

# Calvary Lutheran Church

February 2011

Calvary Lutheran Church

406-752-4102



Calvary's Website: <http://www.calvaryinevergreen.org/>

Calvary's E-mail: [connie4@bresnan.net](mailto:connie4@bresnan.net)

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# Staff Page

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# A Message from our Pastor

As I was studying Philippians, God revealed something in Philippians 1:23-24 that is absolutely amazing pertaining to our life's purpose here on earth. The revelation was that God does indeed have a purpose for our life that goes beyond the moment of salvation. In other words, being saved isn't just about getting me into heaven, but in reality God's way of getting heaven into me. If salvation was all about getting into heaven, the very moment Jesus came into a person's life all they would need to do is say "beam me up Jesus". Yet listen to what Paul says, "I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body (Philippians 1:23-24)."

There are two incredible truths found here. The first truth concerns what happens to a Jesus' follower immediately following death. They don't fall asleep, but rather they "depart" or leave the body to go somewhere and that somewhere is to "be with Jesus". The second truth concerns serving God's purpose here on earth. Again, Paul said that given his choice he would rather leave this life and go to be with Jesus. Who wouldn't? For Paul, unlike the rest of us, he had an early preview of heaven before his death. Paul writes about his heavenly experience in 2 Corinthians 12. He said, "And I know that this man—whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, but God knows— was caught up to paradise and heard inexpressible things, things that no one is permitted to tell (2 Corinthians 12:3-4)." Paul knew that his life would continue here on earth until all of God's purposes for him were accomplished.

Have you ever wondered what we are to do after coming into a relationship with Jesus? If we use the world as a guide, little will change from our life lived prior to knowing Jesus. God's saving grace sets us free, but free for what? Does God give us freedom from sin, so that we can freely go back to it? No way! The Bible says, "What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer (Romans 6:1-2)?"

How does God want us to use our freedom or remaining time on earth? Paul was going to use His remaining time from God to serve God's people which in effect would exalt or honor God with his life. This is why he writes in Philippians 1:20 "I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death."

Like Paul, we are called and freed by Jesus' blood to serve the purposes of His kingdom not ours. What are Jesus' purposes for us? Jesus said, "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost (Luke 19:10)." I firmly believed we really aren't living for Jesus until we "deny our self, take up His purpose, and follow Jesus alone" on a daily basis.

God has created you and called you for His purpose and His kingdom. You begin to discover that purpose by simply asking Him in prayer, "God, I thank you for creating me, redeeming me and now reveal to me the purpose you have called me to. In Jesus' name. Amen!"

Brother in Christ,  
Pastor Kurt

# February Birthdays

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 Kay hattan Sue Iverson	5
6	7	8 Nancy Benson Matthew Rau	9 lowell nelson	10	11	12 Kurt Rau
13	14	15	16 Gary Fischer	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 Brenda Miller Eric Gullickson Zachary Nelson	24 Dustin Bauer Tommy Lybeck Sharon Krumland	25	26
27 LorRiE Fischer	28			Happy	Birthday	!!

Don't see your name on the birthday list?

If you would like us to know more about you, please fill out your yellow cards

Sunday morning and place them in the offering plates.

# Announcements

Evergreen Food Bank food item of the month: Cereal

REMEMBER: HEBREWS CAFE is open 8:30 – 10:00 a.m. Sunday mornings!

HOMEGROWN HELP TRUCK MOBILE FOOD PANTRY The Flathead County Chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is sponsoring a special food distribution event with the Flathead Food Bank and the Montana Food Bank. The distribution will be February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., at the Gateway Community Center in Kalispell. Volunteers are needed to assist (setup, distribution, and cleanup) between 11:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. If you are able to assist with this, please contact Nancy Brosten at 752-2357.

'EnCOURAGE' YOUTH: Calling all Jr. High and High School Students!! Join us for youth group every Wednesday night from 6:30 pm–8:30 pm in Calvary's Worship Area. Enjoy games, fellowship and of course deep exploration into God's Word.

'INSPIRATIONAL WOMEN'S GROUP will meet Wed. February 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 1:30 p.m. in the Welcome Area. We will review a book from our church library, followed by a Bible Study. Come and join us!

CALVARY'S QUILTING LADIES will be getting together to quilt on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & last Thurs. of the month at 9 a.m., through May. Join us in tying knots!

ALL WOMEN & GIRLS OF CALVARY are cordially invited to our annual Valentine's luncheon on Sun., Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>, immediately following the 10:30 a.m. service. Secret Sisters from the past year will be revealed, so bring a small Valentine token for her if you wish! We will also have an opportunity to choose new Sisters for the upcoming year. We will again be having a separate Secret Sisters drawing for girls 18 years & younger. With a Secret Sister, you are encouraged to keep her in your prayers, drop her a note to let her know you're thinking of her, or maybe send or leave her small gifts throughout the year.

Even if you are not a participant in the secret sister program, you are still encouraged to attend & spend some time with all the other women & girls of the church. This is a great opportunity to learn more about all the areas of ministry the women of Calvary are involved with.

Lunch is completely provided, so please come and eat and fellowship with one another.

THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: Thank you for all the wonderful sharing & encouragement. God is working mightily here at Calvary! Praise God for His presence & provision!!

THANK YOU SO MUCH to the wonderful helpers who came in & assembled the Annual report & the Church Directory/ CCW Booklet. You are much appreciated!!

**CHURCH DIRECTORY:** Please notify the church office (752-4102) if you notice an error with your ADDRESS AND/OR PHONE, or notice if someone has been omitted. Thanks for your help in keeping our records updated!

**CALVARY'S WEBSITE!** Remember to check out our website for your Echoes online, Pastor's sermon, individual staff emails and lots more info about the happenings here at Calvary! Please visit our website at: [www.calvaryinevergreen.org](http://www.calvaryinevergreen.org). Contact the office (752-4102) if you have any questions, concerns or info you would like shared on our website! **NOTE:** The church email is [connie4@bresnan.net](mailto:connie4@bresnan.net) if you have an article you would like in the bulletin or Echoes newsletter or have a message for the office, please feel free to email us.

**PLEASE REMEMBER** that articles for the Sun. bulletin need to be in the church office by 1 p.m. on Wednesdays & articles for the ECHOES need to be in by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. Thanks!!

**NEEDS BOARD:** Thank you for the donations for our unmet snowplowing expenses from 2010! That amount has been met! The current bill received was for \$675 and we have received donations and memorials to cover \$450, leaving a balance of \$225! ALSO, the family in need of a twin mattress have had their needs met! Praise God for His provisions!

**OTHER NEEDS OPPORTUNITIES ARE:** Living Free workbooks & facilitators guides: This awesome ministry continues to grow and transforms lives! We don't want the cost of the workbooks to be a hindrance to participate in these classes, so if God places on your heart a desire to contribute to this ministry, it is much appreciated. Books average \$10-\$12, with facilitator guides \$12-\$15. Please pray if there is an area you are called to contribute to. Thank you for your generosity and prayers!

**CALVARY'S CLOSET:** has recently helped families who have lost everything in house fires. We are in **desperate** need of children & men's clothing, women's athletic shoes, night wear & underwear. Please continue to keep this ministry in prayer. Thanks for your support & contribution!

**WORLD RELIEF:** It is time to focus on bringing items for world relief! The pick up for Lutheran World Relief supplies will be the end of April. Needed for Health & School Kits are:

- Pencil sharpeners
- Band-Aids
- Fingernail clippers with file
- Soap, soap, soap, soap!

*(soap is more valuable than medicine in 3<sup>rd</sup> world countries.)*

We also need someone to make bags for the items. Contact Sue Iverson (862-2825) or Lorrie Fischer (752-4718) to find out the size or pattern for the bags.

Thank you for all you contribute!

THERE IS A DROP OFF BASKET IN THE WELCOME AREA

## Dear Calvary...

### Dear Calvary Lutheran Church:

Please accept our warmest gratitude for your recent gift of \$525.78 to Violence Free Crisis Line. With your ongoing support, we will continue to provide services to the many victims & families struggling to break free from domestic violence. Your support is deeply appreciated, especially in these difficult economic times.

The Abbie Shelter staff adopts a holistic approach in addressing the physical & emotional needs of abused women & their children. The comforting environment of the Abbie offers a safe haven where victims & families may process a vast array of emotions & provides the opportunity to begin the long & painful journey toward freedom from violence. Daily peer counseling for women & healing activities for children in the Children's Program, such as art therapy & therapeutic play, provide the first steps toward recovery & independence.

In addition to crisis line & shelter services, VFCL's organizational philosophy places tremendous emphasis on violence prevention. The Peace Project provides educational information on topics such as dating, domestic & sexual violence. Peace also provides training to students in area schools.

Furthermore, VFCL offers services through the Victim-witness Advocacy Program. Advocates offer client education & advocacy regarding the criminal justice process & are available to provide participants with support both during the protection order application process & the court hearings in the three city courts.

Lastly, we can never overestimate the positive effects of intervention, support & advocacy for our participants. Your gift received on 1/10/2011 helps enable us to continue the vital services provided by the Crisis Line. With your support, together we can prevent domestic violence.

Again, please accept our profound thanks for your generosity.  
Janet Cahill, Executive Director

### To God's Wonderful People of Calvary Lutheran Church,

This letter is in regards to the \$525.77 donation sent to "A Ray of Hope." In these difficult time economic times the need in this valley is especially great & we so appreciate your sensitivity to our needs. We are so blessed by your caring attitude & generosity.

With love in Christ, Gerlinde Kimp for "A Ray of Hope"

Dear Congregation, I just wanted to thank you all for your prayers. I didn't feel quite so alone on that operating table. The operation was a success; I have full use of my arm again. I'm just not able to talk yet. This makes the operation a complete success depending on who you talk to. Thanks again Church and I thank the Lord; He is the Great Healer, Amen! Daniel Erickson.

Dear Friends at Calvary, Thank you so much for your prayers, cards, gifts and support in memory of our Mom. The reception was so nice and appreciated. Pastor Kurt, we can't thank you enough for all you've done and continue to do. Your time with Mom was a great comfort to her. Calvary is so full of God's Love. Colleen Pepe Family

# Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting was held on January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 12:30 p.m. following a potluck. 44 voting members were present. Thanks to all who attended!

**Pastor Kurt** opened with prayer.

**2010 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES** were accepted. Ministry Reports were accepted as written. There was sharing of what God is doing in the different ministries: *Living Free*- God is transforming lives! A few people shared how God has grown their faith and relationship with Him and others in these small group studies. *EnCourage* Youth & *Wyldlife*- There is spiritual and relational growth! Jesus is moving on the kids' lives. Judy Sander recognized Laurie Smith for all her decorating & sharing of talents. Sandy DuPuy thanked everyone for their help & support of Calvary's Closet. Laurie Smith thanked all for the help with HeBrew's.

**2010 TREASURER'S REPORTS** were reviewed by Connie Pitt. A few changes per Dec. statements received. Our investment funds all saw increases this year.

## **ELECTED TO SERVE ON COUNCIL:**

1 year term: Betty Goeddertz & Tom Foreman

2year term: Jami Deskins, Gary Fischer & Daniel Erickson

3 year term: Verlyn Krumland, Jeff DuPuy & Otto Bessey

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE:** 3 year term: Sandy DuPuy

**AUDIT COMMITTEE:** 3 year term: Brenda Miller

**REPRESENTATIVES TO FLATHEAD BIBLE CAMP:** Motion made, 2<sup>nd</sup> and carried to withdraw having official delegates go to the Bible Camp's Annual Mtg.

**IMMAUEL LUTHERAN HOME DELEGATES:** Motion made, 2<sup>nd</sup> & carried to withdraw having official delegates to Immanuel's Annual Mtg.

**LCMC ANNUAL GATHERING:** Jeff DuPuy is interested in attending. It is in Des Moines, Iowa; Oct. 2-5, 2011. More will be discussed at a later date. Jenny Rau shared how amazing last year's gathering was & how worthwhile to attend. Otto Bessey shared what is happening with the NW Region of the LCMC, as Maureen is on that Council & is working on the Spring Gathering which will be in Richland, WA; the weekend after Easter.

**MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND COMMITTEE:** 3 year term: Robin Roush

**2011 BUDGET PROPOSAL:** Connie Pitt took the congregation through the budget lines & answered any questions from the congregation. The proposed budget for 2011 is \$150,702. Motion was made & 2<sup>nd</sup> to accept the budget as presented. Motion passed.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- A. The Mission Focus is 5% of Sunday offerings and designees are selected by Council quarterly, usually split 3 ways. (The congregation is welcome to share ideas of designees with Council.) This year we have given to 11 different benevolences, anywhere from \$360 to \$1000! Praise God for this awesome privilege.
- B. The constitution Revision Team will continue with the process for revising Calvary's Constitution.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Church Boiler- Gary Fischer presented info. About the need for a new boiler in the near future. It will cost in the range of \$20 - 30,000 to replace. Stan Schaffer shared he is the representative for Margrethe Reep's estate & that there will be a monetary gift to Calvary which should cover the expense of a new boiler.
- B. Bell Tower Update- it needs cleaning & some repairs, which could be a spring project.
- C. Spring Cleaning- Calvary should look at setting up a Sat. work date to help with some major cleaning projects.
- D. The interest from the Mission Endowment Fund will be divided & disbursed to several of Calvary's ministries.
- E. Comment/ questions/ concerns - One person shared concern of monthly giving statements being eliminated. The financial secretary reassured that anytime there is a need for a giving statement or up to date giving status, it is readily available to any who requests it. Laurie Smith shared she would be willing to help with organizing the Spring Cleaning. Testimonies were shared - God is at work in Calvary!!

Council will meet Tuesday, Jan. 25<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.

Meeting adjourned with The Lord's Prayer.

# Council Highlights

January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Pastor Kurt opened with prayer

**Devotion:** “Who So Ever Will...” Read by Al Sylling

**Prayer:** for individuals & the needs of Calvary. Praise & thanks for God’s blessings & the ministries doing God’s work at Calvary.

**Bible Study:** Lead by Pastor Kurt- *The Choosing of the Seven* (Acts 6). The calling of a council member is God lead and passion driven.

## FYI:

1. Connie Pitt explained the workings of the Budget Reports.
2. Pastor Kurt defines the role of a council member:
  - a) Allowing God to live through us.
  - b) Challenging the “truth” to find God’s Truth.

## LET’S TAKE ACTION

1. Annual Meeting review: God is at work in His Church!
2. Election of officers: Motion passed to keep current officers in position, with Alyssa Sternad praying about stepping into the secretary position.
  - President- Eric Maisch
  - Vice President- Al Sylling
  - Secretary- (Alyssa Sternad) *keep in prayer*
  - Treasurer- Connie Pitt
3. Testimonies: spiritual and relational growth of the kids in Wyldlife and ‘EnCourage’ Youth. Jesus is in motion in Calvary.
4. Other:
  - a) **Mission Endowment:** Interest earned in 2010 will be distributed to: HeBrews Café (\$100), Quilting (\$200), Habitat for Humanity (\$150), Funds at Calvary-Good Samaritan, *for those in need within the community* (\$125) & Good Shepherd, *for those in need within Calvary* (\$125), Calvary’s Closet (\$200) & Living Free Ministries (\$100)= \$1000.
  - b) **Habitat for Humanity- Thrivent (T-5):** Credit through Thrivent for Jeff DuPuy’s volunteer hours- Gary Fischer will contact Thrivent representative.
  - c) **Memorandum:** Pastor’s housing expenses as a tax deduction. Information submitted to Council for approval. No expense to Calvary, this is a deduction on Pastor’s W-2. Council approved.

Council closed with the Lord’s Prayer

# Council Highlights

## January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Eric Maisch opened with prayer & shared a devotion.

**Bible Study:** Pastor Kurt led bible study - 5 Questions to Keep Asking about Discipleship in your Church.

### FYI:

1. New AA group will be meeting at Calvary, 7 days per week, 6:45 – 7:45 a.m. (Will be looked in to change alarm code) Preschool will be notified of the meetings.
2. Christmas offerings- Good Shepherd Fund: \$182  
Samaritan's Purse: \$132
3. Annual reports have been received; Nominating Team- process is going well, with several names presented.
4. Other- A congregation member's needs were shared and will be taken care of.

### LET'S TAKE ACTION:

1. 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Mission Focus: \$525.77 to NW MT Veteran's Food Pantry & A Ray of Hope; \$525.78 to violence Free Crisis Line/ The Abbie.
2. Annual Mtg. agenda was set
3. Suggestion was made to keep the boiler room door unlocked, for fire safety purposes.
4. Connie Pitt will present the 2011 budget, so questions may be addressed more easily.
5. New Council will meet at regular time, Tues. Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>, 7 p.m.
6. Testimonies were shared of what God is doing at Calvary.

Council closed with the Lord's Prayer

# January Budget

## SUMMARY FOR THE MONTHS RECEIPTS

Worship Offerings	8400.00
Give Them Wings/ Building Use	400.00
New York Life Annuity Interest	950.00
Colleen Pepe memorial/ run thru General Bud.	<u>+ 25.00</u>
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>9775.00</b>

## MONTHLY OPERATIONAL EXPENSES

Expenses in January	11969.87
Total Expenses Paid	<u>- 7169.72</u>
<b>UNPAID EXPENSES IN JAN</b>	<b>4800.15</b>

DATE	ATTEND.	WORSHIP OFF.	NEED WKLY (to meet budgeted goals)
1/2	70	2390.00	2898.12
1/9	66	2097.00	2898.12
1/16	72	1953.00	2898.12
1/23	82	1960.00	2898.12
1/30	<i>(One Sunday remaining)</i>		2898.12

## MONTHLY RECEIPTS (\$12,558.50 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	May	Sept
Feb	Jun	Oct
Mar	Jul	Nov
Apr	Aug	Dec

## REMAINING JANUARY EXPENSES

Pastor’s Salary	1044.11
Pastor’s Housing Allowance	500.00
Staff Salaries	3100.00
J2 Office Supplies	98.80
Christmas Invites	<u>+ 57.24</u>
<b>Total January Expenses</b>	<b>4800.15</b>
 Have in Checking Acct.	 - 2613.13
<b>Balance due with (1) Sunday remaining</b>	<b>2187.02</b>

# God Bless

