

## ❖Community Outreach❖

Community Outreach is Calvary's response to the admonition in Matthew to take care of our neighbor.

Through the generosity and caring spirit of Calvary members and others in the community, Community Outreach has provided many families with furniture, household items and bedding. Requests for needed items are published within Calvary and members step forward to contribute.

The primary focus of Community Outreach, which is led and staffed by Calvary volunteers, is to contribute to the stabilization of individuals and families in the Perham and surrounding communities. Referrals come from the Perham Food Shelf, Someplace Safe, other churches, public schools and Otter Tail-Wadena Community Action Council.

Because of donations from Calvary's members, Community Outreach is also able to provide limited emergency assistance for gas and food to people who are in a time of crisis.

If you have an item to donate or want to learn how you can help, please contact Cindy Olson at 385-2859 or call the church office at 346-4780. Volunteers from Calvary are available to pick up donated items.

## ❖Stephen Ministry❖

Stephen Ministers are trained lay people who provide ongoing one-to-one Christian care to people experiencing a wide range of life struggles or crisis. Stephen ministers listen, accept, care, support, encourage and walk with a person who is going through a difficult time. They pray with and for their care receiver for as long as they are needed.

Christ's love for mankind is shown through Stephen Ministers caring for one person at a time.

To learn more about Stephen Ministry and possibly becoming a Stephen Minister, please visit the Calvary web site, call Reg Hansen at 346-4780 or email [reghansen@calvaryperham.com](mailto:reghansen@calvaryperham.com).

## ❖Prayer Shawl Ministry❖

The intent behind this ministry is not just to knit shawls of comfort for people in sorrow or shawls of joy for those in celebration, but to do so mindfully, lovingly, and prayerfully.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry continues as knitters continue to work their needles and shawls are gifted. Any member of Calvary may gift a shawl; there is no cost; it is a gift. Shawls for gifting may be found in the Mary Magdalene Room.



Calvary Youth participate in the Stuffed Animals for Kids project sponsored by Community Outreach.

## ❖Meal Ministry❖

This Calvary ministry provides meals for people in need to meet the stress of major events in their lives such as birth, death, illness or any stressful event that disrupts the pattern of living. The number of meals per week and the length of time provided can be determined on an individual basis. These meals are prepared and delivered by volunteers from Calvary.

If in the course of your own ministry through Calvary you find someone who would benefit from this kind of service, please tell them about Meal Ministry and that these meals are provided to them as a gift. Decide with them how many meals would be helpful and ask what would be the most helpful time to deliver the meals. Let them know that the meal Ministry Coordinator will call them to arrange all other details.

You may call the church office at 346-4780 and inform a Calvary staff member of who may need meals.

## ❖TWIGS❖

TWIGS (Together Winning In God's Service) strives to meet ongoing needs of individuals and families in our community that cannot be met through traditional resources. Examples of recent needs include assistance with utility bills, wheelchair ramp, preschool tuition and medical prescriptions. Needs are available for individuals to sponsor partially or in full. All funds flow through Calvary's office so all donations are tax deductible. Confidentiality is a priority; the person receiving help will not know the person giving or vice versa. All that is known to both parties is that Calvary's TWIGS program was involved. After selecting a need from the TWIGS tree display in the fellowship hall, remove the card and contact the church office at 346-4780.

For more information about TWIGS call Liz Swanson at 218-347-7926 or 218-234-7740.

*He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field: it is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."*

Matthew 13:31-32

## ❖Fix It Ministry❖

Are there home repairs that you need help with? Replacing a door, repairing sheetrock, painting or other general repair jobs are examples of how the men and women of Fix It Ministry can be of assistance to you.

If the job you have can be completed in a day or less, call Fix It Ministry and someone will come to your home to assess the situation and determine what materials may be needed.

If you have special skills that you would like to use to help others, consider becoming a Fix it Ministry volunteer.

To contact Fix It Ministry call Mark Olson at 385-2859 or the church office at 346-4780.

## ❖ Justice Journeys ❖

These are a way for us to love and serve our neighbor as Jesus taught us through his love and service to others.

Through a variety of yearly trips, we combine a service project with time for reflection and spiritual growth and rest. It allows a person to experience a mission field that is far enough away from home to immerse into another community, whether stateside or abroad, for anywhere from five days to two weeks.

For more information about Justice Journeys, see Calvary's web site or contact Carla Gauwitz at 346-6486.

*Jesus said, "You shall love your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength. You shall love your neighbor as yourself."*

Mark 12: 30-31

## ❖ Habitat for Humanity ❖

Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit Christian housing ministry that seeks to eliminate poverty housing in the community and to make simple, decent housing a matter of conscience and action. People from all walks of life work together in partnership to build houses with families in need.

Members of Calvary join together with Leaf River Area Habitat for Humanity throughout East Otter Tail, Wadena and Todd Counties. Since 1994 more than 25 houses have been built or renovated. Calvary and Leaf River Habitat are all part of the national Habitat for Humanity effort which former President Carter has been active in.

You can become involved with Habitat for Humanity by helping on the construction site, serving on the board of directors, helping with office work, donating building materials or by making a monetary gift.

For more information about Habitat for Humanity at Calvary, contact Les Gunderson at 218-346-7663 or [lgunderson@arvig.net](mailto:lgunderson@arvig.net).

## ❖ Caremail ❖

It is understood that when members experience a significant or traumatic events in their life, they deeply appreciate hearing from Calvary. Caremail is a broad term that encompasses all the mailings that are sent to individual members. Notes of condolences are sent by Pastor Phil to those who have experience a significant loss. Birthday greetings are sent to those over age 80 by the Women of The ELCA. Get well cards are mailed to those on the prayer list by the Parish Health Center. The Stephen Ministry office mails a variety of material about medical conditions, life's losses and about dealing with grief.

If you are interested in helping with this ministry or if you know of someone that should receive mail, contact Reg Hansen or Shirley Pauna at 346- 4780.

## ❖ Other Ministries ❖

In addition to the nine social ministries that are explained above, there are many others that should be noted:

*Adopt-A-Highway  
Sharing God's Bounty  
Perham Food Shelf  
Faith in Action Sunday  
Feed My Starving Children  
The Backpack Program: Satisfy The Hunger  
Collecting for Kids  
Kinship Sponsorship and Support  
Prayer Shawl Ministry  
Quilting  
Operation Christmas Child*



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## Social Ministry



Faith in Action Projects

