

CALVARY'S CROSSROADS



FEBRUARY 2012

www.CLChurch.org

Phone: 612-827-2504
Fax: 612-827-0176

Special Points of Interest

- *Community Sing at Calvary*
- *Lenten Events*
- *Election Results*

Calvary Lutheran Church
is in the city for good!
Progressive, Christ-centered
community called to radically welcome all
Vibrantly worship God
Faithfully work for peace and justice
in our neighborhood and world

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

*The questions we ask
shape the answers we live.*

This past Sunday we had a very good congregational meeting. We received the Program Booklet for 2011, heard from most committees and recognized the formation and work of two additional task forces (the Calvary Theatrical Production Team and the Anti-Racism Task Force). We also walked through the work that has been done on the Visioning document we approved at the June congregational meeting in 2010.

The last forty-five minutes included the election of new council members: Joanne Shepherd, Judi Linder, Chris Van Meter, Ramona Starks, Nicole Falk, and Eric Paulsrud (elected to second term); election of delegates to church-affiliated organizations; and pastor's comments; additionally we spent significant time on finances, with Josh Moberg, Congregational Treasurer, providing insight and fielding questions.

It is the questions that I would like to turn my attention in this newsletter article.

We are discussing finances, life together, and living out the gospel in

an active manner. We are looking out five or more years—working to make sure that we are both aware and engaged, and that we are proactive.

Like many congregations who have been living with the challenging economy of the last three years, it is easy to ask the questions, "What do we need to do to survive?" "What do we need to cut or change? It is easy to move quickly to "slash and burn" models of finance that are currently taking over much of our government and civic budgeting.

The more challenging and, I believe, much more fruitful questions are, "Where is God leading us?" and "What is God's vision for us as a congregation?" These are the questions we will be asking ourselves in the Lenten home gatherings. These are the questions in which I am asking you to dwell.

My sense is that God is calling us to be **vital, sustainable, and faithful**. It is my deep understanding that God is calling us to greater commitment and community. I also know the God I understand and honor in worship and life is not a God of fear or scarcity, but a God of hope and abundance.

*The questions we ask
shape the answers
we live.*

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Women's Gathering	Pg. 2
Going to Camp	Pg. 2
Community Sing	Pg. 3
Caring for Creation	Pg. 3
Election Results	Pg. 4
Coffee Hour Changes	Pg. 4
Thank You	Pg. 5
Holden Trip	Pg. 5
In Our Prayers	Pg. 6
Worship Leaders	Pg. 6
Celebrations	Pg. 6
Weekly Worship Texts	Pg. 7
Committee Meeting Dates	Pg. 7
Events on the Calendar	Pg. 7
Sandy's Corner	Pg. 8
Archive Committee	Pg. 9
Lenten Events	Pg. 9
Council Retreat	Pg. 9
Ash Wednesday Services	Pg. 10
Soup Suppers & Prayer Around the Cross	Pg. 10

continued on page two

CALVARY'S CROSSROADS

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

These understandings shape my pastoral leadership at Calvary. These understandings, I believe, must shape how we are called to live as a community centered in God in Jesus.

That does not ignore the financial issues, but reframes them. We begin to ponder aloud. Are we spending money wisely and prudently to be a community centered in worship? Are we living a mission of caring for children and families in our congregation and community in ways that are simultaneously faithful and responsible? Are we most

effectively sharing the vision God has given us with those who are longing to be a part of it in our community (whether being a member, or contributing to the work)? Are we doing justice and providing a ministry of caring that is bold and effective?

We also challenge ourselves to give in ways that fulfill mission and vision, not simply to address a financial bottom line.

Much more will be said in the weeks and months ahead. However, now is the time to be

thinking about this, while the annual meeting and conversations are fresh in our minds.

Now is the time for us to see God re-forming us not as people wrapped in the shroud of scarcity and fear, but emboldened in life and abundance.

Blessings as we ask tougher questions and seek to live the daring answers.

Pr. Brad

GOING TO CAMP

Calvary, Bethel and Our Saviour's are going to Camp! Students in 2nd grade through High School seniors are invited to join Sandy, Pastor Brad and Pastor Laurie for a week at Luther Crest Bible Camp in Alexandria, Minnesota.

Luther Crest's 100-acre facility includes cabins with running water, beach access to Lake Carlos, low and high rope course, a nature center and much more.

The theme for the summer is Middle of the Wheel. Campers will be challenged by questions like, 'Where do we find hope in a broken world?' or 'How do we respond to a Christian way to our fear?'

Our week of camp will be from June 10th to 15th. The cost for the week will be \$279. For more information, a camp brochure and registration form please contact Sandy Troyan at sandyt@oursavioursmpls.org or (612) 871 - 2967 (x103).

In order to guarantee your camper's spot, registration and \$100 deposit will need to be received by February 15th.

WOMEN'S GATHERING

The second Monday of the month women of all ages gather for conversation and fellowship.

Please join us Monday, February 13 at Judi Linder's home starting at 7:00 p.m. RSVP to Judi for directions via phone 612-722-5496 or email linde002@umn.edu

CALVARY'S CROSSROADS

COMMUNITY SING COMING TO CALVARY - FEBRUARY 18TH

A community sing to benefit
 Minnesotans United
 for All Families
 Saturday February 18,
 7:00 - 9:30 p.m.
 at Calvary Lutheran Church

Suggested donations:

\$15/adult

\$5/child

\$25/family

more if you can.

Songs led by song leaders

Bret Hesla and Mary Preus
 of Minnesota Community Sings,
 and **Dan Chouinard**, one of the
 Twin Cities' busiest musicians.



*At a community sing, everyone sings,
 and everyone sings together.
 Song sheets are provided and all songs
 are led.*

No auditions — all voices welcome!

**We are asking for your help
 in making this an amazingly
 successful event.**

Please consider helping in the
 following ways:

- **Attend the event!** – Please mark your calendars for 2/18/12
- **Be an event co-host:** Help to spread the word about the event and personally get 10 or more people to attend the event.
- **Be a sponsor of the event:** Give \$50 or \$100 to help underwrite the event and provide a large donation. (Higher level of giving would be welcome too!)

Please let us know if you can help us with this special event which will raise money to defeat the Minnesota marriage amendment as we raise our voices together.

To reply or for more information, email event co-chair Betty Tisel at mnsings@gmail.com or co-chair Shari Seifert at Shari@ShariSeifert.com

Thanks!

Shari Seifert & Betty Tisel



*Here are some glimpses of a past community sing.
 Photos by Kathy Easthagen.*

CARING FOR CREATION

Here are a few ideas we can all try in order to help care for creation:

The 100-Mile Diet challenge

The average American fork-full of food traveled 1500 miles to reach your mouth. By eating locally, we save emissions of transporting food and the livelihoods of local farmers. We also eat fresher, more nutritious food, and we become intimately connected to the land and the seasons. (100MileDiet.org)

Set a Zero-waste Goal

Make recycling, composting, washing and reusing into common practice. Carry your own mug or reusable water container to avoid generating more petroleum-based plastics. Stash a set of tote bags in your car for shopping, and refuse to accept any disposables. (GRRN.org)

Take the 10% Challenge

Try spending 10% of your income at locally-owned businesses. Move your mortgage to a local bank or credit union; buy from consignment stores instead of chain stores; and eat at locally-owned restaurants. This one act will improve your local economy and save Main Street -- and maybe even your job. (LivingEconomies.org)

Modified from article by Shawn Dell Joyce

© Creators.com

CALVARY'S CROSSROADS

WOMEN'S YOGA RETREAT

February 24 - 26 Wilderness Canoe Base

Andrea Scharmer will lead this invigorating weekend full of yoga practice with a Christian focus. Enjoy healthy meals, warm community, time for silence and the chance to disconnect from the world to be closer to God.

The retreat begins on Friday evening, February 24th and ends Sunday morning after brunch. Wilderness Canoe Base is located on the edge of the Boundary Waters, and is approximately a 5 & 1/2 hour drive from the Twin Cities.

Cost is only \$180 for the whole weekend.
Contact Emma Harness to register 218-388-2241
or emmah@campwapo.org

2012 COUNCIL MEMBERS

Council Members (term expires year listed)

Marcia Haugstad (2013)
Judi Linder (2013)
Gary Mazzone (2013)
Stacia Wick (2013)

Steve Glass (2014)
Danielle Hill (2014)
Josh Moberg (2014)
Joanne Shepherd (2014)

Nicole Falk (2015)
Eric Paulsrud (2015)
Ramona Starks (2015)
Chris Van Meter (2015)

Please remember to pray
and support the Council members.

COFFEE HOUR

Beginning on February 5th procedures will change at Coffee Hour! M.I.C.A.H. Committee will purchase cookies and kid-friendly snack items for Sunday morning coffee hour. Coffee and juice is already provided. If you prefer to provide your own treats, that is just fine. Instructions for serving are inside the upper cabinet in the Narthex.

Each week two member units will be assigned for Coffee Hour, starting alphabetically. If you are not able to serve on your assigned week, we ask that you trade with someone else. This way everyone will have an opportunity to provide hospitality on Sunday mornings throughout the year. Thank you for helping provide welcome and hospitality to our members and visitors.

MICAH Committee member, Verna Lutes, will be available to answer questions about serving.

DELEGATES ELECTED

At the January 29th Annual Meeting of Calvary Lutheran Church, the following people were elected as delegates to various organizations:

Augustana:

Nancy Lee Nelson
Verna Lutes

ELCA Synod Representative:

Damon Van Duzen
(replacing Chris Van Meter)

Fairview:

Judith Mattison
Pastor Brad Froslee

Gustavus Adolphus College:

Josh Hill
Danielle Hill

CALVARY'S CROSSROADS

THANK YOU FROM OUR SAVIOR'S COMMUNITY SERVICES

Dear Calvary:

On behalf of Our Saviour's Community Services, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church for your donation of \$265 given in 2011.

Your gift is an investment in the lives of those who come here, whether it's to learn a new language or seeking a safe place to sleep. Please be assured, it has made a difference.

"I needed to rely on interpreters whenever I had a doctor's appointment or at a community gathering. Thankfully the English Learning Center is here to help me improve my English language skills. Now I can speak and write with confidence in English and no longer rely on someone to translate for me."

Ismail, English student

"I feel so blessed, so relieved, so at peace. No longer do I worry where I am going to lay my head and where I'll wake up."

Jerry, permanent supportive housing resident

We know that our clients' success is only possible because of the contributions we receive from generous donors like you. Thank you again for believing in and supporting our mission.

In Peace,
Sandy Aslaksen
Executive Director

THANK YOU FROM LUTHER PARK

Dear friends:

Your Mission of the Month gift of \$155 has arrived and we rejoice! Our quilt of many colors will be larger and more colorful because of you. Your generosity will result in more faith, more love, and more grace in the world because a camp experience yields all three!

What could be better than knowing you've brightened the world by furthering faith? We hope your world is brighter too as a result of being a part of Luther Park's mission. Thank you and God bless you!

With gratitude,
Joel Legred
Executive Director

HOLDEN VILLAGE TRIP --- OUR SAVIOUR'S INITIATIVE--- INVITING COLLABORATING CONGREGATIONS

Folks at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church are organizing a trip to Holden Village in the summer, 2012. They will be at Holden from July 28-August 4th; transportation time on both sides.

They currently have around 40 people interested in participating,

and are excited to also welcome folks from Calvary and Bethel to join the adventure.

If you are interested in learning more, please contact either the office at Our Saviour's or our shared Children's, Youth, Family Minister Sandy Troyan.

CALVARY'S CROSSROADS

WORSHIP LEADERS FOR FEBRUARY

	Feb. 5	Feb. 12	Feb. 19	Feb. 26
Deacon	George Robson	Lisa Negstad	Amber Bendix	Nancy Lee Nelson
Acolyte	Karen Rudrud	Nancy Lee Nelson	Damon Van Duzen	Eric Paulsrud
	Linda Mundt	Michael Weber	Loren Woodman	Rachel Bjorhus
Lector	Rachel Bjorhus	Felecia Boone	dorothy lesher	Beth Lewis
Usher				
Sacristan	Damon Van Duzen	Melissa Brooks	Melissa Brooks	Steve McCarthy
Sound Board	Gary Nelson	Karen Nelson	George Robson	Mary Nelson
Nursery	Josh Moberg	Adam Mohr	Gary Nelson	Josh Moberg
	Jennifer McCarthy	Joanie Moberg	Teri Schweizer	Sarah Lahr
Coffee Hour Hosts				

*** Please sign up on the Narthex bulletin board



**IN
OUR
PRAYERS**

For members and friends of our congregation with celebrations, losses, or health needs, including: Doris, Gladys, Olga, Maurine, John, Florence, Edie, DeAnn, Doris, Geoffrey, Aria, Matt, Cassidy, Annabelle, Doug, Jan, and Lynn.

FEBRUARY CELEBRATIONS

*No matter
how many candles
are on your cake -
may all your wishes
come true!*

Happy Birthday

Aimee Boone	2/8	Daniel Pederson	2/18
Maria Linder	2/9	Angie Endo	2/19
Felecia Boone	2/15	Torin Froslee	2/21/11
Zachary Seifert	2/15/04	Madalyn Youngbauer	2/25/08
Cassidy Bellman	2/16/01	Pam Saungweme	2/26
Henrietta Williams	2/17		

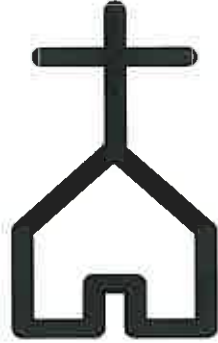
CALVARY'S CROSSROADS

SUNDAY SCHEDULE IN FEBRUARY

Education classes begin
at 9:00 a.m.

Worship service
begins at 10:15 a.m.

*Everyone
is welcome at
Calvary!*



*In the City
for Good!*

WEEKLY WORSHIP TEXTS

February 5

Isaiah 40:21-31
Psalm 147:1-11, 20c
I Cor. 9:16-23
Mark 1:29-39

February 19

II Kings 2:1-12
Psalm 50:1-6
II Cor. 4:3-6
Mark 9:2-9

February 12

II Kings 5:1-14
Psalm 30
I Cor. 9:24-27
Mark 1:40-45

February 26

Genesis 9:8-17
Psalm 25:1-10
I Peter 3:18-22
Mark 1:9-15

FEBRUARY COMMITTEE MEETING DATES

Monday, February 6

Social Justice Steering
Committee
6:30 p.m.

Crossroads Community
Organization
6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, February 14

Worship & Committee
6:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 16

M.I.C.A.H. Committee
8:00 a.m. at Augustana Aprts.

Urban Arts Academy Board
6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, February 21

Mission Support Committee
9:00 a.m.

Property Committee
6:30 p.m.

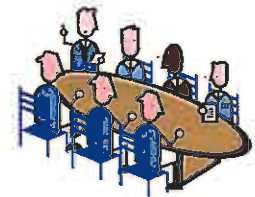
Sunday, February 26

Church Council
6:00 p.m.

Monday, February 27

Education Committee
6:30 p.m.

To Be Determined
Executive Committee



FEBRUARY CALENDAR EVENTS

Calvary Choir rehearsals
meet each Wednesday, at
6:30 p.m.

Calvary Children's Choir
rehearses some Thursdays
from 6:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Miriam Circle meets the first
Tuesday morning of the
month in the Fellowship Hall

Needlework Group meets
the 1st & 3rd Monday from
6:30 - 8 p.m. in the Narthex

Urban Arts Academy
Pre-School meet Monday
through Friday from 9 a.m.
to 4 p.m.

Urban Arts Academy
School-age meet Monday
through Thursday 2 - 5 p.m.

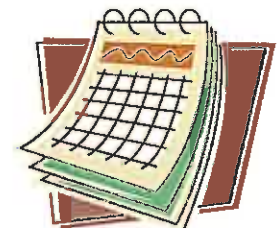
Encore! & Twin Cities
Women's Choir rehearses
here on Wednesday eve-
nings, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Our Emergency Food Shelf
is open Saturdays from 9:00
a.m. until noon.

Twin Cities Metro Bagpipers
meet Thursday evenings.

BeechWood, Inc. rents
office space here and has
various group meetings
here.

Kim Tong Translators,
Theatre Pro Rata, Masons
and Eastern Stars rent space
for their rehearsals or meet-
ings.



*Community
Partners*

CALVARY'S CROSSROADS

SANDY'S CORNER -

A few weeks ago, the Calvary and Our Saviour's confirmation students gathered at a families home for dinner and learning. A couple weeks before that I was talking with a friend who was in town taking classes at Luther Seminary about my Friday night plans, which included Confirmation. Andrew seemed curious and as a fellow youth worker, I knew his passion for those in the first third of life, as well as gifts would be perfect for our Confirmation group. Andrew agreed to be part of our Friday night and to lead our conversation and learning. I let Andrew know that we were beginning our study of the 10 commandments and gave him the freedom and creativity to mold the time however he wanted.

After we shared a meal together, we began our conversation. With parents at one table and students at another, Andrew had each group make a list of characteristics they thought were necessary for a community. Both lists included things like food, cooperation, pizza, people, organized government, money, jobs, and much more. Each group creatively thought of everything that was crucial for a community.

Andrew then charged each group to decide, as a group, what are the three most important items on their list. The students choose people, cooperation and communication, while the parent's list was very similar as they picked people, trust and communication. They were then to make a statement using their three words. The student's statement said this:

To have a community of people, you need cooperation and communication.

As we went on, Andrew begin to share what we learn from the commandments. Through the commandments we learn how to be in relationship with God, but the commandments also teach us how to be in relationship with one other. Therefore, Andrew challenged us all with the question, what does it mean to be in Christians and be in community?

So students and parents were back at their respective tables, wondering how can they work their previous statements to include this very unique relationship

with God. I was fascinated watching the students really wrestle with what it means to be in relationship with God and one another. They understood that there was something unique about being a Christian, but to be able to articulate that was a challenge. They thought about questions like what does cooperation and communication mean in their relationship with God. What is needed to be in relationship with God? What is the role of communication when we think about being in community with not just one another, but with God?

The students seemed to come to some sort of agreement and quickly tried to remember what they had just said as they proudly and creatively wrote it on a piece of paper.

"The community has people cooperating and communicating to gain a better understanding and relationship with God."

Wow! was the communal response from all present as the students read their statement out loud to the group. This statement represented their struggles and questions with what does community mean, especially when we think of community and our relationship with God. And every question they asked while creating this statement showed that this had not been an easy task.

On the way home, Andrew and I found ourselves continuing the conversation. We realized that we could attempt to teach the students about community through structured class time, but their ideas and questions this evening were all reflections of their experiences of community.

Throughout our lives we are all part of communities. Some are healthy and some are not, yet they all shape our understanding of what it means to be in relationship with God and one another. Thank you for all of you that continue to help all people understand the importance of being in community with all people, including our students.

Sandy Troyan

CALVARY'S CROSSROADS

ARCHIVE COMMITTEE TO CONVENE

Henrietta Williams is organizing an Archive Work Day. Currently most of the archives are in boxes in Room 9, adjacent to the Fellowship Hall.

The Fellowship Hall has been reserved:
 Monday, February 27 from 9:00 a.m. - noon
 Tuesday, February 28 from 9:00 a.m. - noon
 Wednesday, Feb. 29 from 9:00 a.m. - noon

We will be able to set up tables, spread the items out and leave them up until we've sorted all the boxes.

If you are a long-tem Calvary member or someone with archiving experience, you are invited to come help with this worthwhile project.

LENTEN HOME GATHERINGS

All households are asked to participate in this year's Lenten home gatherings. After a hiatus last year, they promise to be back and better than ever. This is a great opportunity for long-time members to re-connect, and for new members and visitors to learn more about the congregation and get to know others. Sign-up sheets will be hung up in the narthex beginning February 12, and Pastor Brad will also be making phone calls to make sure everyone has an opportunity to participate.

The theme for this year is ***Life Together: A Vital, Sustainable, Faithful Community***. Within this theme we will be having both fun and exciting, as well as serious, conversations about where we are called living as a diverse and welcoming congregation (going deeper in talking about race and relationships), how we are sustained in faith and build up our congregation in stewardship (giving of time, talents, and financial contributions), and how we continue to center ourselves in faith and promise.

Please take a moment to sign-up and plan to participate in this incredible work of the congregation.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

Themes in Mark:
 A Surprising Gospel

Mark is different from the other Gospels. This will be a discussion class rather than a verse-by-verse examination of the book. Each session can stand alone, but it will be more fun to watch Mark's ideas unfold as we explore the five topics. Topics include:

"Who gets it?"
 "That's the end?"
 "Insiders/Outsiders"

Bring your favorite Bible--or we'll provide one. This is not a test of your knowledge -- it's an adventure!

Time: After worship for an hour

Location: Lounge

Dates: Feb. 26, March 4, 11, 18 and 25

Teacher: Judie Mattison

CHURCH COUNCIL RETREAT

February 24-25
Mt. Olivet Retreat Center

This February the church council will be traveling to Mt. Olivet Retreat Center in Farmington, Minnesota. The council will be spending two days preparing for the upcoming year. Elements of their work will include: election of officers for 2012, work on servant leadership, learning about Calvary finances and reports, and this year a significant focus on servant leadership and our call to live into a future that is vital, sustainable, and faithful.

If you have any calendar items for the upcoming year, or other items you would like on council's radar screen, please contact Gary Mazzone, president, or Pastor Brad.

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

3901 Chicago Avenue S.
Minneapolis, MN 55407

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

Wednesday nights during Lent you are invited to a simple soup supper in the Lounge. The first supper will be on February 29th beginning at 5:30 p.m. They will continue weekly through March 28.

Enjoy good food and conversation with others from the Calvary community. Members, friends and visitors of all ages are welcome!

PRAYER AROUND THE CROSS

Following the Lenten soup supper there will be a brief liturgy of meditative prayer in the sanctuary beginning at 6:30 p.m.

You are invited to experience the presence of God in silence, scripture, meditative music, healing prayer around the cross, lighting candles as signs of hope dancing in the darkness.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES

Wednesday, February 22.

12:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

In our Sanctuary

Everyone is welcome to attend.

