

Crossroads

The newsletter of Calvary Lutheran Church



Learning to Ride a Bicycle...again!

September 2015

They say that once you have mastered the art of riding a bicycle it is easy to jump back on and go! In many ways I agree. You understand the basics—balance, steering, pedaling. Then it just requires getting into the groove.

The last two weeks I have jumped back on the bicycle at Calvary. After being away for 3 ½ months, it is easy to get back into the swing of things...and certain things don't really change.

Yet I am also very aware that I come back having explored new ideas, places, and spaces and this transforms who I am and how I operate. Additionally, people at Calvary have been changed by different preachers, teachers, books, movies, and different ways of being in the world.

All of this now brings us back together to do some learning, thinking, and riding in new ways. We allow ourselves to be changed and operate in the church and world a little bit differently. We are now learning to ride this tandem bicycle again—together!

As we move into this new program year, it is important for us to name this and to honor who we are today. It is significant for us to note those places that are a little bumpier as we get going again. It is wonderful to lift up those times when it feels like we are speeding down the hill and the wind is at our back.

I am always excited about fall—autumn colors, new learnings, this cusp season. Yet, this fall I find myself particularly excited. First off, I am excited to see all the people at Calvary again. Secondly, I am excited to hear from you about your experiences of sabbatical (what has been important/transformational/helpful for you; what has been hard/trying/“different”). I am also excited to dream about where this sabbatical will continue to take us.

There is incredible energy within the congregation for justice—racial equity, earth-care, economic justice. There is excitement around how we continue to enrich the traditions of worship and, simultane-

ously, allow new life to breathe in and through it. There is wonder about how we continue to reach out and connect with the community through the musical, food shelf, and Urban Arts.

This is great!

AND... as we learn to ride this bicycle again, I want to lift up a few things that we need to also spend some “less-than-exciting” attention on.

First, we need to really address a whole plan for our building. Steve Glass has for the last several years provided leadership and guidance through some difficult work on the building as Property Committee Chair. In August Steve decided it was time to step down from that position. It is imperative we as a congregation step up to continue the work that he and others have led and hoped to see happen. And let's be honest...this is probably the biggest thing, coming back from sabbatical, that I am **least** excited about. We have an old building that takes work, energy, and money. So, I am going to ask people to step up to help us create a long-range plan and vision. Together we are going to strive to find ways to bring energy, commitment, and ministry to this area of our “getting back on the bike.”

Next, we have done incredibly well over the last several years in giving and stewardship. We have grown in our giving to the church and ministries. This is a great feat, especially after coming through the recession. Now it's time to check in again with how we are doing and next steps in this area. This fall we will enter into our stewardship season again. I invite you begin prayerfully discerning, even now, how you might consider giving of time, energy, and resources this coming year.

If we are going to dream and fashion this incredible ministry of vibrant worship, racial justice, environmental commitment, and outreach to the community we need to make sure that our building and

(Continued on page 4)

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP & MINISTRY LEADERS

| Ministry | Sept. 6 | Sept. 13 | Sept. 20 | Sept. 27 |
|-----------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Ass't Minister | Judie Mattison | Linda Mundt | Emilie Bouvier | Lisa Negstad |
| Acolytes | | Josh Moberg Christian Moberg | Michael Weber Lydia Huff | Joanne Shepherd Danielle Hill |
| Lector | Linda Mundt | Lily endo | Felecia Boone | Jeri Schultz |
| Sacristan | | Stacia Wick | Melissa Brooks | Melissa Brooks |
| Sound Board | Neeve McCarthy | Eliot Aust | Gary Nelson | Dick Peik |
| Coffee Hour | Chris & George Robson Joanne Shepherd | Angie & Scott Endo Danielle & Josh Hill | Amber & Melinda Bendix- Horn Mary Nelson | Melissa Brooks Shari Seifert Sylvia Braaten Stacy Bridges |
| Counters | Mary Nelson Marilyn Holm | Pat Olson Danielle & Josh Hill | Joanne Shepherd Verna Lutes | Michael Weber Jeri Schultz |
| Food Shelf | (Sept. 12) Judith Glass Michael Weber | (Sept. 19) Gary Nelson Jeri Schultz | (Sept. 26) Marilyn Holm Gary Thorn | (Oct. 3) Carol Rue Pat Olson |

SIGN UP FOR COMMUNION BREAD: A new sign-up sheet is posted in the narthex for September. Please sign up to bring the bread for communion!

September Celebrations

Birthdays

9/2 - Judith Glass
 9/2 - Tamara Tripp
 9/5 - Alexander Jackson
 9/5 - Carol Ulrich
 9/6 - Brian Rolig
 9/9 - Freya Ebbesen
 9/9 - Lisa Lundmark
 9/12 - Lisa Negstad

9/16 - Brad Froslee
 9/16 - Sandra Nekola
 9/17 - Zoe Hocum
 9/17 - Darcy Luze
 9/17 - Jennifer McCarthy
 9/20 - Allison Zeigler
 9/21 - Brian Haugstad
 9/23 - Asher Mohr
 9/26/5 - Chris Robson

9/26 - Sarah Lahr
 9/27 - Stella Byng
 9/27 - Elayne Lipp
 9/29 - Melissa Townsend

Anniversaries

9/17 - Isaac Wengerd &
 Anne Williams-Wengerd
 9/21 - Shari Seifert & Melissa Brooks

GRATITUDE & GENEROSITY: REFLECTING AS THE SEASON CHANGES

We pack so much into our warm weather months that it makes us pause and think. Are we grateful for all the good times, the blessings of sun and plants, our especially fine summer of 2015? Thanks, God!

Have we kept up our promises to maintain the daily workings of Calvary and all the work we accomplish with our financial contributions? It may be easy to forget in the months when we travel or are gone from Sunday worship. The needs do not take a vacation.

Sister Boiler will soon be needed again. We were excited to have good heat last winter because of the repairs we had done. But the boiler update is not paid for. We thank God for the warmth...can we express our gratitude with generosity?

MISSION OF THE MONTH: Blue Mango India

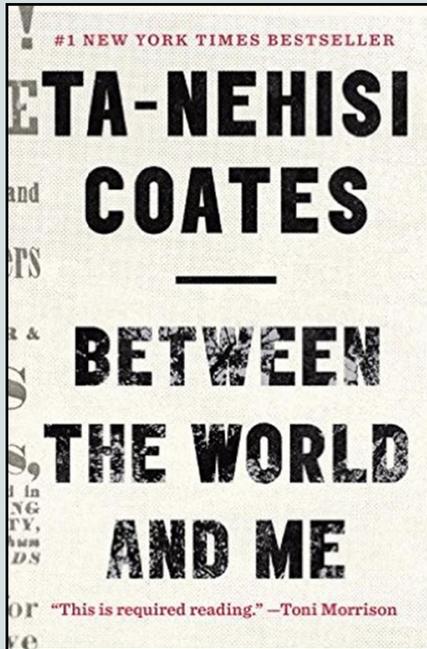
Blue Mango's objective is to run a sustainable business by and for marginalized women who are disabled, deserted, widowed or living with AIDS. We offer a supportive infrastructure which enables women to gain financial stability and self-reliance. More information will be available this month in church and weekly emails.



CALVARY BOOK DISCUSSION STARTS SEPTEMBER 17

Meeting Thursday evenings and Sunday mornings

Between the World and Me by Ta-Nehisi Coates



What is it like to inhabit a black body and find a way to live within it?

We are continuing the book discussions we started this summer and have chosen to read **Between the World and Me** by Ta-Nehisi Coates.

We will meet Thursdays, Sept 17, 24, Oct 1, 8 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm and Sundays, Sept 20, 27 and Oct 4 from 9:00 to 10:00 am.

The following review is from [Goodreads.com](http://www.goodreads.com)

In a profound work that pivots from the biggest questions about American history and ideals to the most intimate concerns of a father for his son, Ta-Nehisi Coates offers a powerful new framework for understanding our nation's history and current crisis. Americans have built an empire on the idea of "race," a falsehood that damages us all but falls most heavily on the bodies of black women and men—bodies exploited through slavery and segregation, and, today, threatened, locked up, and murdered out of all proportion. What is it like to inhabit a black body and find a way to live within it? And how can we all honestly reckon with this fraught history and free ourselves from its burden?

CALVARY WOMEN'S RETREAT

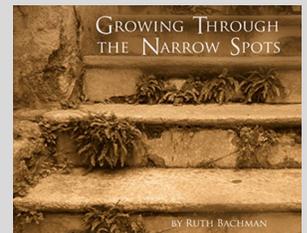
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

9 AM TO 4 PM

Minnesota Landscape Arboretum

The charge for the retreat is \$25 and includes Ruth Bachman's book *Growing Through the Narrow Spots*, entrance to the Arboretum, and coffee break treats. Lunch--bring your own or eat in the cafeteria. We will have scholarships available and will carpool.

A certified convener in The Art of Convening, Ruth brings meaningful connection, inspiration, and commitment to action to her presentations. She serves on numerous boards and is a speaking ambassador for Community Health Charities Minnesota, and a spokesperson for the Rein in Sarcoma Red Flags of Sarcoma Campaign. In her role as a survivor advocate, Ruth attended the 7th Biennial Cancer Survivorship Research Conference in Atlanta, GA in 2014. And, finally, she participated in a remarkable trip to Nepal where she climbed 2 2/3 mountains with Above and Beyond Cancer - the only 64 year old in the group to make it to 19,200 feet! Out of a deep sense of gratitude, Ruth donates all speaking fees and proceeds from the sale of her book and other Hourglass merchandise to support cancer research, awareness and advocacy.



Please visit Ruth's website for a **one page overview of Ruth's work and mission.**

<http://www.ruthbachman.com/RuthBachman-OnePager.pdf>

(Pastor Brad's article continued from page 1)

finances are in place. Then we can really ride!

Finally, I want to say this...our church is different. Having been to a lot of churches over the last few months I would say we are "really different"...in so many ways! But most significantly we are different because the people at Calvary have changed (new faces, new ideas, new perspectives). We will be exploring ways to bring us together so that we can be more deeply in relationship and care for one another.

We have the opportunity to learn to ride again...on new paths...with new and renewed people.

When I was in South Africa I asked Pastor Alan Storey how he was able to—and how he might see others—

building a community that is multiracial, lgbtq inclusive, Jesus-following, justice-seeking, filled with incredible worship and fellowship. He laughed. He said, "When you figure it out, let me know." And people of God at Calvary, I am convinced that we can do it!

We are jumping back on the bicycle...we are riding again...on a new and renewed path. A GREAT path! And we are holding close to the one who calls us into being, who teaches us about the road, and who breathes life into us.

Let's hunker down for quite the ride!

Blessings on these days and the journey ahead,
Pastor Brad

Council Consideration of Banner/Sign Supporting Racial Equity Work

Calvary friends, the council is in discussion about how we can continue our witness of racial equity and God's call to create a beloved community where Black lives are valued. One idea is to erect a sign lifting up our witness/support on the corner of 39th and Chicago Avenue. We will discuss this at our next council meeting, September 14th. I'd like to remind you that all council meetings are open to the congregation. You are most welcome to attend. We begin at 5:30 with the community meal, followed by the meeting at 6:30. Please join us for dinner and then share your thoughts at the meeting.

Laura Huff, Council President



Sunday School Teacher/ Volunteer Training Tuesday, September 8, 6:30-8:00 pm

It is hard to believe that September is now here! Yet it is exciting to think of the hustle and bustle at Calvary as we kick off another year of Sunday School.

On Tuesday, September 8, 6:30-8:00 pm, Sunday School teachers and volunteers will gather at Calvary for food, beverage, planning and preparations for the year.

If you are still considering teaching or volunteering please feel free to contact Joani Moberg or Nicole Falk.

We are delighted to have a number of different opportunities this year—including Sleep-in Sundays! Please stay tuned for more information.

We look forward to seeing many of you next week.

The Calvary Education Committee



THE RUMMAGE SALE IS COMING!!
 Drop-off dates: Saturday, October 11 & Sunday, October 12
 Sale dates Friday, October 16 & Saturday, October 17



GIVING TREE -- 13th Annual RUMMAGE SALE

- WHAT:** Volunteers needed Saturday, October 10 through Sunday, October 18
 (lunches and snacks provided)
- HOW:** Sign up online (as last year) - information will be provided when the link is active
 Or call Melissa at 612-728-0727; email at lissab17@yahoo.com
- WHY:**
- * **Recycle** treasures that are no longer treasures or don't fit!!
 - * **Generosity** - many people in our neighborhood are not able to shop at Target/Macy's - this gives them the opportunity to find nice things at prices they can afford
 - * **Camaraderie** - the Rummage Sale is a great place to work alongside other Calvary members and really get to know them
- SPECIAL:** Volunteer as a family—kids have great fun being helpers!
- Volunteer with friends—a fun time to make a contribution to the Calvary Community and spend time with your friends

2015 Johnson Symposium on Faith & Society

Dr. John Arthur Nunes

November 13-14, 2015

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 East 31st Street, Minneapolis



Dr. John Arthur Nunes will be the featured presenter at the sixth annual Johnson Symposium on Faith and Society. Dr. Nunes, who holds the Emil and Alfriede Jochum Chair at Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, IN, will make three presentations under the topic "Re-Imagining the Reformation from the Edges."

The symposium will be held November 13-14, 2015. Nunes will discuss "Structural Sin and Justification as Justice" on Friday, November 13, at 7:00 p.m. The two sessions on Saturday, November 14, include "Witness and Worship in the Power of the Spirit" and "The Whole Gospel for the Whole Person." Each presentation will be followed by time for questions. Register online at <https://htlcmpls.org/learning/johnson-symposium/registration/>

About Dr. John Arthur Nunes:



Jamaican-born and Canadian-raised, Dr. Nunes' position at Valparaiso University supports the study of Christian values in public and professional life. From 2007-2013 he was the President and CEO of Lutheran World Relief where he led staff in 17 countries working with communities working their way out of poverty. In addition to teaching, he has served in a number of inner-city churches. He and his wife Monique are the parents of six grown children and an expanding entourage of grandchildren. Directions and parking information for Holy Trinity Lutheran Church are available here.

About the Johnson Symposium: Holy Trinity Lutheran has long sought to provide opportunities for conversations about faith and life. Designed to celebrate and honor the exemplary ministries of Pastors Ronald K. Johnson and Stacy K. Johnson during a creative and exciting period in the life of the congregation, the Johnson Symposium on Faith and Society is envisioned as an annual event in which a leading theologian, scholar, and/or practitioner will be present to lead conversations over a two day period on important issues facing the church and society today.

Luther Seminary Lay School of Theology Classes for Faith Development

The Lay School of Theology at Luther Seminary is a program of informal, non-credit classes taught by seminary professors for lay persons who want to learn more about matters that relate to their Christian faith and life.

Register now for 2015-2016 classes. This year's Lay School of Theology courses include a variety of courses on biblical topics from both the Old and New Testaments, and we continue our series of courses on Lutheran theology and the Lutheran church, designed to prepare you for the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation in 2017. You will find these courses where you see the 500 icon.

Classes meet on the Luther Seminary campus during five consecutive Mondays from noon-2 p.m and 7-9 p.m. All courses will meet in the Olson Campus Center at 1490 Fulham Street, Saint Paul, MN 55108.

A limited number of courses will be webcast. To attend via webcast you will need a high speed Internet connection. Register online at www.luthersem.edu/layschool

Courses and Fees 2015-2016

This year we continue the series on Lutheran theology and the Lutheran church designed to prepare you for the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation in 2017.

Fall: October 12-November 9, 2015

- Acts: New Communities by God's Grace (noon)
- Jesus the Savior (webcast available) (evening)
- Martin Luther—A Grand Assortment of Insights, Part 1 (500) (evening)

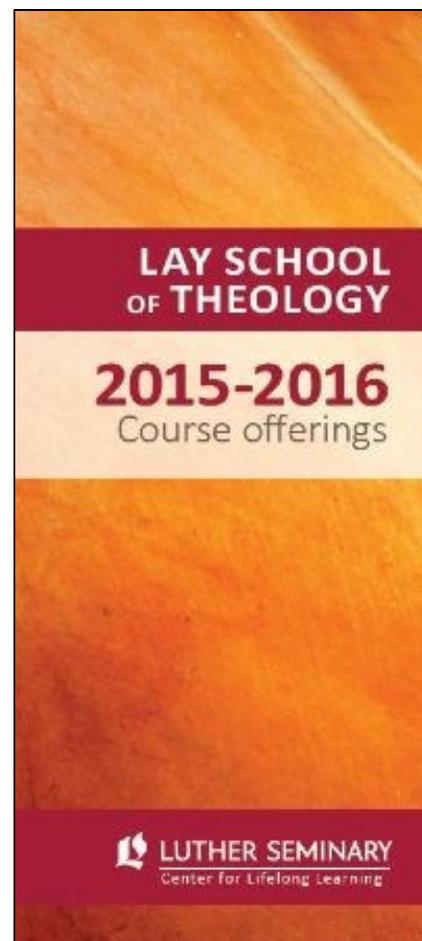
Winter: February 8 - March 7, 2016

- "A People for God's Name:" Believing and Belonging in Luke and Acts (webcast available) (evening)
- Jeremiah: Judgment, Trauma and Hope (noon)
- Martin Luther—A Grand Assortment of Insights: Part 2 (500) (evening)

Spring: April 4 - May 2, 2016

- Ad Fontes: The History of the Bible as a Book (evening)
- Food and Drink in the Biblical World (webcast available) (evening)
- Luther's Small Catechism for Today (500) (noon)

For more information or to register, visit the Lay School of Theology website: www.luthersem.edu/layschool or call the Center for Lifelong Learning at 651-641-3416.





WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE CARE OF CREATION

Pope Francis said that the World Day of Prayer would offer individuals and communities an opportunity to “reaffirm their personal vocation to be stewards of Creation” and that it should become an occasion for “reflection, conversion and the adoption of appropriate life-styles”. The day of prayer began in 1989 with the Ecumenical Patriarch of the Orthodox church.

On the ten-year anniversary of Hurricane Katrina it is an appropriate moment for us to come together and reflect on the harm we have done to Creation and to our most vulnerable brothers and sisters.

Pope Francis has said that the ecological crisis is a summons “to a profound spiritual conversion.” This is the work Interfaith Power & Light, and all of you, our congregations and supporters, are aiming to achieve.

Let’s join our inter-religious voices with our Christian brothers and sisters in an interfaith prayer for the Earth today.

World Day of Prayer for Creation September 1, 2015

A PRAYER FOR OUR EARTH

Pope Francis, encyclical on ecology, June 2015 Laudato Si’, On Care for our Common Home

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures.

You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.

Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty.

Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes.

Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.

Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth.

Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light.

We thank you for being with us each day. Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace.

(Information taken from Interfaith Power & Light blog, which has supplied Calvary with materials for past events where we have focused on our relationship with the Earth, our concern for it, and its sustaining of our lives.)



Calvary Lutheran Church

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CONNECT WITH CALVARY ON THE WEB:



www.clchurch.org



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



<https://twitter.com/CalvaryMpls>

Calvary Lutheran Church

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Ministry Staff

Ministers: 221 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
Ted Fabel
Kendra McCarthy
Lars Negstad
Chris Robson
Shari Seifert
Chris Van Meter
Michael Weber