

**CALVIN  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**

177 Glendale Drive  
Long Lake, MN 55356

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gmail.com

*calvinchurch.net*

We have **fresh flower arrangements** on the altar table! If you are interested in signing up for flowers, please call Tammy Wenz at 612-384-9520 or email her at [tammywenz@aol.com](mailto:tammywenz@aol.com), to check on available dates. The cost is \$35/arr., and payment can be made by sending a check to the church payable to Calvin. If you wish, you will be able to pick up your flowers after the recording of the Sunday service.

**DEADLINES:**

**Calvin Connection**

3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month

**Sunday Bulletin**

Thursdays at 10am

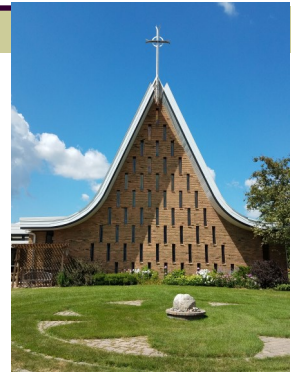
*Email articles and/or announcements for the Calvin Connection & Sunday bulletins to the church office.*

**PASTORAL CARE**

Along with Pastor John, Calvin's Parish Associate, Rev. Dwight Chamberlain, is available for any pastoral care needs that may arise

He can be reached by calling the church and leaving a message, or by calling him directly at (952) 937-6160

# Calvin Connection



**January 2023**

## The Journey With Pastor John

Happy New Year!

Christians, at least since I have been one, have debated the morality and Biblical-ness of making New Year's resolutions. To the best of my knowledge (while I admit I do not know EVERYTHING there is to know about the text of the Old and New Testament, I do have a Doctorate in Biblical studies) there is no mention of the term in the Bible. Of course, there's no mention of a lot of other things that we argue about in the Bible, either!

So here's my take: the main text I see used to argue about NOT making New Year's resolutions is one where it is said to not swear to things and let your no be no and your yes yes. It's in Matthew, and the idea is that one should have integrity. Don't make promises you KNOW you're not going to keep. Even to yourself.

But. If your New Year's Resolutions are realistic (like don't say that your resolution is to NEVER eat chocolate again if you know darn well it's your favorite dessert!) and are good for you and others then I think they may be a good thing. At least from a motivational perspective. I mean, if you hate resolutions and you know already that you're going to rebel against your own intentions just because you made one...then don't do it!

**Continued on back page**

The church received a package in the mail this week. It was a very nice note from Beth Davis, the daughter of Leon and Dee Gladish.



Leon Gladish was one of the first pastors at Calvin. Enclosed was two plates with a picture of the church on them. The card is in the Fireside room if you'd like to see it.

12/21/22

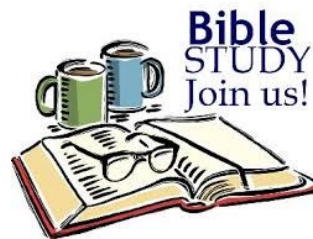
Greetings,  
I came across these plates as I was sorting through some of my mother's things. My mother is Dee Gladish. My father, Leon, was the minister at Calvin when it was first started. My mom has recently moved into assisted living at 92! They always remembered their years there with great fondness.

## PNC Update

The PNC continues to review Pastor Information Forms (PIF) and meets to discuss candidate qualifications. The committee has reviewed all the PIFs identified through the computer matching process. New PIFs continue to arrive through a process of self-referral. All candidates are ranked and the highest rated candidates are contacted via email to determine if they wish to have a conversation with the PNC via phone or internet.

## Ruth/M & M Circle

Will be gathering Thursday January 12th at 1:30pm at the church or by zoom for a hybrid gathering.



The topic of study will be "Sabbath and Surrender"

## Huge thank you to Tammy Wenz and Teri Wood for a wonderful children's Christmas program!



## Clerks Highlights of Regular December Session Meeting, 2022.

Four Session members attended the meeting together with the Pastor, Clerk, and the Treasurer.

1. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all from the Clerk of Session.
2. The Annual Meeting of the Congregation of Calvin Presbyterian Church of Orono will be held January 22, 2023, immediately following the morning worship Service, in the Sanctuary, to transact the usual business of hearing reports and electing officers and such other business as may properly come before such meeting.
3. The Annual Reports for 2022 will be available on January 15 from the church office.
4. The Session adopted the Budget for the church for 2023 with projected receipts and disbursements as follows:
  - \* Receipts \$187,147
  - \* Disbursements \$222,572
5. The Session will be meeting starting January of 2023 to formulate plans for future programs of the church.



Please direct any questions to the Clerk of Session at Church via email or phone message.

Walter Baker,  
Clerk of Session



Men's Breakfast will be the first Wednesday of the month, January 4th at 8:30am at Perkins off Highway 394 by Menards

### ADULT ADUCATION CLASS Led by Rev. Dwight Chamberlain

We will meet again in January after a Christmas Break  
We will resume our lessons on the Psalms on Sunday January 8th in the fellowship hall at 9:00am.

The next 4 Psalms will be:

Psalm 16: Beautiful promises & prophecies fulfilled in Christ  
Psalm 19: God's Word in Creation, God's Word in Scripture  
Psalm 22: David's Cry of Anguish & Christ's Suffering on the Cross  
Psalm 23: The Lord is my Shepherd" & His personal care for us

You are welcome to come and study God's Word with us.

## Birthdays

Val Hagan	4th
Todd Wood	7th
Pam VandeVegte	14th
Debbie Baker	15th
Miki Banavige	16th
Joel Wenz	24th
Jay Gagner	24th
Lily Carver	26th
Pat King	27th



# Christmas Eve Children's Message



## Church Volunteers are needed!

- ♦ Liturgists
- ♦ Greeters
- ♦ Kitchen Clean Up

**Offering your time and skills is an act of**



**Continued from front page.**

Find a different way to motivate yourself! But if they work for you – or even if you want to give it a shot – do it! Just do it with integrity.

And realize that you are human. You are not God. God is God, and you are not. You WILL make mistakes. You will mess up. You will skip leg day. You will eat a donut. Forgive yourself, just as God does, and move on. The thing is...God loves you just the way you are. But He loves you too much to let you stay that way. He always, ALWAYS, wants you to grow and be a better human being! If New Years' Resolutions help – GREAT! If they don't, don't use them! GREAT! Follow God and do your best. That's all He ever asks of us.

I hope you all have a fabulous New Year!!

In Christ,  
Pastor John