
CALVARY COMMENT

May 2026

Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
English District

208 Woods Drive
Mechanicsburg, PA 17050

The Rev. Luke T. Zimmerman, Pastor

Church Office: 717.697.9771

Email:
CalvaryLutheranChurch@verizon.net

Parish Web Site:
www.calvarymechanicsburg.org

UPCOMING DATES

Saturday, June 6

Foundry Day Evangelism Event
Boiling Springs, PA

Sunday, June 7

Summer Sunday School begins

Friday, June 19

Youth Group Barbecue: 5:30pm

Saturday, June 27

Clothes Closet Event: 11:00am—12:30pm

Saturday—Thursday, July 18–23

LCMS Convention
Phoenix, AZ

Sunday, August 2

Voters Assembly Meeting: 12:15pm

Tuesday–Thursday, August 4–6

Continuing Education Course

Sunday, August 30

Summer Sunday School ends

Sunday, September 13

2026–2027 Sunday School Year begins

Shout for joy. Sing. These commands are given to us on the Sundays in the latter portion of Eastertide. In the One-Year Lectionary that we are currently using, each Sunday has a pre-Reformation Latin name. These names primarily come from the antiphons—opening statements—of the Introit for the Divine Service held on that day. Within Eastertide are Sundays called *Jubilate* (“shout for joy”) and *Cantate* (“sing”).

Though we are using Entrance Hymns instead of the Introits during Eastertide, we can refer to those liturgical texts for the 4th and 5th Sundays of Easter, which fall on April 26 and May 3 this year:

Jubilate: *Shout for joy to God, all the earth. Alleluia.*
Sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise! Alleluia.

Cantate: *Sing to the LORD a new song, Alleluia,*
for he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.
Alleluia.

These directives from the Psalter are issued, so that God’s activities are recognized by those who have benefitted from His work. Praise is to be offered for the activities that the LORD performed that displayed His glory and revealed His righteousness.

Chief among those activities is what Jesus accomplished through His death and resurrection. Those events are the great demonstration of glory and righteousness to the world. They become the content of the Church’s universal proclamation, as the Risen Christ commands: “*Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.*” (Mk 16:15) And further: “*Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.*” (Lk 24:46–47)

We are recipients of that gospel. We have heard what the LORD has done for us. We benefit from the results of divine action exercised for us. Christ’s death and resurrection have brought us salvation. Righteousness is given to us. Glorification is established as our blessed future. That’s the news brought to our hearing, which becomes our confession of faith: “*If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.*” (Ro 10:9–10)

Realizing what the LORD has done for us becomes the foundation for our shouting for joy and singing to Him. These Sundays later in Eastertide remind us that the news of Christ’s death and resurrection isn’t contained to Holy Week or a couple weeks after Easter Sunday. The Church’s exuberant worship goes on. So join in the shouts of joy and the glad singing that will be part of our Sundays throughout May. For the message of Easter is reason to celebrate: “*The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!*”

LADIES AID SOCIETY/LWML NEWS

NEXT MEETING: Our monthly meeting will be held on **Saturday, May 16 at 9:30am** in the Education Wing meeting room.

We will begin with Pastor leading us in the Bible Study from the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* Spring issue entitled "Who Is My Neighbor and What Does This Mean?" by Alice Schuman. This is in keeping with the theme this quarter of Mercy and Compassion. A short business meeting will follow. After adjournment, Kay Ardner will be demonstrating our Luo Pad project and other projects as time permits.

All ladies of Calvary are welcome. Hope to see you there!

CALVARY MEN COMING TOGETHER

"In all your ways acknowledge [the LORD], and he will make straight your paths." (Pr 3:6)

So where are you in your daily walk with Jesus? What path are you on? The path of daily devotions with *Portals of Prayer* as your way opens daily walking with Jesus—an opportunity of acknowledging Him in that new day He gives. Copies of *Portals of Prayer* are available in the Narthex.

Also, check out the Men Coming Together bulletin board in the Social Hall. It is intended to be a source of encouragement along paths.

Our next Men Coming Together meeting is **Saturday, May 23 at 9:29am**. Come and share where you are in your daily walk with Jesus. Are you on a new path?

The mowing teams came together for a training session on April 18. Thanks to leaders Jim Wicker and Brandon Smith. These teams are acknowledging an important calling: *"The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it."* (Ge 2:15)

CALVARY YOUTH NEWS

The Calvary Youth Board has developed a schedule of events for youth members of the congregation for the remainder of 2026:

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| MAY 2 | Participate in Church Cleanup Day
(Breakfast at 8:00am. Cleaning starts at 9:00am.) |
| JUN 19 | End of School Year Barbecue
(Event runs 5:30pm—10:00pm. Rain Date is JUN 26.) |
| JUL 17–18 | Summer Lock-In
(More details to come closer to the event.) |
| AUG 15 | Youth Family Picnic Day at Knoebel's
(More details to come closer to the event.) |
| SEP 26 | Movie Afternoon
(Event runs 2:00pm—4:30pm) |
| DEC 19 | Christmas Party
(5:00pm start time.) |

Other service events including working at New Hope Ministries food pantry and Christmas caroling will be announced in the future.

ASCENSION DAY SERVICE & ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Mount Calvary Lutheran Church of Lititz, PA (308 Petersburg Road) welcomes her sister congregation, Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church of Mechanicsburg, PA to celebrate the Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord with us on **Thursday, May 14 at 7:00pm**.

Join us as we rejoice in our Lord who has conquered death and hell, and now reigns victoriously, upon whose return we anxiously await.

An ice cream social will be held immediately following the Divine Service.



SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED

Calvary is seeking parishioners to teach one or two Sunday School sessions throughout the summer.

Two volunteers are needed each Sunday to assist one another. All lessons and materials will be provided.

A sign-up sheet will be in the Narthex.

If you have any questions, please contact Briana Smith [717-609-3824 or briana9marie@gmail.com].

MAY 2026 MOWING TEAMS

APR 30–MAY 2: TEAM 2

Chacha Mwita, Patrick LeFevers, Chris Kaufman

MAY 7–9: TEAM 3

Andrew Settle, Trent Dietrich, Jim Mason

MAY 14–16: TEAM 4

Diane Rosenberg, Dave Rosenberg, Brandon Smith

MAY 21–23: TEAM 1

Tom Watson, Bill Schirmer, David Knych

MAY 28–30: TEAM 2

Chacha Mwita, Patrick LeFevers, Chris Kaufman

Thank you for helping to maintain the property that our Lord has entrusted to our congregation!

PARISH CASH FLOW SUMMARY

January 1–March 31, 2026

INCOME

General Offering	\$ 82,132.15
Mission Offering	10,945.25
Building Fund	3,916.25
Plate Offering	734.41
Memorials	104.90
My Neighbor Fund	0.00
1-1-1 Project	161.51
Initial Offering	230.00
Church Seasonal Service Offerings	1,603.00
Building Use	0.00
Refunds	0.00
Other Income	3,312.84
Thrivent Choice Dollars	90.00
Lutheran Witness Subscriptions	273.15
Sunday School	0.00
Youth Group	0.00
Endowment Fund	524.88
Capital Improvement	4.90

TOTAL INCOME **\$ 104,033.24**

EXPENDITURES

Pastoral Expenses	\$ 25,543.57
Personnel Expenses	10,264.92
Real Estate Expenses	22,651.70
Operating Expenses	17,471.40
Ministry Expenses	996.24
Mission Expenses	5,800.00
Mortgage Expenses	12,733.49
Non-Budgeted Expenses	287.36

TOTAL EXPENDITURES **\$ 95,748.68**

NET CASH FLOW **\$ 8,284.56**

Full financial reports are provided to congregational members at the quarterly Voters Assembly meetings.



MILITARY SHARE PROGRAM

Our Military Share food distributions continue on the third Wednesday of each month. In April, we served 50 families totaling 137 people. Our numbers change monthly based on individual family situations.

EQUIPMENT RESUPPLY

The Military Share Program has an ongoing need for plastic grocery bags. Please continue to place your bags in the purple tubs near the Honor Wall.

DONATIONS RECEIVED AND GIVEN

Operation Barnabas has recently received a donation from a congregation member. We are grateful for all donations that we receive from our members.

Our Chapter recently donated three large bags of quilts to Orphan Grain Train.

ADOPT-A-CHAPLAIN PROGRAM

The Operation Barnabas Committee continues to encourage the congregation to support Chaplain Aaron Bell through regular communication and prayer.

Please consider sending a note of encouragement.

Chaplain Bell's Personal Email: naphshi@gmail.com

Military Email: aaron.bell@marines.usmc.mil

CLOTHES CLOSET EVENT – JUNE 27

Calvary's Clothes Closet will open once again to hold a distribution event on **Saturday, June 27** to continue our mission to serve our community.

Your past help has been appreciated so much, whether that has been donating clothing or hours of work to set up and sort. Your help is needed once again.

Our focus will be on providing summer clothing to our neighbors. Donations have started to come in. Thank you for all who have already contributed.

If you would like to volunteer with this effort, please call Polly Pass at (717-579-0296).

Watch for more information about this outreach in the church bulletins.

ARMED FORCES SUNDAY LUNCHEON

Calvary's Operation Barnabas Committee and Board of Evangelism will host an Armed Forces Sunday luncheon on **May 17**. This event will follow the Divine Service. More details about the luncheon will be posted in the Narthex.

VOTERS ASSEMBLY MEETING – MAY 3

Calvary's Voters Assembly will convene on **Sunday, May 3 at 12:15pm**. This is the regular meeting for the 2nd Quarter of 2026.

Agenda items for this meeting include:

- Discussion of the Finance Committee's 2025 internal review report.
- Consideration of a revised constitution and bylaws (2nd required vote for adoption).

All voting members are encouraged to attend.

CALVARY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

208 Woods Drive

Mechanicsburg, PA 17050

Address Service Requested



Next *Calvary Comment* Deadline is Sunday, May 24, 2026.

Please send info to CalvaryComment@Verizon.net.

APRIL 2026 CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

The Church Council took the following actions on April 13:

- Received the Finance Committee's internal review report of 2025 financial records, which will be transmitted to the Voters Assembly at its May 3 meeting.
- Reviewed the Treasurer's Report for January 1–March 31, 2026. Note was made of the higher utility costs due to the winter temperatures being colder than average.
- Advised the Financial Secretary that the number of offering envelopes being purchased is necessary for the current giving units.
- Heard plans from various Boards about activities in the 2nd & 3rd Quarters of 2026, including:
 - Lawn Mowing Team Safety Training on April 18
 - Youth Parent Planning Meeting on April 19
 - Church Cleanup Day on May 2
 - Armed Forces Sunday Luncheon on May 17
 - Foundry Day Evangelism Booth in Boiling Springs, PA on June 6
- Appointed Briana Smith to serve on the Youth Board.
- Scheduled the next Church Council meeting for June 8 at 6:30pm.



YOUR CHANGE

changes lives

JOIN US AS WE PARTICIPATE IN A BABY BOTTLE BLAST TO BENEFIT CAPITAL AREA PREGNANCY CENTER.

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS WILL HELP PROVIDE ULTRASOUNDS, BIBLES, CRIBS, AND NECESSARY COUNSELING MATERIALS TO HELP PROMOTE LIFE!

PICK UP A BOTTLE ON MOTHER'S DAY (MAY 10), FILL IT WITH YOUR CHANGE, BILLS, OR CHECKS, AND BRING IT BACK ON FATHER'S DAY (JUNE 21).

The 2026 CAPC Baby Bottle Blast will soon be here.

Look for the display in the Narthex, beginning on May 10.