



Tidings 2024

“Helping others receive grace, purpose and direction by proclaiming Christ’s love.”



Calvary’s first-ever Holy Humor Sunday will be held the first week after Easter – April 7, 2025.

Many American churches are resurrecting an old Easter custom begun by the Greeks in the early centuries of Christianity - "Holy Humor Sunday" celebrations of Jesus’ resurrection on the Sunday after Easter.

For centuries in Eastern Orthodox, Catholic and Protestant countries, the week following Easter Sunday, including "Bright Sunday" (the Sunday after Easter), was observed by the faithful as "days of joy and laughter" with parties and picnics to celebrate Jesus’ resurrection.

Churchgoers and pastors played practical jokes on each other, drenched each other with water, told jokes, sang, and danced.

The custom was rooted in the musings of early church theologians (like Augustine, Gregory of Nyssa, and John Chrysostom) that God played a practical joke on the devil by raising Jesus from the dead. "Risus paschalis - the Easter laugh," the early theologians called it.

In 1988 the Fellowship of Merry Christians began encouraging churches and prayer groups to resurrect Bright Sunday celebrations and call it "Holy Humor Sunday," with the theme: "Jesus is the LIFE of the party."

For more information go to: <https://www.joyfulnoiseletter.com/hhsunday.asp>

Our theme for Holy Humor Sunday will be "Beach Party" so wear your Hawaiian clothes or whatever you would wear to a beach party. Come prepared to have fun worshipping!



Confirmation classes will begin again on Wednesday, April 3.
Class is from 5:45 – 7pm.
No class on April 17 or 24 as I will be on vacation.
We continue May 1-15.
Confirmation Day will be Pentecost Day, Sunday May 19.

Many thanks to all who participated in the Good Friday Tenebrae service and drama, “Watch the Lamb.” It was exceptional and I appreciate all the time spent putting it together and performing!

Now that Lent is over, we get to celebrate 6 weeks of the Easter season. I will be taking some vacation time [April 16-24] to visit my Hawaiian family. My middle son, Chris, and his two sons, Grant and Charlie, will be going with me. I’m sure we will have a great time!



Middle School Gathering 2.0 will be held on Saturday, April 13 from 9:30am – 6:30 pm in Sidney. This is a Synod-wide day of service for Middle School youth to gather and learn to share Christ’s story as they explore how daily experiences and interactions shape our faith stories. If you would like to attend with us, please let me know ASAP! Registration closes April 1. I will be driving and plan to leave the church at 7:45 am.

Blessings on your month!
Pastor Kathy

Go, And

As we continue to Go, And . . . April - - - - Tell the Story.

Jesus isn't in the tomb anymore – God is on the loose! God is active and up to something! The story of Easter is an ongoing one, similar to the story of our own faith. Our response as disciples is to Go and . . . to go out, go proclaim, and to go tell the story.

Questions to consider:

What is one of your favorite Bible stories?

Is there a prop or tangible item you might use to help tell the story?

How will you GO and tell the story?

Prayer: Master Storyteller, your stories seem almost unbelievable.

Open us to recognize your patience, deep love, and grace. Help me be a story teller.
Amen.



GO AND...



PRAY



LISTEN



SHARE YOUR STORY



SERVE WITH NEIGHBORS



ASK



BE HONEST



BE PRESENT



REST



HAVE THE CONVERSATION



BE INTENTIONAL



TELL THE STORY



BE CHURCH

COUNCIL MINUTES SUMMARY

March 11, 2024

Acceptance of Agenda – Bill Huelle moved to accept; Neal Blomenkamp 2nd - accepted. Acceptance of minutes from February 12, 2024: Jack Martin moved to accept; Maunette Loeks-Van Patten 2nd – accepted.

Board/Committee Reports:

Outreach: Our first Grab & Go lunch will be on Thursday 3/28/24 from 12-2pm. As a group they discussed the different duties of the Outreach Board.

Elders: They met with the Deacons and Pastor Kathy and discussed their process of visiting shut-ins and giving communion. Christy's computer "crashed" so they discussed what we have/do for computer backup-we do have Bytes doing this on a regular basis. They also discussed plans/dates for when Pastor Kathy will be gone and arranging pulpit supply for the church. Bill Huelle is planning to provide pulpit supply.

Trustees: There is not a lot going on. The compressor for the heater needs a little work, Jim has that figured out.

Parish Education: They have a new member, Shawna Payne. The church will be hosting its first "Young at Heart" gathering on 3/17/24 for games and fellowship. There will be 6 youth & 2 sponsors going to NOLA youth gathering. They had their first fundraiser by serving a Lenten meal and raised \$740. Mitch Moravec has agreed to be our lead in our Good Friday service. The NOLA youth gathering group will be serving breakfast on Easter Sunday. The meal will be served from 9-9:45AM. There is a middle school aged youth gathering in Sidney, NE on 4/13-we may possibly be having a few youths going.

Worship and Music: Bill shared the sheets that their Board created for the duties that the ushers are asked to do when scheduled. They discussed the Easter season services. Maundy-Thursdays service is at 6:30PM. Good Friday service is at 7PM.

Social Ministry: No new updates on the Habitat for Humanity's project. Their Lenten meal raised \$300-400.

Stewards: They gathered information and description on stewardship as a board. They are meeting at a new time-the 4th Monday of each month at 6PM. They are planning their fall stewardship drive. They discussed a fundraiser/fellowship event. Something with a BBQ and a garage sale called Meals & Deals. More work needs to be done so will come back with ideas at next Council Meeting.

Endowment: \$17,071.61 was available for distribution. \$17,071.50 was distributed. Calvary Quilters-\$500, Lakota Lutheran Center -\$2350.50, Women of the ELCA-\$750, Pup pack and Cat pack program-\$7,471, Calvary youth to NOLA-\$6,000. Bill Huelle moved to accept; Neal Blomenkamp 2nd-accepted.

Financial Report: Beginning Balance for January: \$38,138- Ending Balance: \$31,056

Pastor's /Staff Reports: Pastor Kathy reporting: She spoke of her family situation with ailing relatives, and she may be gone a few days. Discussion was had on the fee that is charged when someone uses our church. The Cluster assembly was held at Calvary and there were 45 people in attendance. It went well. Community Lenten lunch was held at Calvary on 3/5/24 and it went well. Flights and hotel accommodations have been made for the NOLA Youth Gathering. Three students were trained for 1st Communion.

Old Business: Updating Usher duties and responsibilities-We will have a set date for training for current ushers and any newcomers. We have a guideline for Saturday and Sunday opening and closing duties. Bill Huelle made a list to share with those that are doing this. We are looking for more volunteers to do this important job.

New Business: There will be a Council workshop/Board duties /Team building on 4/28/24 at the Scottsbluff Runza conference room at 11:30AM. Please fill out the worksheets and have them back to Shari Copsey by 4/1/24. LFS mental health services that has been set up here at the church was discussed. It is not promoted and in all of the years we've had it, we only had one user. Computer backup-We do have this backup service with Bytes. Need to check and see what all that service entails. PMA expenses for the Cluster retreat in August will be paid by the church. A motion was made by Neal Blomenkamp and 2nd by Pastor Kathy-accepted. Flags and flag stand-The outreach committee would like the church to purchase a 10' flag stand for \$233.24. Future flags to put on the stand are around \$70 each. Pastor Kathy made a motion to have money from the general fund to purchase the stand and Lynn Margheim 2nd-accepted. The outreach committee will be in charge of coming up with a process for future flag purchases and how they see that working. We discussed a new meeting time for the monthly Planning Council meeting. The new meeting time will be at 5:30pm. Neal Blomenkamp moved to accept the new meeting time and Lynn Margheim 2nd-accepted.

Next Council Meeting: April 8, 2024

A complete copy of the Council Minutes is available in the church office.





4/7: He is Risen!
(chicken strips/waffle fries/fruit/dessert)

4/14: Jesus Appears to the Disciples
(sloppy Joes/chips/pickles/dessert)

4/21: The Good Shepherd
(ravioli bake/salad/bread/dessert)

4/28: The Vine and Branches
(hot ham and cheese sandwiches/chips/fruit/dessert)



EPIC will meet on April 27 from 10am-3pm at Pastor Kathy's house (3009 Dineen Ave, Scottsbluff). Wear old clothes - we will be outside painting fence! This fellowship activity is also a fundraiser for those going to New Orleans. Lunch will be provided. If the weather does not cooperate, we'll reschedule for May 4.

Please plan to attend, and let Angie or Pastor Kathy know you'll be there so we have enough food. See you then!



CALVARY LUTHERAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND is established with the intent to promote Christian education at a Protestant college. We would like to remind those interested in attending a Protestant college next fall to stop by the church office and pick up an application form. Applications MUST be in by June 1st.

The criteria for receiving a scholarship is as follows:

1. Attends Calvary Lutheran Church regularly and has had past record of two years attendance in Sunday School and/or worship.
2. Is a voting member as defined in the Calvary Lutheran Church

Constitution Chapter 8 Part C8.02C.

3. Will be full time student as defined by the college attending.
4. Has not received scholarships from Calvary for more than eight college semesters (limit 3). Requests for scholarships exceeding the eight college semesters, will be reviewed by the Scholarship Committee.

Please stop by the church office and pick up an application form if you do not have one.



Are you thinking about your stewardship and how you can grow in being a good steward? Here is another principle to ponder. Obey responsibly to glorify God as a faithful proclamation of God's word. We acknowledge our faith and show our faith in the gospel for the glory of God and for the building up of the body of Christ. This takes courage. It involves our life-long obedience, including the ways we treat our families, others and ourselves. "...you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ." 2 Corinthians 9:13

OWLS (Older, Wiser Lutheran's) LUNCHEON

Wednesday, April 10th @12 p.m.



Join us for food, fellowship, and fun with all of the Older Wiser Lutherans! Pastor Kathy and the Huelle's will be our guest speakers. They will do a presentation on their visits to Tanzania. We will have sloppy joes/chips/relishes/dessert.



CLCW MAY MISSION PROJECT: CALVARY KITCHEN SHOWER

A box will be placed in the Reception Area on the table under the CLCW bulletin board next to the narthex doors to receive items needed for the kitchen. The kitchen could use the following: **Paper plates, paper towels, napkins, Styrofoam & plastic cups.** Cash donations are also welcome; be sure to clearly mark them 'Kitchen Shower'. Be sure to designate CLCW on the envelope.



Meeting times & places:



Priscilla Study Group—Monday, April 8 @ 2 p.m. at Vicki Schmidt's Home
Hannah Study Group—Tuesday, April 9 @ 7 p.m. at Becky Martin's Home

Sarah Circle

The ladies will meet April 16th @ noon at Calvary
Come join the ladies every 3rd Tuesday at Noon for Bible Study.
Bring your lunch and join us!

All ladies are invited to join any of these groups.

✚ In Our Thoughts and Prayers ✚

Prayers for healing: **Catherine Rahrs** (major medical issues—Val Rahrs’ mother), **Family of Baby Gideon**, **Larry Spomer** (left knee replacement surgery) **Larry Loeks** (improved health), **Jack Day** (stroke—Lynn Margheim’s brother), **Glenna Linfield** (hospice— Pastor Kathy’s aunt), **Jeremy** (test results—Deb Brown’s son), **Bert Bessey**, **Shelia Colson** (hospital recovery), **Sherrill Miller** (cancer treatment—Travis Miller family) **Butch Feil** (recovering from surgery—Guerrero family), **Leah Nikont** (recovering from surgery), **Drew Selck** (Cancer), **Joni** (stage 4 cancer), **Kathy Johnson** (health issues), **William Gibbs** (Cancer— Larry Gibbs’ brother), **Vicki Schmidt** (cancer treatment), **Patty** (cancer—Jim Dorn’s sister-in-law).

Prayers for comfort and safety: **Zeke Chilcott** (deployed—friend of Marissa Wright), **Jeffery Christeleit** (deployed— Brian & Jodi Christeleit’s son and Jim & Sheila Miller’s grandson).



Pastor Will Voss has retired after serving
in ministry for 35 years!



Shawna Payne	4/1	Bob Zweifel	4/12
Dave Holdt	4/2	Pat Smith	4/20
Lynn Margheim	4/4	Dick Heidingsfelder	4/21
Bill Thomas	4/5	Lindsay Singer	4/21
Greg Gingrich	4/6	Pastor Kathy	4/22
Will Voss	4/6	Ron Wegelin	4/22
Tanner Blumenkamp	4/9	Trinity Burgner	4/28
Ruth Harris	4/9	Barry Bassett	4/28
Monty Copsey	4/9		

Sync Our Church Directory to Your Mobile Device

Now you can sync our church directory directly to your Apple, Android or Kindle Fire device with a FREE app!

Search for other members, and then email, call or text – right from the directory app.

It's Easy!

1. Go to your device’s App Store.
2. Search for Instant Church Directory.
3. Enter your email as it’s listed in our church directory.
4. Follow the directions on screen to complete the login process.



We **ENCOURAGE** every family of Calvary to support our area Food Pantry and Food programs. The pantries provide important services to those in need and can really help aid those families who are less fortunate.

This month’s Food Pantry item:

PANCAKE MIX

This month’s Backpack Program item:

MAC N CHEESE BOWLS

MAY will be:

OATMEAL
PUDDING CUPS

Do you need someone to talk to during these uncertain times? A Stephen minister can be made available to visit with you over the phone. If you are going through a difficult time of any kind, we are ready and able to visit with you. Remember all calls are completely confidential unless you want the pastors to know.

If you or someone you know could use a Stephen Minister, please contact Bill Huelle (631-3389).

We're **here** for you.

HOSPITALIZED? PLEASE LET US KNOW

If you are hospitalized, please contact (or have a friend or family member contact) the church office and let us know so that we can visit and pray with you. Providing pastoral care is an important part of our ministry; however, we cannot visit if we don't know, so please don't hesitate to call or email the church office, so that we can be there for you. Thanks!

Calvary's Church Office Phone number: (308) 632-8023 or 632-8024

Contact the Office by E-mail at: *calvarylutheranscottsbluff@gmail.com*

Send physical mail/offerings to: 17 E. 27th Street, Scottsbluff, NE 69361.

Pastor Kathy Montira (308) 874-6025 *pastorcalvarysb@gmail.com*

Youth & Family Ministry Dir. Angie Hinze: (308) 631-2768 *adhinze@gmail.com*



Deadline for weekly announcements is Wed. at 5 PM. Deadline for monthly Tidings Newsletter is the 20th of each calendar month. Please email your items to Christy in the church office.

Find us on Facebook.

<https://www.facebook.com/calvarylutheranscottsbluff>

WEBSITE

www.calvarylutheranscottsbluff.org

FIND US ONLINE!!!!

Worship videos and bulletins as well as the "Taking Faith Home" inserts are all available on our website.

Just go to www.calvarylutheranscottsbluff.org and click on the worship tab.

Grab & Go Lunch



We are excited to offer this Ministry of Calvary and we are looking for monthly help from the congregation. This can be in the form of a Calvary Board, Calvary Committee, Bible Study, Outside the Church group or group of individuals or any other version of volunteers of at least 3 people! We are hoping that we have created a plan and that no one person/group is overburdened. This will be a year-round project, so with many hands, few have to do heavy lifting.

We have split each month into two tracts - 1. The Organizer Group and 2. The Distributor Group

“ORGANIZER” RESPONSIBILITIES

- This is the Group/Person/Board who will be in charge of the meal plan and the preparation of the lunches--the outreach committee is happy to help provide any assistance that may be needed in meal ideas.
- The Organizer would also prepare-- either the night before or the morning of the date of the Handout and clean up after preparation.
- The lunches need to be sustainable, so if they are not eaten immediately they will still be edible. They do NOT need to be elaborate. At a minimum, we would like to see a main item, a side, and a drink provided. (A dessert, fruit, veg could be provided as well if desired)
- In the beginning, the Outreach budget will cover expenses, so please submit receipts for reimbursement-- we do ask for stewardship in spending---as the program grows and evolves, we may need to look at other means
- The Organizer absolutely can sign up to be the Distributor as well

“DISTRIBUTOR” RESPONSIBILITIES

- This is the group/person in charge of the distribution of the lunches from 12-2 on the day chosen. We need to have at least 2, but there is safety in numbers, so 3 or more is preferable.
- The Distributor will do the final packaging and handout of the meals to the patrons
- Provide and clean up needed--although should really be very little
- This absolutely can also be the “Organizer” group

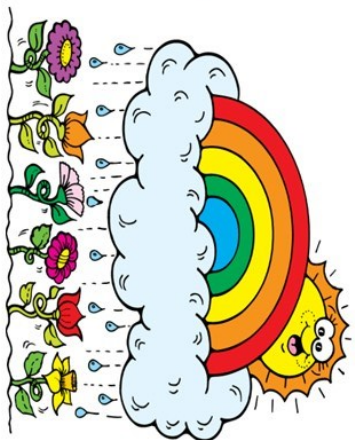
We have provided a sign up sheet outside of the office or at this QR code.

Please sign up with the information for the primary contact of the “group” signing up. Each month the Outreach Committee will coordinate with the contact of each tract on the sign up sheet and provide the advertising. If you have any additional questions, please reach out to Becca at 785.899.6951 or rpierce@bankriverstone.com.






APRIL



2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 11:30am-Council Workshop @ Runza	2 1pm-Quilting	3 5:15 Merrick Walsh's Baptism 5:30pm-JAM 5:45pm-Confirmation 7pm-Choir Practice	4	5	6 5:30pm-Worship
7 10am-Worship 11am-Coffee & Fellowship	8 2pm-Priscilla Cirde @ Weki Schmidt's 6pm-Council	9 1pm-Quilting 7pm-Hannah Cirde @ Becky Martin's	10 12 pm-OWLS Luncheon 5:30pm-JAM 5:30pm-Social Ministry 5:45pm-Confirmation 7pm-Choir Practice	11 11:30am-Exec Mtg	12	13 5:30pm-Worship 9:30-6:30pm Middle School Gathering in Sidney
14 10am-Worship 11am-Coffee & Fellowship Usher & Acolyte Meeting following worship	15 5pm-Elders 6pm-Worship	16 12pm-Sarah Cirde 1pm-Quilting	17 5:30pm-JAM NO Confirmation 7pm-Choir Practice	18	19 	20 9am-Trustees 12-2pm-Laundry Love 5:30pm-Worship
21 10am-Worship 11am-Coffee & Fellowship	22 5pm-Parish Ed 6pm-Stewards	23 1pm-Quilting	24 5:30pm-JAM NO Confirmation 7pm-Choir Practice	25 12-2pm Grab & Go Lunch	26	27 5:30pm-Worship
28 10am-Worship 11am-Coffee & Fellowship	29	30 1pm-Quilting				

WORSHIP ASSISTANT SCHEDULE - APRIL 2024

DATE	TIME	USHERS	LAY READERS	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	POWERPOINT ACOLYTES	MEDIA AUDIO	ALTAR GUILD
April 7 Celebrate Service	10:00 a.m.	Monty & Shari Copsey	Angie Hinze	Barb Jensen (Head) Rick Margheim Lynn Margheim	Matt Payne Jack Judy Max Judy	Chris Jensen Jack Martin	Deb Brown Vicki Howell Tracy Steele Shari Copsey
April 14 Traditional Service	10:30 a.m.	Chris & Barb Jensen	Marti Wegelin	Vicki Howell (Head) Deb Brown Marlene Downer	Mary Jo Huelle Merrick Walsh Dakota Newsom	Maunette Loeks-Van Patten Jeff Van Patten	Andi Dorn Shelly Koehler Allisha Weitzel
April 21 Celebrate Service	10:00 a.m.	Deb Brown & Vicki Howell	Bill Huelle	Jack Martin (Head) Tracy Steele Chris Thomas	Shawna Payne Brynlee Payne Ayden Tompkins	Jeff Van Patten Maunette Loeks-Van Patten	Abby Newsom Maunette Loeks-Van Patten Barb Jensen Nannie Walsh
April 28 Traditional Service	10:00 a.m.	Kent & Dawn Holub	Mary Jo Huelle	Bill Huelle (Head) Abby Newsom Marissa Wright	Andi Dorn Rhyann Buckley Ben Moravec	Chris Jensen Jim Dorn	Deb Brown Vicki Howell Tracy Steele Shari Copsey



If you are unable to serve,
please find a replacement and inform the church office. Thanks!



Calvary Lutheran Church

17 E 27th

Scottsbluff NE, 69361

308-632-8023

www.calvarylutheranscottsbluff.org

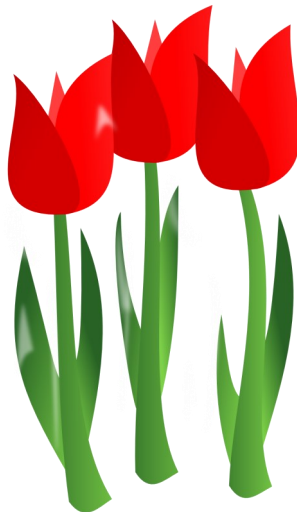
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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



Grow flowers of
gratitude
in the soil of
prayer.

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