



THE VISITOR  
MAY & JUNE 2023

920-494-2431  
1301 S. Ridge Road  
Green Bay, WI 54304  
[www.calvarygb.com](http://www.calvarygb.com)

***There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling,<sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, one baptism,<sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.***  
Ephesians 4:4-6

Calvary Lutheran Church elected its Call Committee this past Sunday in a Special Congregational Meeting. I took the opportunity to address the assembly and shared with members some of what I have learned about the call process through my own experience as a pastor and later as bishop overseeing many call processes in the Church. In my comments I emphasized the importance of prayer and discernment on the part of the whole congregation as well as the individual members of the call committee in their work. Also important is the ongoing prayer and discernment among pastors and deacons who are contemplating a change in their own call to ministry, some of whom might have the gifts needed and openness to serve as Lead Pastor at Calvary. In the call process God opens up possibilities through the life of the Spirit and invites the Church into a time of prayer and discernment.

I recalled a story from my time as bishop while serving in the Central States Synod (Missouri and Kansas). A lay person in one of our congregations had been chosen to serve on the call committee at his congregation. He worked in the business world, an executive responsible for a large division of a major corporation. He was eager to find a new pastor for the congregation, dutifully agreed to serve on the Call Committee and was subsequently elected the chair. The process took several months, but finally a pastor was called.

When I came to install the pastor on a Sunday morning, this lay person pulled me aside and shared with me what he had learned from the experience. He said he had initially approached the call process the way he would have hired someone in the company where he worked. He would have simply screened the applicants, interviewed the candidates, selected the best and made an offer. But after having worked through the processes of the church he said to me, "I now realize how much the calling of a pastor is a spiritual endeavor and how important prayer is to discerning where and how God may be leading. I learned to be open to God's surprises."

There are certainly the nuts and bolts that are an important part of a call process, elements which are very similar to a hiring process in the world of business, government or higher education. There is paper-work to be filled out, references to be checked, interviews and conversations to be scheduled.

*(continued on next page)*

But if we believe and trust that Jesus is Lord of the Church and the congregation is bound together in the life of the Spirit, then the calling of a pastor is a deeply spiritual process. And a Spirit-led call process in the calling of a pastor will be one that is enveloped in prayer. By that I mean the whole Church will be engaged in prayer.

The call committee will be praying for the Spirit's guidance and wisdom as members seek to discern where God might be leading and what gifts might be present and needed at this time in the life of the congregation. At the same time members of the congregation lift up the call committee in prayer, seeking the Spirit's blessing upon the committee in their work and upon the pastors who are open to receiving a call and serving in a new place and context. And during this whole process pastors in places near and far who are open to a change of call are engaged in prayer and discerning the movement of the Spirit. They are wondering where God might be at work in calling forth their gifts for service in Christ's Church.

You will notice the whole Church is engaged in prayer, operating not out of self-interest or feelings of scarcity, but in anticipation of what God may be doing and how God will be providing for the building up of Christ's Church.

Thus I offer this prayer: ***Gracious God, you have called this congregation into being through the Good News of Jesus Christ and given Calvary gifts for your mission in the world. Accompany us now in the calling of a new Lead Pastor and give strength, courage and wisdom to those serving on the Call Committee. Help us all to lean on you for guidance and to trust your Spirit. Keep us open to the possibilities you create. Move us to discern the gifts Calvary needs and to see those gifts in those you send. Give us vision for this time in Calvary's life and cause us to remember you are the One who called us into being and given us life. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.***

*Pastor Jerry Mansholt*



### **N.E.W. APRONS**

Keith Lindstrom came up with the idea of putting our church name on an apron so that the clients at N.E.W. shelter would know who was serving them, and the Calvary Quilters designed and made them. Thanks Keith for the idea and many thanks to our quilters for making it happen!

### ***An update from Andy Bake, Council President:***

Thank you to all of our members who were able to attend our congregational meeting on Sunday, April 23. At this meeting, we selected a call committee, who will be tasked with interviewing prospective pastor candidates and making a recommendation to call a new pastor for Calvary to the church council and congregation.

#### **Call Committee**

Tanya Alsteen (council)  
Andy Bake (ex-officio)  
Cindy Cmeyla  
Zach Graf (council)  
Josh Koch  
Colin McCabe  
Dorothy Seehausen  
Erin Wagner

While this is a time of uncertainty for Calvary as we await the call of our next pastor, it is also a time of excited anticipation as we prepare for the opportunity to continue to strengthen our mission to serve God and one another.

As we begin this call process, the council and I share a desire to call a permanent pastor as soon as we are able. However, we also strongly believe it is more important to ensure we select the right pastor for our congregation than it is to select a pastor quickly. As a result, we intend to engage in a deliberate process that may take a little longer than some would like. This is not because we are dragging our feet or because we don't have an urgency to move forward. It is because this is an important decision for our congregation at a critical time. As we all know, COVID and some instability within the congregation over the last few years has resulted in challenges, including a loss of members and reduced attendance. Selecting the right pastor is vitally important- far too important to rush. We also want to work closely with the Synod to use their recommended process.

As the call committee works, our council and some additional members of the congregation will be working at the same time to prepare for a new pastor and to strengthen our position to remain a strong and vibrant congregation far into the future. The work of these committees is outlined below.

**Ministry Site Profile Committee:** This committee is working to develop the ministry site profile to be submitted to the Synod. The ministry site profile is a document that is shared with pastors who have expressed an interest in a call to Calvary. The information we provide assists these candidates in developing an understanding of our congregation, or ministry, and our community. This is important work which really sets the stage for ensuring the call committee is interviewing candidates who would likely be a good fit for our congregation. It is also important in that we want to make sure we are providing prospective candidates an honest and accurate representation of who Calvary is as a congregation, who we hope to be in the future, and what kind of leader we believe is necessary to help us get there.

**(continued)**

**Constitution Committee:** Our congregational constitution has not been updated in many years and is based on a model that existed before the formation of the ELCA. The council would like to review our constitution and ensure our guiding documents more closely align with the model ELCA constitution. This will be a slower, deliberate process- both to ensure we do things correctly and to ensure we are in compliance with our current constitution- which requires that any constitutional changes be ratified at two consecutive annual meetings. Over the upcoming months, a committee will review our constitution, develop recommended changes, and will hold meetings with the congregation to explain the rationale behind recommended changes. We will clearly articulate the differences between our current constitution and recommended changes. We also hope to include information in The Visitor to reach members who aren't able to attend scheduled meetings. The goal is that our congregational members understand any recommended changes prior to January so that we can make an informed decision about adopting an updated constitution. Many ELCA congregations have adopted the model ELCA constitution as recommended. Our intention is that if ratified by the congregation, our constitution would more closely resemble the model ELCA constitution.

**Church Structures Committee:** The third committee will work with consultant Cathy Cowling to review our church structures, including staff roles, the way our council functions, the way our committees function, and how decisions are made in our congregation. Cathy has worked with many congregations of all denominations to help assess the life and ministry of the church and help the congregation move forward in a positive Spirit-led manner. Some of you may remember Cathy from the Looking Back, Looking Forward event a few months ago.

Obviously, the work of these committees cannot and should not happen without honoring our past as a strong and vibrant congregation. We don't want to set aside our history and all of the wonderful things happening at Calvary. Many talented and dedicated people have made Calvary who we are today. We want to set a course for the future that builds on all the ways we serve God, our community, and one another. Calvary has remained a strong and faithful community for over 70 years due to the commitment of our congregation. I am confident that we will continue to be just as strong into the future with your continued prayers and support.

In Faith,  
Andrew Bake- Congregational President

### **SUMMER WORSHIP HOURS**

Please note that summer worship hours begin Sunday, May 28th and run through Sunday, September 3rd. Sunday worship will be at 8:00 & 9:30 a.m. with Thursday night remaining the same at 6:00 p.m.





## BLESSING OF THE QUILTS AT ANNIE JACKSON SCHOOL

After many lessons with our Calvary quilters, the Annie Jackson kids completed quilts to be distributed to needy families in their school.

## ANNIE JACKSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Pastor Jerry and Pastor Rufus went to bless the quilts and then enjoy a special celebration of cake and fellowship.

Our quilters will resume their lessons with the kids again in the fall semester.

It was a joyful experience for all!





### THANK YOU!

The sanctuary looked beautiful for Lent and Easter and we have many people to thank! Scott Balfanz designed and created the amazing artwork on the brick wall. Many hours were spent on this-thank you Scott! The Grumpy Old Men hauled up all of the flower stands so that Joyce Heim, Lenora McNally, Debbie Hansen and Cheryl Vanderkam could arrange the Easter flowers. Also, many thanks to all the people who donated the Easter flowers to beautify the sanctuary for Easter morning.



## Congratulations First Communicants!

Aubrey Madison Godin  
Cameron David Marx  
Anna Leigh Mayer  
Hadley Lisa Porter  
Atticus Charles Schuh

Luke Frederick Servias  
Josephine Lee Van Laanen  
Beckham J Willems  
Chloe Sophia Yarbro  
Emersyn Lee Zipnick



*"Do this in remembrance of me."  
- Luke 22:19*



### NEW PARAMENTS

Be sure to notice our new paraments to be used in the Season after Pentecost. They will be on the altar and the pulpit. They were handmade by a company in Brookfield, WI.

## LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF PERSONAL CARE KITS

Now's the time to start gathering supplies for the Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits. Donating these kits are a simple and effective way to send comfort to those suffering and express love to our neighbors in need. So often we see the horrible things happening to others and we want to help, this is a great way to do so. If you would like to put together a kit, all you need to do is purchase the following:

- ◆ One light-weight bath-size towel (between 20" x 40" and 52" x 27"), dark color recommended.
- ◆ Two or three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping.
- ◆ One adult- size toothbrush in its original packaging.
- ◆ One sturdy comb, remove packaging.
- ◆ One metal nail clippers, remove packaging.



Please give new items only. Do not add other items or leave any items listed out.

***Please deliver your kits to the Church office no later than July 31, 2023.***

Thank you for your donation. If you have any questions regarding a kit, please call Angel at 920-494-2431 or email: [angel@calvarygb.com](mailto:angel@calvarygb.com)

## PERSONAL CARE KITS

Include the following items in each Personal Care Kit:



**x1**

One light-weight bath-size towel (between 20"x40" & 52"x27"), dark color recommended



**x2**

Two bath size bars (4 to 5 oz.) of soap, any brand, in original wrapping



**x1**

One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging\*



**x1**

One sturdy comb, remove packaging



**x1**

One metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging



Wrap all the items in the towel and tie securely with ribbons or yarn.

\*Toothbrush multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business size envelope, no plastic bags or wrap



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF



## Calvary Lutheran Church Staff

### Office Hours

Mon. thru Thurs. - 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Fri. - 9 a.m. to noon

Sat. & Sun. - Closed

- Pr. Jerry Mansholt - ext. 104  
pastorjerry@calvarygb.com
- Pr. Rufus Kudee - ext. 103  
pastorrufus@calvarygb.com
- Kent Paulsen - Worship & Music  
Text 920-412-0391 or  
kentpaulsen5@gmail.com
- Melanie Brown - ext. 105  
Children's Ministry Coordinator  
melanie@calvarygb.com
- Lynn Des Jardin - ext. 108  
Finance Coordinator  
lynn@calvarygb.com
- Angel Castro - ext. 109  
Director Youth & Family Ministry  
angel@calvarygb.com
- Kris Best - ext. 101  
Front Office Staff  
kris@calvarygb.com
- Stephanie Macedo - ext. 102  
Web/Media Specialist  
stephanie@calvarygb.com
- April Peterson - ext. 110  
Genesis Preschool Director  
april@calvarygb.com
- Jim & Sofia Lemmens  
Custodial Staff  
Office: 920-494-2431

## What's Happening

### COMING UP AT WOODSIDE SENIOR COMMUNITIES

- Woodside Senior Communities has an exciting summer planned! Be sure to save the date for these events:
- **Wednesday, July 12 from 11:30-2:00 p.m.** - Music in the Park at Klipstine Park in Ashwaubenon. This will be a toe-tapping, dancing good time!
- **Thursday, July 27 from 1:00-3:00 p.m.** - Annual Kids Carnival. This FREE event is open to kids of all ages. Enjoy tasty treats, music, carnival games and so much more.
- **Tuesday, August 22 from 5:00-7:00 p.m.** - Woodside Communities Resident Art Show. Browse the beautiful artwork and visit with our in-house artists while enjoying drinks and tasty treats.

### Opening the Heart for Health & Wholeness

In this is a 5 session course, guided meditation is used, frequency attunement and the sound of the gong to release and transform emotions in order to open the heart for health and wholeness.

**Spring, Summer and Fall Sessions available.**

**Event is held Saturdays from 10am to 2pm.**

Call or text Brenda at 920-932-1471 or email  
brenda.gongplayer@gmail.com

Cost is \$250 per person.





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## Calvary Lutheran Church ELCA

### Calvary Lawn Cutters Needed!

Do you like being outside?  
Do you like the smell of freshly cut grass?  
The Calvary Lawn Cutting Team needs you!!  
Crews are beginning to form!

If you're interested, call or text  
**Matt at 920-471-3248**  
or [mattschreiter@gmail.com](mailto:mattschreiter@gmail.com) if  
you're interested in joining  
the 2023 lawn cutting crew!



### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Sundays:** 8:00 & 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary  
**Sundays beginning May 28:** 8:00 & 9:30 a.m.  
**Thursdays:** 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

***The Visitor*** is the monthly newsletter of Calvary Lutheran Church. Information for the newsletter can be dropped off at the Church Office or emailed to: [kris@calvarygb.com](mailto:kris@calvarygb.com). ***The deadline for the July/August issue is June 16, 2023.***

***Find us on YouTube.  
Search for Calvary  
Lutheran Church—  
Green Bay***

