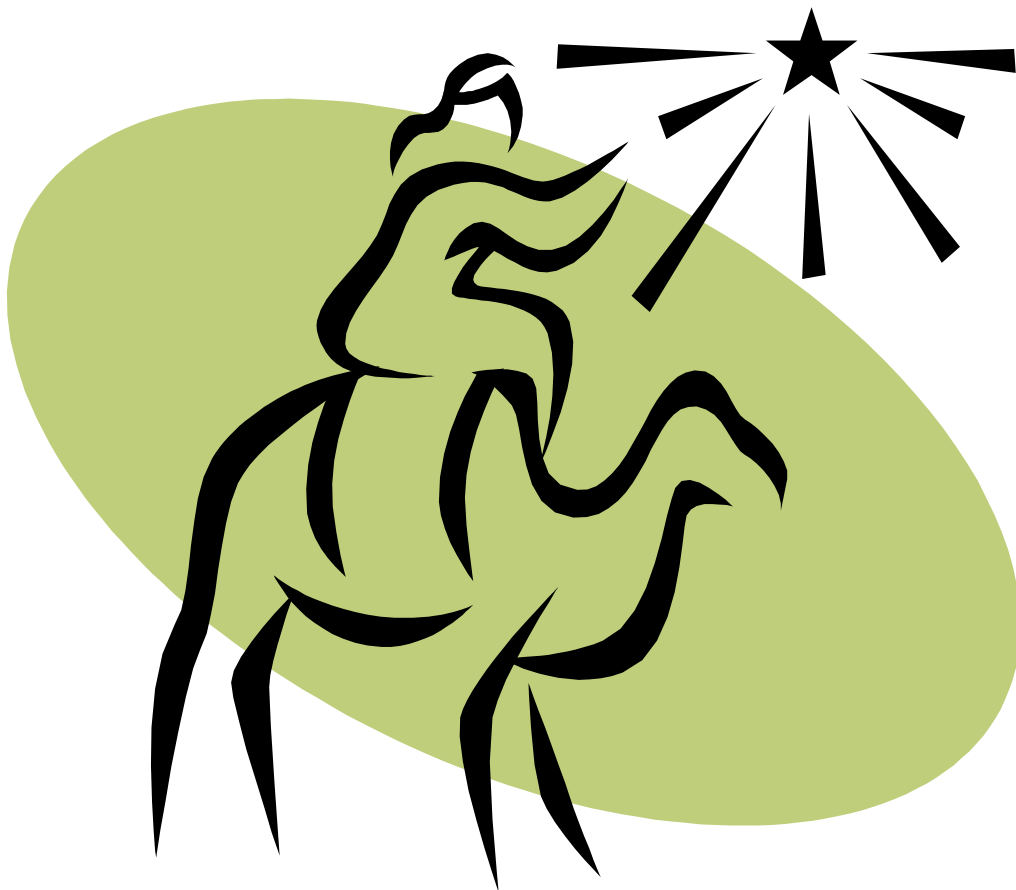


Calvary Echoes

January 2011

Calvary Lutheran Church

406-752-4102



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

Calvary's E-mail: connie4@bresnan.net



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Calvary's website: <http://calvaryinevergreen.org/>.
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✧ Staff Page ✧

| Name | Title | E-Mail |
|----------------|-----------------|--|
| Kurt Rau | Pastor | kurt@calvaryinevergreen.org |
| Jason Sternad | Youth Coach | jason@calvaryinevergreen.org |
| Jenny Rau | Music Director | jenny@calvaryinevergreen.org |
| Connie Pitt | Secretary | connie@calvaryinevergreen.org |
| Alyssa Sternad | Asst. Secretary | alyssa@calvaryinevergreen.org |
| Ryan Roush | Custodian | ryan@calvaryinevergreen.org |

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A Message From Our Pastor



I would like to wish everyone a God blessed New Year. This is the time of the year in which we begin making New Year resolutions concerning those things from the previous year we still feel guilty about whether it's a diet, debt, or doubts about life. Wouldn't it be a cool idea if we could forget making New Year resolutions year after year and just live free in an age of grace?

After a year into His public ministry, Jesus read inside His home synagogue the most famous prophecy concerning the Messiah mission from Isaiah 61:1-2a. Jesus said to the expectant crowd, "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor (Luke 4:18-19)." The phrase "year of the Lord's favor" refers not to a calendar year, but an age of God's grace which is the age of the church.

The messianic age would be similar to the idea of the Jewish jubilee which occurred every fifty years. During the year of jubilee, all slaves were set free, all debts were cancelled, and all property was returned to its original owners. During the age of grace, Jesus proclaims to all His followers that they have been set free from the slavery of sin, all their debts have not only be cancelled but they're forgotten, and all of us can now return to God, the Lover of our souls.

Where do you go to find this age of Grace? You simply fall on your knees everyday & pray something like this: "Jesus, I'm a sinner in need of your grace today. Thank you for saving me and freeing me by your precious blood. If you give me the privilege of living another day then help me by your Spirit to live for you and your glory. In your most precious name! Amen."

Whenever you live daily with the Lord whether in His Word, prayer, small group, worship or service, you'll discover that as long as you're walking with Him you're in fact living in the "year of the Lord's favor."

Happy New Year!!!

Brother in Christ,
Pastor Kurt



January Birthdays



| Sun | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thur | Fri | Sat |
|----------------------------------|------------------|---|-------------------------------|-------|-----------------|---------------|
| | |  | | | | 1 Cory Bitney |
| 2 Florence Norby Alison Olsen | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 Russ Olsen | 8 |
| 9 | 10 Danny Johnson | 11 Alexandra Belt | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 Audy AuClaire | 19 | 20 | 21 Laurie Smith | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 Myrtle Carter | 26 Glenda Davis Jean Kampf | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | | HAPPY | BIRTH | DAY!! | |

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



Flathead Food Bank food item of the month is soup.

Wednesday, January 5th 'EnCourage' Youth will be joining Revolution Church for their youth night. The youth groups will be viewing the movie *To Save A Life* and participating in a study about the message of the movie. This event will occur at New Covenant Church, located at 436 Birch Grove Road. Youth are to arrive at Calvary at 5:30 p.m. and will return by 9 p.m. Permission slips will need to be signed and returned to attend the event. Contact Youth Coach Jason at 471-5707 for more information.

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. The class will be offered on



Thursdays- January 6, 13, & 20 from 7-9 p.m., downstairs in the computer room. If you are interested in this class please contact the church office at 752-4102 or make note on your yellow attendance card on Sunday.

Church Directory: We are in the process of updating our church directory, if you have an address, phone or name changes contact the church office. **Also**, mail boxes in the Welcome Area will be updated, if you do not have one and would like one contact the church office (752-4102). Thanks for helping our records stay accurate! **2011 Offering Envelopes** have not yet been received. Let us know if you do or do not want to use the envelopes. They will be placed in your church mailboxes when they are received.

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 13th) so the Annual Reports can be in church mailboxes by Sunday, Jan. 16th- please contact the church office (752-4102) for details.



[The Annual Congressional Meeting](#) will be held on Sunday, January 23rd. There will be a potluck dinner, then the meeting. The Annual Report booklets will be in the church mailboxes the Sunday before the meeting (1/16/2011). Please take them home, read over them and bring the report booklet and your questions to the Annual Meeting. Plan to attend; this is your opportunity to make your hopes and concerns known. Please remember to keep the upcoming meeting in your prayers.

[‘Inspirational’ Women’s Group](#) will meet Wed. Jan. 5th, 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!



[Quilting:](#) We will start meeting twice a month in January beginning Thurs, Jan. 13th at 9 a.m. We will meet the 2nd and last Thursdays of the month for a few months, to work on our Lutherans World Relief quilts. All are welcome to join us! No experience or sewing skills necessary, just tie knots!

[We got our \\$5000 grant on the Pepsi Website.](#) Jan. 1st everyone can begin voting for our Community Kitchen-Feeding the Flathead grant. It says “We want to make free meals for everyone who needs them in Flathead County, MT.” If you need any help on how to vote, Brenda Bauer has some helpful information she can give you. Remember, we don’t vote until January 1st. Thank you, Kim Snell-Community Kitchen Evergreen Director.

[SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE SUNDAY](#)

Churches will be holding Sanctity of Human Life Sunday on either January 16th or 23rd. Every year in Flathead County alone, 272 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.



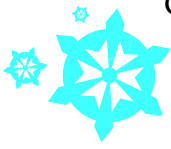
The theme for Life Sunday is “Hands that knit – Arms that hold” based on Psalm 139:13 and Mark 10:16. As “For Life” Christians, we are called to apply the Gospel to all of the life issues - abortion, euthanasia, assisted suicide, genetic engineering, contraception, cloning, etc. On Life Sunday, Lutherans 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 2010.

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., 23rd, 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. 22nd. The rally begins at 12 noon at Central Bible Church, 902- 1st Ave. E., with a soup lunch followed by presentations from Hope Pregnancy Center, 40 Days for Life and speaker Chuck Baldwin. The march begins at 1:30 from Central Bible to Depot Park.



Next Meeting: Everyone is welcome to the Lutherans for Life meeting on Sun., Jan. 9th, 1:30 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 400 West California Street. For more information, call 756-8344.



Dear Calvary...

[Congratulations & God's Blessings](#) to Eric Pitt who was baptized during the Worship Service, Dec. 26th. Welcome to God's family!



[Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ](#), Kind Deeds are like little prayers. Thank you So Much for all your thoughts & prayers. Thank you for the prayer quilts. It is the most beautiful quilt I have ever seen and the knots that represent all the prayers are wonderful. Thank you again. Love & God Bless, Frances Sklany.

[CHRISTMAS...It's a season of opening our hearts and our homes...](#)



...in celebration of the Savior who makes our hearts His home.
To the wonderful children of God at Calvary Lutheran Church!!!
Have a Blessed Christmas from a Ray of Hope. Thank you for your love, prayers and support. Blessings Peggy Christensen

[Dear Friend,](#)

George and John had a tradition after church each Sunday. John would ask George, "What did you think of church today?" and George would reply, "I hate that pastor." He was half kidding-but only half.

George was a grown man and a gruff man and an unlikely candidate for Mother Hen. Yet he gathered tough teenage boys like baby chicks beneath his often ruffled feathers. Currently he had four boys at home-two of his own and two who were unofficially adopted. All had been abandoned by their mothers, and the "adopted" boys had no fathers-until George welcomed them under his scruffy wing.

"George calls the boys 'son' and they call him 'dad'," said John, the Young Life leader for the whole brood. "And George told me early on, 'If you do anything to hurt my boys, I'm going to hurt you.'"

It was a fair warning. So as John introduced three of the four boys to Jesus Christ over the next two years, he slept with one eye open, in case George came calling. Eventually, George did come calling, but only to batter John with questions about Jesus.

Soon George started following his three sons to church and he and John began their weekly tradition. "I hate that pastor," George would say each Sunday, and he was only half kidding. Fortunately, the half of George that didn't hate the pastor dragged the other half to meet with the man on more than one occasion. And you might say the chickens came home to roost. Soon Jesus was gathering George beneath His gentle wing.

Thank you for supporting Young Life. Thank you for putting leaders like John in the middle of kids' lives with the love of Jesus. I thank you, George thanks you, and so do a million moms and dads. It is a privilege to partner with you in this mission.

In Christ,
Denny Rydberg
Young Life President

Dear Calvary Lutheran Church,

On behalf of Montana's District 4 AARP Driver Safety Program, please accept my sincere thanks for acting as a sponsor in 2010. 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 attended 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



Council Highlights

Eric Maisch opened with prayer.

Devotion: 2 Corinthians 7:10 – The need for true repentance is the foundation of Christianity.

Bible Study: ‘Failure’ – We learn from failure 3 ways:

- 1) God uses failure to educate
- 2) God uses failure to motivate
- 3) God uses failure to grow

We must respond to failure correctly.

FYI:

1. Doors will be addressed towards spring.
2. Reminder of Annual Reports due Dec. 15th.
3. Nominating team will try and meet on Sun. Dec. 12th.
4. The Constitution Revision Team will begin meeting after the Annual Mtg. is completed and the new Council is in place.
5. Montana LCMC churches are looking at the possibility of forming a Montana District at some point in the future if the need is there.

LET’S TAKE ACTION:

1. 2011 Budget Proposal was discussed, amended and readied for the Annual Mtg. in the amount of \$150,702, which is \$2000 less than the 2010 budget.
2. Garden of Read’n (Christian book store out of Missoula) have invitations we could use to invite people to Christmas Eve service. Donations were made by Council members. The packets include a new testament Bible, are \$1 a piece. 50 will be ordered.
3. Flathead Beacon ads – We will do an ad for Christmas and Easter – the price is \$30.50 each.
4. Christmas Eve Offering: Undesignated checks & loose currency from the candlelight service will be divided between Samaritan’s Purse & the Good Shepherd Fund (this is a fund to help members of Calvary that are in need). Checks made out to Calvary Lutheran will go to the church’s general budget, unless designated otherwise in the check memo.
5. Next Council Mtg. is Jan. 4th to plan the agenda for the Annual Mtg. and designation of the 4th quarter Mission Focus.
6. The Food Bank is in need of Christmas stockings to give to families that come to Calvary. They will hand them out Tues, Dec. 21st, during food bank hours. The congregation will be asked to donate these; they do not need to be filled. They need to be here by Sun. the 19th.
7. Community Kitchen needs help with the recycling if it is to continue to recycle. Connie will share Council’s ideas with them.
8. Calvary needs to begin looking at replacing the boiler, within the next 3-5 years. This will be an agenda item at the Annual Mtg.

Council closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

December Budget



SUMMARY FOR THIS MONTH'S RECEIPTS

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Worship Offerings | 10305.00 |
| Give Them Wings/Building Use | 400.00 |
| Narcotics Anonymous B. Use | 160.00 |
| New York Life Annuity Interest | 950.00 |
| Flat. Elec. Capital Credit Refund | <u>77.43</u> |
| TOTAL RECEIPTS | 11892.43 |

MONTHLY OPERATIONAL EXPENSES

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Expenses in December | 12489.70 |
| Unpaid Expenses in Jan.-Nov. | <u>+ 0.00</u> |
| Total Expenses | 12489.70 |
| Total Expenses Paid in December | <u>- 11979.70</u> |
| UNPAID EXPENSES IN JAN-DEC | 510.00 |

| DATE | ATTEND. | WORSHIP OFF. | NEED WKLY |
|---------------|---------|--------------|-------------------------|
| | | | (to meet budgeted goal) |
| 12/5 | 78 | 2996.00 | 2937.33 |
| 12/12 | 73 | 2559.00 | 2937.33 |
| 12/19 | 100 | 2025.00 | 2937.33 |
| Christmas Eve | 83 | 835.00 | |
| 12/26 | 57 | 1890.00 | 2937.33 |

MONTHLY RECEIPTS (\$12,728.42 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 | 13577.05 | MAY | 13634.50 | SEPT | 11925.39 |
| FEB | 11968.13 | JUN | 10852.14 | OCT | 14538.72 |
| MAR | 10753.75 | JUL | 14662.75 | NOV | 9663.50 |
| APR | 11369.75 | AUG | 12255.13 | DEC | 11892.43 |

Jan. - December Unpaid Expense: Snowplowing \$510

\$2800 was used from parsonage sale in 2010 for Pastor's salary & payroll. January - \$950, February - \$1200, Sept - \$650

Christmas Eve donations total was \$314; with \$182 to the Good Shepherd Fund at Calvary and \$132 to Samaritan's Purse. Thank you for your generosity in supporting these ministries!



WHO ME?

I need to be forgiven, Lord,
So many times a day.
So often do I slip and fall;
Be merciful, I pray.
Help me not be critical
When others' faults I see.
For so often, Lord,
The same faults are in me.

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)