

# CALVARY COURIER

June 2025

## Council Highlights – May 19, 2025

Mike Jansen opened the meeting by reading Psalm 95 and “Transforming Worship” from “Church Health: Council Devotions” and opened with prayer. We prayed for a smooth transition for Pastor Brad and his family in their move to Pease MN. We are grateful for his time of service at Calvary. We prayed for Becky Bandstra’s family in the death of her mother. We are thankful for the rain that was received.

The Council formally approved Pastor Brad’s call to Pease CRC. Pastor Brad’s last work day will be June 1. There will be a farewell celebration after the June 1 morning service. A gift basket will be in the Fellowship Hall to collect cards of well wishes and donations for a dining room set. At his request we agreed to let the Biermas stay in the parsonage until they find housing in Pease or August 1. Pastor Brad is grateful to have been invited into our lives here at Calvary for the past 11 years. He has blessed us and we pray for his continued service to our Lord at a new church.

Pastor Brian Oschner has agreed to a Classical appointment to serve as Church Counselor during our vacancy at the Council’s request. As church counselor he will walk with Calvary until a new pastor called and accepted.

The Council approved asking the CRC to assign a Specialized Transition Minister (STM). They recommend using an STM when a church has had the same pastor for more than 10 year, where there has been internal conflict, spiritual apathy, or a desire for mission clarity. We could use help in all these areas. The STM’s duties are to preach the Word, meet with our members, work with our search committee, and counsel us on our mission. Calvary will pay his salary and provide housing.

Admin has put together a list of names of potential members for a Search Committee. The names were divided into 3 age groups to get a good cross section of our members. The Council will “vote” on their top selections. Those who received the highest votes will be asked to serve first. We intend to limit the size of the Search Committee to 9 members to keep it manageable. Due to the size limit we do not want spouses on the committee together. Admin will begin calling members after their June 2 meeting.

Dan Van Kooten gave an annual report of his chaplain activities at Vermeer. He described his job as “Intentional Wandering and Loitering” to build relationships, trust, and contacts. He responds to requests for chaplain and counseling service, and active crisis care as they come up. Dan is thankful to be able to be a chaplain without going to seminary. He feels this job suits him perfectly.

Dan also reported on the CRC Gather conference he and Andi attended in Des Moines. They joined with eleven others from Classis Central Plains, ten others from Classis Heartland (Orange City/Sheldon etc.), thirteen others from Classis Arizona, and thirty-three others from various classes across North America. Twenty-two CRC staff members attended. They discussed the Road to Emmaus and then identified their own hopes and expectations for the church and its ministry. We need to shift our mindsets from looking at liabilities in our church and denomination to what God is already doing in our church and denomination. He is working, and it’s good to take the time to recognize that movement.




Eric Vande Zande closed the meeting with prayer.

Bill Strong, Council Clerk

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# June 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Dan Van Kooten	3 Nathan Dockter	4 Tracy Dickel	5 	6 Seth Van Gelder	7 Anna Victoria Sagredo-Martinez
8 Mark Roozeboom Gerrit Steenhoek* Jennie Veenstra*	9 Noah Carley	10	11	12 Addie Bierma	13 Evy Verschuure* Jose Melo	14 Sarah Blom
15 	16	17 Holli Kelderman	18 Carol Verhey Kevin Vos Max Sagredo-Martinez	19	20	21 Jesse Roose
22 Josh Blom	23 Joshua Van Hal	24 Micah Hoksbergen	25 Itamar Melo Rodriguez	26	27 Joan Bandstra*	28 Verland Engle* Carter Pommer Quinn Pommer
29 Rosetta Roose Henry Rus	30 Russ Van Wyk					

## Calvary Graduates



Aubrey Blom

Aubrey is the daughter of Josh & Sarah Blom is graduating from 8th grade at Pella Christian, and will attend Pella Christian High in the fall



Gabrielle Clendenen

Gabby is the daughter of Jason & Cosette Clendenen. Gabby is graduating from 8th grade at Pella Christian and will attend Pella Christian High in the fall



Carter De Haan

Carter is the son of Andrew & Tricia De Haan. Carter is graduating 8th grade from Pella Christian Grade School and will attend Pella Christian High in the fall.



Ben Disselkoen

Ben is the son of Matt & Becky Disselkoen. Ben is graduating 8th grade from Pella Christian Grade School and will attend Pella Christian High in the fall.



Alaina Herdegen

Alaina is the daughter of Kevin & Amy Herdegen. Alaina is graduating from 8th grade at Pella Christian and will attend Pella Christian High in the fall



Jenna Hoksbergen

Jenna is the daughter of Joe & Katie Hoksbergen. Jenna is graduating from 8th grade at Pella Christian, and will attend Pella Christian High in the fall



Colt Kelderman

Colt is the son of Randy & Holli Kelderman. Colt is graduating 8th grade from Pella Christian Grade School and will attend Pella Christian High in the fall.



## Calvary Graduates



Clair Van Wyngarden

Clair is the daughter of Kyle & Allison Van Wyngarden. Clair is graduating from 8th grade at Pella Christian, and will attend Pella Christian High in the fall



Owen Verhoef

Owen is the son of Joel & Katie Verhoef. Owen is graduating 8th grade from Pella Christian Grade School, and will attend Pella Christian High in the fall.



Cora Bierma

Cora is the daughter of Brad & Kristin Bierma and is graduating from Pella Christian High School. Cora will be doing a gap year with Youth with a Mission and plans to attend Dordt the following year.



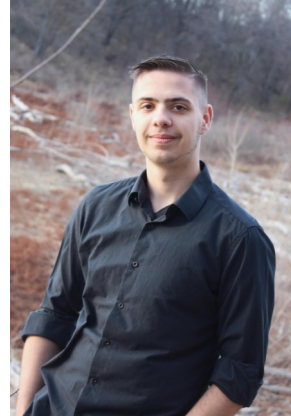
Chloe Huisman

Chloe is the daughter of Lea & Scott Huisman and is graduating from Pella Christian High School. Chloe will be attending Dordt University to major in business while continuing her volleyball career.



Erika Sytsma

Erika is the daughter of Dan & Deann Sytsma and is graduating from Pella Christian High School. After school she is planning to attend Conifer Canine Dog Training College in Spencer, IN.



Gerrit Vande Zande

Gerrit is the son of Eric & Angela Vande Zande and is graduating from Pella Christian High School. He plans to attend Dordt University in the Fall, majoring in History in a Pre-Law program.



Bridget Vande Zande

Bridget is the Daughter of Eric & Angela Vande Zande. Bridget is graduating from Dordt University with an Associate of Arts degree in Business Entrepreneurship. Bridget plans to pursue licensure in Cosmetology.