

March 2019

Greetings from Pastor Matthew

Lenten Soup/Study Series



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

A dusting of snow on the coastal mountains, emerald green grass on the fields below, all shades of green and shapes of hills giving form to distance under a brilliant blue sky, driving along the ribbon of highway 47 from home to church, scenes of great beauty pass before my eyes. I've been driving this road for fifteen years taking in visions of farmer's fields, dilapidated barns with their own ancient charm, horses, cattle, bison and the occasional coyote slinking across a field below, pastures, wooded hills, distant towns, and another coyote on the side of the road nearing Forest Grove, looking at me looking at her with her wild eyes.

It helps to turn off the radio. When I am listening to the band Metric full volume in my ears or listening to Oregon Public Radio enthralled by the news and politics of the day I don't notice the miracle of sight, the kaleidoscope of images that pass before my eyes, and I'd darn well better be watching the road. When I turn off the sound the images appear, but it still takes a lot of will power not to turn on the noise again. In twenty-first century culture, we fill up our ears with words and music to drown out the silence because silence reveals our loneliness.

The answer to that is a walk in the woods. Every morning I walk my dog at the air museum grounds. I stroll through oak groves listening to the chorus of bird sounds. This kind of listening connects us with the world around us and fills us with songs of praise. I am never lonely when I am walking my dogs through a woods or paddling my kayak on the south fork of the Yamhill River. Here's a line from a poem by W. H. Auden. "I took a walk in the woods/ heard the birds in the trees/ they had no politicians and sang at their ease/ they weren't the human race, my dear/ they weren't the human race."



One of the greatest anchors of memory is scent. When I smell mint, I am immediately transported to my mother's kitchen. I don't remember what she used the mint for but it works like a time machine and there I am in my mother's kitchen. When I smell wet cement I find myself watching the cement mixer pouring the foundation of our new house when I was five years old. When I smell a freshly plowed field I remember my dad bulldozing roads through a woods to create a housing development, or pushing stumps into a pile to burn with gasoline.

For you writers and poets, try this for an exercise. Bite into a lemon and then free-write whatever comes to your mind. Eat chocolate and get a different set of memories. A sip of coke and whiskey puts me on the ski bus heading down Steven's Pass.

Now remember your first kiss, what that felt like, or the comfort of a friendly hug.

When we ground ourselves in concrete images, when we use our five senses and engage with the world around us with intention, when we pay attention to the life right in front of us, the sights, sounds, scent, taste and touch, we connect with the real world and with ourselves and each other.

Now, apply this to reading scripture. The Bible isn't a thesis on theology. Well some of it is, but most of it is poems, prophecies, myths and stories that come alive when we pay attention to the details. Jesus comes upon a funeral procession. He sees the widow crying for the death of her only son. He touches the bier, and the dead man comes to life. A woman anoints Jesus feet with perfume and the scent of the perfume fills the whole house. *(cont.)*

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH
937 NE JACKSON SCHOOL RD
HILLSBORO OR 97124

Crossways

I invite you to come to mid-week Lenten services this season and listen to the stories of Jesus; pay attention to the sights, sounds, smells, taste and touch. Pay attention to your own life, and get in touch with your own stories, memories, and experiences. Pay attention also to the gentle breeze of the Holy Spirit, the still small voice within you and the joys and suffering of life. Live with intention. Live with compassion. Live with hope and joy, in this moment, now.

Come to Lenten Agape meals and enjoy fellowship with each other: simple meals, good stories, and the bread and wine, the body and blood of Jesus, Christ with us.

*Peace,
Pr. Matthew*



Shame-Less

In my sermon on the first Sunday of February (Fourth Sunday of Epiphany), I was enthusiastically telling you about a new book by Nadia Bolz-Weber, the edgy, funny and brilliant pastor who up until recently was the pastor of House for all Sinners and Saints in Colorado. Some of you may have read her first book, Pastrix, in which she describes her life as a skater, a comedian, and an observant critic of mainstream American culture. Most of all, she is a Lutheran pastor with integrity and insight about what it means to live out our lives of faith.

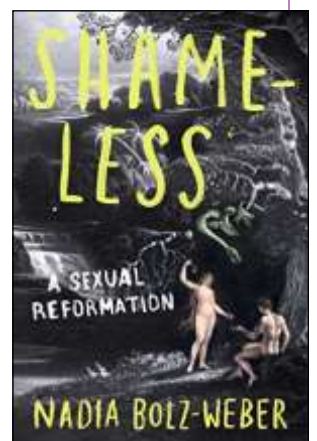
Now she spends time writing and speaking about Lutheran faith and life throughout the country. She has an honest rock-solid foundation in Lutheran theology and she has the boldness and grace to talk plainly about subjects that we may find uncomfortable. With wisdom and humor, she makes it fun. I had just attended her lecture based on her new book Shame-less: a Sexual Reformation. She addresses the “fear-riddled and religiously inspired messages about sex that have fed our shame.” Many people have been wounded and shamed by the church’s attitudes and responses toward sexuality. Nadia Bolz-Weber’s book is about more than sex. It is about God’s grace that frees us from judgment and shame toward ourselves and others. Like Luther, I believe Nadia Bolz-Weber is leading a new Reformation to bring grace back into the forefront of what it means to be Christian.

The liturgical season of Lent is a time for everyone to grow closer to God in preparation for Holy Week. It may be a time to examine your life and let go of things that keep you from being close to God. Some people give up things for Lent like coffee or chocolate. Last year I went to the grocery store late in the evening after Ash Wednesday worship. I had forgotten that I had a black smudge of ashes in the shape of a cross on my forehead. The grocery clerk and I got into a conversation about Lent which reminded the next person in line to ask, “What should I give up for Lent?” Immediately, I said, “Guilt.”

The woman was surprised and deeply moved by my answer. As Christians and simply as human beings, we tend to beat ourselves up for every mistake, our failures, wrongs and we hide our shame. But Lent is not about punishing ourselves for our sins in order to get closer to God. Lent is an opportunity for us to truly take into ourselves the truth of God’s gracious love for all shown most clearly and deeply through the life, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus which we will remember and celebrate in Holy Week. Lent is a time to know that God loves our whole selves, mind, body, and soul. That includes our sexuality which is often one of those aspects of our lives that we find needlessly shameful. By God’s grace we will be able to shed some of those burdens of guilt, shame and needless self-criticism and know ourselves body and soul loved by God.

I had hoped to use Nadia Bolz-Weber’s book Shame-less as the topic for our Mid-week Lenten Agape meals but wise and faithful parishioners with a better pulse on the community than I have urged me to set that aside and find something more Lenten-y, and I listened. So we’ll do something else for Lent. However, like my high school Modern English teacher liked to say when recommending a book, I would say to you who might be interested in honest, direct, liberating, and a little bit edgy writing about sexuality and grace, “If you haven’t read Shame-less, by Nadia Bolz-Weber, do.”

Pastor Matthew



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



Palm Sunday, April 14th: Worship @ 10 am

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



Maundy Thursday, April 18th: Worship @ 7 pm

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

Good Friday, April 19th: Worship @ 7 pm @ TBD

Easter Sunday, April 21st:

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!***



Lenten Words of Hope and Encouragement

During Lent last year, the Wednesday afternoon Bible Study group shared some of their favorite Bible passages. We were so encouraged and touched by the words that we wanted to share some of them again this year.

Psalm 73:26

God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever!

Isaiah 40: 28-31

Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.
He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.
Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted;
but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.



Isaiah 55: 8 - 11

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

Matthew 11: 28-30

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

John 1: 3-5

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.



Stewardship – March 2019

We have a new church giving app!

GivePlus Church is a mobile giving app that enables you to make one-time or recurring gifts from your smartphone.



The congregational council at its February meeting, approved the on-line giving program supported by the ELCA. (We get some special rates.) Calvary Lutheran Church is almost fully operational in receiving on-line gifts. We are in the process of putting that “red button” on our website.

There were many reasons why we have decided to offer this service, including, it makes it easier for guests, visitors, and friends of the family to contribute and to get an immediate receipt.

I, Cathie, have just used this service and it was extremely easy to use and the money gets to the bank faster.

There will be three ministries options on-line for a person to support:

1. General ministry of Calvary Lutheran Church
2. Good Sam (Samaritan) Fund
3. Youth Ministry

Or you may designate where you would like the money to go.

Visit the App Store or Google Play and search for “**GivePlus Church**” to download the app for free and start donating today!

Thank you for supporting our mission.

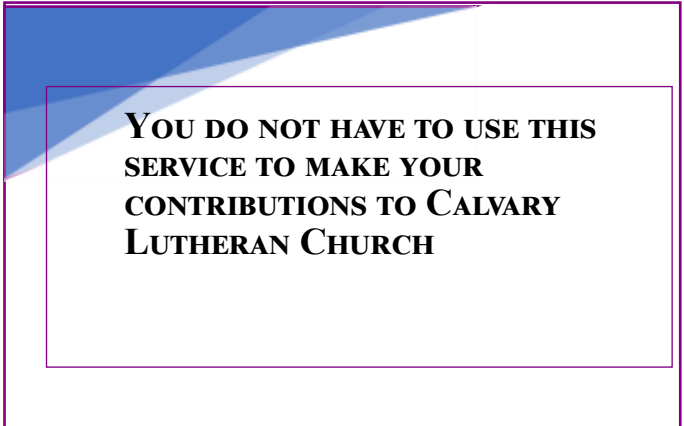
For more information, contact Cathie Carlisle,
cmcarli@yahoo.com – cell phone: 503-388-4772

From Laurie Hannon:

<http://bit.ly/GiveToCalvary>

Givers can click/open this link to donate.

I'll work on setting up a button to link to our website as well.





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 Meeting

February 16, 2019



Continental breakfast: Thanks to Kayse and Judy W. for all the refreshments!

Business Meeting

Team Reports:

Cathie highlighted the Reconciling in Christ training on March 15-16 at West Linn Lutheran. She also introduced the coming soon online giving format/scanner for church offerings.

We discussed changing the newsletter format in the future. Leslie will still post minutes on the WELCA bulletin board and keep them in the WELCA binder.

The treasurer's report was presented.

Ministry Reports:

Quilting and Knitting: Kayse is organizing an event at Calvary for the WELCA National Quilt Day on March 16, 2019. We will have either a Bible study or a break with devotions and snacks. Calvary women will be asked to bring a salad for a salad and bread potluck. We are inviting Cornelius and ChristChurch members to join us for any part of the quilting day. All skill levels are welcome.

Book club: February 26 at church, hosted by Sandy and Anita

God's Family Reports:

The Region 1 Gathering is June 21-23 at Tanasbourne Embassy Suites. The synod meeting is Friday afternoon. We will elect a voting member to the convention in April. Registration information is on the WELCA bulletin board. Registration is \$175. The speaker is Sharon Garlough Brown, the author of *Sensible Shoes* (the book is in the library). The book is about women coming together on a spiritual journey.

Events:

Bold Women Sunday is February 24. There will be a litany, hymns chosen for the day, and a message by Cathie. Cathie's theme is "She Persisted" about women persisting through obstacles. She will be asking, "What bold woman was influential in your life?" Kayse will send the litany to Jan.

Bible Study: Thanks to our "resident expert" Cathie for leading our Bible Study.

Next meeting:

Saturday, March 16

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

National Quilt Day

Come for the day or any part of it. No prior skills necessary.

All are welcome!

Celebrate National Quilting Day at Calvary

Saturday, March 16, 2019

9:00-3:00

(Come for part of the day or the whole day!)

Morning snacks and a lunch will be provided

All are welcome!

Never quilted before? Don't worry! We'll get you involved and before you know it, you'll be a quilter too!

We will be working on quilts for our usual ministries—Monika's House (Domestic Violence Resource Center) and Tuality Hospital breast cancer patients.

Questions?

Call Kayse Durgan at 503-640-2502 or email at kdurgan@frontier.com



March Fellowship & Study Opportunities



Calvary Book Club

The book club will meet on Tuesday, March 26th at 7:00 pm, hosted by Michelle McPherran at church. The book selection is The Wife Between Us by Greer Hendricks and Sarah Pekkanen.

March Lunch Bunch

Lunch will be on Wednesday, March 13th at 11:30 am at Coyote's in Hillsboro. Questions? Contact Inge Eriksen.



Quilting and Knitting

The group will meet on Saturday, March 2nd 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?



ArtShare – March 2019



Marteena Sander leading us in card and Valentine basket making.

Each month in ArtShare we focus on a different type of art...check out the bulletin board for the various art forms for the past six months.

We will continue to meet through the summer on the second Thursday of the month from 2:00 to 4:00 pm in the north Fellowship Hall.

March 14, 2019 we will revisit Alcohol Ink. We had a taste of this medium in January when we dropped the ink onto our non-porous paper and watched it expand or mix with another color.

Nancy Leupold and Cathie Carlisle will help you continue your exploration of this art product by using such tools as a straw, a brush, hand-sanitizer, shaving cream, or the options are endless.

All are welcome! You do not need any experience with any of the art forms we are learning.

*Come and See.
Come and Participate.
Come and Explore.*

-Cathie Carlisle

What one thing are you going to do for Mother Earth 2019?

In January, Sophia Earl challenged each of us to commit to do one thing to help Mother Earth. As usual, the congregation met this challenge with an abundance of ideas and creative ways to change some habits and add new ones that will benefit God's creation. People were asked to write their commitments on sticky notes which have been posted outside of the sanctuary in the narthex. There are over 40 sticky notes with more than 56 responses!

Responses included everything from growing fruits and vegetables and picking up litter to recycling more and reducing food waste. One person wrote that they will “upcycle.” Upcycling is also known as “creative reuse.” It is shifting useless and unwanted products into new materials or products of better quality or just for fun. Old jeans, shirts and ties have been upcycled into quilts. Old shirts or coats have had sleeves removed and pajama sleeves sewn on for a fun look. Buying building materials and décor from the Habitat for Humanity ReStore is another example of upcycling.

Hillsboro's Youth Advisory Council worked with the Hillsboro City Council to pass a policy restricting single-use plastic bags at grocery stores and large retailers starting in July 2019. This will help us all to remember those reusable bags in our cars!

As an individual, these may seem like small steps. However, as you can see, when a group of people commit to making a change it can result in significant progress!

Incredible responses:

Pick up litter on walks (x 3)
Grow my own vegetables & fruit
Recycle batteries, medicines, and medicine bottles
Use biofuels, use the library, reduce plastic use, and buy paper straws; car pool to church
Compost (x 2)
Upcycle
Plant something to make more oxygen
Use reusable straws, plant garden
Use less ziploc bags, use washable containers
Use reusable shopping bags (x 3)
Bring reusable produce bags to store instead of using plastic
Less food waste in the home for processing less food will need to be grown, less diesel fuel used for farming & transportation of unneeded food, less electricity needed
Recycle more carefully (x 3)
Drive less (x 2) walk or ride bike instead
Bring all pop bottles & cans to recycle at church (x 5)
Donate worn clothes to Goodwill for fabric recycling
Stop using plastic straws (x 4)
Have my after school students pick up playground trash before recess
Buy in bulk to reduce packaging
Don't overbuy and waste resources
Plant a tree
Recycle gift bags & wrappings
Continue composting and use soil to grow vegetables
Grow a new garden and compost
Use less plastic (x 3)
Recycle plastic
Walk more, pick up trash, less bottled water, cook from scratch – less boxes/frozen food
Make a conscious effort to purchase products without excess packaging
Bring my own coffee cup to café



Get recycling app on my phone so I can recycle better

-Leslie Mayfield and Michele Cage for the Eco Reformation/Social Ministry Committee

Walking the Way of Lent: The Sacred Labyrinth Path

WHEN

**Saturday,
March 9, 2019
10am to Noon**

WHERE

Christ the King Lutheran Church

11305 SW Bull Mountain Road
Tigard, OR 97224

Led by Eunice Schroeder, D.Min.,

founder and director of *Sacred Journey Ministries* in Vancouver, WA. A *Veriditas* Certified Labyrinth Facilitator, she leads spiritual workshops and classes, and offers sacred Labyrinth Walks in the Pacific Northwest, as well as seeing clients for Interfaith Spiritual Counseling in Vancouver.

www.SacredJourneyMinistries.com

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
AGE 15 AND OLDER**

FREE

REGISTRATION SUGGESTED

TO REGISTER GO TO

www.tigardlutherans.com

click on Labyrinth Reg
or find us on Facebook at
[www.facebook.com/
ChristTheKingTigard/](http://www.facebook.com/ChristTheKingTigard/)
or call: 503.639.2789

The labyrinth is a meandering path designed to create sacred space for meditation, prayer and spiritual refreshment.

Begin the morning learning the history and purposes of the labyrinth. End the morning by taking the sacred labyrinth walk.

Mobility is not a requirement for "walking" a labyrinth. Dr. Schroeder offers a variety of ways to experience the path of the labyrinth.



In Our Prayers



Margaret & Jack, Bartt Brick, Clementine, Family of Connie Plants, Mary Holland, Rik Mayfield, Baylee Becker, Sharon Janzen, Baby Alice Crume, 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, 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 10th.
Time to spring ahead!**



March Calendar

Mar 2	Quilting & Knitting, 9am
Mar 3	Sunday Worship, 10am
Mar 5	Blood Drive, noon
Mar 6	Bible Study, 10:30am Bible Study, 1pm ASH WEDNESDAY, 7pm
Mar 10	Sunday Worship, 10am Church Council Meeting
Mar 13	Bible Study, 10:30am Lunch Bunch, 11:30am Bible Study, 1pm Lenten Soup/Study, 6:30pm
Mar 14	ArtShare, 2pm
Mar 16	WELCA/National Quilting Day, 9am
Mar 17	Sunday Worship, 10am
Mar 19	Care Committee Meeting, 2pm
Mar 20	Bible Study, 10:30am Bible Study, 1pm Lenten Soup/Study, 6:30pm
Mar 24	Sunday Worship, 10am
Mar 26	Book Club, 7pm
Mar 27	Bible Study, 10:30am Bible Study, 1pm Lenten Soup/Study, 6:30pm
Mar 31	Sunday Worship, 10am