

September 2018

Greetings from Pastor Matthew



Welcome Back!

Dear Christian friends,

First, I want to thank you for the warm welcome I received this last Sunday morning. I was touched by your greetings, applause and wonderful cake and balloons! You sure made me feel a part of Calvary community. It is a joy to be back among you.

I don't know how I can thank you enough for the gift of time you gave me for sabbatical. On the first day of my sabbatical, I got up at 5:00 in the morning and began to write. I wrote until about four or five o'clock that day, and continued to write eight to ten hours a day. For most of the summer I did two things, walk my dogs and write. I continued that pattern for about six weeks of my sabbatical. And then backed off a bit. I thought, I need a break from my sabbatical. So I visited Jordan and Devynn in Portland. I took a train to San Francisco and visited Zach. Then came back home and wrote some more. There were times throughout the summer that I just started giggling because I was so happy writing. The novel is essentially complete, beginning middle and end. It still needs lots of work but it is essentially complete. The gift you gave me was the gift of time and freedom to follow my passion.

As you know, I have several passions. Three in particular. Writing, Music, and Jesus. I so appreciate the time you gave me to write. I also wrote a couple of songs and played music just one weekend with my brothers in Seattle.

Now, I am happy to use my time to worship together, join together in Bible Studies, Youth Group, Confirmation Class, Fellowship time, as well as the times to dance, to grieve, to sing, to mourn, to work together, and to struggle together as we discern God's spirit and will for Calvary Lutheran Church and our surrounding community. I am passionate for proclaiming God's love for all and for living out God's love through Jesus Christ with the help of the Holy Spirit. I am passionate for building an intentional Christian community committed to listening, prayer, Bible study and following Jesus. The time I had to write and be refreshed in the Spirit now gives me strength, grace, peace and Joy in my work here with you at Calvary. The question is, what do we want to do with our time?

"For God says: In an acceptable time, I heard you, and in the day of salvation, I helped you. Look, now is the acceptable time; look, now is the day of salvation."
2 Corinthians 6:2

Okay, so, this brings us to now. Coming back from sabbatical just a few weeks before Rally Sunday and the beginning of our so-called programmatic year, I notice that Calvary needs people to step in and carry on the ministry that God has given us to do, and we need a few coordinators to help facilitate that work.

Now here is my theory about the various tasks and activities God has called us to do under the sun. Instead of saying, we need someone to do this, this, this, and this, and coerce someone to step up, I would rather ask you, what is your passion? What is your gift? What might God be leading you to be or to do?

Naturally, that leaves the question, well, what if no one steps up for things that need doing, and so those things don't get done? Well, then I would ask, even if it is not your passion, what are you willing to do?

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH
937 NE JACKSON SCHOOL RD
HILLSBORO OR 97124

Crossways

Christian Education:



We may need to give our long time faithful Sunday school teachers a well-deserved sabbatical. If you love children, and love Jesus, and like to read and chat with children, please consider stepping up to teach the few children that Calvary has, and to share with them your love of Jesus.

I will lead Confirmation as always. I am eager to welcome the up-coming confirmation students as well as continue faith conversations with the group that we already have.

In conversation with our High School youth in Houston this summer, they expressed a true desire to dig deeper in their faith and have conversations about what is going on in their lives. I was glad to hear that they yearn for more Spiritual guidance and deeper conversation.

Finance Committee:



I heard on the radio recently, a funny interview with one of the astronauts on the Apollo 8 mission to the moon. The astronaut was not heroic, he was not excited about going into space, and he did not find wonderment in the way objects floated in space, or in the view of earth from outer space or of the moon as they orbited around the moon but did not land. This person was the most pragmatic, uncomplicated person you could know. The reporter asked him, wouldn't it be good to have a poet in space, someone who could describe the beauty of the earth and express what it feels like to be in space?

This astronaut said, "The last person I would want in space would be a poet. That made me laugh. But the astronaut had a point. You want the right kind of person for the work. In space they needed someone pragmatic to fly the space ship. They didn't need a poet.

Calvary needs a working finance committee. We have a group of very smart people who did some work as a finance committee last year, but I don't think they signed up for a life-long tour of duty. What I am looking for now, is someone who would be willing to lead a finance committee, talk to the ones that have served, and to others so we can have a regularly meeting functioning finance committee. I wonder if the finance committee would want a poet.

Worship Team—Assisting Ministers, Lectors, Ushers, Greeters:



I want to thank all of you who help worship and fellowship happen year after year. I can always count on the Altar Guild to have the altar prepared and the elements of communion ready for the Lord's Supper in the middle of worship.

Musicians practice and prepare to play the liturgy, Hymns and prelude pieces. The Band and rehearses and plays the second Sunday of every month.

Someone lights the candles passes out the offering baskets and puts the candles out at the end of service.

Readers read, Assistants assist, Greeters greet, Ushers usher. And we give thanks for all you do.

However, someone needs to coordinate the volunteers for worship. Scheduling volunteers does not happen on its own. Julie Perger did a great job recruiting and coordinating worship assistants. Eli Gonzales barely got started but she has moved to California. We will miss her.

Please spend some time in thoughtful prayer, and see if you might be the one to coordinate the worship leaders. This work requires some coordinating and social skills, computer skills help, but the church has been coordinating worship help for two thousand years without a computer, so you can decide how you want to do this. See if the Holy Spirit is tugging on your heart to be a worship coordinator. This is an urgent need.

Fellowship:



Likewise, let's talk about fellowship. After worship, we all seem to like cookies, cakes, coffee and juice. It is a wonderful time for us to greet one another and deepen the friendships we have in Christ. Passing of the Peace in worship takes a long time because you are all so eager to chat. We can shave five minutes off of worship if we leave our conversations for after the service. Carol and Edie have been faithful providers of refreshments. I know that many of you have brought sweet treats and healthy treats to share. I am sure we would like fellowship time to continue and we are going to need your help.

On Reading Bonhoeffer:

During my Sabbatical I read Bonhoeffer's book Life Together. I will say more about this book in upcoming newsletter articles, but now I want to emphasize one important truth from the book—it is a privilege to live together as a Christian community. I don't think we realize what a great privilege it is that we can come together on Sundays and in the middle of the week to worship, to pray, to work together, to sing together, to study God's word and to have conversations, even arguments about how to live out God's calling for each of us and for all of us as a community in these times. Calvary Lutheran Church on Jackson School Road is a precious gift that God has given us, for which we can give God thanks and praise, and for which we can gladly work together to make happen.

Bonhoeffer began his book with a quotation, Psalm 133.1 "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren [and sisters] to dwell together in unity!" Not only does Bonhoeffer understand the privilege of being physically together for worship and prayer and thanksgiving to God, he also helps us understand what Christian community is and how Christ is the center of it all. When we come together, we don't just greet each other, the Christ who dwells in each of us meets the Christ in each other. In other words, our relationship with each other and with the church is entirely a gift of God through Christ without whom there would be no community here. Likewise, when we consider the simple work that is necessary for the good of this church and the surrounding community, such easy work, really, we are not asked to do too much, we can and should consider it a great privilege to serve God and our fellow Christians in these small and easy ways. I pray that we would have a spirit of eagerness and joy to do even the simplest things, acolyte, usher, serve coffee and treats at fellowship hour and so forth, knowing that all we do is by the grace of God through Christ and for the love, joy and praise we willingly offer to the Christ in one another. Friends in Christ it is a privilege to serve you and Jesus, please step up gladly to serve each other in Christ and extend that service to the grace-anemic world.

God's Peace, Pastor Matthew.

Calvary Lutheran Church Rally Day Ministry Faire

**September 9, 2018
9:00 AM – 9:45ish**

Back by popular demand is our Ministry Faire; an opportunity to discuss with others about our ministries at and through Calvary Lutheran Church.

Youth will share about the Houston Youth Triennial Gathering as well as during worship.

Christian Education will have a couple of displays for:

Sunday School (teachers, assistants and substitutes needed)

Adult Forum – selection of study materials for this Fall

Library – we are gleaning our collection, books being donated to the Friends of the Library will be on a table for you to browse through and to take. A donation jar will be nearby if you would like to do a financial donation to the church library. This is not mandatory. You may take the book(s) anyway.

Sunday Worship, Altar Guild, Fellowship Refreshments, as well as Sunday Financial Counters will also be available.

Family Promise will be hosting a table. How might you assist in this needed ministry?

Eco-Reformation has invited a Master Recycler to be with us, to answer questions, distribute literature about what can and cannot be recycled in the general recycle bins. There is a movement at Calvary which will be again collecting those items that can be recycled but not in the curbside recycling bins. More on that later.

ArtShare is a new ministry being started at Calvary. This is a hands-on learning event – nothing messy.

WELCA (Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) will be present.

If you would like a table for a ministry or have any questions, please contact Cathie Carlisle –

cmcarli@yahoo.com.

Come: Be Surprised, Be Delighted, Volunteer or Continue to Volunteer.

God's Work. Our Hands.



**VISIT THE ARTSHARE TABLE
RALLY DAY MINISTRY FAIRE
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9
9:00 TO 9:45 AM**

-Cathie Carlisle

I can't draw but I do make art. You can, too, especially if you join ArtShare, a new ministry at Calvary Lutheran Church. ArtShare will meet monthly.

Either Cathie Carlisle or Nancy Leupold will present an art technique or activity. Or, you might, if you have an art to share.

Wear clothing that doesn't matter ... ones that could get paint on them.

Find out the technique or project of the month by reading the ArtShare posting on the bulletin wall. Come every time, or to the ones that sound interesting.

There will be a small container available if you wish to donate something towards the cost of material, this is an optional donation, not mandatory.

An evening session of the same morning activity may be offered if there is enough interest.

Open House at the Leupold Home

We are holding an Open House for our Garden Rail Road on Saturday, Sept. 15th. Come anytime between 11 am and 4 pm. Stay as long as you like. Bring a snack to share. Beverages will be provided.

Bring family. Bring friends. Leave your dog at home.

Our lay out consists of 4 raised garden beds. Another island is still just made of dreams and hopes. If you were much much smaller, you could stay at the hotel after arriving at a small station. Or walk in the Serenity Garden. Take a train to Leupoldsdorf, a small village, the next island over. You could get a treat at Oma's bakery, a kaffee at Starbucks or maybe lunch at the Biergarten. Stroll through the shops, visit the General at his store. Talk to Herr Luther at the church. If you need more adventure, take another train to the Forest Island. Here you could stay at a rustic cabin or visit neighbors. Up and coming is the Swantrain around SwanBerg. Or travel on to the last island and see if you can spot a dragon or dinosaur.

Even though you cannot personally ride these trains, you can come to view them. Scale is half inch and trains are German LGB. Exception is an eggliner by Aristocraft.

Questions? Ask Nancy or Werner Leupold

1381 NE Stile Drive, Hillsboro OR 97124

From our Eco-Reformation Team:

Water

Scripture:

And God said, "Let there be an expanse between the waters to separate water from water." So God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above it. And it was so. God called the expanse "sky." And there was evening, and there was morning—the second day. And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear." And it was so. God called the dry ground "land," and the gathered waters he called "seas." And God saw that it was good. Genesis 1:6-10

It is in hope of God's promised fulfillment that we hear the call to justice; it is in hope that we take action. When we act interdependently and in solidarity with creation, we do justice. We serve and keep the earth, trusting its bounty can be sufficient for all, and sustainable. *From the ELCA Statement "Caring for Creation."*

Fact:

In the lower 48 United States, 53 percent of wetlands have been lost in the last 200 years. Wetlands serve important ecological functions. They filter harmful chemicals, prevent flooding by storing water, and provide wildlife habitat.

Commitment:

Immediate- Though drinking bottled water is popular, the amount of waste generated from the disposal of plastic water bottles is astronomical! Today, purchase a reusable water bottle and commit yourself to using reusable bottles as much as possible.

Long Term- The average washing machine uses 40 gallons of water per load! Consider using a high efficiency washer, or combining laundry loads to use the washer less. Make a commitment to reduce the amount you use your washer!

Prayer:

Holy God,

We, born of water and the womb, have long forgotten from where we have come. Help us to see you and ourselves in the crashing of waves, in the coolness of rain, in the sparkling blueness of our world. Amen.

<http://www.worldwatch.org/features/vsow/2005/06/07/>

<http://www.consumerenergycenter.org/homeandwork/homes/inside/appliances/washers.html>

The Eco-Reformation team would like to invite everyone to join us on **Saturday, September 22** at 9 am. We will carpool to the **Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge** (near Sherwood) for bird watching, walking, and picnicking. You can enjoy nature from a bench with a great view, a one mile out and back walk, a three mile loop walk, or in the visitor's center. This is one of only ten urban refuges in the United States. It is home to nearly 200 bird species and more than 70 other animal species. Bring lunch and water. You may want to bring binoculars, a camera, or a bird field guide.

Save the date: Saturday, October 27 at 9 am

Cooper Mountain Nature Park



More Eco-Reformation News

Fall Recycling Event

The EcoFaith and Social Ministry Committees will hold another recycling event in September to collect packing materials and batteries. So please hold on to the following items for recycling:

- **Hard styrofoam
- **Packing peanuts
- **Soft foam packing
- **Plain bubble wrap (doesn't include bubble wrap mailers)
- **Air pillow packing
- **Batteries - alkaline and rechargeable batteries (e.g., AA, AAA, and D batteries)



If you have any questions about the upcoming event, please get in touch with Joanne Rice at 503-648-9599 or rice9048@gmail.com.

FLOWER POT NEEDED

Do you have a very large flower pot?

Our coffee plant in the welcoming room needs a new pot. It needs to be at least 20x18.

Please contact Inge Eriksen if you can help.

Thanks!





**Ecumenical
Worship & Potluck
At Rood Bridge
Park
September 2, 2018**



Photos by Michele Cage



Pr. Matthew at Rood Bridge Park



Calvary Women of the ELCA (WELCA)

Cathie Carlisle, Chair—Judy Britton and Michele Cage, Assistants
Kayse Durgan, Treasurer—Leslie Mayfield, Secretary
All women of Calvary belong to Calvary WELCA

Next Meeting:
WELCA Meeting @ 9:30 a.m.
Saturday, September 15



Save the Date:

2018 Synodical Women's Convention (Portland Metro Area)

"We are One in Christ"

October 12 & 13, 2018 @ St. Luke Lutheran Church in Portland

The focus will be discerning our God given gifts and how we can use them to make a difference in the world.

September Fellowship & Study



Calvary Book Club

The book club will meet on Tuesday, September 18th at church (**note the date change**). This will be a potluck. The book selection is Mountains Beyond Mountains, by Tracy Kidder.



Lunch Bunch

Lunch will be on Wednesday, September 12th at 11:30 am at Prime Time in Forest Grove. Questions? Contact Inge Eriksen.



Quilting and Knitting

The group will meet on Saturday, September 1st at 9:00 am to create beautiful quilts, prayer shawls, and purple hats.



BIBLE STUDIES AT CALVARY

The Men's Bible Study Group meets on Wednesdays at 10:30 am in the church library. There's a small but dedicated group of guys that gather and watch a short video and then engage in stimulating discussions. All men welcome.

The Women's Bible Study Group meets on Wednesdays at 1:00 pm in the church library. This is a lively group of about 12 that gathers for various studies, depending upon the church season. There's always a great discussion. All women welcome.

Family Promise is @ Calvary 9/23-29

Calvary will once again be hosting the guests of FP during the week of Sept 23rd. Back to School time is particularly difficult for children of homeless families. They are extremely aware of the stigma of "being different" & therefore they can be very self-conscious. Please help us to give these kiddos some small sense of normalcy in an otherwise very uncertain existence of homelessness.

Please note there must be 2 hosts per shift in order for the families to be at the church - at least one host must be female.

As always we need Overnight Hosts (Every night), Evening Hosts (Mon, Tues, Fri), & Dinner Providers (Tues, Fri). Please look into your hearts & calendars to see where you might have some time to give of yourselves.

Thank you for all you do for the homeless families of Washington County, OR. If you'd like to help, please sign-up online or contact me by email or phone.

Julie Perger

Julieperger@gmail.com

503-347-9917



Suggested Dinner Themes:

Sunday Dinner

Mexican Monday

Italian Tuesday

Wednesday - dinner is @ the Day House

Casserole Thursday

Piggy Friday

Easy Saturday

In Our Prayers



Gail Nagel, Family of Ben Clinton, Gil Morgan, Family of Helen Jerde, Mark, Baby Alice Crume, Bonnie Wentlandt, Judy Reed, John Hartner, Jon Lewis (Air Force) and Ermine Todd (Army) and all the members of our military, Tomi Deveraux, Mary Crandall, Sharon Schmadeke, Bonnie Brown, Dick Highhouse

Happy Birthday & Anniversary!

Sept 3	Inge Ericksen Carl & JoAn Fetty
Sept 4	Julie Perger Loren & Kim McLaury Leo & LaRayne Rowland
Sept 10	Joe Grillo Harold & Judy Britton
Sept 13	Zachary Bailey Debora Fetzer Maria Hudock
Sept 15	Porfirio Arguello
Sept 16	JoAn Fetty
Sept 17	Linda Huson
Sept 20	Parrish Nishimura
Sept 22	Alice Coleman Doris Nagel
Sept 25	Anita & Henry Oberhelman
Sept 26	Sandy Gutmann
Sept 28	Christina Wesel Dennis White
Sept 29	Leslie Mayfield



September Calendar

Sept 1	Quilting & Knitting, 9am
Sept 2	Worship at Park, 10:30 am
Sept 4	Blood Drive
Sept 5	Men's Bible Study, 10:30pm Women's Bible Study, 1pm Finance Committee, 6:30pm
Sept 9	Rally Sunday Worship, 10am Ministry Fair Council Meeting
Sept 12	Men's Bible Study, 10:30am Lunch Bunch, 11:30am Women's Bible Study, 1pm
Sept 15	WELCA, 9:30am Memorial Service, 2pm
Sept 16	Sunday Worship, 10am
Sept 18	Social Ministry Committee, 1pm Care Committee, 2pm Book Club, 7 pm
Sept 19	Men's Bible Study, 10:30am Women's Bible Study, 1pm
Sept 22	Eco-Hike, 9am
Sept 23	Sunday Worship, 10am Family Promise Week
Sept 26	Men's Bible Study, 10:30am Women's Bible Study, 1pm
Sept 30	Sunday Worship, 10am