



CALVARY COURIER

Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church

February 2026

Jesus Rebukes

Simon's mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever. They asked him to help her. He stood over her, rebuked the fever, and it left her.

Luke 4:38-39

Simon Peter's mother-in-law was sick, terribly ill. She was confined to her bed. This was not just a simple sniffle or cough. This was a cannot get out of bed I have such a fever that I can barely move and I might not even be fully aware of what is going on illness.

Jesus teaches us a couple of truths with the illness to Peter's mother-in-law. The first is the way he treats the illness. Notice the word that Luke uses to heal Peter's mother-in-law. **He stood over her, rebuked the fever...** He did not simply heal the illness. He rebuked it. Just like he rebuked the demons earlier on in the day. It's important for us to know this important truth, namely, that any kind of pain that we suffer, Satan will use to drive a wedge between us and God.

Everyone suffers in this life. We all have illness and sickness. Our bodies are all subject to decay. We have trials and disappointments. However, for the Christian, we have Satan working to use these pains to drive us away from God. The unbeliever and the believer can both have difficult illnesses that can cause them to end up in the hospital. They can both be put on a ventilator. Satan will use that struggle to lead the Christian away from God. He can also use it drive a wedge between us and others around us. Both believers and unbelievers can struggle with depression and anxiety. However, Satan is going to use anything to make the believer to doubt that God cares about him or is with him.

When things don't go our way, when our recovery is longer than we expect, when it meets setbacks and failures, when life does not seem to match the joyful expectations that we had, we can turn our anger at each other. We can turn our anger on God. We can turn our anger inward on ourselves. We can also let fear and worry run rampant in our lives. We can find other sinful solutions to distract us from our anger, worry, or fear. Don't be unaware of the devil's schemes; he wants to find anyway to rip apart your relationship with God and with one another.

That's why it is important to see the other truth here. Jesus did not just snap his fingers and Peter's mother-in-law. He bent over where she was. He got down on her level. In that moment, the only person that appeared to truly matter to Jesus was Peter's mother-in-law. Too often today, we may feel like we are just another number or just another person in the hospital. We seem like just

another birth date or case study. Not to Jesus. Though he fills the whole universe, though he knows everything. He comes in a sits down with you, as you hear his Word. As you pray to him, you are the only person on his agenda, as he hears your thanksgiving, praise, and requests. You are not just another number, another person, another faceless person. You are his dearly loved child. He has all the time in the world for you to remind you of the love he has personally given you. He has all the time in the world to show you how he has taken on all your illness and discomforts. He has all the time on his agenda to show how he has taken your place for all the anger, fear and worry. He is your personal Savior from sin, Satan, and illness itself. It does not matter, if you are in a meeting, going out to fix the machines, sipping coffee with your friends or you are by yourself, or if you sitting in the doctor's office, he is with you to strengthen you and remind you of how he has sent your personal demons away.

As he rebuked the demons and the illnesses, he sends your personal demons and the devil packing back to where they came from with his almighty power. When it comes to your own life, God wants you to see the demons that are driving a wedge between you and God and between you and each other. Before you lash out in anger, before you throw up your hands in despair, before you lose sleep with worry and anxiety, focus on how the devil is using these challenges in your life to ruin your relationship with God and your brothers and sisters in Christ. Rebuke them. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Stand in the power that God had to silence the demons. Stand firm in the fight. With the help of Christ, you will stand firm in victory.

Pastor Martin Spaude

Upcoming Events

NO MORNINGS WITH MOMMY IN FEB!

Quarterly Voters' Meeting - Sunday, February 1st after the church service.

Guinea Pig Potluck and Bingo on Sunday, February 1st at 4PM

McCormick Stillman Train Park outing — Sunday, February 22nd

HELLO February

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There was lots to love at our first session of 2026, "Red, Hearts & Valentine's Day" during our early Valentine's Day celebration! We heard about God's great love for us in sending His Son, and how He takes care of us each and every day in Pastor Spaude's opening devotion. We sang "Jesus Loves Me" and read a book about ways that we can show Christian love to one another during circle time. The little loves enjoyed pretend play with felt pieces of sweets and chocolate boxes and even "sent" valentines to their friends and family at our toy mailbox in our fine motor skills center. The biggest hit, as always, was the sensory bin which was filled with Valentine-themed baking items. We ended with a sweet treat of heart-shaped cookies for the sweethearts.

We will be celebrating an early Easter at our next session "Easter & Eggs-Jesus is Risen" on **Tuesday, March 3rd at 10AM**. Registration for our sessions does fill up quickly so be sure to reserve your spot as soon as possible if you would like to join in on the fun. If you are able to volunteer your time and God-given talents at our sessions, please reach out to our Director Bridget Spaude.



Calvary's Mission Statement

As members of this congregation, our constant aim is to share the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ with all people based on the inspired, infallible Holy Scriptures and to exemplify our faith through Christian living commissioned by our Savior.



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Chandler, AZ 85224
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www.calvarychandler.net
Worship: 6PM Saturday
9AM Sunday

Calvary's Church Leaders

Pastor Martin Spaude 602-903-0035

Pastor Roger Sprain 480-330-9269

President: Nathan Traudt 720-354-1951

Secretary: Kenneth Marks 480-550-1442

Financial Secretary: David Kultala 480-363-6297

Treasurer: George Grafakos 480-938-0920

Evangelism/Stewardship Director: Phillip Cross 480-370-0549

Education Director: Tim Tucker 269-808-3566

Property Director: Pete Sachs 602-576-5299

February Worship

Use this Schedule to Prepare Yourself

January 31 & February 1

Epiphany 4

Theme: An important epiphany for both individuals and churches: Popularity is not proof of success. The gospel of forgiveness is to be the center of all our preaching and teaching.

Liturgy: Service of the Word & Sacrament

Psalm 71

Lessons: Jeremiah 1:4-10; 2 Timothy 3:14—4:5; Luke 4:38-44

Hymns: Blue: 908, 901, 899, 874 (note this has 3 verses, where 289 has 2)

Red: ---, 570, ---, 289

February 7 & 8

Epiphany 5

Theme: Though the world may look down on us, Jesus chose us to be his own and has called us blessed.

Liturgy: Service of the Word

Psalm 1

Lessons: Exodus 19:1-8a; 1 Peter 2:9-12; Matthew 5:13-20

Hymns: Blue: 619, 816, 799, 849

Red: 235, 446, 414, 439

February 14 & 15

Last Sunday after Epiphany—Transfiguration of Our Lord

Theme: On top the mountain Jesus gave his disciples a glimpse of his glory as the Son of God. Jesus went down the mountain to go to Calvary and die for us. This glimpse of Jesus' glory prepares us for Lent.

Liturgy: The Common Service with Communion

Psalm 2

Lessons: Exodus 24:9-18; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9

Hymns: Blue: 389, 388, 390, 522

Red: 95, 97, 712, 369

February 18

Ash Wednesday

Theme: God worked salvation for us, provided a Savior, called us to repentance and promised forgiveness.

Zechariah 1:1-6 Return to Me!

Hymns: Blue: 657, 651, ---, 654

Red: ---, ---, 390, 304

February 21 & 22

Lent 1

Theme: Jesus came to this world to be our substitute. He defeated all Satan's temptations where we could not. But he did that for us so that the Father sees us as having never fallen to the tempter.

Liturgy: Service of the Word

Psalm 46

Lessons: Genesis 3:1-15; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4: 1-11

Hymns: Blue: 556, 863, 836, 842

Red: 378, 200, 431, 422

February 25

Midweek Lent 2

Theme: Scattered Sheep! Zechariah 13:7-9

Hymns: Blue: 867, 526, 523, 797

Red: ---, 120, ---, 403

Psalm 73

February 28 & March 1

Lent 2

Theme: We receive salvation through faith in Jesus as our Savior. This faith is God's gift given to us through the gospel.

Liturgy: Service of the Word & Sacrament

Psalm 121

Lessons: Genesis 12:1-8; Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17

Hymns: Blue: 613, 570, 429, 811

Red: ---, 391, 105, 402



Sunday out at the Train Park

What: Come and socialize with our church family while having a picnic lunch (there are picnic tables and benches available) and riding some trains.

The Traudt family, as members of the Scottsdale Live Steamers, - will run an arboretum scale train with the church friends as our private guests. This is a 7.5 in wide railroad and passengers of all ages ride single file.

For free the park has model railroad building (Lionel, HO, N, Z Scales), a full size train museum featuring the passenger car used by several US presidents including President Eisenhower and also a nice kids playground.

<http://www.scottsdalelivesteamers.com/> <https://www.therailroadpark.com/>

For \$3 a ride the park also has a 16in gauge steam train and a carousel.

When: Sunday February 22nd – Leave Calvary after Sunday School/Bible Class and arrive at the park around noon.

Where: McCormick Stillman Train Park - 7301 E. Indian Bend Rd., Scottsdale, AZ 85250

Meet at the Arboretum Railroad on the east side of the Model Train building.

Please talk to Nate or Rachel to RSVP.



February Worship – Identity Revealed

Our worship services in February will follow this pattern:

Jan. 31 & Feb. 1: Epiphany 4

Jesus Calls You Blessed

February 7 & 8: Epiphany 5

Jesus Calls You Salt and Light

February 14 & 15: Transfiguration of the Lord

Jesus Is the Son of God in Glory

February 21 & 22: Lent 1

A Champion



Book Club

In February, book club will be discussing *Come Back to Me* by Jody Hedlund. Marian Creighton and her father have been working to find a cure for a genetic disease her sister carries and that already took her mother's life. Her father may have discovered the ultimate cure for any disease. But in testing the cure, her father falls into a coma. Marian must find this cure herself to save her father but in following her father's research she time travels to the Middle Ages during a peasant uprising and is rescued by a valiant knight.

Find out what happens and join us for book club on Sunday, February 22nd at 3PM.

Table of Duties: The Forgotten Stewardship Tool

Luther's Small Catechism is a magnificent tool. Joined with a well-used copy of the Holy Scriptures and an orthodox hymnal, and the Christian is well equipped to live a life of faithfulness to the Lord and service to the neighbor. First in German and now in English and just about any language known to man, this handy masterpiece has introduced generations of people to the central doctrine of justification by grace, through faith, on account of Jesus Christ. The Six Chief Parts have proven to be a faithful framework for a clear confession of the truth of the Gospel for nearly five hundred years!

But more than a textbook, the Small Catechism also serves well as a handbook for Christian living. As a part of its treasure, there is an element that teaches an extraordinarily strong message of stewardship. That hidden treasure that needs to be rediscovered is called the Table of Duties.

The Table of Duties is really nothing more than a categorized gathering of Bible verses. These verses are set apart for "various holy orders and positions, admonishing them about their duties and responsibilities." Addressing pastors and people, government and citizens, husbands, wives, children, youth, workers and so many more, it very clearly lays out what faithful stewardship looks like. Even better, these assembled passages teach one important truth: we are stewards of one another!

The Table is much more than a "how-to" tool; it also lays out the interconnectedness that exists within the body of Christ. Pastors are described by what they are to be as stewards of the Word. 1 Timothy 3 highlights the characteristics of a faithful pastor. Even more, Titus 1 highlights the need for the pastor to be faithful for the sake of those under his care.

Those who hear the faithful preaching of the pastor are stewards of the pastor as well. 1 Corinthians 9 talks about the need for the people to support the livelihood of the pastor. Galatians 6 talks about how the hearers share in the good things that the pastor teaches. 1 Timothy 6 talks about the honor that is owed to the pastor, not because of WHO he is, but rather WHAT he is teaching! Hebrews 13 shows the impact of this stewardship on the pastor, that they perform their duties with joy. Joyful pastors and people are always going to be better stewards of the Gospel!

Outside the church this interdependent stewardship is on display as well. Romans 13 highlights the respect necessary for the governing authorities. As citizens, the faithful steward is called to pay taxes (Matthew 22), pray for their leaders (1 Timothy 2) and that they should be ready to serve in the civil realm (Titus 3), because they are in these positions by God's direction (1 Peter 2).

These steward duties are in the home too! 1 Peter 3 and Colossians 3 shape the husband steward. Ephesians 5 and 1 Peter 3 shape the wife steward. Ephesians 6 form parental stewards and child stewards.

The Table of Duties is a wonderful place for the individual steward to learn how much our stewardship is more than just a "me and Jesus thing!" In fact, it ends with these words: "Let each his lesson learn with care, and all the household well share fare." This is interdependent stewardship on clear display. As each learns stewardship in this way, the more faithful we will be as a family, congregations, communities and the church at large.

From Calvary's Stewardship Committee

Update on the 50th Anniversary Special Projects: The focus of the congregation is on redoing the **Fellowship Hall, Kitchen and Sanctuary**: This will include luxury vinyl flooring for the fellowship hall, teen room and kitchen (since we are picking out flooring, we will also redo the entryway of the narthex with the same); sound baffling panels on the ceiling of the fellowship hall; redoing the bathrooms in fellowship with new vanities, toilets, flooring, configuration and stalls; reconfiguring the kitchen to move the double oven to change flow through the kitchen.

A special offering fund for the 50th Anniversary is available if you are moved to make special offerings to help with these projects. Please place your donation in an envelope with your name on it and marked 50th Anniversary.





Michael Hoover
August 11, 1950 — January 6, 2026

The Calvary Columbarium

Calvary Lutheran Church of Chandler, Arizona, has a columbarium on its property for the use of its members and their families. The columbarium offers an economically feasible way to handle the final resting place needs of its members.

The columbarium contains small compartments or "niches" to hold the cremated remains of loved ones. Our columbarium has single niches (which can contain one cinerary urn) and double niches (which can contain two cinerary urns.) Single niches cost \$1,250 and double niches cost \$1,500.

Included in the cost are a brass urn and a granite face plate engraved with the name of the deceased. Payment plans are available. There are funeral arrangement packets in the literature racks above the back counter in the church entryway that contain columbarium order forms. For more information, talk with Pastor Spaude.



After Church Refreshments



There is a snack sign-up sheet on the back counter in the entryway of church through April. Anyone willing to provide refreshments, please pick a date that works for you. You can also donate money to the cause. Give your donation to Barb Converse and she will purchase the snacks. Thanks!

Arizona Christian School Tuition Organization (ACSTO): Christian education is important. Helping our children to grow in their faith in their Savior Jesus is vital for their eternal welfare. Providing an education in a Christian environment where they can learn math, science, history, and all subjects, through the lens of God's Word will prepare them for living productive, Christ-centered lives in this world. We are blessed to have Pilgrim Lutheran School in Mesa and Emmanuel Lutheran School in Tempe to help with the Christian education of our children. To help with the cost of this Christian education, Arizona's Private School Tax Credit Program is incredibly important. Through this program, you can support Christian education. You can participate in the Arizona Christian School Tuition Organization (ACSTO) receive a dollar-for-dollar tax credit on your Arizona state taxes. We have some member children who attend Pilgrim Lutheran School that you can recommend for a scholarship with your tax credit donation to ACSTO: Jenna, Micah, Aaron and Grace Traudt.

You can give using one of the forms at church or online at: ACSTO.org.

Sunday Morning Bible Classes

Sunday Adult Bible Study: Dragons, angels, talking frogs, locusts with scorpion tails, seven-headed monsters, a woman with wings. Oh my. What is this? Characters from the latest sci-fi film? No. They are details from a 2,000-year-old vision the Apostle John received on the Greek island of Patmos. This vision is recorded in the last book of the Bible: *Revelation*. Join our Sunday morning Bible Class for a multi-media Bible study of this fascinating New Testament book. *Revelation: Get Pumped for the End.*

Wednesday Evening Bible Classes

New Wednesday Evening Bible Class: Calculus won't give you the answers, but Colossians will. A multi-media Bible Study on the New Testament book of Colossians continues on Wednesdays at 7PM, February 4th and 11th.

Midweek Lenten Services



As in past years, our midweek Lenten services will be at 11AM and 7PM. There will be a dinner served prior to the evening service, beginning at 5:30PM. The structure of our services is as follows:

IT IS FINISHED

The Holy Week Prophecies of Zechariah

Catechetical Review of The Creed

For over 1000 years, Ash Wednesday has been observed as the solemn beginning of the penitential season Lent. It began as a stand-alone Wednesday service, much like Ascension is a stand-alone Thursday service. Additional mid-week Lenten services were a much later addition, generally used for catechetical review.

In Lutheranism, the Catechism has long been associated with Lent. Martin Luther himself used the season to review the parts of the catechism. In a Lenten sermon of 1529, he wrote, *"This exhortation ought not only to move us older ones, but also the young and the children. Therefore, you parents ought to instruct and educate them in the doctrine of the Lord: the Decalog, the Creed, the Prayer, and the Sacraments"* (W.30,1,233). Luther would preach on parts of the catechism and ask parents to review those portions with their children throughout the week.

February Birthdays

Best wishes to the following who celebrate birthdays this month:

Nicole Kultala Feb. 2

Gary Warskow Feb. 3

Brooklyn Kultala Feb. 4

Sharon Oachs Feb. 5

Steve Osswald Feb. 5

Tammy Armbruster Feb. 6

Logan Burchette Feb. 13

Gerry Wolf Feb. 17

Douglas Edman Feb. 17

Timothy Moke Feb. 18

Bruce Bartsch Feb. 20

Doug Danner Feb. 23

Tyler Altman Feb. 25

Aly Strand Feb. 28



Through My Bible in a Year

FEBRUARY

- 1 Leviticus 1-3
- 2 Leviticus 4-6
- 3 Leviticus 7-8
- 4 Leviticus 9-10
- 5 Leviticus 11-13
- 6 Leviticus 14-15
- 7 Leviticus 16-18
- 8 Leviticus 19-21
- 9 Leviticus 22-23
- 10 Leviticus 24-25
- 11 Leviticus 26-27
- 12 Numbers 1-2
- 13 Numbers 3-4
- 14 Numbers 5-6
- 15 Numbers 7
- 16 Numbers 8-9
- 17 Numbers 10-11
- 18 Numbers 12-13
- 19 Numbers 14-15
- 20 Numbers 16-18
- 21 Numbers 19-20
- 22 Numbers 21-22
- 23 Numbers 23-25
- 24 Numbers 26-27
- 25 Numbers 28-29
- 26 Numbers 30-31
- 27 Numbers 32-33
- 28 Numbers 34-36

If you would like to submit information for the monthly Courier, please email it to Randi at office@calvarychandler.net by the **15th** of the prior month. Thank you.