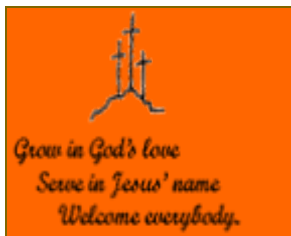


November 2017

## Greetings from Pastor Matthew



### Grace...

Lutherans like to talk about grace. God's grace is God's unconditional love for all people and for all of the Cosmos made known through God's good creation and known most fully through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ the Son of God. Christians toss around the word "grace" like a Frisbee with a heart on it as though everyone knows what grace is. When ordinary people hear the word grace, most likely they think about a ballet dancer or figure skaters in the Olympics dancing gracefully across the ice. The way American Christians talk about Grace gives me a sense that Grace is some kind of privileged class, a ticket on the "A" Train, an all-you-can-eat buffet, a vague sense of God's unconditional love for those who believe in Jesus and maybe for everyone else, we're not sure, a smug sense of "being saved" although we're not sure what we are being saved from or for. We tend to assume we are pretty good people compared to everyone else, and other than a few specific sins that prick our consciences or because of a doctrinal belief we learned in Confirmation class, we don't really feel we need much grace at all. God loves us and we're saved, so we go about our ordinary lives. But Martin Luther's understanding of Grace is more specific.

Luther pondered the text from Romans, "The righteous shall live by faith." Luther was taught to believe in a Righteous and wrathful God. He understood the phrase, "The righteous shall live by faith" to mean that one had to become righteous in order to live by faith. But no matter what Luther did, confessing, praying, making pilgrimages and performing rites of contrition, nothing could assuage Luther's conscience. He asked, "How can anyone stand before a righteous God?" Luther's breakthrough came when he realized that one does not have to become righteous in order to live by faith. Rather, God imputes upon us God's righteousness so that we can live by faith. God gives us God's own righteousness. God makes us right in God's eyes through God's gracious love shown most fully through Jesus' willing suffering and death on the cross, and by his glorious resurrection. Because of God's love shown through Jesus, we are made righteous by God's grace. We live by faith. Even though we know we are still sinners, we also know that our sins are covered by God's grace. And so we are free from fear, death and the power of evil. Yay!

As we celebrate Five hundred years of living by God's imputed righteousness which we accept and trust and live day-by-day by faith. In other words, living by God's grace, we are now free to love God, love our neighbor and care for the world God made.

Just as Luther nailed 95 statements about how the church needed to be reformed onto the door of the Wittenberg Cathedral, so now, we ask ourselves what needs to be reformed in the church and world today. We cannot continue to sustain our present way of life without serious consequences on the environment and on our health. So, just as Luther's insights into God's grace produced profound change in church and society, so also, our awareness of God's love for all of humanity and all of Creation moves us to change the way we live. By God's grace we can live into an Eco-Reformation.

Now, one danger, of course, in putting forth an Eco-Reformation is that one might fall into the spiritual trap of self-righteousness. We might find ourselves congratulating ourselves for our small acts of Creation care, and judging others for their choice of cars, for not recycling, and so forth. Our attention might rightly turn to a public outcry against major sources of industrial pollution, as well. This is necessary, as we realize

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
937 NE JACKSON SCHOOL RD  
HILLSBORO OR 97124

# Crossways

that all the recycling and individual conservation efforts we do will not even put a dent in the carbon and other pollutants of major corporations. We will need to be careful not to fall into the sin of self-righteousness and judgment of others and so lose the true faith that relies only on God's unconditional love for us. We must remember this basic revealed truth of Luther. That we do not become righteous by our own works in order to live by faith. Instead, God imputes God's righteousness to us, so that we can live by faith. Only by living in grace by faith through Jesus Christ alone can we then, in response, to God's gracious love, and by pure concern for God's creation and the well-being of our neighbors, live into the new Eco-Reformation that is the work of the next five hundred years.

By God's Grace,  
Pastor Matthew Eagan



## *A Series of Psalms*

***A Note from Pastor Matthew:*** During Men's Bible Study on Wednesdays, we decided to write our own psalms. Over the next few months, we will publish those psalms in the newsletter. This is the second one, written by John Cage.

### **Where are You?**

Why are You not there when I need You? Why have You not taken away the pain I feel? Why must I suffer? Are You even there? Do You care at all, even a little?

I never see or hear from You. I talk to You, but You seem to not listen or care. I am so alone and without hope. There is no point to life. I just go through the motions, getting up and going to work, having dinner, going to sleep at night. Then doing it all over again, day after day, week after week, month after month, year after year, decade after decade, then what? It's over? Is there more? Can this be all there is? To what end? Why?

How can You care about me? What am I to You? Look at all the terrible things I have done in my life both great and small. What is there to love? I am so ashamed of the things I have done, things that can never be undone.

There has to be more, to You, to me! The book of James tells us that suffering is good for us. That it makes us stronger and helps us to grow stronger. I don't feel stronger. I feel nothing but sorrow and loneliness.

You speak of Faith. Faith in You? That I have not seen nor heard. Yes, it must be faith, faith to believe in the unseen and unheard. To be still and to listen for the sound of Your voice in the softest of a breeze, or the roar of rolling thunder. To feel Your touch on my face with the warmth of the sun. I see a sunrise, a new beginning to the day. Watch a butterfly struggle as it emerges from its cocoon. I look into the face of a young child and see the wonder in that innocent smile. I marvel at an animal's eye, how it works, how sight is possible. That it is possible to live without all of our organs that we were born with. To see a mighty ocean and small pond, that You have made. Your wonders are all around us.

Now I see You are in all things. You were always there, You gave me what I needed, not what I wanted. I understand now that there is only one thing that truly matters in life and that is our relationship to You. Oh God, how could I have questioned You?

# Stewardship @ Calvary

**Our Pledge Drive is on!**



## **Pledge In-Gathering Day is Sunday, November 5th.**

If you wish to pledge and haven't already turned in your card, please bring it on this day and place it in the offering basket. This practice helps our finance committee as they plan for the 2018 budget to support God's mission and ministry at Calvary.

Of course, pledges are also accepted at any time.

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**Excerpts taken from A Spirituality of Fundraising, by Henri J.M. Nouwen**

"How do we become people whose security base is God and God alone? How can we stand confidently with rich and poor alike on the common ground of God's love? How can we ask for money without pleading, and call people to a new communion without coercing? How can we express not only in our way of speaking but also in our way of being with others the joy, vitality, and promise of our mission and vision? In short, how do we move from perceiving fundraising or pledging as an unpleasant but unavoidable activity to recognizing it as a life-giving, hope-filled expression of ministry?"

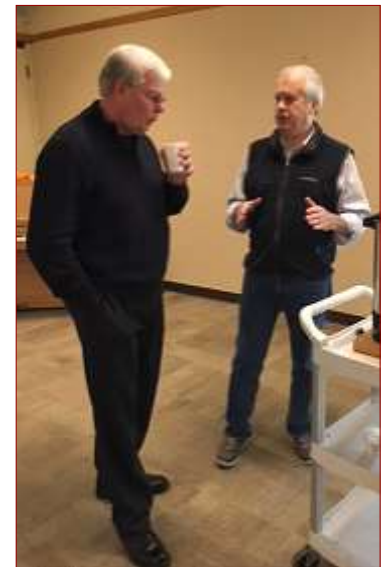
"Pledging or fundraising is proclaiming what we believe in such a way that we offer people an opportunity to participate with us in our vision and mission. It is precisely the opposite of begging. When we seek to raise funds we are not saying, 'Please, could you help us out because lately it's been hard.' Rather, we are declaring, 'We have a vision that is amazing and exciting. We're inviting you to invest yourself through the resources that God has given you—your energy, your prayers, and your money—in this work to which God has called us.' Our invitation is clear and confident because we trust that our vision and mission are like 'trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither.' (Psalm 1).

## ***God's Kingdom Come***

**"Giving is a very rich and beautiful activity. It is a confident, joyful, and hope-filled expression of ministry. In ministering to each other, each from the riches that he or she possess, we work together for the full coming of God's kingdom."**



## Building Fund Thank-You Party!



# Calvary Youth Gathering

Calvary's High School Youth are preparing for the ELCA Youth Gathering which will take place in Houston the last week of July 2018. The youth that we know are going so far are Sophie Earl, Nicala Young, Hailey Gessford, Justin Crocker-Hill, Loren McKim, and Gillian McKim. **If any more youth wish to go, please let me know as soon as possible.**

One of the joys of getting ready for the ELCA Youth Gathering is that Calvary Youth have teamed up with St. Andrew Youth. We meet once a month on Sunday evenings for Bible Study. Our next gathering will be November 19 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. here at Calvary Lutheran Church. Our youth will help lead the events at this evening gathering. Even if you are not planning to attend the ELCA Gathering, I think you would enjoy these evening gatherings.

I appreciate Ryan Parker and Jan Potter who are helping with logistical support. Ryan is also meeting with our High School Youth at Starbucks on Sunday mornings. I appreciate parent and congregation member support as we continue to move forward in faith with fundraisers and more youth activities.

The key verse for the ELCA Gathering this year is from Ephesians 2.8. "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God." And the theme of the Gathering is a response from this key verse of our faith. "This Changes Everything." Think about it. We have been saved by grace through faith. This frees us from worry, from fear, and regret. This frees us to love God and each other without having to worry about getting things right, or being right. Our righteousness is a gift given to us by God through faith. "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is a gift of God." **THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING!** I believe this, and I believe that as we take these simple words to heart both getting ready for the ELCA Gathering and at the Gathering itself and after, the truth of God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ can and will change our lives.

**May God bless us as we continue to prepare for the ELCA Youth Gathering!**

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♥ Welcome to  
Preschool!



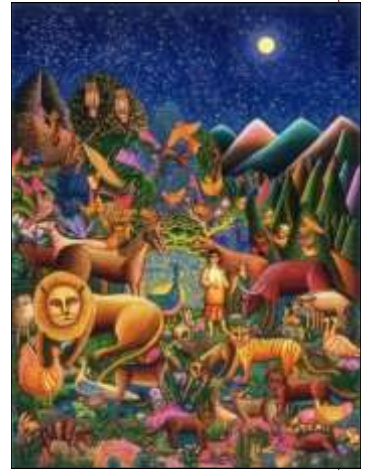


Eco-Hikes  
At  
Kilchis  
Point  
Reserve  
and  
Oswald  
West State  
Park



## Eco-Reformation at Calvary

### NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES



Here are the October dates:

**Tuesday, November 14: Eco-Coffee at Primrose & Tumbleweeds at 2 pm**

**Wednesday, November 8: Team meeting at 4:15 pm at church**

**Sunday, November 19: Eco-Walk at Jackson Bottom Wetlands after church, bring your own picnic lunch.**

#### Eco-Coffee

**Coffee Gathering:** Do you find God's creation a place of re-creation and healing? Are you concerned about the environment and the legacy we are leaving the next generations? **Come for coffee at Primrose & Tumbleweeds in downtown Hillsboro, Tuesday, November 14 at 2 pm.** to share nature stories and concerns...or just listen. Everyone is welcome and there is no obligation: you won't be asked to do something. Questions? Ask Leslie Mayfield or Michele Cage.

#### Eco-Walk

**Sunday, November 19th AFTER CHURCH**—at Jackson Bottom Wetlands. Everyone is welcome: families, individuals, non-members. Bring your own picnic lunch.

### RECYLING @ CALVARY

Calvary's ECO-Reformation Group has a limited recycling program to implement one of the congregation's recommendations. Beginning in September, the following tech items will be accepted for recycling:

— **Cell phones**

— **Tablets**

— **Personal computers and related items: Laptops, Desk top computers, monitors and printers, Computer cables and key boards with mice**

**Items will be accepted on Sunday mornings before and after our service and on Wednesdays, between 10 am and 2 pm.**

The memory of all items will be wiped cleaned or destroyed before recycling. Functional cell phones or damaged phones that can be repaired will be donated to non-profit groups, such as the Domestic Violence Resource Center, to help their clients in need.

Other types of electronics or appliances **will not** be accepted. **DO NOT BRING:** TVs, radios, DVD and VCR players, speakers, fax machines, head phones, or other items.

Joanne Rice will pick up tech items at members' homes if you cannot bring them to the church. To make arrangements for pickup, contact Joanne by email at: [rice9048@gmail.com](mailto:rice9048@gmail.com). Please contact Michelle Cage or Leslie Mayfield if you have questions.



*November  
Fellowship & Study  
Opportunities*



**Bible Studies**

The men's bible study is on Wednesday morning at 10:30 am in the church library. A small but faithful group of men gather, watch biblical videos, and engage in lively discussions. The women's bible study meets on Wednesday afternoons at 1 pm in the church library. This long-standing group also enjoys quite interesting discussions and warm fellowship. Both groups are led by Pastor Matthew.

**Calvary Book Club**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 5th at 7:00 pm at the home of Leslie Mayfield, with co-hosts Kimberly Bailey and Michele Cage.

This is the annual meeting to pick books for 2018.



**Quilting and Knitting**

The group will meet on Saturday, November 4th at 9:00 am to create beautiful quilts and prayer shawls.



*Thank You from  
the Dendingers*

We would like to thank the members of Calvary for making us feel so welcome from the first time we entered the church. Thank you for all the good wishes & hugs, the beautiful shawl, delicious cake, lovely farewell card and the roses from WELCA. I personally will miss all the lovely ladies that are part of WELCA. You have a special place in my heart. Calvary has so many "special" people and we will miss you! God bless all of you. George and Betty Dendinger

**Our new address: 4580 Coleman St Apt 1308,  
Bismarck, ND 58503.**



**Lunch Bunch**

Our next lunch will be on Wednesday, November 8th at 11:30 at Prime Time Restaurant in Forest Grove. All welcome! Please contact Inge Eriksen if you have any questions.





## Calvary Women of the ELCA (WELCA)

Judy Britton and Anita Oberhelman, Co-Chairs  
Kayse Durgan, Treasurer—Leslie Mayfield, Secretary  
All women of Calvary belong to Calvary WELCA

### WELCA Monthly Meeting Saturday October 21, 2017, 9:30-11:30 a.m.



3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of Month: Social, Business and Bible Study

Judy Britton and Anita Oberhelman, Co-chairs, Kayse Durgan, Treasurer, Leslie Mayfield, Secretary

**Social:** During social time we enjoyed a lovely continental breakfast hosted by Judy B. 9 in attendance.

Wished Betty Dendinger, our leader for about 4 years, and George all the best in their new home in Bismarck, ND. Presented her with a rose bouquet and card.

**Business Meeting:** Opened by Judy B, Anita took the minutes.

**Treasurer's Report:** Kayse gave the report. Income: \$30 September unit offering. Expense: \$100 sent to Oregon Convention.

**Committee Reports:**

**Quilts & Shawls:** Inge & Shirley had presented a shawl to Helen during their visit at the hospital.

**Cradle Roll:** Consensus that the Designated Cradle Role funds may be used to purchase Bibles and covers for the Sunday school children.

**Prayer requests and cards:** Card for Betty and George passed around.

**Old Business:**

Thank offering: Sunday November 19<sup>th</sup> with thank offering service and blessing of shawls.

Bold Women Sunday: February 4<sup>th</sup>. Reminder we are looking at couple of options e.g. The 3 Bettys aka "The Bold Bettys" or a skit, Cathie has several to consider.

Retreat: Judy, Marta and Michele offered to spear head a committee.

**Bible Study:** After a quick break Cathie led our Bible Study, "The Apostles' Creed" by Julia Seymour, Session two: I believe in Jesus Christ...November will be session three "I believe in the Holy Spirit. The study is in Gather magazine. Note: Copies of "Gather", back copies, are on the table in hall. There are many inspiring and thoughtful articles for women of all ages. Current month's copies are in WELCA mail cubby.

**NEXT MEETING: Saturday November 18, 2017 at 9:30 a.m.**

**Bible Study leader: Cathie, Hostess: Michele**

**Come for all or come for part:**

**9:30 Social time**

**10:00 Business**

**10:30 Bible Study**

**We look forward to welcoming you!**



# Come Together with Hope and



## **18th Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Celebration and Fellowship Dinner Sunday, November 19, 2017 at 5:00 PM**

Location: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints  
2020 NE Jackson School Road, Hillsboro OR 97124  
Program includes readings from many faith traditions –

Reflecting on Thanksgiving and Community

**We Invite you to Participate in the Interfaith Choir,  
Our Shared Community Meal  
And a Love-offering for Family Promise Homeless Shelter**

*Members of congregations, faith community or service organizations  
are welcome. We invite you to help with Food (Soup, Salad, Bread,  
Butter, Pies, Table Decorations, Setup and Cleanup)*

*Please join our list of Sponsors*

*Contact: Annie Heart (503-844-2919)*

*Or email: [familypromiseannieheart@gmail.com](mailto:familypromiseannieheart@gmail.com)*

***Sign up to participate in the Spirit of Thanksgiving***

*Join the Choir: Contact DeAnne Dewey: 503-819-1610*

# Calvary Library

by Cathie Carlisle

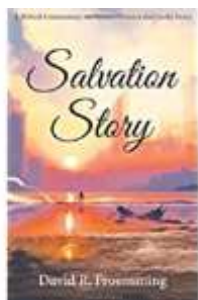
## Reformation 500

We have been celebrating the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation all year long. We viewed the Luther movie, the Wednesday Women's Bible Study viewed Rick Steves' movie on the Reformation, we have heard stories, we have read, we have discussed, and we have partied. Our culminating party is scheduled for November 5 following worship. We have a resource section in the library of our Luther collection. The 200 section (religion) has blue stickers over the call number of those written by Lutherans. We have looked at the Reformation through the historical lens and through the present-day lens. Now the question remains, What next?

One of the resources some of us are using is Day by Day We Magnify You, daily readings for the entire year compiled from Martin Luther's writings, sermons, and table talks.

From Tuesday's (10/24/2017) devotion: Christians Save the World 2 Corinthians 6:10 and his sermon on John 14-15, Luther *Every individual Christian is a human being such as the Lord Christ himself was on earth...If there were no Christians on earth, no city or country would enjoy peace: Everything on earth would perish in a single day. That grain still grows in the field; that people recover from an illness; that they have their sustenance, peace, and protection – all this they owe to the Christian.*"

I had forgotten this. Then I remember that Abraham negotiated with the Trinity for the safety of Lot and his family. It was because of the *believers* that Sodom and Gomorrah would not be destroyed. Abraham negotiated that number down to ten and Abraham knew any less than that would not save the cities. There were not even ten believers in the two cities. The Wednesday Women's Bible Study Reformation study lifted up the Body of Christ. As a Body, the world survives. But what about all the atrocities, abuses, and annellations that have happened and continue to happen in the Name of Christ?



Seeds for the Parish arrived. This ELCA magazine shares resources for congregational use. One resource now in our library is:

Salvation Story by David R. Froemming is a Biblical Commentary on Human Violence and Godly Peace. He introduced me to *mimetic theory*: namely that we learn through imitation yet enter into rivalry with those who are too much like us.

The premise of the book: mimetic theory provides the key to the understanding of our human nature that is being encountered in the bible.

Romans 7:14ff: the Apostle Paul writes *I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate.* I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate.

Maybe this book just might shed some light on this conflict.



## In Our Prayers



Dale Marshall, Family of Janet Spomer, Helen Jerde, Joe & Joan Lee, Joy Toperzer, Bonnie Wentland, Jimmy Leafy, Ermine Todd IV and all members of our Military, Brittany Dougall, Walter Toperzer, The Christiansen's great-granddaughter Pippa, Dennis Rodin, Sharon Janzen, Jim & Dick Highhouse, Mary Crandall, Tomi Deveraux, Sharon Schmadeke

## Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary to You!

Nov 2	Lyman Goff
Nov 3	Linda Crandall
Nov 8	Gillian McKim
Nov 11	Maria Huppi
Nov 12	Rodger & Julie Perger
Nov 18	Nathan Dougall
	Dolores Severson
Nov 23	Judy Britton
Nov 24	Leslie Rabon
Nov 26	Dan Bosshardt
Nov 29	Kelsey Cleveland
	Ted Parker

### Happy Thanksgiving!



### November Calendar

Nov 1	Bible Study, 10:30am
	Bible Study, 1pm
Nov 4	Quilting & Knitting, 9am
Nov 5	All Saints Sunday, 10am
	Pledge In-Gathering Day
	Reformation Dinner
Nov 7	Blood Drive, set-up at noon
Nov 8	Bible Study, 10:30am
	Lunch Bunch, 11:30am
	Bible Study, 1pm
	Eco-Team Meeting, 4:15pm
Nov 12	Sunday Worship, 10am
	Council Meeting
Nov 14	Eco-Coffee, 2pm
Nov 15	Bible Study, 10:30am
	Bible Study, 1pm
Nov 18	WELCA, 9:30am
Nov 19	Sunday Worship, 10am
	Eco-Walk after church
Nov 21	Care Committee, 1pm
	Social Ministry, 2pm
Nov 22	Bible Study, 10:30am
	Bible Study, 1pm
Nov 23	Happy Thanksgiving!
Nov 26	Sunday Worship, 10am
Nov 29	Bible Study, 10:30am
	Bible Study, 1pm