



CALVARY LUTHERAN

CHURCH AND SCHOOL



December 2021 / January 2022 Monthly Newsletter

From the Pastors

As I sit down to write my December / January newsletter, I can't help but feel like there's only one good answer for what I will write. December is a month of giving. January is our stewardship month. And today (as I write this in November), I'm preaching on Giving for the *Red Letter Challenge*. I think we have a theme.

Whether or not you attended that service and heard that sermon, it's relevant to note that I quote many Bible passages on giving in that message. For the sake of time, I didn't quote them all, but multiple members came up to me to point out one verse in particular that I left out: "The Lord loves a cheerful giver."

This verse is in 2 Corinthians 9, and though it's useful by itself, I think we should look at the broader context.

⁶ The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷ Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸ And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. ⁹ As it is written, "He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." ¹⁰ He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness.

Paul's laying out some amazing teaching and encouragement here, but it's difficult stuff, too. First, a warning—if you sow sparingly you reap sparingly—then, a promise—if you sow bountifully you reap bountifully. Next, Paul makes the controversial statement that we should not give under compulsion or reluctantly! Your giving should be free and cheerful, for three reasons.

One, the Lord loves a cheerful giver. We should give because it makes God happy, just like we give to our kids and loved ones at Christmas time, simply because we delight in their happiness.

Two, God is able to make all grace abound to you, such that we have enough. We give because God is powerful enough to give us enough. He is powerful enough to equip us to do his work. We give because we trust him to use that power for our good.

Three, God has promised to do it, too. Not only is he powerful enough to give, but he has promised to give. He has promised to *multiply* the gifts he has given to us so that we can use those gifts to bless others.

What a beautiful passage. What beautiful promises! But I must admit, sometimes it's hard to trust God when we worry about having enough. This is where faith comes in. As the Lord says in Malachi 3, "Test me in this." Use the gifts given to you, and see what he does. Each little step of obedience is a movement toward faith. Each step of faith is a movement toward the cheer and even joy which Paul encourages in this chapter. All year long, let's trust God with our giving!

God's Peace, *Pastor Josh Reifsteck*

Staff Spotlight / Volunteer Focus

Josh Reifsteck



What is your role at Calvary?

Associate Pastor

What is your favorite thing about serving at Calvary?

Teaching Bible Study!

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

Johannes Tauler—When you're writing a master's thesis on someone's preaching, you can't help but learn from them.

Favorite Book/Verse of the Bible?

Book—Job

Verse—Psalm 1:2

Favorite Dessert?

Cheesecake

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

Time, energy, and wisdom to complete my thesis well.

Jake Allen



What is your role at Calvary?

In addition to volunteering on the Community Garden Committee and as a long-time offering counter, I am currently the Chair of the Stewardship Ministry Team. I have also been an active participant in the El Salvador Mission for the last 10 years or so.

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

I have always tried to take an active role in whatever organization I am involved with. Of course, the mission of Calvary serves a much higher purpose, making engagement in the activities of the church all the more important.

What is your favorite thing about serving at Calvary?

Getting o work with the very talented staff and other volunteers. I consider all of these individuals to be friends.

Favorite Book/Verse of the Bible?

"What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?" Romans 8:31

Favorite Dessert?

Generally anything that Kyle bakes, but if I have to choose, I will go with her pineapple upside down cake.

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

It is a bit cliched, but prayers that the Stewardship Ministry Team can be "good stewards" of the generous gifts the members of the church have entrusted us with. Pray that we deploy these funds in an efficient manner that provides the most impact to further God's church on earth.

General News



2021 Holiday Worship Schedule

WEEKLY WORSHIP

Saturdays at 6:30 p.m.

Sundays at 8:00 & 10:45 a.m.

MIDWEEK ADVENT WORSHIP SERIES

Wednesdays, December 1, 8, & 15 @ 3:45 p.m.

CALVARY LUTHERAN SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS

Wednesday, December 1 @ 7:00 p.m. (5th-8th Grade)

Wednesday, December 8 @ 7:00 p.m. (2nd-4th Grade)

Wednesday, December 15 @ 7:00 p.m. (PS-1st Grade)

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Monday, December 20, 7:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS WEEK SERVICES

CHRISTMAS EVE—Friday, December 24

5:00 p.m.—Candlelight Service

7:00 p.m.—Candlelight Service

CHRISTMAS DAY—Saturday, December 25

10:00 a.m. with Communion



NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE

No New Year's Eve service—Join us for regular worship services January 1/2, 2022

Breakfast for Jesus

Sat., Dec. 11th from 9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m. in the Calvary Luth School gym

Join our ***Praising Hands Puppet Ministry*** for a morning of food, puppets, and crafts to celebrate the birth of our Savior.

This is a free family event open to all ages. Parking is available in the North Lot for access through door #2. Contact Sarah Ebert with any questions.

College Care Packages

In early November, 38 care packages were mailed to college students. Included in the package was a "Pass it On" card to encourage them as they complete this semester.

"Commit to the Lord whatever you do and He will establish your plans."

Proverbs 16.3

General News

“Blue Christmas” Worship Service – Mon, Dec 20 at 7:00 p.m.

It can be hard to embrace the joy of the Christmas season when we are going through tough times—and we have all been going through some tough times. If you are dealing with the death of a loved one, facing life after divorce, coping with the loss of a job, living with illness or another difficult life situation, or experiencing a case of COVID fatigue, we invite you to a service of hope, peace, & comfort. This is a 30 to 35-minute service of readings, songs, and candle lighting. Invite a friend or family member.

Calvary India Mission Giving Tree

Are you looking for a gift for that hard-to-buy-for friend or family member that will have spiritual value? Stop by the narthex and select a tag from the Calvary India Mission giving tree. The items on the tags will be distributed to the tailoring and tuition students in India in support of Christ-based education.

Questions? Contact Rhonda Hansen.



Christmas Card Sorting

You can now bring your Christmas cards that you have for Calvary members and drop them in the bins by both sets of doors. Christmas cards must be dropped off by **Friday, December 17** to be sorted and distributed.



Operation Christmas Child

THANK YOU to everyone who filled shoeboxes, provided gift items, and donated shipping costs for this Samaritan's Purse Ministry project. 130 shoeboxes were filled and are on their way for distribution overseas by Samaritan's Purse Ministry.



Attention Thrivent Members—"Choice Dollars" Designation

If you have not directed your 2021 Thrivent Choice Dollars, please consider directing them to "Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church" or "Calvary Lutheran School". Visit thrivent.com/thriventchoice or call 800-847-4836 to find out if you have Choice Dollars to direct.



Stewardship Emphasis

Stewardship Update *By Jake Allen, Stewardship Ministry Team Director*

Calvary Endowment Funds Update – Church Endowment Funds

This month the Stewardship Ministry is making the third of three reports on each of Calvary's three endowment funds: 1) The Church Endowment Fund – discussed in the October Newsletter; 2) The Schwark Endowment Fund – discussed in the November newsletter; and 3) The Wessler Endowment Fund. Each of these funds serve a distinct purpose in our Ministry. This month we will discuss the Wessler Endowment Fund.

Wessler Endowment Fund

Established in 2018, the Wessler Endowment Fund provides scholarship support for members studying to be church workers. The current market value is \$107,577 (October 31, 2021). Recent grants from the endowment have been used to support Sam Troemel's tuition for his specific ministry pastor program and Aaron Levenhagen's studies at our LCMS seminary in St. Louis.

Prayerfully consider this opportunity to support the studies of our future church workers. You may contribute to the endowment fund through a gift of cash or stock, naming the endowment in your will or as a beneficiary on your life insurance policy, pension plan (401k) or IRA. To give using your offering envelope, mark "Wessler Endowment Fund" on your envelope. For questions about the Wessler Endowment Fund, contact Kyle Allen.

Quarterly Mission Envelopes

Calvary generously supports many mission initiatives through our giving. The beneficiaries of these gifts include local ministries (Lutheran High School and the Hispanic Ministry for example) as well as international efforts (examples include Mission India and the El Salvador Mission). Many of these initiatives are funded from our annual budget and many others are funded by individual gifts to these efforts.

An important source of mission funds are the gifts received through the quarterly envelopes that are included in the giving envelope packets. Most recently, the mission envelopes for the 3rd and 4th quarter of the prior fiscal year (year ended July 31, 2021) were designated to provide support to our Chris and Alie Fiorello through Wycliffe Bible Translators. The gifts for the two quarters totaled over \$1,500.

Reduce Your State Taxes – Please Consider a Gift to the Lutheran Scholarship

Granting Organization (SGO)

This is a reminder that gifts to the Scholarship Granting Organization may be eligible for a 50% credit on your Indiana State Income Taxes. There may be federal tax benefits as well. Details can be found at <https://lutheransgo.org/>. There is also a more detailed explanation of the benefits of SGOs in Calvary's August newsletter.

Status of Calvary SGO giving year to date: Thanks to everyone who has already made a gift to the SGO for the benefit of Calvary. As of early November, over \$50,000 is still needed to get to our SGO funds target by year end. Please be aware that the tax credits that the State of Indiana has set aside are limited and many other schools are also utilizing these funds. Therefore, it is important to consider making your gift sooner than later before the pool of available tax credits is all used up. For questions about SGO giving, please contact Jennifer Skojac..

Memorials

November Memorials



In Memory of Rayma O'Shaughnessy:

Pauline Miller & Family



In Memory of Margie Mason

Diane Hoffman

In Memory of Tony Delk:

*Jim & Carol Keenan, Xi IOTA Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi, David & JoAnn Heasley,
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Schott, Steve & Pattie Bardonner, Jim & Phyllis Birdwell, Mel Wessler,
Nellie Delk, Kevin & Sue Wilson, Ester Butrum*

In Memory of Bob Fort:

*Bob & Sandra Wilson, Elise Wolf, Margie Leive, Ken & Marcia Kehlbeck, Don & Susan Daniels,
Mark Hasz, Ann Arnold, Janet Grube, Charles & Betty Bardonner, Stephen & Nancy Bowles,
Ron & Sarah Cunningham, Fred & Marge Krampe*

In Memory of Gil Mascher:

*Jim & Ellen Vance, Pastor Art & Joy Wehrmeister, Pastor Jim & Connie Myers,
Gwen & Ray Keller, Tom & Suzy Wehr, Neiman Living Trust, Gary & Susan Wendeln,
Greg & Judy Kiel, Lynn Boese, Susan Seal, Jim & Kathy Spuller, Chuch & Georgia Stumpf,
Karen Meyer, Carol & Patricia Bleke, Darlene Wendeln, Danny & Sharon Brewer,
Tom & Cathy Deal, Gerald Kiesling, Doug & Susan Wright, David & Kathy Riley,
Dale & Judy Onken, Jim & Karen Caughey, Marvin & Rhonda Hansen, CLCS Staff,
Brenda Crawford, Jim & Carol Keenan, Ken & Marcia Kehlbeck, Mabel Schwark,
Susan Drattlo, Jake & Kyle Allen, Phil & Jill Borst, Fred & Marge Krampe, Janet Grube,
Paula Fisk, David & Stephanie Pugh, Steve & Pattie Bardonner, Margie Leive,
Charles & Betty Bardonner, Gary & Linda Bugher, Richard & Carolyn Stumpf, Duane Lytle,
Steve Pieper, James & Kristen Schwark, Jim & Susan Richert, Roger & Sally Wetzel,
Dominick & Jessica Valdez, Chuck & Paula Harris, James & Phyllis Birdwell, Bill Beard,
Stanley & Judith Collins, Bill & Chrissi Laut, Mark Hasz, Elise Wolf, Grace Wolf,
Larry & Donna Whitham, Whitham, Hebenstreit & Zubek, Robert & Janet Polk,
Dennis & Kathy Meyer, Richard Weiss, Jackie Schrader, Melvin Wessler,
Terry & Debbie Prenel, Ann Arnold, Michael & Wilma Bauer, Matthew & Brooke Shoup,
Anonymous, Jim & Jan Dunaway, Bill Wittlief, Bob & Rosie Blazek, Pastor Bob & Ruth Armao,
Paul & Kathy Brakke*

Calvary Lutheran School News from Principal Rensner

Distractions

When our focus wanders away preventing our full attention to someone or something we have been distracted. I find that with all that surrounds Christmas at times I am distracted from the manger. Out of the many church year celebrations, Christmas has the greatest number of components and celebrations associated with it. This includes all the secular festivities as well. Christmas lists have long since been made and much shopping has begun. The stores are all primed for the onslaught of gift buyers and travel plans have been made for many. Decorations are beginning to grace our homes and the baking of Christmas time goodies have filled the house with aromas bringing back memories as carols are heard in the background. Distractions- you bet! It is easy to get lost in the "Holiday Season" and lose our focus on Christmas. The Promised Messiah has been born. Hosanna in the Highest. The shepherds immediately followed the praise of the angel chorus and went to find the new born babe. The Magi saw the star and followed it unswervingly. God's gift of love is ours each day. We pray that our attention is focused on the manger as we unwrap gifts, celebrate with family and friends, and enjoy the tastes and sounds of Christmas.

Advent Services

Students of Calvary Lutheran School will be leading our Advent services once again this year. We have incorporated 3 services to help with social distancing demands as well as limiting the number of family members able to gather onsite to 4 individuals. The 7:00 PM services will be streamed for those unable to attend in person.

Wednesday, December 1	5 th -8 th grade students
Wednesday, December 8	2 nd -4 th grade students
Wednesday, December 15	PS 4-5-year-olds, Kindergarten, & 1 st grade students



End of second quarter

Our second quarter will be completed on Friday, December 17. Report cards will be emailed on Friday, January 7. We commend our work into the Lord's Hands asking Him to bless those who teach and those who learn in this place.

Christmas Vacation

Our final day prior to Christmas vacation is **Friday, December 17**. School will dismiss at 3:00PM on that day. School will resume on **Monday, January 3rd**. We ask the Lord to be with all traveling during this Christmas break. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

2022-23 Preschool Kindergarten & First –Eighth Grade Registration Information

Preschool, Kindergarten, First – Eighth Grade registration for Calvary members, returning students and their siblings, and new registrations from the community will begin on January 10th. Our Early enrollment period will continue through February 15th. Families are invited to call and schedule an appointment for a tour during the school day. We are excited as we prepare and plan for the upcoming school year. Help spread the word to coworkers, neighbors, friends, and family. God has blessed us enabling us to be a blessing to others.

State Tax Credit Information

Too Good To Be True?! 50% TAX CREDIT for Indiana tax liabilities!

God has provided a unique opportunity to help fund the Christian education of our Calvary students. The Lutheran Scholarship Granting Organization of Indiana 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 300% of the Federal free or reduced hot lunch guidelines.

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. A Federal charitable deduction may also be realized.

Creative donations

Put your donation on a credit card that offers special incentives. Reward points, airline miles, etc. in addition to the tax savings. Reap the rewards while assisting others to hear God's Word.

Calvary Lutheran School News from Principal Rensner

How may I help? \$125,500.00 needed to fully fund all applications

We are currently about \$57,000 short of this goal. Donations are currently being accepted. Please submit your donation to the church or school office or send directly to the Lutheran SGO of Indiana online by December 31. Please note: You must include the donor form with your donation. Be sure to clearly mark Calvary Lutheran School as the recipient of your donation. Forms are available online at www.LutheranSGO.org.

What happens in the future?

Children receiving a scholarship grant are eligible the following school year to convert this grant to an Indiana State CHOICE voucher. This again significantly reduces 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 restrictions. Your assistance in this program is so greatly appreciated! Your gift is multiplied in so many ways.

National Lutheran Schools Week

Calvary will join with thousands of other Lutheran School students and teachers during the week of January 23 -30 as we celebrate NLSW!! Many exciting activities are planned during this week-long celebration while following our protocols and social distancing precautionary measures. A calendar of events will be distributed following our Christmas Vacation.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – No school

Calvary Lutheran School will be closed on Monday January 17 in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. We ask the Lord to eliminate the sin of prejudice that still exists in our world today. We ask God to reveal "the Dream" of Dr. King to all people.

Trivia Night- January 14

What are the lyrics to the "Gilligan's Island" theme song? What is oichophobia? Start formulating your Trivia Team for our Trivia Night. Teams are to consist of 8-10 players. Team entry fees are \$100.00. Ten different trivia categories consisting of ten questions in each will be the format for the evening. Members of our Student Council and high school youth will be serving refreshments as you play. The fun begins on Friday evening, January 14 at 7:00PM in the gymnasium. A portion of the money raised through this event will be used to assist those attending the National Youth Gathering this summer. Funds will also be gathered to purchase new student tables in the science lab. Invite your high school through adult colleagues, neighbors, friends, and relatives to join you. Let us fill the gymnasium with 20 teams. Fill your team with various trivia category individuals. A great fun filled evening is waiting for your participation. Don't have a team yet? Please sign up and register as an individual. We will place you on a team. Cost per individual is \$10.00.

The answer to November Chronicle's Trivia Question- Spades- King David; Hearts- Charlemagne; Clubs- Alexander the Great; and Diamonds- Julius Caesar. Much more trivia fun awaits you!! See you there!!!

NEWS FROM LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL OF INDIANAPOLIS

Christmas Concert – December 4, 4:00 pm

The Music Department of Lutheran High School invites you to celebrate the season of Christmas at the annual **Christmas Concert** on **Saturday, December 4**. Please join us at **4:00 pm** in LHS' Ruth Lilly Auditorium to hear the Choirs and Bands perform Christmas favorites that focus on the coming of Jesus. The concert is free and open to the public.

Toy Drive – through December 9

Lutheran High School will collect new, unwrapped toys for the RTV6 Toy Drive to give gifts to kids who would otherwise go without this holiday season. Student Council will gather the toys through Thursday, December 9. If you would like to donate a toy, please consider one for a child 13 years or younger. You may bring it by the LHS office or ask a LHS family of your congregation to bring your gift along to school with them. Your joy and generosity will be greatly appreciated!



Communications

WHAT A STORY!

The Communications Ministry Team wants to hear about your experience from a time when you participated in a Calvary Lutheran Church and School event. This might be from a social interaction after a worship service or from a mission trip. What church or school activities have you participated in? What does your Bible Study group mean to you? How many hotdogs did you eat at the Calvary Family Night?

Our church family is quite busy creating memories while helping each other and the community. By sharing our stories, we let others learn about how much fun we have while sharing Christ's love.

Here's my story. I only wish I had some photos to share.

I really enjoy playing card games so when I found out that several Calvary women play Pinochle once a month, I was very excited. I was also a little intimidated since I had no idea how my skills might compare to the rest of the players. I found there were many levels of experience and mine were about average. Everyone was very friendly and there were snacks! I had been playing Pinochle with my husband, aunt and uncle for 25 years so their rules were the only ones I was familiar with. I quickly learned the Calvary ladies have a few minor differences in scoring which actually made the game a bit easier to play. Without realizing it, I ended up sharing a scoring shortcut that my aunt taught me. With Pinochle, each play of the cards can result in zero to four points. When my team wins a hand, I put the cards into one of 5 piles by the number of points in each hand. At the end of the game, I can multiply the number of winning hands by the number of points in each pile then add them together. The idea is to quickly determine how many points (out of 50) each team has. After playing a few hands, one of the other players asked me what I was doing. I wasn't even aware that I was doing something unusual. It was fun to share something new with the group. Sadly, the group hasn't had a chance to get going again since the COVID-19 pandemic eliminated in-person get-togethers. Something to look forward to in the coming months!

Compassion Ministry

Thanksgiving Baskets

I hope you were able to see the overflowing food donations for the Thanksgiving Baskets. It was incredible to see your response and generosity. We were able to make Thanksgiving food baskets for members of Calvary Church, Calvary School, the nearby community, and we'll be donating items to the Emmaus Food Bank to support families in the Fountain Square area. Thank you so much for your overwhelming support of this important ministry. You've touched the lives of many families this Thanksgiving season!

Christmas Gift Cards to Those in Need — Good Sam Fund

Once again Calvary will be giving gift cards to members of our church and school who struggle to make ends meet over the holidays. Your contributions to the Good Samaritan Fund make this possible. Thank you for your generosity during this season!

Compassion Ministry (cont'd)

Christmas Gifts for the Children of Lutherwood — Giving Tree

The Compassion Ministry Team invites you to join us in providing Christmas gifts for the children of Lutherwood. Lutherwood is part of the ministry of Lutheran Child and Family Services of Indiana/Kentucky. It is a residential treatment center that serves boys and girls between the ages of 6 and 21 who are recovering from the effects of abuse, neglect, abandonment, and/or are experiencing chronic behavior and emotional problems. Individual treatment plans are created for each resident's specific emotional issues, with the ultimate goal of reunification with the community and/or family. Kindergarten through 12th grade education is also provided through Indianapolis Public Schools. Your gift will gladden the hearts of children ages 6-11 who find themselves away from home during the holidays.

We invite you to take a gift tag off the tree in the narthex, purchase the item suggested, and return to church UNWRAPPED by **December 12**. Thank you for helping us support these children!!

Outreach Ministry

Free CLCS Coffee Mugs!

Pick up your free Calvary coffee mug in the Calvary church office! These were distributed in September during church services, but we have many more available if you have not received one yet. The Outreach team is providing each adult member of Calvary a coffee mug printed with our logo and our CLCS goals for Engaging People in Christ. Please use your mug at home or at work and we hope it will provide an opportunity to share more about Calvary with your friends and coworkers. It may prompt a conversation or serve as a reminder for us all to pray for the church and school. Many thanks to Don Fisher for designing the graphics for us!



CLCS Mugs/Gifts for Visitors!

These same mugs along with some other Calvary gifts items are available in the narthex for our church visitors. If you meet a visitor at Calvary, please direct them to the coffee desk in the south narthex, or to the table outside the office in the north narthex. Please help us make our visitors feel welcome!

Advent Church Service Visitor Mugs

The Outreach team is partnering with the Seniors group to provide special Christmas coffee mugs and hot cocoa mix for our Advent service visitors. We always have extra visitors at our Advent services when the school children are singing, and we want to have something nice to share with them. Each visiting family will be offered a Christmas themed mug packed with cocoa mix and a list of our Christmas season church service times. Many thanks to the Seniors who do most of the work preparing these gifts and the Outreach team members who distribute the mugs!

Women in Mission

Ladies' Bible Study, Saturday, December 4 8:30 a.m.

This month's study will be from page 24 of the Lutheran Women's Fall 2021 Quarterly "Abounding" and shared by everyone. Join us in the EPIC Library on **Saturday, December 4** at 8:30 a.m.



Extravagant Sharing

The generosity of Calvary is so appreciated at the Sharing Place as they meet the needs of so many on the east side of Indianapolis. In December there will be many ways to give thanks to God through word and deed. There will be no specific Extravagant Sharing collections until January. If you do desire to donate in December, feel free to put your donations on the shelves and the donations will be taken to the Sharing Place or another local food pantry. In January please fill the Extravagant Sharing shelves in the church narthex with boxes of pasta and sauce and canned pork and beans. The needs are many and thanks be to God we can serve others by helping meet those needs.



Kathy, the manager of The Sharing Place of Lutheran Child and Family Services, experienced God at work when Blazek's arrived with their car full of paper goods from the Extravagant Sharing collections in October. She shared with Rosie that not 20 minutes before they arrived, she realized they would have to use some of their funds to buy toilet paper to give out to their clients. That need was met, and none of their funds had to be used. Thank you, Calvary!



LWML—Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Have you become involved in supporting the LWML mission outreaches throughout the world? \$2,150,000 is needed to meet those needs. Yes, that does say over 2 million dollars. Yes, our Mite boxes and checks to LWML, Lutheran Women's Missionary League, do that major work of sharing Jesus love by meeting needs throughout the world. As Martin Luther is quoted as saying, "God doesn't need your good works, but your neighbor does." In 2020 Calvary supported LWML's mission outreaches with over \$1300 through Mite Boxes and checks. So far this year over \$600 has been collected. Could we stretch our support to \$2000 in 2021? Fill and return your Mite Boxes or if you prefer write a check made out to LWML and mail it directly in the envelope provided in the "Lutheran Women's Quarterly." If you put a check in the Mite Box or offering box at Calvary, be sure to still make check out to LWML.

Adult Ministry

Lunch OUT! Wed., December 1, 11:00 am *Tried & True Alehouse*

For our December outing we'll meet at *Tried & True Alehouse*, 2800 South State Road 135 Suite 100, Greenwood (southwest corner of St. Rd 135 and Stone's Crossing.) The party room is reserved for Calvary Lutheran.



Adults of all ages welcome; no reservation needed. Come join us for good food, Christian fellowship and holiday cheer.

Lunch & Learn Christmas Celebration Wed., December 15 11:00 am

Program: The many languages of Perry Township. Jane Pollard, Assistant Superintendent of Perry Township Schools, was administrator of the EL department during the surge of the refugee migration to the district. She will share about the many languages, the challenges for educators, and lessons learned along the way. She will be joined by Lisa Netsch, current English Learners Administrator, who will speak about current and potential future developments.

Baked ham dinners from will be prepared and individually packaged. Suggested donation: \$10. Meals need to be pre-ordered by Dec. 7th. Whether you plan to eat here, take home, or would like to donate a meal to a shut-in, please contact Emily Spelde or the church office.

A Visit from Saint Nicholas is also anticipated. Come join us as we celebrate Jesus' birth. Joy to the World!

Youth Ministry

FLIGHT—High School Youth Group

FLIGHT will not meet in December. We will be back in action on January 2nd!

LAUNCH & SAIL (5th-8th grades)

The all youth camp-in is back! Youth in grades 5-8 are invited for an overnight event at Calvary from **Sat., Dec 11 to Sun., Dec 12**. Youth should bring a sleeping bag, pillow, and anything else that they want to use to make their camp. This can include a tent, air mattress, fort supplies, or whatever else! A pizza dinner will be offered on Saturday night and pancake breakfast will be served early Sunday morning. Snacks will be available throughout the event. At the event youth can enjoy active games in the gym, video games in the youth room, and a movie marathon (high school musical anyone?!). The cost of this event is \$20 per youth. All money raised at the event will help send our high school youth to the National Youth Gathering in Texas this summer. Registrations forms will be e-mailed and sent home after Thanksgiving break. This event is open to youth at the digression of their parents. Youth who are feeling ill should not attend. Masks are encouraged but not required.

Chili Cook-Off and Desert Auction

The chili cook-off and desert auction is scheduled for **Sun., Feb 6** immediately following the late church service. Registration forms will be made available in the church office beginning in January. All money raised from this event will go towards the high school youth's trip to the National Youth Gathering.

Worship Anew

Lutheran Ministries Media, Inc.

Toll-Free: (888) 286-8002 www.worshipanew.org

Sunday 10:00 AM - WHMB-TV 40 Sunday 11:30 a.m. - Direct TV Channel 377

December 2021

December 5, 2021 – Second Sunday in Advent

Psalm 66:1-12; Malachi 3:1-7b; Luke 3:1-14

"Sharing the Word" - Sermon Text: Malachi 3:1-7b - Rev. Paul Shoemaker

John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus. Through our words and actions, we help to prepare the way so others may hear and believe in our Savior.

December 12, 2021 – Third Sunday in Advent

Psalm 85; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 7:18-28

"The Lord is at Hand!" - Sermon Text: Philippians 4:4-7 - Rev. William Mueller

The Apostle Paul is moved by the Spirit of God to write encouraging words to God's beleaguered, but faithful, people. Do not let your current circumstances be the final verdict on God's assessment of you. Instead, look to Jesus and rejoice that the Lord is at hand!

December 19, 2021 – Fourth Sunday in Advent *The Nativity of Our Lord - Christmas Day Observed

Psalm 2; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-14

"Hi God!" - Sermon Text: John 1:1, 14 - Rev. Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer

Hi God! Can you imagine addressing the Lord of the Universe in such a familiar way? When we recognize that He became flesh, that He "moved into the neighborhood" of our messy lives and, through our witness, into the lives of others . . . then we rejoice that He became one of us

December 26, 2021 – First Sunday after Christmas

Psalm 111; Exodus 13:1-3a, 11-15; Luke 2:29-30

"Life After Christmas" - Sermon Text: Luke 2:22-40 - Rev. Thomas Eggold

In the days to come, as the decorations go back into the attic, as the lights come down, and as the tree disappears from the living room, please remember that the Christmas story doesn't end here. And, as we begin a New Year and move forward each day in Christ, we draw closer to the truth that there is life after Christmas.



CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

6111 Shelby Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46227
www.clcs.org
Phone: 317-783-2000

Return Service Requested

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

Senior Pastor: Kurt Ebert	kebert@clcs.org
Associate Pastor: Joshua Reifsteck	jreifsteck@clcs.org
Deaconess: Emily Spelde	espelde@clcs.org
Youth & Family Pastor: Sam Troemel	stroemel@clcs.org
Tamil Indian Ministry: Pastor Udhay Raji	revudhay@hotmail.com
Dir. Of Children's Ministry:	childrensministry@clcs.org
Principal: Stephen Rensner	rensner@thecalvaryschool.org
Dir. Of Connection & Engagement: Kara Hiatt	connections@clcs.org
Admissions Counselor: Jennifer Skojac	admissions@thecalvaryschool.org
Church Secretary: Shari Lipps	churchsecretary@clcs.org
Church Receptionist: Shari Shaker	churchreceptionist@clcs.org
School Secretary: Amy Andre	schoolsecretary@thecalvaryschool.org
Bookkeeper: Tereasa Camin	calvarybookkeeper@clcs.org
Business Manager: Gary Bugher	businessmanager@clcs.org
Church Office & Website: (317) 783-2000 www.clcs.org	
School Office & Website: (317) 783-2305 www.choosecalvary.com	