

Crossroads

The newsletter of Calvary Lutheran Church



January 2017

MEET YOUR INTERIM PASTOR

I'm Bruce Arnevik and am excited to start serving as your interim pastor as we begin the New Year! Born in Minneapolis, my family moved to Richfield when I was a year old. I was baptized at the old Augustana Lutheran Church in downtown Mpls. and attended Sunday School there as a young child. Our family moved to Edina when I was in 6th grade where I graduated from high school in 1973. Normandale Lutheran (Hwy. 100) became my home congregation where I was confirmed and where the associate pastor there during my high school years was influential in shaping my faith and church life and my eventual path to becoming a pastor. Through Normandale, I got involved in some of Augustana's outreach programs when I was in high school.

I attended Luther College in Decorah, IA and then Luther-Northwestern Seminaries in St. Paul. I served as youth director at Augustana during my first two years of seminary. During my seminary year of internship (1979-1980), I served two congregations in Jersey City, NJ that were undergoing racial transition. I was ordained in 1981 and then served Salem English Lutheran Church on 28th & Lyndale Ave. S. in Mpls. for 20 years until Feb. 2002. My wife, Catherine, and I have been married for 36 years and for 33 years lived three blocks from Salem on 28th & Colfax Ave. S. where we raised our three sons. David (31) is married to Erin and they have two daughters, Audrey (7) and Lucy (4) and live in Milwaukee. Anders (27) bought and lives in our old house in Uptown. Soren (22) is a senior at UW-Milwaukee. Catherine and I now live on 58th & Clinton.

After serving Salem for 20 years, I took what ended up being a two-year break from pastoral ministry. During that time I did a variety of things which renewed my energy for ministry. I participated in

the James Shannon Leadership Institute through the Wilder Foundation, took a whitewater canoe trip on a northern Canadian river, and did construction work with a friend in his home remodeling business. I received interim ministry training at Luther Seminary prior to leaving Salem and then re-entered pastoral ministry as an intentional interim pastor in January, 2004. My previous interims: *Faith, Waconia; Norwegian Memorial (Mindekirken), Mpls., Holy Trinity, Mpls., Crown of Glory, Chaska, St. Luke's, Bloomington, Alleluia!, St. Michael, and All Saints, Minnetonka.*



I play basketball almost every Thursday morning. (Rumor has it I've even been known to schedule funerals around this sacred time. But can you really trust rumors?) We now play in the basement gym at Christ Church on 34th Av. & 33rd St. This habit began 35 years ago with an all-pastor crew of hoop-ers. Now the group is half pastors and half regular/normal people. And now we're very cross-generational as we range in age from yours truly as the oldest and only original member of the group, to some guys in their 20s. One of my son's

friends named our group "Preacherball" which is now the official name our group is registered under at the Hiawatha YWCA where we occasionally play!

Catherine & I covet time spent with our granddaughters when we have the chance. We love traveling out West and hiking in the mountains. And we never tire of going to the North Shore, hiking on trails there, and eating fresh-caught Lake Superior fish. We enjoy biking together and are starting to do more cooking together. I like to canoe, camp, deer hunt, fish and often (but not always) enjoy the home projects I'm working on.

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JANUARY WORSHIP & MINISTRY LEADERS

Ministry	Jan. 1	Jan. 8	Jan. 15	Jan. 22	Jan. 29
Ass't Minister	Danielle Hill	Emilie Bouvier	Joani Moberg	Jennifer McCarthy	Linda Mundt
Acolytes	Pat Olson Connor Swearingin	Josh Moberg Christian Moberg	Jeri Schultz Irv Elliott	Karen Rudrud Benjamin Huff	Brian Aust Johanna Aust
Lector	Jeri Schultz	Kristy Rolig	Lily Endo	Isaac Wengerd	Mosh Moberg
Sacristan	Sam Robson	Anne Boone	Anne Boone	Stacia Wick	Stacia Wick
Sound Board	Kenney Escher Julian Escher	Sigrid Davidson	Dick Peik	Neeve McCarthy	Lydia Huff
Coffee Hour	Bonnie Rae Emilie Bouvier	Teri Schweizer Anders Davidson Judi Linder	Shari Seifert Melissa Brooks Livia Van Horne Alissa Frost	Brian Aust dorothy lesher Angie Endo Scott Endo	Don Rudrud Karen Rudrud Barb Martinsen
Counters	Gary Nelson Ted Fabel	Mary Nelson Marilyn Holm	Pat Olson Danielle Hill		Michael Weber Jeri Schultz
Food Shelf	(Jan. 7) Carol Rue Pat Olson	(Jan. 14) Judith Glass Michael Weber	(Jan. 21) Gary Nelson Jeri Schultz	(Jan. 28) Marilyn Holm Gary Thorn	(Feb. 4) Carol Rue Pat Olson

January Celebrations

Birthdays

1/1 - Rachel Rydberg
1/8 - Caleb Moberg
1/10 - Lyle Jaeger
1/10 - James Lengyel
1/11 - Mona Eastman
1/12 - Shari Seifert

1/14 - Johanna Aust
1/16 - Greta Rolig
1/17 - Jeri Schultz
1/18 - Chelsie Hansen-Stratton
1/20 - Joani Moberg
1/23 - Violet Nystrom
1/26 - Ayden Guild

1/26 - Melanie Jackson
1/27 - Jackson Robson
1/28 - Carolyn Youngbauer
1/31 - dorothy lesher
1/31 - Gary Nelson
1/31 - Deb Paulsrud

JANUARY MISSION OF THE MONTH ISAIAH

ISAIAH is a vehicle for congregations, clergy, and people of faith to act collectively and powerfully towards racial and economic equity in the state of Minnesota. Calvary Lutheran is a sponsoring congregation of the work ISAIAH is doing in our communities.



MEETINGS IN JANUARY

Monday, Jan. 2

10:00 a.m. - Executive Committee

Monday, Jan. 9

All-Committee Night with a shared meal at 5:30 p.m. and all committees meet at 6:30 p.m. to work on the Annual Report.

Monday, Jan. 23

5:30 p.m. Executive Committee
6:30 p.m. Church Council

BRINGING FAITH HOME by Pastor Amy Kumm-Hanson

There are a number of movements in popular Christian culture these days about “bringing faith home” and having parents being a child’s first teacher of the faith. One of the most well-known is Rich Melheim’s “Faith Five”, which I will share more about in the months to come. But this is not a new idea. Martin Luther’s Small Catechism was designed to be an at-home teaching guide for parents to talk about faith with their children. So how can we bring faith home and have it be part of our families during the rest of the week, not just on Sunday mornings? Here are some ideas:

1. Explore the Bible

If you have a family Bible or a Bible of your own, take it out and show it to your children. Talk about the different parts of the Bible. Talk about how the Bible is a library of books instead of a single book. Show your children your favorite bible verse. If they have a story Bible, make reading that a part of your bedtime routine.

2. Practice incarnational presence

To quote Martin Luther, we are to be “little Christs” to one another. We practice this by being fully present with one another and by reflecting Christ’s love through our presence, actions, and words. Have a “check-in” time at meals or before bed as a family. Listen to “highs” and “lows” of the day from everyone in the family. This is a simple way to make an incarnational connection.

3. Talk about where you see God and invite your children to do the same

Do you see God in nature? In art? In the faces of God’s beloved children? What does God look like to you? Does God reveal Godself in scripture or music or a beautiful sunset? This practice of noticing is sacred. You might be surprised where God shows up.

4. Practice forgiveness

Forgiveness in the Lutheran tradition is understood as a tool for mending relationships, because we have already been forgiven by God we are free to serve one another in joy. Practice sharing when you have hurt someone else and asking for forgiveness. Talk about mending relationships and making right what has been broken. Seek forgiveness from your children.

5. Pray together

Praying out loud doesn’t have to be complicated. Praying the Lord’s Prayer together each day is enough. Sharing a prayer before meals or before bed is an important time of connection. When praying together, follow this simple prayer process: Greeting for God, Thanksgiving for blessings, intercession for what is needed, and acclamation of God’s power in hearing these prayers. Followed by “Amen” which means, “Let it be so!”

What ways do you connect faith with family life?



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Back in October, it was Hans Lee who first drew my attention to Calvary as a place for Cathy and I to check out some Sunday because of the vitality and positive things happening there. (And that was before either Hans or I knew Calvary would soon need an interim pastor.) But it was because of what I experienced in worship at Calvary back in November that I became really interested in the possibility of serving as your interim pastor.

I know Calvary will be grieving the departure of the kind of gifted pastor you've had in Pastor Brad Froslee these past eight years. I have no doubt that his ministry among you has played a key role in Calvary's current growth and vitality. But I'm confident that an equal share of Calvary's vitality and future promise lies within the congregation itself with all of your gifts.

I'm not Pastor Brad and I won't be trying to do everything exactly like Pastor Brad did. And that's one of the points of having an interim pastor – to be opened to eventually receive someone new in the form of your new settled pastor when she or he arrives. But I also believe that Calvary's vitality and the things you stand for can remain strong during this interim time as we all work together

and we each offer what we can towards achieving that end.

How long will the interim time last? I think as long as we don't try to artificially speed things up or slow things down, a natural pace will emerge that will answer that question. I'd like to have at least a little time "on the ground" with you to observe and listen and discuss with leaders whether or not there may be any particular concerns that could be helpful to address during the interim before Calvary enters the call process for a new pastor. I suspect we share the common goal of wanting Calvary to be best positioned for your future. And I believe it's crucial for Calvary to be clear about the gifts and skill set you'll be looking for in your next pastor.

I look forward to getting to know you. Please introduce yourself and continue to remind me of your name. I'd welcome individual conversation with you if you are so inclined. I'd like to hear some of your own story and gain your insights and perspective on Calvary. Please talk to me at church, call me, or email me if you'd like to set-up a conversation at church, in a coffee shop, or in your home. Meanwhile, I'll see you in worship on what we will celebrate as Epiphany Sunday on January 8!

– Pastor Bruce

OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE LIFE OF YOUR CONGREGATION

CALL FOR GREETERS AND USHERS

If you are interested in serving in this capacity please talk with Melinda Bendix-Horn (Worship Committee chair), Pastor Amy, or contact the church office. We look forward to expanding these teams of leaders at Calvary.



COFFEE HOUR HOSTS FOR 2017

Take a minute and sign up to serve Coffee Hour a few Sundays in 2017. The sign-up sheet is on the counter in the narthex. You can also email your preferences for dates to the church office where that information will be compiled.



INTERESTED IN SERVING ON THE CHURCH COUNCIL?

The nominating committee is in the process of putting together a slate of candidates for church council. New council members will be elected at the annual meeting in January. If you are interested in serving on church council, please contact one of the nominating committee members Daniel Huff or Shari Seifert.



CONTRIBUTION COUNTER NEEDED

Calvary has five teams (of two) to count the weekly donations to the church and make the bank deposit. They are in need of one new counter to help round out the team roster. If you are interested in serving in this manner, please contact Kurt in the church office for more information.

VISIONS OF TOMORROW

During the late days of 2016 and the beginning of 2017, we have opportunities to remember and imagine. Since we have said goodbye to Pastor Brad, our memories are, at once, vivid, sad, and filled with gratitude. But our future is uncertain. What will come next? Each of us wonders if and how we will have to adapt.

It was that way for the disciples after Jesus left them. It was uncertain for Mary and Joseph, pursued by an angry, jealous king and fleeing into Egypt. We will have a new arrangement of power in our nation and in our states. What changes lie ahead? How will we cope?

One way to manage such times is with what we call Christian practice. There are rituals and habits that keep us feeling secure and steady. The primary one is probably prayer; the practice of moving out of ourselves and into conversation with the Spirit of life. Another practice is attending worship. There is a grounding that can happen within us when we regularly attend worship—we hear

familiar scripture lessons and stories. We speak aloud our confession and sing our praise or lament. The practice of worship. And another key practice to hold us secure is Bible reading.

Equally significant is the practice of giving. It is our visible statement of loyalty and faith and hope in the future. From the time our children are young, we try to teach them to practice generosity by bringing an offering to church. We instruct them in our belief that giving to others without personal return is a gift from God—a meaningful practice of faith.

The other way to manage change and the unknown is with vision. We cannot know what lies ahead, but we have a vision for tomorrow - that swords will be beaten into plowshares, the wolf shall live with the lamb, and even in the darkest of nights we will have the Light of Love with us. Lean into the vision of holiness and practice your hope through worship, prayer and giving.

REGISTER NOW FOR JANUARY 28TH ISAIAH GATHERING

“For Such A Time As This: Building Our Prophetic Resistance”

“We were called for such a time as this...” Esther 4:14

Please join ISAIAH in a gathering of 1,500 people of faith in Minnesota on Saturday, January 28th from 1:00-4:00pm at Shiloh Temple International Ministries, 1201 W. Broadway Ave, Minneapolis MN 55411.

In these dark times of political demagoguery, division, and fear, people of faith are organizing to lead. We are working to co-create a new world together based on our shared values of inclusiveness, dignity and justice for all.

- Over the past few years, ISAIAH has worked with many others to lead successful efforts to defeat the constitutional amendment to require Photo ID to vote,
- protect homeowners from foreclosure,
- preserve and strengthen MinnesotaCare,
- extend Paid Sick Days to all workers in Minneapolis and St. Paul,
- pass statewide sentencing reform, and stop the opening of a for-profit prison in Minnesota.

We will celebrate these victories, and plan for our vigorous efforts to defend public institutions, protect immigrant families and preserve our planet. It is time for a movement of prophetic resistance! Register now at www.tinyurl.com/PropheticResistance - this event is free & childcare will be provided.

ENDING SEX TRAFFICKING IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Keep an eye out for an event about a faith-based response to sex trafficking. On February 4, 2017, Bethel, and Holy Trinity, Bethel, Our Saviour's, and Calvary Lutheran churches will sponsor a community forum on the Faith Community's Response to Sex Trafficking in the neighborhood. The forum will focus on learning from those directly impacted and how faith communities can become engaged in the work of reducing demand, and ending sex trafficking in our neighborhood. Watch for more information soon.

Cherish All Children | 612.751.5214 | www.cherishchildren.org
Visit us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/cherishallchildren>



Cherish All Children
Pray + Educate + Connect + Act

Calvary Lutheran Church

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Felecia Boone, Secretary
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Laura Huff, Vice President
Lyle Jaeger
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Kendra McCarthy
Linda Mundt
Lars Negstad, President
Jeri Schultz
Chris Van Meter
Michael Weber

**The deadline for submitting information for the February 2017 issue of the Calvary Newsletter is
Tuesday, January 24**