

**Calvary Lutheran Church  
Annual Meeting Minutes  
January 28th, 2026**

**Meeting called to order at 6:30** – By Sara Odden representing the Church Council.

**Quorum** was determined.

**Opening Prayer** – provided by Pastor Tim O’Shields.

**Approval of Agenda** – Motion made by Wayne Rosby and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matt Odden. Approved

**Approval of 2025 Annual Meeting Minutes** – Motion made by Peg Seljeskog and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Julie Richter. Approved

**Approval of Written Reports** – Motion made by Julie Richter and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Zach Finley. Approved

**End of Year Finance/2026 Budget** – Presented by Jayne Kraemer – Council Treasurer

Jayne started by recognizing the volunteers who are our Finance Committee. Kelly Knutson (Lead), Karen Kierstad, Clark Kraemer, Ed Toms, Jennifer Baloun, and Jon Johnson. Jayne serves as Council Liaison, Staff -Pastor Tim O’Shields, and Tammy Singaas- Drewitz our Business Fund Manager.

Jayne recapped by providing an outline of the 2025 budget as a balanced budget with operating incomes and expenses being equal at \$855,973. Our actual performances on the year were as follows; Incomes \$930,291 (above budget by \$74,318) and Expenses \$786,832 (below budget by \$69,141).

Notable Savings by category – **Salaries** – Below budget with Interim and Load Pastors.

**Building Expenses** and **Education Expenses** thanks to good work by the staff.

**2025 Capital Expenditure** - \$22,445.06 to Big C Signs for deposit on new outdoor sign.

**Notable transaction** – 3/18/25 Railing/Fire Hydrant Easement paid by the City - \$15,500.

8/19/25 - \$15,500 moved to support the new outdoor sign (Council vote).

**MIF** – Grew \$5,763.52 from interest paid on the account for the year.

1/21/26 – Council approved transfer of \$100,000 from 2025-year end balances into the MIF fund.

**2026 Budget Overview** – Incomes for 2026 are forecasted at \$869,900 this to include a \$10,000 to accommodate Outreach Ministry. Additional conversation points include an

increase of 3.5% on prior year expenses. We are optimistic that building expenses may be larger than needed due to large historical activity related to the kitchen oven, sprinkler system, and HVAC. Hopefully by budgeting intentionally higher based on averages any unforeseen expenses can be accommodated without issue.

**Motion to approve the 2026 Budget** made by Sonny Magnuson and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jessica Gromer. Approved.

**Endowment Committee Report** – presented by Peg Seljeskog

Peg reported on year end balances for the funds as follows.

ELCA Endowment - \$590,128.96

South Dakota Community Fund \$1,353.55

Black Hills Community Fund \$18,696.48

The Committee was recommending that 5% of the ELCA Endowment fund be distributed.

With the total distribution broken down as follows into these areas.

\*25% to **ELCA Support**, allocated 12.5% to Lutheran Social services and 12.5% to Outlaw Ranch.

\*25% to **Community Outreach** allocated 12.5% to Church Response and 12.5% to One Heart Campus.

\*50% to **Calvary Lutheran Church Programming** allocated 20% to Vacation Bible School, 15% to Pre-School – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Education, 15% to Confirmation Program.

**Questions** – it was asked if any funding from the other funds (SD Community and BH Community) were to be distributed and it was clarified that these funds would not distribute but instead be allowed to grow. A question was asked about funding Middle/High School trips, and the response was that funds were in strong condition to support those activities without additional funding.

**Motion to approve distribution** of 5% from the ELCA Endowment Fund as described. Made by Sherri and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Martin Kerkenbush. Approved.

**Nominating Committee** – Was recognized – Jessica Gromer, Sonny Magnuson, and Martin Kerkenbush.

They presented the following members for approval with their roles as described.

Church Council 2<sup>nd</sup> Terms – Sara Odden and Gina Nelson

Church Council New Members – Sonia Sykora, Steve Blair, and Kody Ebach

Endowment Committee 2<sup>nd</sup> term – Holli Mitchell

Nominating Committee – Jessica Gromer, Bill Eldridge, and Matt Odden

All nominations were approved by majority vote of the congregation and certified by the Church Council.

At 7:15 Motion to adjourn made by Martin Kerkenbush and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matt Odden. Approved

Meeting close with the Lord's Prayer