

February 2016



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

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH
937 NE JACKSON SCHOOL RD
HILLSBORO OR 97124

Crossways

Greetings from Pastor Matthew

You have probably heard news about various cities and states declaring themselves "Sanctuary Cities" or "Sanctuary States." You might know that Oregon Synod of the ELCA voted at our last Synod Assembly to become a Sanctuary Synod. At a recent council meeting, I asked our council members to tell their immigrant stories. We were all eager to tell our immigrant stories. They are a deep part of our family histories and we are proud of our ancestors who came from Germany, Sweden, Norway, Ireland, and so forth. Then we talked about the Sanctuary movement, and decided we need to learn more about it. So, a friend of mine named Rick introduced me to a man named Hector and we sat together to talk about the Sanctuary movement. Hector said, well, the issues are much bigger and deeper than this sanctuary movement. We need to see the bigger picture.

When Mexico and America ended the Mexican American war during the Hidalgo protocols of 1848, the US agreed to pay Mexico 14 million dollars to settle legal claims by Mexican citizens and acquired ten states from Mexico and incorporated them into the United States. The Mexicans were given a choice to relocate to Mexico or to become American citizens. About 90% of Mexicans became American Citizens. According to Hector, at the time of the signing of the Hidalgo Protocol, there was an understanding that Mexican people would have relatives on both sides of the borders. The US and Mexico agreed that the border should be kept fluid for relatives to come go. Mexicans have come to the United States to visit their families and to work since the beginning. Growers of fruits, vegetables and other farm products have welcomed and depended upon migrant labor for several hundred years.

I have home movies of my Grandparents working with Mexican labor to harvest potatoes. I saw men and women bent over with gunnysacks tucked into their belts, dragging the gunnysacks between their legs as they dug potatoes rapidly by hand and tossed them into the sacks, their steps always moving forward among the rows. My mother would drive the tractor pulling a wooden sled. When the Mexican workers' bags were full of potatoes, they would sling them onto the sled and grab another sack. They worked bent over all day. My grandfather told how he would help the workers repair their cars, offering a length of bailing wire to hold up a muffler, or patching a tire with a square of rubber and some glue.

My friend Hector said that in 1952 if a Mexican person wanted to become a US citizen one could apply and go through the necessary steps, and gain US citizenship in two years. Today, it can take twelve to fifteen years.

Imagine if you were parents of a family in Mexico and you wanted to feed and care for your children, you want them to go to school and to grow and thrive in life. You make five dollars a day! \$5.00 a DAY! Would you sit and wait twelve to fifteen years for an opportunity to make a living wage in the United States? A parent knows that they could get a job for \$9.50 to \$15 per hour, and they are working for five dollars a day. Would you wait fifteen years to give your family food to eat, decent clothing and housing and the opportunity for education and a bright future? Mexican and Central American immigrants are only doing what every one's family except for Native Americans have done since the beginning. They have come here for a better life. But with the laws the way they are now, by the time you became a citizen, your children would be grown. They would have missed their chance to thrive and grow.



Our government has known for fifty years that our immigration system is broken, and yet we treat undocumented workers like criminals. Ronald Reagan wanted to fix it, George W Bush wanted to fix it, but congress lacked the political will. The problem is

not that immigrants are breaking laws. The problem is that the laws are broken. And now this talk of a wall. That's not Christian. I know that these issues are political and that people have passionate opinions. I know that loyal and faithful Christians voted for the wall. I don't know what to say to that. I don't know politics. Like anyone else I have my opinions. But my job is faith.

So, what does our faith say about how we should treat our neighbors? What do our sacred scriptures say about the resident aliens in our land? Hector being a devout Catholic knew a few passages of scripture.

When an alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God. Leviticus 19:33, 34.

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God. Ephesians 2.19-22

You shall not wrong or oppress a resident alien, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt. You shall not abuse any widow or orphan. If you do abuse them, when they cry, my wrath will burn, and I will kill you with the sword, and your wives shall become widows and your children orphans. Exodus 22.21-24

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. Galatians 3.28

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. 1 John 4.7

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white with palm branches in their hands. This is the vision from Revelations 7.9.

Of course we can interpret scriptures differently, and we can pick and choose our own passages to prove our point of view. But the overarching message of scripture and of Christianity is love of God and neighbor. Jesus even said to love our enemies. I do not wish to tell anyone how they should vote or what public policies they should pursue, but I can urge us all to follow Jesus' way of love and live out that love in the way we live our lives and in the ways we think and talk about our neighbors.

Whether we embrace the idea of being a Sanctuary congregation or not is really not a great concern of mine. What is my concern in these times is that we practice kindness and compassion, that we are moral and fair, and that we know God's gracious love for all through Jesus Christ.

In God's Peace, *Pastor Matthew Eagan*

Annual Meeting Results

Results of our written ballots:

- **Voting Members to the Synod Assembly May 5-7-2017:** Kayse Durgan, Michele Cage, Joe Eagan.
- **New Nominating Committee for 2017:** Jim Bany, Marta Bassett, LaRayne Rowland, and Jimmy Leafly.

The following unanimously passed:

1. Approval of the proposed 2017 Budget
2. Churchwide Assembly Action 2016 for Changes to the Constitution for Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church
3. Authorization of Church Council to approve the minutes of the meeting.



Save the Date

*Ash Wednesday is March 1st, beginning
the Season of Lent at Calvary*



Agape Meals

Wednesdays, Pre-Lent through the season of Lent

**Agape Meals will begin
on Wednesday, February 15th from 6:00 to 8:30 pm**

Agape meals are an ancient and recently revived form of worship in which people gather for a simple meal, read a Bible passage or some sacred writing, enjoy a meaningful faith conversation and then receive the gift of Holy Communion as part of our community meal.

We would like to invite especially those who are new to the church and may be thinking of becoming members, those who are seeking some kind of spiritual connection but for whom traditional worship just doesn't work for them, as well as long-time Calvary members who enjoy fellowship and spiritual conversation.

This being the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, there's a good chance we'll read some Luther or perhaps watch some of Rick Steves' (the travel guide on NPR Radio and TV) one-hour public television special called "Luther and the Reformation." You may not know that Rick Steves is a Lutheran and has been a wonderful ambassador to the world with his always respectful and gracious manner towards all people and places throughout the world.

Let's spread the net wide. Invite your friends and neighbors, co-workers and acquaintances.

Food God Bread Wine Body of Christ.

Peace, Pastor Matthew

Luther and the Reformation

OPB will premiere a new Rick Steves program that examines the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. The program will be shown on **Tuesday, February 28th at 8 pm.**

Social Ministry Committee News

This month's newsletter focuses on the work of ELCA World Hunger. ELCA World Hunger is a ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to end hunger in the United States and around the world. ELCA World Hunger works in more than 50 countries in the world, including the United States.

Below are two sections from the Winter 2017 *LifeLines* newsletter of ELCA World Hunger to give a view into the important work Calvary helps support. Go to ELCA.org/hunger for the complete publication and other information about the work of ELCA World Hunger.

Raw Talent

Gardening for the community in Michigan

In the midst of a food desert, where no grocery stores sell fresh produce, McLaughlin Grows Urban Farm is meeting a critical need for residents of Muskegon, Michigan.

McLaughlin Grows Urban Farm, supported by your gifts to ELCA World Hunger, grows everything from radishes to tomatoes in the middle of the city and teaches adults and teens how to grow their own food.

During the summer, Laurie Wieschowski, the farm's manager, teaches middle schoolers the importance of weeding the farm and picking bugs off plants. The reward, says Laurie, comes when the produce grown is served at the public school for lunch.

"They get excited when they see the kale, lettuce and carrots they've been tending," Laurie said, adding that some students return after the session to volunteer at the farm.

This program also hires student interns who earn a stipend while learning how to promote urban gardening and develop leadership skills. In a city where more than a quarter of the residents earn incomes below the federal poverty level, this is an important investment in the community's future.

High school senior Briane Brooks has been involved with the farm for two years, ... As part of the Youth Empowerment Program, Briane is paid hourly, but for her, getting healthy food to people is the important goal.

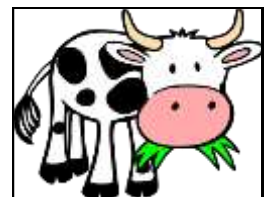
"There is hunger because high food prices mean you can't get healthy options," she said. To ELCA World Hunger, she adds, "Your donations are involved in something much bigger than you'd ever believe. You are helping a hurt community."

Thanks to your gifts to ELCA World Hunger, Briane and many residents of Muskegon now have access to fresh, affordable fruits and vegetables they need to thrive.

A Better Cow For A Better Life

Going beyond food in Senegal

Ramata Ka is a dairy herder in Senegal on the west coast of Africa. She supports her family with the milk she sells. Cows are productive during the rainy season, but their milk production drops significantly during the region's eight-month dry season. The loss of income means that sometimes Ramata's family goes to bed hungry.



"I used to have a local cow that gave me milk to sell to take care of my family," said Ramata. "But the money did not cover our food costs or the children's education and medical needs."

Through your gifts to ELCA World Hunger, the Senegal Lutheran Development Service worked with herders to create an animal husbandry center to help increase milk production. By crossbreeding indigenous cattle with Holsteins and other breeds, the herders are able to sell plenty of milk year-round.

I sell." The cost savings and increased production means herders have a sustainable answer to what was an annual problem.

When you give to ELCA World Hunger, you are helping herders like Ramata find long-term solutions to hunger. Thanks to your gifts, days without rain no longer mean days without food for Ramata and her family.

What An Inspiration!

-Joanne Rice

The youth in our community are amazing! Here's a story about Marko, who decided a while ago to help out those who are less fortunate than he. Marko's mom is a friend of my sister, Marge, who told me about Marko's work.

Marko is an 11 year-old student at Lincoln Elementary School in Hillsboro. Marko, with his mom's help, periodically brings clothing, hygiene bags and other items to homeless folks in Portland. Here's what Marko gave out on his recent January trip:

- 25 pairs of shoes
- 3 garbage bags of coats and sweatshirts
- 100 hats
- 50 pairs of socks
- 25 scarves
- 50 hygiene bags
- 75 rain ponchos
- 6 boxes of Granola bars
- An infinite amount of hugs and love.



Here's what his mom, Alix, posted about her son's recent work:

"So proud of my kiddo; he's constantly worried about what we will run out of and thinking of new things to add for next time. Thank you to all who have donated! An empty wagon is a job well done!"

I had the opportunity to donate a bunch of warm socks for this trip. If you would like to donate items for Marko's next trip, get in touch with me and I will get your items delivered to Marko. You can reach me by phone at 503-648-9599 or by e-mail at rice9048@gmail.com

The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor.

— Proverbs 22:9



"Share the Love"



Annual Fundraising Celebration Dinner

Friday, February 10, 2017 - 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Join us as we Celebrate a Great Year of Ending homelessness – One Family at a Time

Meet n Greet our Awesome Board of Directors & Volunteers

Fun Evening Includes –

Live Music: by "Public Works" Band

Elegant Dinner Buffet & Dessert



Beverage Sponsor – Ardiri Vineyards

"Other Event Sponsors include – Banner Bank"

New Location this year: Community of Christ Church

5170 NW Five Oaks Drive - Hillsboro, OR 97124

(Near DEQ off Cornelius Pass Road, North of Hwy 26)

Share the Love – Dinner & Silent Auction

Tickets: \$30.00 per person

To make a Reservation / Purchase Tickets go to:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/o/family-promise-of-washington-county-oregon-12782024204>

By February 8th to Reserve Dinner Tickets & Sponsor a Table

OR

RSVP to Family Promise by Feb. 8th

Email: Volunteerwithfamilypromise@gmail.com

Or call 503-844-2919

Share Your Love and Support – Invite Friends to Sponsor a Table

\$300.00 Sponsors a Table of 8 guests

All Sponsors will be Appreciated at the Event

Help us End Homelessness- One Family at a Time

This year 17 of 29 families moved into housing – we can do better with your help!

TO BE A SPONSOR PLEASE CONTACT A FAMILY PROMISE BOARD MEMBER

OR Annie Heart, Executive Director - 503-844-2919

familypromiseannieheart@gmail.com



Calvary Women of the ELCA (WELCA)

Betty Dendinger, President - Anita Oberhelman, Vice-President

– Kayse Durgan, Treasurer

All women of Calvary belong to Calvary WELCA

**The next WELCA meeting will be held on Saturday, February 18th at 9:30 am
at the church.**

All women are welcome and encouraged to attend!

**Thank you for your support during our recent Thankoffering
Service.**



We are finally back at school after missing so many days due to snow. The kids have been learning about bears and hibernation. Perfect subjects for these cold, winter days! Next month, we learn about Jonah and the Whale and the kids go to Portland to see a play.

Registration starts February 1! Call the office for more details.

Maggie

February Fellowship Opportunities



Calvary Book Club



The book club will meet at church on Tuesday, February 28th at 7 pm, hosted by Kimberly Bailey at church. The book selection is Kitchen Table Wisdom, by Rachel Naomi Remen.

Quilting and Knitting

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



February Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch will meet on Wednesday, February 8th at 11:30 am at BJ's Restaurant on Cornell and Cornelius Pass Rd. We were planning on going there last month, but it was cancelled due to weather conditions. Please contact Inge Eriksen with any questions, 503-318-2477

Community Garden News



Spring is just around the corner. I know we've just had snow, but if you are interested in gardening, now is the time to get started. Hillsboro Parks and Rec and Calvary Lutheran church have garden plots available in the Hillsboro Community Garden here at Calvary.

Some people like to garden because it is fun and relaxing. Some like the chance to be outside in the natural world and to watch things grow. Others take gardening very seriously and depend upon their gardens for daily food. Some gardeners donate portions of their food to St. Vincent de Paul food bank. Calvary has developed a wonderful relationship with the folks at the food bank, donating about a thousand pounds of fresh fruit and vegetables each year. The garden can be a place to be aware of God's presence and to appreciate all of God's creation. It can be a place to meet with other gardeners and enjoy the gift of community.

To join our community garden program, please call the Community Garden Program Coordinator at 503-681-5374. Before making your call, please do the following:

Select one or more of our [garden sites](#) where you would like to lease a garden plot.

Choose a plot size. Smaller plots (10' x 20' or 15' x 20') are recommended for beginning gardeners and/or families of 1-2 people. Large plots (20' x 20') are recommended for families of 2 or more people, or active and experienced gardeners. However, there are no restrictions and you may select the size you feel best suits your needs. Raised beds are reserved for the elderly and people with disabilities.

Sizes/fees are:

20' x 20' - \$60/year

15' x 20' - \$50/year

10' x 20' - \$40/year

4' x 12' (raised bed) - \$30/year

<http://www.hillsboro-oregon.gov/departments/parks-recreation/attractions-/community-gardens>

-Pr. Matthew and Mary Ordall

HELP WANTED

Three ministries at Calvary are looking for an administrative-type person to enhance their ministries. If you are interested in exploring any of these possibilities, please complete this form and return it to the Church Office.

I am interested in exploring the possibility to use my God-given abilities to assist Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church in the following ministry:

- Ministry of Hospitality - Family Promise
co-coordinator
- Ministry with Youth - Activities coordinator
- Ministry of Education - Sunday School
Superintendent

Name

Contact information

My Story, by Cathie M. Carlisle, Deacon Retired

William Carey was a 18th Century Baptist missionary from the United Kingdom to India. He was an activist and challenged many colleagues and parishioners.

I have experienced his quote throughout my life but much more this past week. This year I pledged to support God's work through Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church by giving 10% plus of my fixed income monthly.

January came around and I found I had \$22.50 extra from my monthly Curves Bunco party. So, \$2.50 went into the offering – I made sure the counters knew this was something special as I wrote a message on my envelope.

The next Sunday we had snow and worship at the church was cancelled. The third Sunday came and I had an additional \$200 from a house and dog sitting gig. Another \$20 went into the offering.

By the fourth Sunday I discovered two things:

1. I had an additional \$300 again from house and dog sitting and
2. My car was unsafe to drive because the left front wheel bearing was 99% dysfunctional – to the tune of \$700. It was also ascertained that the right front wheel bearing was on its way out, plus the car needed new brakes. I knew I had \$500 in the bank. I had not yet built up my \$1000 emergency fund as suggested by Dave Ramsey. I could really use all that \$300 for this emergency.

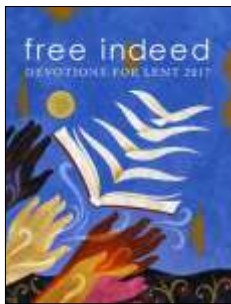
But I trusted God to see me through this “bump” and I again gave 10% of my house and dog sitting money for God's work through Calvary.

On Monday when I was to pick up my car, I was not disappointed. I did have enough to pay for the one wheel bearing and God also provided a resource to fix the rest of the stuff needed.

“He has never failed in His promise, so I cannot fail in my service to Him”

Stewardship Quote of the Month

I was once young and now I am old, but not once have I been witness to God's failure to supply my need when first I had given for the furtherance of His work. He has never failed in His promise, so I cannot fail in my service to Him. —*William Carey*



Reformation 500

“This beautiful, full-color devotional takes you through Lent with daily readings from Martin Luther's Small Catechism.”

A number of copies of Free Indeed Devotions for Lent 2017 have been purchased from the Reformation 500 account. We have a supply in both pocket edition and large print. An electronic version is available through our publishing house, Augsburg Fortress for \$2.00 at www.augsburgfortress.org – search for “Free Indeed”

These books will be available on Sunday, February 26. Ash Wednesday is March 1.



Reformation History for February

February 18, 1546 – Dr. Martin Luther died. He is buried at the Castle Church Wittenberg. His tomb is located under the wooden pulpit.

Trivia: February 18, 1546 was a Monday under the Julian calendar which was used until the Gregorian calendar was introduced in 1582. Using the Gregorian calendar, Feb 18 would have been a Thursday. This year, February 18 is a Saturday.



In Our Prayers



Cathy Pousson, Dustin Ellis, Riddock Hunter Smith & Family, Sharon Janzen, Ermine Todd IV and all members of our Military, Jim & Dick Highhouse, Mary Crandall, Tomi Deveraux, Sharon Schmadeke

Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary to You!

February 1	Edie Pyle
February 4	Gary Deveraux Danielle Gessford Gary & Joyce Clark
February 6	Tomi Deveraux-Earl
February 7	Megan McKim
February 14	Hailey Gessford Paul & Barbara Gennrich
February 15	James Pena
February 16	Sonya Rustad
February 19	Susan Todd
February 20	Robert Gennrich Eric Ireton
February 21	Mark Bjerke
February 24	Judy Wallin
February 25	Don & Janis Larsen
February 26	Zachary Eagan
February 27	John Grillo Dave Noles



February Calendar

Feb 1	Bible Study, 10:30am Bible Study, 1pm
Feb 4	Quilting & Knitting, 9am
Feb 5	Sunday Worship, 10am
Feb 7	Blood Drive, noon
Feb 8	Bible Study, 10:30am Lunch Bunch, 11:30am Bible Study, 1pm
Feb 10	Family Promise Fundraiser
Feb 12	Sunday Worship, 10am Church Council Meeting
Feb 15	Bible Study, 10:30am Bible Study, 1pm Agape Meals Begin, 6pm
Feb 18	WELCA, 9:30am
Feb 19	Sunday Worship, 10am
Feb 21	Social Ministry Meeting, 1pm Care Committee Meeting, 2pm
Feb 22	Bible Study, 10:30am Bible Study, 1pm Agape Meal, 6pm
Feb 26	Sunday Worship, 10am
Feb 28	Book Group, 7pm