



Feed My Starving Children Coming To Perham March 13-14

We welcome you to participate in Perham's Feed My Starving Children Mobile Packing Project March 13-14, 2009 at the Perham Area Community Center. All the churches in Perham and many other organizations are already signed on to participate and our project goes very well so far.

Feed My Starving Children is a Twin Cities-based Christian organization through which last year 185,000 volunteers packed 43 million meals for hungry children. The meals are a scientifically designed meal that gets starving children healthy again and they are shipped to over 60 different countries through missionaries of many different churches.

We in Perham hope to pack between 200,000 and 400,000 meals. The first day, March 13, every child in the Perham schools, public and private, will have the opportunity to help pack meals at no cost. Friday evening and Saturday we will have 15-person teams from churches, service clubs, businesses and friendship groups that will pack the rest of the food. That will cost us between \$34,000 and \$68,000, but we have already raised over \$22,000 even though many of our churches and organizations are still deciding what to give.

VOLUNTEER FOR A FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN TEAM

We have less than a month to get ready for the community-wide effort to bring the Feed My Starving Children packing unit to Perham. At Calvary we have given generous support to the program through our Thanksgiving Hunger offering, nearly \$8500. We have members of the congregation serving on the organizing committee for the event. Karlie Miller, Miss Perham, has chosen Feed My Starving Children as her platform and is very actively encouraging the program. We have seen DVD's, read articles in the paper, and heard interviews on the radio. As a congregation, we understand the message.

What should we do now? The morning that I wrote this, I happened to read Luke 4. John the Baptist's words really frightened those who listened to him. Their response was the same question we are asking, "What should we do?" John's answer can be ours, too. He says, "The man with two tunics should share with him who has none, and the one who has food should do the same." (Luke 4:10-11) We understand this message, too. We need to organize teams and sign up for a time to pack food on Friday evening and all day Saturday, March 13 and 14. The food packaging for Friday during the day will be done by all the children of our schools, pre-school through seniors, public and parochial. We need Calvary to join the community in making the event a success. It's for the children.

What is a team? It is 15-20 people who commit to a two-hour packing shift that day. Each team needs to donate \$700, or \$50 per team member. Because of the great response on Thanksgiving evening, we have some money to help finance teams – up to \$350 per team, if they need it. Many teams will be able to support the effort themselves. Teams can register by stopping at the Connection Point table on Sundays (between the Narthex and Fellowship Hall) or calling the Chamber of Commerce office between 8:30 and 10 AM at 346-7710. How many teams do we need? We have space for about 70 total teams in our six two-hour time slots. Two of the shifts are Friday evening, the other four are Saturday. We will find a team for individuals who want to be part of the experience, but cannot organize a team.

Who should make up these teams? We do have teams already registered or who are in the process of organizing. There are teams made up of:

- +Friends or family members
- +Calvary church groups
 - Mission group, choir, WELCA, Bible study group, Stephen Ministers, etc.*
- +Calvary Cottage groups
- +Your social groups—*think of your Sunday morning coffee group, for example*
- +Local clubs and organizations—*there are lots of these developing*
- +Your workplace groups—businesses, schools, non-profits, etc.
- +Card club members, birthday clubs

Use your imagination! There's a group you can organize. You will not be alone; other churches and entities are involved, too. Make it fun! There's not much time left to get this done, but together, we can do it!

YOU CAN HELP!

Volunteers for the school packing day-2 to 3 volunteers for each 12 students

Money and volunteers for the Friday evening and Saturday packing day, \$700 per shift of 15 people, who will work 2 hours and pack 4,000 meals

Volunteers to assist with various committees-site set up, tear down, etc.

Deadline for the signing up of shifts and setting the size of our event is February 20

Stop at the Connection Point on Sunday Morning, call your congregational chair, Michelle Miller, or the Project phone number at the Perham Chamber of Commerce-346-7710, between 8:30 and 10 each morning.



**Miss
Perham
Karlie
Miller**

Hello all! I'm so excited to be a part of our community's upcoming event. While on the Northwestern Minnesota Synod's Lutheran Youth Organization, I was fortunate enough to witness Feed My Starving Children at our multi-synod senior high gathering in Alexandria. It was one of the most rewarding and fun experiences because not only were we able to work as teams and get to know others from around the state, but also to help package hundreds of thousands of meals in a single weekend. Can you imagine how many more meals the entire town of Perham could put together?!

I am thrilled that our community is getting the opportunity to share in this life-changing and extremely gratifying event this spring. I believe Perham has the chance to become a stronger, closer, and a more well-rounded community. Thank you so much for your time, support, and participation with this event. I can't wait to share with you this once-in-a-lifetime experience! See you soon!

Life Events

BIRTHS

Born December 14 to Joshua Hoaby and Ashlee Hersch a daughter, Eva Dianne Hoaby. Grandmother is Pam Mather.

Caylee Jean, daughter of Paul and Amanda Seedorf, granddaughter of Carl and Irene Seedorf born on Wednesday, January 21.

CONDOLENCES

To the family and friends of Harold Van de Streek, who passed away Friday, January 9. His funeral was Tuesday, January 13 at Calvary.

Lent

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 25. Join us for Lenten Supper at 5:30 followed by worship at 6:30 p.m. with communion and imposition of ashes. This year's worship will again feature guest speakers and Holden Evening Prayer.

Music

Community Lenten Choir Practice begins Sunday, February 22 at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary at Calvary. Come add your voice to those bringing the message of the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ. The Cantata will be presented on April 5, Palm Sunday.

Lent Wednesday Music

3:30pm Carol Choir
4:30pm Youth Choir
5:15pm Contemporary Team
7:30pm Senior Choir
8:15pm Jonah & The Wailers

The Lutheran Course Coming February 8

Karen Hasskamp has been leading the Book of Faith course on Sundays in between services and I decided to blend in the youth who attend Sunday Rap. To me, it is exciting to see a room full of people of all ages sitting shoulder to shoulder studying the Bible. Certainly there are pros and cons, but I believe intergenerational opportunities like this have more potential than pitfalls.

Our youth need to see us old people taking our faith seriously. In essence, we need to be good role models for them. If they do not see us reading and studying the Bible, chances are they are not going to read and study it. What they usually see as they walk through the fellowship hall on their way to the loft is adults eating donuts and drinking coffee. I realize that is a bold and challenging statement, and I am not out to undermine the importance of fellowship. However, how often do these kids see adults at church with a Bible in their hands? I fear, not often. How motivated are they to attend Sunday Rap, where I hope to engage them in the Bible, when they know all the adults are downstairs drinking coffee and eating donuts? I fear, not very. Our youth need to hear the thoughts and ideas of us old people and us old people need to hear their thoughts and ideas. We need to break down the age gap and use these opportunities to understand we have more in common than we think.

With this in mind, I will be leading a 7-session course in between services on the essential Lutheran doctrines starting February 8. My hope is to engage people of all ages (7th grade and up), especially families. How great would it be to see kids and parents, grandkids and grandparents sitting side by side as we discuss what it means to be Lutheran. I would think older generations would have something to say about that. I invite you to come share your voice as we engage in this intergenerational discussion and conversation.

God Bless, Rob McNair

The Lutheran Course takes you through the fundamentals of Lutheranism in 7 sessions. Great for new Lutherans, old Lutherans, and anyone in between. Saints and Sinners welcome! Starting Sunday, February 8, Rob McNair will lead "The Lutheran Course" during the Sunday Rap time of 9:30am to 10:30am. We want to encourage families (parents and kids) to be involved but everyone is welcome...an attempt at an intergenerational event. It is a seven session course so dates will be February 8, 15, 22, March 1, 15, 22, and 29. It will carry us through much of Lent.

Calvary Sunday School News

Sunday School begins lessons in the New Testament February 1. Pre-School-4th Grade will continue with Faithweaver, while the 5th and 6th grade will use the pre-teen based "Grapple" curriculum.

Sunday School students in 1st-6th grades have begun memory work study to be tested in April. If you are the parent of a child in one or more of these grades, you should find a copy of their memory work in your church mailbox.

If you do not have a box, please contact me at the church or email tracybieger@calvaryperham.com.

No Sunday School February 15, however kids are welcome for Pray-n-Play activities.

It's hard to believe, but Vacation Bible School is just 4 months away! Many volunteer opportunities await you! An informational meeting will take place Monday, Feb 16 at 6:30 p.m.

"Fireproof" Couples Bible Study

"Fireproof Your Marriage" couples study will take place in the Upper Room between services starting Sunday, February 1.

This is a six-session study led by Jill Shipman and Missy Graham, but will also include viewing of the movie "Fireproof."

Join The Book Of Faith Conversations

Just a reminder to everyone that we have an online dialogue happening on the Book of Faith web site at <http://bookoffaith.ning.com/group/calvaryperham> for those who have taken on the challenge of reading the Bible in a year; 11 people are part of this group and regularly post ideas, thoughts, comments and questions related to the Bible reading.

There are many thought provoking "conversations" happening, as well as many clarifying insights into some of the more difficult passages we read.

It is an excellent opportunity to engage God's word on a deeper level and everyone is invited to join in.

Men's Ministry News

The Fishermen are a group of Calvary committed to growing the church through ministry to and through men with a variety of social events, educational opportunities and service projects. For more information about Men's Ministry at Calvary, please call Craig Swanson at 347-7926 or call Rand Stolee at 346-3440.

Men's Breakfast. The 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at 7AM Men's Breakfast meets for great food and a study of the upcoming Sunday's Scripture lessons. Please join us!

2008 Moose River Crew: It's official...We have been awarded our first choice of permit in this year's BWCAW Lottery. We will enter at Mudro Lake and travel to Horse Lake with day trip options down the Horse River to Crooked Lake on the US-Canada border. Details at: <http://myweb.arvig.net/knudsen/bwca/2009/>. Contact Dave Knudsen at 346-6936 with any questions.

Upcoming Program Ideas. We floated some ideas for winter activities including snowmobiling, ice fishing, and cards.



Youth & Family

Youth Worship Helpers February 1. Thanks to our youth for being worship helpers the first Sunday of each month. You can find the schedule on the Calvary web site under Worship & Music. Questions? Contact Rob.

Meeting February 1. Attention Students attending the National Gathering in New Orleans. After the second service on February 1, we will have a mandatory meeting of students and parents to begin discussing our trip to New Orleans in July 2009. Plan to meet in the Fellowship Hall.

Salvation Army Service Project. Sunday, February 7 is another Salvation Army Service Project opportunity. Contact Rob if you're interested in participating.

With Lent beginning February 25, our youth will once again be serving Lenten suppers. Watch for upcoming information about when your youth will be asked to serve. Also please remember during Lent, attendance at Wednesday Lenten services is required in lieu of confirmation.

Confirmation Schedule

5:30-6:00pm Teen Meal+
6:00-7:15pm Confirmation+
7:15-8:15pm WNA* Grade 7-9+
8:15-9:15pm WNA* Grade 10-12+

*Wednesday Night Alive in The Loft
+Not February 25

Luther Crest

February 14-15
Sweetheart Ski Weekend

Looking for a quiet, cozy evening away for Valentine's Day? Luther Crest has a perfect romantic getaway!

Saturday, February 14 enjoy dinner, skiing, devotions and a movie from 5 to 11 p.m. Saturday evening and Sunday morning there is a Bed and Breakfast option, Saturday lodging and Sunday brunch.

Marriage Encounter

You'll spend two nights in a comfortable hotel and enjoy five delicious meals from Friday at 7:00 pm to Sunday at 5:00 pm. Four presenting couples, including a Lutheran clergy couple, give a series of presentations followed by questions the couples discuss in the privacy of their hotel room. There is no counseling and no group sharing.

The next Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekends are March 27-29 in Duluth or April 24-26 in Brooklyn Center. Please register a month in advance.

For more information, contact Dick & Judy Dehnel at 952-432-3105, Pete & Phyllis McMahon at 763-651-1575 or you may visit www.godlovesmarriage.org.

Women's Ministry Happenings

ALTAR GUILD

Are you willing to assist with communion setup and cleanup? Call Sally Awes at 346-7911.

QUILTING

The Cut-Ups Quilters are quilting Thursdays 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. We meet each week. Bring a snack for coffee. Come enjoy some great fellowship! Questions? Contact Leona Rothiger at 346-6633.

GET INVOLVED!

Prayerfully consider becoming involved in one of our women's ministries such as co-chairing an event or becoming one of our Calvary women officers.

Women's Ministry is for all the women of Calvary...be a part of it!

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

Java Jams
Mondays at 8:30AM
Mary Room

Charity Circle
Wednesday, February 4 at 9:30AM
At Shirley Moe's home

Faith Circle
Wednesday, February 4 at 1:30PM
Matthias Room

Peace Circle
Wednesday, February 11 at 9:30AM
Matthias Room

2009 HANDBOOKS

The 2009 Women's Handbook is in your church mailbox. Take yours home today!



Help Wanted

Calvary Classifieds



Unless otherwise noted, contact Jeana Nelson at jeana.nelson@calvaryperham.com or 346-4780.

Sound Board Team Member. Run the sound board for contemporary service. No experience necessary, training available. Flexible schedule.

Drivers. Can you deliver dinner meals to people who are in need?

Nursery. Nursery volunteers to help out occasionally during 10:45a.m. worship. Contact Tracy at tracybieger@calvaryperham.com or Jeana Nelson.

Meal Ministry. Love to cook? Needed: Suppers delivered to people whose lives for a short time could use some help. Contact Mary Erickson, Sally Roe, or Jeana Nelson.

Gifts & Ministries Committee. Do you enjoy reaching out to others, helping them find joy in serving? Your help is greatly needed.

Building Fund



The Building Fund needs help! Wouldn't it be great as part of our 50th anniversary celebration in 2010 to burn the mortgage? We can achieve that goal with everyone's help...so please remember the Building Fund with your weekly or monthly offerings. Thanks for helping make that happen!

Understanding Poverty Workshop

Join us Tuesday, February 24, 5:15 to 9:00 p.m. at Calvary in the Fellowship Hall. Dinner and beverages will be provided. By attending participants with an interest in helping the poor will learn how poverty and the culture of poverty can affect behavior, achievement or failure and the environment we live in.

Upon completion of the workshop, participants will be prepared for Bridges Out Of Poverty, a one-day conference that will also be offered, date to be determined.

Please join us in the hope that together we can work to improve the quality of life for our community members and help alleviate poverty in Otter Tail County. RSVP to Jill Shipman at Perham Kinship. Registration is required. The \$20 fee covers workbook, dinner and refreshments. Please make checks payable to 2-1-1 Northwest, TriValley Opportunity Council, Inc. Registration forms available at the church office.

Social Ministry Happenings At Calvary

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Small Group Supervision meets Monday, February 9 at 6:30 p.m. Tara Geise will discuss the Perham area Respite Care program and the "Morning Out" Program that provides four hours of care for dementia patients so caregivers have time for shopping, appointments and rest.

THE PARISH HEALTH COMMITTEE

Wishes to thank Judy Peterson for her ministry for the last nearly 4 years and for coordinating the ministry since 2006. We extend our best wishes and God's blessings to Judy in her new home and community with her family.

As the ministry goes forward Vi Bergman is coordinating the monthly blood pressure screening, Candace Dahl the healthy snacks for Sunday fellowship, Sandy Rusten continues to manage the Prayer Shawl Ministry and Mary Ringsven home visits.

PARISH NURSING UPDATE AND OPPORTUNITY

Nurses, are you ready for a rewarding ministry? There is an opportunity to attend the Parish Nurse Preparation Course, at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, March 9-13, 2009, and another opportunity May 18-22, 2009 at Concordia in Moorhead. The course is designed to meet the Minnesota Board of Nursing requirements for 37 contact hours. The registration deadline for the Concordia site is May 8, 2009. Calvary's 2009 proposed budget included a scholarship for the course. Mary Ringsven has agreed to resume the duties of the Parish Nurse Coordinator position until another nurse can be trained. Please discuss this opportunity with Pastor Holtan.

I want to thank the Parish Nursing Committee members and the congregation for their support of this rewarding ministry. I will be retiring at the end of January, and moving to Idaho to be close to my daughter's family which includes two grandchildren.

Bless us, O Lord, we beseech Thee and show us the way in which Thou wouldst have us walk.

Judy Peterson

MISSIONS NEWS

Justice Journeys is calling you to join in a journey to aching muscles and unbelievable moments. Calling Dads and sons, Moms and daughters, couples, singles . . . now is the time to get involved!

June of 2009 will see a group of adventurous, strong of spirit Calvary missionaries return to Willmar, Minnesota to once again get involved with Habitat for Humanity. Anyone 16 and over is welcome (17-18 year olds must be accompanied by a parent).

This is a five-day trip tentatively planned Sunday through Thursday. Plans are being made, housing will need to be reserved soon.

Please contact Carla Gauwitz by email at cgauwitz@arvig.net or phone at 346-6486 or 218-841-1175 to express your interest.



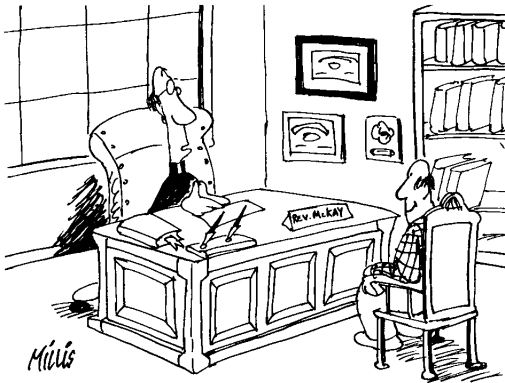
Daffodil Days

Orders for Daffodils for the American Cancer Society will be taken January 25, February 1 and February 8.

Several items are available when your donations are pledged including daffodil bunches for \$10 each, a pot of daffodils for \$15 and a Boyd's Bear with a bunch for \$25.

Sign up sheets are in the Fellowship Hall. Money can be prepaid or upon delivery March 8.


If you have questions, please contact Dee Anderson at 346-5352.



"We're grateful for the checks that you have put in the collection plate, but in order for us to cash them, you'll have to make them out to the church, and not 'The Big Guy Upstairs.'"



"That's a nice thought, Sister Ida, but I'm not sure it's biblical to put a 'Coupon Good for \$5.00 off Your Next Tithe' in our newsletter."

Simply Giving® for  **Calvary**
LUTHERAN CHURCH
a simple choice, a generous response

You are invited to become part of a new program being offered to Calvary's members—a free program for simplifying and extending our regular giving.

Simply Giving® enables us to regularly give our church offerings using electronic funds transfer (EFT). You may already use EFT to have your mortgage, car payment or insurance premium automatically withdrawn from your checking or savings account. Now, your gifts to God can be regular and "off the top," just like these other commitments.

It's very simple. If you'd like to participate, or just want more information,
please contact Shirley at the Church Office at 346-4780 or shirleypauna@calvaryperham.com.

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The Calvary Connection

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Calvary Lutheran Church exists to be an example of Christ's love through service to all people, helping everyone to learn and experience God's love in the struggle and triumphs of daily life.

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ASH WEDNESDAY