

CALVARY UPDATE

February 2026

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

PO Box 100
114 S Main St
Winger, MN 56592

www.calvarywinger.org
218-938-4330

Email:
calvarywinger@gvtel.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

-Council Meeting February
8th after church
-Annual Meeting with potluck
February 15th after church

Find us on 

Fellowship Hour 10:30 AM
Church Services 11:00 AM
Sunday School 11:00 AM

February Church Services while Theresa is on Vacation:

February 1st – Tim Johnson

February 8th- Jenny Lien

February 15th- Theresa

February 22nd - Theresa



**Reminder: Annual
Meeting February 15th
after church with
potluck before the
meeting!!**



**We will be having Ash
Wednesday service at
7PM Wednesday
February 18th!!**



COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The Calvary Council met on January 11th after church. Members were present: Steve, Bob, Dave, and LaVonne.

The meeting was called to order, and the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were both read and approved.

Under Old Business: LaVonne ordered a new Lenovo laptop from Best Buy, which was on sale for a good price. She inquired about which account they wanted to use for the reimbursement. All agreed to use the Memorial fund for the reimbursement.

LaVonne discussed the updated Quicken Classic Personal and Business software, approved at last month's meeting. She didn't want to order the software until it could be installed with the transfer of information from the old to the new laptop. She asked if it would be OK for Garden Valley Technologies to do the installation and transfer of the information. Dave made a motion to approve the software installation and transfer. Bob seconded the motion.

LaVonne stated that Garden Valley Technologies was here to upgrade the Wi-Fi service. James installed a new Managed Wi-Fi router and upgraded the speed from 100/100 to the next speed of 500/500. The service will reach up to the Sunday School area without the need for an extender. The phone jack in the office was changed to our church phone number 938-4330.

Under New Business: Theresa's office needs a couple of surge protectors. This will be taken care of before she comes back.

Reminder, the Annual Meeting will be held on February 15th, when Theresa returns from vacation. The next council meeting will be after church service on February 8th.

LaVonne McWilliam, Treasurer

"Only goodness and faithful love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord as long as I live."

-Psalm 23:6

Just a reminder that offerings can be sent to the church at PO Box 100, or you can set up a direct deposit from your bank using ACH or Bill Pay.

COUNCIL CONTACTS

President: Steve Carlson

218-563-2197

V. President: Elmyrna Kaupang

218-435-1001

Secretary: Marissa McWilliam-Donner

218-280-1731

Treasurer: LaVonne McWilliam

218-938-4439

Financial Sec: Devra Carlson

218-563-2197

Deacons:

David Natwick 218-938-4211

Byron Kaupang 218-938-4175

Vance Kaupang 701-866-6358

Trustees:

Bob Vesledahl 218-687-4288

Dale Balstad 218-938-4030

Shawnn Balstad 218-945-3049

Church Secretary:

Marissa McWilliam-Donner

218-280-1731

Prayer List:

Jesse Hickman,
Hazel Trogstad,
Orrie Flermoen,
Homebound, nursing
home & assisted
living members

FROM THERESA'S DESK

Blessings, Friends and Family of Calvary Lutheran,

Here is a summary of February to look forward to: The first week of February (Fourth Sunday after Epiphany) - it is asked, Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, those who mourn, and those who hunger for righteousness. In baptism, we find our blessed identity and calling.

The second week of February (Fifth Sunday after Epiphany) - Light shines in the darkness for the upright, the psalmist sings. Isaiah declares that when we loosen the bonds of injustice and share our bread with the hungry, the light breaks forth like the dawn. Through baptism, we are sent into the world to shine with the light of Christ.

The third week of February (Transfiguration of Our Lord or Last Sunday of Epiphany), Today's festival is a bridge between the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany cycle that comes to a close today and the Lent-Easter cycle that begins in several days. On a high mountain, Jesus is revealed as God's beloved Son, echoing the words at his baptism. The vision of glory sustains us as Jesus faces his impending death in Jerusalem.

We turn this week to Ash Wednesday and our yearly baptismal journey from Lent to Easter. Ash Wednesday, we begin our forty-day journey toward Easter with a day of fasting and repentance. Marking our foreheads with dust, we acknowledge that we die and return to the earth. At the same time, the dust traces the life-giving cross indelibly marked on our foreheads for baptism. While we journey through Lent to return to God, we have already been reconciled to God through Christ. We humbly pray for God to make our hearts clean as we rejoice, "Now is the day for salvation."

The first Sunday in Lent- Today's gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the desert. His forty-day fast becomes the basis of our Lenten pilgrimage. In the early church, Lent was a time of intense preparation for those to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. This catechetical focus on the meaning of faith is at the heart of the Lenten journey to the baptismal water of Easter. Hungry for God's mercy, we receive the bread of life to nourish us for the days ahead.

Since I last saw you, we have once again celebrated the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. I have always been impressed by his eloquent, faith-grounded, and driven vision of a possible future. But it saddens me to realize how little progress we have made. We are living in difficult times. With all the divisions in our world, the personal pain, struggle, and loss many of us face, and the actual normal February cold and darkness, it is easy to feel exhausted and disheartened. However, in such times, I have found Dr. King's observations on darkness quite helpful. Midnight is a confusing hour, and one in which it is difficult to be faithful; but the relevancy and power of the church will be measured by its capacity to meet the needs of those who come at midnight. The most inspiring word that the church can say to people at midnight is that no midnight is here to stay. Midnight is only a temporary development in the cycle of life's day. Yes, dawn will come. Disappointment, sorrow, and despair are all born at midnight, but we may be consoled by the fact that morning will come. "Weeping may stay for a night," says the Psalmist, "but joy comes in the morning." This is the faith that will adjourn the assemblies of hopelessness and bring new light into the dark chambers of pessimism.

We do not know what the future holds, but we can be positive that God's message of hope, new beginnings, and new life has never been more needed or relevant. We –the church– are called to carry the light of God's love into the darkness and let it shatter old patterns of hatred, fear, and despair. Soon we will start seeing Valentine's Day decorations. Let them remind us to celebrate God's deepest love, which shatters every darkness.

Love is Patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth; It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends—1 Corinthians 10:4-7.

In the words of Dr. King: "We stand in life at midnight; we are always at the threshold of a new dawn." Whatever dark and difficult time you may experience, may God's light, love, hope, and peace be with you all, until you enter into the dawn of a bright new day. God's Blessing to all,

Theresa Sandness, SAM



LECTIONARY READINGS FOR FEBRUARY

February 1st (Epiphany 4)

1st: Micah 6: 1-8

Psalm: Ps 15

2nd: 1 Cor 1: 1-9

Gospel: Matt 5: 1-12

February 8th (Epiphany 5)

1st: Isa 58: 1-9a

Psalm: Ps 112: 1-10

2nd: 1 Cor 2: 1-16

Gospel: Matt 5: 13-20

February 15th (Transfiguration)

1st: Exod 24: 12-18

Psalm: Ps 2 or 99

2nd: 2 Peter 1: 16-21

Gospel: Matt 17: 1-9

February 18th (Ash Wednesday)

1st: Joel 2: 1-2 12-17

Psalm: Ps 51: 1-17

2nd: 2 Cor 5: 20b—6:10

Gospel: Matt 6: 1-6 16-21

February 22nd (Lent 1)

1st: Gen 2: 15-17; 3: 1-7

Psalm: Ps 32

2nd: Rom 5: 12-19

Gospel: Matt 4: 1-11

*"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."
— John 3:16*