

Calvary Lutheran Church

Crossways

February 2024

Grow in God's Love; Serve in Jesus' Name; Welcome Everybody.

Connect with Us

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Join Us for Worship

Sundays in-person at 10:00am

Or, on Zoom [here](#)

Meeting ID: 840 5961 8157

Passcode: C@lvary876



Pastor's Page

Peace, grace and blessings,

Recently I attended the ELCA/MNet Extravaganza and was introduced to many, many, many ideas about family ministry and church ministry in general. It was amazing to share space with hundreds of church leaders who are all passionate about the future of our church and ready to have fun and try new things. And there were LOTS of new things I was shown that I can't wait to try here at Calvary.

As I write this letter for the February newsletter, it occurs to me that I have been your pastor for almost one year now. And what a year it has been... You have truly been so amazing and supportive and willing to let this First Call Pastor try things out and see where the Spirit is leading Calvary into the future.

Looking ahead, we are now getting ready for Ash Wednesday and Lent. This is an important season in the church for taking a moment to reflect and repent; and to remember the eternal, never-ending gifts of grace and forgiveness. May this be a fulfilling time for you on all your unique spiritual journeys.

-Pastor Rachel



Book Club Gathering

Everyone is welcome to join book club discussions on the fourth Tuesday of the month. We are meeting on **February 27 at 1:30 pm** at Margaret Deveraux Jefferies' house (262 NE 18th Ave, Hillsboro). Our backup location is Calvary's library.

You do not need to have finished the book to join the discussion. Just be aware that often the questions have spoilers. Please feel free to join us for fellowship if you haven't read the book.

February's book is ***The Reading List, A Novel*** by Sara Nisha Adams. The public library has fourteen copies, two large print copies, and three eBooks. Also, there are eight downloadable Audiobooks and one Audio-book CD set. Cathie will lead the discussion.

The publisher's description:

An unforgettable and heartwarming debut about how a chance encounter with a list of library books helps forge an unlikely friendship between two very different people in a London suburb.

Widower Mukesh lives a quiet life in Wembley, in West London after losing his beloved wife. He shops every Wednesday, goes to Temple, and worries about his granddaughter, Priya, who hides in her room reading while he spends evenings watching nature documentaries.

Aleisha is a bright but anxious teenager working at the local library for the summer when she discovers a crumpled up piece of paper in the back of *To Kill a Mockingbird*. It's a list of novels that she's never heard of before. Intrigued, and a little bored with her slow job at the checkout desk, she impulsively decides to read every book on the list, one after another. As each story gives up its magic, the book transports Aleisha from the painful realities she's facing at home.

When Mukesh arrives at the library, desperate to forge a connection with his bookworm granddaughter, Aleisha passes along the reading list...hoping that it will be a lifeline for him too. Slowly, the shared books create a connection between two lonely souls, as fiction helps them escape their grief and everyday troubles and find joy again.

Coming **March 26**: *The Tattooist of Auschwitz* by Heather Morris

This beautiful, illuminating tale of hope and courage is based on interviews that were conducted with Holocaust survivor and Auschwitz-Birkenau tattooist Ludwig (Lale) Sokolov—an unforgettable love story in the midst of atrocity.

Peace,

Leslie Smith Mayfield

Photo from January's Book Club gathering.



Updates from Council

Peace be with you in this season of Lent.

To refresh my memory prior to our annual meeting, I read my two previous president's report. What a difference a year made. In the fall of 2022, a group of us read a book called *Autopsy of a Deceased Church* by Thomas S. Rainer. At the end of the book was a rating scale of sorts for the viability of a congregation and honestly, I didn't think that Calvary would make it. In February 2023, Pastor Rachel joined us. By April my thoughts had changed to the feeling that Calvary was like *The Little Engine That Could*. We were starting to climb that previously insurmountable mountain one chug at a time.

There are also people who keep Calvary moving on Sundays and throughout the year. Our faithful lay leaders who assist and read. Our music team who brings piano, flute, and organ accompaniment each Sunday. Our ushers who keep us on track for offering and communion. Our altar guild who prepares the table, the cups, and the wafers for communion. Those who bring altar flowers. Those who host coffee hour and give us time to reconnect after worship services. Calvary has a property team who maintains the interior and exterior of the building and are the first to be called when something goes awry. Calvary also has members who support fund raising and silent members who fill in the gaps of the project costs.

A special thank you to Dave Moore as he goes off council after six years of service in the roles of president, vice-president, treasurer, and property committee liaison. His analytical thinking will be missed at our future council meetings. Thank you too to those members who took a chance and tried council for the first time (and those four who were able to come back) – Anita Hiebel, Dennis and Leann White, Sophia Earl, and Jolene Giese. Much gratitude to Margaret Deveraux Jefferies for persevering with the nominating committee. Thank you also to the audit committee members, Don and Maria Hudock and Dave Rabon, who continue their ongoing review of Calvary's records.

Thank you to everyone who participated in Calvary's Annual Meeting whether in person, on Zoom, or in thought and prayer. We ended the meeting with a 2024 budget, four new/continuing council members, two delegates to the Assembly in June, and, personally, hope for the coming year.

In January, Bishop Laurie was with us. She brought to light a new phrase - We are not alone. With the trials that Calvary has faced through the years and our recent challenges, the bishop's statement brings me comfort and gives me hope. There are lyrics to a song that always comfort me.

You raise me up, so I can stand on mountains
You raise me up, to walk on stormy seas
I am strong, when I am on your shoulders
You raise me up to more than I can be.

In peace,

Leslie Rabon

Calvary Happenings

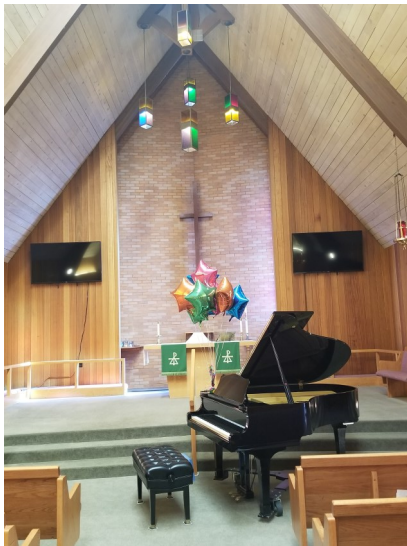
Lent

As we enter the season of Lent, we would like to add a new display to the cabinet in the narthex. If you have a cross you would be willing to share, we would love to have it in our display. The cabinet will be locked at all times. Please let the church office, LaRayne Rowland, or Leslie Rabon know if you would like to participate.



Beautiful Music!

Oregon Music Teachers Association (OMTA) hosted recitals at Calvary on Saturday, February 3. Students of all experience levels played lovely pieces for their family and friends. The next recital is scheduled for Saturday, March 2.



A Marriage

Frank and Anita Hiebel are proud to announce the marriage of their son, Kyle, to Savannah Justen on December 16, 2023. We were delighted to have Pastor Rachel perform the ceremony at Gray Gables Estate in Oak Grove, OR. The new Mr. & Mrs. Hiebel are beginning their life together in North Plains, OR.

This Month We Celebrate...



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



1	Edie Pyle
1	Kyle Peterson
14	Alejandra Padilla
19	Susan Todd
21	Mark Bjerke
24	Judy Wallin



*** Come Celebrate the 90s ***

If you are 90, about to become 90, or are already part of the 90s, we would like to celebrate you. On Sunday, February 25, all of our 90s members will be celebrated during coffee hour.

Please join us for this special 90s nonagenarian celebration.

In Our Prayers

For the World

Ukraine, Turkey, Syria
Wildfires, floods, earthquakes,
blizzards

For the Oregon Synod

Bishop Laurie Larsen Caesar
Rev. Melissa O'Keef Reed
Juan Carlos La Puente Tapia
Jemae McCanna
Christie Bernklau Halvor, PhD
Jack Mandeville
Rev. Matta Ghaly

For Calvary Lutheran Family

Jim Bany
Shirley Clergy
Betty Dendinger
Carol Dougall
Shelley Kubik
Rik Mayfield
Jann Patton
Kourtney Peterson
Edie & John Pyle
Chris Sauerwein
Cameron Sauerwein
Don Scott

**We keep in prayer
the family and
friends of...**

Ruth Morgan

Calvary Lutheran Church

February 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 10:00am Calvary Worship In person & Zoom 11:15am Annual Congregational Meeting 2:00pm Life Center Worship; Sanctuary 4:00pm Nueva Vida	29 7:00pm Life Center Rehearsal; Sanctuary	30	31 7:00pm Life Center Prayers; Sanctuary	1 6:00pm Nueva Vida 6:30pm Women AA; Fellowship Hall	2 6:00pm Groundhog's Day Potluck at Margaret Deveraux Jefferies House 7:00pm TGIF AA Group	3 Recital 9:00am Quilting and Knitting 2:00pm Nueva Vida Music Practice
4 10:00am Calvary Worship In person & Zoom 2:00pm Life Center Worship; Sanctuary 4:00pm Nueva Vida	5 7:00pm Life Center Rehearsal; Sanctuary	6	7 7:00pm Life Center Prayers; Sanctuary	8 6:00pm Nueva Vida 6:30pm Women AA; Fellowship Hall	9 7:00pm TGIF AA Group	10 2:00pm Nueva Vida Music Practice
11 10:00am Calvary Worship In person & Zoom 11:30am Council Meeting 2:00pm Life Center Worship; Sanctuary 4:00pm Nueva Vida	12 7:00pm Life Center Rehearsal; Sanctuary	13	14 Ash Wednesday 11:45am Worship 7:00pm Life Center Prayers; Sanctuary 7:00pm Worship	15 6:00pm Not-So-Youth Group - Welcome Room 6:00pm Nueva Vida 6:30pm Women AA; Fellowship Hall	16 7:00pm TGIF AA Group	17 2:00pm Nueva Vida Music Practice
18 10:00am Calvary Worship In person & Zoom 2:00pm Life Center Worship; Sanctuary 4:00pm Nueva Vida	19 7:00pm Life Center Rehearsal; Sanctuary	20	21 Midweek Lenten Gatherings 7:00pm Life Center Prayers; Sanctuary	22 6:00pm Nueva Vida 6:30pm Women AA; Fellowship Hall	23 7:00pm TGIF AA Group	24 2:00pm Nueva Vida Music Practice 6:00pm Nueva Vida: Evening Vigil
25 10:00am Calvary Worship In person & Zoom 2:00pm Life Center Worship; Sanctuary 4:00pm Nueva Vida	26 7:00pm Life Center Rehearsal; Sanctuary	27 1:30am Book Club at Margaret's 12:00pm Red Cross Blood Drive	28 Midweek Lenten Gatherings 7:00pm Life Center Prayers; Sanctuary	29 6:00pm Not-So-Youth Group - Welcome Room 6:00pm Nueva Vida 6:30pm Women AA; Fellowship Hall	1 7:00pm TGIF AA Group	2 Recital 9:00am Quilting and Knitting 2:00pm Nueva Vida Music Practice