

December 2017

Greetings from Pastor Matthew

Advent – A Coming into Being



Time. *noun*

1. the indefinite continued progress of existence and events in the past, present, and future regarded as a whole. “travel through space and time”

Rimshot: *noun*

1. a drum stroke in which the stick strikes the rim and the head of the drum simultaneously.

While I was at seminary, my wife, Alicia, took me to see Max Roach, the famous Be-Bop Jazz drummer who had played with Charlie Parker and Dizzy Gillespie at the Five Spot, and who influenced generations of Jazz drummers to this day.

Max Roach died this year, and I wrote about him on Facebook. Max Roach played that driving be-bop jazz beat and then he would drop out suddenly while the bass player kept time, then come back in moving like a runaway freight train, pushing the time. I think only Max Roach and Albert Einstein really understood time. Just before he dropped out for those few bars, he would throw in a rim shot on the snare drum on some after-beat, that you wouldn't expect, and that rim-shot would propel you out of time so that you felt like you were floating, and you just hovered in space during that timeless moment while the bass player continued to keep time. You were just hovering, and there was this wonderful paradox between the fact of the bass player still walking through the changes and the sensation of floating in time-less space. And then when Max Roach came in again, pushing the time with that driving jazz beat on the ride cymbal it felt like you were re-entering reality. It was like you were in a space shuttle re-entering the atmosphere and feeling the pull of gravity, and life was going even faster and you had to catch up and you were pushing forward in time and space and energy and gravity and you were fully and dramatically alive. I thought at the time, rather ironically, since I had just left playing drums professionally, and was now deep into classes and life at seminary, “Now I understand Jazz.”

But it occurs to me now, that time is also a theological concept, and Max Roach's drumming gives us a window, a lens to understand the Advent of Jesus' birth into time, and the paradoxical revelation of eschatological time. (Isn't this fun, using all these big words.) But it's really simple. We live in the world of Kronos time, the ticking of the clock, the bass player keeping time through the chord changes, the daily hassles and pressures and griefs and challenges of everyday life. Meanwhile, God is breaking into our world. (The First Lesson of the First week of Advent, Isaiah 64:1 “O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,” expresses that longing for God to enter into time and make things right). Meanwhile, God is breaking into time, like a rim-shot on the snare drum in the second sixteenth note after the first beat of the measure. Time expands! The world of schedules and limitations and boundaries dissolves and then love rushes in like a runaway freight train. Our Chronological time is infused with eternity and we live in the already but not yet promises of the advent of God's son, both in the celebration of Jesus' birth and in the anticipation of the second coming of Christ. We share our thoughts and feelings of hope and love in the midst of chaos and despair. We listen to each other's stories and lose ourselves in conversation and our hearts are strangely warmed.

I hope that this Advent you will keep watch as the transcendent God breaks into the mundane and we live our daily lives with an indwelling hope, calm, peace, love and joy.

Pastor Matthew

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH
937 NE JACKSON SCHOOL RD
HILLSBORO OR 97124

Crossways

Advent & Christmas Time at Calvary

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace..."



Advent Services

Mid-Week Advent Services using Holden Evening Prayer will be offered on Wednesday, December 13th and December 20th at 7:00 pm. Come and prepare your hearts for the coming of Christ.



2017 Holiday Season Adopt-A-Refugee Family

Check out the display board in the narthex. Take a tag, buy and wrap the gift, and bring it to church by Sunday, December 10th.

Children's Christmas Program



The Calvary Sunday School
will present
their Christmas Program
during the worship service on
Sunday, December 17th.

Advent & Christmas Eve Services

Sunday, December 24th
Advent 4 at 10:00 am
and Christmas Eve
at 7:00 pm and 10:00 pm



2018 Nominating Committee is now being formed.

The Congregation Council is looking for Calvary Lutheran voting members who are willing to place their names in nomination for the 2018 Nominating Committee. This slate will be presented to the congregational Annual Meeting Part 1.



This is a one-year commitment of six members. At least two outgoing members of the congregation council will have their names in nomination.

The nominating committee shall serve Calvary Lutheran and the Congregation Council by providing a list of eligible members that may be voted on to serve on the Congregation Council and other representatives of the congregation.

The nominations for the Congregation Council will be presented at the Annual Meeting Part 2.

If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact Betty Adams or Pastor Matthew.

Pledge News at Calvary

"Now the One who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God."

2 Corinthians 9:10-12

Dear Christian Friends,

Thank you! Calvary Lutheran Church held a pledge in-gathering on Sunday, November 5th and you responded with such generosity! We **received 37 pledges, totaling \$136,350**. There are more pledges expected. Thanks be to God!

If you haven't pledged yet, there is still time to support the mission and ministry of Calvary Lutheran Church. Your council is asking you to prayerfully consider how you may be able to help. If you choose to pledge, you can drop a pledge card in the offering basket on Sunday, give it to the office manager, Jan, in the church office, or put a stamp on it and mail it to the church. Your pledge will be kept confidential. If you choose not to make a pledge, we trust that you will continue your faithful giving to the Glory of God and the mission of Calvary.



We have confidence in the abundance of God's love and the spirit of this congregation. We give thanks for all of you and for the gift of Christian community that we share together in Christ.

God's Peace,

Pr. Matthew and Betty Adams, Council President

December Fellowship Opportunities



Calvary Book Club

All are invited to gather at the home of Leslie Mayfield on Tuesday, **December 5th** to pick books for 2017. The address is 923 NE Birchaire Lane, Hillsboro OR.

Come and enjoy a festive time together.



A Note from Betty Adams, Council President

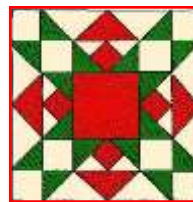
“At Christmas, we at Calvary take up a thank-you collection to show extra appreciation for our staff. To join in on this tradition of generosity, please contact either Betty Adams or Michele Cage.”



December Lunch Bunch Christmas Gathering

The group will go to lunch on Wednesday, December 13th at 11:30 am at the Vintage Room Restaurant at The Reserve Vineyards & Golf Club. The address is 4805 SW 229th Ave., Aloha OR 97007.

All are welcome! It will be beautifully decorated for Christmas.



Quilting and Knitting

The group will meet on Saturday, December 2nd at 9:00 am to create beautiful quilts and prayer shawls.



Men's and Women's Bible Study

The men meet every Wednesday at 10:30am and the women meet every Wednesday at 1:00pm.

Come and listen, learn and inwardly digest...

Combined Church Youth Group on December 3rd @ 5:00 pm @

St. Andrew—Not just for those going to ELCA Youth Gathering!

This fall, Calvary High School Youth joined Youth from St. Andrew Lutheran Church, and just recently added a few more from Immanuel Lutheran in Portland for Bible Study, games, community building, food and fun once a month on Sunday evenings. While the Bible Studies and other topics of conversation were designed for Youth and Youth leaders heading toward the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas, this summer, we are finding that the Bible Studies and topics and opportunities to grow in love for God and for each other are universal and wonderful and valuable for all our High School youth. **We want to invite all of our Calvary Youth and friends to attend.**



Last month Calvary hosted twenty youth and a handful of adult leaders for a typical evening of Bible Study and faith/life issues to talk about. Our topic was homelessness. We saw several videos about teenage youth who had become homeless for a variety of reasons. We were taught to understand that there is more to a homeless person's identity than just being homeless. They are people who draw, write, have dreams and goals, are willing to speak up and advocate for themselves and others. We looked at the story of the Gerasene Demoniac, from Mark 5 and asked why this man was living alone without a home. How might his story be similar to some homeless people in our own time? We noticed that this man, though deeply troubled, also noticed things others missed and had insights that ordinary people might never have known. He recognized that Jesus was the Son of God. Jesus not only returned the man to a healthy state of mind, he also restored the man to community.

So come, all High School Youth. Be a part of this wonderful community of Christian Youth!

Our next combined Youth gathering is coming right up. It will be Sunday, December 3 from 5:00 to 8:00 pm at St. Andrew Lutheran Church. St. Andrew Lutheran Church is located at 12405 SW Butner Rd, Beaverton, OR 97005.

Confirmation Youth

Confirmation Youth have been sharing "Highs, Lows, Weird Things, and God Things," for months, now, passing around "curious items" to serve as the conch shell or talking stick to know whose turn it is to share. This is our favorite part of Confirmation. We do manage to spend time reading from the book of Mark and talking about what Jesus is doing, bringing in the Realm of God on earth, healing people and casting out demons, and teaching people about the Kingdom of God through parables. I appreciate the Confirmation Youth's dedication to the class, making it to class as regularly as they can. Their presence is important for their own learning and for the support of each other. That's what the Kingdom of God is all about. I do believe it's time for us to make a doughnut run, though. We haven't done that yet this year.

Fund Raisers

Please attend a fundraiser meeting for Calvary parents and youth at 4:30 on Sunday, December 3rd, right before the large group gathering. Also, please bring your recyclable cans and bottles to church for recycling. The youth will pick up your recycling every Sunday. Be sure to bring only bottles and cans that have a deposit to redeem. Proceeds from the recycling go to the Youth Group's trip to Houston. We will be planning other fundraising activities soon.

God Bless our Youth and Families as they are a blessing to us all!

Pastor Matthew



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, November 18, 2017, 9:30 a.m.

Breakfast: We had a delicious continental breakfast made and served by Michele and Leslie. We had a great turnout! Thank you Ladies!!

Business Meeting: Led by Judy B.

Treasurer's Report: Kayse gave the report: Income: \$20 received at October meeting. Expenses: Cradle Roll: \$29.95 for Bible covers.

Committee Reports:

Quilts & Shawls: 1. Cathie reported that the shawls from us were delivered to the Lutheran Church in Madras for their "Blue Christmas" program. They were first blessed at Hoodland Lutheran in Sandy. She also reported that one graduation quilt will be done early for graduate who is moving away.

2. Quilters keep on making more quilts to donate: selecting designs and colors, cutting, ironing, sewing, etc. Many steps in making a quilt.

Prayer requests and cards: 2 cards signed.

Business:

AED needs new pads according to Michele. Discussed and moved to have her order new ones.

December meeting was discussed. We will have a potluck, with an optional ornament exchange and singing. No Bible study. (Footnote: last year's celebration was cancelled due to the weather. We will pray for better weather.)

Bible Study: Led by Cathie. Session 3 "The Apostles' Creed", *I believe in the Holy Spirit* by Julia Seymour.



NEXT MEETING: DECEMBER 16TH at 9:30 A.M.

**POTLUCK, ORNAMENT EXCHANGE (OPTIONAL), SINGING AND
CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS.**



Note: No Bible Study
Please join us!! All women are welcome!

Celebrating Reformation 500!

Best cake ever!



**Jackson
Bottom
Wetlands
Adventure
November 2017**



Calvary Library News

December 2017

by Cathie M. Carlisle

During the November congregation council meeting two of our youth, Sophia Earl and Alejandra Pedilla, accepted our invitation to share their hopes and dreams and what is happening in youth ministry.

They freely and unabashedly joined in the conversation we had concerning congregational goals. You will hear more about that in the very near future.

As we were talking about the goal setting we had done about seven or eight years ago, one of the five goals again made the list - ROOTS. Roots of our faith, which Reformation 500 has helped us become more aware and the girls pointed out the Roots of this Congregation. For example, they asked, "What is a Lucia Bride?" We would like to hear more about these traditions as well.



Lucia Bride was a tradition in many Lutheran synods: The Lutheran Church in America (LCA), The American Lutheran Church (TALC), Wisconsin Lutheran Church (WLC), and Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS) to name a few.

Check out the Historical Photo Albums in the Church Library for in-depth look at the Lucia Bride Tradition here at Calvary.

After worship during fellowship time, start a conversation about the Lucia Bride.

There are other books revolving around the Christmas traditions in the library. These books are on display by the fireplace.

What country gives books for Christmas? (recently seen on Facebook)

Holiday Traditions

Holiday Traditions

Have a life of their own.

Some stay for generations

Others for only a moment.

Traditions provide

A sense of stability

To a chaotic world

That surrounds us.

Traditions, like lutefisk and lefsa,

Tie us to the past.

A new family member reminds us

Traditions do not last....

Traditions like seasons

Come and go

Some stay for generations

Others ebb and flow.

May this Holiday Season

Bring fond memories

And may it bring renewed

Endeavors that HOPE and

Peace will last.

Excerpts from Holiday Traditions

By Cathie M. Carlisle

November 13, 2002

Notes from Calvary's Eco-Reformation Team

It's Time to Stop "Wishful Recycling!"

"We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time." (Romans 8:22)

I have been having a frustrating time trying to find a place to take my plastics and Styrofoam to be recycled. I'm trying to always use reusable grocery bags, but sometimes I forget. Styrofoam is a great way to protect products from breaking during shipping, but I don't want to just throw that stuff in the garbage. But for now I'm going to have to do that anyway.

Until recently, China has been the world's largest importer of recycled paper and plastics-including most of Oregon's mixed paper and plastics. In July 2017, China imposed a severe global ban on all post-consumer plastic and unsorted paper, beginning in January 2018. China instituted this ban for some good reasons: closure of polluting mills that use imported materials, hazardous recycling practices, and high contamination in the materials they receive. The down side is that local processing plants are no longer taking items like plastic bags and Styrofoam.

While the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality is working with local governments and recycling processors to find a long-term solution to this problem, we are still encouraged to recycle as much as we can. However, one of the ways that we can help is to stop "wishful recycling." This is putting something into a curbside recycling container that doesn't belong, wishing it will be recycled. This includes dirty items or items with food on it, film plastics, plastic bags, clamshells, cups, lids and utensils, garden hoses, wire hangers, textiles, diapers. Remember one of the reasons why China is no longer taking our recyclables is due to contamination. "Wishful recycling" is the main source of that contamination.

Thankfully Washington County curbside recycling program is still accepting the same things in mixed recycling:

Paper and Cardboard

- Boxes, magazines, newspapers, junk mail and rinsed cartons
- Shredded and scrap paper in a sealed paper bag
- Flattened boxes – less than 3 by 3 feet

Metal

- Rinsed metal cans – lids and scrap metal contained in crimped can
- Empty aerosol cans with nozzles on can
- Metal paint cans – less than 1 inch of dry paint
- Scrap metal – pieces up to 30 pounds and smaller than 30 inches long
- No household appliances

Plastic Bottles, Buckets and Tubs

- Rinsed containers
- Cleaned, plastic paint containers
- Sizes between 6 ounces and 5 gallons

Glass Bottles and Jars are in a separate roadside bin

- Rinsed containers with no caps, lids or corks



A good mantra to follow is, "when in doubt, find out!" Two excellent resources are [www. WashingtonCountyRecycles.com](http://www.WashingtonCountyRecycles.com) and [www. OregonMetro.gov/Find a Recycler](http://www.OregonMetro.gov/Find a Recycler)

*References: State of Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. Website: www.oregon.gov/deq

Washington County Website: www.co.washington.or.us/HHS/SWR/

December 6th: Team Meeting at Calvary @ 4:15 pm

December 12th: Eco-Coffee @ 2:00 pm, Primrose & Tumbleweeds

December 17th after church: Eco-Movie & Popcorn in the Fellowship Hall

Family Promise Homeless Program

Calvary will be hosting Family Promise beginning on December 17th, 2017. Why not make a resolution to give of ourselves by serving others! What a wonderfully fulfilling way for a Christian to kick off your New Year!

Thank you and God's Peace,

Julie Perger

Volunteer Coordinator

Calvary/Family Promise

503-347-9917

julieperger@gmail.com



Preschool News

November flew by this year! We enjoyed learning new songs, reading fall stories, and making decorations and food for a Thanksgiving Feast. Now we are in the middle of Christmas preparations. The kids will spend the few weeks before Christmas break learning songs for our Christmas program and making gifts for their families.

The preschool staff wishes to express to all of you their gratitude for your support and we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

-Maggie



Active Shooter Survival Training

Just a few weeks ago, On November 5, 2017, a mass shooting occurred at the First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, Texas. Just one month earlier, on October 1st, a gunman opened fire on a crowd of concertgoers at a concert on the Las Vegas strip. And of course there was the shooting in the AMC American Baptist church on June 17, 2015.

Every shooting is a tragic event. We realize how vulnerable we are to attacks which can occur just about anywhere, anytime. But this recent shooting in a church has caused alarm among church goers and church leadership. It may be particularly unsettling both because we are so vulnerable and because the church is considered a sanctuary, a safe place and a peaceful place to worship God and to love one another. We don't expect for such acts of violence to occur here. But this recent shooting in a church, has caused many churchgoers and church leaders to ask, what can we do to prevent such violent acts, and what can we do if one occurs in our church.

St Andrew Lutheran Church is hosting an "Active Shooter Training to share practical information about how to survive the unthinkable.

On Thursday, December 7 from 6:00 to 7:30 pm at St. Andrew Lutheran church in Beaverton, a local law enforcement officer will present on the topic, giving practical advice and encouraging us all to do what we can to prepare for such an event. Here's a short video he recommended to introduce the topic: [Run hide fight](#). (You can find it on Youtube).

I plan to attend this. Pastors, staff, ushers, Sunday School teachers, and other volunteers who may be looked to in an emergency are invited to attend. The presentation is free and no RSVP is necessary. Simply show up by 6 pm in the St. Andrew Fellowship Hall. St. Andrew Lutheran Church is located at: 12405 SW Butner Rd, Beaverton, OR 97005.

God's Peace,

Pastor Matthew



In Our Prayers



Family of Dennis Rodin, Family of Carolyn Riensche, Family of Dale Marshall, Katyann, 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, Sharon Janzen, Dick Highhouse, Mary Crandall, Tomi Deveraux, Sharon Schmadeke

Happy Birthday to You!

December 2	Mary Crandall
December 3	John Hartner
December 5	Ermine Todd IV
December 6	Brent Young
December 7	Merle Kind Heidi
December 9	Margaret Deveraux
December 11	Blanche Anderson
December 12	Joanne Rice
December 15	Frank Hiebel
December 25	Jesus Carol Chase
December 29	Sophia Earl Ross Mackinnon



December Calendar



Dec 2	Quilting & Knitting, 9am
Dec 3	Sunday Worship, 10am Finance Committee, noon ?
Dec 5	Blood Drive, noon Book Club, 7pm
Dec 6	Men's Bible Study, 10:30am Women's Bible Study, 1pm Eco-Team Meeting, 4:15pm
Dec 10	Sunday Worship, 10am Council Meeting
Dec 12	Social Ministry, Noon Eco-Coffee, 2pm
Dec 13	Men's Bible Study, 10:30am Lunch Bunch, 11:30am Bible Study, 1pm Advent Holden Service, 7pm
Dec 16	WELCA, 9:30am
Dec 17	Sunday Worship, 10am Children's Christmas Program Eco-Movie, after church
Dec 19	Care Committee, 2pm
Dec 20	Men's Bible Study, 10:30am Women's Bible Study, 1pm
Dec 24	Sunday Worship, 10am
Dec 24	Christmas Eve, 7 and 10 pm
Dec 31	Sunday Worship, 10am