



How Are We Doing, Calvary?

At Calvary's Council meeting this past Monday, we talked about common congregational feelings and dynamics during a time of transition. There are usually a wide range of feelings about the loss of a previous pastor. Some people feel grief. Some feel anger. Some feel confusion. Some are matter-of-fact. Some see new possibilities. Some feel all of these emotions at different times. Some had a very close relationship with that pastor. Some not so close.

We also talked about how, during an interim time, often "the lid comes off" and a variety of things float to the surface: anxiety, issues around communication and trust, anger, unresolved tensions and power struggles; as well as positive things like envisioning new possibilities, opportunities for growth and learning, and new directions for the future. The Alban Institute has pointed out that, during an interim time, congregations become "unstuck" and are able to take a fresh look at themselves and the ways they operate, perhaps experiment with some new things, and begin to imagine the new chapter that lies ahead for them.

At the meeting, Council members each shared their own feelings about Pastor Brad's leaving and the current transition Calvary finds itself in. As expected, there was a wide range of thoughts and feelings. So where are you? How are you doing? Like Council members, there are probably a broad spectrum of feelings among you. For many at Calvary, November was a "double whammy" of shock and grief with the results of the elections combined with the announcement of Pr. Brad's leaving. And now the congregation is grieving the unexpected death of Gary Mazzone as we prepare to give thanks for and celebrate his life at the upcoming prayer and memorial services.

How are we doing, Calvary? Perhaps it's time

to take a pause for the cause and reflect on where we are. There is a time to listen to our feelings. And there is a time and a place to share them. Unless we do, it's difficult to move forward.

The season of Lent for us at Calvary may be particularly meaningful this year. From remembering our mortality on Ash Wednesday, to soup suppers and *Prayer Around the Cross* the following Wednesdays, to Gary's service, to the special home gatherings we are signing-up for, to Sunday worship, perhaps Lent will be a time to re-connect, reconcile, heal and reassure one another. For we gather in the name of the One who is always with us, who unites us, and in whose life, death and resurrection promise we share.

– Pastor Bruce

Faith Practices Sermon Series

We began a six-week Sunday sermon series on February 26. Each week will focus on one of the following spiritual practices: *prayer, worship, Bible reading, service to others, relationships for spiritual growth, and financial giving*. These practices are inter-related and influence both our personal spiritual vitality and our collective vitality as a congregation. You are invited to listen, reflect, and be challenged to grow in at least one of these practices. And what practice(s) might Calvary be challenged to grow deeper in together as a community?



MARCH WORSHIP & MINISTRY LEADERS

Ministry	March 5	March 12	March 19	March 26
Ass't Minister	Jennifer McCarthy	Linda Mundt	Judie Mattison	Danielle Hill
Acolytes	Josh Moberg Christian Moberg	Rachel Rydberg	Karen Rudrud Benji Huff	Brian Aust Johanna Aust
Lector	Daniel Huff	Nancy Lee Nelson	Kaia Zeigler	Carol Rue
Sacristan	Stacia Wick	Steve McCarthy	Sam Robson	Sam Robson
Sound Board	Dick Peik	Neeve McCarthy	Lydia Huff	Sigrid Davidson
Coffee Hour	Barb Martinsen Don & Karen Rudrud		Miranda Hong Tom Johnson	
Counters	Michael Weber Jeri Schultz	Gary Nelson Ted Fabel	Mary Nelson Marilyn Holm	Pat Olson Danielle Hill
Food Shelf	March 11 Judith Glass Michael Weber	March 18 Gary Nelson Jeri Schultz	March 25 Marilyn Holm Gary Thorn	April 1 Carol Rue Pat Olson

March Celebrations

Birthdays

3/1 - Kat Hansen-Stratton
3/4 - Henry Wengerd
3/5 - Tove Wing
3/6 - Melinda Bendix-Horn
3/8 - Bettye Brown
3/8 - Matthew Youngbauer
3/11 - Judi Linder
3/12 - Quincy Aust
3/13 - Karen Rudrud
3/14 - Mike Guild

3/14 - Donnie Robson
3/14 - Stacia Wick
3/16 - Venice Knowlen
3/18 - Stacy Anderson
3/19 - Chris Van Meter
3/20 - Clara Grace
3/20 - Donna Neubauer
3/21 - Lily Endo
3/21 - Benjamin Huff
3/21 - Loren Woodman
3/22 - Julian Escher

3/23 - Kenney Escher
3/26 - Anika Robson
3/26 - Kelsey Stanford
3/27 - Ingrid Rolig
3/30 - Leighton Mohr
3/31 - Sarah Zeigler

Anniversaries

3/18 - Beth Lewis & Richard Rouse
3/20 - Joani & Josh Moberg

MARCH MISSION OF THE MONTH is the Calvary Food Shelf



A special emphasis is made during March to raise funds for the Calvary Food Shelf, which provides food to those in need. In the last 12 months, Calvary has served an average of 176 persons per month, representing at least 283 distinct family groups (first-time visitors). Your faithful support of this ministry is vital to its continued presence in the community!

MEETINGS IN MARCH

Monday, March 13 - All Church Night

5:30 community meal

6:30 committee meetings

(Social Justice, Education, Crossroads, MICAH)

Monday, March 20 - Exec Committee at 6:30

Monday, March 27 - Church Council at 6:30

CALL COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED

Calvary Lutheran Church Council would like to joyfully announce the approval of the following members to serve on the Call Committee in the search for our next pastor:

Anne Boone
 Scott Endo
 Danielle Hill
 Daniel Huff
 Lyle Jaeger
 Judie Mattison
 Linda Mundt
 Stacia Wick



We are grateful to these people for their willingness to serve, and we are pleased to be moving forward with the call process. There will be several opportunities for the congregation to provide input to the Call Committee. The home gatherings taking place during Lent will be one opportunity. Our church constitution indicates a group of up to 8 people can be selected for this process. Additionally, four alternates will be selected by Council at its March meeting and will join the committee in the event that one or more of the members are unable to complete the process. Calvary is blessed to have a very engaged membership, and many people who care deeply about the future of the congregation. While the Call Committee is limited in numbers,

know that every voice at Calvary matters and all are encouraged to be an active part of this conversation and important work.

Please join the Council as we hold the Call Committee in prayer, seeking the grace and guidance of the Holy Spirit as this holy work begins.

Laura Huff, on behalf of Council

MEAL & WORSHIP WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT

Each Wednesday during lent, a soup supper will be served starting at 5:30 and Prayer Around the Cross worship at 6:30 p.m. We invite you to join us at Calvary during the season of Lent!

Two readers are needed for each mid-week worship service. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the narthex.



Calvary member Gary Mazzone died last week. Services will be held at Calvary Lutheran Church, 3901 Chicago Avenue in Minneapolis.

Prayer Service and Memorial Service Info:

- Prayer Service and Sharing: Friday, March 17 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. (Time for songs, sharing, prayer around the cross, candle lighting)
- Memorial Service: Saturday, March 18 at 1:00 p.m., Visitation at Noon
- Fellowship downstairs immediately following service -- fruit, desserts, punch

SHARING

The concept of sharing is very much in the forefront lately. We hear individuals and nations questioning why they should share with others. Possessively we hold on to land and resources as if it belongs only to us. Those “other” people don’t belong here — it’s an international attitude. Go back where you belong — even if it is a land of bombings or starvation.



When our children are very young, we begin to try to show them that it is important to share. “Share your toys.” “Let your brother have his turn.” “Thank you for giving part of your treat to your sister.” It takes years to develop that mindset.

Scripture gives us countless examples of how God desires sharing, from the story of the Good Samaritan, to the practice of leaving remainders on the field for the poor to have, to the story of the poor widow giving her very best at the Temple.

The stories are not suggestions; they’re examples of how to live a Godly life, a life of satisfaction and joy. As we enter Lent, we can search for opportunities to practice sharing, in the name of the one who gave all things and unconditional love to us.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

Many service opportunities exist at the present time. Here are a few reflections shared by Calvary members on what service work has meant to them:

- Service is a way to express gratitude toward those who have served us. It takes a lot of work to keep this church going—not to mention the work of past generations to build and sustain the church.
- Service work is one of the best ways to get to know fellow Calvary members. Working together is a great way to go farther than a five minute conversation during coffee hour.
- Service work is a way to move past our individual concerns—even if briefly. Getting out of ourselves through service-oriented action is a time-honored spiritual practice.
- People are searching for ways to be active for change in the world. Institutions like our church are essential to sustaining “civil society” that operates in tandem with democratic institutions. Many would argue that democracy is impossible without civil society.

Even with the promise of these many benefits, it can be hard to take on a new commitment. Everyone seems to be busier than ever these days. Therefore, Calvary is trying out a new approach for Committee work. **Initial Committee assignments will be for one year only.** Sign up for a year and see how it fits in your life.

All Committees are in need of at least one new member. If you are interested in serving, or to learn more about the work of a particular Committee, please reach out to the Council member who serves as a liaison to that Committee:

Education and Youth	Jennifer Halter
MICAH (Hospitality)	Chris Van Meter
Mission Support	Tom Johnson/Josh Moberg
Property	Felecia Boone
Social Justice	Michael Weber/Felecia Boone
Race and Equity	Felecia Boone/Michael Weber
Worship & Spiritual Care	Melinda Bendix-Horn/Laura Huff

Thank you for considering this opportunity for service!

SIGN UP TO ATTEND A HOME GATHERING DURING LENT



A number of home gatherings have been scheduled throughout March and early April and we are encouraging every member (and potential member!) to sign up to attend one of the gatherings.

These gatherings will be great opportunities for us to get to know one another better and to strengthen our community, especially during this time of transition. And the small group setting will allow your voice to be heard. Pastor Bruce will be at each one to help facilitate conversations as we share a little of our own history at Calvary, what being a part of this church community means to us, and what hopes and dreams we have for Calvary's future. You will have an opportunity to share what types of leadership qualities and skills and what kind of person you think Calvary needs its new pastor. Your perspectives will be passed on to the Call Committee. The gatherings will last no longer than two hours and will end with sharing communion together.

Below is the link for signing up. There are a number of dates and times available as well as descriptions of the venues to help you choose a gathering that is right for you. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Melinda Bendix-Horn at mj.bendixhorn@gmail.com or 612.239.8464.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080D4CA8AF22ABF85-calvary>



Greetings to everyone at Calvary!

I am sitting in my office at St. Michael's and staring across the room at the beautiful "Calvary cross" hanging on the wall. Each time I glance at it I cannot help but think of you all and the wonderful community of faith at Calvary. Thank you for the beautiful gift! Know that it is treasured and evokes great feelings of gratitude and love.

After Christmas I was able to sit down with the book and notes from you all and to truly take in the words. Thank you for sharing of yourself in this way. Thank you also to all who made the final weeks and last Sunday at Calvary so meaningful.

By now you are well into the interim time. It has been a delight to bump into Pastor Bruce at text study and hear the care he brings. It has been great to have several of you stop and say hello at the Isaiah gatherings. Know that my prayers continue to surround you.

As we move into Ash Wednesday and the season of Lent, may it be a time of on-going renewal and promise. This is such a powerful and rich time at Calvary with Prayer Around the Cross and community connection. Blessings throughout these days.

Bill and Torin send their greetings. Our hearts are full when we think of you.

*With peace and great thanks!
Brad*

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Administrator: Kurt Posz
office@clchurch.org

Food Shelf Coordinator:
Henrietta Williams

Church Council Members

Melinda Bendix-Horn

Jennifer Halter

Tom Johnson

Linda Mundt

Kristy Rolig

Chris Van Meter

Kaia Zeigler

Interim Pastor Bruce Arnevik

Felecia Boone

Laura Huff

Josh Moberg

Lars Negstad

Jeri Schultz

Michael Weber

The deadline for submitting information for the
April issue of the Calvary Newsletter is Tuesday, March 21