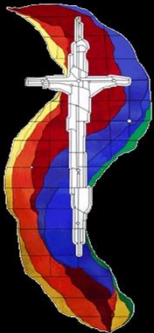


Calvary Lutheran Church

Youth and Family & Christian Education Handbook



2017-2018

“Start children off on the way they should go,
and even when they are old they will not turn from it.”

Proverbs 22.6

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.
Love the Lord your God with all your heart
and with all your soul and with all your strength.
These commandments that I give you today
are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your
children.

Talk about them when you sit at home
and when you walk along the road,
when you lie down and when you get up.
Tie them as symbols on your hands
and bind them on your foreheads.

Write them on the doorframes of your houses
and on your gates.

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

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Introduction

When a child is brought forward for baptism, the Pastor says:

In Christian love you have presented these children for Holy Baptism. You should, therefore, faithfully bring them to the services of God's house, and teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed and the Ten Commandments. As they grow in years, you should place in their hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for their instruction in the Christian faith, that, living in the covenant of their Baptism and in communion with the Church, they may lead godly lives until the day of Jesus Christ.

Do you promise to fulfill these obligations?

If so, please say, 'Yes, with the help of God.' (LBW, page 121)

This is the moment when parents and sponsors alike commit to the monumental task of raising their children in the faith. Yet, each family who makes this promise, does so while standing in the midst of this Christian community. We promise to work *together* as we grow in faith.

To this end, Calvary Lutheran Church, as a faith partner with you, seeks to provide a variety of opportunities for us to study, learn, worship and serve. We hope everyone will find a place to get connected.

Take a read through, add events to your home calendar and get connected here at Calvary!

Together In Faith,

Pastor Ken Nelson

Pastor Dawn Spies

Youth & Family Committee—Rich and Tina Baumgartner, Chairpersons

Christian Education Committee—Sue Vollmar, Chairperson

Contact Information

Pastor Ken Nelson
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Youth Groups for all ages, Vacation Bible School,
Children's Christmas Pageant and FIRM Event

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Christian Education Committee Chairperson—Sue Vollmar
Sunday School and Adult Education as well as
Small Groups

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Calvary Lutheran Church Office:
Web Site
Facebook

262-786-4010
www.calvarylc.com
www.facebook.com/CalvaryLC

**Our Vision is for every child to
develop a relationship with Jesus
Christ and to know God's
boundless love and grace.**

Adult Christian Education

Christians of all ages are called to study the Word of God. We can do this on our own, in small groups or in a class. Calvary offers a variety of opportunities for adults to study and pray together and individually.

Sunday Studies

The Bible's Big Story, Our Story

The Bible can appear lengthy, complicated, and even overwhelming. Discover a roadmap and timeline to make the Bible's big story clearer. The timeline and accompanying booklet will help you understand God's word from creation to Christ. Join Pastor Ken for a discovery that will forever change the way you read the Bible and think about Jesus Christ. This series will build on the one evening overview provided last spring. **This class which will meet from 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. on Sundays from September 17 - October 29 in the Sanctuary.**

In Depth Scripture Study with Wayne Johnson

Each week, this class delves deep into scripture, seeking to understand what the text meant to it's first hearers as well as what it means for us today. No experience necessary! Bring your Bible or borrow one from the Sanctuary and Wayne will have a handout with a wealth of notes and insights.

The In Depth Scripture Study meets in the Media Room (Room 110/111) starting in November, 10:30–11:30am. Feel free to bring your coffee and treat with you!

Tackling Today's Topics with Jim Harrison

As we move forward in life, we often experience or are exposed to numerous feelings, behaviors, or thoughts that can be both confusing and challenging. Many times, we do not know where to go with these feelings or how to deal with them in our daily lives. Tackling Today's Topics, facilitated by Jim Harrison, will give members an opportunity to explore and discuss these issues from a Christian and Biblical perspective. The format used will be open discussion, allowing us to share with each other how these topics can strengthen our lives and help us grow in our Christian faith.

Tackling Today's Topics meets in the Conference Room (Room 102) starting September 17, 10:30–11:30am. Feel free to bring your coffee and treat with you!

Midweek Study

Pastor's Bible Study

Each Wednesday at 12:30 p.m., we gather to study the word. Our topics have ranged from a "Sermon Study" where the group studies the text for the upcoming weekend of worship to the 32-week *Story* Bible study. Each time we gather, we seek to learn more about God and how we are to live, worship and serve in this world.

The **Pastor's Bible Study meets in the Fellowship Hall from 12:30-1:30 pm.** Bring your Bible. Feel free to bring a bag lunch if you like!

Small Groups

A variety of Small Groups meet monthly throughout the congregation. While each has a different focus of study, all are committed to growing their knowledge and faith in Christ Jesus.

The following Groups are open and you can stop in any time:

- **Rebekah Circle:** 3rd Tuesday, 1pm in the Fellowship Hall
A time to gather with other women, study the word and pray together. All are welcome.
- **Women's Book Group:** 2nd Monday, 1pm in the Media Room (110/111)
Call ahead to get the book title, read up then come discuss. This group reads a variety of books throughout the year. Join in when you can!
- **Monday Morning Movie:** 3rd Monday, 9am in the Media Room (110/111)
No homework!! Just a fun time to gather, watch a movie and discuss.
- **Men's Ministry:** 4th Thursday, 6—8pm in the Fellowship Hall
The guys gather to eat, study and pray!
- **Men's Breakfast:** Every Wednesday, 7am at Maxim's on Capitol Dr.
These Men gather for fellowship at 6:30am, they order breakfast and start their study at 7am. Come when you can and grow deeper in the Word while having a good breakfast and fantastic fellowship.

See a group you like?

If you see a group that looks like a good fit for you, call the Church Office at 262-786-4010 or email Calvary@CalvaryLC.com to get more information!

New Small Groups!

Interested in joining a new Small Group? Call the Church Office at 262-786-4010 or email Calvary@CalvaryLC.com and let them know you're interested in joining a new small group. One or two will kick off this October!!

Individual Devotion

One way we grow in our relationship with God is to regularly spend time with God in prayer and to grow in our knowledge of his word, the Bible. How, exactly, do we do this?

There are a variety of individual devotional guides. Use the one that works best for you! Two that you will hear mentioned at Calvary are:

- ***Jesus Calling*** by Sarah Young and/or ***Jesus Always*** by Sarah Young
These books are a free gift to you and are **available in the Narthex on the book table**. Simply turn to the reading for today's date and spend a few minutes reading that section. If you have a little extra time, you can look up the readings listed for each entry. Once you're done reading, spend a few moments and quietly ask God what He'd like you to learn from this reading. Thank God for the blessings and gifts you can see in your life, and ask God for guidance or healing in areas where you need his hand of guidance and grace. Do it again tomorrow!
- **M'Cheyne Reading Guide**
In the eighteenth century, Robert Murray M Cheyne devised a daily readings schedule which covers the entire Bible in one year! Each day, 4 readings are assigned. If you read all 4, you'll read through the entire Bible in a year! If you only read the last reading assigned for each day, you'll read through the Psalms and New Testament in a year!! No matter how much time you have, you'll get something awesome out of this simply reading plan. There is an online version available at <http://www.bibleplan.org/mc/esv>.

Sunday School for Children and Youth



Children learn most from their parents. At Calvary, we partner with each family to help pass on the faith. Starting September 10 we begin our 2017-2018 Sunday School Year. We have classes for pre-K through High School.

General Sunday Schedule

9:00-10:00	Worship	
10:00-10:30	Hospitality Time	Fellowship Hall
10:30-11:30	Middle School Confirmation	Room 107
	High School Sunday School	Room 112 (Youth Room)
	Adult Education (see page 7)	
10:30-11:30	Children's Sunday School	
	Preschool - Kindergarten	Room 103
	1st Grade—3rd Grade	Room 104
	4th Grade—5th Grade	Room 106
11:30-1PM	Youth Sunday Activities - see Calendars on pages 19-27.	

Youth Choir

From 3-years-old through 5th Grade, students are invited to participate in our Youth Choir. No experience is necessary. Youth will learn everything they need to join together and make beautiful music. Rehearsal schedule is still in development.

Interested? Contact the Church Office at 262-786-4010 or Calvary@CalvaryLC.com for more information.

PreK - Kindergarten

Taught by Angie Schatz, Jeff & Pam Debele and Tom & Sue Sadowsky
Room 103

Our littlest ones love learning about Jesus through story and craft, play and prayer. Children ages 3 and up are a good fit for this class. Questions or if you'd like to lend a hand, simply stop in and talk to one of the instructors!

Three-year-old students will receive their first Bible on Sunday, October 15 during worship. These Bibles are a gift from the Christian Education Committee.

1st, 2nd and 3rd Grade

Taught by Sue Meyer and Cindy Rooks
Room 104

Though our 1st through 3rd Grade students still have fun playing, they also learn how to look up Bible verses! As they study the scriptures, they become even more familiar with Biblical events and they grow in their faith and relationship with Christ.

Third Grade students will have a Bible Class with Pastor Ken on Sunday, October 8 at 11:30 a.m. and receive their *Adventure Bible* on Sunday, October 15 during worship. These Bibles are a gift from the Christian Education Committee.

4th and 5th Grade

Taught by Chet Elliott and Karen Pierce
Room 106

Our 4th and 5th Grade students learn how to look up scripture verse *and* learn how to start with a topic and find verses about that topic!

Fourth Graders also prepare to take their First Communion on March 18, 2018 during worship. The First Communion Prep class will be on Sunday, March 11, 2018.

Middle School Confirmation

Taught by Pastor Ken and Pastor Dawn
Room 107

Our Middle Schoolers participate in a three year Confirmation program in which students are taught what we as Christians believe. We will study the Scriptures, the Creed, Lord's Prayer and Ten Commandments. We will learn what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ and a Lutheran.

Confirmation students attend class weekly during the Sunday School year. Additionally, they will complete sermon notes and assist as acolytes in worship.

Eighth Grade students who profess their faith in Christ and desire to become a Confirmed member of Calvary Lutheran Church will be Confirmed on May 20, 2018 during Sunday Worship.

High School

Taught by Pastor Dan Spies
Room 112 (Youth Room)

Our High School students meet on Sundays to wrestle together with how their faith and the world intersect. Through study, video, conversation and prayer our students learn and grow in faith.

Sunday School Staff

Our Sunday School staff is strictly voluntary. Sunday School teachers are recruited from our worshipping community. Training and materials are provided. Adult congregation members of all ages are encouraged to share their time & talents with our children. A thorough multi-state background check has been completed on all Sunday School volunteers.

In addition to the teachers already listed, the following substitutes will serve as needed throughout the year:

- Leah Morris
- Sheila Kershek
- Lynette Anderson
- Malorie Harder

Sunday School Benevolence

Giving is an important lesson we can share with our youth early in their Christian Education. Again this year, all Sunday School giving will be for the purchase of animals with the Heifer International to end hunger and poverty.

New this year — youth “noisy offerings” will be collected as part of the Children’s Sermon on Sundays during worship.



Pick Up—Drop Off Procedures

Calvary's Sunday School will use the following Pick Up—Drop Off Procedure for Children's Sunday School. The goal is to keep drop off and pick up orderly and prevent children and parents from missing one another in the hallways.

Drop Off Procedure

We ask that parents bring their children, especially those preK through 3rd Grade, to their classroom and check in with their Sunday School teacher.

Pick Up Procedure

Parents, especially those preK through 3rd Grade, are to pick up their children directly from their classroom. If your child has an older sibling that will be picking him/her up, please let your child's teacher know.

In addition to safety issues, this policy also prevents our children from walking through the halls unsupervised before and after class.

This dismissal process will be most beneficial to children in grades Pre-K through 3rd, but we encourage pick up for all grades. We ask that both parents and teachers pay close attention to the time of dismissal.

Behavior Guidelines

The goal of the Children's Ministry program is to provide an environment conducive to learning the basics of faith. The means for meeting this goal are effective curriculum, appropriate staffing and engaging activities. We also pray that through these elements we may be a vehicle by which God's love is conveyed and a personal faith enhanced.

Expectations

1. **RESPECT: God, Yourself and Others**

This means that we will seek to put the needs of others first. For example: We keep our hands to ourselves and we do not run in the building if others are still using the building.

2. **BE WHERE YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE**

When it's time for Sunday School or Youth Group, be with your class. Make sure your parents know where you are and that you have permission and supervision on the playground and in the game room.

3. **ASK FIRST**

Before you use anything, go anywhere, or do anything apart from your class, simply ask first.

Consequences

1. Warning - remind a child of rules and expectations through redirection.
2. It is left to the adult or teacher's discretion whether the child needs separation from the group. If so, a "time out" may be used where the child sits in a chair alone inside the classroom. A parent or guardian may also be notified to come and assist in the classroom.
3. Contact the parent or guardian of the student. They may choose to assist in the classroom or take the child home for the day.
4. Refer to the Interim Director of Youth & Family or Pastor for follow-up with the teacher, parent and child.

Youth Sundays



Throughout the year, Youth Sundays are held to allow students to serve in Worship, to have fun and further grow their faith. Youth Sundays will generally meet from 11:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m. and start with a potluck lunch for all followed by a large group activity and then break out for small youth groups below. Any student may participate and friends are always welcome.

All events are listed on the 2017-2018 Program Calendar on pages 19-27.

Littlest Lutherans (preK—2nd Grade)

Our youngest students and their parent(s) will gather for some fun before sharing in a time of prayer. This small group meeting will be part of Youth Sunday activities.

3rd—5th Grade Youth Group

Our 3rd—5th Grade students will meet as part of Youth Sunday activities. We will play, study and pray. This laid back setting allows the “older” kids to build relationships among themselves as well as strengthening their relationship with their Lord.

Parents will be invited to assist with these amazing students. Watch your email for opportunities to serve!

Middle School Youth Group

Middle School students study together in Confirmation and have an opportunity to play, serve and bond during Youth Sundays. Students will meet for games, devotion and prayer!

Special events throughout the year include the Winter Retreat, serving at St. Vincent DePaul and occasionally join events with our High School Youth Group.

Parents will play a vital role in assisting with events and driving. You can bring a friend or two, too!

High School Youth Group

High School students will gather for fellowship, games, devotion and prayer as part of Youth Sundays.

Special events throughout the year include the Winter Retreat, serving at St. Vincent DePaul, a movie and the Lock-In. All are invited! Friends are welcome!

Parents will also play an important part of our High School Youth Group as you help lead and chaperone events!

Families in Real Ministry (FIRM)

This ministry is designed specifically for families. Families In Real Ministry (FIRM) is a group open to the entire congregation, friends, neighbors, and the community. This group has events and activities centered around growing the faith of your family through service projects, games, education, and more!

Summer Youth Activities

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School is an opportunity for children in preschool through grade five to learn more about our Lord and Savior in a fun and exciting format.

VBS runs Monday through Friday during one week in the summer, and includes a Thursday night dinner & program for the entire family. Our Vacation Bible School program is full of music, Bible stories, laughter, games, crafts, friendship, and more!

Watch for VBS brochures to come out in the spring. Anyone of the appropriate age may attend. You need not be a member, and friends are greatly welcomed!

This summer, VBS is July 30—August 3, 2018!

Summer Camp


Each summer, Calvary picks a week to all go to camp at the same time. Last summer, we went to Lutherdale and had a blast! Watch the Calvary *Crossroads* monthly newsletter for more information about the 2018 Summer Camp Week.

High School Mission Trip

All students who have graduated 8th Grade through those just graduating from High School are invited to participate in a week long mission trip! We pick a location and join Youth Works in serving a community in need.

The 2018 Mission Trip week will be selected soon! Watch the Calvary *Crossroads* monthly newsletter for more information.

September 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Youth Group Details

No special events this month.

Sunday School Detail

10 Rally Sunday

Sunday School Meet & Greet

17 Sunday School

24 Sunday School

October 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 3rd grade Bible Class	9	10	11	12	13	14 
15 No SS Congregation Meeting	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 Youth Sunday 	30	31				

Youth Group Details

- 14** Pumpkin Farm/Corn Maze –FIRM Event
9:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
- 29** Trunk-or-Treat—Youth Groups
11:30 @ Church

Sunday School Details

- 1** Sunday School
- 8** Sunday School
3rd Grade Bible Class at 11:30
- 15** **No Sunday School**
Congregational Meeting
Youth Activity TBD
3 yr old & 3rd grade Bibles
distributed at Worship
- 22** Sunday School
- 29** Sunday School

November 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 
12 No SS Stewardship Brunch	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 	20	21	22 	23	24	25
26 No SS	27	28	29	30		

Youth Group Details

- 11 Operation Christmas Child Packing Event—FIRM 11:30 – 1:00p
- 19** Youth Sunday 11:30—1:00p
- 22 Thanksgiving Eve Worship and Pie Service— Youth & Family

Sunday School Details

- 5** Daylight Savings Time Sunday School
- 12** **No Sunday School** —Stewardship Brunch
- 19** Sunday School
- 26** Advent Begins—Christmas Decorating **No Sunday School**

December 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Christmas Pageant Rehearsal	4	5	6	7	8	9 HS Event
10 Christmas Pageant Rehearsal	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 Christmas Pageant Rehearsal	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 No SS 9 a Worship 4 p Pageant 10 p Candlelight	25 10 a Christmas Worship	26	27	28	29	30
31 No SS						

Youth Group Details

3 High School Event - Escape the Room

Sunday School Details

3 Sunday School
Christmas Pageant Reh.

10 Sunday School
Christmas Pageant Reh.

17 Sunday School
Pageant Dress Reh

24 No SS Christmas Pageant 4:00 pm

31 No Sunday School

January 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 	2	3	4	5 	6
7 	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Youth Group Details

5-7 Winter Retreat

14 Youth Sunday 11:30 - 1:00p

Sunday School Details




7 Sunday School

14 Sunday School

21 Sunday School

28 Sunday School

February 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 No SS Youth Sunday Cong. Mtg.	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 	12	13 FAT TUESDAY	14 	15	16	17 LOCK IN 
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			





Youth Group Details

- 4** Youth Sunday 10:30-12:30p
- 11** FIRM Winter Play Day
- 13** Fat Tuesday Dinner – All Youth Serve
4:30–7:30p
- 17** High School Lock In 6p—Sun 9a

Sunday School Details

- 4** **No SS**; Youth Event;
Congregation Annual Meeting
- 11** Sunday School
- 18** Sunday School
- 25** Sunday School

March 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 1st Communion Class	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 	26	27	28	29	30 	31

Youth Group Details

4 Youth Sunday 11:30—1:00p

Sunday School Details

4 Sunday School
11 Sunday School
 4th Grade First Communion Class at
 11:30 a.m.
18 First Communion Sunday
 Sunday School
25 Sunday School

April 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 No SS 	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Youth Group Details

15 Youth Sunday

11:30—1:00p

Sunday School Details

1 Easter Sunday—**No Sunday School**

8 Sunday School

15 Sunday School

22 Sunday School

29 Sunday School

May 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6 Youth Sunday	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 <i>HAPPY Mother's DAY</i>	14	15	16	17	18	19 HS Event
20 SUNDAY SCHOOL CELEBRATION! Confirmation	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Youth Group Details

6 Youth Sunday

11:30-1:00p

19 High School Event

Sunday School Details

6 Sunday School

Confirmation Rehearsal — 11:30 a

13 Sunday School

20 Confirmation Sunday

Sunday School Year End Celebration



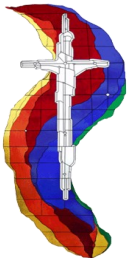
Calvary's Vision and Mission Statement

VISION:

Sharing the life-changing message of Jesus Christ

MISSION:

Calvary Lutheran Church is a family of Christians directed by the Holy Spirit and growing as disciples of Jesus through worship, Biblical study and prayer that is shared with the community and the world.



Calvary Lutheran Church

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