

CALVARY LUTHERAN

CHURCH AND SCHOOL



September 2020 Monthly Newsletter

From the Pastors

Our 2019-2020 Ministry Year Theme was "Everyday Blessings." We had hoped to follow the helpful acronym, **BLESS** as part of our Christian walk all year long.

B - Begin with prayer. **L** - Listen. **E** - Eat. **S** - Serve. **S** - Share.

We would pray for our neighbors, listen to them, eat with them, serve them, and share things with them...

But man did God have other things in mind! At this point in the year, only one of these is still easy to do, unimpeded: **B** - Begin with prayer.

It's so easy to wring our hands over what we *cannot* do, to be anxious or complain about lost time and lost opportunities. But in this newsletter, I'd like to dwell with you on what we *can* do. We can still pray for our neighbors and community. We can still pray for our church.

No need for a mask. No need to be dressed up at all. We can pray anywhere and anytime, with anyone. But maybe you're still feeling lost on *what* to pray for. Well, to help jump-start your prayer-life this month, the Communications Ministry Team and the Prayer Team have an exciting new project to share. This month, we're launching the Prayer page on the website! Just type clcs.org/prayer into your favorite web browser, and you're there!

On this prayer page, you can submit prayer requests and see prayers submitted by other people. There are already a number of prayers posted, so go check it out, and get praying!

At Calvary, we believe in the power of prayer!

Are you feeling helpless? Anxious? Lost? Pray.
Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.. (Philippians 4:6)

Or are you feeling angry? Wronged? Hurt? Pray.
...confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. (James 5:16)

Or are you feeling joyous? Thankful? Blessed? Pray.
Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

So lift up your prayers to the one who has promised to answer!

God's Peace, *Pastor Josh Reifsteck*

Volunteer Focus

Marv Hansen



What is your role at Calvary?

Outreach Ministry Team Director and India Mission Trip Director

What motivates you to give of your time and talent in this way?

I have been a part of the Outreach team in the past and I am glad to get back involved with bringing new people to Calvary and helping with the New Member class. It is inspiring to see what God is doing to grow His Kingdom and to get to know new members as they join. Calvary India Mission has been a big part of my life the past few years. God sent Pastor Raji to Calvary and I felt the call to join the 2011 India mission trip. Since then, I want to be part of what God is doing in India and I am blessed to have many friends there. Going on a mission trip is a great way to bond with your fellow mission team members also!

What is your favorite thing about serving at Calvary?

Being a part of the Calvary family and supporting the ministry here. I am inspired by seeing the bigger picture of how God is impacting peoples' lives through Calvary, both locally and around the world.

Favorite Book/Verse of the Bible?

Jeremiah 29:11—"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future".

This was the theme verse for one of my first mission trips and it has stuck with me over the years. In addition to surprises in my own life, I am amazed by the way God uses the people (mission team members and those we serve) I have met over several mission trips. God does have a unique plan for each of us and I have great hope for the future.

Favorite Dessert?

"Blueberry" - this is a unique style of cheesecake with a blueberry topping that my mom made growing up. More close to home, I would go for the rhubarb crunch that my wife, Rhonda, makes.

What is the one thing that the people of Calvary can keep in their prayers for your area of ministry?

The Outreach team is looking to make people aware of what Calvary has to offer, and to engage the community through events like the Easter Egg hunt and the Community Garden. We also want to help welcome our visitors and new members. All of this is complicated due to the pandemic, so please pray for us to find creative ways to reach out to the community. We are not able to travel to India this year, so please be praying for the 2021 India Mission Team and for the Tailoring and Tuition Centers.

Staff Spotlight

Emily Spelde



What is your role at Calvary?

Adult Ministry Director

What is your favorite thing about serving at Calvary?

The people! I love the feeling of community we have at Calvary—so many kind, loving, giving people wanting to live and grow in Christ and make a positive difference in the world.

Who has been the biggest influence on your faith? Why?

My husband, Tony, faithfully attended church every Sunday. When I met him, I wasn't as dedicated! After we married, we moved to Indy and joined Calvary. A friend, Cookie Fort, invited me to a women's Bible study group. Getting involved in choir and ministry groups has made a huge difference in my life and faith.

Favorite Book/Verse of the Bible?

It's hard to pick just one. Verses in Paul's Letter to the Ephesians about the importance of forgiveness and the community of believers have been important to me in my work, and come to mind often:

"Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace." - Ephesians 4:3

"Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you." - Eph. 4:32

Favorite Dessert?

I'm known for my love of chocolate, but there aren't many desserts that I don't like. Calvary has some members who are great cooks, and the Adult Ministry Lunch & Learns have provided opportunities to try lots of their best recipes—one of the very nice perks in my job.

What is the one thing that the people of Calvary can keep in their prayers for your area of ministry?

The pandemic has been hard for everyone, but as older adults are especially vulnerable, there are extra concerns about gatherings. I miss talking to people in person! Prayers for our safety, but also staying connected are needed and appreciated.

Parish Education

Congregational Study (The Gospel of John: Finding Identity and Purpose) October 17/18 - November 21/22

This 12-week video/workbook series will be broken down to 6 weeks, giving each small group the opportunity to continue on with the other 6 lessons, end with the original 6 lessons, or finish up as time allows.

Please consider being a group leader, a host/facilitator for an onsite or online small group, or a participant.

If you are interested in finding out more about leading a small group or helping be a host/facilitator for one of our small groups, please email Rosie Blazek at parished@clcs.org.

Participants - Look for more information about small group sign-ups coming in late September!

General

Interested in Becoming a Member of Calvary?

We are developing plans and a format for our next Adult Foundations of Faith Class. This class provides practical answers about faith, the Lutheran Church, and Calvary's ministries. It also gives you the opportunity to become part of the Calvary family at the end of class. If you have questions or are interested in this class, please email, call or text Kara Hiatt, 317-201-7268 or connections@clcs.org.

Annual Congregational Voters' Meeting

Join us after worship services **Saturday, September 12 or Sunday, September 13** as we will meet to approve the 2020-21 budget, elect ministry leaders, and to vote on extending a divine call to Sam Troemel as Associate Pastor of Youth & Family Ministry, as he continues in his Specific Ministry Pastor training started in Aug 2018.

Calvary Connect Contemporary Worship - Outdoor Prayer & Praise

The Connect service will be offered as an outdoor prayer and praise service on **Sun, Sept 13th at 6:00 pm** in the fenced area near the kindergarten playground. Please park in the south parking lot. You are invited but not required to wear a mask, as we will be outdoors and socially distanced. All who attend are invited to bring your own lawn chair or you may use one of Calvary's folding chairs. An optional time of fellowship will follow the service. You may bring your own picnic dinner to enjoy a socially-distanced picnic.

Recognition of Service—Thank You, Shari Lipps

Shari is celebrating this month five years of service at Calvary, as our Church Secretary. Thank you, Shari, for all that you do to support our staff, leaders, and church community.

Recognition of Service—Thank You, Andrea Durkee

Andrea is celebrating this month thirty years of service within our music ministry at Calvary. She has served in several roles over the years, such as organist, Choir Director, and Handbell Director. Thank you, Andrea, for sharing your God-given gifts and enriching our worship together. We truly appreciate all that you do.

Memorials

August Memorials

In Memory of Ruth Fuhrmann:

Bill & Janet Grube

In Memory of Trish Peck

Bill & Janet Grube



Outreach Ministry

Community Garden Update

Due to the pandemic we did not have anyone from the community sign up to use the Community Garden this year. So the team decided to plant vegetables to support Hunger, Inc., a food pantry in Perry Township. The harvest has been coming in over the last few weeks and several loads of fresh vegetables have been delivered, with more on the way! We thank God for His bountiful harvest! The Outreach team raises money to support the Community Garden through our annual flower sales in the spring and fall. We were also able to donate \$500 from the flower sale proceeds to Hunger, Inc. in July. Thanks to Calvary for your support of the Community Garden!

Fall Mum Sale

Large potted 9 inch mums for \$10.00.

Order deadline is **September 13th**; pick up at Calvary parking lot on Saturday, September 19th or delivery to your door. Colors to order: red, yellow, orange, white, pink. Email your order to wehrmeister49@yahoo.com (Pastor Art) or alle1h@comcast.net (Jake Allen).

Sponsored by Outreach Ministry to benefit Calvary's Community Garden outreach.



Outreach Update

The Outreach team has had to think creatively to find ways to share God's love this year due to the pandemic. Some of our normal community activities have not occurred for safety reasons. We know that new people have been connecting with Calvary through our online worship, so we have distributed yard signs to our members to help direct more people to our website. Thank you to all our members who have put up a sign already! We hope that the signs will also lead to a nice, socially-distanced, conversation with your neighbor. Please take the opportunity to share more information with them about your faith, the church and the school. In July the team was able to donate \$500 each to support Christian outreach through the following groups and activities:

- 1) Burmese community health kits (through Franciscan Health)
- 2) Partial support for a new Safe Haven Baby box (through Beats for Bristol in Bargersville)
- 3) The El Salvador mission team
- 4) Calvary India Mission

Looking for a Sign? Pick up Your Yard Sign Today!!

Calvary's Outreach Ministry Team invites you to pick up a clcs.org yard sign from the narthex. Help us to reach neighbors, friends, and our community with the life-changing truth and grace of Jesus. Please only take one sign per family.

Seeking a connection with God?
Visit us online at:

clcs.org



Jesus welcomes
you with
open arms!

Women in Mission

Appreciation and Service Drive-Thru

Saturday, September 19, 2020, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., South Parking Lot

Are you longing for ways to serve and to see one another after months of isolation?

This appreciation and service drive-thru event with booths or "stations" will provide you opportunities to interact with ministry team members at several stops from the safety of your car. Ministry Teams will be ready for you, rain or shine unless it's lightening or extremely windy. Contact Karen Wright (317) 903-9917 with questions. You may anticipate the opportunity

- To reconnect with our Calvary community
- To support ministry missions and service projects
- To show appreciation to Calvary ministries and staff
- To receive caring encouragement and appreciation
- To learn about upcoming congregational Bible studies
- To greet current ministry team members



Watch for details next month in the newsletter, bulletins, Facebook, and website. Plan now to participate in this event that will allow the opportunity for serving and showing appreciation while remaining safe during the pandemic.

BLANKETS FOR BABIES

Who are we and what is our mission? Since October 2007, we have met to crochet and/or knit baby blankets for newborns. These blankets are donated to the Life Center located on Hanna Avenue. The clients that come to this center are often of low income and in need of assistance. This center is staffed by Christian women who counsel the ladies and give support. They are always extremely appreciative of our beautiful blankets. We recently donated 11 blankets. Each blanket has a label with a cross sewn in that says "Blessings from Calvary Lutheran Church." We send each blanket with God's love. Fall is a perfect time to learn how to knit or crochet. We have patient teachers!! We meet the first Thursday of each month. Our next meeting is **September 3rd** (6:00-8:00 p.m.) We supply yarn, needles, and hooks. Questions? Call Susan Daniels 317-882-3691. Masks are required. We practice social distancing also. (But we still manage to have lots of good conversation!)

Extravagant Sharing

The Sharing Place of Lutheran Child and Family Services thanks each of you for sharing and providing for the needs of others! Throughout September Calvary will continue supporting the needs of many through the Sharing Place by bringing boxes or individual serving size macaroni and cheese. Also this month The Sharing Place has made a special request for canned pastas, like SpaghettiO's or Chef Boyardee products. The suggestion is that you bring your donations of canned pastas to the Appreciation and Service Drive-thru on September 19. Cheerfully bless others as you have been abundantly blessed by Jesus.

FULLY COMMITTED

Our biblical text for our school theme for this year is from Proverbs 16:3:
 “Commit to the Lord whatever you do and He will establish your plans.”

How does one show COMMITMENT? We may see it in one's punctual arrival to work each day. It may be noted in the extent of a task completed. Fulfilling a promise is a sign of commitment. Most often honoring our word is a big part of this. A committed friend places great value on that relationship. Commitment takes time, effort, and attention.

Our school theme directs us first to God's love and commitment to us. God loves us and He is fully committed to His plan of salvation. He sent His only Son to suffer and die on Calvary's cross rescuing us from the penalty of our sins. Jesus carried His cross for each of us. He willingly offered His life as the redeeming sacrifice. God is fully committed to you!

Our response in faith is to gladly love, obey, and serve Him. This begins as we turn our hearts to the needs of one another. It is only through the power of the Holy Spirit that we are capable of commitment. Our school theme of FULLY COMMITTED touches all areas of ministry. We stand fully committed to the Lord trusting in His leading and guiding. We walk by faith not by sight. This is most certainly true.

Many tasks and projects were accomplished over the summer months in preparation for the start of school. Classroom carpets were cleaned. Tiled floors stripped and waxed. Our previous PS 3-4 classroom and room 127 received updates with new flooring and a fresh coat of paint. Our boys and girls locker rooms were remodeled. Many mechanical needs were also repaired. This highlights the major projects. Many more items were accomplished as well. We thank all involved for their giving and assistance throughout this summer. We especially thank Mr. Steve Harrison, our Facilities Ministry Team, and our Technology Ministry Team for their effort and hours given for us to enjoy the facilities. We thank and praise God for the gift of helping hands and celebrate the wonderful facilities that we are blessed to have at Calvary Lutheran Church and School.

Delayed Start

School will begin at 8:30 a.m. each Wednesday that school is in session. The students will be released to their classrooms beginning at 8:15 AM. This delayed start has been scheduled to permit additional professional growth opportunities for our faculty and staff.

School Chapel Services Moved to Thursdays

School chapel services will be held on THURSDAYS again this school year. The starting times for chapel will remain at 8:10 a.m. for all school worship times. Chapel services will be viewed in the classrooms. Two classes will be able to enter the sanctuary for proper social distancing to be held.

SMILE SMILE SMILE

The students of Calvary Lutheran School will have their school photographs taken on Tuesday, September 29. Tuesday will be a non-uniform day allowing the students greater choices for their photographs. Any absentees from Tuesday will have their pictures taken on re-take day in November.

Labor Day

Calvary Lutheran School will be closed on Monday, September 7th in observance of Labor Day. We thank God for the gift of work. We strive to use His gifts to our very best potential as His created beings.

Outdoor Education

Our Sixth Grade class will be experiencing Outdoor Education on Thursday-Friday, September 10-11. The class will travel to the wilds of Camp Lakeview. Mrs. Faubion and the Camp Lakeview staff will lead this day camp expedition. For further information please contact Mrs. Faubion. We ask the Lord to go with our sixth graders granting them safety in their travels. We ask the Lord to grant to them His Spirit as they grow together through this experience.

1st Quarter Mid Term

Our first quarter mid term is Friday, September 4. Students in second through eighth grade will receive their midterm reports on Wednesday, September 9 via FACTS/Renweb. We ask that our parents review these reports with their children. We strive to provide many evaluations throughout the school year.

Scholarship Tax Credit Information

"Too Good To Be True?!" God has provided a unique opportunity to help fund the Christian education of our Calvary students. The Lutheran Scholarship Granting Organization of Indiana, Inc. has been identified as a Scholarship Granting Organization. Scholarships through private and corporate donations are granted to Calvary student families whose income is less than 200% of the Federal free or reduced hot lunch guidelines.

Updates from the 2019-20 School Year:

- 24 families/individuals contributed \$65,700.00 towards this Scholarship Tax Credit
- This funded the need for 28 Scholarship grants.
- Many grant recipients are now enjoying the benefit of a CHOICE State voucher.
- All Calvary Lutheran Church and School student aid from the General Fund has been eliminated.

New Information

- Nearly \$500,000.00 has been gathered through the state tax credit initiative over the past 9 years.
- The donor base has been virtually unchanged over these years.
- Donors are increasing their gifts. Why? The "Too Good to be True" aspects
- We are asking for previous year participants in this program to communicate all the benefits inviting two-three others to prayerfully consider involvement increasing our donor base.
- Personal tax credits that remain against your tax liability may be used for up to 9 years.
- All can now be accomplished online. www.lutheranSGO.org
- Be sure to identify Calvary Lutheran School, Indianapolis as the recipient of your donation.

How may I help?

Donations are currently being accepted. We are in need of \$62,500.00 to fully fund this year's grants. Please prayerfully consider your involvement and support in this most worthwhile program.

Multiple Benefits for Calvary Lutheran School students, the private or corporate donor, and Calvary Lutheran Church

1. Students and their families accepted in this program will receive a scholarship grant per child enrolled in Kindergarten -8th grade at Calvary.
2. The donor will receive a 50% Indiana State tax credit for every dollar donated. Example: A donation of \$1000.00 will result in a tax credit of \$500.00 towards your Indiana income tax liability. Private as well as corporate donations will receive this benefit.
3. A student receiving a Scholarship grant in Kindergarten will then be eligible for a CHOICE State voucher through 12th grade. This could result in a total of over \$80,000.00 towards Christian Education.

Where Do I sign up?

Donor forms are available in the church and school offices or at www.lutheranSGO.org.

How Do I Proceed?

Return the completed donor form with your donation to the Church or School Office or send it directly to the Lutheran SGO. All donor forms received will be sent in one cover to Lutheran Scholarship Granting Organization. They will issue your tax credit statement. Be sure to identify **CALVARY LUTHERAN SCHOOL** as the recipient of your donation. Checks are to be payable to: The Lutheran Scholarship Granting Organization of Indiana, Inc.

What happens in the future?

Children receiving a scholarship grant are eligible the following school year to convert this grant to a CHOICE State voucher. This again has eliminated the need for congregational funded scholarship dollars.

Children will have the opportunity to hear God's Word through your giving. God continues to open doors to others once thought closed due to financial needs. Your assistance in this program is so greatly appreciated!

NEWS FROM LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL OF INDIANAPOLIS

8th Annual SugarPlum Holiday Fair – Saturday, October 24

Do you have a hand-made craft or other product you would like to sell? Reserve a booth today for the **SugarPlum Holiday Fair**, which will take place **Saturday, October 24, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm** at Lutheran High School. Booth space price until Friday, September 4 is \$45 for 10' x 10' in the gym or 5' x 20' in the hallway; \$35 for 5' x 10' in the hallway. **After September 4, price increases by \$10.** A limited number of booths have electrical access for an additional \$5 fee. **Booth space reservation deadline is October 9.** Vendors love that LHS fine arts students help them load in and load out their booths. Concessions will be available throughout the day. To reserve a booth or for more information, contact Lori at 219-895-1543 or finearts@lhsi.org, or visit lhsi.org – click on the picture labeled “SugarPlum Holiday Fair.” Proceeds benefit the fine arts (band, choir, theatre, and art) at Lutheran High School.

Postponed – Saints Alumni Celebrate & Connect

Due to the current uncertainty regarding the regulations for gatherings, we regret that we must postpone the Saints Alumni Celebrate & Connect event scheduled for Homecoming weekend.

We still would love to have updated contact information for all our alumni. You may update your contact information by filling out the form at lhsi.org/giving/update-contact-info.cfm.

Questions? Please contact us at alumni@lhsi.org.



Youth Ministry

FLIGHT (High School Youth Group)

FLIGHT will continue meeting for outside events on Sunday evenings from 5:30-7:00 p.m.



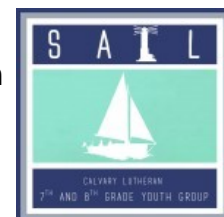
LAUNCH (5th & 6th)

LAUNCH will meet again on **Wednesday, September 16th from 5:30-7:00 p.m.** for an outdoor event. This event will include snack and a Bible study. Youth are encouraged to bring a mask and water bottle.



SAIL (7th & 8th)

SAIL will meet again on **Wednesday, September 23rd from 5:30-7:00 p.m.** for an outdoor event. This event will include snack and a Bible study. Youth are encouraged to bring a mask and water bottle.



Adult Ministry

No Lunch, Still Learn

Wednesday, September 16 via Video Chat 11:00 a.m.

We can't meet for our pitch-in Lunch & Learn just yet, but we can keep learning. Join us for this month's video discussion. Our guest presenter from the Indiana Forest Alliance will talk about *Forests for Indy*. How many forests still exist in Marion County? How and why is the Indiana Forest Alliance working to sustain them? What is carbon neutrality and what initiatives are being taken to achieve it?



You can join the video conference using a computer, tablet or smart phone. *Google Meet* is a free program similar to Skype and ZOOM. Connection can also be done by phone if you do not have access to a camera-equipped device.

To join with video: <https://meet.google.com/enb-mbyz-swo> and then click on the green "Ask to Join" box.

To join by phone only: dial +1 302-505-1227 and enter this PIN: 683 443 795#

If you need assistance, contact Emily Spelde or the church office. A "cheat sheet" of instructions is available.

Compassion Ministry

Addresses needed for College Care Packages

It's going to be an interesting year and we want to encourage our Calvary college students by sending them care packages throughout the year. If you have a college student or you are a college student, please email Linda Bugher at thebughers@att.net or text her at 317-432-1865 **by Tuesday, September 8th** the following information:

- Student Name
- College Attending
- Student Address
- Year (e.g., Junior)
- Major/Area of Study
- Student Email Address
- Student Cell Phone (optional)

To confirm our information is current, we need to hear from you even if you supplied information last year. **Please let Linda know any changes throughout the year.**

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

Stewardship Emphasis

Stewardship Update *By Rachel Daeger, Chair, Stewardship Ministry Team*

witness.lcms.org – New Lutheran Witness website

For almost 140 years, The Lutheran Witness (LW) has served the church and proclaimed the Gospel by publishing theological essays and reflections that interpret “the contemporary world from a Lutheran perspective.” Now, LW seeks to continue this mission by refreshing and expanding its web presence at witness.lcms.org.

The updated site will feature:

- Print content from each month's issue
- Online-exclusive content, including monthly articles from a team of regular Lutheran authors, such as former LW editor Rachel Bomberger, Dr. Gene Veith, the Rev. William Weedon and the Rev. Dr. John Pless.

In addition, the refreshed site will provide two new types of content:

- Article series written by Lutheran pastors, theologians or laypeople, released in installments. The first two series will be on the intersection of faith and technology (by the Rev. Trevor Sutton) and seeing world problems in light of God's Word (by the Rev. Dr. Adam Koontz).
- A new LW podcast with recordings of each article published on the website, including the print features. The podcast is available on the site, as well as on iTunes, Spotify, Stitcher and other podcast platforms.

“The Lutheran Witness has been around since 1882. It is one of the longest-published magazines in the history of the U.S. and a lot of this content continues to be relevant today,” said Askins.

- Subscribe to the monthly email newsletter, featuring the most popular posts from the preceding month, at witness.lcms.org/subscribe.
- Follow The Lutheran Witness on Facebook and Twitter to be alerted to new content as it is posted.

Shift of Focus

Reprinted from LCMS Stewardship Ministry

Winston Churchill reportedly said, “we make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” According to Churchill then, our lives are defined less by what we have gotten and more by what we give away.

Our Lord's life is defined in this way. He gave completely of Himself for us. He became man for us. He taught the truth of God's Word. He healed those with many and various diseases. He died the death that we deserve because of sin. He gave of Himself in order to save us from sin, death, and hell. So it is that by giving completely of Himself, He got us for Himself, making us citizens of His eternal kingdom by grace.

As it was for Jesus, so it is also for us. We get more from giving than we do from simply getting.

Giving softens our hearts and frees us from the worries of this world and making a living. For when we are singularly focused on making a living, we are singularly focused on what we get.

That mindset begins to bleed into all areas of our lives – our relationships with friends and family, with neighbors and coworkers, and with the Lord. It shifts our focus from asking “How can I be a friend, family member, neighbor, and servant to others?” to “What have they done for me lately?”

We become more selfish instead of selfless.

But, when we give, we do not have less, and we do not become less. We have more and become more. Because when we give, we join in the bond of friendship and family, the bond of service to those around us out of love for them. And love is the fulfillment of the Law. It is the nature of God Himself, for God is Love. Thus, we are participating in the divine nature. As Jesus said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35).

Communications

Introducing Calvary's New Prayer Page (www.clcs.org/prayer)

This month the Communications Team would like to introduce you to a new page on our church website — the **Prayer Page**. As its name suggests, this page focuses on prayer — communicating with our God. As Martin Luther once said, *"To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing."*

About Prayer...

The Prayer Page opens with information about prayer, including scripture references and links to additional resources such as:

- **Pray the Bible** – Thirty different prayers taken from scripture.
- **Biblical Answers to Problems and Questions** – scripture readings that address various situations.
- **Calvary Resources on Prayer** – currently available in the EPIC Library.
- **Prayer Guide for the COVID-19 Global Pandemic** – from myfaithvotes.org.



Check out this part of the page often as we plan to update it with fresh information about prayer.

Share Your Prayer... Pray for Others...

One challenge in our prayer lives is knowing the needs of others. The Prayer Page is designed to allow people to share their prayer requests. The page includes a list of prayer requests that have been submitted. For each request, there is who the prayer is from (person's name or "anonymous"), the date the request was made, the requested prayer, and an "I prayed for this" button you can click to record you prayed for it.

John Doe

Please pray that the Calvary Prayer Page is a blessing to this congregation and to the community.

📅 August 19, 2020

👍 I prayed for this

If you click the "I prayed for this" button, the requester will receive an email informing them that someone has prayed for them (if they subscribed to emails when they submitted the request). You will also see the button replaced with a "Thanks for praying" box so that when you return to the prayer page you will know you have prayed for that person.

Anonymous

Praise God for the blessing of a new granddaughter, Leah, born on May 1st. May He be with her and her parents and siblings as they grow closer to Him as a family, especially since they are isolated for at least the next month.

📅 May 5, 2020

✓ Thanks for praying

(cont'd on next page)

Communications (cont'd)

The Share Your Prayer Form

It is easy to submit your prayer request. Simply click on the “Share Your Prayer” button. You will be presented with a form to fill out to submit your request.

Share Your Prayer

The top of the form has places for you to enter your Name, Email address, Phone Number (optional), and your Prayer Request. You will control how your contact information will be shared at the bottom of the form.

Church Privacy

Here you will choose what information is shared with the church office –

- *Everything* (your prayer request and contact information)
- *Prayer Only* (your contact information is not sent).

We recommend you share everything so the church can best serve you.

Website Privacy

Here you will choose what information is posted on the website Prayer Page. You can choose

- *Everything* (your request and your name are posted.)
- *Prayer Only* (your request is posted anonymously)
- *Nothing* (your request not posted on the website)

Your email address and phone number are never posted on the website.

Email Updates

Your final option is to choose whether to subscribe to email updates. If you do, whenever someone indicates that they have prayed for your prayer request, you will get an email informing you. You can unsubscribe from these emails later if you wish.

When you are finished filling out the form, click the “Submit Request” button.

Once your prayer request is submitted, a message will be sent to the church. If you chose to have your request display on the website, your request must be approved by the church before it appears, usually within 24 hours. Once approved, others will see your request on the Prayer Page and if you chose to, you will be notified when someone prays for you. We trust that God will bless our new Prayer Page and that it will be a blessing to you. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

Submit a prayer request to Calvary Lutheran Church and School

Name

Sarah Jacobs

We require your name and email even if the prayer is being shared anonymously so that our system can send automated updates.

Email

sarah@example.com

Phone Number Optional

555-555-5555

Prayer Request

Type your prayer here.

Church Privacy

- ☐ Everything - Share my contact information and prayer with the church
- ☐ Prayer Only - Share the details of my prayer, but I'd like to remain anonymous

Website Privacy

- ☐ Everything - Display my prayer and contact information on the website
- ☐ Prayer Only - Display my prayer but hide my contact information on the website
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Email Updates

- ☐ Subscribe to email updates

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September 2020

September 6, 2020 – Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm 32:1-7; Romans 13:8-10; Matthew 18:10-20

“Sinners, Listen to David!” - Sermon Text: Psalm 32:1-7 - Rev. Dr. Walter Maier III

We are sinners. That is the sad reality. But more can and must be said – listen to what David has to say!

September 13, 2020 – Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm 103:1-12; Genesis 50:15-21; Matthew 18:21-35

“The Merciful Master” - Sermon Text: Matthew 18:25-27 - Rev. Thomas Eggold

As you consider your sin and struggle with the burden of guilt that we all bear, today's reading will bring you the promise that because of the atoning work of Jesus Christ, the Master has canceled your debt and welcomed you into His kingdom. And now, because of this unfathomable gift of grace you and I can forgive our brother or sister from the heart.

September 20, 2020 – Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm 27:1-9; Isaiah 55:6-9; Matthew 20:1-16

“Unfair!” - Sermon Text: Matthew 20:15 - Rev. Shayne Jonker

One of the toughest pills for religion to swallow is the idea that God justifies the ungodly and that our salvation at the world's end is not based on our works, our achievements and our accomplishments, but the sheer grace of God in His Son Jesus Christ who doles out a denarius of salvation to everyone alike, whether a life long Christian or a deathbed convert.

September 27, 2020 – Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm 25:1-10; Philippians 2:1-4, 14-18; Matthew 21:23-27

“By What Authority” - Sermon Text: Matthew 21:23-27 - Rev. Paul Shoemaker

Jesus' authority comes from His Father. He uses that authority to bring eternal healing and life. Yet many challenge His divine authority even though He uses it for our benefit.



**CALVARY LUTHERAN
CHURCH & SCHOOL**

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www.clcs.org
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CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

Worship: Saturdays 6:30 PM Sundays 8:00 & 10:45 AM
Family Education Hour (Bible Study & Sunday School) 9:25 AM

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July Mission Trip Moved to October

The El Salvador Mission Team was hopeful that even with the pandemic continuing to cancel travel and keeping everyone at home, things would improve allowing for a July trip. Unfortunately, due to CDC guidelines and all of the restrictions associated with the COVID-19 outbreak, July's trip had to be postponed. Plans are in the works for a few team members to travel the first week in October to El Salvador and work up in the northern mountainous region of Chalatenango.

The October trip will be very different from any of the past trips. To maintain the safety of the team (both the gringos and Salvadorans), medical clinics, playset builds, and VBS at area schools will be delayed until it is deemed safe. Our hope is that the February 2021 trip will allow for these. Until then, we will continue to pray that God provides the wisdom needed to serve our brothers and sisters in El Salvador.

New Church in Citalá



Since members of Calvary started serving in El Salvador back in '01, the doors to Iglesia Bautista Citalá Chalatenango were opened to welcome teams and serve as a home base. Beginning in 2005, Pastor Mejia and his family began serving as full-time missionaries in Citalá and have become like family to team members.

This past February, leadership at the church was notified that the property the church sat on which also provided a home to the Mejia's would be going up for sale, and no longer be available to rent. Since the church sits in a community where unemployment exceeds 60%, money was not available to purchase the property. A deadline of mid-June was given for eviction. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, the date was pushed to July 31st.

Pastor Mejia was never concerned. He and his wife, Silvia, knew that God would come through...and He did! In mid-July, a businessman offered property to the church at a discounted rate because he appreciated the work the church was doing in the community. A loan secured the property. The church's movable steel support structure, which Calvary's team helped construct in July 2019 and complete in January 2020, was disassembled and raised on the new property. Thanks to a donation which was presented this past January for a new wall (which had not been started) concrete for the beams and roofing material were purchased. Everything has begun falling into place for the new church and it's no coincidence.

Pastor Mejia and Silva are now living in a home they have rented from a church member. It is big enough to store their personal items as well as the team's eight duffel bags of medical supplies, medications, playset materials and tools which are left in El Salvador after each trip. Again, God continues to provide!

October's trip will be used to fund a construction project for the new church and provide some needed hands. In addition, a children's ministry will be held each morning in the plaza where children will be allowed to gather for Bible stories, arts & crafts, songs, and games. All precautions will be taken to ensure social distancing and prescribed hygiene is followed.

Calvary's Team Provides Medical Scholarship

Salvadoran team members become like family to many of Calvary's team members. The youth that assist in January and July are students attending a local university. Some receive funding from family members in the States and some have parents that work extra jobs to help fund their education. There are many students who attend a semester, take off and work a semester, and then repeat the cycle until they receive a degree.

For the past three years, our medical team has been assisted by Dr. Rebecca. She is a medical student at the national university. On some days, she would see as many as 125 patients before quitting. Her father lives in the United States and has been providing support for her family in El Salvador as well as for Rebecca's education. Unfortunately, the support stopped earlier in January of this year. During January's trip, a friend of Rebecca's shared with the team that she would be dropping out of medical school for a semester to work so that she could pay her semester fee and monthly assessment. All that was left for her to complete were two semesters of clinicals and her year of service. El Salvador requires all graduated doctors to serve the country in a medical capacity for 12 months before receiving their diploma.



Thanks to Calvary's team members, Dr. Rebecca is finishing up her last semester of clinicals and will be ready to begin her year of service in January.

Salvadoran Team Members Help with Food Distribution

Many areas in El Salvador have always been in need of food and clean water. These needs have become more critical after the country shut down in March due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Although the government assisted with a \$300 stimulus for residents who are registered, it didn't go very far for those who were placed under a 90 day house quarantine. Businesses and public transportation are just now re-opening.

Thanks to a donation from the Outreach Ministry, our Salvadoran team working with Christ for the City will be distributing food and water in several communities. They will be handing out a week's worth of food until they run out. One of the young ladies assisting with this project thanked Calvary and said, "It is because of the example the team has set year after year that we too serve."

Thank you, Outreach and Calvary, for your support of the El Salvador Mission.

Prayers for El Salvador -

- ~ Good health & safety for all Salvadorans, including guidance for the government to protect its people through the pandemic
- ~ For Dr. Rebecca, that she finishes strong with medical school and God guide her coming year of service
- ~ That God provide willing hands to help with the church construction in Citalá and funds to supply construction materials as well as the purchase of the new property.
- ~ That God bless the ongoing ministry through Pastor Mejia and his family to grow the Kingdom