

# THE PROCLAIMER

MAY/JUNE 2024 A BIMONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

CALVARY CHRISTIAN  
REFORMED CHURCH IS  
**CHRIST-CENTERED**  
**BIBLE-BELIEVING**  
**GOSPEL-MOTIVATED**  
**COMMUNITY-BUILDING**

OUR MISSION IS TO  
**PROCLAIM THE GOOD**  
**NEWS OF JESUS**  
**IN WORD AND DEED**  
**HERE, NEAR, AND FAR.**

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## CALVARY CRC AND COMMUNION

This past month, the Calvary Consistory approved a document called *"Calvary CRC and the Sacrament Communion"* for use in our ministry. You can find this document at the end of this Proclaimer article—be sure to check it out!

As you'll see, the document is only one page long and it doesn't change anything about what we believe or how we practice communion.

The document was created to help Calvary more clearly communicate to new members, potential new members, and regular attendees some basic matters of value and practice related to the sacrament. We are hopeful this document helps Calvary more faithfully utilize communion for our covenantal discipleship.

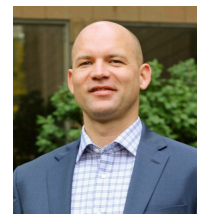
While there are certainly things we want to communicate clearly to potential members about the sacrament, the Consistory also wanted to remind our

membership of several important aspects of communion.

First, for parents, there is a special responsibility to disciple children in the context of communion. Even though we ask children who have not made profession of faith not to partake of the sacrament, there is a responsibility for parents to teach their children about the sacrament and why it is important for our faith and life. We invite parents to engage their children in conversations about communion often, teaching them the meaning of the elements and their connection to Christ's sacrifice, the importance of faith, and the importance of being unified to Christ and his community.

*...continued on page 2*

Editorial by  
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...Proclaimer continued from page 1

Communion is an outward, physical sign of God's inward, invisible grace to us. This is a big, powerful truth that is simple enough for children to understand.

Second, for all members, it is good to be reminded of the importance of being physically present for communion as much as possible. The sacrament of communion is best taken in community; it not only unifies us to Christ and his physical body in heaven, but also to his body, the church. As a covenant community, we walk the journey of faith together and taking the sacrament together as a body is an important aspect of making this journey together.

Third, for all members there is a responsibility of self-examination. In 1 Corinthians 11, Paul speaks about the importance of self-examination before partaking of communion. There is value in examining our faith and practice in conjunction with the sacrament. While we will continue to explicitly mention communion in the Prayer of Confession the week before communion as part of this self-examination, we invite all members to engage in their own self-examination as Paul instructs us.

Thanks for taking the time to review the document and may we continue to be faithful in our discipleship through the sacrament of communion!

By Pastor Nick



## Calvary CRC and The Sacrament of Communion

*Churches from different traditions and denominations often have different practices and priorities related to the Sacrament of Communion. This document seeks to communicate our values and priorities as a local Christian Reformed Church.*

- We welcome to the table all those who have publicly professed faith in Jesus' death and resurrection as a means of grace and salvation from sin and death.
- We welcome to the table all those from other traditions and denominations who have put their faith in Jesus as Savior and Lord and who are full members in good standing at a Christ-centered Church.
- We welcome to the table those with disabilities who have made an ability-appropriate profession of faith.
- We invite covenant children who have not made Profession of Faith to come forward during communion to receive a blessing from the pastor.
- We invite parents to faithfully teach their children the meaning and practice of the sacrament and the importance of it for our faith and life.
- We invite children and parents to discuss the journey of faith and if/when it is time for a child to make a public profession of faith. Calvary welcomes children to make Profession of Faith as young as eight years old.
- We encourage all those who have made a public Profession of Faith to examine themselves in life and faith before partaking in communion.
- We encourage all those who have not yet publicly professed their faith in Christ to consider doing so.
- We encourage all Calvary members to be present with the covenant community for communion as often as possible.



## Making Disciples of Christ in Edina Public Schools

My wife, Hannah, is a middle school math teacher at Valley View Middle School in Edina. She cares for her students and knows many of them are going through family problems, high anxiety, and questions about their identity. Hannah was hoping to share the gospel of Jesus with them so they could experience the peace and purpose of knowing the Good Shepherd.

Two years ago, Troy Beckman, a teacher at South View Middle School, was leading a Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) before school on Fridays. He was hoping local churches could become more involved with the FCA. He searched online, saw we are a Christ-centered church and reached out to me. After meeting with Troy at his FCA, I told Hannah about my experience. Hannah decided she wanted to start an FCA at her school.

With Troy's guidance, Hannah found a student leader and received approval from the principal. She asked me to make Bible studies for the group. We decided the gospel of John would be a good book to study with students from many different backgrounds and spiritual maturity. Before the first Friday of FCA, I asked Hannah, "How many Bible studies should I print?"

"Maybe 10?" Hannah replied. "I hope some kids come!" When she got to school on Friday, there were 30 kids waiting for the FCA! They ate donuts, Hannah led the Bible study on John 1, and they finished with a short game in the gym. Hannah

was exhausted after managing that many kids, but very fulfilled and excited about the discipleship. The Edina parents' prayer group that found out about the new FCA and spread the word. I meet with local youth pastors once a month so I told them about the FCA and encouraged them to tell their students about it.

Since then, the group has grown to 40 to 50 and now 60 kids! A few teachers of the school who are Christians but were hesitant to start a group, now joyfully help out with the FCA. Hannah encourages the students to bring their friends to FCA, and they do! She has seen so many new faces this year. Her FCA meets every Friday morning before school and is a unique ministry opportunity for the students.

The FCA will study every chapter of John by the end of the year. Hannah facilitates wonderful discussions about the identity of Jesus, the seven I Am statements, the eight miraculous signs, the work of the Holy Spirit, the command to love each other, and the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ. Many of the students ask good questions and share their heart for the Lord. Some students attend churches and some do not. Hannah is able to encourage believers in their faith and share the gospel with students seeking the truth.

All students are invited to FCA, they don't have to be an athlete to attend. FCA has good name recognition and the national organization provides good structure and accountability for all the FCA groups. A few times this year, FCA reps have come to encourage Hannah and hand out bracelets to the students.

Sometimes, Blakely, Reuben, and I come to see all the excitement of FCA at Hannah's school. Blakely usually plays with toys under Hannah's desk and Reuben is walking around grabbing kids' water bottles!

Praise God for this amazing opportunity! Please pray the students will grow in their Christian faith, that Hannah will be filled with wisdom on how to lead, and more students will come hear the gospel through FCA.

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**Eli Groenendyk**  
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# SPHERE SOVEREIGNTY

Interview with  
Craig Veurink

NEAR



comforting. It does not mean things don't bother me but I know the end game of why I am here and that allows me to minimize the stress of little things day to day. I also know my job is really to serve him and impact those around me and that is where I find my purpose.

## **Since God is sovereign over every sphere, how do you see God at work in your work?**

Like many others, I was in a very long job transition during the pandemic. It was a difficult time but also a time to grow spiritually – to rely on God like in Matthew 6:26. This week, my manager wants me to lead an R&D project and a non-profit organization just offered me to chair one of their committees. Three years ago I didn't see these things coming. God's timing is unique and that's why we shouldn't compare ourselves to others. At the end of the day we all have our comeback stories to share.

## **Are your co-workers Christians? Have you had opportunities to talk to them about what they believe? Have you been able to share your faith in Christ with them?**

Some of my coworkers and those that work for me are Christians. To reflect on the previous question...I often have had opportunities to talk to them about my faith because of the calmness they see in me when something challenging is going on. I often will get a question asking me why I am not stressed out on something based on my response. I state I am still stressed but I know my God is in control and that my faith in Him gives me that unmoveable peace. Often I am able to expound on that. Even this past month I was able to talk to one of the top leaders in our company about how we shared this same view of life with our faith as our foundation and that has invigorated me further to be more bold in my testimony on a daily basis. I feel as I get older I am more and more comfortable at work to see it as much as a mission field as a place to drive revenue.

## **Where do you work?**

I have worked for US Bank in some position related to Business Banking for 28 years. I started as a Business Banker in Sioux Falls, SD. Moved into a Sales Manager role in the Twin Cities and eventually was the market leader for the Twin Cities. I now manage the Midwest Region which encompasses eight states. I have 170 Business Bankers across the Midwest that work closely with business owners to do all we can to help them succeed and grow. That is the simple version or what we do.

## **What are your roles and responsibilities?**

I have five market leaders that report to me that cover the Midwest and I work closely with them to help guide day to day strategies and decision making. I often visit the different cities where Business Bankers are located to work to align vision and create momentum for us to succeed and grow our business. I also spend a good amount of time helping to create and direct strategy for Business Banking across all of US Bank. I have the incredible opportunity to influence a lot of people and I do not take that responsibility lightly.

## **What are you currently working on that you are excited about?**

He is so important to me in everything I do. First is the piece he gives me personally that enables me to do my job. There are many ups and downs of a day, a week or a year, but when I have an immovable God that is sovereign over everything and where my worth lies, I am able to not overreact or stress out over anything that comes my way. My foundation is in him and that eternal piece is

# COMMUNITY BUILDING

## 15 things you didn't know about Nate and Sarah Zwagerman



1. Nathan was born in Willmar MN and attended Willmar CRC church.
2. Sarah was born in Milwaukee WI and attended Trinity Lutheran Church in St. Francis, MN.
3. Nathan was referred to as "Pete" because his brothers couldn't pronounce Nathan very well. Nathan didn't use his given name until he started working in the Twin Cities.
4. Nathan and his two older brothers had a lawn cutting service in Willmar when they were younger.
5. Sarah and Nathan met at their first jobs out of college at a long-term care facility in St. Louis Park. Nathan was working as a RN and Sarah was working in recreational therapy.
6. They started church shopping as a couple in 2002 and joined Calvary CRC in 2003 after their marriage at Trinity Lutheran in St. Francis MN.
7. In 2003, through the MN DNR lottery system, they both drew licenses for the very first prairie chicken hunt in MN.
8. Nathan and Sarah still have the first boat that they purchased in 2001. In 2003, they replaced the

motor but kept the original boat. Then they replaced the boat but kept the motor. In 2021, they replaced the boat and motor but kept the bow mount trolling motor. So, now the boat may look a little different.

9. Nathan blew out his achilles tendon playing Saturday morning basketball at Calvary in 2006.
10. Nathan received a Master Angler Award from the State of Minnesota in 2003 by getting a 50-inch muskie on Lake Minnetonka.
11. Nathan was able to hunt a bison in Custer State Park, SD with his bow and arrow. The

family really enjoyed the 400 lbs. of meat.

12. After 20 years of living in Bloomington, MN they made a big decision to pack up and move to Savage in 2018.
13. Their neighborhood in Bloomington had multiple Calvary CRC members. Tim and Linda Ribbens used to live across the street from them in Bloomington and Shar and Elmer Jelgerhuis lived four houses down the street.
14. While vacationing in Mazatlan, Nathan and Sarah hired a guide to take them fishing on Lake El Salto. The guide showed up at four o'clock in the morning in a white cargo van with no windows to drive them to the lake. Luckily, they were not kidnapped and had a great day of fishing. This year, they returned to Playa del Carmen Mexico with the kids, and they repelled 70 meters into a cave to swim and explore.
15. Sarah's Father Arvid was an orphan in Latvia, Russia during WWII and was adopted by the Magnuson Family at the age of ten.





# GRADUATE PROFILES

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## College Graduates

### Elianna Van Hulzen

Elianna graduates from Dordt University with her BSN and RN along with a Spanish minor. She also played varsity soccer all four years and studied in Spain for a summer. Elianna plans to return home to study for the NCLEX then relocate to Kansas City, MO.

### Lydia (Marcus) Post

Lydia graduates from the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee with a PhD in epidemiology in May. After graduation, Jesse and Lydia will move to Maryland for a few years while she will complete a postdoctoral fellowship in cancer prevention.

## High School Graduates

### Andrew Dale Beekman

Andrew graduates from St. Croix Lutheran Academy. While in high school he participated in football, basketball, golf, track, concert band, jazz band, National Honor Society, and Crusader leadership. He will attend Dordt University in the fall and plans to major in engineering, play trombone in band, and play football for the Defenders.

### Peter James Bosch

Peter graduates from Southwest Christian High School. While at Southwest, Peter played golf all four years. He also ran cross country his senior year and played soccer and basketball as a freshman. This fall, Peter plans to attend John Brown University in Siloam Springs, Arkansas to study mechanical engineering.



### **Jaclyn Elizabeth Brouwer**

Jaclyn graduates from Southwest Christian High School. While at Southwest, she was involved in DECA and National Honor Society. She also played volleyball, tennis, and softball. This fall, Jaclyn will be attending Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama and majoring in nursing.



### **Eli De Kam**

Eli graduates from Southwest Christian High School this May. Highlights of his high school years include playing on several sports teams, serving in the Dominican Republic with his senior class, and participating in SERVE trips through Calvary. Eli plans to attend college this fall to study biology/Pre-med.



### **Gerrit Hedman**

Gerrit graduates from Southwest Christian High School. While there he participated in band, pep band, stage crew, and was the Lacrosse manager. Gerrit plans to attend Dordt University studying Business, Marketing and/or Accounting.



### **Jannes Kamp**

Jannes graduates from SWCHS. He was involved in hockey and baseball for his four years at Southwest. Jannes plans to play junior hockey this fall.





## High School Graduates Continued

### Taylor Ann Miedema

Taylor graduates from Southwest Christian High School on May 24, 2024. While at SWCHS, Taylor participated in National Honors Society and played volleyball. Taylor is currently working as a CNA at a memory care facility in Excelsior. She plans to attend the University of St Thomas in St Paul in the fall and pursue nursing.

### Madeline Marie Schmidt

Maddie graduates from Southwest Christian High School on May 24. At Southwest, Maddie enjoyed playing tennis, basketball, and softball, but most loved playing volleyball. High school highlights include her Discipleship group leader Carla Burke, the volleyball state tournament and the senior service trip to the Dominican Republic. Next fall Maddie will attend Mid-America Nazarene University in Kansas City where she will study nursing and play volleyball.

### Grace Soerens

Grace graduates from Eagle Ridge Academy where she has attended 4th-12th grade. While at Eagle Ridge, Grace has participated in many clubs and activities: Theater, Art, Volleyball, Pep Band, and Junior Classical League to name a few. Grace has won awards in 3D Art, a Judi Dench award in Theater, and advanced to sectionals and state in the MN One Act Competitions. She will be performing in her 13th show, *Pride & Prejudice*, this spring as Jane Bennet. Outside of school, Grace has been involved in two short films for MN film festivals and has been active in Scouts BSA where she is known for always being ready and willing to help wrangle younger scouts or lead a campfire skit or song. She has earned her Life Rank and spends her summers living and working at Many Point Scout Camp as a Handicrafts Director. At Calvary, Grace has enjoyed singing with the praise team, serving in the nursery, and participating in a SERVE trip to Muskegon and TC SERVE. Next year Grace plans on studying Aviation at either Mankato State or Florida Tech.

### Braden Vis

Braden graduates from Southwest Christian High School. Next year he will attend Dordt University, where he will pursue a degree in engineering and sing in the choir.





## Jack Zylstra

Jack graduates from Southwest Christian High School. During his time at Southwest, he was involved in theater, honors choir, and had a brief stint in basketball. He particularly enjoyed his role as the Beast and Prince in Southwest's production of "Beauty and the Beast" in the spring of 2024 and his sophomore AP World History course. Jack is thankful to the people of Calvary for their guidance and example in how to be a believer and follower of Christ and for discussing assorted topics from Star Wars to unconditional election, and for the excellent cookies as well. Jack is looking forward to college in the fall.

## Middle School Graduates

### Olivia Byers

Olivia graduates from 8th grade at Avail Academy. She has loved the last nine years there and is excited to start high school in the fall at Southwest Christian High School.

### Ethan Hoekman

After an illustrious K-8 career at Avail Academy, which included harrowing victories on the soccer and basketball teams, passionate musical renditions in band, and unparalleled success in the Science Fair, Ethan Hoekman is taking his talents to Southwest Christian High School. While at SWCHS Ethan plans to continue his excellence in both the artistic and athletic realms by participating in band and soccer. He will also be flexing his academic muscles in the various Honors classes he will be taking.

### Evan Koelewyn

Evan graduates from eighth grade at Avail Academy. He will be attending Southwest Christian in the fall. He is excited to run cross country and track and play basketball and in the band.



## Middle School Graduates Continued

### Caden Orcutt

Caden graduates from 8th grade at Chapel Hill Academy in Chanhassen this May. He has enjoyed his time at CHA and has built strong relationships with his classmates and teachers. Caden was involved in many activities and sports over the years with basketball and baseball being his favorite. He also enjoys reading in his spare time. Caden will attend Southwest Christian High School in Chaska in the fall of 2024, where he plans to pursue his passion for baseball and basketball. Caden is looking forward to having his CHA classmates join him at SWCHS and getting to know new incoming freshmen.

### Madelyn Van Beek

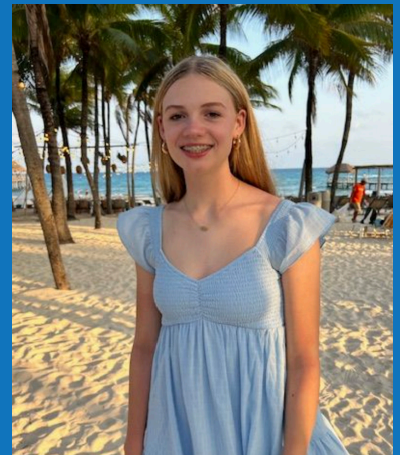
Maddie Van Beek graduates from 8th grade at Avail Academy. She enjoyed playing volleyball and participating in the school musicals. Maddie will attend Southwest Christian High School in the fall.

### Truman Van Hulzen

Truman graduates from Trinity Lone Oak Lutheran School. He played soccer and basketball for the Tigers, played trumpet in the band, sang in the choir, and played handbells. This summer Truman will play traveling baseball and attend Dordt Discovery Days. Next year he will attend Apple Valley High School.

### Avery Zwagerman

Avery completes 8th grade at Hidden Oaks Middle School in Prior Lake, MN on June 6, 2024. She enjoys volleyball, basketball and softball. She will attend Prior Lake High School in the fall.



## Worship Service Schedule

Series: Becoming God's People

**May 5**

Worship led by Pastor Nick  
Passover

Offering: Campus Ministries Fund

**May 12**

Worship led by Pastor Nick  
Red Sea

Offering: Children of the Promise

**May 19**

Worship led by Pastor Eli  
Manna & Quail

Offering: NCBC Food Shelf

**May 26**

Worship led by Pastor Nick  
Sinai

**June 2**

Worship led by Pastor Nick  
One God

**June 9**

Worship led by Pastor Eli  
Worshipping God

**June 16**

Worship led by Pastor Eli  
Using God's Name

**June 23**

Worship led by Pastor Nick  
Celebrating Rest

**June 23**

Worship led by Pastor Nick  
Authority

## CALVARY BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday Calvary Family! We like wishing you a happy birthday. If you're a regular attender and would like to have your birthday included, please contact Cheryl Rettig in the church office and let her know. If for any reason you'd like to have your name removed from the list, please let the church office know that as well by emailing: [secretary@calvarycrc.net](mailto:secretary@calvarycrc.net)

### May Birthdays

May 2	Camryn Rettig	May 14	Camden Mellema
May 3	Matthew Beekman, Cade Mellema, Sam Workman	May 15	Judah Kobes
May 4	Nicole Staudt	May 16	Shar Jelgerhuis
May 5	Kyla Orcutt, Carey Rettig	May 18	Soren Moser
May 7	Jack Zylstra	May 19	Brayden Beckering, Darcy Terpstra
May 8	Janette Kamp	May 20	Ed Attema, Tanner Hulstein
May 9	Katie Abbring, Mark Douma, Lucy Vliem	May 22	Chris Petersen, Ian Zwagerman
May 10	Ben Rindels	May 26	Matt Koelewyn,
May 11	Kristin Koelewyn, Dave Terpstra	May 27	Bennett Dykstra
May 12	Carolyn Liddle, Cel Schrotenboer	May 28	Asher DeKam
		May 30	Wyatt Hoekman

### June Birthdays

June 1	Josh Abercrombie, Jack Brouwer, Daryl De Kam, Carl Vrieze	June 16	Sam Zylstra
June 2	Jessica Dykstra	June 17	Nick Hoekman
June 7	Kathleen Beekman, Duane Zwagerman	June 18	Marilyn DeVries, Faye Ross
June 8	Kari Gorter, Ally Terpstra, Craig Veurink, Braden Vis	June 19	Pat Blankespoor
June 9	Emily Kobes	June 22	Alaina Terpstra
June 12	Truman Van Hulzen	June 23	Michelle Hoekstra
June 16	Finley Abercrombie, Marta De Kam	June 24	Katherine Beekman
		June 27	Andrew Bosch, Adam Oliver
		June 29	Grace Attema
		June 30	Korvan Leptuck



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