

Calvary Comment



**Pastor Paul & Phyllis
Zwarich**

Mother's Day (May 9, 2021) is a special day that is set aside to thank all mothers in our families, society, and all over the world. Someone once wrote, *"I want to thank you, mother, for your patience, your encouragement, your strength, your generosity, your unswerving love... and for those six little words that helped me through so many trying times 'Because I said so; that's why.'"* To all Mother's,
Happy Mother's Day.

Our **Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting** will be held on **Sunday May 16, 2021.** All Baptized and Confirmed Members are asked to participate as we hold this event.

Calvary Lutheran Church May 2021

Pentecost Sunday will be celebrated on May 23, 2021. On this day we will celebrate the Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation) of Riley Scott, Joseph Phillips, and Anastazja Wierzowiecki. Bishop Gronberg will join us for the event. Please wear RED on May 23 as we celebrate Pentecost Sunday and the Affirmation of Baptism of three of our youth. In mid-June Trinity Lutheran Church in Miles will welcome an **Intern from Wartburg Seminary.** I will support this ministry by serving as the supervisor for the contextual education experience the Intern will receive as the Intern serves the congregation. Please pray for Trinity Lutheran Church as the congregation waits for the arrival of the Intern.

And finally, the **COW Conference** will be held on Saturday June 12, 2021 Zoom only. More information concerning the event will be provided in early June.

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The COW Conference will continue the conversation we started with the Rev. Kris Totzke (Bishop's Associate for Leadership and Congregational Care) last February. Please join us.

The Lord be with you.

Pastor Paul





Church Council

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8th of March 2021 Council Secretary, Linda Ortegon

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. on the 08th day of March 2021 by the Council President Fritz Leifeste. Pastor Paul opened the meeting with a devotion and prayer on Christ in our homes. "A Firm Foundation", based on a reading from 1st Corinthians.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Joyce O'Connell, Fritz Leifeste, Chris Kinsey, Linda Ortegon, Dorothy St. Germain, Ann Helm, Marie Williams, John Ulrich, and Pastor Paul Zwarich.

MINUTES: Fritz motion to accept the February 08, 2021 Calvary Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes. Joyce motion to accept. Chris second the motion. The council approved. Upon approval the February Church Council Minutes was submitted and posted in the Church's April's Newsletter. However, under "Old Business", line thirteen of those minutes, the word new was inserted in error. The sentence should have read; "Pastor said he's very interested to see what our presiding Bishop has to say as well.

TREASURER'S REPORT: John Ulrich. The February 2021 Treasurer's Report and was approved as presented. The month ended in a negative due to a yearly insurance payment. Otherwise, we would have broken even.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT: Joyce O'Connell. The Financial Report was accepted as reported. Joyce reported February was not a great month. Our average donations were down. Still not bad considering the weather and all the other things that hit the community during February. Pastor Paul did comment a lot of donations were received in mail the first of March. Joyce agreed and said that was really nice so everything should level out.

CORE TEAM REPORTS

Education: Nothing to Report.

Fellowship: Dorothy St. Germain. Nothing to Report.

Service and Justice: Marie Williams. Nothing to Report. Ann commented that everyone really enjoyed getting the Valentine Cards. It was a good idea and it lifted every ones spirits.

Worship: Bee Rose. Absence.

Evangelism: Ann Helm. Barbara and Joyce are helping with the Evangelism team. Ann would like to meet with the other team leaders to find out what they have planned in order to tag on to their events. There are some out dated bullet points on the church website, so she would like to meet with John and other team leaders to get those updated. Also, when the time is appropriate, Ann would like to meet with Joyce, who updates the church face book page and John who updates the church website in order to coordinate the information placed on those sites. Ann said she will help as much as she can with the live streaming. Ann said would like to send out an email to church members to see who would be interested in working in the area of evangelism. She asked Pastor Paul to send her the sermon on evangelism so she could take points from it.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor went over his February pastoral acts. Ash Wednesday Service was canceled due to the weather. The Service in Miles was canceled due to the weather. However the following week he did go to Miles and have a service. So far there has been two Wednesday Lenten Services. When you add the in person and zoom attendance together Pastor said he believes the attendance is up this year for those services. Pastor did visit with Conway last week and hopes to see Travis this week. Later in the agenda he will ask the council for guidance on relaxing the COVID restrictions. Pastor attended two Zoom meetings the Bishop and Synod Pastors. The COW conference meeting was held and the next COW conference will be June 12th. The Tuesday evening bible study is going well. There are only four confirmation classes left. We will have the Bishop with us on May 23 as we celebrate the confirmation of baptism. Pastor will be out of the office this Thursday, Friday and Saturday. He is meeting his son Bob, who is on spring break. The registration is now open for the Synod Assembly so if you're attending please register if you haven't done so already. He will be on vacation May 17 – May 20. Again the Bishop will join us on May 23, 2021. That concludes his report for this evening.

Old Business

Live Streaming was discussed under new business.

CONTINUED...

New Business

First item on the list to discussion is Maundy Thursday Service on April 1st and Good Friday Service on April 2nd. Pastor said he will not wash feet again this year, but the rest of the service will be the same. The Altar will be stripped on Maundy Thursday. The Cross will be carried in on Good Friday. Pastor suggested having regular in person and zoom services for each of those evening services. Fritz suggested we still encourage people to wear masks for right now and still leave the tape on the pews in order to maintain social distancing. Chris said since the church is considered a public gathering place it would be best to follow the CDC guidelines. Continue to wear mask and social distance. The council agreed not to have the Sun Rise Easter Morning Service and the Easter Morning Breakfast that normally follows. The decoration of the cross with flowers will still be done. Easter Lilies are available to purchase. Palm branches will be given out on Palm Sunday. The procession in to the church on Palm Sunday will be allowed with social distancing maintained. Fritz said it's been suggested to have the next congregation meeting on May 16, 2021. Pastor said the week before is Mother's day and the week after the

Bishop will be here. The 16th makes the most sense. ³ The decision to have it in house or zoomed will be decided in our next council meeting. The council agreed. Fritz said the next item is the "Nominating Committee". Fritz is the only council member that can't run again. Linda is up for election this year, but volunteer to run again. The President's position is the only one that needs filled. According to our constitution Fritz said he has to be on the nominating committee since he is going off and asked for someone to help him. Marie, Joyce and Fritz will be the nominating committee. Fritz said the last item is the old business for the live streaming. John said there is a way for people that don't have the internet to listen in by calling in from their phones. Marie said GOD wants us to spread his word and adding live streaming is a good way to do it. John made a motion to accept the second proposal, 2146b. All the cost has been covered. Joyce second the motion. The council approved. Pastor request it be an informational line item at the annual congregation meeting. Note. Chris Kinsley abstained from voting. Bee Rose was not present to vote.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Linda Ortegon

Live Streaming on Facebook and Zoom

The live streaming installation is complete and went online April 18th. It was an awesome success. The video and sound quality are exceptionally clear. Zoom video will no longer be available. Those members who are live streaming are asked to make a comment so that their attendance can be known. If any family members are involved, please name them also.

Zoom audio will continue to be available for those using the phones.

The information is:

Dial 1 346 248 7799

Meeting ID: 884 9735 1905

Passcode: 130189

If you have any questions, please get in touch with me.

John Ulrich

pjulrich@suddenlink.net



Like us on

Facebook

@calvarylutheransa

***Calvary is grateful to the estate
of Frieda Stelling for the
purchase of our new live
streaming equipment.***

***What a blessing from our
beloved Frieda!***



Bee Rose
Team Leader

Calvary, We still need people to sign up for some assisting positions. Please let me or Shelly

know what you would like to sign up for if you don't fill it in yourself. Thank you!

All of nature seems to know that change is coming, and there are rituals to be performed to prepare. Just as older people sense their humanity and frailties, the trees, grass, and flowers seem to sense a new season's approach.

Seeing the way things happen on God's schedule year after year renews me too. I will try to recognize and act upon life accordingly. In all this beauty, I can see that God is faithful and good.

God has set the timing for changes to occur for all things created, and I rejoice to see this play out in nature. New birth in spring, steady growth in summer, a slow closing down in fall, and dormancy and rest in winter. I rejoice as I enjoy my life each day and receive the benefits, all on God's schedule. *This message is an excerpt*

Worship

from "On God's schedule" by Ruby Kelly in the November 2020 issue of Gather.

What The Future Holds
Liminal space – transitional time-happens. When we live in the in-between, it can feel as if we are alone and singled-out. But having transitional times in our lives is normal.

Living in the in-between means that we can see where we have been, but the road ahead isn't clear, and that can make us anxious and afraid.

When living in the in-between, it's okay to accept that we are not okay. In-between is not an easy place to be. So, we need to find ways to care for ourselves and each other.

Though transitional times in our lives can be tough, good things can still happen in the liminal space. Opportunities can present themselves. Because living in liminal space can be difficult, it can often feel like God has abandoned us. But God is with us when we are in liminal space.

Many of us are in liminal space during this pandemic. We do not know when it will end or what the future will be.

What we do know is that God is with us in the uncertainty and is inviting us to use our spiritual gifts to serve others. *This message is an excerpt from "Reflections: Joseph and liminal space" by Becca Ehrlich in the March 2021 issue of Boldcafe.*

On another note, our favorite movie of all time is Conagher which is about a Texas cowboy. My favorite saying of his is something like, when you're doing a job for someone (like working a ranch in the movie) you "ride for the brand". That has stuck with me since we first watched it in about 1994 or so. Fast forward to 11 April 2021; we were on our way to church, listening to Red Steagall on Cowboy Corner. Now, he wrote and sang a song that brought that right back to me, only deeper and tears to my eyes. Also, there can't be any better motto for a cowboy to live by than:

"I ride for the brand of the Man with the nail scarred hands."

I am not a cowboy, but I have adopted it as my motto also...

What is your motto?

Bee Rose

DATE	Greeter	Usher	Acolyte	Assist. Minister	Reader (Lector)	Technology Assistants	Flowers	Altar Guild
May 2 5th Sun of Easter	Pam Ulrich	John Ulrich		Joyce O'Connell	Phyllis Zwarich	John Ulrich & Pedro Montanez	Gary & Penny Griffin	Dorothy St. Germain for the month of May
May 9 Mother's Day 6th Sun of Easter				Elaine Welty	Bee Rose	John Ulrich & Pedro Montanez	Hank & Bee Rose	
May 16 7th Sun of Easter	Pam Ulrich	John Ulrich		Ann Helm		John Ulrich & Pedro Montanez	Al & Rosalee King	
May 23 Pentecost & Confirmation				Leon Thane	Ashlyn Scott	John Ulrich & Pedro Montanez	Church Council	
May 30 Trinity Sunday				Leon Thane	Betty Thane	John Ulrich & Pedro Montanez	Hank & Bee Rose	



Ann Helm
Team Leader

Evangelism

Hello everyone,

As the old saying goes, "You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make it drink." I grew up hearing this and thought it many times when dealing with my son when he was young, knew everything, and was as stubborn as another farm animal, the mule.

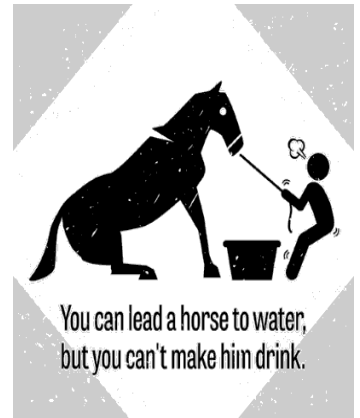
The saying is commonly believed to be a very old English proverb, at least as far back as 1546, when it was published in a book of English proverbs by John Heywood. It is the oldest proverb in England still commonly used today. Horse owners will say it is absolutely true about both horses and people in general. Horse owners would lead their horse to water, but the horse would refuse to drink. The horse might simply not be thirsty or might be hurting or sick, stressed or scared, or just distracted. The horse would also not drink water if it was very dirty or disgusting to the horse. A horse cannot live for long without water - about a week and horses are not cheap. So, horse owners spent time and effort to get their horses to drink. If it wasn't thirsty, they would wait awhile and try again. If it was sick or hurting, etc. they would get help for the horse, sometimes also sweetening the water with apple juice, putting a little feed in the water, warming the water. They always knew for starters that they needed to keep the water safe, clean, and fresh.

The English speaking people used the saying to describe people, who, like horses, only do what they have a mind to do much of the time. Some are more stubborn than others,

like my young, headstrong son. It reminded me, of course, of challenges I face in sharing the Good News with others. They often aren't thirsty for the News and feel comfortable with what they already know about life, which may or may not include knowledge or belief in God. They may be in a bad place mentally or physically, trying to survive in a world of hurts. They may be distracted by the digital world, or not have time because of the whirlwind pace. I get that. People are not always receptive, like the horse who turns down water that it needs. When that happens, I am called to help them with other needs if I can and keep trying to share with them when I get another chance. And probably more importantly, I must remember there is work for me to do while I am between these opportunities to share my faith. Bible study, prayer, worship, fellowship, and reflection will help prepare me to keep the message real, heartfelt, clean and true. The Holy Spirit will take whatever message (water) I share and make it pure and clean and just what is needed for that person.

I should mention that you have to catch a horse to water one, but that's another story. Christ's peace be with you today and always.

Ann Helm



BRIARWOOD LEADERSHIP CENTER & THE NT-NL PUBLIC WITNESS TEAM
INVITE YOU TO JOIN A DEEP INVESTIGATION OF

**WHITE
SUPREMACY
& RACISM**

**FACING REALITY
TAKING RESPONSIBILITY**

An online seminar with assigned reading and group discussion to collect the tools to dismantle the structures of racism and white supremacy.

Tuesday evenings 7:00 – 8:30 pm CDT
Every two weeks 5/11 through 10/19/2021

[CLICK HERE to register!](#)

If interested,
please talk to Pastor
Paul for more details.

Dorothy St. Germain
Team Leader

Fellowship

- 5 John Fiveash
- 12 Janette Dailey
- 13 Jude Hahn
- 16 Riley Scott
- 18 Crystal Purington
- 27 Tyler Hahn
- 28 Jane Derby



Congregational
Meeting
following the
service

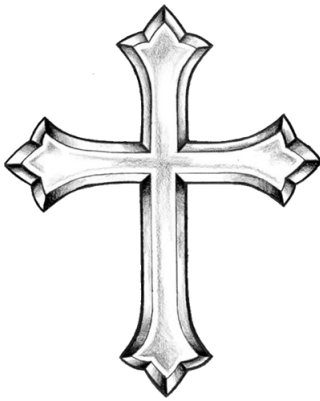
May 16th



Wear Red for Pentecost

May 23rd

*Join us in the
Celebration of Confirmation*



*Joseph Phillips
Riley Scott
Anastazja Wierzowiecki*


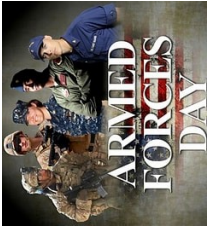

Sunday

May 23, 2021 10:00 am

Calvary Lutheran Church

*"Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of
my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my
strength, and my redeemer.*

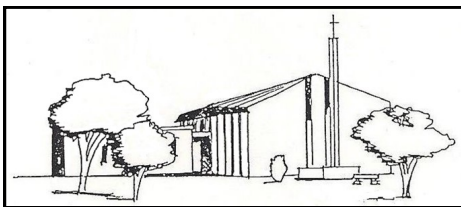
Psalms 19:14

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
				AA group 5:30pm	AA group 5:30pm	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10am Worship Service 5th Sunday of Easter	AA group 5:30pm Pastor's Day Off	AA group 5:30pm		AA group 5:30pm National Day of Prayer	AA group 5:30pm	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
10am Worship Service 6th Sunday of Easter 11:30 Pastor in Miles 	AA group 5:30pm Pastor's Day Off 6pm Church Council Meeting	AA group 5:30pm		AA group 5:30pm Ascension Day	AA group 5:30pm	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
10am Worship Service 7th Sunday of Easter Congregational Meeting following the service.	AA group 5:30pm Pastor's Day Off	AA group 5:30pm		AA group 5:30pm	AA group 5:30pm	
			Miles Internship Training Zoom 17th-19th			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
10am Worship Service Pentecost & Confirmation Welcome Bishop Gronberg	AA group 5:30pm Pastor's Day Off	AA group 5:30pm		AA group 5:30pm	AA group 5:30pm	
30	31					
10am Worship Service Trinity Sunday						

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E-mail: secretary@calvarysa.org

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE



Calvary Lutheran Church

We strive to recognize and nurture the Christ in ourselves and each person that we encounter along the way. Our church is a thriving community of believers, and lovers of the word of God. Calvary Lutheran has a long tradition of outreach and service to its members and the community. We hope you will join us for service on Sunday to experience for yourself the fellowship of Christ.