

CALVARY ECHOES

November 2011

Calvary Lutheran Church
406-752-4102



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

Calvary's email: connie4@bresnan.net



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Staff Page

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A Message from Our Pastor



I recently went to the LCMC national gathering in Des Moines Iowa in early October. It was an awesome experiencing to say the least. This year's focus was "growing in Christ" with a major emphasis placed on making disciples. The first keynote speaker was Pastor Greg Odgen from Oak Brook Illinois. He asked one question that set the stage for the rest of the gathering. The question was "what is the difference between a Christian and a disciple?" How would you answer this question?

Right before returning to heaven Jesus told His disciples that "all authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age (Matthew 28:18-20)."

Pastor Odgen challenged the gathering about what a biblical disciple of Jesus is and is not. He said to notice what Jesus didn't say in the Great Commission. He didn't say "make members" or "make pew sitters" or even "make Christians", but rather He said "make disciples". He went to say that the distinction between being a Christian and a disciple is a recent invention designed to allow anyone to opt out of being obedient to Jesus' command. This is obviously problematic given that making disciples for Jesus is the standard by which He will judge our life's service and the principle way we can show our love for Him. Jesus said, "If you love me, you will obey what I command (John 14:15)."

Certainly Jesus' last command should certainly be our first priority. I will spend time in the next sermon series to begin a conversation on how we as a church can once again make Jesus' last command Calvary's first priority.

Have an awesome November!

Brother in Christ,

Pastor Kurt





Announcements



Food Pantry Item of the Month: Turkeys!

FLATHEAD FOOD BANK NEEDS: hygiene products. These items are something that people may not be able to purchase, as their priority is food. If this is an area you could help with it would be greatly appreciated! The items may be placed in the Food Bank basket in the Welcome Area. Thank You for supporting those in need!

CALVARY'S CLOSET: is in need of men's and children's winter coats and shoes. *We can always use sleeping bags and blankets too*, as there are many in need of warm places to sleep. Please keep this important ministry in prayer. Thank you for your generosity and care!

\$\$\$BUDGET REQUESTS \$\$\$ are due Nov. 1st from the different areas of ministry. The Budget Planning meeting will be held at the Nov. Executive Mtg. (Nov. 8th, 6:30 p.m.) **ANNUAL REPORTS** from chairpersons and leaders of ministry are due Dec. 15th. (*Pastor, Council President, Worship, Property & Management, Calvary's Closet, Living Free Ministries, Sunday school & VBS, Wyldlife, Preschool, HeBrews, CLCW, Mission Endowment Fund, Community Kitchen & 'EnCourage' Youth*) These reports are a great opportunity to share with the congregation what God has been doing at Calvary in 2011.

THE NOMINATING TEAM will be meeting to begin the process of filling positions of ministry at Calvary. Keep them in your prayers and those God would raise to serve him. Please consider if there is an area God is calling you to serve.

CHURCH DIRECTORY: We will be beginning the annual process of updating our membership directory. Please notify the church office (752-4102) if you have ADDRESS AND/OR PHONE CHANGES **Also**, regarding mail boxes in the Welcome Area, if you do not have one and would like one please let the office know.

Labels for Education: Just a reminder to continue saving Campbell's soup label and box tops to help our schools! Collection jars are in the welcome area. The schools can earn lots of free resources with these. The list of qualifying items is by the collection jars or you can visit the website: www.labelsforeducation.com. If you have any questions please contact the church office (406-752-4102).

PLEASE REMEMBER that articles for the Sunday Bulletin need to be in the church office by 1 p.m. on Wednesdays and articles for the ECHOES need to be in by the 20th of each month. Thanks!!

THE NEW BOILER EXPENSES: Praise God for His provision of warmth for this winter! We have received the final bill for the boiler plus the extra expenses, bringing the total cost to \$31,551.41. We have \$21,658 from Margrethe Reep's Estate, \$1375 in donations/memorials and \$1176 from Thrivent Choice Dollars; totaling \$24209. We will also receive a rebate from NorthWest Energy for \$2200. **MATCHING FUNDS!!** We have been given the opportunity to receive matching funds of up to \$2000 (we have received \$200 which is now \$400!) to help meet the boiler expenses! Which means your amount will double! The remaining balance to date is \$4742. Praise God & continue to pray for His provision & if this is an area you would be able to contribute. Thanks!

Sing to the Lord! Come and join us for adult choir on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in the Worship Area. We are beginning some songs and will discuss how often we will sing for worship. If you are interested in singing in choir we would love to have you come and bring a friend! For more info or questions please contact the church office at 752-4102.

'EnCourage' Youth: Calling all Jr. High and High School students! Join us for youth group every Wednesday night from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in Calvary's Worship Area. Enjoy games, fellowship and of course deep exploration into God's Word.

HEBREWS CAFÉ is open 8:30–10 a.m. Sunday mornings in Calvary's Fellowship Hall! Come join us for breakfast and a latte!

MAGAZINES FOR OUR TROOPS! There is a box in the Welcome Area for used or new magazines that will be sent to our troops. If you have any you could share, that would be great and an encouragement for our troops overseas!! Thanks ☺

CLCW MINISTRY: Please continue shopping for school supplies and backpacks for kids. Also, we would like to have new or gently used bath or hand towels, washcloths and hygiene items available for folks who frequent our clothes closet. There is a basket in the Welcome Area to place these items. Bar soap (wrapped) and quilts will be shipped to LWR in April. Thanks for all of your donations. We can really make a difference in peoples' lives right here at Calvary!

'INSPIRATIONAL' WOMEN'S GROUP: will meet Wed. Nov. 2nd, at 1:30 p.m. in the Welcome Area. We will review a book from Calvary's library, then do a Bible Study. Come and join us!

QUILT RAFFLE! The quilting ladies have had a quilt donated from Nancy Tucker that is hanging in the back of the Worship Area. We will raffle the quilt, with the proceeds to be used for supplies for the quilts we make for Lutheran World Relief. Tickets are \$2 a piece or 3 for \$5. The drawing will take place Sunday, Dec. 18th. **QUILTING:** The next 2 months we will meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month to be able to work around the holidays! (Nov. 17th and Dec. 15th) We would love to have you join us, no experience necessary!!

MARRIAGE BUILT TO LAST: We all want a healthy, loving marriage, but there are many real issues that can stand in the way. We can't ignore those issues and just hope they go away. Whether you're dealing with those issues now or want to avoid them in the future, this opportunity is for you.

MARRIAGE BUILT TO LAST (Living Intentionally and Loving Biblically) is the name of a marriage workshop that will be held on Saturday, November 19th from 9am - 5pm at Christ Lutheran Church in Whitefish. The DVD workshop features Pastor Chip Ingram, nationally syndicated radio host of Living on the Edge. It includes interviews with Kurt & Brenda Warner and Dave & Sharon Ramsey. Kurt is the former NFL MVP quarterback. Dave is a radio host and author on financial matters.

Topics include learning to communicate clearly, resolving conflict, adjusting to expectations and striving for a Christ-centered marriage. The day will include time for discussion, lunch and breaks. Child care will be provided. Cost is \$10 per person to cover food and workbooks. Please register so materials can be ordered, by calling the church office at 862-2615.

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH IN Bigfork will be holding its 91st Annual Lutefisk Dinner Sat. Nov. 12th from 3-8 p.m. Adults- \$15, children 10 years and younger-\$5. For more info, contact the church office at 837-4387.

WE NEED YOUR CRAFT ITEMS – Immanuel Lutheran Communities will be having their annual Christmas Bazaar on Friday, November 18th. We would love it if any crafters and artists would share a few of their items with us. Variety is the spice of life and we'd love a variety of items to sell. Our residents enjoy buying their gifts for Christmas at this time and because of our huge lefse sale – we have many people from throughout the community stop buy to shop. All the proceeds from this sale are used to benefit the residents of Immanuel Lutheran Communities. Thank you for your help!

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN COMMUNITIES ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
Fri, Nov. 18th, 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Lefse, gift items, crafts, cards & Sons of Norway items available. Fresh, hot & gooey caramel rolls & coffee for sale too! Great way to start your weekend Christmas shopping!

THRIVENT FINANCIAL CHAPTER LEADERSHIP BOARD Members of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans have the opportunity to be involved in a rewarding opportunity that delivers an even greater impact to our community and those in need. Serving on the local chapter board allows you to help members help others. Primarily the Chapter Leadership Board administers the funds given back to our community through the Thrivent Financial Care Abounds in Community Fund. In addition, we have the opportunity to support events & organizations that are serving our community & congregations. This is truly a rewarding experience. The Board meets monthly for less than 2 hours & additional time is minimal. The term is for 1 year, January to December. If you would like more info, please contact Nancy Brosten at 752-2357 or the Thrivent Office at 756-7797. We also welcome you to attend the Chapter Board meeting, Nov. 7th, 5 p.m., at the Thrivent Office. Please call the Thrivent Office, if you would like to attend. Elections for positions on the Flathead County Chapter Leadership Board will be in November. **We urge you to prayerfully consider serving.**

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD . . .



The world's largest, most ready-to-hear, and most vulnerable people in the world are His children. Operation Christmas Child boxes are one of the most meaningful ways to reach the world's children for Jesus!

PREPARING: Use an empty shoe box, standard size, or a plastic container. You can wrap the parts separately. Determine whether your gift will be for a boy or girl, and the age category: 2-4, 5-9, or 10-14. Use the special labels that will be in the display at the church.

CREATING: Fill the box with a variety of gifts that will bring delight to a child. Please donate \$7 or more for each shoe box you prepare to help cover shipping and other project costs. You will find special envelopes in the church display. Place a rubber band around each closed shoe box and drop it off at the church between Nov. 13th and Nov. 20th. It would be helpful to have the boxes as early during that week as possible.

GIFT IDEAS: School supplies, toys (nothing war related), hygiene items (soap in a plastic bag), hard candy, lollipops (double bag all candy), mints, gum, T-shirts, socks, ball caps, sunglasses, hair clips, toy jewelry, watches, flashlights with extra batteries.

PERSONAL NOTE: In a separate envelope, you may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself or your family. If you include your name and address, the child may write back.

FAMILY NOTE: This is a great project for families to do together. Shopping for the child or children you decide to give boxes to can be really rewarding as you include planning, prayer, and pictures of yourselves!

GIVING: If you are unable to prepare and fill a shoe box yourself, but want to participate, you can donate money for someone else to fill the shoebox, or provide for shipping which is the most expensive part of the project!

MOST IMPORTANT: Remember to pray for the child who will receive your gift! (If you have questions, refer to the display that will be at the church, or call the church office at 752-4102.) By thinking about this ahead of time, you will be able to "avoid the November Rush"!

OPERATION Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse. Presentation of boxes to children includes follow-up discipleship programs so children can come to know Jesus as their savior!



Dear Calvary...



OFFERING OF PRAISE & THANKSGIVING

The women of Calvary ask everyone to praise and thank God by sharing their blessings on Sunday, Nov. 20th. Please bring food items for thanksgiving boxes. A special offering will be collected to be shared with Neighbors in Need and Community Kitchen Evergreen. If you know of families in our congregation or community in need of a food box, contact the church office (752-4102).

Calvary Lutheran Church,:

Five weeks ago a young woman came into Clear Choice Clinic. Alone & pregnant, she was planning to have an abortion. A baby would interfere with her college schedule, her boyfriend was unsupportive, & she believed that her parents couldn't handle the shame of her being pregnant & unmarried...she just didn't see any other way. As we visited that day, she didn't soften in her abortion position, but she agreed to wait a few weeks before going through with it. Before she left, I asked her if I could pray for her, & she agreed. In my prayer, I was able to share God's love for her, & as I finished praying, I looked up to see her weeping.

That was five weeks ago. Since that time, this young woman has reached out to me on many different occasions – through texts, phone calls & visits to the clinic. Sometimes she comes in 'just to talk'. As I continue to spend time with her, I'm more convinced than ever of one truth: what we do here at Hope is *not* just about the baby. Oh yes, we try desperately to save the life of her child. But if that doesn't happen, it is *just as important* to save the spiritual life of the mother. I'm out to do that for my friend. I want to win her to Jesus. And as we get to know each other, I'll pray that she sees the truth of *life* & chooses that for her baby. Will you pray for that with me? Let's pray for *the life of the baby and its mother*.

Your support, through your prayers & finances is so valuable. It's what allows us to do what we do. Thank you for your donation of \$524.72.

Michelle Reimer, Executive Director
Hope Pregnancy Ministries

OUR SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY OF GRACE ALLICK

Grace passed away Wednesday, September 28th. Memorial service for Grace was held Tuesday, October 4th here at Calvary, with Pastor Tim Bartholomew officiating.

Many Thanks, Warmest Thanks; we just can't thank you enough!

All the folks at Calvary Lutheran, thank you for donating your time to make all the delicious egg salad & ham sandwiches along with wonderful homemade desserts! It was so appreciated!

The Family of Grace Allick

OUR SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY OF NEIL SYLLING

Neil's was Al Sylling's brother. Neil's memorial service was held at Calvary, Saturday, October 22nd, with Pastor Kurt officiating



Council Highlights



Pastor Kurt opened with prayer. Eric Maisch shared a devotion from 1st Corinthians 9:22, on being a Christian worker, “We don’t got God, He has got us!”

Bible Study: Matthew 28:16-20 – The Great Commission;

- 1) What is the context of the passage? 2) What is it speaking to you?
- 3) How am I doing/how is the church doing in making disciples?

Council continued with specific prayer needs and praises!

FYI

1. Boiler is in and a great job was done! Dan Erickson talked to Diamond Plumbing about training for start up/shut down process. Final bill:\$29686.41 (bid for boiler/installation - \$28521, roto roter drain in boiler room - \$94.50, plumbing leak in janitor’s storage room - \$320.91, finish demolition and removal of old boiler - \$750), plus a new expansion tank \$1,865; total due \$31,551.41. We have been offered matching funds of up to \$2000 to pay balance due for boiler. We have \$26809 leaving a balance of \$4742.41. We have 30 days to pay bill.
2. Dishwasher is not working. We need to pursue a new or reliable used one. Dan Erickson will look into possibilities. We could take money out of the Mission Endowment to purchase one.
3. New York Life Annuity guaranteed interest of 6.05% will end 1/14/2012. We are guaranteed a minimum interest of 1.5% after that. We currently receive \$950 per month from the interest. We will look at redoing the amount we receive and interest possibilities as we get closer to the date.
4. LCMC Annual Gathering had a discipleship focus. Awesome time! Next year is in Denver, Oct. 8-10. Hope to get a group together to go.
5. Constitution Revision meetings are going well. Finalization of Bylaws and Constitution will be at meeting 11/29/2011.
6. Other: 1) Men’s bathroom downstairs has no drain and because of leaks in the boiler room there is damage to the adjoining wall and partial wall. We need to replace drywall up 2 ft. and moldings. Dan will pursue repairs. 2) Back door/behind the altar – top hinge is broken. Tom will look at to see how to repair.

LET'S TAKE ACTION

1. We will get a 2nd bid for snowplowing Calvary's parking lot.
2. Sign – Plexiglas cover is warping, need to look at possibilities of opening it to change letters that is safe and doesn't flex as much.
3. Annual Mtg. preparations: **Budget Requests** are due Nov. 1, so Nov. 8th Exec Mtg. can be the budget mtg. Budget planning team consists of the Executive team, 1 council member (Otto Bessey) and 1 congregational member (Pastor Kurt will ask someone). Budget will be presented at the Dec. 6th Council Mtg. for vote, to approve for the annual mtg. **Annual Reports** are due Dec. 15th from those in leadership areas. **Nominating Team** is Kristy Johnson, Phyllis Carson, Sandy DuPuy and 2 delegates from church Council (Betty Goeddertz & Jeff DuPuy).
4. Council/Executive Mtg. dates for Nov.–Jan. (to work around holidays & prepare for Annual Mtg.) *All meetings are on Tuesdays.*
Executive Mtg./Budget Planning Mtg: November 8th at 6:30 p.m.
Executive Meeting: December 13th, 6:30 p.m.
Council Meetings: None in November, next meeting (2012 Budget): Dec. 6th at 7 p.m.
Council/Plan Annual Mtg. Agenda: Jan. 3rd at 7 p.m.
5. Testimonies – A Council member shared some struggles, the rest of Calvary's Council members laid hands on and prayed for them. Praises were shared for the awesome opportunities before us at Calvary. Also, for healing and encouragement that has taken place for individuals in and outside of Calvary!

Council closed with the Lord's Prayer



Alyssa Sternad, Council Secretary



October Budget Report



SUMMARY FOR THIS MONTH'S RECEIPTS

Worship Offerings	10672.25
Wok n Roll B.Use	90.00
Give Them Wings/Building Use	468.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	11230.25

MONTHLY OPERATIONAL EXPENSES

Expenses in October	12406.37
Unpaid Expenses in Jan.-September	+ 0.00
Total Expenses	12406.37
Total Expenses Paid in October	- 7717.67
UNPAID EXPENSES IN JAN-OCT	4688.70

We have a balance of \$3651.09 in checking, with the monthly New York Life Annuity amount of \$950 in our savings. There is also one Sunday remaining in the month to cover our October unpaid expenses!

DATE	ATTEND.	WORSHIP OFF.	NEED WKLY (to meet budgeted goal)
10/2	68	2606.00	2898.12
10/9	82	3111.00	2898.12
10/16	84	2152.25	2898.12
10/23	75	2803.00	2898.12
10/30			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	12161.00	MAY	12818.50	SEPT	10918.48
FEB	12529.00	JUN	10908.31	OCT	
MAR	11755.97	JUL	12647.33	NOV	
APR	13336.00	AUG	11321.04	DEC	

🎃 TID BITS 🎃

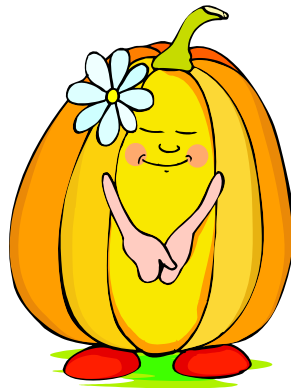
THANKSGIVING PRAYER

On this Thanksgiving Day, dear Lord,
Our thanks are most sincere
For all the blessings you bestowed
Throughout the passing year

For health, for work, for special joys,
For family and friends
And for our Nation under God
Your goodness never ends!

But help us understand, dear Lord,
And may we clearly see
That just one day is not enough
To thank you properly.

And that our thanks today are small
For gifts that you outpour,
Unless we've thanked you other days
Three hundred sixty four!



THE SHORTEST WAY is not always right, nor the smoothest,
nor the safest. Therefore, do not be surprised if God
chooses the farthest and roughest, but you can be sure of
this - He will choose the best!