

March 2020

Greetings from Pastor Matthew

The Season of Lent at Calvary



Grow in God's love
Serve in Jesus' name
Welcome everybody.

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH
937 NE JACKSON SCHOOL RD
HILLSBORO OR 97124

Crossways

Lent means spring. At least in the northern hemisphere the church season of Lent corresponds with the season of spring, when snow melts (if there is snow) or rain falls warmer than the freezing rain of winter days. The days get warmer and brighter. Small green sprouts poke through the ground and soon blue bells and daffodils bring color and life to our days. The seasons of nature match the liturgical season of Lent bringing a return of light and life. Lent is our opportunity to engage in scripture, prayer and worship, to draw closer to God in preparation for the life, death and resurrection of our teacher, ruler, savior and friend Jesus, the Christ. This is God's call to turn back to God, return to the practice of worship and service, and engage more honestly and deeply with God and with each other as the living body of Christ of whom Jesus is our leader. Jesus is our life and our liberation from sin, death and the power of evil. This is an invitation to return to our God and engage with your fellow Christian friends at Calvary. Our hope is that you will know God's wondrous love through your daily devotions, Wednesday Bible studies, and Wednesday evening Lent soup suppers and service.

How will we do this? It is simple. Come to church on Sunday morning. Come to Lenten services on Wednesday evenings. Those of you who cannot come to Lenten services in the evening can still come to morning and afternoon Bible Study groups on Wednesdays. We will incorporate some of the teaching materials for Lenten services into our morning and afternoon Bible studies. So here is the plan.

Traditional Ash Wednesday worship will be offered on February 26 at 7:00. We will offer the imposition of ashes, God's Word and communion. There will be no soup supper on this evening.

Wednesday evenings in Lent will begin at 6:00 pm and will include a simple soup supper, discussion, and prayer. I hope to use the devotional booklet, "Wondrous Love" as a guide for our Lenten conversations. This year's Lenten booklet is well written, grounded in scripture with literally down-to-earth images for contemplation. You may pick up a devotional booklet at Calvary. On Ash Wednesday we talk about ashes. On another day we talk about water. In a way, all of nature is sacramental and we are hardwired to recognize our spiritual journeys through metaphors of nature. We can also talk about how to preserve this planet whose skies proclaim the glory of God and whose trees of the fields shall clap their hands.

From WONDROUS LOVE Devotions for Lent 2020

"Ashes are what's left when the thing itself is gone." *From Wondrous Love*

As we live our lives, we may have many different ideas of who or what we are. Children pretend to be astronauts, police, or hero characters in any number of TV shows or video games. From middle school through college, young people dream, study, and practice the skills they need to become veterinarians, engineers, artists, teachers, and so forth. Some stick to the same course and others change their minds. But I suggest that we let go of the identities we have created for ourselves, and return to the essentials of who we are, what we are. We drink water and remember our baptism. We breathe in air and become inspired by the Holy Spirit. We remember we are dust and to dust we will return. We drink bread and wine that is the body and blood of Christ in each of you that makes us collectively the body of Christ to the world.

God's Peace, Pr. Matthew

President's Report

-Brent Young

At the Annual Meeting Part I the congregation voted to have the Congregational Council do some more work on the budget. The Congregational Council then sent it back to the Finance Committee. I suggested that there be a combined Finance Committee and Executive Committee meeting to go through the budget. The two committees met on February 16th for about 4 hours and did some really great work going through the budget and finding opportunities to reduce costs moving forward. We are not done and have more work to do.

Jennifer McKim is working on putting together a once a month activity to happen on a Saturday evening at the church. She is hoping to have something together for the end of March and continue each month from there. Some activities she is looking into include: Paint Night, Speaker (Oregon Author, Local Politician, etc.) and Pasta Making. We will be including our local ecumenical partners, neighbors, members of course, and we encourage you to bring a friend to these activities.

We have had two "5 Minutes of Faith" now! The two members who have shared are Cathie Carlisle and Ross Patton. We heard about Cathie's solid thoughts of direction for her life at such an early age and Ross' later in life epiphany. It is amazing how our paths with the Lord are so different and exciting. If you missed the opportunity to hear either or both don't worry, there are more members' sharing to come. I for one can't wait.

In January we had a request to look into putting automatic handicap doors at two of the entrances to the church. We are getting closer to making this a reality! I believe we will be able to finalize the plans by the March Congregational Council meeting. I will keep you posted.

Calvary Council Members and their Liaison Positions

President: Brent Young

Vice-President: Michele Cage

Secretary: Cathie Carlisle

Building & Maintenance: Dave Moore

Fellowship: Carol Dougall

Christian Education: Jennifer McKim

Evangelism: Shari Young

Worship & Music: Betty Adams

Social Ministry & Eco-Faith: Michele Cage

Finance Committee: Brent Young

Stewardship: Cathie Carlisle

Treasurer: Ryan Parker



Summary of the Congregation Council Meeting

February 9, 2020

President Brent Young called the meeting to order at 11:40 AM in the north fellowship. A quorum was established (everyone was present.) Dave Moore led devotions by reading the Beatitudes.

The Minutes of both the Congregation Council Meeting of January 12, 2020 were approved. As well as the Minutes of the Congregation Annual Meeting of January 26, 2020 as corrected.

Pastor Matthew shared 1) he has been asked by Bishop Laurie Larsen-Caesar to serve on the Oregon Synod Disaster Relief Team, 2) Good Friday service will be ecumenical on April 10 from noon until 3:00 pm and reflecting on the Stations of the Cross.

Treasurer Ryan Parker shared the January 2020 Treasurer's report which included the following information:

Financial Summary			
	2020 Jan		Year to Date
Revenue	\$15,850.00		\$15,850.00
Expenses	\$15,650.00		\$15,650.00
Balance	\$200.00		\$200.00

The Congregation Council discussed the following items:

- 2020 Budget
- Nominating Committee
- Audit Committee
- Monthly Congregation Council Newsletter
- Handicap Doors
- Reconciling in Christ
- Church Insurance
- Sunday Morning Fellowship
- Office Manager Jan Potter O'Shanecy is retiring on May 28, 2020
- Monthly evening community and ecumenical activities.
- Greeting and Visitation to first time guests.
- ELCA Advocacy Action Alert
- Future Meeting dates

Meeting was adjourned at 1:20 PM

*Submitted by
Deacon Cathie M. Carlisle*



Lenten Soup & Study Series

February 26: Ash Wednesday Liturgy at 7:00 pm. The service will include the imposition of ashes. “Remember that you are dust...”

March 4, 11, 18, 25, and April 1: For the five Wednesdays in Lent, we will gather at 6:00 pm in the Courtyard Room. We’ll begin with a simple soup and bread supper, followed by a conversation using the Lenten devotional, “Wondrous Love”:

Wondrous Love provides a devotion for each day from Ash Wednesday to the Vigil of Easter. Devotions begin with an evocative image and a brief passage from the Gospel of Matthew. The writers then bring their unique voices and pastoral wisdom to the Matthew texts with quotations to ponder, reflections, and prayers.

May God’s wondrous love be with you during this Lenten season as you walk with Jesus and live into your baptism.

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss

To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,

To bear the dreadful curse for my soul? From ELW p.666

What wondrous love Jesus shows for us and the world in his journey from baptism to the empty tomb! In Matthew (the gospel focus for 2020, year A) Jesus predicts that he will be betrayed, arrested, abandoned, and put to death, yet he continues on to Jerusalem and the cross. This wondrous love accompanies, guides, and empowers us on our journeys toward Easter’s baptismal renewal in Christ. It inspires us to sing, serve, and share God’s love with others.



Save the Dates: Holy Week & Easter Sunday Schedule in April
Journey with Christ



Palm Sunday, April 5th: Worship @ 10 am

This liturgy begins with a palm procession, commemorating Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem.



Maundy Thursday, April 9th: Worship @ 7 pm

This service includes Holy Communion and the stripping of the altar in preparation for Good Friday.

Good Friday, April 10th: Worship details TBD

Easter Sunday, April 12th:

Children decorate the cross @ 7:45 am

Easter Brunch is from 9:00 am—10:30 am

Easter Worship is @ 8:30 am and 10:30 am

On this day the Lord has acted! With great joy we celebrate this day of days. Filled with hope, we go forth to share the news that ***Christ is risen!***





Calvary Women of the ELCA (WELCA)

Cathie Carlisle, Chair of Leadership Team
Michele Cage & Judy Britton, Leadership Team
Kayse Durgan, Treasurer; Leslie Mayfield, Secretary

WELCA

Calvary WELCA met on February 15 for a potluck continental breakfast. Thanks to Judy W. and Anita O. for coordinating breakfast and Cathie for leading the Bible study. "The Call of Jesus" Bible study questions inspired good discussions.



All women are welcome to join us on:

Saturday, March 21

9:30 am continental breakfast

hosted by Inge and Esta

*Followed by Bible Study:
Session 3 "Called to Serve"*

Fellowship

-From Carol Dougall

"I need help setting up and serving, and then clean up. I will guide you through the process as needed. I will try and have coffee started before Sunday school. You can ask me questions. I am going to make up a sign up sheet for the rest of the year. We are going to have different groups do fellowship each Sunday (like WELCA one Sunday and Worship & Music on another Sunday). So if you are with a group or committee and are willing to help with this important ministry, please sign up or speak with me."



March Fellowship & Study Opportunities



Calvary Book Club

The book club will meet on Tuesday, March 24th at 7:00 pm at the home of Sally Bjerke. The book selection is Fly A Little Higher, by Laura Sobiech.

March Lunch Bunch

Lunch will be on Wednesday, March 11th at 11:30 am at Rock Creek McMenamin's. Questions? Contact Inge Eriksen.



Quilting and Knitting

The group will meet on Saturday, March 7th 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.

Both groups are led by Pr. Matthew. Maybe you'd like to come during this holy season of Lent?



Stewardship

By Deacon Cathie M. Carlisle

From the ELCA:

We are a church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace — our congregations are evangelical mission centers where courageous and wise stewards are grown. Congregational stewardship begins with a healthy understanding of gratitude and generosity. We have first received and therefore we give.

Developing a culture of gratitude and generosity is the focus for growing stewards in many congregations. Through the study of Scripture, we develop a trust in God's abundance and strive to be faithful disciples and stewards. The formation of these stewards is a lifelong journey, and one in which we accompany each other.

As a member of the Executive Committee at Calvary Lutheran Church, I attended the joint Finance and Executive Committee meeting as we worked, at your request and on your behalf, to reduce the anticipated expenses to be in line with the anticipated giving as ascertained through our annual pledge drive.

One member reminded us that before we had pledge drives (which help us with budget planning) we created a budget with no anticipated income. Bottom line – we paid the bills and prayed for the income. Having the pledge drives help us be more realistic in what we might expect. No matter which way we look, the budget depends upon individuals.

I am on a fixed income and if our current administration has his way, that too will be cut. Because I no longer have a flexible income, I am able to budget and tithe better. When I was working, I didn't trust (believe) God to provide, which included making me responsible for wise use of the finances God had provided. I admit, I fell far short.

God will provide. In the life of the church of the Book of Acts, they relied upon God's provision through their congregations / followers of Christ. Just be honest. Be honest with God and with your companions along the journey. Read the Book of Acts for the life of the early church.

The Stewardship Committee is mandated to encourage us in our financial giving.

On Sunday, February 16, Marteen Sander told us about Amazon and how if you choose, they will make a contribution to the charity of your choice. I understand that Fred Myer does the same.

Go to Amazon.com, select Amazon Smile. Go to Your Account, select the charity or type in the name of Calvary Lutheran Church Hillsboro, OR. Select Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church Hillsboro OR. Any purchase you now make through Amazon Smile, a portion will be sent to Calvary Lutheran.



Reconciling in Christ (RIC)

I believe it is very important for Calvary to take action and become an RIC church and the council agreed. I am looking for a core group of 5 -10 members to help me.

I met with a representative from Reconciling Works almost a month ago to follow up on the work that Shari had already done in preparing for her first meeting with a core group. I was to discover that Shari was spot on! We just need an hour of your time to put the team together and get started.

We need a core group of a minimum of five people and would prefer to get at least ten to help with the one on one conversations! This group should need to meet three times. The meetings would look something like this:

First Meeting (probably an hour, really shouldn't need to be more):

Identify three questions we want answered in our one on one conversations. Example: 1. Do you have experience with someone from the LGBTQIA community? 2. Do you have concerns about members of the LGBTQIA community and their/your Christian faith? 3. What is your hope for the future of the LGBTQIA community and how Calvary can be more inclusive?

Ask each other these questions and listen to each others response.

Answer one question as a group and simplify our response: 1. Why is RIC important? 2. Come up with a statement or phrase framing why this is important to be shared with everyone but especially those participating in the one on one conversations.

Second Meeting (Less than one hour):

Finalize the three questions.

Finalize the statement or phrase.

Review the one on one meeting process.

Divide and conquer. (Figure out how we are going to identify who we are going to speak to. Three people each? Who should they be?)

Set deadline and third meeting.

Third Meeting (probably a little more than an hour):

What did we learn? Common feelings, concerns, belief statements? Believe it or not this part is organic to the process and you should be able to answer this in just a couple of sentences and quickly.

Answer one question: Do we think that RIC would be approved by the entire congregation at an Annual Meeting or is more work necessary?

If it would be approved; write our mission statement about Calvary as an RIC congregation. If it would not be approved; discuss our next steps.

Please contact me if you can help.

Brent Young

Cell: 503-442-9660

Email: Divot2828@yahoo.com



That Energy Star Sticker on your Fridge or Dishwasher...

We've all seen the Energy Star symbol on our new appliances. But what, exactly, does it mean?



Energy Star is an energy efficiency certification program run by the Environmental Protection Agency. To get that sticker a product must pass independent testing by an E.P.A. recognized lab.

Energy Star refrigerators today use about 50% less energy than average ones sold 15 years ago. Energy Star light bulbs use up to 90% less energy and may last 15 times longer than uncertified ones. The washing machines approved under the program use about 25% less energy and 33% less water than uncertified ones, on average.

The program goes far beyond appliances, light bulbs and electronics, also certifying everything from roofing panels and insulation to entire apartment buildings! All told, more than 60,000 products bear the Energy Star label, including a dizzying 872 refrigerators and 390 dishwashers.

You might assume Energy Star applies only to high-end goods, but Jennifer Thorne Amann, from the American Council for Energy-Efficient Economy, a non-profit advocacy group, said that is not necessarily the case. "As we've looked over the years," she said, "we've seen Energy Star products at price points all across the spectrum."

Even if an Energy Star product is more expensive than its uncertified counterpart, the E.P.A. says you'll recoup the cost difference through savings on your utility bills. To help defray the upfront cost of certified products, you look for rebates from your utility provider.

What about the planet? Can Energy Star make a difference? "Yes," said Ms. Amann, who called it an extraordinarily effective program.

Ms. Amann underscored the fact that the benefits from energy efficiency go beyond the environment. "We can reduce carbon emissions and other pollution emissions, and save people money at the same time," she said.

~reprinted from the New York Times

How to Recycle Styrofoam

The Calvary Eco-Faith group will no longer be accepting styrofoam and other plastics to recycle. However, **Agilyx** will accept all forms of polystyrene for recycling.

Polystyrene is found in Styrofoam products such as:

coffee cups, block packaging, meat trays, and to-go containers
and in rigid products such as

CD cases, wine-tasting cups, coffee creamer shells, and anything marked with a #6 or PS

They will not accept starch peanuts, PE, or PP foam.

Agilyx is located at 13240 SW Wall Street, Tigard, Or 97223. They are located just past the Potso Dog Park. Their recycling drop box is located in their parking lot and it is open 24x7. They do not charge a fee.

Other places to recycle Styrofoam:

Pride's Recycling Depot in Sherwood. For more information check: www.pridedisposal.com

Recology Western Oregon Recovery Zone in McMinneville

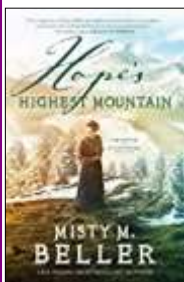
Beach Clean-Up Day

EcoFaith Group is having a you-really-should-clean-up clean up event at the annual SOLVE Beach Clean Up Day. On **Saturday, March 28** we will meet at the church at 8:30 am and head to Tillamook where we are registered to help clean up the beach. You'll need to bring your own work gloves, bucket or reusable bag. If you can, bring your own colander or strainer to sift for microplastics. We don't want to get thirsty and hungry at the beach, so bring your own snacks and water. There will be an additional excursion to the Tillamook Cheese Factory for ice cream! Who can resist that?!? If you are interested, please contact Michele Cage.



Calvary Lutheran Library News

Two new additions:



*With a heart-pounding opening, **Hope's Highest Mountain** keeps a breathless pace, each broken yet beautiful character overcoming their own mountainous hurdles while navigating the epic yet treacherous **Montana Rockies**. Hope is indeed the shining thread in this first novel of a series, sure to captivate historical fiction fans. Misty M. Beller brings the nineteenth-century American frontier to vivid life!"* - Laura Frantz, Christy Award-winning author of *The Lacemaker*.



A new mystery novel **The Killing Tide** comes our way from Bethany Press and author Dani Pettrey, author of the Alaskan *Courage* and Chesapeake *Valor* series.

This is book one of her new series: Coastal Guardians, which takes place in North Carolina. She is the author of the mystery, *Cold Shot*, which is also in our library. Short chapters, easy read, suspense-filled from the first page to the last. Ms Pettrey knows her material, knows human-frailties, knows God's love.



Fact 1:
Reading can make you a better conversationalist.

Fact 2:
Neighbors will never complain you are reading too loud.

Fact 3:
Knowledge by osmosis has not yet been perfected, so you'd better read.

Fact 4:
Books have stopped bullets. Reading could save your life.

Fact 5:
Dinosaurs did not read. Look what happened to them.

In Our Prayers



Family of Tomi Deveraux, Pr. Don Voeks, Family of Pr. Matthew's sister Judy, Bonnie Wendtlandt, Mary Gallagher, Joy Toperzer, Jim Bany, Pippa & Family, Baby Alice Crume, Judy Reed, John Hartner, Jon Lewis (Air Force) and Ermine Todd (Army) and all members of our military, Sharon Schmadeke, Dick Highhouse

Happy Birthday to You!

March 2	Dina Moore
March 5	Lauren McKim
March 6	Jan Potter O'Shanecy
March 14	Donna Bosak
March 20	Venita Volpp
March 21	Rik Mayfield
March 22	Annabelle Bailey
March 24	Maggie Shuler
March 31	Dave Rabon

**TIME CHANGE is Sunday, March 8th.
Time to spring ahead!**



March Calendar

Mar 1	Sunday Worship, 10am Finance Committee Meeting
Mar 3	Blood Drive, noon
Mar 4	Bible Study, 10:30am Bible Study, 1pm Lenten Soup/ Study, 6pm
Mar 7	Quilting & Knitting, 9am FUNERAL for Tomi Deveraux, 2pm
Mar 8	Sunday Worship, 10am Church Council Meeting
Mar 11	Bible Study, 10:30am Lunch Bunch, 11:30am Bible Study, 1pm Lenten Soup/Study, 6pm
Mar 15	Sunday Worship, 10am
Mar 18	Bible Study, 10:30am Bible Study, 1pm EcoFaith Meeting, 3:15pm Lenten Soup/Study, 6pm
Mar 21	WELCA, 9:30am
Mar 22	Sunday Worship, 10am
Mar 24	Blood Drive, 1:30pm Book Club, 7pm
Mar 25	Bible Study, 10:30am Bible Study, 1pm Lenten Soup/Study, 6pm
Mar 28	Beach Clean-Up, 8:30am
Mar 29	Sunday Worship, 10am