

CALVARY LUTHERAN

CHURCH AND SCHOOL



December 2018 / January 2019 Monthly Newsletter

From the Pastors

The Shared Life

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity" (Psalm 133:1). Recently, I have been reflecting upon what it means for us to live together as the people of God. As we head through the holidays of Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's, when we often gather with family and friends and other Christians, we experience the different strains and stresses of sharing life together. The effect of sin on families is not just observed in the pages of Scripture with familiar names like Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel, Jacob and Esau, Joseph and His Brothers. Instead, as we look at our own relationships, we must admit that sin has not only been lurking at the door (Gen. 4:7), but too often has reared its ugly head in our lives. Whether it is something said or left unsaid, something done or left undone, we all too soon find ourselves charting a course through tumultuous waters. Sure, we may act like everything's okay. We may play nice and put a smile on our face...but...too often we are trying to walk a fine line between just "making it through the holidays" and confronting the situation that we just don't discuss or dealing with the baggage that's still in the way or even simply taking the time to connect on a deeper level. If we are honest with ourselves, we can see the truth that "We hurt most who we love the most" (Andy Stanley, *Enemies of the Heart*, Ch 2). Jesus, however, has come to heal the hurts, break down the walls, and resolve the conflicts within this world. Jesus desires that we not simply tiptoe around others, but that we seek fulfilling and meaningful relationships that include openness, honesty, and dare I say it, vulnerability with others. So, why then do we have such a hard time...

...confessing our sins?

...forgiving others?

...forgiving ourselves?

...setting aside the expectations and the baggage and even the cell phones to engage one another?

I think that it is so hard because we are reluctant to be the one who takes the first step. When I think of my relationship with God, I cannot help but be thankful that he did not wait for me to take the first step. Isn't that the beauty of Christmas? We didn't have to go to Him, for He first came to us! In Jesus Christ, the Father showed that His love for us was greater than any gulf of sin, any cavern of fear, or any gulley of guilt. Jesus bridged the gap between God and man, so that He could create a family connected not by blood, but by the Spirit of our God. As we celebrate that God has established that kind of relationship with us, may we also celebrate the opportunity to establish those kinds of relationships of grace with one another. I invite you this year to not only give others presents but give them your presence. Give them not simply stuff, but something much more expensive—your time. And so I leave you with two challenging reflections that I have culled from my recent reading and reflection on this topic. Where is God calling you to be open, honest, and even vulnerable with others? May He guide you in the coming year by His grace.

A Time of Confession – "Put yourself on the receiving end of [confession]: Who's apology do you most desire, but least expect? Who is it that seems completely insensitive to the trouble or hurt they've caused you? Imagine how you would feel if you got a surprise visit from that person. How would you feel if that person walked in, sat down, and took full responsibility for what he or she had done...My guess is that you would never be the same...That's the power of confession. Not only does it have the potential to free you from your guilt, but it may also be the path to forgiveness for those you've hurt..." (Andy Stanley, *Enemies of the Heart*, Ch 11). So, whose life could be changed by your confession and apology?

A Gratitude Visit – "Close your eyes. Call up the face of someone still alive who years ago did something or said something that changed your life for the better—someone who you never properly thanked, someone you could meet face to face next week. Got a face? Your task is to write a letter of gratitude to this individual and to deliver it in person...Be specific about what he or she did for you and how it affected your life. Let him/her know what you are doing now and how you often remember what he/she did." (Chip & Dan Heath, *The Power of Moments*, Ch. 7).

God's Peace, *Pastor Kurt Ebert*

Volunteer Focus

Heather Evans



What is your role at Calvary?

Director of Christian School Ministry Team

What motivates you to give of your time and talent in this way?

Making a difference and helping Calvary to be the best school possible motivates me to serve in this capacity.

What is your favorite thing about serving at Calvary?

I love how close everyone is! Everyone knows each other. I love that my kids see their teachers and friends at church over the weekend!

Favorite Book/Verse of the Bible?

I love the verse Jeremiah 29:11—"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Favorite Dessert?

I love ALL chocolate!

What is one thing that the people of Calvary can keep in their prayers for your area of ministry?

People can pray for our students and the Christian School Ministry Team as we make decisions toward bettering our school.

Staff Spotlight

Molly Troemel



What is your role at Calvary?

I teach 2nd grade.

What is your favorite thing about serving at Calvary?

The youth director seems cool.

Who has been the biggest influence on your faith? Why?

I have been influenced by so many people, but seeing how my family members draw strength from the Lord during hardships while still praising Him in good times has been a blessing.

Favorite Book/Verse of the Bible?

1 Corinthians 15:58—"Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain."

Favorite Dessert?

Cookies

What is the one thing that the people of Calvary can keep in their prayers for your area of ministry?

Continued prayers for my students and their families as they grow in their knowledge and faith.

General

Winter Weather Cancellation Reminder

In the event of a cancellation of worship services or ministry events, we will... 1) Post information to Calvary's Facebook Page. 2) Send out a mass e-mail to our e-mail lists. 3) Post closings on area news channels. 4) Change phone greeting for the church (if possible). If you would like to be added to our e-mail list, please send a note to churchsecretary@clcs.org. Above all, please use your best judgment during this time of year.

ADULT MINISTRY Help Needed for Mug-Packing Project

Monday, December 3rd, 12:30 pm Room 125 Volunteers are needed to help our 2nd graders pack gift mugs with candies for our Advent Service visitors. This is a fun and easy service project – no experience necessary! We should be done by 2:30pm. If you can help, Emily Spelde: espelde@clcs.org or call 317-783-2000.



Calvary Connect Contemporary Worship

The next Calvary Connect worship service will take place **Sunday, December 9th from 10:30-11:15 am**. Join us as we sit at tables, enjoy coffee and donuts, and hear God's Word in a casual atmosphere.



"Blue Christmas" Worship Service – Monday, December 17th, 6:30pm

It can be hard to embrace the joy of the Christmas season when we are going through tough times. If you are dealing with the death of a loved one, facing life after divorce, coping with the loss of a job, living with illness or another difficult life situation, we invite you to a service of hope & comfort. Following our short service, refreshments and fellowship will follow. Invite a friend or family member.

Interested in becoming a member or learning more about Calvary?

Twice a year we offer our *Foundations of Faith* class during the Sunday School hour, which gives an overview of Calvary, our Christian faith and the Lutheran perspective. This 6-session series will start on **January 13, 2019**, at 9:25 am, in Room 125. Adults interested in joining our congregation are encouraged to attend. Want more info? Email Emily Spelde, espelde@clcs.org, or call or text 317-695-9366.



Calvary Lutheran Chili Cook-Off

It's time to start testing your chili recipe! The Calvary Lutheran Chili Cook-Off is just around corner! Join us **Sunday, January 27th** to taste some great chili and support our youth. Entry to the event is \$5 per person with a \$20 family max. It is \$20 to enter your chili into the contest. The grand champion will be decided by a blind tasting by our judges while fans can vote for the fan favorite award with their loose change. All funds raised will go towards the high school youth group's trip to the National Youth Gathering this summer in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Registration forms will be in the church office beginning Dec 1st.

2018 Holiday Worship Schedule

ADVENT MIDWEEK SERVICES

Wednesday, December 5th, 3:45 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. (God with Us: Our Potter)

Wednesday, December 12th, 3:45 p.m. (God with Us: Our Living Branch)

Wednesday, December 12th, 7:00 p.m. (3rd-8th Grade Christmas Service)

Wednesday, December 19th, 3:45 p.m. (God with Us: Our Guide)

Wednesday, December 19th, 7:00 p.m. (PS-2nd Grade Christmas Service)

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Monday, December 17th, 6:30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS WEEK SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE – Monday, December 24th

5:00 p.m. - Candlelight Service

7:00 p.m. - Candlelight Service

CHRISTMAS DAY – Tuesday, December 25th

10:00 a.m. with Communion

NEW YEAR'S EVE – Monday, December 31st

7:00 pm with Communion



Greeters Needed at Services

Greeters needed for all services! We are asking everyone to consider serving as a greeter. Help make a big impact with the simplest action; a simple friendly smile can foster an atmosphere of acceptance and love in our church and create a fantastic experience. This is for everyone from youth to seniors. You may sign up once, or as often as you'd like, whatever fits your schedule. We ask that you arrive 15 minutes prior to the service and remain 10 minutes after the service begins for late arrivals. Besides greeting, we ask you to help visitors and guest make connections with other members. Answer questions; direct them to the Sanctuary, Bible Study classrooms, Sunday school classrooms, Restrooms, and Nursery. Please look at your calendar now, don't wait and sign up for any and all dates you are willing and available to greet. **Here's how it works in 3 easy steps:**

1. **Click this link** to go to our invitation page on SignUp.com: <https://bit.ly/2OWnjIC>
2. **Enter your email address:** (You will NOT need to register an account on SignUp.com)
3. **Sign up!** Choose your spots

SignUp.com will send you an automated confirmation and reminders. Easy!

Note: SignUp.com does not share your email address with anyone. If you prefer not to use your email address, please contact me at 317-340-5513 and I can sign you up manually. Please leave a message. Thank you, Tracy Moore

Parish Education

Parish Education

Children's Sunday School: The theme for this year is "**Love One Another as I Have Loved You**"! See the following teachers & room locations for your children:

Preschool: Room 304-Lori Turner

Kindergarten/1st/2nd : Room 405-Loretta Robinson

3rd/4th: Room 205-Ben/Brittani Langhammer

5th/6th: Room 511-Sarah Miner / Glenda Roundtree

7th-8th: Room 514-Diane Gibson

"Into the Word: How to Be Rich" (1 Timothy 6:18)" (Sundays 9:25 a.m. Jan 6, 13, 20, 27) You might think, rich is the other guy. Rich is the other church. Rich is having more than you currently have. If that's the case, you can be rich and not know it, feel it, or act like it. Join the pastors as they lead us through a resource by Andy Stanley, which will help us reflect upon the many ways that we have been abundantly blessed.

Youth Ministry

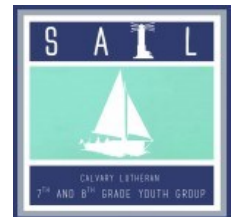
FLIGHT—High School Youth Group

FLIGHT meets **Sunday evenings from 5:30-7:00 pm** in the youth room. Events typically include food, Bible study, small group discussion, and an activity. This group is open to all students currently in grades 8-12.



SAIL—7th-8th Grade Youth Group

SAIL will meet next on **Wednesday, December 19th from 5:30-7:00 pm** for our Christmas party! This event is open to all youth in grades 7 and 8. Friends from outside Calvary are always welcome!



LAUNCH—5th and 6th Grade Youth Group

LAUNCH will meet next on **Wednesday, December 5th from 5:30-7:00 pm** for our Christmas party! This event is open to all youth in grades 5 and 6. Friends from outside Calvary are always welcome!



Youth Sponsorship—National Youth Gathering

Calvary will be sending 18 youth and 6 adults to this summer's National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, Minnesota. If you would like to help our youth meet their fundraising goal then please consider being a youth sponsor! You can sign up for one time gift or monthly sponsorship. Sponsorship forms will be made available in the Narthex during the month of December following worship services.

Adult Ministry

Lunch OUT! Wednesday, December 5th, 11:30am – O'Reilly's Irish Bar and Restaurant

For our "first Wednesday" outing in December we are headed to O'Reilly's Irish Bar and Restaurant in Greenwood. Located at 8923 S. Meridian Street, in the strip mall on the northeast corner at County Line Road, this restaurant offers burgers, soups, salads, sandwiches, fish and an assortment of monthly lunch specials with a soda, tea or coffee for only \$7.99. The banquet room will be saved for Calvary Lutheran. Come join us for good food, Christian fellowship, and holiday cheer!



Lunch & Learn Christmas Party

Wednesday, December 19, 11:30am - Narthex

It's time for Adult Ministry's annual Christmas party!

Good food, fellowship, carols, inspiration and some surprises, too.

Provided Entrée: Baked ham

What to Bring: \$2 and a dish to share if you are able.

Do you know someone who could use some holiday cheer? Invite them to join us! We will celebrate Jesus' birth and honor the December birthdays of our attendees, too. Adults of all ages are welcome.



Lunch OUT! Wednesday, January 2, 2019 11:30am

A fun, delicious start to the new year! Every first Wednesday of the month Adult Ministry has a lunch outing at a local restaurant. On January 2nd we will meet at **Cheddars**, at the northeast corner of Emerson Avenue and County Line Road in Greenwood. This popular restaurant offers "...made-from-scratch American comfort food," at affordable prices. In case you made a New Year's resolution to diet, Cheddar's lists calorie counts on its menu. Please join us. No reservation needed; tables will be reserved for Calvary Lutheran.

Lunch & Learn Wednesday, January 16th, 11:30am - Narthex

As we age wounds can take longer or fail to heal. Our January presenter, Perry Foster from Community Health's Advanced Wound Care Center, will talk about new treatment techniques and technologies that are being used and the success they are providing, such as negative pressure therapy, bio-engineered skin substitutes, hyperbaric oxygen therapy, and bio-synthetics. **Program:** *New Helps in Healing*

Provided Entrée: Beef Stroganoff **What to Bring:** \$2 and a dish to share if you are able



November Memorials

In Memory of Helen Weeden from:

Jeff & Donna Smith

In Memory of Gary Conley from:

Susan Drattlo, Roger & Sally Wetzel, Gary & Linda Bugher, Mark Hasz, Pastor Bill & Debbie Yates, Elise Wolf, Grace Wolf, Jake & Kyle Allen, Bob & Janet Polk, Bob & Sandra Wilson, Anonymous, Gerald & Phyllis Hager

In Memory of Joan Allen from:

Paul & Kathy Brakke

In Memory of Dr. Robert Strong from:

Lutheran High School

In Memory of Dr. Joe Claudy from:

Claudia Benyon



What Makes Christmas So Special?

Considering that this article is being written for submission in our congregational newsletter the answer should be rather obvious. Yet is it? So much emphasis is placed on the gifts and shopping, travels, special foods, family and friend gatherings, and all of our traditions that the obvious is at times forgotten or at least not fully celebrated.

I have celebrated numerous birthdays yet I can only remember a select few. One birthday that I do remember, I remember for selfish reasons. For this birthday, my mother was serving as chairperson for the Girl Scouts nut sales that my sister's troop was holding. The nuts were delivered, and it was time for the families to come and pick-up their orders. Our garage was full of cartons of an assortment of nuts. The delivery and pick-up night happened to fall on my birthday. I was 11 years old when this occurred. What I do remember is that my mother and father, both exhausted from unloading and stacking cartons and then loading cars, fell asleep early that evening while I was opening my presents. As a parent and grandparent, I now sympathize with their plight. Yet at the time, I felt that my birthday celebration was diminished. My mother and father always made us feel extra special on our birthdays.

How are your plans for Jesus' birthday celebrations coming? Do we place God incarnate as our first priority of Christmas? Do we suspend the preparations and take time to truly focus on the birth of our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ? Do we take time for family devotions over the 4 weeks of Advent? Many resources are available for family Advent devotions.

I mentioned that I remember that birthday for selfish reasons. I wanted all of the attention. To what extent do we place Jesus as the center of our attention, not only during Christmas, but throughout the year? Jesus is selfish for our hearts.

We are privileged each day to celebrate Christ in the Day School. The children are free to STAND FIRM in their faith as we rejoice in the gift of our salvation. A very Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year 2019 to you and to your families!

"Savior of the Nations"

Students in 3rd through 8th grade will be presenting our Advent Service on Wednesday, December 12. The promises of God are fulfilled in Jesus as the long expected Messiah to the whole world. We invite you to attend this 7:00PM worship service.

"Christmas Jubilee"

Our Preschool through 2nd grade students will be leading Advent worship on Wednesday, December 19. The Preschool through 2nd Grade will present "Christmas Jubilee" a service of Christmas love based on God's gift to all mankind. The service begins at 7:00PM.

End of second quarter

Our second quarter will be completed on Friday, December 21. Report cards will be emailed on Friday, January 11th. We commend our learning into the Lord's Hands asking Him to bless those who teach and those who learn in this place.

Christmas Vacation

Our final day prior to Christmas vacation is **Friday, December 21**. School will dismiss at 3:00PM on that day. School will resume on **Monday, January 7th**. We ask the Lord to be with all traveling during this Christmas break. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

2019-20 Preschool Kindergarten & First -Eighth Grade Registration Information

Preschool, Kindergarten, First – Eighth Grade registration for Calvary members, returning students and their siblings, and new registrations from the community will begin on February 1st. Our Early enrollment period will continue through March 15th. Families are invited to call and schedule an appointment for a tour during the school day. We are excited as we prepare and plan for the upcoming school year. Help spread the word to coworkers, neighbors, friends, and family. God has blessed us enabling us to be a blessing to others.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – No school

Calvary Lutheran School will be closed on Monday January 21 in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. We ask the Lord to eliminate the sin of prejudice that still exists in our world today. We ask God to reveal "the Dream" of Dr. King to all people.



Calvary Lutheran School News from Principal Rensner

Parent Preschool Teacher Conferences

Parents will gather with our Preschool teachers for Parent Teacher Conferences on January 23-25. Preschool sessions will not meet on Thursday and Friday, January 24-25. Preschool Extended Care will remain open for any child care needs on those two days.

National Lutheran Schools Week

Calvary will join with thousands of other Lutheran School students and teachers during the week of January 27-February 2 as we celebrate NLSW!! Many exciting activities are planned during this week-long celebration. A calendar of events will be distributed following our Christmas Vacation.

State Tax Credit Information

Too Good To Be True?! 50% TAX CREDIT for Indiana tax liabilities!

God has provided a unique opportunity to help fund the Christian education of our Calvary students. The Lutheran Scholarship Granting Organization of Indiana has been identified as a Scholarship Granting Organization. Scholarships through private and corporate donations are granted to Calvary student families whose income is less than 200% of the Federal free or reduced hot lunch guidelines.

Multiple Benefits for Calvary Lutheran School students, the private or corporate donor, and Calvary Lutheran Church

1. Students and their families accepted in this program will receive a scholarship grant per child enrolled in Kindergarten -8th grade at Calvary.
2. The donor will receive a 50% Indiana State tax credit for every dollar donated. Example: A donation of \$1000.00 will result in a tax credit of \$500.00 towards your Indiana income tax liability. Private as well as corporate donations will receive this benefit.

Creative donations

Put your donation on a credit card that offers special incentives. Reward points, airline miles, etc. in addition to the tax savings. Reap the rewards while assisting others to hear God's Word.

How may I help? \$42,500 needed to fully fund all applications

Donations are currently being accepted. Please submit your donation to the church or school office or send directly to the Lutheran SGO of Indiana by December 31. Please note: You must include the donor form with your donation. Forms are available in the church and school offices and online at www.LutheranSGO.org.

What happens in the future?

Children receiving a scholarship grant are eligible the following school year to convert this grant to an Indiana State voucher. This again significantly reduces the need for congregational funded scholarship dollars.

Children will have the opportunity to hear God's Word through your giving. God continues to open doors to others once thought closed due to financial restrictions. Your assistance in this program is so greatly appreciated! Your gift is multiplied in so many ways.

NEWS FROM LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL OF INDIANAPOLIS

Christmas Concert – December 9

The Music Department of Lutheran High School invites you to celebrate the season of Christmas at the annual **Christmas Concert** on **Sunday, December 9**. Please join us at **4:00 pm** in LHS' Ruth Lilly Auditorium to hear the Choirs and Bands perform Christmas favorites that focus on the coming of Jesus. The concert is free and open to the public.

LuFest – April 12, 2019

LuFest, Lutheran High School's annual Lutheran Festival and dinner-auction, will be held **Friday, April 12, 2019** at The Nest Event Center in Greenwood. Get more info and reserve your table (\$1,250) or individual tickets (\$125 each) at LuFest.org. New this year — discounted pricing for LHS alumni 40 and under, first-time LuFest attendees, and those 70 or older.

We are also looking for donations of new, high-quality items, services, or experiences to include in the live and silent auctions. These may be dropped off at the LHS office weekdays between 7:30 am and 4:00 pm. Please call the LHS Development Office, 317-224-1108, with any questions.



Women in Mission

Extravagant Sharing

Begin the NEW YEAR EXTRAVAGANTLY SHARING with Lutheran Child and Family Services Sharing Place. In **January**, please purchase and place on the Extravagant Sharing shelves **canned and dry pasta and/or pork and beans**. Many hungry families will greatly appreciate your giving hearts.

BLANKETS FOR BABIES

During the winter months of December, January and February, we will meet just once a month. The dates are Thursdays, December 13th, January 17th and February 21st. We meet from 6-8 p.m. in the cafe area. We knit and crochet blankets for newborns whose parents are financially challenged. Along with these blankets, we send prayers with God's blessings for the baby and his/her family. All ages and skill levels welcome. Questions? Susan Daniels 317-882-3691



Ladies' Saturday Bible Study Sat., December 1 8:30 a.m.

This month's bible study will be "His Blessing of Showers" from page 18 of the LWML Fall 2018 Quarterly and led by Sara Jupin. Please join us from 8:30-9:30 a.m. in the EPIC Center Library.

Outreach

Police Appreciation Bags

Outreach is looking for your prayers, support, and help in several areas. First we are looking to collect items for packing and distributing Police Appreciation Bags to IMPD Southeast district. Collection will be **Wed., Dec 12 - Sun., Dec 30**. The goal is to pack 180 appreciation bags and distribute to the officer's the week of Jan 9. We will pack bags after each service the weekend of Jan 5/6. Cards will also be available to write a note of thanks, gratitude, and prayers.

Items needed are:

115 - 12 oz. Water bottles	100 - Peanut butter crackers
165 - 12 oz. Gatorade	130 - Tissues
180 - 12 oz. Hand Sanitizer	115 - Lunch Bags size Pretzels
180 - Chapstick	180 - Wet wipes (flat travel pack)

Easter Egg Hunt—April 13th

We're "egg"cited to sponsor a community Easter egg hunt on Apr 13 and need your support. Beginning **Jan 12 - Jan 26** we will be pre-selling take-n-bake Gallagher's Pizza. Pick up of pizzas will be Sat., Feb 2, just in time for the Super bowl on Sunday. What a delicious way for you to help show your support for this outreach and enjoy great pizza while watching the game. Pre-order forms and further info will be in your mailbox closer to the date. Any additional funds over the costs of the Easter egg hunt will go toward relocation of the community garden.

Compassion Ministry

The Compassion Ministry Team would like to thank you for the generous giving during this holiday season. We were able to help 19 families, consisting of 28 adults and 51 children, with Thanksgiving baskets and gift cards to help with Christmas. You also gave generously to the kids residing at Lutherwood. We pray the items bring them comfort and that they learn of God's care and love for them.



Fellowship Ministry

Holiday Cookie Exchange for Good Sam Fund Saturday, December 1 in the South Narthex

There are TWO ways to participate!

1) Come to the **Holiday Cookie Exchange December 1 at 10am**

- Bake at least 5 dozen cookies; 3 dozen to exchange and at least 2 dozen to donate
- Label "nuts" or "no nuts"
- Include your recipe (optional); copies will be made to share
- Help package donated cookies
- Fellowship and refreshments in the South Narthex



2) Interested in baking cookies to donate?

Drop off cookies (label "nuts" or "no nuts") Friday, November 30, in the kitchenette by 4pm OR December 1 between 9-10am

Donated cookies will be packaged immediately after the cookie exchange to sell after services on December 1-2. **Proceeds go toward Calvary's "Good Sam Fund".** Questions: Contact Linda Bugher at fellowship@clcs.org or 317-432-1865.

Thank you to all bakers!

Fellowship Opportunity coming in January

Mark your calendar for another Fellowship Opportunity **after all services on January 5-6, 2019!** Coffee cakes, muffins, and fruit will be served. What a great opportunity to connect with one another!

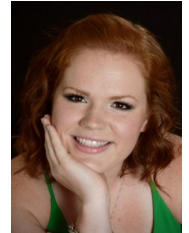
Stewardship Emphasis

Stewardship Update *By Rachel Daeger, Chair, Stewardship Ministry Team*

Supporting those called to serve

Calvary's student assistance fund is available to Calvary members who are studying for full-time ministry in the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. During Advent, donations made during mid-week services are directed to this fund. If you are not attending a mid-week service you can also make an online donation typing "student assistance" in the memo block. The newly established Wessler Scholarship and Endowment fund will be available to support students later in 2019 but contributions in December are crucial to assisting these students this spring.

Jessica Wilson is currently a student at Concordia University Chicago studying church music. She is an alumnus of Calvary Lutheran School and Lutheran High School of Indianapolis. Jessica writes, "support from Calvary's scholarship has helped ease the financial burden of continuing my Christian education through the collegiate level. This scholarship has allowed me to focus on my studies and extra-curricular activities, like track and field, without having to worry about getting a job to supplement tuition payments. I am incredibly grateful for the continuing support the Calvary family has given me, and I am excited to become involved in full-time ministry once I graduate. I am currently serving at St. Andrew's Forest Park for my church music internship, as well as playing for services at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church. I am also practicing hard for my senior organ recital, which I will be performing in the spring. Along with all of this, I am also working on completing forms for Synodical Placement so that I will be able to receive a call once I graduate. I have truly been blessed by Calvary and I thank them for their financial support of my education and future work in the ministry."



The SMP program (Specific Ministry Pastor) enables students to take seminary courses from a distance as they prepare for ordination. This program was made specifically so that congregations could rise up leaders for positions within their congregation. For Calvary, this means Sam Troemel, who is currently serving as Youth and Family Ministry Director, is receiving pastoral training for his involvement within Calvary's Connect contemporary worship services.

The SMP program is a four-year program where students take online classes once a week and complete assignments specific to their ministry context. Students are eligible for ordination after two years with the understanding that they must complete an additional two years of courses.

Sam is currently taking Introduction to Pastoral Ministry. Topics covered include...

- Origin of the pastoral office
- Qualities of a pastoral candidate
- The pastors call into ministry
- The Lutheran pastor
- Functions of the parish pastor
- Pastoral pitfalls



2019 Giving envelopes

2019 giving envelopes will be set on tables in the narthex and ready for pickup the weekend of Dec 15. Envelopes facilitate accurate tracking of member contributions since each family has an individual number. The packets include an envelope for each week of the year along with special envelopes for quarterly mission contributions and mid week services.

Members who prefer to donate electronically are not assigned envelopes but they do have a number as well. If you typically give electronically but want to make a cash or check contribution, it is helpful to include your number. If you need that number please contact stewardship@clcs.org.

If you have been given an envelope packet but would prefer to donate electronically, please set up your online giving account at <http://www.clcs.org/donate> and notify stewardship@clcs.org that you will not need envelopes next year.

Stewardship Ministry Team is happy to answer any questions about contributing to Calvary.

CIM NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2018

2016 Graduates with Pr. Raji and Pr. Jeff



2017 Graduates with Mission Team



2018 Graduates with Mission Team



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings from Ambur where the Calvary India Mission team has just witnessed graduation of the 3rd class of Tailoring Students. It is humbling to see what God had done in just 3 years with this growing mission. We feel blessed to be a part of God's work here with the Tailoring, Tuition and Computer Centers. We are showing Jesus great love by offering FREE training and education. Hindus, Muslims and Christians are being drawn to Him! Praise God!

Link to full newsletter:
www.clcs.org/about/news

Special thanks to our Tailoring and Tuition Center student sponsors!

Worship Anew
Lutheran Ministries Media, Inc.
 Toll-Free: (888) 286-8002 www.worshipanew.org
Sunday 10:00 AM - WHMB-TV 40 Sunday 11:30 AM - Direct TV Channel 377

December 2018

December 2, 2018 – First Sunday in Advent

Psalm 89:6, 14-16, 18; Old Testament: Jeremiah 33:14-16; Gospel: Luke 21:25-36
 "Watching. Waiting. Hoping." - Sermon Text: Luke 21:25-36 - Rev. James Elsner

As Christmas draws near, Advent provides a season of preparation for Christ's coming. Knowing that Jesus will reappear, are you fearful? Or, Hoping?

December 9, 2018 – Second Sunday in Advent

Psalm 66:1-12; Old Testament: Malachi 3:1-7b; Gospel: Luke 3:1-20
 "Prepare the Way" - Sermon Text: Luke 3:4b - Rev. Shayne Jonker

Repentance and forgiveness. This is the pattern of the Christian life. This is the daily death and resurrection of those baptized into Christ. And this is how we prepare to meet the Lord Jesus in His coming to us.

December 16, 2018 – Third Sunday in Advent

Psalm 85; Old Testament: Zephaniah 3:14-20; Gospel: Luke 7:18-28
 "Are You the One?" - Sermon Text: Luke 7:18-28 - Rev. William Mueller

Have you wondered what God was up to in your life? Don't fret if you have – so did John the Baptist. Feel frustrated in your faith? Don't worry – just ask the right person, like John the Baptist did. Ask Jesus in the moments of frustration and fear...and be encouraged by His answer!

December 23, 2018 – The Nativity of Our Lord—Christmas Observed

Psalm 98; Old Testament: Titus 3:4-7; Gospel: Luke 2:1-14
 "God Comes Near!" - Sermon Text: Luke 2:9 - Rev. Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer

"The hopes and fears of all the years" came together over two thousand years ago in the "little town of Bethlehem." God came near. What are your hopes this Christmas? Your fears? God comes near! "O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!"

December 30, 2018 – First Sunday after Christmas

Psalm 111; Epistle: Colossians 3:12-17; Gospel: Luke 2:22-40
 "In the Name of Jesus" - Sermon Text: Colossians 3:12-17 - Rev. Dr. Walter Maier III

As we face a new year, or at any time in the year, what is the best advice as to how we are to live? Do everything in the name of Jesus! We can live in such a manner, because of Jesus' name!



CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

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Return Service Requested

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

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Family Education Hour (Sunday School) 9:25 AM

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