



CALVARY COURIER

Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church

May 2026

Upcoming Events

May 5th – Mornings with Mommy “Flowers, Birds & Mother’s Day”

May 14th – Ascension Service @ 7PM

May 31st – Book Club @ 3PM

The Defeat of Death!

I have set the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. Therefore, my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices. Even my flesh will dwell securely because you will not abandon my life to the grave. You will not let your favored one see decay. You have made known to me the path of life, fullness of joy in your presence, pleasures at your right hand forever.” – Psalm 16:8-11

On April 10, 1912, in the north Atlantic, the *Titanic* struck an iceberg that would tragically and famously sink. During its demise, a young Violet Jessup was ordered to a lifeboat. The hope was that she could set an example, help calm fears, and demonstrate how to put life jackets on safely. She was even handed a baby to save!

The year before the *Titanic*, she had served on the sister ship, the *RMS Olympic*, which suffered damage after a collision, and made it back to port. And shortly after the *Titanic*, in 1916, in the midst of the world war, she served on the hospital ship *RMS Britannic*. This vessel would also face disaster. It struck a German mine and sank in under 55 minutes. Violet survived, at one point having to jump from her lifeboat as it was shredded by the large *Britannic* propellers.

All of these events made Violet Jessup an exceptionally fortunate person. God allowed her to dodge death on more than one occasion.

Would Jesus be so fortunate? God’s plan for him would be different. His goal was not to dodge death, but to face death and defeat death for our sake. Psalm 16 was written by the inspired author David but speaks to the life of Christ. For example, in verse 5 the speaker remarks, “*Lord, you are the cup that has been given to me. You have secured an allotment for me.*” We may recall Jesus’ similar sounding prayer in the garden of Gethsemane as he makes ready to fulfill his heavenly Father’s will and to drink the cup of suffering before him.

And yet Psalm 16 is often used in a celebration of the eternal life graciously given to us through Jesus’ work. Both Peter in his Day of Pentecost sermon and Paul in the book of Acts, quote this psalm. They both make a comparison: “David died...his tomb is over there...but God’s Anointed truly defeated death”. Here is Jesus, the promised one from God who now resides in glory. Our risen Savior now drinks from the cup of eternal joy. He takes his rightful place upon the throne of David, no longer abandoned by his Father upon the cross extended, but lives today in eternal blessedness and in full control over his kingdom.

And where Jesus goes, we will follow. He has promised to return to take us there to be with him. Just as his payment for our sin counted at the cross, so now his victory in eternity counts as ours as well. David himself longed for that “*fullness of joy in your presence, pleasures at your right hand forever.*”

Violet Jessup escaped the clutches of death again and again. But she could not dodge death forever. Neither can we, for like her, the wage of our sin is death. And yet take heart. As we walk through life, as we age gracefully or with illness upon illness, as we even face death itself – we need not be shaken. For Jesus who has conquered death gives us the path of life and walks with us every step of the way. This Easter season we again marvel at the reality of his empty tomb and rejoice in word and song that “he is risen for me!” May his good promises this Easter season make your heart glad as you rejoice in Jesus, the defeater of death and giver of life forever.

Pastor Martin Spaude



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Taco 'bout a great time, we cooked up so much fun at our April "Fun with Food" session! The little chefs loved dancing to our food themed song "Apples and Bananas", baking treats in the rice filled sensory bins, playing vegetable toss with pots and pans in the gross motor skill center and preparing food at the play kitchen sets in our fine motor skills center. They had enjoyed decorating chef hats, painting paper plate watermelons, and creating ice cream cones with do-a-dot markers in the arts and crafts center. Everyone went bananas for the scrumptious cupcakes at snack time!

Our next session will be "Flowers, Birds & Mother's Day" on Tuesday, May 5th at 10AM. Sessions fill up fast, be sure to register ASAP to reserve your spot. To assist in any way you are able to with our program, please speak with our director Bridget Spaude.



Scan this with your phone to donate to Calvary.

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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CalvaryLutheranChurchChandler

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

1270 N. Dobson Rd.
Chandler, AZ 85224
480-963-9397
www.calvarychandler.net

Worship: 6PM Saturday/9AM Sunday

May Worship

Use this Schedule to Prepare Yourself

May 2 & 3	Easter 5 (Confirmation on Sunday)
Theme: Jesus lives to be the only way to heaven. Liturgy: Service of the Word & Sacrament Psalm 118 Lessons: Acts 4:8-12; 1 Peter 2:4-10; John 14:1-11 Hymns: Blue: ---, 715, 675, 640 Red: 599, 596 (note slight rhythm change from blue), 141, 293	
May 9 & 10	Easter 6
Theme: Jesus calls us to live for him. Liturgy: Service of the Word Psalm 66 Lessons: Acts 17:22-31; 1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21 Hymns: Blue: 606, 612, 695, 617 Red: 169, 256, 469, 334	
May 14	Ascension
Theme: Jesus lives to rule all things for the Church. Liturgy: Special Service Hymns: Blue: 476, 700, 472, 474, 929 Red: 173, 170, 171, 175, 745 CWS	
May 16 & 17	Easter 7
Theme: Jesus lives to give us eager expectation of glory. Liturgy: The Common Service with Communion Psalm 92 Lessons: Acts 1:12-26; 1 Peter 4:12-17; 5:6-11; John 17:1-11a Hymns: Blue: 465, 529, 446, 597 Red: 149, 345, 167, 610	
May 23 & 24	Pentecost
Theme: Jesus lives to pour out his Spirit. Liturgy: Service of the Word Psalm 51b Lessons: Acts 2:1-21; 1 Corinthians 12:3-11; John 7:37-39 Hymns: Blue: 588, 592, 593, 479 Red: 181, 182, 183, ---	
May 30 & 31	Trinity
Theme: God is Triune. Liturgy: Service of the Word Psalm 8 Lessons: Genesis 1:1—2:3; 2 Corinthians 13:11-14; Matthew 28:16-20 Hymns: Blue: 483, 484, 481, 928 Red: 195, 194, 241, ---	

Ascension Day Service: We mark the ascension of our Lord with a special service on Thursday, May 14th at 7PM.

Honor the Lord with Your Wealth

Our Father in heaven sent his Son, Jesus, to be our Savior. His atoning sacrifice is the firstfruits of all the dead, a pleasing aroma to his Father – and ours – so that his perfect life and death count for all who believe in him.

He claimed us as his own children in Holy Baptism. He sustains and strengthens our faith with his Holy Word and his Body and Blood. As new creatures, who have put on Christ, we bear good fruit. We do the good works prepared for us, which he makes known to us in his Word.

By faith then, trusting in the Word of God, we do what he says because he does not lie and al-ways keeps his promises. For “without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him” (Heb. 11:6).

And so the Lord promises: “Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine” (Prov. 3:9-10). How do we honor the Lord with the wealth that God has given us in his generosity? By giving it generously to those whom the Lord has called us to love and support: your family, your society, and your church. And his promise is that in so doing, you will never lack.

I can almost hear it now: “But that’s from the Old Testament!” But our Lord Jesus himself gives us similar promises in the New Testament. He says, at the conclusion of the parable of the talents, “For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance” (Matt. 25:29). And then at the end of the parable of the dishonest manager, he says: “One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in that which is another’s, who will give you that which is your own? No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money” (Luke 16:10–13).

And in his sermon on the mount, he says: “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (Matt. 6:19–21).

We have become conditioned against these promises because of their misuse by the peddlers of the prosperity gospel, the guys on TV who say you get rich by putting God in your debt. And thus, we miss out on the fact that God does reward temporal faithfulness in temporal matters with temporal blessings. It’s no quid pro quo. It’s all from God’s grace, his fatherly divine goodness and mercy. But those Bible passages just quoted do in fact say what they say! It’s not the Old Testament’s problem. It’s ours. It is almost as if we have become so jaded against this that we think it a virtue to be stingy with our offerings.

But our Father in heaven still loves to bless those who bless others. He loves to give to those who give freely and generously. In fact, he challenges us to challenge him: “Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need” (Mal. 3:10).

And so, while we don’t give so that we would get, we do receive from the Lord in order to give, and he will bless your giving with more receiving. For “He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things” (Rom. 8:32)?

From Calvary’s Stewardship Committee

**LAST
CHANCE**



An updated church member directory will be distributed to members soon. If you have a new address, phone, email and/or need a picture added please email Randi at office@calvarychandler.net or text at 602-317-7435

May Worship

Our worship services in May will follow this pattern:

May 2 & 3: Easter 5
May 9 & 10: Easter 6
May 14: Ascension
May 16 & 17: Easter 7
May 23 & 24: Pentecost
May 30 & 31: Trinity

He lives to be the only way to heaven
He lives to call me to live for him
He lives to rule all things for the Church
He lives to give me eager expectation of glory
He lives to pour out his Spirit
Our God is Triune



**Pictures
from the
Cornhole
& Pizza
Making
event on
Sunday,
April 19th!**



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.



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.

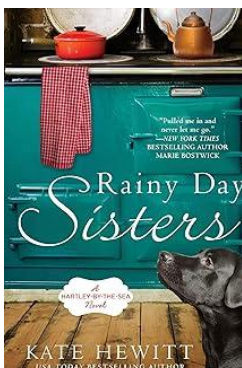
Wednesday Evening Bible Class

We will be studying **My Life for the Kingdom: The Story of Joseph**. Part of the story of Joseph and his brothers is perhaps one of the more famous biblical accounts, popularized today by the successful Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical. In *My Life for the Kingdom: The Story of Joseph*, the biblical account of Joseph in Genesis showcases how God's grace, revealed in his promises and their fulfillment, was ever-present for Joseph and his family. Through these lessons, students will be encouraged to trust in God in difficult circumstances and motivated to dedicate their lives to the welfare of God's kingdom. Also included is a timeline of Joseph's life to help the participant visualize the relationship between the events recorded in the scriptures. The Wednesday night Bible Classes will begin On Wednesday, April 15th at 7PM.

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. We are featuring especially Jenna Traudt. The other Traudt children attending Pilgrim are Micah, Aaron and Grace. You can give using one of the forms at church or online at: ACSTO.org.

Pastor/Teacher Scholarship Fund: Calvary has a special fund to help any of our members who are attending Martin Luther College (MLC) in New Ulm, MN. And Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary at Mequon, WI., preparing to be pastors and teachers in our WELS. Currently the fund has \$3332.00 in it. We do have one member, Tyler Altman, attending MLC in the pastoral track program. Cost for tuition, room and board at MLC is \$25,000.00 per year. Any donations to this fund would be greatly appreciated.



Book Club will meet on Sunday, May 31st at 3PM at Calvary. The book we will discuss this month is "Rainy Day Sisters" by Kate Hewitt. All are welcome to join!

May Birthdays

David Kultala	May 2
Gary Zorn	May 2
Finley Kultala	May 3
Karen Kaniasty	May 5
Aysa Strand	May 7
Charlotte Holguin	May 9
Aaron Mundt	May 10
Ed Anderson	May 11
Ruth Sprain	May 11
Christopher Cross	May 13
Martin Spaude	May 14
Cassandra Seiler	May 16
Deb Reinke	May 22
Philip Warskow	May 24
Ethan Cole	May 24
James Abbe	May 26
Alicia Coker	May 26
Jace Christian	May 26
Rhett Warskow	May 29
Lisa Jahnke	May 30
Jenna Traudt	May 31



If your birthday is not listed, please email the office manager, Randi, at office@calvaryhandler.net so your records can be updated.

May

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

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