

Calvary Comment¹



**Pastor Paul & Phyllis
Zwarich**



**JOIN US
AUGUST 17th!**

***Rally Day
*Blessing of the
Backpacks
*Church Picnic**

Calvary Lutheran Church
3231 S. College Hills Blvd.
San Angelo, TX

August 2025
Newsletter



ELCA

From the PastorLast night as Phyllis and I were watching the nightly news, we both looked at each other and said, "Wow, another night of awful news." Flooding, forest fires, unending war in Ukraine, riots, protests, fluctuating US trade policy, the immigration debate, the list goes on and on. And not even the "feel good" story at the end of the broadcast brought relief from all the negativity and heartache. Right now, it seems, we are living under a dark cloud, and every day it seems to be getting darker.

Have you ever experienced the same thing as you watched the nightly news? Yes, the news can be a bit overwhelming, and awful. And one can be left to wonder if we will ever get out of the dark times that we seem to be living in.

It never ends. And so, the question that needs to be addressed is, "What can we (I) do about it?" I am not talking about protests, or US trade policy, or the war in Ukraine; I am talking about the overall current darkness that is covering our world.

That is a tough question. But the Bible does point us in the right direction. In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth, there was also darkness, and God in His infinite wisdom said, "Let there be light. And there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness." Genesis 1: 3

One of the first acts of creation was to separate light from darkness. And ever since then "The light has shone in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." John 1:5

But that is not all that God did. At the appropriate time, God sent a man named John, to testify to the light, so all might believe through him. John was not the light, instead he was sent to point all of humanity to the true source of light. John 1:6

Today God is sending us out to point to the true source of light so all might put their hope in Him. In Matthew, Jesus tells us "You are the light of the world... Go and let your light so shine before others, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:14-16

Our mission in the world is not to teach, or to admonish. Our call is to go and help others see. We cannot do the seeing for them. We can only point to the light and tell all the world what Christ has done for us. And as we do so, we can rejoice because we know that even a "little light" in the darkness can be enough for others to see.

And so, the next time you are watching the news, and a deep dark cloud of world events darkens your world, join with me in a song that speaks to the truth. It is called "Christ Be Our Light." The words go like this...

"Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you. Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see. Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today." ELW # 715

Let us pray: Almighty God, you have called us to be your witnesses, to point to the light that shines in the world. Help us to not hide the bright hope you have given us so we can tell everyone about your love for us all. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

Pastor Paul

Calvary Lutheran Church Minutes
June 17, 2025, 6pm

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Joyce called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Present:

Joyce O'Connell, Financial Secretary
Margaret Leifeste, Vice President
Ashlyn Scott, Secretary
Diane Ross, Worship
Jill Zuehlke, Fellowship
Elaine Mitchell, Service and Justice
Paul Zwarich, Pastor

Absent:

Betty Thane, President
Marie Williams, Parish Ed
Manuel Ortegon, Treasurer

Joyce moved to accept June's council meeting minutes with corrections, Diane seconded, and minutes were accepted.

Education: No report

Fellowship: Nothing to report

Worship: Will be picking hymns in late August

Social Concerns: God's Work, Our Hands- September 7th

Pastor's Report: Pastor read the report and was accepted as presented

General Information

"Leading the Herd"- once a month

Unfinished Business

Joyce presented the update on ongoing church repairs

Insurance Committee: Leon, Heather, and one unfilled spot

In need of organist on August 3 and 10

Picnic/Rally day: August 17th, 2025

Will start organizing the 2026 Stewardship program in September 2025

New Business

Installation of Church Council on June 29th

Elected New Council Members

Vice President – Margaret Leifeste

Education – Marie Williams

Financial Secretary – Joyce O'Connell

Financial Secretary Report: Joyce presented the Financial Secretary Report and we accepted it as presented.

Treasurer's Report: No report.

Ashlyn motioned to adjourn the meeting, Diane seconded, and motion passed.

Closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer at 6:34 pm.

Secretary,

Ashlyn Scott



DATE 2024	Assist. Minister	Reader (Lector)	Tech	Flowers	Sunday School	Altar Guild
Aug 3 Pentecost 8	Joyce		Adam	Bluthardt	**	Pam Ulrich
Aug 10 Pentecost 9	Elaine	Bee	Marcy	Marie Williams	**	
Aug 17 Pentecost 10		Ashley P		Parry	Rally Day	
Aug 24 Pentecost 11	Bee	Phyllis	Adam			
Aug 31 Pentecost 12		Ashley P		Bee & Hank (Bee's bday)		



Jill Zuehlke
Team Leader
Fellowship



RALLY DAY AND PICNIC

AUGUST 17TH AFTER THE SERVICE

Sign up sheets are in the narthex. Start looking for your favorite summer recipes & join the fun. Thanks to Fritz for grilling the burgers and hotdogs!!

PLAN TO JOIN US!

2025-2026 Council Members

President...Betty Thane

Vice-President...Margaret Leifeste

Secretary...Ashlyn Scott

Treasurer...Manuel Ortegon

Education...Marie Williams

Fellowship...Jill Zuehlke

Finance...Joyce O'Connell

Social Concerns...Elaine Mitchell

Worship...Diane Ross



Betty, Elaine, Jill, Joyce, Diane & Manuel are pictured at the installation on June 29th.



ANNIVERSARIES
8/1/1994 Pastor Paul & Phyllis Zwarich
8/19/1961 James & Blossom Parry
8/19/1970 Rod & Kay Smith

BIRTHDAYS	
3	Jason Schwertner
5	Stephen Kuhlmann
14	Arline Zak
14	Janie Kinsey
18	Donna Aguilar
21	Anastazja Wierzowiecki



Project Dignidad is seeking donations to purchase vouchers for our Shoes for School program. Vouchers are given for a pair of shoes worth up to \$50 for the school aged children of our clients.

Requirements for receiving a voucher include:

- *Proof of income
- *Proof of child's name (one per child)
- *Proof of age (5 to 18 years of age)
- *Child must be present to purchase

Vouchers are only redeemable at the Shoe Department located in the mall. Donations will be accepted until September 1, 2025.

Project Dignidad
313 W. Ave. N
San Angelo, TX 76903

For information, call 325-658-7885 or 325-777-1304.



Elaine Mitchell
*Social Ministries



Immediately following the service on September 7, we will have a pizza party in the fellowship hall. As in previous years, we will fill bags with beans and rice for Project Dignidad. This year we are adding a new project to write notes of encouragement to our military and homebound members. Names, addresses, & writing materials will be provided. Join us for a fun day of service and Mark's cookies!!!

Calvary,

You are cordially invited to a come & go Open House at United Campus Ministries located at 2453 Dena Drive.

A light Charcuterie spread and punch will be served from 4pm-6pm, Sunday August 3rd, 2025. The summer off season has been busy and we would like to give everyone a chance to come see what UCM is all about and hear about some upcoming projects we would like to see happen in the future.



UNITED CAMPUS MINISTRIES
2453 Dena Drive

Open House
Sunday August 3, 2025
4pm - 6pm
come & go

You're Invited!

contact Lynn Sonnenberg at 325/263-2463

For more information, please contact Lynn Sonnenberg at 325/263-2463 or email us at UCM4ASU.info@gmail.com. UCM has limited parking but you can park in the parking lot in front or behind the Newman's Center next door or in ASU parking lot 38A across the street from UCM.

Lifelong learners

"If you don't have wisdom that goes with knowledge, you are only a walking encyclopedia," wrote Jack Wellman, a Kansas pastor. "A book of knowledge is useless without the wisdom to know how to apply that knowledge. ... Information without transformation leads only to frustration."

Consider the many benefits of wisdom — and how you can use what you've acquired to serve God, your church and your community. To better fulfill your calling, what wisdom might you yet need to acquire?

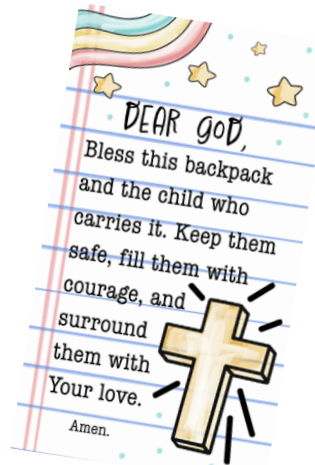
As another school year begins, here's a prayer for students of all ages: All-wise, all-knowing God, make us willing learners and seekers of your wisdom, not for the gain of knowledge for its own sake, but that we might handle every situation we face with the wisdom of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

—adapted from *The Wired Word*



"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

—Nelson Mandela



**Blessing of the
backpacks
August 17th**



Fixer-uppers —Stephanie Martin

Summer is peak time for home renovations and remodeling projects. Those can be super stressful, starting with the selection of a contractor.

In a blog about her own family's construction plans, Laura Elliott explains the challenge: "It's not just any builder I want. I want one who has impeccable workmanship, is completely trustworthy and delivers our long-awaited [projects] early and under-budget." After sifting through bids and reviews, she discovered that most builders "look like they do pretty similar work for a pretty similar price."

For spiritual renovations, however, the choice is clear. "God is the builder of everything," says Hebrews 3:4 (NIV). Elliott writes, "Jesus is not only the *builder* of His Father's house, but He is the *buyer*, and the *heir* as well." And what he's building, she adds, is "a better Bride," his church.

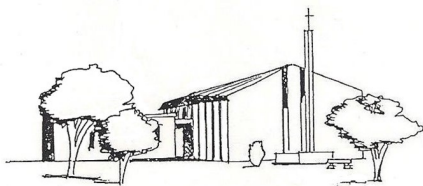
Faith upgrades are an ongoing, lifelong process. "The renewal of our natures is a work of great importance," said 18th-century minister George Whitefield. "It is not to be done in a day. We have not only a new house to build up, but an old one to pull down." It's a good thing God oversees this project!





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Pent 8 10am Worship UCM Open House 4-6	4 AA group 5:30pm Pastor's Day Off	5 AA group 5:30pm	6	7 AA group 5:30pm	8 AA group 5:30pm	9
10	11 AA group 5:30pm Pastor's Day Off	12 AA group 5:30pm Church Council 6pm Zoom	13	14 AA group 5:30pm	15 AA group 5:30pm Soup Kitchen 9:30-1	16
17 Pent 10 8:45 Rally Day! Sunday School for all ages 10am Worship with Blessing of the Backpacks Church Picnic after worship	18 AA group 5:30pm Pastor's Day Off Newsletter Deadline	19 AA group 5:30pm	20	21 AA group 5:30pm	22 AA group 5:30pm	23 24
24 Pent 11 8:45am Adult bible study & Sunday School 10am Worship Noisy Bucket	25 AA group 5:30pm Pastor's Day Off	26 AA group 5:30pm	27	28 AA group 5:30pm	29 AA group 5:30pm	30
31 Pent 12 8:45am Adult bible study & Sunday School 10am Worship						

Calvary Lutheran Church
 3231 College Hills Boulevard
 San Angelo, TX 76904



*Sharing God's word & love
 within and beyond
 Calvary.*

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 E-mail: secretary@calvarysa.org

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.