

# CALVARY'S CROSSROADS



JANUARY 2012

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## Special Points of Interest

- Annual Meeting
- Community Sing
- Book Discussion

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

Folk singer and Unitarian-Universalist minister, Fred Small, has a beautiful song titled "Leslie is Different." The song is about a woman, May Lemke, who has served as a nurse-governess and is now retired. When it comes to placing a young child with cerebral palsy, Leslie, in a foster home the local social worker remembers this incredible woman named May and gives her a call. The song works to capture the challenges and the joys of this arrangement and the unfailing love and commitment of May Lemke.

Two lines from this song always stick with me. The first is when May Lemke agrees to care for Leslie. Small uses the line, "And God loves a fool, 'cause she said yes." The second line that captures my imagination is when May Lemke's grown daughters let her know that she shouldn't have signed up for this task and May's response is, "Love never comes easy and miracles mostly come hard."

As we enter this New Year filled with promise and new resolutions, I am mindful of the fools who say "yes"—the fools who resolve to do something different, to be a better person, to find new ways of serving others, to work for justice and peace. I am mindful that God calls us to be a little outlandish in what we think is possible.

Similarly we, like May Lemke, come to realize that love and miracles take real work and commitment. We open ourselves to the unbelievable, the unimaginable, and step out in faith. We allow ourselves to see a God who journeys with us into the unknown...an area where possibilities and promises emerge.

2012 is a new year for us to explore being a little foolish and stepping into the unknown where the hard work of love and miracles come to life. Throughout Christmas and the New Year I've been wondering how I personally am being prodded to step into the unknown. I have also been wondering what it means for Calvary to venture into this place where love doesn't come easy, and miracles mostly come hard.

What resolutions might we together take on over the course of this year?

*Are we willing to take on the hard work of talking about race and class as we read Michele Norris' book together? Are we willing to be transformed individually and as a community in working with the complexities, while allowing for grace in those places where we don't all see things the same way...or simply don't have the right words?*

*Are we willing to see where this will lead us in terms of being "radically welcoming" and building on a richness of diversity?*

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

*...explore being a little foolish and stepping into the unknown where the hard work of love and miracles come to life.*

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## CALVARY'S CROSSROADS

### FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

*As we welcome El Milagro into this space, are we willing to get to know another community deeply and to build new bridges?*

*Are we committed to find ways to welcome people who may feel less comfortable in a "typical" church setting—singles, 20-30 somethings, transgender people in our community?*

*Are we willing to commit to speaking out on issues of immigration, of the destruction of the environment, on the work towards ending malaria, of opposing discrimination in our state?*

*And...are we willing to invite one friend, one colleague, one family (or more) to come and be part of our ministry and vision?*

There are many ways to make a difference in 2012. Perhaps it is by caring for one child, as May Lemke did. Perhaps it is by meeting one new person, organizing one new initiative, serving for one term on council, or perhaps it begins by resolving to live out a deep and loving faith in new ways beyond our doors.

Whether you are about making new personal resolutions or not, I hope you will take some time to think of resolutions you hold at Calvary (personally and as a community). Be open to thinking about what might be challenging or hard, but where we are being led to see love and miracles.

Where is God calling us now and in the future to be a little foolish in our dreaming and work?

And in this New Year with new dreams and new adventures, may God love each of us as fools when we say yes!

In light and promise,  
Pr. Brad

### WORSHIP ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 22

On Sunday, January 22, Javen Swanson will be preaching in worship. Javen is a graduate of Gustavus Adolphus College and Yale Divinity School. Most recently he completed his internship at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, before taking the position as People of Faith Organizer with OutFront Minnesota. Javen will be calling us to action as Minnesota prepares for a vote on the "Marriage Amendment" in November 2012. Javen and his husband, Oby, live in St. Paul, Minnesota, where Oby serves as a UCC pastor.

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE AT WORK

Each year the Nominating Committee at Calvary comes up with a slate of candidates for Church Council, as well as delegates to the Synod Assembly, Gustavus Adolphus College Annual meeting, Augustana Corporation meeting, and Luther Park Bible Camp meeting. They work diligently to follow up with people from the congregation.

If you have an interest in serving in any of these capacities or would like to learn more, please feel free to contact this year's committee:

Laura Huff  
Sam Robson  
Irv Elliot

## CALVARY'S CROSSROADS

### ANNUAL MEETING

Calvary's Annual Meeting will take place following worship on Sunday, January 29 in the Fellowship Hall.

There will be a potluck before the annual meeting.

Please put this important meeting on your calendar and plan on attending.

### GRACE OF SILENCE BOOK DISCUSSION

In January Calvary members will gather for a facilitated discussion of the book *Grace of Silence*, written by Minneapolis Native and NPR reporter Michelle Norris. There will be two gatherings to choose from: Tuesday, January 17 from 7 - 8:30 p.m. or Saturday, January 21 from 10 - 11:30 a.m. A sign up will be in the narthex.

In part, this book is about the experience of an African American family being the first to integrate a block in South Minneapolis near Calvary. The 1st chapter can be downloaded at <http://oneminneapolisoneread.com/> at no charge. There are also several copies available at the Minneapolis Public Library.

Calvary members are encouraged to begin reading the book. Below is an excerpt from *The Grace of Silence*:

*I always knew I was shaped by my parents' expectations and the advice they doled out. What I did not realize until recently is that I was also shaped by the weight of their silence. I now understand that I was molded in myriad ways by those things they never talked about but that nonetheless dictated how they lived their lives. Silence, I learned, had its rewards... and its costs.*

*I hope The Grace of Silence encourages people to think about their own complex family legacies and to consider a core question: How well do we really know the people who raised us?*

### RIC FESTIVAL WORSHIP

January 28, 2012

The Twin Cities chapter of Lutherans Concerned and the Twin Cities RIC Team invite you to join us for our 7th annual Reconciling in Christ festival worship service.

On Saturday, January 28, 2012 at 4:30 p.m., we will celebrate the welcoming ministries of all thirty-one metro area RIC congregations at Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church (1509 27th Ave., NE, Mpls). The Rev. Justin Lind-Ayres of Bethany Lutheran Church will preach.

We'll offer a light supper (no cost) and time of fellowship afterwards. Over supper we'll also be debuting a Readers Theater play by William Randall Beard, "Valued Families: Why Marriage Matters for Everyone."

All are welcome.

### 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 4<sup>th</sup>; 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

**UPCOMING ADULT EDUCATION ~ SUNDAY MORNINGS 9:00 A.M. IN THE NARTHEX**

**January 8**

**Beginning a Conversation on Race and Class**

As Calvary moves into greater conversation around race and class, utilizing Michele Norris' book *The Grace of Silence*, all are invited to come and spend time talking about the gifts and challenges of a racially diverse community and congregation.

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**January 15**

**Conversation on Race and Class II**

We will continue our conversation and work as we mark this weekend and the remembrance of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

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**January 22**

**Telling Our Stories in Opposition to the Proposed Constitutional Amendment**

Javen Swanson, People of Faith Organizer with OutFront Minnesota, will be leading us in exercises and conversation to discuss the proposed constitutional amendment against gay marriage. This is an opportunity to tell our stories and how this amendment hurts people across our state and devalues love and commitment.

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**January 29**

**Pre-congregational meeting conversation**

In order to provide time a little more time for people to read through year-end program reports, all are welcome to come and go over information in the Annual Report and note any questions.

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**February 5, 12, 19**

**A Genealogy of Faith**

Come and explore both the genealogy of your family of origin as well as your genealogy of faith.

## CALVARY'S CROSSROADS

<b>WORSHIP LEADERS FOR JANUARY</b>
------------------------------------

	Jan. 1	Jan. 8	Jan. 15	Jan. 22	Jan. 29
<b>Deacon</b>	Nancy Lee Nelson	Judie Mattison	Danielle Hill	Linda Mundt	Sarah Lahr
<b>Acolyte</b>		Judi Linder	Brian Aust	Irv Elliott	Danielle Hill
		Sarah Lahr	Amy Knowlen	Joanne Shepherd	Josh Moberg
<b>Lector</b>	Irv Elliott	Isaac Wengerd	Judie Mattison	Amber Bendix	Don Rudrud
<b>Usher</b>	***	***	***	***	***
<b>Sacristan</b>	Holly Wiedenhoft	Holly Wiedenhoft	Ruth Pope	Ruth Pope	Damon Van Duzen
<b>Sound Board</b>	Mary Nelson	Gary Nelson	Karen Nelson	George Robson	Mary Nelson
<b>Nursery</b>	Adam Mohr	Josh Moberg	Gary Nelson	Adam Mohr	Gary Nelson
	Jennifer McCarthy	Teri Schweizer	Joanie Moberg	Sarah Lahr	Nicole Falk
<b>Coffee Hour Hosts</b>	Verna Lutes & Joanne Shepherd	Verna Lutes & Nancy Lee Nelson	***	***	***

\*\*\* 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: Gladys, Olga, Maurine, John, Florence, Edie, DeAnn, Doris, Geoffrey, Aria, Matt, Cassidy, Annabelle, Doug, Jan, and Lynn.

*Did you notice the blank spaces in the worship leaders grid? Can you help usher or host coffee hour? Please sign up on the Narthex bulletin board.*

## JANUARY CELEBRATIONS



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

### Happy Birthday

Rachel Bjorhus	1/1	Jackson Robson	1/27/05
Caleb Moberg	1/8/07	Carolyn Youngbauer	1/28
Elisa Holm	1/9	dorothy lesher	1/31
Shari Seifert	1/12	Gary Nelson	1/31
Johanna Aust	1/14/04	Deb Paulsrud	1/31
Jeri Schultz	1/17		
Martha Rixmann	1/19		
Joani Moberg	1/20		

## CALVARY'S CROSSROADS

### SUNDAY SCHEDULE IN JANUARY

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

#### January 1

Isaiah 61:10 - 62:3  
Psalm 148  
Galatians 4:4-7  
Luke 2:22-40

#### January 15

I Samuel 3:1-20  
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18  
I Corinthians 6:12-20  
John 1:43-51

#### January 8

Genesis 1:1-5  
Psalm 29  
Acts 19:1-7  
Mark 1:4-11

#### January 22

Jonah 3:1-5, 10  
Psalm 62:5-12  
I Cor. 7:29-31  
Mark 1:14-20

#### January 29

Deut. 18:15-20  
Psalm 111  
I Cor. 8:1-13  
Mark 1:21-28

### JANUARY COMMITTEE MEETING DATES

**Thursday, January 5**  
Church Council  
6:00 p.m.

**Monday, January 9**  
Social Justice Steering  
Committee  
6:30 p.m.

Crossroads Community  
Organization  
6:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, January 10**  
Worship & Committee  
6:30 p.m.

**Thursday, January 12**  
M.I.C.A.H. Committee  
8:00 a.m. at Augustana Aprts.

**Monday, January 16**  
Education Committee  
6:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, January 17**  
Mission Support Committee  
9:00 a.m.

Property Committee  
6:30 p.m.

**Thursday, January 19**  
Urban Arts Academy Board  
6:30 p.m.

**Monday, January 23**  
Executive Committee  
6:30 p.m.



### JANUARY 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.

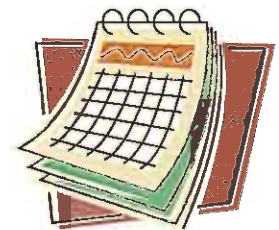
Encore! & Twin Cities  
Women's Choir rehearses  
here on Wednesday eve-  
nings, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

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*

## COMMUNITY SING COMING TO CALVARY - FEB. 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.



*Dear Friends in Christ,*

*As EPES finishes a very busy year, we prepare for our 30th anniversary in 2012! It is hard to imagine that so many years have passed since we started this community based health program as a ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chile in the midst of the brutal military dictatorship of Pinochet. We hope you will consider joining us in celebrating our anniversary next November in Chile (see the update for more information).*

*The year 2012 begins very quickly for us as our Third International Training Program in Popular Education in Health starts on Monday the 2nd. We have participants coming from Lutheran churches in Ecuador, Peru, Chile and the U.S., as well as public health professionals and health activists from throughout Chile.*

*As we look back on a year of ongoing challenges, especially related to the long process of rebuilding after the earthquake and tsunami where almost two years later thousands of people are still living in emergency camps with no indoor plumbing or water, we are profoundly grateful for the congregations and individuals that have accompanied us on this journey of seeking health, wholeness and dignity in poor communities in Chile.*

*We give thanks for your ongoing love and support and wish you all a Blessed New Year!*

*In Peace,*

*Karen Anderson*

*ELCA Global Mission personnel in Chile*

*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](mailto:mnsings@gmail.com) or co-chair Shari Seifert at [Shari@ShariSeifert.com](mailto:Shari@ShariSeifert.com)

**Thanks!**

**Shari Seifert & Betty Tisel**

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



## CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

3901 Chicago Avenue S.  
Minneapolis, MN 55407

### SANDY'S CORNER - *SUMMER CAMP*

Have you ever been to camp? Do you remember the stories of friends that got to spend a whole week away from their parents for one whole week during the summer?

Some explain camp as this magical place. There were tons of people their age. There were other young adults that wanted to spend their days hanging out with you having fun. There was music, games and a lake with a beach. You got to spend the night giggling with your new best friends. It was magical.

Some explain camp as transformative. It was the place that you learned to overcome a fear. It was the first place that someone prayed for you by name. It was the place that you felt at home. Camp stirred something up inside of you which you have maybe never been able to explain.

Whatever it is, we cannot deny that there is something special about camp.

When Bethel, Calvary and Our Saviour's first came together to dream about this collaborative, they created a 'Wish List.' On that 'Wish List' was a joint week of camp at an ELCA Bible Camp. And through conversations with many of you, I soon realized that just like the initial team of dreamers, you see the importance of Bible Camp in the life of the students in your congregation.

Of course camp is this magical place. It is also a transformative place. But it is even more. It is that place that young people see the relationship between themselves, God and the world around them. It is a place that they are given the space to explore their passions and ask the questions.

Campers are surrounded by peers, counselors and staff that are encouraging and supporting them to grow in faith, but also doubt and wonder.

This summer we are excited to check an item off your "Wish List" by offering a joint week at Luther Crest Bible Camp in Alexandria, MN. Luther Crest's mission statement says they are "called and committed to a Christ-centered ministry through Creation and Community." Their 100-acre facility includes cabins with running water, beach access to Lake Carlos, low and high rope course, a nature center and so 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 in a Christian way to our fear?'

Our week of camp will be June 10<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> and open to students in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade to senior year of high school. The cost for the week will be \$279. Pastor Brad and I are also preparing to be present during the week to also share in this exciting experience.

For more information and a camp brochure and registration form please contact me at [sandyt@oursavioursmpls.org](mailto:sandyt@oursavioursmpls.org) or (612) 871 – 2967 (x103). In order to guarantee your camper's spot, registration will need to be received by February 15<sup>th</sup>.

Also, save the date for the South Minneapolis area Day Camp: June 18-22.