

(Please check your phones and electronic devices to make sure they are turned off while in the Sanctuary.)

Welcome to Mt Calvary Lutheran church, and to the blessings, comfort, and peace of this congregation. As we gather, we prepare our hearts for the worship and praise of our Lord and Savior by remembering what the Scriptures say: "I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'" Psalm 122:1 and "One thing have I asked of the Lord...that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple." Psalm 27:4. Moved by such joy, before each service, the Pastors and Elders gather to pray for you.

### TO OUR VISITORS

Within this congregation let no one feel a stranger. If you have no church affiliation elsewhere, we invite you to make Mount Calvary Evangelical Lutheran your church home. Membership is open to all who are in accord with the doctrines and practices of our church, as based on the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions. The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod website has this information at <https://www.lcms.org/> Please get in touch with our Pastors for the next available new member class.

### THE LORD'S EXPECTATION OF THE MEMBERS OF MT. CALVARY

In the glad confession of the Christian faith the Lord expects that every member attends Worship and the Lord's Supper faithfully. The Lord expects every member is involved in Christ-centered education, (Bible Study); The Lord expects every member to be a missionary of Christ and of the Gospel to our community; and that every member is a faithful steward and disciple for the honor and glory of the Lord Jesus Christ.

### Livestream worship services will be available Sunday mornings.

Go to <https://www.mtcalvaryhuron.org/livestream> and click on "Worship"

Worship service bulletins can be accessed at <https://www.mtcalvaryhuron.org/bulletin>

#### **THIS SUNDAY**

	<b><u>8:00 a.m.</u></b>	<b><u>10:30 a.m.</u></b>
Order of Service:	Order of Matins	Order of Matins
Hymns:	343, 346, 344	343, 346, 344
Liturgist:	Pastor Koester	Pastor Koester
Lector:	Robert Blaseg	Ralph Borkowski
Sermon:	Pastor Koester	Pastor Koester
Theme:	"Hastening the Coming"	"Hastening the Coming"
Text:	2 Peter 3:8-14	2 Peter 3:8-14

#### **THOSE WHO SERVE IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS WEEK**

Organist:	Nancy Ziegeldorf	Nancy Ziegeldorf
Tech Support:	Logan Gerrits	Conner Dragt
Greeters:	Robert Blaseg	Ralph Borkowski

## **PARISH PRAYERS**

- ◊ Remember farmers and all those involved with the fall harvest.
- ◊ Remember all first responders, emergency personnel, healthcare workers, firefighters, and all members of law enforcement, as well as their families.
- ◊ Remember those affected by disaster and war, especially the soldiers and citizens of Israel and Ukraine.
- ◊ Remember victims of violence, persecution, and the families of Christian martyrs.
- ◊ Remember those who have been hospitalized or have special needs:

**Debbie Jungemann**

**Donna Schley**

**Mike and Lois Frank**

**JoAnn Schley**

**William Quiram**

**Al Merriam**

**Roger and Sharon Korkow**-friends of the congregation

**Roger Wonnemberg**-father of Leonard Wonnemberg

**Elwood Vanden Berge**-father of Ryan Vanden Berge

**Lois Houck**-mother of Shawn Adermann

**Myles and Royce Hupp**- sons of Trevor and Kelsey Hupp

**Dan Kelley**-uncle of Bill Eining and cousin of the Schley family

**Steven Lockhart**-brother of Claudia Johnson

**Earl Bult**-stepson of Charles Pieschke

**Mykaila Soloman**-granddaughter of Claudia Johnson

**Brad Bader**

**Allen Shultz**

**Cindy Alter**

**Amanda Wood**

**Gary Doering**

Dear Mt. Calvary members and friends,

After the first of the year, we will be refreshing the prayer list in the bulletin. If you would like your name, or the name of a friend or family member, to remain on the prayer list, please contact the church office before January 1st.

In Christ, Pastor Kevin

Remember in your prayers all those serving in our military, and their families, especially:

**Amyah Greene**-Army National Guard-granddaughter of Randy and Nancy Ziegeldorf

**MSG David Maas**-109th RSG-SD National Guard-Rapid City-deployed to Iraq-brother of Ann Cruse

**Dustin Murphy**, Army JAG, serving in North Carolina-nephew of Dennis and Kathy Mead

**Tyler Kludt**, pilot for the Iowa Air National Guard-grandson of Melanie Kludt

**Sgt Gene Dennis**, 665th Support Maintenance Company (SMC) out of Mitchell.

**Sgt Justin Frank**, SDARNG Med Command.

**Cpl. Kuper Heck**, U.S. Marine, stationed at Camp Pendleton, CA-family member of DeMeris Marone.

**David Siedschlag**, serving in the Army-nephew of Jay and Mandy Siedschlag.

**Paul**, U.S. Marine-family member of Donna and Ken Schley

**Aric Birkeland**, serving in the Air Force Reserve in Virginia.

**SSgt Joshua Bartel**, Army Reserve, 1-383rd TSBN in Des Moines.

**PFC Kevin Kayser**, serving in the SD Army National Guard 147th A Co.

**Madison Pfitzer**, serving in the SD Army National Guard.

**Timothy Johnson**, Navy Seabee stationed in Illinois.

**Dallas McLeod**, Army Aviation Maintenance Manager, Fort Campbell, KY.

**Pray  
for Our  
Military**

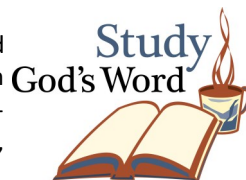
**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT: *You Are Prepared through Repentance for the Coming of the Lord*** “The gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God” (Mark 1:1) begins when John the Baptist appears and comes “proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins” (Mark 1:4). As the prophet Isaiah had written, John is the messenger of the Lord, sent before His face to prepare His way. To this day, the ministry of the forerunner continues in the preaching of the Law and the Gospel and in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. By these ways and means, “the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together” (Isaiah 40:5), and the Good Shepherd “will gather the lambs in his arms” (Isaiah 40:11). He speaks “tenderly to Jerusalem,” and He comforts His people by pardoning their iniquity (Isaiah 40:1–2). What is more, He promises “new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells” (2 Peter 3:13). Repent, therefore, and humble yourself as you wait for His coming in peace (2 Peter 3:14), because He “is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance” (2 Peter 3:9).

## SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Preschool through 6th grade will go to opening in the sanctuary from 9:15 to 9:30 a.m. then to the basement to their respective classrooms for Sunday school class.

7th through 12th graders and their parents are invited to participate in the Middle School / High School Sunday School class. We will be meeting at 9:15 a.m. in the Boardroom. We will be doing a video Bible study that takes place in the Holy Land, entitled "That the World May Know " hosted by Pastor Ray Vander Laan. Please join us!

**Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study:** Each year, we as Christians revisit the life and work of Christ by observing the various seasons. We start with Advent, which brings us back to the Old Testament and the waiting for the Messiah. At Christmas, we celebrate God’s promise being kept in the incarnation and in Epiphany, we recognize God’s promise as being for all people, including the Gentiles. Through Lent and Holy Week, we prepare ourselves to receive the sacrifice of Christ for our sins and on Easter, we joyously shout that Jesus is risen to give us eternal life. However, the vast majority of the Church year is spent in “common time” or the season after Pentecost. Over twenty Sundays are meant to help us reflect on the work of the Holy Spirit through the disciples in the early church and the work that the Spirit is still doing through us today. To that end, we will now be studying the Book of Acts, which chronicles the work of the Spirit in the early Church. Although we are endlessly familiar with the Gospels and the epistles of Paul, we may find that we have more to learn about this fascinating book. We invite you to join us!



In Christ, Pastor Kevin



**Special Voters Meeting after second service on December 10<sup>th</sup>**  
to consider three Council recommendations to the  
Voter’s Assembly that require action prior to 12/31/23.  
The agenda and supporting documents are posted in the  
bulletin board cases for your information.



### **Sunday, December 10th—Caroling to shut ins**

If you would like to participate, please stay after the 10:30 service on December 10th. When we meet, we will have some refreshments, receive our music, and then go out in groups.

**All voices are welcome to join in!**



*Advent  
Sermon  
Series*

**MIDWEEK ADVENT SERIES:** Beginning on Wednesday evening, December 6, and for the following two Wednesdays, our Midweek Advent Services will be using the theme "Our Advent Journey." We will be looking at three towns or cities that served major roles in the coming, or "advent", of our Savior Jesus, as well as some of the people who also were most important in the story of Jesus' birth and ministry. Beginning with the once insignificant village of Nazareth in Galilee, we will travel to Judea and the historic and important city of Jerusalem, and then conclude in the small town of Bethlehem, the "City of David." Please be sure to

set aside time this Advent Season and join us on this special "journey."

### **CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS**

Donations are now being received for poinsettias to decorate the altar and chancel area in celebration of Jesus' birth. Please mail your donation to the church or put it in an envelope marked "Poinsettia Fund" and place it in the offering plate. Checks may be made payable to LWML.

If you would like to take a poinsettia plant home after the Christmas services please note that with your donation.

If you would like to donate in memory of a loved one, please write the name(s) on your "Poinsettia Fund" envelope or include a note.



**Boxed  
Christmas  
Cards  
Available**

**Christmas cards have been added to the card rack in the Fellowship Hall. Card sales are a fundraiser to support LWML. Check it out!**

Kids for Christ meets on Wednesdays at 5:15-6:15 p.m.  
for Kindergarten through fifth grade students.



## FAMILY MINISTRY NEWS

Dear Family Ministry students and parents,

Thank you to everyone who has participated in the Lord's Supper class! If you missed the two classes and the review session, but still would like to start receiving Communion, we recorded each class session and they can be burned onto CDs for your usage. Worksheets, Review Sheet, and Jeopardy Review Game are posted on the Family Ministry page at [mtcalvaryhuron.org](http://mtcalvaryhuron.org).

For those of you who attended these classes in-person, please continue reviewing to prepare for the 25-point test. **You may set up an appointment with Pastor Kevin to take the test if you have not already done so.** Following the completion of your test, I will go over it with you to determine your readiness level to start receiving Communion. Those who pass the test and are deemed ready will have their First Communion on Sunday, December 17th during the 8 a.m. service.

In the months of November and December, students in the 8th grade and above class should watch for worksheets to be posted to the Family Ministry page. These worksheets will help you to review the Ten Commandments and prepare for the test. The 8th grade and above class will meet in-person again on January 10th. The 6th and 7th grade class will also have one more class with Roger Kropuenske on January 10th. Please refer to the Family Ministry Calendar for further schedule details.

In Christ, Pastor Kevin

**The sign up sheets of the 2024 list of volunteers that are coordinated by the LWML are on the counter in the Fellowship Hall.** It takes many hands to complete the mission work that we do in our church and for our community. Please consider signing up for one of the many jobs that are listed. **You do not need to be an LWML member to volunteer!!** If you have questions, please talk to Kerry Niederbaumer..



Are you interested in becoming a member of Mt. Calvary? Would you like to refresh your memory on Lutheran teaching and the Catechism? Starting on January 4<sup>th</sup>, we will be offering new member classes. We will meet on Thursday nights at 6 p.m. for 8 classes total. Our schedule will vary slightly depending on weather and other factors, but we invite you to attend if this is of interest to you. Even if you are already a member, you are welcome to come. Kids are also welcome. In Christ, Pastor Kevin

**BLESSED BY MEANS OF GRACE**

Weekend Worship: 154

Bible Study: 73

Sunday School: 22

Midweek Advent Worship: 74

Dec. Offerings:	Weekly Need	1st Weekend	2nd Weekend	3rd Weekend	4th Weekend	5th Weekend
General	\$ 6,529 Revised 7/18/2023	\$ 5,503	\$	\$	\$	\$
Mission	\$ 1,721	\$ 1,464	\$	\$	\$	\$
Building	\$ 192	\$ 70	\$	\$	\$	\$
Preschool	\$	\$ 335	\$	\$	\$	\$

Budgets are guidelines for what the church may need weekly for financing. Actual expenses could be more or less. Thank you for your support of Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church because without it we would not have a church. When you give, consider how the Lord has blessed you.

	General	Building	Missions
Cash Available Jan 1, 2023	\$ 84,019.40	\$47,625.78	(\$15,137.44)
2023 Year to Date Net Cash Flow	<u>\$ 16,756.96</u>	<u>\$ 4,448.18</u>	<u>\$17,734.35</u>
Change in A/R 2023	\$ (4,790.14)		
Cash Available Nov. 30, 2023	\$100,776.36	\$52,073.96	\$ 2,596.91

The Mt. Calvary Monthly Newsletter you are receiving by U.S. Mail has a single self-addressed stamped envelope included with it. We appreciate the offerings sent using these envelopes. If you would like additional stamped envelopes, please contact the church office at (605)352-7121. If you are not using the stamped envelopes, please bring them back to Mt. Calvary for reuse.

Mt. Calvary Council

**MT. CALVARY**

Thank you to everyone who supported the Learning Center Fall Harvest Festival on Sunday, December 3rd. It was well attended, the program was wonderful, everyone enjoyed the walking taco meal and the live auction was a great success! We appreciate you all!

Thanks to all who helped decorate the church for Advent and the Christmas season on Thursday, November 30!



What a blessing Advent by Candlelight was to all the ladies that attended on Sunday, November 26th. Thank you to everyone who assisted with set up, take down, and participated in presenting the program.

## This Week in the Parish

Day	Time	Event	Location
Sunday, December 10	8:00 a.m.	Worship Service In-Person/Livestream	Sanctuary
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School Opening (PS-6th grade) (then to basement classrooms after the opening)	Sanctuary
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School for 7th grade and above	Boardroom
	9:15 a.m.	Adult Bible Study In-Person/Livestream	Fellowship Hall
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service In-Person/Livestream	Sanctuary
	<b><u>Special Voters Meeting after second service</u></b> <b>to consider three Council recommendations to the</b> <b>Voter's Assembly that require action prior to 12/31/23.</b> The agenda and supporting documents are posted in the bulletin board cases for your information. <b><u>Caroling to shut ins</u></b> —please stay after the 10:30 service We will have some refreshments, receive our music, and then go out in groups. <b>All voices are welcome to join in!</b>		
Monday, December 11	Pastor Kevin's Day Off		
Wednesday, December 13	10:00 a.m.	Chapel with a volunteer	Sanctuary
	1:00 p.m.	Chapel with a volunteer	Sanctuary
	5:15 p.m.	Kids for Christ	Basement
	-6:15 p.m.	for Kindergarten through 5th grades	Classrooms
	6:00 p.m.	Advent Supper—chili served by Elders	Fellowship Hall
	6:45 p.m.	Hymn Sing	Sanctuary
	7:00 p.m.	<b>Midweek Advent Worship Service</b> In-Person/Livestream	Sanctuary
	Following the worship service Board of Education is filling Christmas sacks		
Thursday, December 14	9:30 a.m.	Morning Bible Study	Fellowship Hall
	7:00 p.m.	Evening Bible Study	Boardroom



## ***"Our Advent Journey"***

**Sunday, Dec. 10 is the second Sunday of Advent**

**Wednesday, Dec. 13**

6:00 p.m. Supper—hosted by the Elders

6:45 p.m. Hymn Sing

**7:00 p.m. Midweek Worship Service—Jerusalem**

**Sunday, Dec. 17 is the third Sunday of Advent**

**Wednesday, Dec. 20**

6:00 p.m. Supper—hosted by the Youth

6:45 p.m. Hymn Sing

**7:00 p.m. Midweek Worship Service—Bethlehem**