

CALVARY UPDATE

July 2026

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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UPCOMING EVENTS

-Ladies' Aide meeting July
14th 11AM at the church
-Council Meeting July 19th
-VBS July 15-17

Find us on 

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



FROM THERESA'S DESK

Dear Beloved Calvary Family,



As we step into the heart of summer, I find myself reflecting on how deeply grateful I am to walk this journey of faith alongside each of you. July has arrived-bringing warm days, evening cookouts, family vacations, and, perhaps best of all, opportunities to slow down and savor God's goodness. It's a season of rest and refreshment, and I pray that in the midst of your summer rhythms, you find joy in the quiet gifts God is offering.

I appreciate you entrusting me as your SAM. I have seen Christ working in this community. Thank you for welcoming me, encouraging me, and growing with me. You have shown me what it truly means to be the body of Christ.

This month we have VBS the 15-17th from 530-730pm, please remember to sign up your child, grandchild, or neighbor kid so we know how many t-shirts to have available and a headcount for food.

Throughout this month, we have many reasons to look forward with joyful expectation. Whether it's our upcoming 4th celebrations, the Polk County Fair, VBS, or simply time spent in fellowship, we trust that the Lord is present and active among us. As the Apostle Paul reminds us in Philippians 1:6, "He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." That promise encourages me deeply as I consider all that lies ahead for us. We are blessed with a congregation that loves boldly, serves selflessly, and shows up faithfully. July is a perfect month to ask: What new thing is God inviting us into? Whether it's reaching out to someone new, recommitting to spiritual habits, or simply finding a moment each day to say "thank you, Lord," there are countless ways we can tune our hearts to His voice.

In the coming weeks, be on the lookout for opportunities to plug into the life of the church-ways to grow spiritually, care for one another, and deepen your walk with Christ. And don't worry--we're still planning to keep the coffee flowing and the air conditioning humming.

Thank you, again, for the privilege of serving as your Synod Authorized Minister. I am truly excited for what God has in store

for our church in this new season. Let's continue to pray for one another, support each other, and listen carefully for the Spirit's leading.

With a shepherd's heart,
Theresa Sandness, SAM

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The Calvary Council met after church on June 14, 2026. Members present were Steve, Bob, Elmyrna, Marissa, and LaVonne. Theresa was also present.

The meeting was called to order by Steve. Theresa gave a devotional prayer. The Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were both read and approved.

Theresa gave her report. She mentioned everything is ready for VBS set for July 15th – 17th, from 5:30-7:30 PM, they will perform their program during church on the 19th. She has several volunteers willing to help with VBS. She has some of the older Sunday School children willing to help, too. Signs will be put around town. All children up through the 6th grade are welcome.

Under Old Business: Steve mentioned that a security camera has been installed to monitor our property.

Ottertail Power was notified that the ripple box was not working properly. They have put us at a lower rate to compensate us for not working, as they should've noticed it was not working.

North Country Lumber gave us a bid on two doors without labor. The only difference is whether we want wood or vinyl molding. Motion made by Elmyrna to go with the vinyl molding. Bob seconded the motion.

For New Business: Per Steve, Devra wanted to mention to the council that there are 3 children interested in attending bible camp: 2 to Pathways and 1 to Sandhill. Would the council be willing to help with the cost? After some discussion, it was decided to pay \$150.00 towards each child's camp fees. Bob made a motion, and Elmyrna seconded the motion. LaVonne requested Devra supply her with the children's names, respective camps, and camp dates. A check will be mailed to the camp the child is attending.

Lawn mowing. It was discussed Cooper Gieseke is the young man mowing the lawn again this year. Karl will continue to do the tree/bush trimming and will use Roundup or similar when needed.

Lastly, Theresa mentioned that a bone-building exercise class has been requested and would like it to be held at the church. She requested the council's permission for the class to use the church. The motion was made by Elymrna and seconded by Bob.

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

We closed the meeting with the Lord's prayer.

Marissa McWilliam-Donner, & LaVonne McWilliam

They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream.

It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit."

-Jeremiah 17: 8

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

VBS is scheduled for July 15th-17th from 5:30-7:30PM. The theme this year is The Great Jungle Journey! They will perform their program on Sunday July 19th.



DOOR FUNDRAISER!

Here is a picture of our front doors of the church. This past winter was tough on them. The current doors were installed in October 2001. We are seeking pricing for a new set of doors.

We are currently fundraising for replacement doors. If you would like to donate to the door fund, **please note your Donation: For Church doors.**



LECTIONARY READINGS FOR JULY

July 5 (Lect 14) (Pent 6)

1st: Zech 9: 9-12

Psalm: Ps 145: 8-14

2nd: Rom 7: 15-25a

Gospel: Matt 11: 16-19, 25-30

July 12 (Lect 15) (Pent 7)

1st: Isa 55: 10-13

Psalm: Ps 65: 1-13

2nd: Rom 8: 1-11

Gospel: Matt 13: 1-9, 18-23

July 19 (Lect 16) (Pent 8)

1st: Isa 44: 6-8

Psalm: Ps 86: 11-17

2nd: Rom 8: 12-25

Gospel: Matt 13: 24-30, 36-43

July 26 (Lect 17) (Pent 9)

1st: 1 Kings 3: 5-12

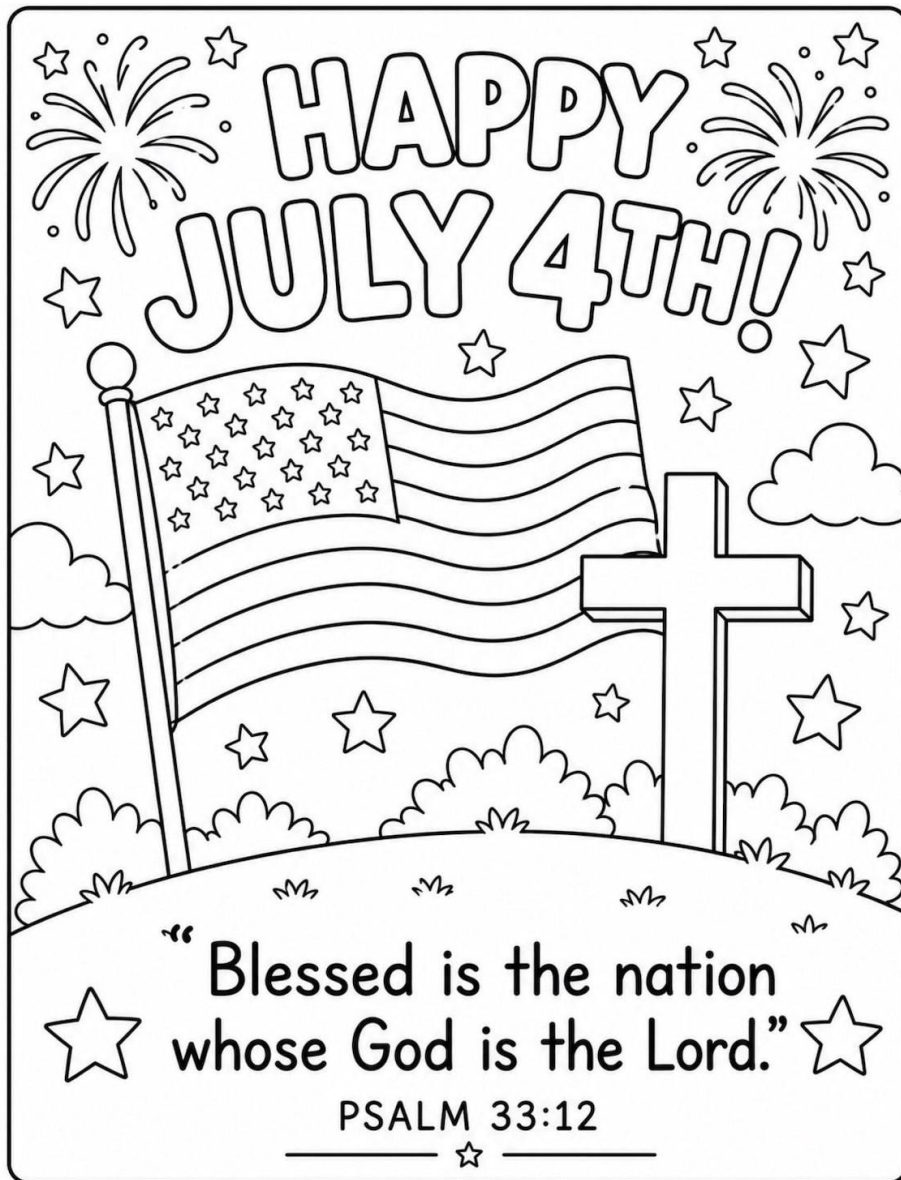
Psalm: Ps 119: 129-136

2nd: Rom 8: 26-39

Gospel: Matt 13: 31-33, 44-52

TEACH ME YOUR WAY,
LORD, THAT I MAY
RELY ON YOUR
FAITHFULNESS;
GIVE ME AN
UNDIVIDED HEART,
THAT I MAY FEAR
YOUR NAME.
PSALM 86:11

Bible Study Tools



**Ladies' Aide meeting July 14th
11AM
at the church. All are welcome!**

**Coffee & Conversation:
Tuesdays only for the summer!
9:00-10:30AM
All are welcome!**

Prayer List:

**Pam Wang, Corniel Espeseth, Donna Lucken,
Homebound, nursing home & assisted living members**