

October 2023

**CALVIN
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

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Long Lake, MN 55356

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**October
Birthdays**

Oct 1 Martha Brown
Oct 5 Brooke Shirley
Oct 11 Beth Potter
Reggie Rettinger
Oct 15 Allie Shirley
Oct 16 Rob Wenz

**Calvin Connection
deadline:**

Third Friday of the
month

**Sunday Bulletin
announcements dead-
line:** Thursdays at 10am

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

Calvin Connection



Time With TJ

Ordination in the PC(USA) is a long and arduous process and many church members are unaware of everything that it entails. So, with my ordination approaching, I thought it would be an appropriate time to share with you what this undertaking looked like for me.

First, are the educational requirements. If you heard my sermon a couple of weeks ago, you will remember that to receive a Master of Divinity, the degree necessary for ordination in the PC(USA), you need to earn about three times the credit hours to most other master's degrees. I was required by the Presbytery of Charlotte to take classes, and show proficiency, in Greek and Hebrew languages, exegesis in Greek and Hebrew, introductions to Old and New Testaments, Reformed Theology, Worship and Sacraments, Preaching, and Polity. Columbia Theological Seminary, where I attended, also required classes in Pastoral Care, Christian Education, and Church History. The summer between my first and second year of seminary, I served as a resident chaplain at a local hospital, completing the first unit of Clinical Pastoral Education, and the summer between my second and third year, I interned at a local church.

Apart from the educational requirements, there are requirements from the presbytery which the potential minister is under care. Each presbytery can have slightly different requirements, but they are mostly standardized. For the presbytery of Charlotte, I first had to be a member of a church in the presbytery for six months. After that six months, the session of the church I was a member, Sardis Presbyterian Church, questioned me and decided whether or not to endorse me for ministry.

Upon their approval, I then became an inquirer with the presbytery and was brought under care of the presbytery's Committee on Preparation for Ministry. You must be an inquirer for at least a year. During that year, I was required to take the Bible Content Exam, which asks questions like "From which book of the Bible is this certain verse" or "Put these kings of Israel in chronological order." Now, one only needs to answer 70 of the 100 questions correctly, but when I took the exam, I needed to have 85 correct answers. In the inquiry phase, I also took an in-depth psychological examination and assessment, which spanned about 12 hours in total.

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Orono Schools COMMUNITY EDUCATION

The Orono SPARKS after school program is starting again soon! Our goal is to find what sparks each student's interests and motivation to learn and to surround them with caring adults that can ignite that flame! Licensed teachers and site coordinator will manage this program with the help of adult and high school age volunteers from the community.

Volunteers provide academic help for kindergarten through 8th grade students. Tuesday and/or Thursday afternoons at Calvin. Middle school students are from 3-5pm, elementary students from 4-5pm.

How can our congregation help? SPARKS need volunteers; consider participating even one day a week or as a substitute. Contact Genna Torney at #952-449-8338 x6350 or genna.torney@orono.k12.mn.us

Music Updates

There is a new and updated job posting for a director of music at Calvin. Check out the website to learn more about this position.

Church volunteers are needed!

- * Liturgists
- * Greeters
- * Kitchen Clean-Up
- * Nursery Attendants

You can sign up for these in the Gathering Hall



Rummage Sale

The Calvin Women's Association is pleased to announce the **Fall Rummage and Bake Sale** will start on October 4, 2023. This popular community event sale will have expanded hours. On Wednesday, October 4th, we will be offering a Pre-Sale to the public with a \$3 entry fee from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM. We will waive the \$3 entry fee for Calvin members. On Thursday October 5th, the church will be open to the community from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM. On Friday October 6th, the hours will be from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM with all items half price. Saturday October 7th from 9:00 to Noon will be "bag day" for all you can fit into a bag for a flat fee of \$5.00

Church members can start bringing rummage on Wednesday, September 27th through Monday, October 2nd, from 9 am - noon. Bake sale items will be accepted on Monday & Tuesday, October 2nd & 3rd from 9 am - noon.

This year we already have a garage full of treasures, so volunteers are needed for set-up starting on Monday, September 25th - October 2nd (9 am - noon) for organizing & pricing. October 4th - October 7th, we need volunteers to work at the sale, and finally, clean-up on Saturday, October 7th starting at Noon. A sign-up sheet will be available in the Gathering Hall in September. Call Tammy at 612-384-9520 with any questions, or to find out more about volunteer opportunities.

Men's Breakfast

Men's Breakfast will be on the first Wednesday of the month, October 4th at 8:30 a.m. at Perkins off Highway 394 by Menards. All the men of the church are invited to join us for food, fellowship and devotional.

Ruth / M&M Circle

Will begin gathering again starting Thursday Oct 12 at 1:30 at the church or on zoom for a hybrid gathering.

PW Association

The Calvin Women's Association will be the hostesses for the Fall Gathering of PW's from the Presbytery on October 14. We are honored to offer our church as the meeting site, but will need help from all the women of the church. The Gathering will be from 9 am to 3 pm, with a morning presentation by the Rev. Anita Cummings of Stillwater. The afternoon speakers will be Dr. Carol Nelson from the Rural Health Care Initiative in Sierra Leone, Africa and Ellen Schreder from Mango Farms Community in Haiti. We would love to have some Calvin Women sign up to attend the Gathering: the cost is \$15 and includes your lunch.

We will have a sign up sheet for this event in the hallway. We need people to attend, most of all, but also need a few people to serve lunch...maybe some men of the church?

Adult Education

Led by Rev. Dwight Chamberlain

Adult Education meets each Sunday Morning in the Fellowship Hall at 9:00 a.m.

Everyone is Welcome!

In October we will finish our lessons on King David, and begin our lessons on special Psalms.

The next special Psalms we will study are:

Psalm 20—David's Song of Trust in God in the Troubles and Trials of Life

Psalm 21—David's Song of Thanksgiving for Victory and God's Help in the Troubles and Trials of Life

Psalm 22—A Psalm of the Crucifixion. A vivid and prophetic description of what happened when Jesus was dying on the Cross.

Psalm 23—"The Lord is my Shepherd" A favorite Psalm for everyone

Psalm 24—This Psalm is fulfilled by Jesus on Palm Sunday.

Handbells

Handbell practices are Monday, October 9, 16, 23 & 30 at 10 am. If you have interest in joining our fun ding-a-ling group, please join us! Contact Tammy Wenz with any questions.



PRAYER CHAIN

Our active prayer chain stands ready to pray for you and others - always!

Call, text, or e-mail requests to Donna Fike (231) 620-3029 or tcfikes@gmail.com

or call the church at (952) 473-5419.

Trunk or Treat

Mark your calendars! Saturday, October 28th from 10am-1pm we are doing Trunk or Treat at Calvin in the parking lot! We will be a stop on the City of Long Lake's Safe trick or treating event that day. Decorate your trunk and have candy for kids who stop by!



Looking ahead...

We are doing a service project at Feed My Starving Children in Chanhassen on Saturday, November 18, 2023 from 11:30am – 1:15pm with First Presbyterian of Maple Plain. Email Amy Feldkamp at amwenz93@gmail.com if you would like to attend or use this link to sign up! <http://www.fmssc.org/join-group?joincode=890D4L>



Youth News:

We enjoyed making stepping stones with the kids on Rally Sunday.



First Day of school Photos



October 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4 9am-6pm Rummage Sale 8:30 am Men's Breakfast	5 9am-6pm Rummage Sale	6 9am-3pm Rummage Sale	7 9am-12pm Rummage Sale
8 9am Adult Education 10am Worship/ Sunday school 11:00 Children's Choir	9 10am Handbells	10 3-5pm SPARKS	11	12 1:30 pm Circle 3-5 Sparks	13	14
15 9am Adult Education 10am Worship/ Sunday school 11:00 Children's Choir 3:00pm Pastor TJ Ordination/ Installation	16 10am Handbells	17 3-5pm SPARKS 7:00pm Session	18	19 1:00pm Gloria Purnick Funeral	20	21
22 9am Adult Education 10am Worship/ Sunday school 11:00 Children's Choir	23 10am Handbells	24 3-5pm SPARKS	25	26 3-5pm SPARKS	27	28 10am-1pm Halloween Event
29 9am Adult Education 10am Worship/ Sunday school 11:00 Children's Choir	30 10am Handbells	31 3-5pm SPARKS				

Connect with us!



PASTORAL CARE

Along with Pastor TJ, 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

Flowers

We all love having **fresh flower arrangements** on the altar! If you are interested in signing up for flowers, please call Tammy Wenz at 612-384-9520 or email her at tammywenz@aol.com, or check he calendar in the back of the sanctuary 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 Sunday service.

Continued from cover:

After a year of being an inquirer, I applied to become a candidate. I first had to present my statement of faith to my session, and they had to endorse that I was ready to move to the next step in the ordination process. Once I was approved by session, I then presented my statement of faith, as well as a 5,000 word essay articulating a clear understanding of Reformed theology, as a part of the required interview. Then, Charlotte's CPM voted to recommend me as a candidate for ministry. After this, I submitted my statement of faith to the entire Presbytery of Charlotte and made a presentation regarding my call to ministry at a presbytery meeting. The presbytery was then able to ask whatever questions they wanted. After they voted, I then became a candidate.

Candidacy for ministry takes at least another year to complete. During this time, I had to complete Sexual Misconduct Prevention Training, Anti-Racism Training, and a Financial Planning Workshop. I also had to take, and pass, ordination exams in Polity, Theology, Worship and Sacraments, and Biblical Exegesis. The first three sections are given on three consecutive days, each exam taking eight hours to complete. I wrote almost 10,000 words over those three days. Five days are allowed for the Biblical Exegesis exam, during which I had to write six essays demonstrating knowledge and ability to examine a biblical text in the original language and historical context and apply it to today. After these classes and tests were completed, I met again with the CPM, providing them with a 2,500 word essay reflecting on the PC(USA)'s ordination vows, and I underwent another hour and a half of examination.

Finally, after all of that, I was able to begin applying to churches. I will spare you the details of that process, but, needless to say, it is much more complicated than most other job searches. After I was called here, there were even more steps to take. I met with the Committee on Ministry of the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area (a different committee than CPM) and was interviewed about my fitness for this position. Then, they recommended me to the entire presbytery. On Tuesday, September 12, I presented my statement of faith to and entertained questions from the floor of this presbytery. I was then approved for ordination. I will take my final step in this long journey when I am ordained and installed as the pastor of Calvin Presbyterian Church on October 15 at 3:00 pm. You are an important part of this process, so I hope you will come to celebrate with me and experience this next big step in Calvin's ministry and history.