

# JANUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER

## Calvary Ev. Lutheran Church and Preschool

120 E. Hickory St.  
Watseka, IL 60970  
Regular Office Hours  
Mon — Fri 9 AM — 3 PM

### STAFF:

Rev. Don Love..... Pastor  
Margo Legan..... Preschool  
Director  
Julie Ahlden..... Preschool  
Teacher  
Benjamin Light..... Office  
Manager

Office..... 815-432-4136  
Preschool..... 815-432-4137  
Fax/Fellowship  
Hall..... 815-432-3535  
Parsonage..... 815-432-5381  
Pastor's Cell..... 815-922-0397

calvarywatseka@gmail.com

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## Inside this issue...

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- Jan Birthdays and Anniversaries
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- LWML, Couples' Club, and much more!!!



THE  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Missouri Synod



### Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Kim, Eric, Jeremy, and I want to thank you all for your beautiful and generous gifts for Christmas and throughout the year. They are truly, deeply, and enthusiastically appreciated. Thank you so much for your kindness.

What a wonderful thing it is when we let the love of Christ flow through us. May God continue to greatly gift us with His Holy Spirit and Holy Blessing throughout this New Year. As we all start out on this brand new year of 2018, I would like to share a favorite poem of mine with you.

### ANOTHER YEAR

Another year is dawning-  
A path unknown, untried.  
'Twould fill me with fore-  
boding.  
Had I no hand to guide;  
But He who walked be-  
side me  
All through the yester-  
year,  
Whatever may betide me,  
Has promised to be near.

Another year with Jesus!  
Ah, then, no dread to  
know.  
His love is ever precious,  
Howe'er the winds may  
blow.  
E'en when the storm is  
fiercest,  
In Him my soul may rest,  
And find sweet peace  
and comfort  
Upon His loving breast.

Another year to trust Him  
--  
Yes, I can trust Him still,  
Who never yet has failed  
me  
As I have sought His will.  
His rod and staff He  
giveth  
To be my strength and  
stay,  
And tenderly He leadeth  
Along the homeward  
way.

Another year to serve  
Him  
To labor for Him here,  
E'en while the shadows  
lengthen  
And night is drawing  
near.  
I know not when He'll call  
me  
To lay my sickle by --  
Oh, may I then be faithful  
While now the moments

fly!

Another year to love Him,  
Who I have loved so  
long;  
Another year to praise  
Him  
In glad triumphant song.  
Whate'er the future  
holdeth  
Of sorrow, toil, or pain,  
His precious love en-  
dureth  
Forevermore the same.

Another year with Jesus!  
I thank Three, Lord, to-  
day  
For Thy unfailing pres-  
ence  
Along life's rugged way.  
Guide me, O blest Re-  
deemer,  
Teach me to do Thy will,  
And Thine own perfect  
purpose  
In me each day to fill.

Avis Burgeson-  
Christiansen

Always be faithful  
in prayer, and may God  
continue to bless all of  
you in this New Year.

- Pastor Don Love  
& family

## January Birthdays!

Amy Norder	01/01
Emily Kollmann	01/02
Amy Schroeder	01/02
Cheryl Suchoski	01/02
Peggy Lah	01/03
Ron Purcell	01/03
Canaan Curtis	01/06
Kathryn Norrick	01/06
Joy Norder	01/08
<b>Kyle Schaumburg (50!)</b>	01/08
<b>Drew Foreman (30!)</b>	01/10
Gale Landrey	01/10
Norman Absher	01/11
<b>Kathleen McKinney (60!)</b>	01/11
Tate Parsons	01/12
<b>Linda Thompsen (70!)</b>	01/13
Clay Dorsey	01/14
Allie Hoy	01/16
<b>Roger Rabe (83!)</b>	01/16
Kaleb Ehmen	01/17
Jennifer Claxton	01/18
Kaela Nourie	01/18
<b>Carol Strosinski (82!)</b>	01/21
Beth Warren	01/21
Tia Hoy	01/22
Bob Landrey	01/23
Damen Whittington	01/23
Damen Whittington	01/23
Erik First	01/24
<b>Mini Kessinger (90!)</b>	01/26
Christine Loucks	01/26
Catherine Crouch	01/27
Catherine Long	01/27
Greg Behrens	01/28
Steven Eckert	01/28
Lori Duden	01/30

## January Anniversaries!

Randie & Tammy Orr	01/15/1977
<b>Dean &amp; Pat Cluver (56 years!)</b>	<b>01/27/1962</b>
<b>Walmar &amp; Martha Cluver (72 years!)</b>	<b>01/28/1946</b>
<b>Cletus &amp; Anita Koester (64 years!)</b>	<b>01/30/1954</b>

## COLLEGE OUTREACH

Lutheran college campus ministries are in place at WIU, EIU, ISU, & UIUC. Please give students' names to Dr. Ken Schurb at the Central IL District office by emailing [cid@cidlms.org](mailto:cid@cidlms.org) or calling (217) 793-1802.



Many thanks to those who made the Children's Christmas Program possible:

Pastor – Rev. Don Love

Organist – Bev Nolin  
Pianist – Tammy Orr

Sunday School Superintendents – Angie Potts & Tammy Orr

Music – Amy Schroeder & Diane Natschke and our Elders and Ushers for the service.

We would like to extend a special word of thanks to all the music and Sunday School leaders, adult volunteers, parents, and children who gave their time and talents to bring glory to God through this special worship service.



On January 14<sup>th</sup> during the worship service we will install our new officers for the year 2018. Please come to encourage, support, and pray for the leaders of our congregation!

**Adult Inquirer Classes will start Thursday, January 18, 2018 at 6:30 PM**



LWML will once again have a sewing/cutting/work day on Saturday January 13th starting at 9:30am. Anyone willing to help in any way is welcome to come - even if you do not sew, we will have plenty of things that you can work on! Please bring something to share for lunch. Come for as long as you would like – we plan on ending around 2:30pm. For more information, please call Gretchen (432-2901).

### **FROM THE BOARD OF PROPERTY...**

**Door Update:** The west carport door was serviced again a few weeks ago and seems to now be working smoothly. We will continue to watch the situation closely. Again, we are grateful for your continued patience in the matter. Please contact us with any concerns you have. Thank you!

## **PLEASE PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR!**

**Parent's Planning Pizza Party** – Jan 28<sup>th</sup> after church service  
Please plan on joining us as we plan the coming year's events for our youth.



**Couples' Club** will be hosting a  
**PROGRESSIVE DINNER**

for the young couples of the congregation on Sunday, January 21st  
beginning at 5 PM.

Please come for an evening of food, fellowship, and fun!! To make your reservation, call Tammy Orr at 815-432-4691.



**WGFA airings of the Lutheran Hour**  
are sponsored by Calvary. Tune in  
Sundays at 8 AM.

**Jan 7 - "Breaking News!"** (Isaiah 60:1-6) Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer

Epiphany calls us to believe that the Light has come into the world. A New Year's message about confidence, if you'll believe it!

**Jan 14 - "How Well Does Jesus Know Me?"** (John 1: 48-51) Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus

It's nice to have someone know and understand you. Today the Lutheran Hour asks, "How do you feel about Jesus knowing you?"

**Jan 21 - "Meeting Millennials Where They're at"** (Mark 1:14-20) Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer

Robots can't produce disciples. How can we mentor those who don't know Jesus, or don't know Him well enough?

**Jan 28 - "Cause I Said So"** (Mark 1: 21-28) Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus

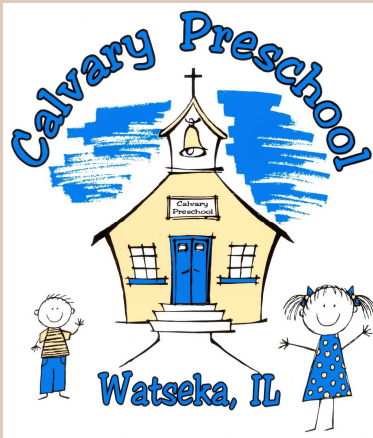
Many have pretended to be the Messiah. In today's text, Jesus authority is recognized and obeyed by His competition.

**DO WE HAVE YOUR CURRENT PHONE NUMBER???**

If your contact information has changed in the last two years, please check with the church office so we can validate your records!!! This will aid greatly with the production of a new church directory!!







Happy New Year, Brothers and Sisters in Christ!

We hope and pray you had a blessed Christmas Season! We sure enjoyed Christmas time at Preschool! We completed two Thrivent Action Teams. One was a Happy Birthday, Jesus, action team. We used the money to purchase items for the preschool students to use and take home to tell the Christmas Story. We included a nice book, ornament, a beautiful nativity figurine and a baby Jesus plush toy. The Nativity figurine we gave them in memory of Onnie Hilgendorf. For many years, Onnie made the wooden Nativity for the students at Christmas time. We know the families will love the gift. Our other action team was for

gifts for the shut ins. We truly loved making them and preparing the items and hope they love them too! Many thanks to Calvary's Ladies' Guild for delivering to the shut-ins the Christmas gifts our Preschoolers made. It is much appreciated!

Thank you to Missy West for her dedication to Calvary Preschool over the last two decades. Missy will no longer be serving on the Preschool Board, but we are so thankful for her time and talents she has used to contribute to our church preschool! We are grateful!

Also in December was our first Preschool Weekend and wow what a day that was!! We truly had a blast with the kids and hearing them sing in church! The church was packed! You may have noticed we did the order of the preschool singing a bit differently, but it seemed to work very well and the parents that came gave very positive feedback! Thank you to everyone that helped in any way! Your helpfulness, support, prayers and kind words all mean more to us than we can express! May God Bless your New Year!

Serving Our Savior, Margo and Julie

## AN UPDATE FROM NICOLE



A huge thank you to everyone for their continuous prayers and support! As of December 26th, I have raised \$14,683 and I couldn't have done it without you. On January 15th, I will launch with my squad of 35 to Cote d'Ivoire, Africa. My team of six and I will be serving in Abidjan. We will be partnering with a local trucker ministry. We will be engaging with the Truckers in the port and will share our testimony and Bible stories with them and their families. We will also help encourage and train the local ministry hosts and leaders so they can continue their work ministering to these people.

My team consists of 3 guys and 3 girls, and our team name is *Uprooted*. The name *Uprooted* comes from the idea, that we were all uprooted from our lives, so we can go out and uproot the lives of others and replant them in the deep rich soil of the Love of God.

If you would like to follow my journey, please subscribe to my blog at [nicolewittmann.theworldrace.org](http://nicolewittmann.theworldrace.org), so you can receive updates when I post. Or if you would like to send me an encouraging note or prayer, please email me at [nicolewittmann92@gmail.com](mailto:nicolewittmann92@gmail.com) (I will not have my phone). I would love to stay in touch.

Thank you! God's Blessings, Nicole



The meeting was called to order by President Denney Smith. Pastor Love offered an opening devotion and prayer.

**Call for new Members:** Bonnie Rajala made motion to propose John Herman as a voter. Richard Boomgarden second. Motion carried

The minutes of the November 14, 2017 were accepted as published.

**Financial Secretary:** James Bruns presented the report which showed receipts of \$24,893.86 for the month of November and receipts for the year of \$249,323.90.

James indicated that we are behind \$14,246.88 of net income to expense at this time.

**Treasurer's Report:** Haley Anderson presented her report. The General Fund balance is \$55,825.80 as of November 30th.

The complete financial reports are included with the minutes kept by the recording secretary.

**Board of Elders' Report:** Russell Rudd presented the report.

The Official Acts of the Church from 9/13/2017-12/12/2017 are as follows:

Transfers Out: None

Transfers In: Erica Reynolds (12/12/2017)

Baptized: Lukas Gordon Lefave(10/22/2017)

Confirmed: None

Rec'd by POF: Stephanie Blackwell(10/12/2017)

Released: None

Weddings: None

Funerals: Onnie Ray Hilgendorf (d: 10/10/2017; f: 10/14/2017)

Lynn Edward Cluver (d: 11/19/2017; f: 11/25/2017)

Russell Rudd made a motion to accept the Official Acts of the Church as presented. James Bruns seconded. Motion carried

Russell Rudd asked if there would be some volunteers to take CD's to the shut ins instead of mailing them. Russell also wanted to thank the Preschool staff for all they do and the great work with the children and families.

**Board of Evangelism:** Bonnie Rajala presented the report

They had no meeting in December but they did serve refreshments for the Preschool Sunday. Thank you to Carol Cyrier for her donation of tie dye blankets. One was given to Tari Scheiwe.

**Board of Christian Education:** Tammy Orr presented report.

Please come to this year's Children's Christmas Program on Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00pm. The children have been working very hard on their songs and speaking parts. Thank you to everyone who has helped in any way.

Again this year in lieu of Christmas gifts for our teachers and children we ask that a donation be made to our Sunday School offering project which is Mahlah the Comfort Dog. Mahlah belongs to the Milford Lutheran Church. She will be in church on Sunday the 17<sup>th</sup>. She comes frequently to the preschool to visit. This ministry is totally funded by donations.

The Sunday School is still collecting plastic caps and lids. They can be left in the library.

Last Sunday(12/10) the children made Christmas ornaments. Some were for the shut ins and some for themselves.

There will be no Sunday School on December 24<sup>th</sup>. There **will be** Sunday School on December 31st

**Preschool Board:** Margo Legan gave report.

Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> was Preschool Sunday. We had 29 students present! That is over half of our students! We were very pleased with the turnout. We would like to thank everyone that helped in any way. Please know that Margo noticed each and every small and big way that you helped her to make the day a success! To Pastor, Ben the Preschool Board Members, Evangelism Board and all individual members that helped with tasks.. to ushers, sound and video, members who were hauling extra chairs up and down,

getting risers up and down to the ladies serving refreshments and to everyone for welcoming the preschool families. THANK YOU

Our two Thrivent Action Teams are wrapping up. Today, the Ladies Guild delivered the Christmas gifts to the shut ins. Thank you. This means a lot. Thank you also to Catherine Williams for applying for the grant.

Our Happy Birthday Jesus party and distributing gifts will be next Monday the 18<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday the 19<sup>th</sup>. The kids are very excited about Christmas and have been focusing on the true meaning of Christmas!

Margo showed us examples of what is in the shut ins bags.. there was an Advent wreath, 3 ornaments and cookies.

Margo indicated Missy West is going off of the Preschool Board and wanted to thank her for her 2 decades of service. Stephanie Blackwell will be on the board.

**Board of Youth and DCE committee:** Abby Swartz gave report.

The youth will be going Christmas caroling with the Couples Club on Sunday December 17<sup>th</sup>.

The youth committee will be setting a date in January to have a parent meeting to discuss Youth events for 2018.

DCE fund had \$9260.80 and had another contribution which will now be added to this.

Tammy Orr asked that people be reminded of their quarterly commitment to the DCE fund.

Tammy expressed the hope of the committee that funds donated to the DCE Fund would remain there for the committee. Denney Smith assured them that the funds would remain for use by the DCE Committee until the Voters' Assembly votes to do otherwise.

**Board of Property:** Randy Orr gave report.

Landscaping is done at the North door of the education wing, and is paid.

West door by carport is having some issues. It was looked at and adjusted. The issue is no more adjustments can be made and will have to be a new door.

Discussion about a second opinion. Bonnie Rajala made a motion to have estimates obtained on cost of new door. Ronald Thompsen second. Motion carried.

Tyler Atwood took down the trees and ground out the stumps. Rick Elliott and Wayne Janssen filled the areas in. It will then be seeded in the Spring.

**Prairieview Report:** Betty Thompsen gave report

Christmas flower vases from the Ladies Guild and Preschool Gift bags will be delivered to the 8 ladies from Calvary who are residents at Prairieview on Wednesday(12/13). We will be playing games that day also.

A big thank you to the Calvary Congregation for their generous contribution to the Christmas Fund. Residents will have a great Christmas this year.

**Scholarship Committee:** No report

**Van Committee:** Leon Pfingsten gave report.

At the start of the year we lost 3 students but have now gotten 2 students back. We transport about 8-9 students.

**James Good Charitable Trust Committee:** Wayne Janssen gave report.

Per Sandy Williams there is now \$1749 of accrued interest in account. There was one disbursement to be paid for a \$25.00 gas ticket.

Wayne indicated the committee would purchase gas cards to be kept at the Church for future needs.

**Archiving Committee Report:** none

**Election of 2018 Officers and Board Members:**

(The slate was presented and accepted by the voters at our September 12<sup>th</sup> Voters' Assembly.) They are as follows:

Recording Secretary: Marilyn Smith

Elder: Wayne Janssen

Board of Property: Randie Orr(2 years) Murray Schaumburg (1 year to fill vacancy)

Board of Evangelism: Michelle Atwood (2 years)

Board of Christian Ed: Perry Regnier (2 years) Todd Kollman (1 year to fill vacancy)

Board of Youth: John Herman (2 years)



Preschool Board: Connie Cluver (3 years)

Haley Anderson employed as Treasurer

Shelby Jean Townsend made motion to accept the slate. Richard Boomgarden second. Motion carried

Officers will be installed on the second Saturday and Sunday of January.

Responsibilities are to begin on January 1, 2018.

Denney Smith thanked all of those who had served and terms were done for their service.

**Presentation for approval of 2018 budget, explanations, schedule of worship services and special offering.** It was noted that the worship service for Thanksgiving was changed to Wednesday night before Thanksgiving at 7:00 pm.

Motion to approve the budget, schedule and explanations as presented by Russell Rudd. Ronald Thompsen second. Motion carried.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Love gave report.

Received on December 12<sup>th</sup>, \$1000 from Mabel Cluver memorial to be used as needed.

Robert Lubben made a motion to use the funds towards the purchase of new door needed for the carport area. Lowell Cluver second. Motion carried.

Preschool is a great outreach to the community and have received members because of it.

Lots of positive comments on the videos.

New members class starting in January.

Special service for Mother's Day with LCMS singer.

Confirmation is going well. Need help with memory work

Alverda Voigt needs a volunteer to bring her to the church to see the poinsettia's decoration. She needs help to get in and out of the car with a wheelchair.

Pastor Nabinger will be here while Pastor Love is on Vacation December 26-Jan 1.

#### **Unfinished Business:**

Wayne Janssen indicated several people had wanted to go back to being ushered out of church.

Wayne Janssen made a motion to begin ushering out after service beginning in January. Roy Koester second. The vote was taken by a show of hands. Motion carried.

#### **New Business:**

Calvary Lutheran Church needs one lay representative for the Circuit Forum and Central Illinois District Convention. There were no nominations from the floor. Russell Rudd volunteered to be the lay representative.

James Bruns made a motion that Russell Rudd be the lay representative for the Circuit Forum. Richard Boomgarden second. Motion carried

James Bruns made a motion that Russell Rudd be the lay representative to the Central Illinois District Convention. Ronald Kollman second. Motion carried.

Pastor Timothy Hahn was voted in September to represent us as the Circuit Visitor for 2018-2021. The Circuit Visitor is elected at the Circuit Forum and ratified at the District Convention

There needs to be a committee for Calvary to participate in determining Synod's priorities. Please let Denney know by Sunday if you would like to serve on this committee. Pastor Love will be on the committee. If the committee comes forward with recommendations, there will be a special Voters' Assembly meeting in January.

Denney Smith said individuals may submit suggestions for candidates for District offices, Board of Directors, Congregational Constitutional Committee Committee for the 2021 Central Illinois District Convention, and CID Endowment Fund Board of Trustees. Contact Denney Smith for information and forms.

Wayne Janssen indicated he and the Atwood family would be participating in Food from The Heart. Anyone who can help they will be packing up meals at 4:30 pm on Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at the Methodist Church in Watseka.

**President's Report:** Denney said Ben Light (office manager) told him he had mailed the newsletters over a week ago but they have still not been delivered. He is checking into it.

James Bruns moved for adjournment and Haley Anderson seconded. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned with the members praying the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Thompsen, Recording Secretary