



February 2016

COMMITTED TO THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

Early on in my ministry some of my colleagues and I would wager a candy bar on the time a meeting would end. It was a way to have fun in planning and thinking through meetings... and it may have led to a long-winded or perhaps a short-winded closing prayer on one or two occasions. Needless to say I would not have won a candy bar at our annual meeting this past Sunday at the Calvary—I would have bet on a slightly shorter annual meeting.

That being said, our congregational meeting was significant. As a community we received the program report from 2015. We reviewed the congregational finances of 2015. We discussed and approved the budget for 2016, which includes funding for a part-time Children's & Youth position, membership in Isaiah, and some funds for "greener" work with the building and work on racial justice. We made bylaw changes that included some minor edits and the addition of the Racial Equity Steering Committee. We also asked the congregation to help "grade" how we are doing in living into our Visioning plan. Finally, we elected members of church council and to represent Calvary to other organizations.

The work we accomplished together was important. AND there is much work ahead of us.

If people have not yet read the program booklet I encourage you to take the time to do so. I also ask people to send their questions, comments, and ideas to myself and the church council as we continue with next steps.

Coming off of the Congregational meeting, there are people talking about getting involved in stewardship; there are individuals considering how they can support the education and faith formation of children, youth, and families; there are people upping their pledges and financial commitments; there are people who are wanting to make

sure their voice is heard (especially when they have differing ideas or opinions); there are people thinking about how we can continue to expand avenues of communication; there is excitement, wonder, frustration, hope...and there is commitment!

It is my sense that all of these aspects are part of the growing pains of our congregation. The size of our congregation continues to increase, the ways we have done things (even in the last year or two) may not always work the way they did before, there is change (and change brings joy-filled and hard challenge).

Following up with a prospective new member, I received the following e-mail after our congregational meeting:

We really enjoyed socializing (and eating!) with folks and witnessing how deeply people cared about the direction the church is going. We also remarked about how respectful everyone was of one another, despite obvious differences of opinion. We are excited about becoming members of such a dynamic and deeply spiritual and principled group!

I am glad to lose a candy bar any day, when it means that deeply caring people...committed to the work of the church...respectful of one another (even when they disagree)...step out to be a dynamic, spiritual and principled group.

God, thank you for Calvary! And thank you for calling us again and again to be your people as we strive to live your call today and walk in the ways of Jesus. May we step out boldly in faith and strive to honor all the people in our congregation and in our community; and when we fail we seek your forgiveness. Keep us faithful to you and filled with care for one another. Amen

FEBRUARY WORSHIP & MINISTRY LEADERS				
Ministry	Feb. 7	Feb. 14	Feb. 21	Feb. 28
Ass't Minister	Stefanie Fiser	Lisa Negstad	Emilie Bouvier	Beth Pottratz
Acolytes	Joanne Shepherd Irv Elliott	Danielle Hill Ingrid Ebbesen	Brian Aust Johanna Aust	Jeri Schultz Michael Weber
Lector	Beth Lewis	Felecia Boone	Freya Ebbesen	Daniel Huff
Sacristan	Anne Boone	Anne Boone	Stacia Wick	Stacia Wick
Sound Board	Neeve McCarthy	Gary Nelson	Sigrid Davidson	Dick Peik
Coffee Hour	Steve & Jennifer McCarthy Eric Ebbesen & Stacia Wick	Linda Mundt Anne Boone Felecia Boone	Daniel & Laura Huff Josh & Joani Moberg	Brian Aust dorothy Ilesher Lyle Jaeger
Counters	Joanne Shepherd Verna Lutes	Michael Weber Jeri Schultz	Gary Nelson Ted Fabel	Mary Nelson Marilyn Holm
Food Shelf	(Feb. 13) Judith Glass Michael Weber	(Feb. 21) Gary Nelson Jeri Schultz	(Feb. 27) Marilyn Holm Gary Thorn	(Mar. 5) Carol Rue Pat Olson

February Celebrations

Birthdays

2/6 - Inga Wing
2/8 - Aimee Boone
2/10 - David Jeska
2/15 - Felecia Boone

2/15 - Zachary Seifert
2/16 - Cassidy Bellman
2/16 - Sella Negstad
2/17 - Henrietta Williams
2/18 - Daniel Pederson

2/18 - Jayne Schaecher
2/19 - Angie Endo
2/21 - Torin Froslee
2/25 - Madalyn Youngbauer

Sunday, February 7: Adult Education & Worship with Michael Bischoff and friends 9:00 am Adult Education; 10:15 am Worship

Healing in Community: Healing in Community, a presentation and discussion with special guests. There will be stories and reflections of how community has nourished and changed people in the face of illness. We'll explore the healing roles congregations and individuals can play in moving with serious illness in ways that draw us closer to God.

Michael Bischoff as guest preacher: Michael Bischoff is a Quaker and dad from Minneapolis. For the past seven years he has worked with religious and secular organizations as they listen for where the Holy Spirit is moving and experiment with new ways of being faithful to where the Spirit is calling. In the fall of 2015, Michael found out he has an aggressive kind of brain cancer, and he's been seeking to be faithful to God's call in that journey. To read about Michael's adventures with cancer, you can visit: www.caringbridge.org/visit/michaelbischoff.

Sunday, February 14: Wrap-up for *The New Jim Crow* Adult Education, 9:00-10:00 am

On February 14, join David Starks, Aimee Boone, and others in conversation around the topic of policing, criminal justice, and new initiatives. We encourage people to come with their thoughts and questions as we complete the book. This Sunday offers a great opportunity to continue to learn and look at next steps as individuals, as a congregation, and as a state. All are welcome!

Calvary 101

An Opportunity to learn about membership and community at Calvary
Sunday, February 21, 4:30-6:30 p.m.

At Calvary we have moved from the model of several weeks of "Church membership classes" to a gathering we call **Calvary 101**. This is a time to come together in learning and community (generally lasting 2 to 2 ½ hours), which includes a meal, an invitation for people to share a little about who they are, an opportunity to discuss Christianity, Lutheranism, and Calvary, and ways that people at Calvary serve in the congregation and strive to live out their faith in the world (discipleship). We also invite several members of the congregation and church council to come and share their experiences in being part of the church, connecting, and serving. At the end of the time together we offer the invitation for people to become members and be recognized on a Sunday morning (date decided by

the group), but realize, for a variety of reasons, some people may want to wait, to keep learning, or connect with the congregation without being an official member. Our commitment is to provide everyone with the opportunity to engage, learn, and grow in faith in whatever shape that takes for you.

This spring we will have a Calvary 101 gathering on Sunday, February 21st. We will gather around 4:30 pm and conclude around 6:30 pm. Dinner is provided.

If you are interested in attending please contact the church office or Pastor Brad by phone at 612.827.2504 or by e-mail at office@clchurch.org or pastor-brad@clchurch.org.

SOME STATISTICS TO CONSIDER...

- ◆ The average ticket price to Super Bowl XLVIII (2014) was \$4,804
- ◆ The average weekly salary in America \$831
- ◆ Average concession purchase amount at 2014 Super Bowl: \$38.00 per person
- ◆ Cost of 5 cans of soup: \$5.49
- ◆ During the 2014 Super Bowl Americans consumed
 - * 15,000 tons of chips
 - * 1.25 billion chicken wings
 - * 27 million slices of pizza from Dominoes and Pizza Hut alone
- ◆ Last year 47 million Americans depended on food stamps
- ◆ 3.9 million people bought new furniture for Super Bowl parties
- ◆ Nearly that same number (more than 3.5 million) experienced homelessness for portions of 2014.

thanks to Richfield Lutheran Church newsletter

THANKSGIVING FOR THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED

At our annual meeting we recognized **Chris Robson** and **Shari Seifert**, two church council members who have served a three year term and are stepping off of council. We give great thanks for their leadership, passion, and service over the last three years on Church Council.

Thanksgiving for those elected to leadership

The congregational also elected **Felecia Boone** and **Laura Huff** (to serve a second three year term); **Tom Johnson** and **Jeri Schultz** (to serve for three year terms); and **Linda Mundt** (to complete two years of a three year term). We give great thanks for these leader in our midst and pray for their wisdom and care as they serve on Church Council.



ALL-CHURCH NIGHT & COMMITTEE MEETINGS Monday, February 8

You are invited to join committee members from Calvary starting at 5:30 p.m. for a catered community meal. (There is a suggested \$5 donation, or \$15 per family to help defray the cost of the meal). **All are welcome (not just the committee members)!** Committee meetings begin at 6:30. Meeting this month are: Race & Equity, Education, Property, and Worship.

Summer Planning for Children and Youth

South Minneapolis Day Camp Monday, June 26-Friday, July 1

4 year old-6th grade participants
7th-12th grade options for Volunteering

This summer Calvary will again participate in the South Minneapolis Day Camp. Martha Schwen Bardwell will be directing again this year...and we will join together with over 12 other churches for an opportunity to learn about God, creation, and serving.

More details will be available in early February. For now people are invited to mark their calendars!

Wilderness Canoe Trip in the BWCA Friday, July 29-Friday, August 4

6th-12th Grades

We are going on a canoe trip at Wilderness Canoe Base this summer! Woo hoo! Boundary waters, here we come!

Dates: Friday, July 29 through Friday, August 4

Registration: Please sign up by February 1 if possible. That is when we are supposed to have numbers firmed up and send in a monetary deposit of \$100 per person. Once you register online, you can write the church a check with "Wilderness" in the memo line. If it's not possible for you to pay that right now, go ahead and register and we will follow up on payment. You can register online without payment.

Registration link: <https://MyCircuiTree.com/CampWapo/Registration/RequestCode/46>. All you need to do to register is on that page!

For more information visit: <http://campwapo.org/camp/wilderness>

The canoe trip and time at Wilderness is a 7 day trip, and the total cost will be \$460 per person.

Youth Racial Justice Tour Saturday, June 11-Saturday, June 18

8th-12th Grade Youth

The plans are in place for Mark Swiggum, a member at Edina Community Lutheran Church, to lead 11 youth and chaperones from Bethel, Calvary, and Our Saviour's on a trip from Atlanta, Georgia, to Memphis, Tennessee. Along the way the group will meet with people ac-

tively involved in the Civil Rights Movement (and their children and grandchildren); visit places of historical significance; participate in group bonding and community learning; have fun!

Youth, ages 8th-12th grade are invited to participate in this event. Due to space, this trip is limited to 11 individuals. If you are interested/planning to participate please contact Pastor Brenda Froisland as soon as possible to get your name on the list; Pastor Brenda can be contacted at pastor@bethel-mpls.org. The cost is approximately \$1000/person.

Bible Camp Sunday, June 19-Friday, June 24 Luther Crest Bible Camp, Alexandria, MN

Options for Children and Youth
who have completed 3rd-12th grade

This summer children and youth who have completed grades 3-12 have the opportunity to participate in Bible Camp at Luther Crest Bible Camp in Alexandria, Minnesota.

Children who have **completed grades 3-6** can sign-up for either the Leapers program (regular summer camp programming) or the Joyful Noise program (summer programming with special focus on music—dancing, singing, playing instruments).

Youth who have **completed grades 6-8** can participate in the Wet & Wild camping experiences (which includes high and low ropes and three days canoeing on the Crow Wing River). Youth who have **completed grades 7-9** have the option of the X-Treme camp (which includes off-site sports and activities).

Youth who have **completed grades 9-12** have the opportunity to be in the Blazers program. This is a camp with no cost—it includes Bible study, music, worship planning, but also is focused on service projects and work around the camp. (This is similar to a Counselor in Training program with a focus on learning, serving, and working with youth).

Camp handouts are available in the narthex or from the church office. Please note that if you register before February 14 there is a discount of \$175.

Conversations on the Sacred, the Role of Water, and Connections to the Native American Community

An invitation to join in conversation from First Universalist

Over the past year, First Universalist has been hosting some very important conversations about Mde Maka Ska (also known as Lake Calhoun). The conversation has been much larger than simply discussing the name of the lake. The conversation has been about indigenous people and culture, our relationship with water, and how we might create a community different than the one we currently have. Our two previous conversations have been: "Water Wisdom: Carrying Us Into a Bold Future of Deep Restoration" (Dec. 3, 2015) and "Connecting with the Spirit of the Lake" (Oct. 7, 2015).

On Feb 9, from 6-9pm, we're hosting our third conversation. Please join us for a conversation about giving form to expressions of spirit and values that emanate from Bde/Mde Maka Ska. Explore ways to bring out the best in people. Come and collectively re-imagine our community beyond its current norm in unique and more desired forms of interaction. More information here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1198554143507829/>

An Evening with Sherman Alexie - Saturday, February 20, 2016 7:30 PM - Carlson Family Stage at Northrop

Presented by: The American Indian Student Cultural Center

Sherman Alexie is an American poet, writer, and filmmaker. Much of his writing draws on his experiences as a Native American with ancestry of several tribes, growing up on the Spokane Indian Reservation. He lives in Seattle, Washington.

Some of his best known works are *The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven* (1993), a book of short stories, and *Smoke Signals* (1998), a film based on that collection, for which he also wrote the screenplay.

His first novel, *Reservation Blues*, received one of the fifteen 1996 American Book Awards. His first young adult novel, *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* (2007), is a semi-autobiographical novel that won the 2007 U.S. National Book Award for Young People's Literature and the Odyssey Award as best 2008 audiobook for young people (read by Alexie). His 2009 collection of short stories and poems, *War Dances*, won the 2010 PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction.

Alexie is the guest editor of the 2015 Best American Poetry. A sign-up sheet will be available beginning Sunday, January 31, 2016. Thirty tickets are available and are sponsored by the Race Equity Task Force. A \$5 per ticket contribution is encouraged for those who can pay, but no payment is required.

EPIPHANY GENEROSITY PROJECT

THANK YOU for your gifts of gently used and new warm coats, sweaters, blankets! We delivered two VERY packed carloads to Central Lutheran Church Clothes Closet on Sunday, January 10.

In addition to the warm things our congregation brought, we also had a \$250 Thrivent Action Grant and another \$100 cash donation to buy and donate new coats.

If you would like to donate items to the Clothes Closet at Central throughout the year, please check their website. <http://centralmpls.org/community-ministry/the-free-store/>



Coming up in Sunday School!

Pre-K through 3rd Grades

February 7	Sunday School @ 9:00 am	Praise God
February 14	Sunday School @ 9:00 am	Tempted
February 21	Sunday School @ 9:00 am	God's Promises to Abram
February 28	Sleep-in Sunday	
March 6	Sunday School @ 9:00 am	The Prodigal Son
March 13	Sunday School @ 9:00 am	Mary Anoints Jesus
March 20	Sunday School @ 9:00 am	Holy Week
March 27	No Sunday School-Easter Sunday	

4th-5th Grades

February 7	Sunday School @ 9:00 am	Solomon
February 14	Sunday School @ 9:00 am	The Boy Teacher
February 21	Sunday School @ 9:00 am	The House on the Rock
February 28	Sleep-in Sunday	
March 6	Sunday School @ 9:00 am	The Sower
March 13	Sunday School @ 9:00 am	The Mustard Seed
March 20	Sunday School @ 9:00 am	Jesus & the Children
March 27	No Sunday School-Easter Sunday	

Calvary Coco Club (6th-8th Grades)

February 7	Sunday School @ 9:00 am	
February 14	Sunday School @ 9:00 am	
February 21	Sunday School @ 9:00 am	
February 28	Sleep-in Sunday (Intergenerational Learning) @ 11:45 am	
March 6	Sunday School @ 9:00 am	
March 13	Sunday School @ 9:00 am	
March 20	Sunday School @ 9:00 am	
March 27	No Sunday School-Easter Sunday	

Confirmation at Calvary

8th-9th Graders

11:45 am-1:45 pm

Sunday	February 7	"God's Surprise"	Ilesher/Austs
<i>Taught by Beth Pottratz (as Pastor Brad will be on the Church Council Retreat)</i>			
Sunday	February 21	"Manna & Mercy"	Seifert/Brooks
Sunday	March 6	"Manny & Mercy 2"	Pastor Brad
Sunday	March 13	"Jerusalem"	Pat Olson

2015 Mission of the Month Giving

At the Annual Congregational meeting the question was raised with regard the amount of money raised for various causes and the mission of the month at Calvary. Here are numbers for this past year.

Month	Congregational Appeal/Mission of the Month	Amount Raised
January	"Sister Boiler Campaign" <i>(mission of the month support)</i>	\$1,936
February	Calvary Children & Youth Programs Fund <i>(to provide scholarships and funds for youth programs)</i>	\$350
March	Calvary Emergency Food Shelf	\$6,750 from members \$3,036 from TCWC
April	Urban Arts Academy <i>(mission of the month; some give funds monthly or directly through the gala)</i>	\$470
May	Lutheran Global Ministry in Chile (EPES)	\$325
June	Luther Park Bible Camp	\$210
July	Augustana Care	\$95
August	Our Saviour's Community Services	\$175
September	Global Mission: Blue Mango India	\$235
October	Crossroads Community Organization	\$175
November	ELCA World Hunger	\$410
December	Good Samaritan Fund <i>(funds to support individuals in the community in need)</i>	\$265

The congregation also raised over \$1200 for the Synod's matching grant to help Syrian refugees; and over \$2000 for work with immigrants currently detained (particularly Brian Aust's work this summer). Individual gifts were also given for other areas of outreach and areas of ministry.



Parents' Night Out Youth Childcare for families with Children Saturday, February 27 from 4:30-8:30 pm



We know that there are a lot of families with young children at Bethel, Calvary, and Our Saviour's (and in our surrounding neighborhoods). We also have a lot of youth who are well equipped to care for children. Together we said, "What a great opportunity!"

On Saturday, February 27, the youth from our three congregations will be coming together at Calvary (along with adult support and presence) to provide childcare for children ages 6 months-4th grade. There will be opportunities for infants and toddlers to play in the nursery area; older kids to play games and have activities in the gym and lounge; kids of all ages to watch movies with special snacks. We will also have a meal together—pizza, fruit, juice, and cookies.

The only requirements:

- 1) To provide us with information and things that are helpful in caring for your child(ren)

- 2) To do something for yourself—go out and eat, go to a movie, take time to catch up with your spouse, partner, or a friend

You can drop off or pick up your child(ren) anytime within the timeframe of 4:30-8:30 pm.

People are invited to give a free will donation to the church for providing this service (all funds raised will go toward the youths' summer Youth Group activities), but whether or how much you give is completely up to you.

Should this be a big success we will look at planning another opportunity similar option in the future.

We ask youth and families to make sure they have the date and time on the calendar!

Calvary Lutheran Church

3901 Chicago Ave
Minneapolis, MN 55407

CONNECT WITH CALVARY ON THE WEB:



www.clchurch.org



<https://www.facebook.com/Inthecityforgood>



<https://twitter.com/CalvaryMpls>

Calvary Lutheran Church

3901 Chicago Ave
Minneapolis, MN 55407

Church Office

- 612-827-2504
- 612-827-0176 (fax)
- website: www.clchurch.org

Ministry Staff

Ministers: 225 Members

Pastor: Rev. Brad Froslee
pastorbrad@clchurch.org

Music Director: Daniel Pederson
daniel.pederson@me.com

Administrator: Kurt Posz
office@clchurch.org

Food Shelf Coordinator:
Henrietta Williams

Church Council Members

Laura Huff, President
Melinda Bendix Horn, Vice President
Felecia Boone, Secretary
Lyle Jaeger, Treasurer
Scott Endo
Tom Johnson
Kendra McCarthy
Linda Mundt
Lars Negstad
Jeri Schultz
Chris Van Meter
Michael Weber