



God's Work. Our Hands.

MISSION STATEMENT

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH EXISTS TO BE AN EXAMPLE OF CHRIST'S LOVE THROUGH SERVICE TO ALL PEOPLE, HELPING EVERYONE LEARN AND EXPERIENCE GOD'S LOVE IN THE STRUGGLES AND TRIUMPHS OF DAILY LIFE.

*Please remember to bring this report
to the
Annual Congregational Meeting
on
October 25, 2009 at 12 Noon
in the
Fellowship Hall.*

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2009 ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA—OCTOBER 25, 2009

Light lunch at noon with meeting to follow

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. OPENING DEVOTION
- III. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA
- IV. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS RELEVANT TO THESE REPORTS:
 - A. ENDOWMENT FUND REPORT
 - B. PASTOR'S REPORT
 - C. COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT
 - D. YOUTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT
 - E. EDUCATION COORDINATOR'S REPORT
 - F. MUSIC MINISTRY COORDINATOR'S REPORT
 - G. EDUCATION AND LIBRARY COMMITTEE REPORT
 - H. EVANGELISM COMMITTEE REPORT
 - I. PERSONNEL AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT
 - J. PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT
 - K. SOCIAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE REPORT
 - L. STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT
 - M. WORSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT
 - N. YOUTH & FAMILY COMMITTEE REPORT
 - O. MEN'S MINISTRY REPORT
 - P. WELCA EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORT
 - Q. QUILTERS REPORT
- V. ELECTIONS—REPORT FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE
 - A. CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS
 - B. 2009 NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS
 - C. SYNOD ASSEMBLY DELEGATES
 - D. ENDOWMENT FUND MEMBER
- VI. APPROVAL OF 2010 PROPOSED BUDGET
- VII. OLD BUSINESS
 - A.
- VIII. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. APPROVAL OF THIS MEETING'S MINUTES BY COUNCIL
 - B.
 - C.
- IX. RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING COUNCIL MEMBERS AND OFFICERS
- X. CLOSING PRAYER-OUR LORD'S PRAYER
- XI. ADJOURNMENT

PROPOSED 2010 BUDGET

Fund: 01 - General Fund

6 Months

	2007 <u>Actual</u>	2008 <u>Actual</u>	2008 <u>6 Mos</u>	2009 Budget	2009 <u>Actual</u>		2010 Budget Request
INCOME							
<u>Minor 01, OFFERINGS</u>							
01-ENVELOPE OFFERINGS	368,287	378,908	188,016	419,600	182,878		<u>420,527</u>
02-LOOSE OFFERINGS	15,277	15,714	6,944	15,000	6,272		<u>15,000</u>
03-SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERINGS	410	584	222	348	243		<u>500</u>
	<u>383,974</u>	<u>395,206</u>	<u>195,181</u>	<u>434,948</u>	<u>189,394</u>		<u>436,027</u>
<u>Minor 03, MISC. RECEIPTS</u>							
01-INTEREST INCOME	0	0	0	0	0		<u>0</u>
03-'THE LUTHERAN'	0	0	0	0	0		<u>0</u>
04-CHURCH USE	0	0	0	0	0		<u>0</u>
05-MISC INCOME	2,912	2,849	713	2,500	525		<u>2,500</u>
06- MERITCARE REIMBURSEMENT	0	0	0	0	0		<u>0</u>
	<u>2,912</u>	<u>2,849</u>	<u>713</u>	<u>2,500</u>	<u>525</u>		<u>2,500</u>
Total Income	<u>386,886</u>	<u>398,055</u>	<u>195,894</u>	<u>437,448</u>	<u>189,919</u>		<u>438,527</u>

EXPENSE							
<u>Minor 01, OUTREACH</u>							
01-NW MN SYNOD, ELCA	25,000	30,950	15,475	39,000	19,500		<u>39,800</u>
02-CONFERENCE DUES	91	128	128	150	129		<u>150</u>
03-LUTHER CREST	3,000	3,000	1,500	3,000	1,500		<u>3,000</u>
04-CHRIST IN OUR HOME	696	723	362	700	362		<u>700</u>
05-THE LUTHERAN	32	32	32	35	36		<u>35</u>
06-ALL-ST LUTH CHOIR	50	50	50	50	50		<u>50</u>
07-LUTH SOCIAL SERV	2,500	2,500	1,250	3,000	1,500		<u>3,000</u>
08-MISSIONARY (SCHUBERT)	2,500	2,500	1,250	2,750	1,375		<u>2,750</u>
09- MISSION PARTNERS (ARIZONA)	0	0	0	0	0		<u>0</u>
10-NORTH STAR MISSION CLSTR	0	0	0	0	0		<u>0</u>
11-SEMINARY SUPPORT	0	0	0	2,000	2,000		<u>0</u>
14-SYNOD DELEGATES	0	1,542	1,542	1,550	1,310		<u>1,500</u>
15-GALILEAN LUTH CHURCH-LA	0	100	100	100	100		<u>100</u>
	<u>33,868</u>	<u>41,525</u>	<u>21,688</u>	<u>52,335</u>	<u>27,861</u>		<u>51,085</u>

	07 Actual	08 Actual	08 6 Mos	09 Budget	09 Actual	10 Request
<u>Minor 02, PROFESSIONAL</u>						
01-PASTOR'S SALARY	33,564	30,619	15,309	34,587	17,294	48,100
02-PASTOR'S SOCIAL SECURITY	3,221	3,297	1,649	3,527	1,764	3,680
03-PR'S HOUS'G ALLOWANCE	17,600	26,400	13,200	26,400	13,200	15,534
04-PR'S PROF EXPENSE	230	782	106	1,000	52	1,000
05-PR'S PHONE ALLOWANCE	500	500	250	500	250	740
06-PR'S PENSION/MEDICAL	23,101	19,929	10,519	12,401	3,830	11,232
07-PR'S CONT'ING EDUCATION	996	928	90	1,000	397	1,000
08-PR'S HOUSING EQUITY	453	0	0	0	781	0
09-PR/SPOUSE RETREAT	0	0	0	300	0	0
10-PASTOR'S MILEAGE	2,094	2,389	1,005	2,000	1,128	2,250
11-PARSONAGE UTILITIES	0	0	0	0	0	0
35-PR HOLTAN'S MOVING EXPENSE	0	0	0	0	0	0
XX - VISITATION PASTOR						0
	81,760	84,843	42,128	81,715	38,695	83,536
<u>Minor 03, WORSH/MUSIC MIN</u>						
01-WORSHIP BULLETINS	1,041	785	319	800	318	800
02-CANDLES	0	0	0	0	0	0
03-COMMUNION SUPPLIES	419	406	224	550	249	550
04-ALTAR GUILD	30	32	20	100	13	100
05-SENIOR CHOIR MUSIC	1,105	1,329	302	1,000	411	1,200
06-YOUTH/CAROL CHOIR MUSIC	665	777	140	200	60	700
07-WORSHIP MUSIC EXP	1,010	697	115	450	262	750
08-MISC SUPPLIES	632	1,184	423	1,000	475	1,000
09-PULPIT SUPPLY	915	1,090	697	800	250	1,200
10-SUPPLY ORGANIST	50	150	0	150	75	200
11-CHOIR ACCOMPANIST	806	891	486	900	522	900
12-CAROL CHOIR SUPPLIES	75	68	29	50	0	50
13-CONTEMP WORSHIP	559	1,292	43	750	0	1,000
14-Baptismal Supplies	0	90	2	250	66	250
15-MUSIC DIR/ORGANIST*	23,384	27,297	13,649	28,113	14,057	28,675
16-Music Director Pension	0	1,500	750	1,500	750	1,500
17-Nursery Attendant	0	491	352	1,000	135	120
18-Sound/Video Tech		0	0	3,600	1,922	4,600
New Line Item - Music Licenses						1,000
	30,691	38,078	17,549	41,213	19,565	44,595

	07 Actual	08 Actual	08 6 Mos	09 Budget	09 Actual		10 Request
<u>Minor 04, SOCIAL MINISTRY</u>							
01-STEPHEN MIN SALARY	14,127	11,572	7,022	12,285	6,143		12,530
03-S MIN CONT'ING ED	515	500	225	1,300	584		2,467
04-STEPHEN MIN MILEAGE	442	405	316	500	67		200
05-S MINISTRY EXPENSES	1,533	1,457	988	1,000	409		750
06-PARISH NURSE EXPENSE	595	143	82	350	45		150
07-COMM'TY OUTREACH	300	100	100	100	0		100
08-PRAYER CHAIN	0	0	0	0	0		0
09-CRADLE ROLL	0		0				0
10-SALARY – Health Ministry Coord	0	0	0	0	0		0
11-CONT/ED - PARISH NURSE	20	0	0	650	0		800
13-LOCAL MISSION PROJECTS	0	0	0	0	0		100
14-MEAL MINISTRY	0	0	0	200	0		100
15-Twigs		0	0	100	0		100
16-Care Mail		0	0	400	0		100
17-Justice Journeys		0		400	0		100
New Line Item 18-Quilters							250
	17,532	14,177	8,733	17,285	7,248		17,747
<u>Minor 05, STEWARDSHIP</u>							
01-STEWARDSHIP MATERIALS	0	0	0	0	0		0
02-OFFERING ENVELOPES	0	1,547	1,093	2,000	1,186		2,000
03-Calvary Brochures	996	0	0	500	0		200
04-Stewardship Kickoff Banquet	890	0	0	200	0		0
05-Stewardship Kickoff Speaker	500	0	0	500	0		500
06-Adult Education Materials	67	31	20	500	0		300
09-Special Mailings	0	63	63	125	0		125
10-Gifts/Ministry Coordinator	0	5,542	2,042	8,454	1,740		8,454
	2,454	7,183	3,218	12,279	2,926		11,579
<u>Minor 06, EDUCATION</u>							
01-SUNDAY SCHOOL MATERIALS	3,240	2,776	1,391	3,250	1,511		3,550
02-VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL	1,439	1,420	1,166	1,600	1,117		1,600
03-LIBRARY	527	572	241	600	475		600
06-CHRISTIAN EDUC DIR SALARY	7,000	6,961	2,835	10,423	5,211		10,631
07-CED CONTINUING ED	626	636	490	500	252		500
08-ADULT EDUCATION	608	925	377	1,000	206		1,000
09-SPEAKERS	0	403	383	500	0		250
10-Cradle Roll	118	164	164	100	87		150
New Line Item 11-Common Hope							360
	13,558	13,857	7,047	17,973	8,859		18,641

	07 Actual	08 Actual	08 6 Mos	09 Budget	09 Actual		10 Request
<u>Minor 07, EVANGELISM</u>							
03-GIFTS and FLOWERS	100	219	75	150	276		<u>300</u>
05-EVANGELISM	802	622	160	800	408		<u>1,000</u>
09-CALVARY POPS Concert Series	0	1,500	506	2,000	774		<u>2,000</u>
11-RADIO MINISTRY	0	0	0	100	0		<u>120</u>
12-50th Jubilee Celebration		1,500	204	1,500	1,259		<u>4,000</u>
13-TV and Radio Broadcast		0	0	1,000	1,000		<u>1,100</u>
14-Visitor Center Connection Point		0	0	200	0		<u>0</u>
15-Pictoral Directory		0	0	500	0		<u>250</u>
New Line Item - Outreach "Door Hanger"							<u>750</u>
	902	3,841	945	6,250	3,716		<u>9,520</u>
<u>Minor 08, YOUTH/FAMILY</u>							
01-CONFIRMATION	1,442	1,902	1,172	1,600	1,124		<u>1,600</u>
03-JUNIOR HIGH SS	281	131	110	200	0		<u>200</u>
04-SENIOR HIGH SS	334	212	152	200	0		<u>200</u>
05-BIBLE STUDY MATERIALS	48	103	103	100	100		<u>100</u>
06-JR HIGH EXPENSES	2,165	1,182	209	2,000	412		<u>1,500</u>
07-SR HIGH EXPENSES	3,069	4,715	3,868	3,000	638		<u>2,500</u>
08-CAMPERSHIPS-LCREST	1,493	467	0	800	0		<u>800</u>
09-IMPACT EVENT EXP	850	0	0	500	0		<u>500</u>
10-YH LD'RSHIP TRN'G	114	451	451	350	499		<u>500</u>
11-PUBLICITY/MISC	486	1,281	713	300	0		<u>300</u>
12-FAMILY MINISTRY	782	951	951	500	331		<u>500</u>
13-CABLE TV FOR LOFT	471	521	253	535	278		<u>535</u>
14-YTH PUBLIC RELATIONS	279	157	0	300	213		<u>300</u>
15-BUGS & TICKS	194	634	507	600	313		<u>600</u>
16-SERVICE OUTREACH	0	0	0	500	160		<u>500</u>
17-NAT'L YTH GATHER'G	0	0	0	5,000	0		<u>0</u>
19-YTH DIRECTOR'S SALARY*	44,637	35,878	21,328	35,400	17,700		<u>36,508</u>
21-YTH DIR DENTAL ALLOW*	483	0	0	0	0		<u>0</u>
22-YTH DIR MILEAGE*	325	261	76	500	212		<u>500</u>
23-YTH DIR PACC MEMBERSHIP*	2,000	0	0	9,050	4,524		<u>6,168</u>
24-YTH DIR PENSION*	0	5,652	417	2,124	1,062		<u>2,166</u>
26-Youth Dir Dis'b/Support		339	101	0	478		<u>1,192</u>
New Line Item - Youth Dir Comm Allowance							<u>360</u>
	59,452	54,838	30,412	63,559	28,043		<u>57,529</u>

	07 Actual	08 Actual	08 6 Mos	09 Budget	09 Actual		10 Request
<u>Minor 09, PROP/MANAGEMENT</u>							
02-MAINTENANCE FEES	2,514	3,033	1,959	2,600	2,130		<u>2,600</u>
03-PROP TAX ASSESSMENTS	304	310	310	325	305		<u>325</u>
04-CHURCH PROP INS	7,384	7,996	7,996	8,200	8,550		<u>9,500</u>
05-CHURCH MAINTENANCE - Repairs	3,053	3,675	1,461	5,000	1,501		<u>4,000</u>
06-CHURCH ELECTRICITY	7,511	7,862	4,453	9,000	3,705		<u>9,000</u>
07-CHURCH GAS, SEWER, WATER	4,310	5,550	3,338	6,000	2,484		<u>6,000</u>
08-GARBAGE REMOVAL	731	813	402	800	402		<u>1,000</u>
10-CHURCH MAINTENANCE - Supplies	2,269	2,998	1,811	4,000	2,011		<u>4,000</u>
11-BANK SERVICE	0	0	0	0	0		<u>0</u>
12-OFFICE EQUIP MAINT	6,135	4,608	3,374	4,500	2,025		<u>5,000</u>
13-CHURCH CUSTODIAN	15,540	16,000	8,016	16,512	8,171		<u>16,842</u>
14-PARSONAGE MAINTENANCE	0	0	0	0	0		<u>0</u>
15-LAWN AND YARD CARE	0	0	0	500	201		<u>500</u>
16-SNOW REMOVAL	1,062	1,158	1,158	2,000	1,791		<u>2,000</u>
17-PROP/MANAG'NT MISC	359	44	44	200	0		<u>200</u>
18-CONTINGENCY FUND	1,946	1,706	0	1,400	52		<u>400</u>
19-CARPET CLEANING	681	0	0	1,500	543		<u>1,500</u>
20-COMPUTERS	3,431	1,995	673	3,250	305		<u>3,000</u>
	<u>57,229</u>	<u>57,748</u>	<u>34,995</u>	<u>65,787</u>	<u>34,174</u>		<u>65,867</u>
<u>Minor 10, ADMINISTRATION</u>							
01-OFFICE COORDINATOR SALARY	32,170	33,140	16,570	30,140	15,070		<u>30,140</u>
02-OFFICE ASS'T SALARY	12,712	12,609	6,326	13,792	6,557		<u>12,667</u>
04-PHONE/DSL/MESSAGING	2,905	3,224	1,571	3,200	1,923		<u>3,400</u>
05-OFFICE SUPPLIES	2,484	2,360	769	2,500	515		<u>2,500</u>
06-PAPER	1,096	1,067	586	1,200	308		<u>1,200</u>
07-POST/BULK MAILING	4,252	4,779	3,118	4,300	2,213		<u>4,300</u>
08-WORKER'S COMP INS	1,891	2,430	2,430	2,500	2,025		<u>2,500</u>
09-FICA MATCHING	11,852	11,663	6,092	12,500	5,584		<u>12,500</u>
10-OFFICE COORDINATOR PENSION	2,000	2,572	500	1,808	904		<u>1,808</u>
11-OFFICE COORDINATOR MEDICAL	0	0	0	6,048	3,024		<u>6,168</u>
12-OFF COORD DIS'B/SUPP	0	0	0	814	407		<u>995</u>
14-BANK SERVICE	200	200	15	250	21		<u>250</u>
	<u>71,562</u>	<u>74,043</u>	<u>37,977</u>	<u>79,052</u>	<u>38,551</u>		<u>78,428</u>
TOTALS							
Total Income	386,886	398,055	195,894	437,448	189,919		<u>438,527</u>
Total Expense	369,008	390,135	204,691	437,448	209,638		<u>438,527</u>
Income minus Expense	17,877	7,921	-8,797	0	-19,719		<u>0</u>

ENDOWMENT FUND REPORT

2009 will be the first year that Calvary moves up the annual meeting date to October so due to this change, we are reporting on nine months of activity versus 12 months in the past.

Despite the recession, Calvary's Endowment Fund has performed very well. This has been due to in a large part to conservative posturing during the recent Bear Markets and the run up in 2009. As you know, the fund becomes operable once we reach a fund balance of \$50,000.00. The committee is refining the application process and God willing we may have funds available for distribution in the fourth quarter of 2009 or in 2010 (all depending on a request!).

The committee makeup changed this past year. Regretfully, we said good bye and thank you to Diane Hepola whose wisdom and direction were invaluable during her term on the committee. Dave Jones replaces Diane and we are gracious for the commitment of his time and expertise. We would like to thank all the rest of the committee for their unselfish commitment of time and talent; Myron Roe, Wayne Johnson and Ellen Palmer.

We are very excited about the progress and direction of the Endowment Fund. In the coming year(s), please keep **your** fund in mind when making estate planning, gifting or memorial contributions. Remember, a gift to the Calvary Mission Endowment Fund is a gift of perpetuity that removes the borders of mission work for Christ!

These numbers are the closing values on 09/28/2009.

Total Deposits-inception to 9/28/2009	\$53,581.78
Beginning balance 01/01/2009	\$46,141.97
Deposits in 2009 through 09/28/2009	\$ 1,898.88
Gain for 2009 through 09/28/2009	<u>\$ 9,032.83</u>
Total Fund balance as of 9/28/2009	\$57,073.68

Thank you to everyone who has helped make this a reality!

Respectfully Submitted,

Timothy C. Neitzke

Chairperson, Calvary Mission Endowment Fund

PASTOR'S REPORT

As we come close to the end of the year 2009, **I am very grateful to be your pastor.** Through this past year I have been privileged to be with you though many significant experiences- deaths and funerals, weddings, times of pain and times of joy.

We have had some real high points, like planning for and beginning our Jubilee celebration, sending 30 of our youth to the National Youth Gathering, participating in the Feed My Starving Children event, seeing the beautiful new parking lot and plantings around the church, and all the other routine but remarkable ways God moves ordinary people here at Calvary to do extraordinary things.

Thank God and thank you.

Calvary's Jubilee is a big part of our news this year. Calvary is celebrating 50 years of ministry. It has grown from a small and struggling church to a strong outpost of the Body of Christ. We thank God for that growth, and ask that in this Jubilee year, we could hear God's Word directing and expanding our mission into the second 50 years of our life.

We have had a great year as our new staff have really come into their own. You can read their reports elsewhere in this report and you can hear their competence and faith in their work. Some of our outreach programs like TWIGS and the Backpack program have been so well received and have served many people already.

We did lots of weddings, with the help of our staff and Wedding Coordinator Carla Gauwitz, and we are looking for ways to make our weddings an even better preparation for marriage. We have a new initiative the council has just approved to ask couples to do a pre-marriage retreat to better prepare themselves for their marriage, and not just their wedding.

We have challenges too. I shared in last year's report that I was a bit disappointed, but not surprised, at **how difficult it is to get a significant percentage of our congregation engaged in regular Bible study** and other kinds of reflection together. It is part of the profile of Lutherans around the country that we tend to be more action-oriented, strong in mission and outreach ministries, but not very committed to learn and grow. It means our foundations are rather weak and vulnerable and Biblical illiteracy is growing. The U.S. Congregations survey we took last year shows that our "Spiritual Formation" area is one of our weakest.

I am making it a high priority to encourage adult education in every way that I can. A goal I have, which has some tradition to it, is to have one adult education offering for every hundred members- so 12-13 at a time. Right now we have 8-9 at a time, so we would like to add more.

A small group of our members are reading a book together called "A People's History of Christianity" by Diana Butler Bass. In it the author describes that before one was baptized into the early church, a new Christian would have several years of preparation for their baptism and the serious commitment to be a disciple of Jesus. Our own preparation to be new members or our commitment to be disciples seems very puny by comparison.

There are hundreds of joys that I feel as your pastor. A sadness that I carry as your pastor is how many of our Calvary members take their life in Christ so lightly and are willing to make so little sacrifice to follow him. Our average attendance at Sunday worship is only 25% of our membership. We do live by God's grace at Calvary, but that must not be "cheap grace." We live to be disciples of Jesus, and as we continue to develop our vision for Calvary, in consultation with each other, I ask you to set your sights higher. That means that in areas of worship attendance, stewardship, and Bible study, we will ask more of you than we have been asking.

We ask not just that you would be members, but disciples of Christ. We ask that you would cultivate not just your "loving your neighbor, but also loving God."

Pastor Phil Holtan

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Last year in December when I received a phone call asking me to consider "running" for Council President, I was both honored and scared to death!

After having met for the first time with the pastor and the council, I was awestruck!

Until I became actively involved in the inner workings of this congregation, I had no idea of the depth and breadth of Calvary Lutheran Church and the people who are a part of it.

We, as Calvary Church, "are a people created by God, empowered by the Holy Spirit, are called and sent to bear witness to God's creative, redeeming and sanctifying activity in the world."

What the above statement has come to mean to me as Council/Congregational President, is that we **have** been empowered to thank God, share Jesus and help others. Just take a close look at our weekly church bulletin. Read about radio broadcasts, weddings, adult forums and Bible studies.

Review the outreach opportunities such as the backpack program, outreach program for families seeking basic living necessities, T.W.I.G.S., women's ministries, confirmation, youth service projects and Wednesday Night Live. And, lest we forget, how could we?...choirs, Jonah and the Wailers, Friends in Faith, Sweet Assurance, mission opportunities and the list is all encompassed by weekly traditional and contemporary worship.

Now, we are celebrating 50 years of this exciting ministry.

Daily I thank God for all of you, share Jesus with others and try my best to help others as we labor in God's vineyard. Yes, I am still in awe, but so thankful to be able to be a part of this Calvary Congregation!

We should be celebrating, in this year of jubilee, both who we are and how we can continue being who we are into the future. As we face the future, as cloudy as it may seem at times, let us do it in celebration, in honesty and with a sense of unending joy.

Your fellow servant, *Kitty A. Krueger*

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

COUNCIL POSITIONS

Secretary Lynn Arntson for two year term
Education Scott Bjerke for two year term
Stewardship Jim Nordbeck for two year term
Worship Linda Mickelson for second two year term
Endowment Fund Committee Wayne Johnson for re-election for a three year term

FOUR SYNOD ASSEMBLY DELEGATES FOR MAY 14-15, 2010

Marky Van de Streek
Pat Shepard
Brent and Sara Hanson

SIX NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Julie Baumgart--outgoing council
Mark Huber
Jim Johnson
Harold Legreid
Connie Mort--outgoing council
Terri Olson

Respectfully submitted by the Nominating Committee,

Colleen Szama

Carol Olson

Norel Arneson

Pam Bruhn

Harvey Kraabel

Cindy Olson

YOUTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

From 2001-2005 a sociological researcher named Christian Smith from the University of North Carolina conducted surveys and interviews with American teenagers (ages 13-17) in the hope of better understanding their religious and spiritual lives. In 2006, the results of that work and his conclusions were published in his book *“Soul Searching: The Religious and Spiritual Lives of American Teenagers.”* Here’s the good news that he reported:

- Youth devoted to their faith are much less likely to engage in negative behavior such as smoking, drinking, drugs, sexual activity, and violence-oriented video games and movies. Youth devoted to their faith typically do better academically, are emotional and psychological more stable, and tend to be more altruistic.
- “Parents of teenagers appear to play an important role in the character of their children’s religious lives. In the immediacy of parenting teenagers, parents may feel a loss of control and influence over their teens, but nationally representative statistics show that the religious practices and commitments of parents remain an important influence on the religious practices and commitments of their teenage children” (p. 115-116).
- “Contrary to popular misguided cultural stereotypes and frequent parental misperceptions, we believe that the evidence clearly shows that the single most important social influence on the religious and spiritual lives of adolescents is their parents” (p. 261).

But unfortunately here’s the bad news:

- Only 8% of mainline protestant youth talk about God, the Bible, prayer, or other religious or spiritual things with their parents on a daily basis. 20% of mainline protestant youth report that they never talk about these things with their parents.

- “Religious faith and practice in American teenagers’ lives operate in a social and institutional environment that is highly competitive for time, attention, and energy. Religious interests and values in teens’ lives typically compete against those of school, homework, television, other media, sports, romantic relationships, paid work, and more. Indeed, in many adolescents’ lives, religion occupies a quite weak and often losing position among these competing influences” (p. 28).

So the good news is that a strong faith helps our kids to resist temptations and engage in positive decision making, and that as parents we have the greatest influence on them (contrary to the popular belief that they are most influenced by their peers). So when it comes to our children, the age-old adage rings true that “the apple doesn’t fall far from the tree.” Unfortunately, the majority of mainline protestant parents are not talking about their faith openly and intentionally on a regular basis with their kids and therefore their kids are not being exposed to faith in the home where it has the biggest impact. Given this the author concludes, “The best way to get most youth more involved in and serious about their faith communities is to get their parents more involved in and serious about their faith communities” (p. 267). If we are to have more faith-filled teenagers, more parents need to be active and intentional in their faith on a daily basis in the home.

The harsh reality is that most youth ministry is misguided in its attempt to grow and foster faith in adolescents. Instead of engaging parents and families, most youth ministry separates the youth from their parents and family. Confirmation classes, Sunday morning Bible studies, and youth gatherings are prime examples. This model of youth ministry runs the risk of reinforcing the notion that faith is only something done at church with “church people” like the youth director or pastor.

Perhaps one of the greatest disservices the church has committed is taking on Christian education because an unfortunate and unintended consequence was that it removed religious teaching from the home and made parents feel like they were inadequate and ill prepared to teach their own children.

In addition, cultural pressures are increasingly putting stress on our time and family schedules are busier than ever before.

But we need to remember that Martin Luther created the large and small catechism, not for churches and religious leaders, but for parents so that they would have a “participant and leaders guide” of Lutheran faith for use in the home. Religious teaching belongs in the home, it is most effective in the home, and we need to find ways to return it to the home. My hope this year is to work harder toward seeing that happen.

Rob McNair

EDUCATION COORDINATOR'S REPORT: *Four Questions*

1. **For Parents of Young Children:** What would it be worth to you to have a teenager some day and a child today who won't go to sleep without talking to you about their day? Praying with you? Blessing you? Wanting you to bless them? Would it be worth ten minutes?

2. **For Parents of Pre-Teens:** What would happen to your family over time if you were able to keep this open, caring communication going every night throughout adolescence?

3. **For Parents of Teenagers:** Once the teen years begin communication between parents and teens can become a challenge. How might this type of ten-minute conversation change a family if they were intentional and consistent about it? Would the benefits outweigh the hassle of trying to invest this time of care, listening, and prayer each night in your home? Why or why not?

4. **For Church Leaders:** What would happen to a family over time if they made an intentional point of doing the Faith 5 most every night? What would happen to your church five years from today if the majority of your households were doing active listening, scripture, faith talk, prayer, and blessings every night?

Here's how you do it:

Whoever is going to bed first in your home calls “FAITH 5” or “Huddle Up!” Everyone must drop what they're doing, turn off the television, put down the newspaper or their homework, set the cell phone on silent and gather in a room of the convener's choice. Then take turns going through these simple steps:

1. **Share** highs and lows of the day
2. **Read** and highlight a Scripture verse in your Bible
3. **Talk** about how the verse relates to your highs and lows
4. **Pray** for your highs & lows, for your family, and for the world
5. **Bless** one another

You want a great relationship with your kids? You want openness, honesty, caring and sharing in your family? You want to raise a child to be a strong, thoughtful, empathetic, positive, healthy adult out in the world some day?

You can't buy that. You have to invest in it. And the investment is the most expensive currency you own – your **time** – aimed at that most precious young person in your life.

Be intentional
Be consistent
Be caring
Be the parent
Every night
Every home

No one else can do that for you.

This is all information that can be found at faithink.com. I did not personally develop this, but I think it is a great idea. I can't even imagine anyone starting this at home, and coming up to me in a couple weeks and saying, "Wow, our lives really went downhill when we started doing the Faith 5 at our house." We are doing this in our own home now, and our kids **love** to do it. They would never let us forget about it. They even want to do it while we're just driving around in the car!

I would like to draw attention to that last statement, "no one else can do that for you."

You are the only one who worries about, cares for and loves your child in only the way you can. Not their doctor, their teacher, or even their pastor. So it is up to **us** to make sure we are bringing our faith into our homes **every** day. Sunday School is great, we've all heard a story here and there about how a Sunday School teacher changed someone's life. But the truth is, that it will generally not create a Christian adult who worships regularly on their own. You need not look any further than Luther's Small Catechism to see how important it was to him that parents "train their children in the Word."

This year the Education Committee and the Youth and Family Committee are hoping to support and encourage families in developing this kind of faith building ritual, and we look forward to helping families begin!

God's Peace,

Tracy Bieger

MUSIC MINISTRY COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Sing aloud to God our strength; make a joyful shout to the God of Jacob. It is good to give thanks to the Lord, and to sing praises to Your name, O Most High; to declare Your loving kindness in the morning, and Your faithfulness every night. (Psalm 81:1 and 92:1-2).

Everyone involved in Calvary's music ministry works to hone their skills for the Lord in praise. And, I hear your "shouts for joy" every week in worship at Calvary as you sing from your hearts. What a blessing you all are in inspiring my faith. Here are some highlights of music ministry at Calvary in 2009:

CALVARY POPS

Calvary's very own concert series is now in its third year... "music to move your soul" in 2009:

- Lyra was here again, all the way from Russia. If you were not here, you missed an incredible concert of acapella music. It is amazing how a small group can fill our sanctuary with no microphones.
- The Brethren came once again and, as usual, inspired us with their music ministry.
- Eyewitness gave an inspiring concert here in August.
- Our songfest at the ice cream social took on a different flavor this year. There were many cancellations this year from churches. We still had a couple that came, but Calvary people pitched in and made the event come off quite well! Thanks to all who helped do that...the Youth Choir, Mel and Phyllis Sucher, John Krueger, Friends in Faith...wow.

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

- The summer of 2009 saw Calvary again having great outdoor worship, when possible. A cooler summer made us retreat inside a few times!
- Our praise team remains strong and committed, and Calvary is grateful to them all for their leadership.
- PowerPoint projection was also brought into contemporary worship. As in traditional worship, all the contemporary worship songs are put into computer notation, and then brought into slide form to be used in combination with the other slides Rand creates for all spoken liturgy parts, title slides, and slides of upcoming concerns and events at Calvary.
- On August 16, for the first time we had French horn, sax, euphonium, flute, guitar, and drums in the praise band. It was a challenge for me to write out charts for all the praise songs that day for these wind instruments, but it was a fun challenge. I think we learned that in our worship space, that many instruments really overwhelmed the singing. We will keep experimenting from time to time, but probably with less instruments at once!

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP HIGHLIGHTS:

- We continue a variety of liturgies in worship, and are currently learning Michael Burkhardt's wonderful liturgy entitled *A New Song*.
- About 6 original hymn tunes have been introduced in worship composed by myself.
- Projection has begun at Calvary! Thank Rand Stolee for all the hard work in creating these slide shows each week. I continue to write out on the computer our sung traditional service liturgies and hymns, and then, convert them to PowerPoint slides. From this point, Rand takes all these slides and adds them to all the other original slides that he creates to make PowerPoint a great addition to worship.

- Once again, for our Wednesday night Lenten services, we used *Holden Evening Prayer* which is getting to be a tradition at Calvary! I am hoping to have it ready to be projected in Lent 2010.

CHOIR MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS:

- Our Senior Choir once again participated in an ecumenical songfest in January, which was hosted by Calvary this year. Also in January the choir presented Joseph Martin's *The Winter Rose*. This was to be our Christmas cantata, but we got "snowed out" in December of 2008 by a huge storm. In May the choir presented its annual Choir Sunday program. We have begun our fall season and are still hoping more of you will choose to get involved in this rewarding ministry. I am grateful we have had a couple of new members join in September.
- Our Youth choir has been very active in 2009. They sang many times for worship through the winter and spring season. This summer a portion of them came back and put together 2 sessions of music that they performed at the songfest held at the pie and ice cream social. I am very proud of them for the excellent job they did there.
- Our Carol Choir is doing very well. They sing for worship as able and hopefully will go caroling again this year with the Youth Choir as they did last year.

OTHER CALVARY MUSIC ENSEMBLES:

- Sweet Assurance practices weekly and is aiming for a goal in 2009-10 of singing about once every 6 weeks.
- Jonah and the Wailers is again practicing weekly on Wednesdays at 8:15 beginning this fall, at least through Christmas. We welcome any men to please come and join us. John Krueger, Paul Kloster, and Kermit Nelson have agreed to join the group as well. We really could use a strong high tenor though!

ENSEMBLES CONTINUED

- Calvary's gospel group, Friends In Faith, practices on a regular basis and most recently sang for you in September.

Besides all this, we have had many others from our church family, and outside our church family who have shared solos and duets with us...what a blessing you all are!

Thanks to all who give to Calvary's music ministry account. Please help keep this account strong. It provides music for soloists and small ensembles and provides books for professional growth of your music ministry director.

It also provides additional software and supplies for music ministry **and** it helps fund our Calvary Pops series! You inspire me every week in worship with the way you lift high the cross in your heartfelt praise. Thanks for the love and support that you extend to me. If you want to do something even more special in worship...get involved somehow in music ministry at Calvary...it is rewarding...and so much fun!

Your servant though Christ in music ministry,

Russ Bunker,

Music Ministry Coordinator

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Ecclesiasticus 4.24: For wisdom becomes known through speech, and education through the words of the tongue.

Our **Sunday School** program has been enthusiastically led by Tracy Bieger again in 2009 and many other dedicated teachers.

Sunday School offerings again went to Common Hope.

New was the online program for 5th and 6th graders, which brings the technical part to this group and a terrific opportunity for them to stay in touch with Calvary. We do need to have new teachers for the upper elementary ages – please consider the gift of your time during this hour each week.

The 2009 **Vacation Bible School** program, the 'Son Rock Kids Camp' was a great success and good turnout of members and non-members. We had many helpers each evening for dinner, Bible stories, games, crafts and music.

Adult Education: This year has been an exciting year with adult education with many new and continued Bible studies available with Adults, Parents, Women and Men's Groups.

This year we opted to try a book club which met with outstanding success and plan to expand this more in the coming months with new books and groups. The start of the year was the kick off for the "Book of Faith" studies. There are many opportunities to learn and all are invited to join any or all of the groups available. For more information, please visit the Calvary web site at:

<http://www.calvaryperham.com/education/study.asp>

Library: (Submitted by Karen Hasskamp) The chief objective of the library this year was to call attention to the wonderful collection of materials available to members and to increase use of the library. To that end, Subject, Author and Title catalogs became available in February to help users find the materials more easily. Monthly bulletin boards and book displays highlighted particular topics hopefully of interest to members, or supported church programs such as the Bok of Faith initiative. A summer reading program, "Ice Cream for books," was tried and which overall was successful in increasing library circulation.

The Library Committee's monthly workdays are productive and fun, and additional members are welcome if library work is of interest to them.

Education Committee Members: The Christian Education Committee continues to provide tools that enable families to raise their children in the Christian faith. Members include Sally Roe, Tanya Leiran, Lynn Lueders, Jennifer Ditterich, Linda Barvels and Karen Hasskamp.

Thank you to each of you for working together to strengthen the Education Ministry, implement new ideas and Volunteering of your time and talents as committee chairs. The Education Committee is in need of new additional members— please let us know if you have any interest in serving the educational needs of Calvary’s Children, Adult Education, Library or Nursery.

I thank you all for the opportunity to be of service over the past two years. I pray that all the learning opportunities at Calvary will be continued and expanded in the months and years ahead.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Baumgart

Education Committee Chair

Deuteronomy 11:19: Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

The Evangelism Committee has made significant progress toward achieving two of its major goals for the year. These goals were to update the church roles and to launch an outreach program for summer visitors.

Currently the church roles are being updated. A “door hanger” brochure inviting lake area summer visitors to attend Calvary’s summer services and special events is forthcoming. It will be distributed next spring when summer visitors return.

The committee is also preparing a survey that will query new Calvary members about their initial experience with our faith community. Survey results will help guide future Evangelism Committee efforts.

The Evangelism Committee continues to execute its other designated responsibilities, welcoming new visitors, inviting new people to church, coordinating Sunday morning fellowship, delivering the television broadcast, and sharing the Good News with others. We thank all those folks who have helped us along the way, working in the kitchen on Sunday mornings and at special occasions, welcoming visitors, meeting new members, preparing displays and sharing the Good News. We couldn’t complete our mission without you. Thanks again.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Johnson

Evangelism Committee Chairperson

PERSONNEL/FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Personnel Committee saw one resignation - Jeana Nelson resigned as Gifts & Ministries Coordinator effective March 1. Due to the budget situation, the Council decided to fill the position with an interim for the months of July and August and Megan Shipman was hired to fill the position. The Council voted not to fill the position permanently until after the first of the year.

The Finance Committee spent the months of July, August and September putting the 2010 budget together, making adjustments as the Council directed.

Respectfully submitted,

David Geiszler, Chair

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The 2009 Property Committee consisted of: Erv Tolkinen, Bob Horner, Roger Haugrud, Kevin Kupferschmid, Larry Hunt, Dave Ferguson, Eldon Bergman, Jim Nordbeck, Lee Mindemann, Randy Jensen and myself. The following list of items were implemented by this group during the 2009 year:

- The parking lot was paved along with new entrances/exits. Included in this project was an irrigation system originating from a new meter in the parsonage.
- Grass was seeded around the perimeter of the parking lot. Trees and shrubs are planned for this area in 2010.
- An extensive landscaping project was completed with volunteer help in planting and moving trees and shrubs.
- Additional irrigation lines were installed and/or extended around the church to accommodate shrubs and other vegetation.
- The organ speakers were raised to better accommodate video presentations. A section of the wall below the speakers was retextured and repainted to better reflect the video image.
- A console was constructed in the balcony to better accommodate the video projection equipment.
- A stairway chairlift was donated to Calvary Church for the stairway leading to the loft. The installation of this lift will take place later as needed.

- An extensive review and update of our insurance needs was undertaken with a number of changes made in our coverage.
- A handicap ramp to the Altar was constructed to better serve the needs of acolytes.
- Additional heat tape was installed in a roof valley in order to alleviate the ice dam problems in the past.

We are extremely grateful to members of the property committee as well as other members of Calvary (and some non-members) who have contributed labor, materials, and professional services towards the completion of the above projects. The projects would not have taken place without these dedicated individuals.

A number of Calvary members and some non-members have donated their professional services in connection with the above projects. Marlin Hovde installed a new water meter and back flow valve in the parsonage. Ed Delaney provided labor and equipment for the seeding of grass around the parking lot. Mark and Darrell Huber provided electrical services for the balcony console.

Wayne and Bobbi Sachs provided labor and expertise in the tree and shrub planting. Craig Johnson did the landscape design as well as the design of the parking lot.
Respectfully submitted,

Duane Lysne, Chair

SOCIAL MINISTRY

The King will reply, *"I tell you whatever you did for the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."*

Matthew 25:40

This verse exemplifies the goals of the Social Ministry Committee who aims to provide programs and service that truly exemplify God's love living in his people.

Calvary Meal Ministry. Calvary Meal Ministry is represented on the Social Ministry committee by Sally Roe and Kjersten Hunt.

This ministry provides Calvary members with meals for those in need to help meet the stress of major events in their lives. Possible stresses may include the death of a family member, birth, illness, or any life change that disrupts the pattern of living. The Calvary Meal Ministry will provide homemade meals during this transition time and has provided approximately four meals per month in the past year. We have 53 volunteers who prepare and deliver these meals. A significant help to this ministry was a Bible study that prepared and froze meals for immediate delivery.

Leaf River Area Habitat for Humanity. Leaf River Area Habitat for Humanity is represented on the Social Ministry Committee by Les Gunderson. In 2009 another home was built in Wadena with Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. The project began in Spring of 2009 and is currently in the process of being finished. The home will be dedicated on October 10, 2009 at 14 Birch NE in Wadena and the partner family is the Connie Blessing family. 2010 plans are not finalized yet as to location but a home will be built in our area.

Justice Journeys. The Justice Journeys team continues to offer short-term mission experiences during varying times of the year to various locations both within Minnesota and outside the U.S. In June 2009, 5 'builders' travelled to Grand Rapids, Minnesota for three days with Habitat for Humanity where they worked on two different job sites. Planning is underway for Common Hope, Guatemala in March 2010 where we hope to be joined by some of our friends, St. Henry's, St. Stanislaus' and St. Lawrence. Our team also joined many others from Calvary earlier this year packaging meals for 'Feed My Starving Children'. It has been a great year, we ask for Calvary's continued support as we continue on our journey to justice. .

TWIGS (Together Winning in God's Service) is represented on Social Ministry by Liz Swanson. TWIGS strives to meet ongoing needs of individuals and families in our community that cannot be met through traditional resources. TWIGS is an extension of Community Outreach in that TWIGS needs are of a longer-term nature.

Needs are available for Calvary members to sponsor; sponsorship can be full or partial. Since beginning in March 2008, the program has grown and served a wide variety of needs in our community. Through your generosity, TWIGS has received a total donation amount of \$7,812.05 and has utilized a total amount of \$6,949.08 to meet needs in our area. Examples of needs fulfilled through your generosity include: preschool tuition, pharmacy fund, rent, utilities, summer rec, college application fees, piano lessons, car repairs, swimming lessons and many individual "special" needs. An exciting expansion of TWIGS is the beginning of the Backpack: Satisfy the Hunger program which sends food home over the weekend with children in need. Currently there are 37 sponsors and \$2170 in donations to this project. TWIGS thanks you for your extremely generous donations to the program this past year

Stephen Ministry. Under the guidance of the Leadership Team composed of Barb Christie, Net Kupferschmid, Bev Tougas and Reg Hansen, the Stephen Ministers met in 12 sessions during 2009. These monthly meetings provide for continuing education and peer supervision so that the quality of the care we provide continues to improve. Planning for the 12 meetings in 2010 is now in process. Currently we have 17 active Stephen Ministers providing service to 15 care receivers. There are 2 Stephen Ministers in reserve that are available to provide services if needed. During the remainder of 2009, we will be actively recruiting people to be trained as Stephen Ministers in a class that will begin in April of 2010. If you are interested in serving others in the name of Christ, and if you are interested in your own personal growth, you are invited to step forward.

Parish Health Ministry. In January, Judy Peterson resigned as Parish Nurse when she retired and moved to Idaho to be with her family. Funds were budgeted for parish nurse training for another RN and recruiting was done through the Calvary Connection newsletter. The health committee continues to be prayerfully hopeful that a nurse will answer this call. A small committee decided to continue supporting the existing ministries and share the coordinating responsibilities in 2010. These ministries are: Prayer Shawl Ministry, monthly Blood Pressure Screening, Sunday Fellowship Healthy Snacks, Greeting Card Ministry (sending cards to those on the prayer list) and Advent Service of Silence. The parish health center in the Mary Magdalene room at the north end of the fellowship hall has health information brochures and Calvary members are welcome to find resources there. Sandy Rusten was chair January through April, Mary Ringsven was chair May through August and Vi Bergman was chair September through December

Community Outreach Ministry. Community Outreach Ministry continues to work with Public Health, Social Services, Someplace Safe, and the Public Schools in identifying individuals and families who may need assistance in meeting the needs of daily life. Calvary members and others in the community are generous in donating furniture, household items, clothing and money to purchase gas and food cards for those in need in our area. Cindy Olson coordinates this ministry with the help of wonderful volunteers and support from area churches.

To all of you at Calvary who volunteer in each of these areas of Social Ministry, please know that your reflection of Christ's love in our community, through your works, is a wonderful blessing to all and is greatly appreciated.

Holley Arwig, Chair

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

The Stewardship Committee's goal has been to help God's people grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ through the biblical use of the time, talents and finances God has entrusted to them. Over the past year we have been working to bring that stewardship emphasis to the congregation year round. The product of that effort was the **Ask, Thank, Tell Slide Show**. In the late summer of 2008 we began showing an informational slide show before church emphasizing the active missions of our church. That effort has now grown (seemingly exponentially) into a video ministry that augments the worship and helps our ministry grow.

We have tried to stretch the congregation's mission in a number of areas. Last year we brought Joe Johnson in from Luther **Seminary** to preach. The service increased awareness about our seminaries and a special offering raised money for the seminarian. This grew to become a line item in the budget supplemented by the special offering. We still provide less than a quarter of the cost of a year at seminary.

We hope to grow this further and are asking for an increase in our giving to seminary support.

Lutheran Social Service has received emphasis from our committee. We have supported LSS for a long time with a line item in the budget. This year we made a concerted effort to grow that ministry as well as make the congregation more aware of the important services they provide. Their ministry is even more important in these tough economic times.

In an effort to be sure all our members have found their passion for ministry, we did follow-up calls to all the **new members** of the past year. We found them all to be happy with the church and the services. Many have already gotten involved in a ministry. As a part of this effort, we updated the **70 Ministries Brochure** with the current ministries of the church and their contact information (also available on line). Our committee spearheads the **World Hunger Appeal** and **Food Shelf** special offering and education related to this.

This past year we made a special appeal for **Feed My Starving Children** that helped provide seed money to assure that charity could come to Perham.

Simply Giving is a useful way to encourage First Fruits giving. The program is changing such that it is no longer free to the church. We still think it is worth the small transaction fee (\$0.20 per transaction) to have the regular source of income for the church.

Missionary Support is another important ministry that we have tried to keep before the congregation through newsletter information and budget support.

We are encouraging the congregation to follow through with their commitment to **tithe** to the NW MN Synod.

This year we would like to achieve the goal of sending 10% of our church income to the synod (whether we are short or over budget).

Respectfully submitted,

Rand Stolee

On behalf of the Stewardship Committee

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Pastor Phil has led us through another exciting year, and we thank God for bringing him to Calvary.

Russ Bunker continues to enhance our worship services sharing his wonderful gift of music with us. Under his direction many individuals, groups, and choirs have inspired the congregation throughout the year. Thanks to all involved in music at Calvary.

The contemporary service continues to be blessed with the music from Calvary's Praise Team. We truly appreciate the time and dedication it takes to be part of this team. Some equipment needs have been expressed by the group and our hope is to support and help them in whatever way we are able.

Our radio and television broadcasts continue to improve. The projection portion of the worship service has been greatly received.

Thank you to all the people that volunteer to serve as worship helpers each week.

We were able to continue outdoor worship during the summer season.

Sally and Dennis Awes "retired" and the Altar Guild responsibilities have been revamped. We will continue to monitor and adjust as needed throughout the upcoming year.

We appreciate the hard work of Tracy Bigger, along with the Sunday School staff and students, for all they do throughout the year to light up our hearts during worship.

Looking ahead to 2010, the Worship Committee will be looking at the results of the U.S. Congregational Life Survey to aid us in improving worship at Calvary. .

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Mickelson

Worship Chairperson

YOUTH & FAMILY

It's been a busy and rewarding year in the Youth and Family Program.

This year 30 students from Calvary attended the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans.

The format of the gathering was a “service” focus this time which allowed the youth the opportunity to go out into the community and do service work. This was a wonderful opportunity for them and they all came back filled with good comments about their experiences.

But service to others is not a once every three year opportunity, it is something we can practice every day and I’d like to share just a few examples of projects the youth are involved with right here. The Thanksgiving basket service project met the needs of 24 recipients. We go to the Salvation Army in Fargo the first Saturday of each month to help serve meals. The Pumpkins For Purpose project allows us to contribute each year to a global mission as well as a local mission and we contributed this past year to Feed My Starving Children and also the local Backpack Program. Throughout the year we’ve had youth involved in moving furniture, helping clean up homes and yards and most recently they participated with Community Action in packing backpacks with school supplies for kids in need. The Highway Service Project keeps our stretch of highway looking good. We have kids getting involved in teaching Sunday School, VBS, and worship team responsibilities such as ushering, acolyting and reading.

We’ve had a wonderful and committed group of people on our committee for several years and over the past several months three of them have “retired” from the committee. They are Mark Olson, Sandy Kingsbury and Janet Buchin. I’d like to thank each of you for your dedicated service to Calvary’s youth program. It has been very much appreciated!

The Bugs & Ticks program is also a part of the Youth and Family program and has provided many opportunities for fellowship, fun, and service for our youth ages preschool through 6th grade. Liz Swanson has led this program for several years but has just recently “retired” from this leadership role. We’d like to thank Liz for leading this program and developing it into what it is today.

I’ve talked about opportunities and as you can see there are new opportunities available for parents to participate in individual activities or as a member of the Youth and Family committee. If you have questions, comments or would like to participate in any way, please don’t hesitate to contact any of us.

Youth & Family Committee
Cindy Hurt, Chair 218-346-5410
Pam Hanson and Brian Lueders
Rob McNair, Youth Director

Respectfully submitted, *Cindy Hurt*

MEN’S MINISTRY

The Fishermen are men at Calvary who are called to be Fishers of Men for Christ. Any ministry that gets men involved is men’s ministry. The Fishermen work to increase the opportunities for men to get involved in worship, service, fellowship and ministry. We meet for a Men’s Breakfast every 2nd and 4th Wednesday at 7 am. Our planning meetings precede the 4th Wednesday breakfast (starting at 6:30 am). The men sponsor the education and support of two boys in Guatemala.

Fix-It Ministry is an opportunity for men to get their hands dirty while helping people with their handyman needs.

Members and others have been helped by this group with projects to clean up flood damage, fix broken pipes, replace doors, etc.

The church benefitted when these men helped move the organ speakers and sound system to facilitate making a new screen for the video projection system.

A number of fellowship events occur year round including a Fargo Air Museum Tour, 4 Wheeler events, Ottertail canoe trip, BWCA canoe trip, Redhawks Game, Canadian fishing trip and pheasant hunting.

The men (especially Ron Anderson) provide a ministry to the men of Rewind. He has helped them get to church and find some local jobs. Luminaries made by Sunday School children are put up at Christmas by The Fishermen (as was the Nativity). A number of men traveled to Fargo to help in the flood fight. Men were integral to the Feed My Starving Children project.

Another area of emphasis has been developing educational events that appeal to men. A number of educational classes occurred at the request of The Fishermen including a Lutheran Basics course,

Fireproof (marriage course), and forums on the church response to homosexuality.

Men who have not been reached by our personal invitations and would like to get involved should contact Craig Swanson or Rand Stolee.

Respectfully submitted,

Rand Stolee

Secretary

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Purpose Statement: *As a community of women created in the image of God, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society and the world.*

As women of Calvary and the ELCA, we seek to serve through the following activities:

- Altar Guild and communion workers
- Cradle Roll, baptismal banners and napkins
- Luther Crest Camperships
- Bibles for third grade children
- Nursing Home devotions
- Prayer Chain—Email and phone chain
- Shut in visitations
- Serving for funerals
- Quilts for graduates, nursing homes, newborns
- Quilts for newly baptized, those in need
- Spring and fall clothing drives as needed locally
- Lutheran World Relief Projects
- Gifts for the Giving Tree and Someplace Safe
- Box tops and soup label collection
- Support spring Women's Event (Salad Luncheon)
- July Ice Cream Social + Praise Team Songfest
- Christmas Tea and Bake Sale
- Participation in Cluster Activities
- Meal Ministry

- Establish a budget yearly to include donations to local and outreach organizations

The women have been busy with the projects that we had planned for the year. Our big fundraiser is the July Ice Cream Social. The last couple years the Songfest has been incorporated with the Social. We are always looking for new people to coordinate this event. It always seems to run smoothly. The other event that we sponsor is the Christmas Tea & Bake Sale. The cookie boxes are always a big draw for the community.

As you can see by the list of activities there is always something for everyone to participate in. We encourage all women to take part in at least one of these events. A big Thank You to all who have made it a very good year. We look forward to continue on with the ability to serve our Church and the community.

This coming year we are pleased to have Terri Olson serve as the coordinator of our WELCA group. Please give her support and come forward with your help in the area you are able to serve in. A big Thank You to Bev Tougas for again serving as our treasurer. She holds our group together. Continue to support us with your prayers as we continue to move on in a new year.

2009 Executive Board

WOMEN'S QUILTING MINISTRY

We began in September 2008 for several weeks and then started again on January 8, 2009 for three months of quilting. We had great attendance this season with up to 22 quilters. Our hours were from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. which works great.

The first week of March we organized a team of Calvary Cut Ups to help with the "Feed My Starving Children" project.

During the year we have purchased material from various places for our quilts. We are now using mostly new fabric, some purchased and some donated. We also need to buy more fabric for this coming season plus a new sewing machine.

Some of the quilters have their own favorite job. Some sew, iron, cut, tie and lay out quilts. We have a great time and work hard.

We were asked by the Jubilee Committee to make a quilt for the Jubilee. Fabric was purchased and quilt made which will be hung in church for the year and plans are to sell the quilt after the Jubilee celebration.

April 30 we sorted and delivered quite a number of quilts to various places: The Crisis Center, Food Shelf, Dialysis Center, nursing homes, Richville Center, EMS Perham, baptism, graduates, shut-ins, and sold some.

Money received from donations and sales:

Interest:	\$ 4.35
Memorials:	\$395.00
Thrivent:	\$500.00
Sales	\$764.00

Expenses:

Batting	\$618.67
Fabric	\$1,299.10
Shelving	\$52.40
Supplies	\$11.33
Cleaning	\$49.95—Sewing Machine

Total money received was \$1,663.34, expenses for the year was \$2,031.45 with the sum of \$1,366.29 on hand but will need to buy more supplies after we start quilting again.

The number of quilts made during the quilting season was 245. We made baby quilts, bed throws, lap robes, single quilts, doubles, queen size, king size and 31 for Lutheran World Relief. The total number of quilts made by our quilters is 6,177 to date from the day they started quilting.

We are very proud of our group and what they accomplish.

Leona Rothiger

Chair

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS ANNUAL MEETING—*January 25, 2009*

Call to Order: Meeting called to order by President Terry Hepola at 12:10 PM with approximately 89 voting members present.

Devotions: Pastor Holtan lead the congregation in devotions.

Additions to the Agenda: There were no additions to the agenda.

Financial Reports: Randy Graham presented the 2008 end of the year financial report as follows:

Fund	Receipts	Expenditures	Ending Balance
General Fund	\$390,836.46	\$398,055.34	\$7,218.88
Building Fund	\$69,984.00	\$71,140.70	\$1,156.70

Action: John Bunnell moved, Craig Swanson seconded to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

The Audit Report: Action: Karen Hasskamp moved, Wanda Kupferschmid seconded to accept the audit report as printed in the Annual Report. Motion passed unanimously.

Financial Secretary's Report: Action: Bob Moe moved, Sue Hanson seconded to accept the Financial Secretary's report as printed in the Annual Report. Motion passed unanimously.

Committee and Other Reports: Action: Rand Stolee moved, Karen Hasskamp seconded to accept all committee and other reports excluding the Endowment Fund report. Motion passed unanimously.

Endowment Fund: Tim Neitzke clarified the investment and application policies for the Endowment Fund.

Action: Rand Stolee moved, Brian Mort seconded to accept the Endowment Fund Report. Motion passed unanimously.

Elections: Terry Hepola presented the Nominating Committee slate of nominees as follows:

President 2 year term—Kitty Krueger

Evangelism Committee 2 year term—Craig Johnson

Personnel Committee 2 year term—David Geiszler

Property Committee 2 year term—Duane Lysne

Social Ministry 2 year term—Holley Arvig

Omitted: Youth & Family 2 year term—Cindy Hurt

Endowment Fund—Dave Jones, Myron Roe

Synod Assembly Delegates—Rob McNair, Hayley Dennison McNair, Jim and Mary Nordbeck

Nominating Committee—Colleen Sazama, Carol Olson, Norel Arneson, Pam Bruhn; two from outgoing Council Members—Harvey Kraabel, Cindy Olson. **Action:** Rand Stolee moved, Net Kupferschmid seconded to cast a unanimous ballot for the slate presented by the Nominating Committee including Cindy Hurt, Youth & Family nominee. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of the 2009 Budget: Action: Rand Stolee moved, Becky Stolee seconded to approve the 2009 budget as presented. **Amendment:** Rand Stolee moved, Ron Anderson seconded that the 2009 budget be amended to increase the amount to the NW MN Synod, ELCA by \$2,000 for a total of \$39,000. Motions passed unanimously.

Old Business: There was no old business.

New Business

Ratification of Amendments to the Constitution: Action: Jim Hatlevig moved John Bunnell seconded to ratify the Amendments to the Constitution as presented in the Annual Report. Motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation to establish a Jubilee Mortgage Fund Retirement Committee: Action: Lisa Peterson moved Pastor Holtan seconded to establish the Jubilee Mortgage Fund Retirement Committee. Motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation to approve use of a portion of the overage for Video Projection Project: Action: Brian Mort moved Dana Loken seconded to use \$6200 of the overage for the Video Projection Project as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation to approve the Balcony Remodeling Project to accommodate sound and video equipment and operators: Action: Randy Jensen moved Jim Hatlevig seconded to approve the Balcony Remodeling Project as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation to approve the Jubilee Tree Planting Project: Action: Ron Anderson moved Bobbi Sachs seconded to approve the Jubilee Tree Planting Project funded by donations and overseen by the Property Committee. Motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation of addition to Section 2 of the Endowment Continuing Resolution: Action: Ron Anderson moved Craig Swanson seconded to add the recommended verbage "Principal will be preserved and will not be distributed." to Section 2 of the Endowment Continuing Resolution. Motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation for the use of the remaining 2008 overage funds: Action: Rand Stolee moved Dianne Hunt seconded the remaining \$1000 be moved to the Endowment Fund. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of the Annual Meeting Minutes by the Council: Action: Ron Anderson moved Becky Stolee seconded to allow the Council to approve the 2008 annual meeting minutes at their next monthly Council meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Recognition of Outgoing Council Members and Officers: Harvey Kraabel, Lisa Peterson, Cindy Olson, Randy Jensen and Terry Hepola will be leaving the council. Appreciation was expressed for their service.

Adjournment: The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer and adjourned at 1:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Connie Mort

Secretary