

# Calvary Lutheran Church



**CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**JANUARY 2016**

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*Sharing the life-changing  
message of Jesus Christ.*

## **A New Church** -Submitted by Pastor Dawn

Because my husband, a Navy Chaplain, had been assigned to the Coast Guard Base, we landed in Waukesha this August. (Well, actually, we live in Pewaukee... But don't tell the Waukesha folks that.) We settled into our house, started looking for a church, and found Calvary (our first stop) by searching for "Lutheran Church" on google maps.

Larry Bonier, the Assisting Minister that day, warmly welcomed us after worship and invited us to join the crowd in the Fellowship Hall. The only word our 8 year-old, Isaiah, needed to hear was "doughnut" and he was sold. Calvary was a warm and welcoming congregation. Worship was well organized and there were Lay Readers and Assisting Ministers and Sunday School teachers and Adult Ed classes... These are the things two pastors notice when visiting a church. It told us that Calvary was a place where people got to practice their faith by leading and teaching in the church and preparing them for life outside the church.

To cover our bases, we visited a few other churches. They were nice enough, but we ended up back at Calvary a few more times. During those weeks we met our Deacon, Terry Trotier. People shook our hands and introduced themselves. They asked if we had any questions and if we needed help finding the Sunday School classes. Your Director of Music, Gene Traas, was gracious enough to let me temporarily join the choir and sing with them for Lessons and Carols. We registered Isaiah for Sunday School and selected an Adult Ed class to attend. I figured by January I'd be back doing supply preaching and helping out at area congregations when I could. Little did I know that God had already figured out where I'd be serving.

After interviews, much prayer, and careful deliberation by your Calvary Leadership and our family, I accepted the position as your Interim Pastor. I am blessed and excited to be here to serve with you as we all faithfully seek God's will for the future of His church.

I'm also excited that you all love this place so much. Even in the midst of transition we felt welcomed and with uncertainty on the horizon, you gathered for worship and focused not on the past, nor on the present, but on God's promise to lead, encourage and bless His church. Keep it up! It's fun to be walking this way together.

## January MOM Lutheran Bible Translators

This group is a long-time partner of our congregation, working to bring God's word in the appropriate vernacular to smaller, remote populations. The translators and their fami-

lies live for extended periods amongst the people, learning the language and gathering the information needed for the translation and publication of the bible.

Your financial contributions to Calvary's Mission of the Month during January go to support the ministry of the Lutheran Bible Translators, in particular the work of the Federwitz

family as well as the Burmeister's and DeLoach's. Use your weekly offering envelope or a white pew envelope to contribute and note, "Mission of the Month" on your check and/or envelope.

Thank you!

lutheran bible translators  
**GOD'S WORD**  
for every language



## What We Believe Here at Calvary

### **Christ-Centered**

We confess the apostolic faith in Jesus Christ according to the Holy Scriptures. We affirm the authority of the Scriptures as the authoritative source and norm, "according to which all doctrines should and must be judged" (Formula of Concord). We accept the ecumenical creeds and the Lutheran Con-

### **Mission-Driven**

We believe that the mission of the Church is to preach the Gospel and to make disciples for Christ. We believe that making disciples - in our congregations, in our communities and nations, and around the world - must be a priority of the Church in the present age.

### **Traditionally-Grounded**

We affirm the ecumenical creeds and the faithful witness of the Church across time and space. We endorse the form and practices of the universal Church that are consistent with Scripture, particularly the office of the ministry and the tradition of worship under Word and Sacrament. We seek dialogue and fellowship with other Lutheran churches and with faithful Christians of other confessions.

## January Food Drive

Thank you to everyone who contributed to Calvary's Cupboard last month. Items collected are taken to the Waukesha Food Pantry. The next Food Sunday is **Peanut Butter & Jelly Sunday**, with collection January 16th and 17th, 2016. Any type of peanut butter or jam/jelly is acceptable. Other items of need are canned fruits, soup, pasta, cereals, and paper products. If you prefer to make a monetary contribution, please mark your envelope or check with the notation, "Food Pantry".

## It's About Our Family

### **Baptisms**

We rejoice with Lindsey and John Peters on the baptism of their daughter, Olivia Joy Peters on Dec. 19, 2015. Olivia's Christian sponsors are Sarah Bahe and Jeff Daline.

### **Thank You!**

This is a heartfelt thank you to my Calvary family for your thoughts and prayers during the year-long battle against lymphoma waged by my son, Steve Swanson. Recent tests show no sign of cancer and we want to share this good news with you, and let you know how grateful we are for your support and caring words.

-Barb Snyder

## Prayers

*Please check the weekly bulletin for those people needing our urgent prayers. If you have any prayer requests, please call or email the church office. We ask for continued prayers for:*

**Ongoing prayer concerns:** Ron Foster; Lee Tyne; Bea Foster; Marge Skarie; Wayne Dieck; Pat Dieck; Mary Moen; Mary Ellen (sister of Craig Busche).

**Shut-Ins:** Dorothy Larsen; Lowell Sonderman; John Ellison; Marge Fuller; Ruth Yankus; Liz Gjenvick; Jean Anderson; Mary Moen; June Johnson; Donna Polizzi; Marge Skarie; Mickey Rash; Bill Rash Jr. (son of Mickey Rash).

### **Contact Information**

#### **CONGREGATION COUNCIL**

Nancy Marsho (Pres.)	262-827-9640
Bob Smith (V.P.)	414-763-3343
Terry Bzdusek (Sec.)	414-475-7665
Andy Schatz (Treas.)	262-373-0535
Rich Baumgartner	262-367-3898
Jim Kalupa	262-784-3114
Chuck Lukasik	262-781-5319
Carolyn Trotier	262-781-5567
Mark Trudell	414-405-7737
Kevin Wahlgren	262-784-0983
Erica Zipp	262-347-9656

#### **BOARD OF DEACONS**

Ron Foster [C-E]	262-782-3222
Grace Gunnlaugsson [A-B]	262-369-3910
Ruby Hauch [F-G]	262-782-5216
Ernie Kretschmann [H-J]	262-782-4989
Karen Pierce [K]	414-422-9302
Keith Pierce [L,N-O]	414-422-9302
Donna Schroeder [M, P-Q]	262-789-9284
Mary Smith [Sa-Sh]	414-763-3343
Terry Trotier [Si-Sz]	262-781-5567
Lydia Trudell [R]	414-704-8699
Carol Roe [V-Z]	262-792-9747
Sue Rowe [T-U]	262-781-0093

#### **STAFF**

Interim Pastor Dawn L. Spies	pastordawn@calvarylc.com
Gene Traas (Music Ministry)	music@calvarylc.com
Holly Novotny (Office Manager)	holly@calvarylc.com
Kris Molitor (Financial Secretary)	kris@calvarylc.com

#### **MINISTRY EMAILS**

Council	council@calvarylc.com
Deacons	deacons@calvarylc.com
Personnel	personnel@calvarylc.com

## **Christmas Decorating!**

*Matthew 5:16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.* On behalf of the Church Life Committee, a big thank you to everyone who stayed after service on November 22 to help decorate the Sanctuary, Narthex and Fellowship Hall. A special thanks to the youth who were a big help with this decorating project!



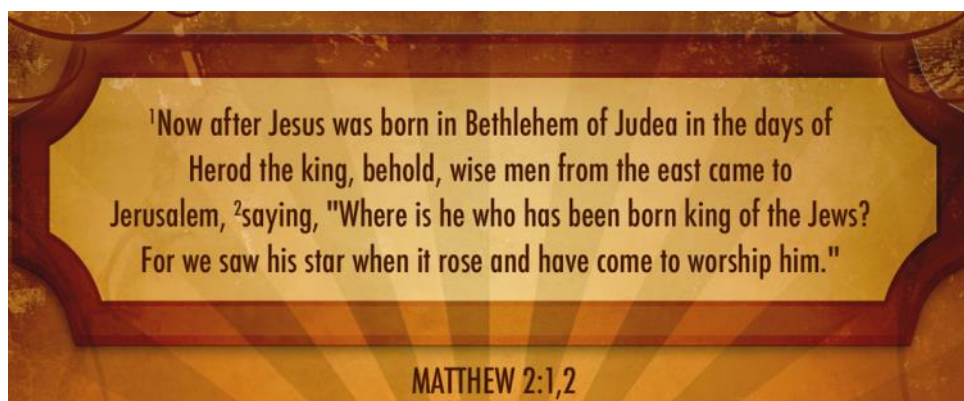
## **Lessons & Carols**



*The Calvary Crossroads* is published monthly. All news articles should be submitted to the church office by the deadline listed on the church calendar. Electronic submissions are preferred (email: [amy@calvarylc.com](mailto:amy@calvarylc.com)).

If you received this issue via email only and would like to receive a printed copy in the mail, please contact the Calvary church office. Printed copies are available at church also.





## **Epiphany and the Epiphany Season**

Epiphany is on January 6, 2016. Epiphany means “to show” or “to make known” and is often called the Gentile Christmas because this is the celebration of when the Magi, who were Gentiles, came to worship Jesus. The Epiphany season continues until the day before Ash Wednesday. The color for most of the season of Epiphany is green. White is used on the Day of Epiphany, on the first Sunday after January 6, when we celebrate the Baptism of our Lord, and on the last Sunday before Ash Wednesday when we celebrate the Festival of the Transfiguration.

## **Online & Automated Giving**

Did you know that Calvary offers the option of online and automated giving? But what, exactly, does that mean?

Online giving gives you the opportunity to give Calvary via an authorized withdrawal from your savings or checking account or with a credit card. This giving can be a one-time gift or an automated monthly gift.

Members who currently use online giving say it is easy and takes the worry out of forgetting their weekly envelope when coming to worship.

Your automated giving can be changed at any time. Here's how to sign up or change your account:

- 1.) Go online to the Calvary website, go to the “Online Giving” button at the bottom of the home page. Follow the directions to enter your information. Please remember your login information to access your account.
- 2.) You can pick up a “Simply Giving” brochure in the church Narthex, fill it out, and attach voided check or savings deposit slip, and return to church office.

Check it out! And as always, thank you for your contributions to Calvary!

### **January Highlights**

*Check the church calendar for complete listings.*

**Jan. 1** - New Year's Day—Office Closed

**Jan. 13**—Council Reports Due

**Jan. 17**—Food Sunday

**Jan. 17**—Annual Report Informational Meeting

**Jan. 24**—Congregation Annual Meeting



# **Bishop's Christmas Message**

Dearest followers of Jesus in the North American Lutheran Church,

Grace mercy and peace to you from God our Father and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ with the words, "Christ is born, O come let us adore Him," I offer you a brief reflection on a subject that has preoccupied my thinking during the entire Advent season.

This persistent thought began with a devotional meditation based on Luke 2:9. "An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them and they were terrified." Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote the following words of reflection based on that text.

*We have become so accustomed to the idea of divine love and of God's coming at Christmas that we no longer feel the shiver of fear that God's coming should arouse in us. We are indifferent to the message, taking only the pleasant and agreeable out of it and forgetting the serious aspect, that the God of the world draws near to the people of our little earth and lays claim to us. The coming of God is truly not only glad tidings, but first of all frightening news for every one who has a conscience.*

His words indicted my conscience and caused me to pause and question my own spiritual life and conviction. **"We are indifferent to the message..."**

When I was asked to write an article about the greatest threat to the Church today, Bonhoeffer's thought shaped my response. The church seems to be under assault from within and without. The lack of biblical and confessional preaching and teaching, combined with a lack of interdependent mutually accountable relationships and institutional preservation, has undermined our capacity for genuine outreach, evangelism and mission. Many within the community of faith are content to attend occasionally and to give sparingly.

In addition, our world promotes relativistic truth, and decides moral issues based on popularity and tolerance rather than biblical mandates and transcendent truth. Freedom of religion is being relegated to freedom to worship. Traditional concepts of marriage and family are being redefined. Throughout the world Christians are being persecuted, displaced and murdered by the terrorist acts of ISIS.

Yet not one of those factors—or all of them together—are a greater threat than the one that Bonhoeffer suggests. The greatest threat to the body of Christ is our indifference, our apathy! It is so easy to blame others and retreat in fear but our own indifference or apathy is slowly eroding, weakening and undermining the faith of individual believers, as well as the capacity of congregations for vibrant ministry and faithful mission.

Apathy or indifference is manifest in several important ways: the loss of zeal, the loss of interest in the spiritual realm, the increasing secularization of both the individual Christian and the local congregation, and a hardness of heart, a state where our excuses replace faithful responses.

The Scripture has a harsh word about indifference and apathy. *"So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth."* (Revelation 3:16) These words of warning are so severe because indifference is incompatible with love! It is impossible to love the Lord with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength and remain indifferent to-

ward Christ. We cannot love others with the love of Christ and remain apathetic toward them. We cannot say we love Christ or others and remain unmoved and unchanged in our attitude and disposition.

Elie Wiesel is a Jewish Holocaust survivor and a Nobel Laureate. Some years ago I heard him speak and will never forget several quotes from his message. He said, *“The opposite of love is not hate; it’s indifference. The opposite of art is not ugliness; it’s indifference. The opposite of faith is not heresy; it’s indifference. And the opposite of life is not death; it’s indifference.”*

When asked about whether he believed an individual could really make any difference in the midst of overwhelming problems, Wiesel said, “There may be times when we are powerless to prevent injustice, but there must never be a time when we fail to protest. The Talmud tells us that by saving a single human being, a person can save the world.”

Every act of love, every expression of encouragement, every word that proclaims the Gospel of Jesus Christ makes a difference. Every disciple of Jesus possesses power in and through Christ, the capacity to make such a difference. The Christian life has always been more than the struggle to survive. It is investing our life in Christ in the lives of others. Living and loving with the certainty that the only life worth living is a life of sacrifice and service for the sake of the ministry and mission of Christ.

We are not indifferent or apathetic about everything. We demonstrate our passion in concerts, in theaters, in football stadiums and basketball arenas, in celebrations with friends and co-workers. I believe the world is longing to experience passionate Christians who demonstrate a profound love for Jesus and for those to whom He has sent us with the Gospel. Love is always passionate towards the beloved. It is this passionate love that Christ has for us that is poured out on the cross for our redemption and salvation. What wondrous love is this! It is a love that compels us to love Christ and our neighbor as our self.

This wondrous love born in a cattle stall and laid in a manger is dispelling my indifference to my own apathy!

“What Wondrous Love is This,” while not a Christmas hymn, has brought me consolation and hope.

*What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul...  
When I was sinking down Christ laid aside His crown for my soul...  
To God and to the Lamb who is the Great I Am, while millions join the theme I will sing...  
And when in death I’m free I’ll sing and joyful be through all eternity....*

We cannot simply strive to change our own attitude and disposition. We cannot overcome our apathy or indifference by simply willing it. This Wondrous Love, this One who gave His life for my redemption and salvation, who gives me life that is eternal is the One who transforms my indifference to passionate love toward Him and all those He came to save.

May the celebration of His birth, the wonder of His love, and the presence of Immanuel, God with us, overcome every manifestation of our indifference and transform it into manifestations of our passionate love for Christ and our neighbor.

In the name of the One who comes to save us from our sin,

Bishop John F. Bradosky

<b>Serving at Worship</b>	<b><u>Jan. 2 &amp; 3</u> <i>Sat. 5p; Sun. 9a</i></b>	<b><u>Jan. 9 &amp; 10</u> <i>Sat. 5p; Sun. 9a</i></b>	<b><u>Jan. 16 &amp; 17</u> <i>Sat. 5p; Sun. 9a</i></b>	<b><u>Jan. 23 &amp; 24</u> <i>Sat 5p, Sun. 9a</i></b>	<b><u>Jan. 30 &amp; 31</u> <i>Sat 5p, Sun. 9a</i></b>
<b>ACOLYTES</b>	Kian Leonard, Rebecca Warber	Connor Morris, Gwen Rian	Natalie Anderson, Emily Berger	Jared Springer, Bobby Vollmar	Connor Morris, Kian Leonard
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	Jan Chesner, Marge Tyne	Ruth Young, Shirley Brodell	Sue Sadowsky	Norene Giuliani	Jan Chesner, Marty Altmin
<b>ASST MINISTER</b>	Scott Langelin	Lee Tyne	Kevin Wahlgren	Kevin Wahlgren, Scott Langelin	Kevin Wahlgren
<b>CHILDREN'S SERMON</b>	Michael Anderson & Daniel Berger	Angie Schatz	Mary & Elise Baumgartner	Mark Myers	Mark Myers
<b>DEACONS (HOSP)</b>	[Sat] Ernie [Sun] Grace, Carol, Terry, Ruby	[Sat] Ernie [Sun] Mary, Grace, Karen, Ruby	[Sat] Lydia [Sun] Mary, Sue, Grace, Donna	[Sat] Lydia [Sun] Carol, Terry, Sue, Donna	[Sat] Sue [Sun] Lydia, Keith, Karen, Ruby
<b>FLOWERS</b>					
<b>GREETERS</b>	[Sat] Anderson, Ketelsen [Sun] Young, Zastrow, Sayas	[Sat] Chesner [Sun] Marsho, Johnson	[Sat] Holman [Sun] Gunnlaugsson, Grosnitz	[Sat] Langelin [Sun] DeBruine, Lau	[Sat] Trudell [Sun] Hirth, Veenendaal, Rooney
<b>LECTOR</b>	Tina Baumgartner	Lee Tyne	Karen Pierce	Sallie Schulz	
<b>POWERPOINT</b>	[Sat] Mark [Sun] Larry	[Sat] [Sun] Sue	[Sat] [Sun] Sallie	[Sat] [Sun] Sallie	[Sat] [Sun] Sue
<b>USHERS</b>	Baumgartner, Brostowitz, Gunnlaugsson, Smith	Thiede, Marsho, Ranthums	Langelins, Lukasiks	Rooneys, Pierces	Zipp, Altmin, Elliot, Grosnitz



**January****Date****Date****Date****Birthdays**

	<b><u>Date</u></b>	Juno, Joanne	7	Tyne, Margaret	13	Duch, Allison	21
Piek, Anthony	1	Kretschmann, Ernie	7	Steiner, William	14	Osowski, Juanita	21
Huettl, Emily	4	Schwenn, Shirley	7	Randar, Haakon	15	Evert, Amelia	22
Veenendaal, Lillian	4	Nyka, Kimberly	8	Thiede, Tom	15	Gall, Jackson	22
Krause, William	5	Corcoran, Carol	9	Wahlgren, Erik	16	Trotier, Terry	22
Marinello, Edward	5	Hauch, Ruby	9	Schmitz, Cora	17	Bassel, Russel	23
Ranthum, Edward	5	Roe, Carol	11	Trotier, Carolyn	17	Shannon, Helen	23
Roush, Jonni	5	Schlieve, Olivia	12	Duckett, Jill	18	Rooks, Cynthia	24
Huettl, Benjamin	7	Burnside, Lynn	13	Nyka, Mark	18	Vollmar, Susan	25

**January****January Anniversaries****Date****Years****Birthdays**

	<b><u>Date</u></b>
Zipp, Bode	25
Dzurak, Irene	27
Iverson, Diane	27
Dentice, Anthony	28
Kern, Amanda	30

Fillhower, Chelsea and Nicholas	5	2
Corcoran, Patrick and Carol	12	52
Hoffman, William and Sarah	19	2
Sutherland, Bruce and Eileen	19	41
Bzdusek, George and Terry	20	42
Heyen, Donald and Fay	21	17
Liu, Sophia and Jiafu	27	15

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>27</b> 9:00 AM Worship 10:10 AM - 10:35 AM Cherub Choir 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM Adult Ed 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM Confirmation Class 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM Sunday School 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM High School GO	<b>28</b> OFFICE CLOSED 4:00 PM Meal Program	<b>29</b> OFFICE HOURS 9 AM to 12 PM 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 6:00 PM Celebration Ringers 7:00 PM Families Anon 7:30 PM Non-Smoking AA	<b>30</b> OFFICE HOURS 9 AM to 12 PM 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast 7:00 PM Alleuia Choir	<b>31</b> NEW YEAR'S EVE OFFICE HOURS 9 AM to 12 PM	<b>1</b> NEW YEAR'S DAY - OFFICE CLOSED 12:00 PM AI Anon	<b>2</b> Name Tag Weekend 5:00 PM Worship
<b>3</b> Name Tag Weekend 8:00 AM Youth & Family Committee 9:00 AM Worship 10:10 AM - 10:35 AM Cherub Choir 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM Adult Ed 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM Confirmation Class 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM Sunday School 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Elementary PATH	<b>4</b> 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM Bible Study	<b>5</b> 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 12:30 PM Women's Ministry Bible Study 6:30 PM Amazing Grace Adult Study 7:00 PM Families Anon 7:30 PM Non-Smoking AA	<b>6</b> 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast 1:00 PM Bible Study	<b>7</b> 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM Quilters	<b>8</b> 12:00 PM AI Anon	<b>9</b> 5:00 PM Worship
<b>10</b> 9:00 AM Worship 10:10 AM - 10:35 AM Cherub Choir 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM Adult Ed 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM Confirmation Class 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM Sunday School 11:15 AM - 12:00 PM Middle School STIR 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM High School GO	<b>11</b> Serenity Inn Meal Program 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM Bible Study 1:00 PM Women's Book Group 7:00 PM Christian Clowns	<b>12</b> 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 12:30 PM Women's Ministry Bible Study 6:00 PM Celebration Ringers 7:00 PM Deacon Meeting 7:00 PM Families Anon 7:30 PM Non-Smoking AA	<b>13</b> COUNCIL REPORTS DUE 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast 1:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Alleuia Choir 7:00 PM Exec Meeting	<b>14</b> 9:30 AM Calvary Knitting Group 2:00 PM Foster Small Group	<b>15</b> 12:00 PM AI Anon	<b>16</b> 5:00 PM Worship
<b>17</b> FOCUS SUNDAY 9:00 AM Worship 10:10 AM - 10:35 AM Cherub Choir 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM Adult Ed 10:30 AM Annual Report Informational Meeting 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM Confirmation Class 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM Sunday School 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Elementary PATH	<b>18</b> 9:00 AM Monday Morning Movie 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM Bible Study	<b>19</b> 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 12:00 PM CROSSROADS DEADLINE 12:30 PM Women's Ministry Bible Study 1:00 PM Rebekah Circle 6:00 PM Celebration Ringers 7:00 PM Congregation Council 7:00 PM Families Anon 7:30 PM Non-Smoking AA	<b>20</b> 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast 1:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Alleuia Choir	<b>21</b> 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM Quilters	<b>22</b> 12:00 PM AI Anon 5:30 PM MS & HS Winter Retreat	<b>23</b> MS & HS Winter Retreat 5:00 PM Worship
<b>24</b> 12:00 AM MS & HS Winter Retreat till 4:00 PM 9:00 AM Worship 10:10 AM - 10:35 AM Cherub Choir 10:30 AM Congregation Annual Meeting - NO CHRISTIAN ED 11:30 AM - 12:00 PM Middle School STIR 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM High School GO	<b>25</b> 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM Bible Study 4:00 PM Meal Program	<b>26</b> 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 6:00 PM Celebration Ringers 7:00 PM Families Anon 7:30 PM Non-Smoking AA	<b>27</b> 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast 1:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Alleuia Choir	<b>28</b> 9:00 AM Crossroads Assembly 9:00 AM Ruth Circle 6:30 PM Men's Ministry Gathering	<b>29</b> 12:00 PM AI Anon	<b>30</b> 5:00 PM Worship
<b>31</b> 9:00 AM Worship 10:10 AM - 10:35 AM Cherub Choir 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM Adult Ed 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM Confirmation Class 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM Sunday School	<b>1</b> 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM Bible Study	<b>2</b> 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 6:00 PM Celebration Ringers 6:30 PM Amazing Grace Adult Study 7:00 PM Families Anon 7:30 PM Non-Smoking AA	<b>3</b> 7:00 AM Men's Breakfast 1:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Alleuia Choir 7:00 PM Christian Ed Committee	<b>4</b> 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM Quilters	<b>5</b> 12:00 PM AI Anon	<b>6</b> Name Tag Weekend 5:00 PM Worship

## Music News

Dear Calvary,

This article will serve triple duty as my occasional article, my (late) quarterly report to Council, and a thank-you note. Long-winded article imminent.

Let's start with the last and work forward – words of thanks. First, I offer many thanks to those at Calvary who showed great generosity toward Laura and me over the course of Advent and Christmas. Your kindness is deeply appreciated. Second, I voice heartfelt thanks to the Contemporary Ensembles, the Celebration Ringers, and the Alleluia Choir, for your efforts (my friend Karen called all of you “intense”) during Advent, Lessons and Carols, and Christmastide. Many of you have said you should be thanking me, not the other way around – just remember, without your help and commitment to the texts and the tunes, I'm little more than a solo act: We don't make the music we make without you.

On to the next item – quarterly report for Council. What more can I say, except that during this 90-day period ending January 5<sup>th</sup> of 2016, music gets offered up at every service, rehearsals are rendered, folks are instructed, the aforementioned instructed are also learning, and there have been no casualties as far as I can tell. I'd say that's a pretty good quarter's work.

My article last February offered two words of advice to Calvary – words I do my best to live by (not always successfully), and words which seem to apply to so many aspects of life. These two words, made famous by noted author Douglas Adams, are supposedly embossed on the cover of *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* in big, friendly letters.

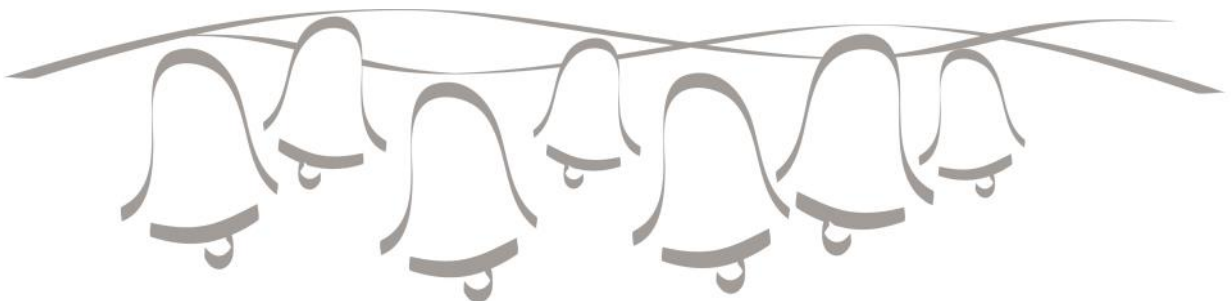
**Don't panic.** These were good words when someone first put them together in the English language; they were strong words when Douglas Adams put them to the *Guide*; and they're still powerful.

When the Seven Marks Society was founded, Pastor Tim Hubert (NALC) was voted as leader. I congratulated him, voicing my appreciation that there was a steady hand at the controls during Seven Marks' first few years.

Don't panic. I do my best to apply these words every day, as I continue with my goals of maintaining a stable presence at Calvary, taking my turn at the controls. Though I may not be contributing completely to the desired course, at least we're heading more-or-less the right direction, and the sky and earth are in their proper places (come on, you knew I'd slip in an aviation metaphor at some point).

Don't panic. There's always some turmoil in the Church (or in a church). I charge all of you – all of us – to keep Calvary on an even attitude, whatever happens, with God's help.

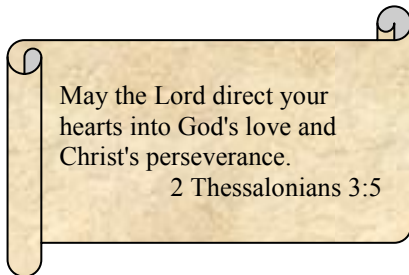
-Gene Traas



## Calvary Lutheran Church

1750 N. Calhoun Rd.  
Brookfield, WI 5305

Phone: 262-786-4010  
E-mail: [calvary@calvarylc.com](mailto:calvary@calvarylc.com)



## **Worship Service/Event Cancellation Due to Weather:**

As we move into winter, worship services and other events will proceed as scheduled unless notice is given otherwise. As always, if you feel you cannot safely proceed to worship/an event, please make the best decision for you and your family. When worship services (or other church events) are cancelled due to inclement weather, it will be announced on TODAY'S TMJ4. As soon as possible, it will also be sent via Constant Contact email. On weekdays, due to inclement weather, the church office may open late or close early during business hours.

**CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH** 1750 N. Calhoun Rd., Brookfield, WI 53005

Email: [calvary@calvarylc.com](mailto:calvary@calvarylc.com) ■ [www.calvarylc.com](http://www.calvarylc.com) ■ [facebook.com/CalvaryLC](https://facebook.com/CalvaryLC) ■ Twitter: @CalvaryNALC

**Calvary Worship Schedule:** Saturday at 5 pm ■ Sunday at 9 am