

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH



Your Weekly E-Newsletter September 24, 2020

This Week's Pondering

Kyle Jones, Director of Faith Formation



Comfort When You Don't Feel Like Praising God

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice." So Paul writes to the Philippians. But doesn't he know what he's asking, no, telling the Philippians, and us, to do? Doesn't he know how impossible it is to *always* rejoice in the Lord? This is the same Paul who will go on to write in Romans 7, "For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep

on doing," right?

While often quoted as a cheerful call to praise God, Paul's words in Philippians 4:9 are hard to swallow in these times. These pandemic times. These times of heightened awareness of injustice. These times filled with fear. These times when anger, division, and vitriol appear as the norm. In these times, when the reign (one could say the terror) of sin, death, and the devil feels unyielding, we feel everything but a desire to praise the Lord, let alone praise him always.

We may intellectually recognize the gospel, the free forgiveness of our sins on account of Christ, and say "Amen" to the daily reality of our baptism. But Paul's words provide little peace when that gospel-knowledge doesn't produce a feeling of joyful praise welling up inside of us and out of our mouths. They accuse as the law always does.

Here, David's words in Psalm 51:15 comfort me: "O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise."

I've hardly been a passionate pray-er. I practice this God-gifted spiritual discipline, but I would hardly say it is a spiritual gift of mine. I struggle to stay focused, juggle the various concerns, and remember ...

Worship Resources

NEW! The Saturday worship service is being recorded so you can watch it on Sunday morning! You can easily access our Home Worship Resources which includes the video of the service, an Order of Worship that outlines the service and a copy of that week's sermon. Click below to access it.

Worship Resources

Online Resources

NEW! "Foretaste of the Feast" Podcast Returns!

Calvary Website

Prior Sermons

NALC Daily Devotion

Evangelism



Bring to Decision

The Choice

- We should look for the opportunity to present the gospel to people. But, we should give them a choice to receive life or death. God is a gentleman; he never forces us to love or serve him. When we look at Jesus' ministry on earth, we see he always gives people a choice. Wouldn't it be awful if you showed someone God's love but didn't give them the choice to receive it?
- Let's pretend your friend has read the seven "Share Jesus Scriptures" and has now responded to the last verse, Revelation 3:20: "Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with them, and they with me." When this last scripture has been read aloud, it is time to ask five more questions.
 1. Are you a sinner? *Romans 3:23*
 2. Do you want forgiveness of sins? *Romans 6:23*
 3. Do you believe Jesus died on the cross for you and rose again? *Romans 10:9-11*
 4. Are you willing to surrender your life to Jesus Christ? *Luke 14:27-28, Matthew 19*
 5. Are you ready to invite Jesus into your life and into your heart? *John 1:12*

Silence and prayer are important. The Holy Spirit is working on the person's heart.

Embrace the Unexpected

Situations may arise that surprise you ... just be calm and work your way through things you have learned.

Be Thankful

- God wants us to be thankful as we watch for opportunities for you to engage people. The Holy Spirit wants to use your faithfulness to bless two people, the person you are sharing with as well as yourself.
- Be ready to share whenever a situation arises.
- Test every opportunity that comes your way. When you find God is moving, join him.
- After you ask the five questions above, remember, be silent and pray! If your friend says yes to Question #5, you may want to lead them through the following prayer. "Heavenly Father, I have sinned against you. I want forgiveness for all my sins. I believe that Jesus died on the cross for me and rose again. Father, I give you my life to do with as you wish. I want Jesus Christ to come into my life and into my heart. This I ask in Jesus' name. Amen."

If you have any questions regarding our Evangelism efforts, please reach out to Tom Thiede (tomwthiede@gmail.com) or Bob Branston (bbranston02@gmail.com).

Affirmation of Baptism
Sunday, September 27 at 8:30 a.m. service



Scott Thomas Anderson

Scott's Bible Verse:

This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God *1 John 4:2 (NIV)*



Preston Bradley Meyer

Preston's Bible Verse:

Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life" *John 6:68 (ESV)*



Jacklyn Rose Warber

Jacklyn's Bible Verse

"But Ruth said, "Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God.
¹⁷ Where you die, I will die - there will I be buried. May the Lord do thus and so to me, and more as well, if even death parts me from you!" *Ruth 1:16-17 (NRSV)*

First Holy Communion
Sunday, September 27 at 10 a.m. service



Xavier Griesse



Gideon Himself



Meredith Huettl



Mady Peters

Sunday School Basics

Worship service times will be adjusted to 8:15 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. to provide an ideal 9:15 a.m. start time to Sunday School with a target end time around 10:05 a.m.

**CLICK HERE for
Sunday School
information and**

Sunday School will resume on October 4, 2020 at 9:15 a.m.

This delayed start date will provide families time to settle into their new school-year routines. This semester of Sunday School will run through at least December.

Before the end of 2020, a decision on what in-person Sunday School will look like for January through May will be made. Prior to the start date, we request that parents register (*use the link at left*) so we can make the necessary room arrangements, obtain the necessary supplies, and take the necessary safety precautions.

**Guest preachers or special celebrations may offer alternative scripture. The SOLA study text will always reference the text that is listed in the 2020 Lectionary published by the NALC/SOLA.*

Worship Updates

WEEKEND WORSHIP SCHEDULE (*through 9/27/20*)

Saturday at 5:00 p.m.
Sunday at 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.



Our worship times will be slightly adjusted to accommodate time for Sunday School, beginning on October 4, 2020 .

The new schedule will be:

Saturday, 5 p.m. (no change)
Sunday, 8:15 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

**Giving & Worship Attendance
September 19 & 20**

	ATTENDANCE
SATURDAY 5:00 P.M.	32
SUNDAY 8:30 A.M.	48
SUNDAY 10:00 A.M.	35

	As of September 20, 2020		
	<u>Month-to-Date</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>
Pledged Offerings	\$ 16,125	\$ 343,172	\$ 346,400
Unpledged Offerings	\$ 1,605	\$ 35,232	\$ 44,130
Income less Expenses	\$ (7,154)	\$ 63,191	\$ 37,404
BASICS	\$ 1,264	\$ 1,504	n/a



Serving at Worship

THIS WEEKEND

17th Sunday after Pentecost

This week's readings

Click below for a link to each reading

[Ezekiel 18:25-32](#)

[Psalm 25:1-10](#)

[Philippians 2:1-13](#)

[Matthew 21:23-32](#)

ASSISTING MINISTER:

- Lynnae Douglas

DEACONS:

- Saturday (5:00 pm): Ed Ramthun
- Sunday (8:30 am): Darlene Louison
- Sunday (10:00 am): Lisa Grossman

USHERS:

- Sunday (8:30 am): Ed Ramthun
- Sunday (10:00 am): Jane Krause

LECTORS:

- Sunday (8:30 am): Scott Anderson, Preston Meyer and Jacklyn Warber
- Sunday (10:00 am): Sallie Schulz

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

- Lynnae Douglas

SPECIAL MUSIC:

- Larry Bonier
- Meredith Huettl

ALTAR FLOWERS:

- Judy Sayas, in memory of David Sayas
- John & Mary Lau, in celebration of their 51st wedding anniversary

ALTAR GUILD:

- Jonni Roush

POWERPOINT TECH:

- **Saturday (5:00 pm):** Jeanette Kalupa
 - **Sunday (8:30 am):** Sue Rowe
 - **Sunday (10:00 am):** Johanna Nelson
-

Our Church Family



New prayer requests: Grace Gunnlaugsson

Prayers of comfort and God's grace to: The family and friends of Alice Schilling (sister of Janet Zastrow) who passed away on September 18.

Ongoing short-term prayer requests: Ka Thou; Chuck Giuliani; Judy Grosplitz; Steve Pitel (brother-in-law of Chuck Giuliani); Else-Marie Westman (daughter of Pastor Ken).Olivia (granddaughter of Megan Sayas' co-worker); Mike Foster (son of Ron Foster); Elizabeth Scott (cousin of Megan Sayas); Elmer Eggert (grandfather of Angie Schatz); John Bradowsky (NALC Bishop Emeritis); Jan Janchan (friend of Jonni Roush); Mary Dresser (Donna Schroeder's daughter-in-law's sister); Shirl Gordon (friend of Cindy Rooks); David Voight (friend of Jonni Roush).

Serving in the Military: Dan Berger (serving in the U.S. Marines); Nicole Wahlgren (serving in the U.S. Army National Guard); Kyle Pierce (son of Karen and Keith Pierce, serving in the U.S. Army); Alex Olson (U.S. Air Force, grandchild of Ardath Olson); Karmen Thomas (friend of Tony and Krista Dentice serving in the U.S. Army); all military chaplains; and all veterans suffering with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

For All Men and Women Serving: Police Officers, Firefighters, Health Care workers and First Responders.

Serving in the mission field: Our NALC missionaries and missionaries everywhere bringing the gospel to the ends of the Earth.

Long-term prayer list: *Calvary members:* Fay Heyen; Bill Jordan; Jeanette Ketelsen; Marge Skarie; Lowell Sonderman; Donna Polizzi; Pat Treutelaar; and Janet Zastrow.

Non-members: Tom Kestly (husband of Judy Kestly); Bill Barwa (friend of Megan Sayas); Doug Haus (brother-in-law of Chet Elliott); Nancy Waters (sister-in-law of Barb Snyder); Christine Elliott (friend of Chet Elliott); Reidun Asland (friend of Pastor Ken and Marcella Nelson); Brad Gabriel (cousin of Jenni Swanson); Jeff Edwards (friend of Ernie Kretschmann); Monica Barchus (niece of Ernie Kretschmann); Michael Rossa (Lucy Dallman's son).

If you have any new prayer requests, please contact the church office at 262.786.4010 or via email to office@calvarylc.com.

Happy Birthday!

Justin Rowe, 9/27
Leah Morris, 9/29
Audrey McGarvey, 10/1
Kris Larsen, 10/2
Angie Schatz, 10/3

Happy Anniversary!

John and Mary Lau, 9/27 (51 years)
Luther and Jessica Himself, 9/29 (19 years)
Wayne and Carole Wegner, 10/5 (57 years)
Norm and Audrey McGarvey, 10/7 (59 years)

Men's and Women's Ministries



Weekly Men's Breakfast
Wednesdays at 7:00 a.m.

Maxim's Restaurant
18025 W. Capitol Drive

The restaurant seating has been reconfigured in compliance with social distancing requirements. Please note the new start time!



Monthly Men's Ministry
Gathering
Thursday, September 24
6:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Room 109

Come for fellowship, food and devotion time. Dinner will be provided. Social distancing will be respected and practiced. If you have any questions, please reach out to Ernie Kretschmann at kretschmann@att.net.



Women's Ministry Book Group
Monday, October 12 - 1 p.m.

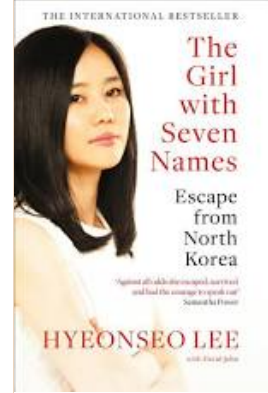
Join the **Women's Ministry Book Group** as they discuss *The Girl with Seven Names* by Hyeonseo Lee.

Here's the review from Amazon.com: An extraordinary insight into life under one of the world's most ruthless and secretive dictatorships – and the story of one woman's terrifying struggle to avoid capture/repatriation and guide her

family to freedom.

As a child growing up in North Korea, Hyeonseo Lee was one of millions trapped by a secretive and brutal communist regime. Her home on the border with China gave her some exposure to the world beyond the confines of the Hermit Kingdom and, as the famine of the 1990s struck, she began to wonder, question and to realize that she had been brainwashed her entire life. Given the repression, poverty and starvation she witnessed surely her country could not be, as she had been told "the best on the planet"?

Aged seventeen, she decided to escape North Korea. She could not have imagined that it would be twelve years before she was reunited with her family.



Community Outreach & Mission of the Month

American Red Cross Blood Drive - October 16th

We are pleased to partner with the Brookfield Central High School Glee Club in hosting their fall blood drive on **Friday, October 16 from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.** Due to space restrictions at the high school to provide safe social distancing for their students, they do not have the extra space at this time to hold their blood drive. We have offered the use of our Fellowship Hall and adjacent space for this important community effort.

Blood donations are down this year due so every donation is important. The Red Cross will take every precaution to ensure a safe environment for all who are involved in the donation process. Masks will be required.

- This drive is open to BCHS students, our Calvary family and the community-at-large.
- Appointments are scheduled every 15 minutes and making your appointment is easy. Click [HERE](#) or call 1-800-RED CROSS. The sponsor code is BCHS.
- All presenting donors will receive a "buy one/get one free" Bundtlet coupon from Nothing Bundt Cakes in Brookfield.
- All blood donations are now tested for COVID-19 antibodies.

Volunteers are also needed to help with some of the pre-screening (taking temperatures, providing instruction on the process, etc.) as well as providing small individually packaged treats for the donors to enjoy upon completion of their blood donation. If you'd like to help, please send a note to Sue Rowe (communications@calvarylc.com).

Thank you for sharing the gift of life through blood donation!



Brookfield Community Blood Drive

Calvary Lutheran Church
1750 N Calhoun Rd

Friday, October 16, 2020
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.



**American
Red Cross**



Cereal Food Drive

The Food Pantry of Waukesha County has a great need for boxes of healthy whole grain cereals. If you'd like to donate a box or two, please drop it off at our Food Pantry collection box, which is located in the east hallway near the classrooms and music office.



Or, you can drop your donation off directly to the Pantry during the hours listed below.

The Pantry accepts donations at 1301 Sentry Drive in Waukesha on the following days/times:

- Monday through Friday from 1-3 p.m.
- Thursday evenings from 6-8 p.m.
- Saturday mornings from 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Mission of the Month: B.A.S.I.C.S.

Our September Mission of the Month is B.A.S.I.C.S. (Brothers And Sisters In Christ Serving). In addition to providing Bibles and Blankets in the Milwaukee area, Calvary will be supporting the Genesis Prison Ministry, which provides for discipleship inside the prison and help on the outside for re-entry.



B.A.S.I.C.S. is a Christian nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that works to strengthen churches and Christian outreach ministries throughout the metropolitan Milwaukee area. The group supports over 15 city ministries such as local partnerships, in-prison and re-entry ministries, community outreach events, recovery programs, youth activities and many others.

It is a well-established and highly regarded organization that's been in existence for over 20 years. It seeks to strengthen the evangelical outreach and growth of local churches, as well as help alleviate poverty and other difficult social problems. By fostering cooperation and teamwork while also connecting with resources, B.A.S.I.C.S. makes each outreach effort more effective.

The Calvary mission of the month donations for September will be supporting two ministries under the B.A.S.I.C.S. umbrella. Bibles written at a third grade reading level, along with blankets to provide comfort and warmth, are distributed to individuals in impoverished areas throughout Milwaukee. The Genesis Prison Ministry offers mentoring and discipleship, as well as a comprehensive, transformational program that assists with housing, employment training, job placement, financial literacy and management to enhance family development.

To support this important Mission for the Month, you may include it in your weekly offering envelope or designate the donation as "Mission of the Month" in your online giving.

This Week at a Glance *(also available on Calvary's website calvarylc.com)*

Friday, September 25

10:30a Janet Zastrow Bible Study Group

Saturday, September 26

5:00p Worship

Sunday, September 27

8:30a Worship - Confirmation

10:00a Worship – First Communion

Monday, September 28

10:00a Bible Study (Pat Dieck's group)

Tuesday, September 29

9:30a Staff Meeting

6:00p Celebration Ringers Rehearsal

6:30p Evangelism Committee

Wednesday, September 30

7:00a Men's Breakfast (Maxim's)

5:45p COFFEE at the Cross rehearsal (Virtual)

7:00p Alleluia Choir Rehearsal (virtual)

Thursday, October 1

9:00a Calvary Quilters

Friday, October 2

10:30a Janet Zastrow Bible Study Group

A few reminders

*The office is open Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. until noon.
The door closest to the office (NW corner) will be open during those hours.
Please check in with the office staff so we know you are in the building.*

Sanctuary Flowers Sign Up

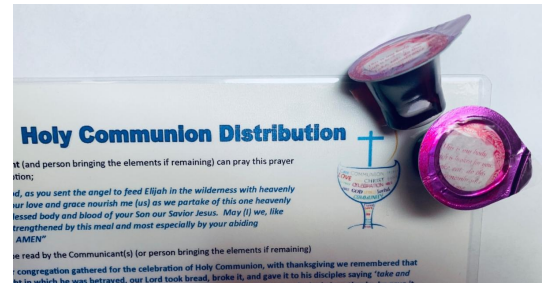
We invite you to sign up for flowers to beautify our altar each weekend.

Flowers are \$35 and may be taken home following the 10 a.m. worship on Sunday morning.

The sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.



Holy Communion Home Distribution Ministry Available



If you are choosing to remain at home during the COVID-19 pandemic, any Calvary member, regardless of age or health, can request consecrated bread and juice from the weekend worship service. A sealed communion "kit", along with simple instructions to prepare you for communion, can be dropped off at your home by a member of our home communion ministry team.

If you'd like to get on the schedule for this important ministry, please contact the church office at 262.786.4010 or via email to office@calvarylc.com. You may set up a schedule of delivery weekly, or less often if you choose.

Our Stephen Ministers are here for you!



Stephen Ministers are congregation members trained by Stephen Leaders to offer high-quality, one-to-one Christian care to people going through tough times. A Stephen Minister usually provides care to one person at a time, meeting with that person once a week for about an hour.

If you, or someone you know, could benefit from this important ministry, please contact [Scott or Peggy Langelin](#) at 262.853.0018.

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH www.calvarylc.com

Regular office hours are Monday-Friday, 8am-noon 262.786.4010

Questions or comments? Email Sue Rowe at communications@calvarylc.com