; from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. If you are interested in this class or would like further information, please contact the church office at 752-4102 or make note on your yellow attendance card.

DISCOVER THE PATH TO CHRISTIAN CHARACTER Everyone is invited to join this small group study beginning Sun. Jan. 10th, 9–10 a.m. in Calvary’s Youth Office. Throughout this study, we learn that we all face roadblocks as we move toward better relationships with each other & with God. But there is hope! Discovering an insight into how these roadblocks develop is the first step to overcoming, by building on qualities that strengthen us on the “path to Christian character”. Please join us for an awesome time of relationship building & personal growth! If you would like to be in this study please make note on your yellow attendance cards or contact the church office at 752-4102, so we can make sure we have books for everyone! Donations for workbooks are welcomed.

QUILTING: We will start meeting twice a month in Jan. beginning Thurs, Jan. 14th at 9 a.m. We will meet the 2nd and last Thursdays of the month for a few months, to work on our Lutheran World Relief quilts. All are welcome to join us! No experience or sewing skills necessary, just tie knots!

★ **Thank You** ★

HI!

Merry Christmas to you all! I look forward to the Echoes each month so I can read what is going on. I miss being there. Georgia

Dear Calvary Lutheran Church, Thank you so much for your donation of \$101.00. This gift will help us provide shelter and basic needs to individuals and families that are trying to resolve their crisis. With generosity of folks like you we have been able to help 869 individuals though the month of November. We are so thankful for your generosity! We wish you all a blessed Christmas and New Year.

Sincerely,
Samaritan House, Inc.
Chris Krager, Director

Dear Sirs, On behalf of Montana’s District 4 AARP Driver Safety Program, please accept my sincere thanks for acting as a sponsor in 2009. It is through the generosity of organizations such as yours that the Driver Safety Program succeeds. District 4 encompasses the four northwestern counties of Montana. In 2009 over eight hundred students will have to attend our driver safety courses. This level of accomplishment is only possible because of the commitment of our instructors and the graciousness of our sponsors. The support you’ve shown by allowing us to use your facility is greatly appreciated. We look forward to continuing our relationship with you in the coming year as we strive to keep *safety* paramount in the minds of Montana’s older drivers.
Most Sincerely,
James E. Borowski
Montana District 4 Coordinator
AARP Driver Safety Program



SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MTG. has been called by the Council President & written request from over 10% of the voting membership (as required by Calvary's constitution). This is with united agreement from Calvary's Council. The meeting will be at 12 p.m. Sun, Jan. 24, 2010 in Calvary's Fellowship Hall. The topic of the Special Congregational meeting is 'Severing Calvary Lutheran Church's affiliation with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America'. The resolution the congregation will vote on (sample ballot) is:

Resolution to officially sever ties with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America: September 13th, 2009, at a legally called and conducted special congregational meeting of Calvary Lutheran Church, Kalispell MT; a motion was made and seconded to officially sever relationships with the ELCA. Discussion ensued; at the close of discussion a vote was taken. The motion carried by more than a 2/3 majority of voting members present, which is required by Calvary's constitution; the vote was 55 in support of the resolution, 4 against.

The 90 day waiting period and the consultation with Bishop Jessica Crist has been completed. This is our constitutionally required final vote to sever relationship with the ELCA.

1) Officially vote to sever relationship with the ELCA.

YES _____ NO _____

A quorum (20% of active voting members) is required to hold the meeting. The vote must pass by a 2/3 majority of voting members present. Please pray & plan on attending this important meeting to cast your vote. Thank you for your prayers, time, support and commitment to God's vision and values at Calvary Lutheran Church.

IF you are unable to attend and would like an absentee ballot, it will need to be approved by the Executive Team. Please contact the church office and let us know your special circumstances for not being able to attend. You will then be informed of the Executive Team's decision.

THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING will be held on Sunday, January 24th. There will be a potluck dinner, then the meeting; (after the 12 p.m. Special Congregational Mtg. to sever ties with the ELCA). The Annual Report booklets will be in the church mailboxes the Sunday before the meeting (1/17/09). Please take them home, read over them and bring the report booklet and your questions to the Annual Mtg. Plan to attend; this is your opportunity to make your hopes and concerns known. Please remember to keep the upcoming meeting in your prayers.



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Pastor Kurt opened with prayer.

Devotion: ‘The Impartial Power of God’ from the devotional My Utmost for His Highest.

Bible Study: ‘God’s Word *is* the Final Authority’ An article from One News Now was read: ‘Evangelical Lutheran leader suggests Bible not the Final Authority.’ The article states “The presiding bishop of the ELCA is suggesting that the Bible isn’t the last word on homosexuality. In a town hall meeting Sunday, Bishop Mark Hanson said, “the understanding we have of homosexuality today does not seem to be reflected at all in the context of the biblical writers.” Therefore, he said, ‘Lutherans should consider more modern views on sexual orientation.’” Pastor Kurt shared scriptures on the Bible being the final authority: 2 Timothy 3:14-17 & Revelation 22:16-21

FYI:

1. LCMC Group Exemption (501c3) letter has been received - we are covered by them. Also have received certificate of membership, is hanging in church office; above computer desk.
2. Hearing System has been received and is working great! Cost was \$997.67 leaving \$884.33; speakers for the sanctuary are being looked into.
3. Bob Sander cut the nursery door in half to make a Dutch door, which meets insurance requirements for ‘Reducing the Risk’.
4. The Flathead Food Bank is planning for a new schedule beginning in Jan. Their procedure of distributing food has also changed to be more of a store setting.
5. Recycling bins have been place in the kitchen for plastics, tin and aluminum. It is encouraged as people see the need, to transport the recycling to one of the recycling centers.

LET’S TAKE ACTION:

1. Council decided no for a Christmas ad in the Daily Interlake.
2. Next Council Mtg. will be Jan. 5th, to plan the agenda for the Annual Mtg. which is Jan. 24th.
3. Christmas Eve offering will be divided between Evergreen Food Pantry and the Good Sam Fund at Calvary. This fund is to help those that come to the church in need.
4. Model congregational letter after 1st special mtg. letter, to inform of congregation mtg. to vote on severing ties with the ELCA, plus needs to be written so Bishop Crist knows the meetings are separate. Special Mtg. Jan. 24th at 12 p.m., followed by potluck and then the Annual Mtg. (Absentee ballots have been approved for 4 people.)



(Council Highlights continued . . .)

5. Remaining furnace repair bill (after donations and memorials \$592.70 - \$371.85 = \$220.85): take \$150 from Harvest Dinner and rest from other 3 River Accounts. Donations were made so we did not need to take any from Harvest Dinner or other accounts.

6. 2010 Proposed Budget – A freeze remains on the salaries. The office supplies line item was increase \$150 to cover the \$336 maintenance agreement for the office copier. Property & maintenance line item was increased to \$2600 to cover \$293 maintenance agreement with Carson Brothers for the furnaces and boiler, and to cover the increase in property expenses. Motion made to approve proposed budget -motion passed. Budget will be presented and discussed at the Annual Mtg. Jan. 24th.

Council closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

DECEMBER

SUMMARY FOR THIS MONTH’S RECEIPTS

Worship Offerings	9011.10
Wok-n-Roll B. Use	45.00
Give Them Wings/Building Use	397.00
Narcotics Anonymous B. Use	140.00
New York Life Annuity Interest	950.00
Gift for CLCW run thru general fund	100.00
Flat. Elec. Capital Credit Refund	64.33
Community Kitchen Evrgm/Elec. Use	120.00
Parsonage sale - Pastor salary & car allowance	<u>1450.00</u>
TOTAL RECEIPTS	12277.43

MONTHLY OPERATIONAL EXPENSES

Expenses in December	12311.12
Unpaid Expenses in Jan.-Nov.	<u>+ 0.00</u>
Total Expenses	12311.12
Total Expenses Paid in December	<u>- 12311.12</u>
UNPAID EXPENSES IN JAN-DEC	0.00

DATE	ATTEND.	WORSHIP OFF.	NEED WKLY (to meet budgeted goal)
12/6	78	2718.00	2793.17
12/13	50	1524.00	2793.17
12/20	95	2527.10	2793.17
Christmas Eve	97	1083.00	2793.17
12/27	57	903.00	2793.17
12/30		256.00	

MONTHLY RECEIPTS (\$12,103.75 needed per mo. to meet budget goal)

"My God shall supply all my needs according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:19

JAN	10349.10	MAY	13401.90	SEPT	11045.00
FEB	11528.12	JUN	10446.13	OCT	9788.00
MAR	12026.48	JUL	10874.50	NOV	13387.45
APR	11816.71	AUG	13038.00	DEC	12277.43

Jan. - December No Unpaid Expenses

\$3900 was used from parsonage sale in 2009 for Pastor’s salary & car allowance. March - \$500, May - \$450, July - \$550, Nov. - \$950, Dec. - \$1450.

\$1000 was used in January to cover Pastor’s first month Housing Allowance.

Christmas Eve donations total was \$342; with \$143.50 to the Good Samaritan Fund at Calvary and \$198.50 to the new Evergreen Food Pantry. Thank you for your generosity in supporting these ministries!



A CHRISTIAN IS:

A Christian is one who makes it easier
for other people to believe in God.

FOR THE NEW YEAR



Hold fast to your faith (Hebrews 4:14)
Assemble with the saints (Hebrews 10:25)
Pray earnestly every day (I Thessalonians 5:17,18)
Pray for great blessings (Malachi 3:10)
Yield not to temptation (I Thessalonians 5:22)

Neglect not your talents and opportunities (Galatians 6:10)
Examine yourself daily (II Corinthians 13:5)
Work diligently for the Lord (I Corinthians 15:58)

Yield your members to righteousness (Romans 6:11, 16)
Exercise yourself in godliness (I Timothy 4:7)
Aim at sinless perfection (Hebrews 6:1)
Redeem the time (Ephesians 5:15, 16)

U

*Isn't it thrilling and splendidly grand He rose from the dead, and this word
resuUrrection is spelled with a U.*

*When JesUs left earth at His upward ascension, He felt there was one thing He just had
to mention.*

“Go into the world and tell them it's true That I love them all - Just like I love U.”

So many great people are spelled with a U, Don't they have a right to know JesUs too?

It all depends now on what U will do, He'd like them to know,

But it all starts with U.

