



CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH 2024 STEWARDSHIP LETTER

“Get Out of the Boat”. This phrase means different things to different people. In the gospel story found in Matthew, Jesus had gone out ahead of the disciples. Jesus was walking on the water. The disciples thought they were seeing a ghost. About the time that Jesus says, “Have no fear, it is I”, the disciple Peter is out of the boat walking on water towards Jesus, but he begins to sink. This is a great story of faith. It’s a good example of the gospel of Christ that frees us and not the law that burdens us.

Jesus is with us each time we take the leaps of faith that are set before us. Life is just not one even keel, challenge free, experience. It just isn’t. Those leaps are not easy. But in good faith, in our Christian way of understanding, we get out of the boat. We move out of our comfort zones. We move forward in good faith, and Jesus is with us every step of the way. If it feels like we are sinking at times, to be real here, we may be, but at the same time we know, in faith, that Jesus is right there reaching out a hand to save us and deliver us. Jesus is already out of the boat, inviting us to join Him. This can be an incredible, and critical, leap in our faith journey. Jesus has already gone out ahead of us. Jesus is our life jacket, our life preserver. We tend to forget this, and instead, we get caught up in the details and the worries of our days. Jesus is with us, friends. Jesus says, “Have no fear, it is I”. This is the message in our ears, by faith.

This year Calvary is finding itself in a buffer zone and a time out of sorts, a gap if you will, an Interim time together. Jesus is still here. Jesus has not left the scene. We will have our visioning time for Calvary in the months to come but the building of Calvary, the daily ministry of Calvary, continues. You have good people here, young, and old. People are saying, “the energy is back”. There is enthusiasm in the air. Okay, let’s just say that this is mixed in with a little bit of worry and wonder by faith. In the midst of all of this, Jesus says “Have no fear, it is I”

Included in this Stewardship mailing is a copy of your offering gifts total to date. (We challenge you to match this up with your Statement of Intent for this year, 2023), a full schedule of special events for the year, a step giving challenge to grow your giving amount by one step this year, a “Why Give” reflection, and the annual 2024 Statement of Intent for you fill out and bring to the church. Please let us know what your intent to give is for 2024. We set the budget for the next year based off the generosity of our member families at Calvary. If you haven’t done so, we invite you to consider setting up automatic weekly gift giving through your bank just like you do for the monthly utilities in your home. This is an easy faith step to take to partner with your Calvary Church.

We are taking some faith filled steps together during these months to listen to where God is leading Calvary next. At the same time, we embrace the baseline of excellent programs, worship, staffing, and activities already here at Calvary. This next year, 2024, we celebrate 75 years of faith life together at Calvary Lutheran Church. Thank you for your committed partnership for this coming year, for the teamwork, and for your prayers, as we follow Jesus’ invitation to get out of the boat, and with His call, take that stewardship offering gift leap as well.

God bless you,
Pastor Randy Fett,
on behalf of your partners in Christ,
Calvary members, the church council, and staff



Calvary Lutheran Church - Rapid City SD
Giving Step Report: 01/01/2022 - 12/31/2022

Thursday, September 28, 2023

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Giving Range		Total Given	Total Pledged
\$1.00 - \$100.99	Count: 54	\$3,134.24	\$100.00
\$101.00 - \$500.99	Count: 120	\$35,974.12	\$7,566.00
\$501.00 - \$1,000.99	Count: 85	\$63,033.80	\$16,306.00
\$1,001.00 - \$1,500.99	Count: 55	\$68,645.60	\$27,844.00
\$1,501.00 - \$2,000.99	Count: 30	\$53,895.50	\$25,900.00
\$2,001.00 - \$2,500.99	Count: 23	\$53,674.00	\$25,684.00
\$2,501.00 - \$3,000.99	Count: 20	\$56,077.00	\$32,472.00
\$3,001.00 - \$3,500.99	Count: 6	\$19,347.31	\$15,920.00
\$3,501.00 - \$4,000.99	Count: 9	\$35,002.00	\$16,100.00
\$4,001.00 - \$4,500.99	Count: 4	\$17,350.00	\$17,090.00
\$4,501.00 - \$5,000.99	Count: 7	\$34,280.00	\$8,200.00
\$5,001.00 - \$10,000.99	Count: 20	\$135,205.76	\$88,740.00
\$10,001.00 - \$1,999,999.99	Count: 11	\$195,484.81	\$55,300.00

Giving & Pledge selection: For the date range 01/01/2022 to 12/31/2022 - only those who gave and all regardless of pledging

Accounts selected: 1 - General Offering

People where: Includes Members, Visitors.

Also includes: donations individuals, donations groups.

Stewardship 2023

Current Operating Fund Status of Calvary Lutheran Church, Rapid City, SD

Coming off of Summer Months 2023

Income to date \$575,352

Expense to date \$619,777

This represents a (Negative), Deficit balance of \$44,425. This is the real need to be made up from giving to date, in order to catch the church general fund up.

Calvary Family Challenge: If each family was to give a gift of \$!25 over and above regular offering giving at this time, it would erase the operating expense debt that we are left with, coming off of the summer months.