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Events in July

July 3 - Church Office closed

Every Wednesday in July
Summer meals at Moats
Park 5:30 - 7:00 pm
All are Welcome to join us!!

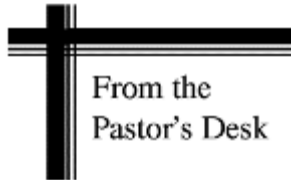
LAMP - Mission Trip to
Canada July 9 - 19.

July 27 - LWML Meeting
5:30 pm Lite Supper
6:00 pm Meeting

Living in the **Shadow of the Cross**

Vol. 47 No. 7

July 2026



Two Kinds of Freedom

Every Fourth of July, we celebrate something genuinely worth celebrating. Political freedom is a hard-won, fragile, remarkable gift — the ability to speak, to worship, to assemble, to live without the arbitrary power of a tyrant over your daily life. We should give thanks for it.

But there is a second kind of freedom that no declaration has ever granted and no army has ever secured. Unless we understand the difference between the two, we will ask political freedom to do something it was never designed to do — and find ourselves strangely unfree even in the land of the free.

Martin Luther grasped this with unusual clarity. In his 1520 treatise *The Freedom of a Christian*, he opened with a paradox that still stops readers cold: "*A Christian is a perfectly free lord of all, subject to none. A Christian is a perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject to all.*"

Both sentences are true at the same time.

The first describes freedom *from* — freedom from the condemnation of God's Law, from the power of sin, from the finality of death. No government can legislate this. No bill of rights addresses the guilt of a conscience that knows it has fallen short. These tyrannies run deeper than any political oppressor, and they demand a Liberator with deeper power.

That Liberator is Jesus Christ. What He accomplished on the cross and demonstrated in the empty tomb is the only transaction that actually settles these debts. By faith, the Christian receives Christ's righteousness as her own, and Christ takes her sin as his own — the great exchange. The deepest bondage is broken. "*If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed*" (John 8:36).

The second sentence describes what this freedom produces. The Christian liberated from sin and death is now free *for* something — free to love the neighbor without calculating what's in it for me, free to serve without needing the service to justify me, free to give and forgive not to earn anything, but because there is nothing left to earn.

Political freedom, at its best, creates the conditions for this kind of life to be lived openly. A society that protects freedom of worship and conscience gives the church room to gather and Christians room to serve. We are grateful for that space.
Continue

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But the space is not the life. The Constitution can protect your right to worship; it cannot give you something worth worshipping.

So this July — celebrate. Watch the fireworks, sing the old songs, give thanks for the inheritance we too easily take for granted. These are good gifts from God.

And then come Sunday, receive the freedom no government can give — purchased not with the blood of patriots, but with the blood of the Lamb.

In Christ,

Pastor Tom

Pastor Tom Vanderbilt



Cody, Aurelie, Eva and Moriah Mock came to visit Mt. Calvary May 31, 2026. He told us about the work he is doing in Riga, Latvia in Eurasia.



Quilts for Vets

Bud Bohannon was awarded a Quilt of Valor at Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church on June 7, 2026. Bud served in the Airforce from 1967-1971. He joined the Air Guard, retiring in 2004.

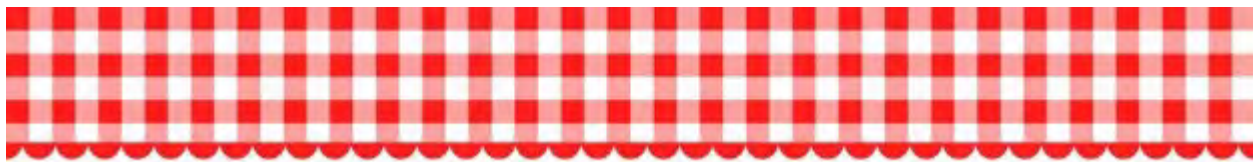


SUMMER MEALS IN THE PARK



Group of young men attending the Linemen's School here in Indianola, along with Pastor Tom.





Youth Lead Conference



Youth learned how to defend their faith, write and lead a devotion, and learned how to lead a prayer.

Pictured left: YouthLead Teen Leaders along with Youth Ministry Leader – DCE Julianna Shults

Below left: Rev. Ryan Roehrig, IDW Youth Services Chairman, led us in closing worship Sunday morning of the event.

Connecting with the Church



Terry Boettcher	2-Jul
Carl Cloeter	3-Jul
Bryan Herold	3-Jul
Sharon Erwin	6-Jul
Karla Derrickson	6-Jul
Ellen Glasgow	6-Jul
Cloie Youngblut	9-Jul
Kori Roan	9-Jul
Cindy Gosch	10-Jul
David Cormeny	10-Jul
Karen Leak	12-Jul
Rose Strike	13-Jul
Marlys Gaston	14-Jul
Laurel Cogswell	14-Jul
Shane Geurink	15-Jul
Wade Williams	16-Jul
Rhonda Myers	17-Jul
Betty Lewis	17-Jul
Tom Henline	18-Jul
Wyatt Williams	21-Jul
Gordon Myers	22-Jul
Diane Johnson	23-Jul
Garrett Sickles	25-Jul
Rev. Tom Vanderbilt	27-Jul
Marilyn Reinholdt	28-Jul
Wilma Robison	29-Jul

Please notify the church office of updates or changes to your address or contact information or any corrections to the

Church Directory at office@mt-calvary.com

or call 515-961-4321.

THANK YOU!

Colleen DeLanoit
Office Administrator

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday

8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Our 2026 Church Directory is printed and in your church mailbox.!! Next time you are at church please check your mailbox.

Heal House. . . Current needs.

Toilet Paper	Fabric softener
Coffee pods	33 gallon trash bags
Laundry pods	Coffee mugs
Paper towels	Disinfeting wipes
Powdered Coffee creamer	

HELPING HAND SUGGESTIONS FOR THE FOOD PANTRY

Cereal
Ketchup
Mustard
Ranch Dressing
Mac & Cheese
Sloppy Jo mix
Canned Chicken
Individual wapped snacks
Peanut Butter
Dish Soap

**This month Mt. Calvary
Delivered 69
grocery items to support
the Food Pantry.
Thank you for your
continued support!**

Opportunities to Serve



Available dates to donate flowers for the altar on Sunday.

July 5 - Ruth Circle

July 12 -

July 19 -

July 26 - Pastor & Sara Vanderbilt

August 2 - Bill & Sherry Engel

Altar Flowers – Needed: Individuals can sign up to place flowers for the altar or to donate to the “Flower Fund.” Place checks/cash in the offering and mark “Flowers” or you can use the online option to donate. You may sign up for a specific week on the flower calendar located on the Pillar. If you have a special occasion and would like flowers ordered for you and placed on the altar, contact Sherrie Engel. We need two arrangements for the altar total cost \$50.00. Contact Sherrie Engel, 515-490-2333 for more information. There are plenty of Sundays available.



Available dates to host Sunday Morning Treats

If no one signs up..... no treats!! ☹️

July 5 - Darl & Ethel Lee

July 12 -

July 19 - Lisa & Kyle Wiese

July 26 -

August 2 - Lisa & Kyle Wiese



Summer Meals at the Park 5:30—7:00 pm

July 1 - Chicken, Salad, Chips, Dessert

July 8 - Pulled Pork, Baked Beans, Chips, Dessert

July 15 - Taco's, Chips, Dessert

July 22 - Pulled Pork, Mac & Cheese, Dessert

July 29 - Sloppy Joes, green beans, chips, Dessert

“Summer Meals in the Park”. Our Meals will be served at the shelter house at Moats Park, every Wednesday from 5:30 – 7:00 pm, June 3 through August 19, 2026. We are needing donations of food items and help with the meals. Please check the pillar, in the fellowship hall, to see what items we are needing for our meals. Also the signup sheet, if you are interested in helping with the meal.

Opportunities to Serve

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE:

Interested in being a Greeter before worship, talk to Colleen in the church office.

Interested in becoming a Reader in Worship, talk to Colleen in the church office.

Talk to an Elder about becoming an Usher at either service.

Volunteer to be a song leader at our 10:30 am Sunday service.

Sunday Morning treats – Volunteers needed to host at Sunday morning coffee time.

A sign up sheet is on the pillar in the fellowship hall.

Altar Flowers – Needed: Individuals to sign up to place flowers for the altar or to donate to the “Flower Fund.” Check out the flower chart on the pillar in the fellowship hall.

Here is the QR code for Online Giving:



Volunteers are needed to maintain our landscape each year. Weeding flower beds, mowing lawn and watering flowers when needed. **Please check out the map on the pillar to see what flower bed you would like to help keep looking nice.** If you are willing to help with any of those outside activities, please contact the Board of Property. Terry Pauling, Board Chairman. 515.249.9192

Lawn Mowers in June

Week of June 29 - Steve Roush

Week of July 6 - Andy Bakke

Week of July 13 - John Queck

Week of July 20 - Steve Smith

Week of July 27 - Ed Chapman





*Thank you for your ongoing
support of our mission projects!*

Ladies of Mt. Calvary. Our next LWML quarterly meeting will be on Monday evening July 27, at 6:00 pm. We are planning a lite supper before the meeting so If you would like to join us, come at 5:30 pm. Our LWML President, Noreen Smith, will talk to us about the 2026 District Convention (June 11 – 13, 2026) in Okoboji. We also have a guest speaker, Julie Mann, from our Iowa District West office, to talk about the Swaddling program. Looking forward to seeing you for the supper at 5:30 or the meeting at 6:00pm

LWML Funeral Luncheon Committee

LADIES OF MT. CALVARY your help is needed. We have been blessed for many years with a group of ladies who have faithfully organized funeral luncheons here at our church. These ladies are ready and willing to pass on this task. This is a service that our church can do for families in their time of need. Talk to 2 or 3 friends and form a group. Please consider helping our church by serving in this way. Please talk to Noreen Smith or Colleen in the church office if you are interested or have any questions. We will set up a meeting once Noreen is back from the Canada Mission Trip!



ENGAGED IN MISSION: *Congregation and Community*

SEPTEMBER 18TH - 19TH

St. Paul Lutheran Church
1844 Highland Dr. - Carroll, IA 51401

Speakers:

REV. DR. QUINTIN CUNDIFF

LCMS Director of Church Planting

REV. DR. HEATH TRAMPE

LCMS Director of Discipleship

An opportunity for both pastors and laity to learn about, discuss, and consider how to be effectively engaged in God's mission where they are. Mission is not far away because there are people in our communities who need to hear the Gospel and God has given us the opportunity to engage with them.

Registration and Hotel Information:

<https://tinyurl.com/EngagedinMission>



DON NORTON MEMORIAL TRAP SHOOT

**September 27, 2026
12:00 pm - 3:00 pm**

*Izaak Walton League
16383 118th Avenue Indianola, IA*

**Cost: \$20 per participant
Includes one box of shells and clay pigeons**

***Everyone Welcome
Free Lunch and Fellowship
Come and Enjoy***

**Proceeds benefit:
Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church Youth Group**



Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church
Council Minutes - Congregational Meeting - June 7, 2026

Attendance: Pastor Vanderbilt, Ken Tague, Mary Barkley, Terry Pauling, Linda Norton, JoAnn Chapman, Ed Chapman

Ken called the meeting to order.

The motioned was made to pass May Council minutes, and seconded. The motion was carried with a unanimous vote.

Pastor Report- (See Email Attachment)

- Mt. Calvary had two child baptisms and one adult in the last 6 months.
- Phyliss Chumbley passed away
- 1 to 3 new members
- Bridging the Gap
 - Keely Currie is conducting her internship and is contracted for social media interaction during the summer
 - She will make media reels from the sermons
 - First reel received 800 views in 24 hours
 - The Zitzmann fund was used to pay Keely

DCE Report- N/A

Elder's Report- Jake (See Email Attachment) Dave Cooper Presenting

- 5th Sunday service is going well
- August 30th is scheduled for the next Elder's Breakfast

Financial Report- Linda (See Email Attachment)

-JoAnn Chapman motioned to approve May's 2026's Financial Report. Steve Smith seconded the motion. The motion was carried with a unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report- Mary Barkley (See Email Attachment)

-The Flowers Fund currently has \$3293.49. Should we use it for something else? Same question was posed for the Thrivent Choice fund, holding \$4585.32

- Benches in front of the Church were suggested

-Dave Cooper motioned for the approval of 2026 May's Treasurer Report. Sarah Vanderbilt seconded the motion. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

-Mary explained the Financial Review.

-\$40,000 from the Zitzman Family Endowment Fund was given to Iowa District West to fund support for families applying for adoption. There will be five \$4000 grants given each year. It is approximately \$35,000 to adopt.

Education Report- N/A

Evangelism Report- N/A

Discipleship Report- Ed and JoAnn Chapman (See Email Attachments)

Worship Report- Jen Olson (See Email Attachment)

Parish Nurse- N/A

Youth Report- Natasha Cooper (See Email Attachments)

Records Report- David Cormeny (See Email Attachments)

Stewardship Report-N/A (See Email Attachments)

Property Report- Terry Pauling (See Email Attachments)

New Business

- Church Governance Exploratory Committee (Pastor Tom presenting slide show)

- Church Council would like permission to explore new structures of Church Council and committees to fill in long term positions that are vacant for the next 18 months.

- It is far easier to carry the load with 30-40 people versus 10-12.

- Terry or Mary motioned to form the Church Governance Exploratory Committee. Jen Olsen seconded the motion. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Having no further business, a motion to adjourn was offered by JoAnn, a second by Mary. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,
David Cormeny