



Calvary's Crossroads

From the Pastor's Desk...

This past week there were six of us connected with Calvary who attended the "Dare to Dream" workshop sponsored by Faith In The City. The workshop featured guest speakers addressing the issues of racism and reconciliation in the Lutheran Church (with both ELCA and LCMS folks in attendance). The time allowed us to begin thinking about possibilities for conversation and work in the context of our congregation and community.

Reflecting on this conference, and the work to which we are called, in the midst of our congregational visioning process I



found myself inspired and challenged. Utilizing aspects of the Bible study from the Letters of John that was used during the workshop there were some great comments from the presenters that provide fodder for next steps for us as a congregation.

First, in the context of the community to which John is writing it is clear that there are problems and challenges. The people and the writer see the symptoms. The difficult and wonderful part is that there isn't an easy answer for how to deal with the symptoms or challenges—it is going to take the work of the community! Additionally, the writer knows that to move forward the people need to tackle more than the symptoms. There needs to be honest conversation, hard work, and recommitment to moving forward. (I take this to mean addressing divisions such as racism, but also in the overall working and responsibilities of being in community.)

Here at Calvary we are visioning and challenging ourselves in new ways. There are some questions as to why? or why now? and what this looks like. There are also some questions as to whether all of this "visioning" makes a difference. I'd like to ponder these questions with you for a moment.

Let's start with the questions of "why?" and "why now?." Over the last year worship attendance has inched up and membership has climbed; the staff is in place and things are getting done; the Congregational Council is working well as a team and people seem to be engaged; committees are gaining momentum...why are we spending our time with visioning at this point?

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The reality is that with staff in place, with people being engaged, with an influx of new members and visitors we are in the perfect position to look at who we are becoming and what we are to be about in the world. This is precisely when we want to engage the question of who we are to be as a community. We have the great gift of dreaming about what this community will look like in two years, five years, even ten years. Now is the time to think about how we are going to develop the children's and youth ministry and create opportunities for fellowship for people of all ages. Now is the time to challenge ourselves to continue to grow and learn in worship—perhaps incorporating new styles and diversity. Now is the time to work on how we will be about peace and justice on this block and in the larger world.

As pointed out in the First Letter of John, there is the realization that God is in the midst and that as ministry is moving along things are happening to create the beloved community—and the people engage. So, if we take this to heart, we realize that as things are happening God's Spirit is moving in and through this congregation and calling us to greater work. We are all being brought to the table to do something bigger than any of us can accomplish on our own.

And as to the question as to whether any of this "visioning" will make a difference. I am convinced that it will indeed make a difference. However, to make it successful we will need to, first and foremost, let go of fear. We will need to stand together and realize that in the midst of trying some new things, re-envisioning some old, and equipping leaders, and struggling with financial questions, we are called to be a bold and empowered people who are living into Christ's love. We cannot be bound by the "I can't's" or the "We've always" or "sacred cows," but rather we open ourselves to new possibilities

This calls for the second aspect, vulnerability. In visioning for this congregation—and as

pointed out at "Dare to Dream" with regard to welcoming those whose background, skin color, socio-economic status is different than our own—it is important to be vulnerable with regard to our needs, our dreams, our stories, and our faith. When we open the doors of our hearts and minds we allow ourselves to see things in new ways and grow as a community.



Once we move away from fear and allow ourselves to be vulnerable love enters. It is a love that is grounded in the Holy, a love that pushes beyond the tombs of loss and death, a love that proclaims a vision for God's people that moves them boldly into the future.

In these next days we will be daring to dream together...knowing that we are being awakened to do incredible things.

Thanks be!
Pastor Brad



**Joseph & the Amazing
Technicolor Dreamcoat**
at Calvary
May 20-23, 2010

Rehearsals have begun and everyone is quite excited.

We are looking for people who are interested in helping out in any of the following areas:

- ⇒ Costumes
- ⇒ Props
- ⇒ Ticket Sales
- ⇒ Publicity
- ⇒ Sets
- ⇒ Lights/sound

If you are able to volunteer or have questions, please contact Jennifer McCarthy or Elaine Christopher.

Come join us in Joseph's journey and help make this a memorable experience for our congregation and community!

**YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN A PILGRIMAGE
FROM PARIS
TO MUNICH
IN SEPTEMBER 2010**

Ten years is a long time to wait! The play is about to begin... and we have your ticket(s) to the world-renown Passion Play held only once every decade in the Bavarian village of Oberammergau in 2010. Join us on a journey of faith from Paris through the wine country of France and on to Germany. We'll visit cathedrals, wineries, museums, and castles along the way. Space limited to the first twenty who send in reservations for our travel seminar
September 9-19, 2010.



Pastor Rick Rouse has been leading inspirational study tours to the Middle East and Europe for over twenty years. He and his wife, Beth Lewis, will be joined by fellow tour host, Dr. Ken Bakken, a physician and pastor in Seattle. Arrangements are being made through Group Travel Directors of Minneapolis. Contact us for a brochure at rwrouse@comcast.net or check out the brochure online at www.GTD.org (Group #100901). You can also check the bulletin board or church office for a brochure.

Thanks

As our congregation enters a new year, we also embrace new challenges and resolutions.

In May of 2009 the Church Council approved the creation of a Visioning Task Force and in September the congregation commissioned the Visioning Task Force to look at the directions this congregation could move going forward. The Task Force has met several times over the last five months to begin that journey. The Task Force has discussed many assets and challenges both financially and spiritually, and in serving the well being of our members and the surrounding neighborhood.

We, as a Task Force, are on our way thanks to you. The Visioning Task Force would like to take a moment just to say *Thank You* to all who filled out the survey on line or by hard copy. It is with that in-put (coupled with the past work such as Asset Mapping, the Bridge Builders analysis, and congregational reports) that the Visioning Task Force has been able to move forward.

As we continue to move forward we welcome additional input from anyone and everyone in helping move this congregation in sharing God's love not only among ourselves but also with the surrounding neighborhood and the entire city. Also, we look forward to more conversation and follow up steps over the next few months. Again, *Thank You!*

The Visioning Task Force

GREEN TEAM NEWS

There are a lot of great energy rebate programs right now. Save Green while going green. Help protect God's creation while making your home more comfortable and energy efficient.


Current rebate and incentive programs mean that a \$2,000 insulation job will only cost you \$300.

CenterPoint Energy has started a new rebate program
<http://www.centerpointenergy.com/services/naturalgas/residential/saveenergyandmoney/residentialrebates/MN/>

The MN Housing Finance Agency has a 35% rebate for energy efficiency measures when you get a low interest loan from them.
http://www.mncee.org/programs_residential/home_improvement_financing/energy_saver_rebate/index.php

This is all on top of the Federal Tax credit of 30% up to \$1,500

Daniel Huff
Manager, Green Building Policy
Department of Regulatory Services
City of Minneapolis

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
FEBRUARY 	1 9 a.m. UAA Pre-School 7 - 9 p.m. Joseph Production Meeting	2 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. UAA Pre-School 10:00 a.m. Miriam Circle 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Parenting Oasis 2:30 p.m. UAA After-School 6:30 p.m. Social Justice Committee 6:30 p.m. Parenting Oasis	3 9 a.m. UAA Pre-School 2:30 p.m. UAA After-School 6:30 p.m. Church Choir 7:00 p.m. TCW Choir	4 9 a.m. UAA Pre-School 2:30 p.m. UAA After-School 6:30 p.m. Tai Chi 7-9 p.m. Bagpipers	5 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. UAA Pre-School	6 9 - noon Food Shelf 9 -11 a.m. Bridge Productions 10- 11:30 a.m. Tai Chi 10 a.m. -2 p.m. Parenting Oasis 1-4 p.m. Joseph Rehearsal	
	7 9:00 a.m. Education Classes 10:15 a.m. Worship 3 p.m. Bagpipers	8 9 a.m. UAA Pre-School 6-9 p.m. Parenting Oasis	9 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. UAA Pre-School 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Parenting Oasis 2:30 p.m. UAA After-School 6:30 p.m. Worship & Spiritual Care Committee 6:30 p.m. Education Committee 6:30 p.m. Parenting Oasis	10 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. UAA Pre-School 11:30 a.m. Ruth Circle 2:30 p.m. UAA After-School 6:30 p.m. Church Choir 7:00 p.m. TCW Choir	11 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. UAA Pre-School 2:30 p.m. UAA After-School 6:30 p.m. Executive Committee 6:30 p.m. Tai Chi 7-9 p.m. Bagpipers	12 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. UAA Pre-School 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Parenting Oasis	13 9:00 -noon Food Shelf 10:00 - noon Masons 10-11:30 a.m. Tai Chi 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Parenting Oasis 1-4 p.m. Joseph Rehearsal 3- 5 p.m. InVocation Rehearsal
	14 9:00 a.m. Education Classes 10:15 a.m. Worship 3:00 p.m. Bagpipers	15 CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED President's Day 9 a.m. UAA Pre-School Training Day 6:30 p.m. Mission Support	16 9 a.m. UAA Pre-School 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Parenting Oasis 2:30 p.m. UAA After-School 6 p.m. Property Committee 6:30 p.m. Parenting Oasis	17 9 a.m. UAA Pre-School 10:15 a.m. Ash Wednesday Worship 2:30 p.m. UAA After-School 6:30 p.m. Church Choir 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Worship Service 7:00 p.m. TCW Choir	18 9 a.m. UAA Pre-School 2:30 p.m. UAA After-School 6:30 p.m. Tai Chi 7-9 p.m. Bagpipers	19 9 a.m. UAA Pre-School	20 9:00-noon Food Shelf 10 - 11:30 a.m. Tai Chi 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Parenting Oasis 1-4:00 p.m. Joseph Rehearsal
	21 9:00 a.m. Education 10:15 a.m. Worship 3 p.m. Bagpipers	22 9 a.m. UAA Pre-School	23 9 a.m. UAA Pre-School 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Parenting Oasis 2:30 p.m. UAA After-School	24 9 a.m. UAA Pre-School 2:30 p.m. UAA After-School 6:30 p.m. Church choir 7:00 p.m. TCW Choir	25 9 a.m. UAA Pre-School 2:30 p.m. UAA After-School 6:30 p.m. Tai Chi 7-9 p.m. Bagpipers	26 9 a.m. UAA Pre-School 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Parenting Oasis Church Council Retreat through Sunday	27 8:30 a.m. UAA Board Mtg. 9:00-noon Food Shelf 10-11:30 a.m. Tai Chi 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Parenting Oasis
28 10:15 a.m. Worship 3 p.m. Bagpipers							

IN OUR PRAYERS

- Judy Askelson - cancer treatment/health
- Nancy Grover-cancer
- For friends of our congregation with health needs, including: Kelly, Alfheld, Andre, Emma, Phil, Kyle, Barb, Phyllis, Jan, Doris and Lynn

Happy Birthday

Aimee Boone	2/8
Maria Linder	2/9
Felecia Boone	2/15
Cassidy Luze	2/16/01
Henrietta Williams	2/17
Daniel Pederson	2/18
Angie Endo	2/19
Madalyn Youngbauer	2/25/08
Pam Saungweme	2/26



Freedom To Marry Day

February 11th at 8:30 a.m.
MN Capitol Rotunda.



.....
support **love**
champion **equality**
advocate **fairness**
promote **marriage**
cherish **family**
defend **faith**

Worship Leaders

Date	Deacon	Acolyte/ Communion Assistant	Lector	Usher	Sacristan	Sound Board	Coffee Hour	Nursery
Feb. 7th	Loren Woodman	Nancy Lee Nelson Ramona Starks	Megan Hertzler	Anne Boone Alex Jackson	Felecia Boone	Aaron Gebauer	Joanne Shepherd Sarah Lahr	Anders Davidson Joani Moberg
Feb. 14th	Nancy Lee Nelson	Lisa Luedtke Brian Aust	Daniel Huff	Henrietta Williams Darold Luze	Felecia Boone	George Robson	George & Chris Robson Sam Robson	Steve McCarthy Robbi Bergan
Ash Wed. Feb. 17th	George Robson	Sarah Zeigler Steve Glass	dorothy lesher	Jeri Schultz Gary Nelson	Steve McCarthy	Gary Nelson	xxx	xxx
Feb. 21st	Sarah Zeigler	Judi Linder Irv Elliott	Carol Rue	Michael Luedtke Lisa Luedtke	Steve McCarthy	Kim Zeigler	Zeigler Family Ebbesen/ Wick Family	Aaron Gebauer Sarah Lahr
Feb. 28th	Ramona Starks	Joanne Shepherd Beth Lewis	Rick Rouse	Kim Zeigler Kaia Zeigler	Ramona Starks	Aaron Gebauer	Moberg Family Gebauer/ Hertzler Family	Josh Moberg Sarah Zeigler

Calvary Lutheran Church
3901 Chicago Avenue South
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'IN THE CITY FOR GOOD'

The Practice of Word & World

You are encouraged to read and ponder
the Scripture readings for worship

February 7th

Isaiah 6:1-13
Psalm 138
I Corinthians 15:1-11
Luke 5:1-11

February 14th

Exodus 34:29-35
Psalm 99
II Corinthians 3:12-4:2
Luke 9:28-43

Ash Wednesday, February 17th

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17
Psalm 51:1-17
II Corinthians 5:20b-6:10
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

February 21st

Deuteronomy 26:1-11
Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16
Romans 10:8b-13
Luke 4:1-13

February 28th

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18
Psalm 27
Philippians 3:17-4:1
Luke 13:31-35

A MINNESOTA WITHOUT POVERTY

If Not We, Then Who?
If Not Now, Then When?



Join the Statewide movement to end poverty
by 2020. Saturday, February 27 from 6 - 9:00
p.m.

A Minnesota Without Poverty believes that
together we can create inventive solutions to
reverse the cycle of poverty, put an end to it
for good. It's not an easy task, but by building
bridges with various sectors of our commu-
nity, ending poverty can become a reality.

Olson Campus Center at Luther Seminary,
1490 Fulham Street in St. Paul. Don Samuels
will be the keynote speaker.

RSVP to
nancymaeker@mnwithoutpoverty.org