

Calvary Echoes

September 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

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
Tom Foreman	Custodian	

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BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING

Has there been a time when the odds were against you, your fear heighten, and you needed an extra breath because you were about to take a step of faith? I recently had this experience when I got on a ride at the county fair. In the past, God had blessed me with an ironclad stomach so that no ride including a triple loop rollercoaster could even touch it.

This last Sunday afternoon I went with my family to the Northwest Montana fair. I wanted to be a blessing to my son by teaching him the right way to ride the rides with absolutely no fear or upset stomach. We decided to start small by having him go on the small kiddie rides. In an effort to push the envelope, I took Matthew on the low speed carousel. Having successfully accomplished this ride, it was now time to take him on the ultimate kid ride known as the “tilt-a-whirl”. The whole family got in the last available spinning car. The ride began without too much difficulty, but once we started to shift our weight around the car started to spin with so much intensity that my stomach start to jump up into my throat. As nausea and fear filled my head, my son Matthew was just beaming with joy as he yelled “faster, go faster”.

My goal was to be a blessing to Matthew, but instead I was surprisingly blessed by him. This ride should’ve been scary for him, but because of his unquestioning trust in his parents around him he was freed from the fear so as to live in the moment.

This idea of a child-like faith God tried to convey to Abraham when he said, “Leave your country, your people and your father’s household and go to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you (Genesis 12:1–3).” In other words, God told Abraham if you leave everything of this world for Him and trust Him alone, then He would transform Abraham’s life into a blessing for others. God blessed Abraham so that he would become a blessing to the world.

This pattern is seen in all heroes of faith particularly mentioned in Hebrews chapter 11. It was definitely seen in Esther’s life. In fact, her uncle Mordecai reminded her of God’s blessing when he said, “Do not think that because you are in the king’s house you alone of all the Jews will escape. For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father’s family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to royal position for such a time as this (Esther 4:13b–14)?” You might ask yourself in what ways has God blessed my life. Well, the good news is you don’t have to go on a fair ride to figure that out. A great way to figure out your life blessings is by taking a close look at your life struggles. The Bible says, “Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God (2 Corinthians 1:3–4).”

God wants to bless everyone including you with the gift of His Son, Jesus. Anyone that comes into a personal relationship with Jesus will have their past sins forgiven, a purpose in the present, and a future home in heaven. The Bible says, “He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life (1 John 5:12).” God desires to walk with you through a relationship with His Son not some man-made religion. From this relationship, Jesus will live His life through you so as to touch the lives of others around you. All you need to do in this relationship to be like Abraham is to have a child like faith.

If you need more faith, then just ask God for it and He will give it. A favorite prayer that I like to pray is “I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief (Mark 9:24)!”

Brother in Christ,
Pastor Kurt



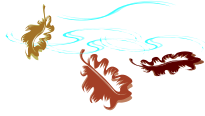
September Birthdays



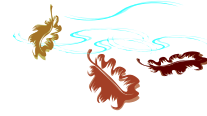
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
HAPPY	BIRTH	DAY		1	2	3
4	5	6	7 Virginia Wood	8	9 Betty Bjornrud	10
11	12	13	14	15 Norma Long Katie Foreman	16	17
18	19	20 Sherry Shanks	21 Elaine Olson	22	23	24 Kim Snell
25	26 Bruce Rorvig	27	28 Ed Klain	29	30	

* Don't see your name on the birthday list? *

If you would like us to know more about you fill out your yellow cards Sunday morning and place them in the offering plates.



Announcements



FOOD PANTRY NEEDS: school snacks.

NEW STUDY Beginning on September 11th at 9:00 am, Pastor Kurt will be leading a new small group Bible Study on the Gospel of John. This twelve week study will go verse-by-verse using John's MacArthur's study book on John. The cost of the book will be between \$6- \$8 depending on the number ordered. Like the other gospels, the Gospel of John includes the essentials of Jesus' life; such as, Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection. However, this gospel is unique in that it provides details of Jesus' life not mentioned in the other gospel. If you are interested in this study or would like more information, please contact Kurt at 752-4102 or drop him an email.

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

'INSPIRATIONAL' WOMEN'S GROUP will meet Wed. Sept. 7th, 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!

SOUND TEAM! For everyone that is involved with the sound team currently or for those who would like to be involved with the sound team please join us Wednesday September 14th at 5 p.m. for our first training meeting! For more information please contact Jason at 471-5707.

FALL CLEANING EVENT AT CALVARY! Mark your calendar for Sat, Sept. 17th. We will be having a cleaning/maintenance day at Calvary! More detailed info will be coming, but for now we have a list of needs that you may have or could supply to help clean up, repair and just refresh our church building: *cove base molding - vinyl - 4" tall (any color); *2 rain gutter pipe plus 3 flex elbows; *non-skid strips for rear kitchen stairs; *latch for SW door; *lock set w/key to maintenance supply room; *coat hooks - downstairs restrooms; *belt sander 80 & 100 grit; *heavy duty scraper (for carpet & glue); *30' extension ladder. For more info/questions, contact Daniel Erickson at 210-5920.

LCMC ANNUAL GATHERING is Oct. 2-5, 2011 in Des Moines, Iowa. The church is budgeted for \$500 to cover registration and help with expenses. We hope to have representatives from Calvary attend. Registration fees are \$90 per person, which includes most meals. Travel and room expenses are extra. Please pray for the gathering, those that will attend and if this is an area God would have you support financially! This National Gathering is a great opportunity to build relationships with other LCMC congregations!

NEIGHBORS IN NEED REPRESENTATIVE is needed from Calvary Lutheran Church. For more information or if you are interested in serving with this much needed ministry, please contact the church office (752-4102).

SCHOOL SUPPLIES: We are collecting school supplies for the kids who attend Community Kitchen and Calvary's Closet. **Top needs are:** backpacks, trapper keepers, 'like new' gym & daily shoes. There is a basket set up in the back of the Welcome Area to place these items. For more info contact Sandy DuPuy (871-4199). To donate financially you may make checks out to Calvary Lutheran and write school supplies/Calvary's Closet in the memo.

ATTENTION!!
LCMC WOMEN OF THE WORD
SAVE THE DATE

WOW Conference to be held
October 15, 2011
Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Chester, Montana

Sponsored by:
New Beginnings, Our Savior's & St. Olaf Lutheran churches.

Details Pending.

You may contact Julane Jensen by e-mail at julanejensen@hotmail.com
Phone # 406-759-5366
Cell # 406-399-3065

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 ☺

TARPS FOR TENTS We are putting together tote boxes filled with heavy duty plastic tarps, ropes, and tent pegs that can be shipped where needed and used as emergency shelters. If you wish to help by bringing in tarps, rope or tent pegs, please do. If you have any questions, feel free to call Rick Funk at 257-7716. If you would prefer to donate funds for the purchase of these items, please make the checks out to Calvary Lutheran Church & write Tarps for Tents on the Memo line.

AARP DRIVER SAFETY PROGRAM will be at Calvary, Sat. Sept. 24th, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call the church office (752-4102) or (752-0786) for reservations or more info. **NO WRITTEN OR DRIVING TESTS!**

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

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO BRING THEIR FAMILY TO:

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE FAMILY POTLUCK - Sunday, Sept. 11th at Trinity Lutheran Church Youth Center, 400 W. California St. Bring place settings, a salad or dessert to share. Hamburgers and drinks will be provided. There will be a business meeting at 5 p.m., potluck at 6 p.m. Call 756-8344 for information.

FALL CLEANING? LUTHERANS FOR LIFE ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE: Sept. 24th, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Faith Free Lutheran Church, 405 Liberty St. Donations are needed and also help beginning at 6 p.m. on Sept. 22nd & all day Sept. 23rd between 9 a.m. & 5 p.m. If you can help, or for info, call Linda Jackson, 756-8344 or Neila Elgin, 752-3089. Proceeds will benefit Hope Pregnancy Ministries, KALS "Life Issues" Program; provide pro-life materials for churches and other projects.

LIFE CHAIN Sunday, October 2nd, 2 - 3 p.m., at the intersection of Highways 2 and 93, Kalispell. This annual event is sponsored by Flathead Pro-life, for all Christians to get together at the crossroads of Kalispell, the corners of Main and Idaho and pray for an end to legalized abortion and that life will be held sacred in our country from conception to natural death.

Immanuel Lutheran —Communities—

Help keep the rocking chairs rockin!



**Join the Rock-a-thon on Wednesday,
September 21, 2011**

Please join our eight hour Rock-a-thon with food, fun, and entertainment. Volunteers are needed to rock, and obtain donations. Come anytime from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Donation sheets are available at the reception desk or make a \$5.00 donation for the potato bar lunch from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

With your generous support proceeds from this event will fund programs such as harp music for healing and transition, theme parties, intergenerational events and excursions. Your gifts are essential in allowing us to provide recreation and services necessary to improve resident quality of life. The rock-a-thon will be held at Immanuel Lutheran Home, located at 185 Crestline Avenue, Kalispell.

Donate now and support resident activities. Help keep the rocking chairs rocking.

Supported by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans



Dear Calvary...



Dear Friends and Supporters,

Many of you have been asking about the results of the 2011 Hope Pregnancy Ministries Baby Bottle Campaign, and I'm excited to pass those results on to you! But before I do, I'd like to express my deep thanks for your participation in this important campaign. Each year we are blessed to see the enthusiasm and dedication of God's people, as they give of themselves for the cause of life!

I can tell you that we are so very pleased with the results of this year's campaign! To date, we have received \$24,550.92 from 51 churches or organizations in the valley! This number is more than \$2,000 ahead of where we at this time last year and we know that bottles will continue to trickle in until we begin again next Mother's Day!

Calvary Lutheran Church contributed \$305.75 this year, with 19 bottles still outstanding. Thank you for your generosity! We encourage you to return any bottles that may have been forgotten (empty or full) to Calvary and we will be happy to pick them up. Each baby bottle represents a \$1 investment into this campaign, and it is our desire to collect as many as possible to reuse in next year's campaign.

Once again, thank you so much for your investment in Hope Pregnancy Ministries and the cause of *life!*

Very Sincerely,

Michelle Reimer
Executive Director
Hope Pregnancy Ministries

Our Sympathy and Prayers to the family of Susan Maisch. Susan passed away Saturday August 13th. A service for Susan was held at Conrad Memorial Cemetery, Tuesday, August 16th, with a luncheon following at Calvary. Pastor Kurt Rau officiated at the service.



Council Highlights

Eric Maisch opened with prayer. Connie Pitt shared a devotional from Our Daily Bread, Tues. August 23rd.

Bible Study: Council split into 5 groups, with each group receiving a church from Revelation 22 to study, answer questions about then share with the rest of Council. Individual groups prayed for specific needs within the group. Council then prayed together for needs of Calvary.

FYI

1. Newsboys Concert – approx. 40 people connected with Calvary attended, including 15 youth/leaders of EnCourage Youth!
2. LCMC Annual Gathering is Oct. 2-5 in Des Moines, Iowa, please keep in prayer.
3. Boiler update – Bids and options were shared. More details will be pursued to make sure we have the size and specifics Calvary needs.
4. Basement fire exit signs and updates will be pursued.
5. Constitution Revision is going well. Hope to have ready for Calvary's Annual Mtg.
6. Other – Projector needs repair

LET'S TAKE ACTION

1. Fall Cleaning will be Sat. Sept. 17th, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Daniel is organizing and will hand out needs to be done on day of cleaning/maintenance. There will be a BBQ for lunch. Sign ups will be available for those able to help with cleaning/maintenance or lunch.
2. Stacey Pitt is going back to college; Tom Foreman will be the church custodian for an interim period through this next year.
3. Alyssa Sternad is officially the Asst. Secretary. Her job responsibilities will be done evenings/Saturdays as she is student teaching through the middle of December.
4. Testimonies were shared of the God's love being revealed at Calvary!
5. Other: Next Mtgs: Executive, Tues. Sept. 13th, 6:30 p.m.
Council, Tues. Sept. 27th, 7 p.m.

Council closed with the Lord's Prayer



August Budget



SUMMARY FOR THIS MONTH'S RECEIPTS

Worship Offerings	10371.04
NYL Annuity Interest	+ 950.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	11321.04

MONTHLY OPERATIONAL EXPENSES

Expenses in August	13534.31
Unpaid Expenses in Jan.-July	+ 0.00
Total Expenses	13534.31
Total Expenses Paid in August	-13534.31
UNPAID EXPENSES IN JAN-AUGUST	0.00

<u>DATE</u>	<u>ATTEND.</u>	<u>WORSHIP OFF.</u>	<u>NEED WKLY</u> (to meet budgeted goal)
8/7	92	3717.00	2898.12
8/14	73	1829.04	2898.12
8/21	80	2425.00	2898.12
8/28	69	2400.00	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
FEB 12529.00	JUN 10908.31	OCT
MAR 11755.97	JUL 12647.33	NOV
APR 13336.00	AUG 11321.04	DEC

Jan. – August Unpaid Expenses

Total Unpaid 0.00

PRAISE GOD FOR HIS PROVISION!!



FOOTBALL GRIDIRON GLOSSARY In a never-ending effort to reach the unchurched, some churches are translating their unfamiliar terminology into familiar football phrases. It is hoped to help initiate football fans into the complexities of church life.

BLOCKING: Talking endlessly to the pastor at the church door and keeping everyone else from exiting.

DRAFT CHOICE: the decision to sit close to an air conditioning vent.

END ZONE: The pews.

EXTRA POINT: What you receive when you tell the preacher his sermon was too short.

ILLEGAL MOTION: Leaving before the benediction.

INTERFERENCE: Talking during the organ prelude.

TWO MINUTE WARNING: The Pastor's wife looking at her watch in full view of the pastor.

QUARTERBACK SNEAK: Sunday school teacher entering the building five minutes after classes begin.

ENEMIES TO FRIENDS

Someone once said to Abraham Lincoln, "Mr. President, I cannot understand you. You treat your enemies with such kindness. It would seem to me that you should want to destroy them." Lincoln replied, "I destroy my enemy when I make him into a friend."

WATCH AND LISTEN CAREFULLY

The man whispered, "God, speak to me", and a meadowlark sang, but the man did not hear.

So the man yelled, "God speak to me." And thunder rolled across the sky. But the man did not listen.

The man looked around and said, "God, let me see you." And a star shone brightly. But the man did not notice.

And the man shouted, "God, show me a miracle." And life was born. But the man did not know.

So the man cried out in despair, "Touch me, God, and let me know that you are here!" Whereupon God reached down and touched the man. But the man brushed the butterfly away and walked on.

Don't miss out on a blessing because it isn't packaged the way that you expect!