

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH



Your Weekly E-Newsletter November 12, 2020

This Week's Pondering

Pastor Ken Nelson



"Then the man who had received the one talent came. Master, he said, 'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. So I was afraid and went out and hid your talent in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.'" Matthew 25:24-25

Of all of the parables of our Lord, this is perhaps my favorite. Initially I suspected that was because it was about "giving an account of funds entrusted to you" and the (former) accountant in me lapped this story up – I said to myself "Yep, I love those guys who accounted for every penny, made a profit and by the deadline made a first rate 'financial report' to their employer. Score one for the bean-counters!!" If only a parable could be so easily summed up. Our Lord told so many of them to entice us to return again and again and to say, upon further reading "now wait a minute ... I never noticed this before ... I wonder what this part means."

So it is with the Parable of the Talents. A discovery moment for me was when I was a pastor in North Dakota, and went to see a member of my congregation who was Director of Alumni Relations at the local university. You know what that means of course ... his job was to comb the ranks of alumni to identify large donors! He did his job well. My friend Marv not only knew how to promote his university and ask for donations, he knew how to convey to donors the joy of giving.

The day I met him in his office to ask his advice on a giving campaign at our congregation, for a neat slogan to affix to it, he said to me "Ken ... don't tell me what you need to fund our church's operations next year. Tell me ...

Please click [HERE](#) to read the remainder of this week's Pondering.

Worship Resources

The Saturday worship service is now being recorded so you can watch it on Sunday morning. Click below to access the video.

[Weekend Worship](#)

Online Resources

[Calvary Website](#)

[NALC Daily Devotion](#)

[Online Giving](#)

[Prior Sermons](#)

[Text Study for weekend readings](#)



Serving at Worship

THIS WEEKEND

This week's readings

Zephaniah 1:7-16

Psalm 90:1-12

¹ Thessalonians 5:1-11

Matthew 25:14-30

NEW! Click [HERE](#) for a copy of this week's readings. If you'd like to have a copy to read during worship, you can print them and bring with you.

ASSISTING MINISTER:

- Lynnae Douglas

DEACONS:

- **Saturday (5:00 pm):** Ed Ramthun
- **Sunday (8:15 am):** Lisa Grossman
- **Sunday (10:15 am):** Darlene Louison

USHERS:

- **Sunday (8:15 am):** Tom and Mary Ellen Thiede
- **Sunday (10:15 am):** Chuck and Jan Lukasik

LECTORS:

- **Sunday (8:15 am):** Larry Bonier
- **Sunday (10:15 am):** Lenny Graffin

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

- Megan Schatz

SPECIAL MUSIC:

- Wayne Johnson

ALTAR FLOWERS:

- Carol Roe in memory of her wedding anniversary

ALTAR GUILD:

- Tom and Sue Sadowsky

POWERPOINT TECH:

- **Saturday (5:00 pm):** Lydia Trudell
- **Sunday (8:15 am):** Sue Rowe
- **Sunday (10:15 am):** Sallie Schulz

Christmas Poinsettia Orders

Christmas will be here before you know it. We will again be decorating the altar for Christmas services with poinsettias of many colors. You can choose from red, white or jingle bell (red with flecks of white and gold) flowers (two plants/pot). Each pot is wrapped in a colored foil.

Order forms can be found on the table in the Narthex or in the church office. If you will not be coming into church before the **deadline of December 14**, you can send a note to communications@calvarylc.com with your order, or you can click on the button below to access a form that can be printed and mailed to the church office.

If you have any questions, please call the church office at (262) 786-4010.

Poinsettia Order Form



Christmas Poinsettias

Order Form

Red, white and "jingle bell" (red with flecks of white and gold) poinsettias are available for purchase again this year and will be used to decorate the altar for the Christmas Eve/Day services. The plants are top quality with two plants per pot, wrapped in colored foil.

We invite you to purchase one or more plants by filling out this form and returning it to the church office, along with your check made out to Calvary Lutheran Church, by Monday, December 14. Please note "Poinsettia" in the memo line of your check.

Number of plants @ \$25/each:

RED _____ WHITE _____ JINGLE BELL _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Donor Name(s): _____

Please make arrangements to take your plant(s) home after the December 25 worship or anytime during the week between Christmas and New Year's. Questions? Call the church office at 262.786.4010.

Faith Formation

WHIRLYBALL®



What is **WhirlyBall**? It's the endorphin-inducing answer to your typical outing!

Experience something truly fun and unique as the exhilarating game of **WhirlyBall** combines lacrosse, hockey, basketball, and bumper cars in a game of skill coupled with a touch of chance.

Click here to sign up!



Instead of two separate youth nights in December, middle school and high school students will come together to safely play **WhirlyBall** on **December 13** from 4-5pm.

Please note the following information:

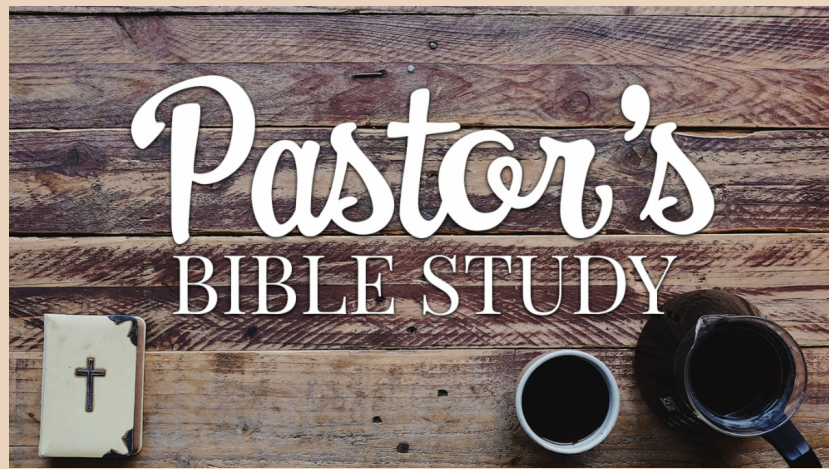
- Please **RSVP by Dec 2nd** (we need to give WhirlyBall our final numbers a week ahead of the event)
- The cost is \$20 per student (due Dec 13). The cost could go down should we have 20 or more participants.

Pastor Ken's Bible Study - Wednesdays at 12:30 p.m.

Join us!

Pastor Ken's Wednesday Bible study resumed on **Wednesdays** at 12:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Seating will be appropriately spaced and masks will be required.

Please note that refreshments will not be provided, but you are welcome to bring your own beverages.



Grateful in All Seasons - Stewardship Campaign



But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other.
-1 Corinthians 12:24-35

As we begin to reflect on and pray about our pledges for 2021, please also consider the donation of your time and talent. You may ask -- *What do spiritual gifts have to do with talents?* While not every talent is a spiritual gift, many spiritual gifts are rooted in talents.

For example, are you the "go-to person" to get things done? Or do you love working with numbers and financial reports? How about leading small groups of people? Those gifts would be considered "administration".

Or maybe your gifts are around serving those in need, whether through a food program, knitting, sewing or servant ministry? Or how about teaching or praying for others? How about reading Scripture during worship, or serving as an usher? Those areas are definitely gifts in the area of "helping others".

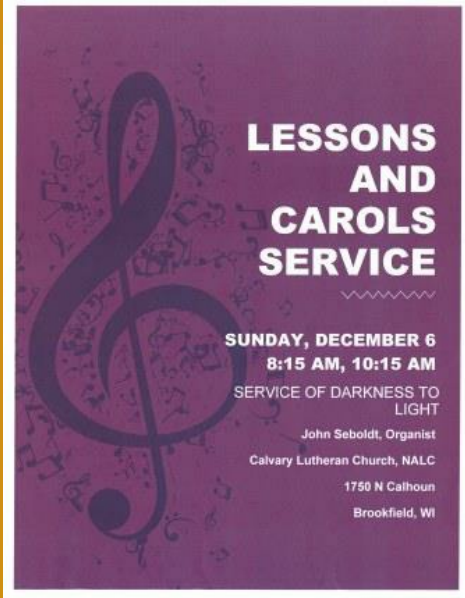
Do you like to pray and know you are helping others spiritually? Have you considered being a Deacon, Assisting Minister or part of our wonderful prayer team?

We should treat our talents as clues to the spiritual gifts we may have, and remember they were given to us by God to help and build up others. The next time you are approached by someone to help with an assignment, project or event, please consider saying "yes". Or, better yet, don't wait for the "ask" from someone and step up to help wherever you are feeling called.

The Church office can help you identify any opportunities that will best mesh with your talents and skills. Call (262) 786-4010 or send a note via email to office@calvarylc.com.

Music Ministry

For our Lessons and Carols Service on Sunday, December 6 at the 8:15am and 10:15am services, we have invited organist John Seboldt. Dr. Seboldt received a



B. A. from Luther College and a D. M. A. (Doctor of Musical Arts) from the University of Iowa. Most recently, he served for 16 years as the organist at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in South Milwaukee.

A second special guest at the Lessons and Carols Service will be violinist Lori Guse. Lori is a freelance musician and is a member of Morning Star Lutheran Church in Jackson, WI.

We hope you can join us for one of these special services during Advent 2020.

Our Church Family

Happy Birthday!

Karen Pierce, 11/12
Dorothy Wise, 11/12
Peggy Langelin, 11/14
Chuck Lukasik, 11/14
Craig Schmidt, 11/15
Gael Hirth, 11/17
Darlene Louison, 11/17
Rich Baumgartner, 11/18

Happy Anniversary!

John and Diane Foley, 11/16 (52 years)
Matt and Heather Wirtz, 11/16 (5 years)
Diane and Paul Speth, 11/23 (52 years)
Bill and Lenny Graffin, 11/24 (31 years)



New prayer requests: Norman (father of Norene Giuliani); Karen (friend of Lydia Trudell)

Ongoing short-term prayer requests: Don Heyen; Nadine Schuelke; Sue Dindorf; George Rooney; Grace Gunnlaugsson; Henry Alba (friend of Glori Kurth); Jerry Locy (father of Cindy Rooks); Olivia (granddaughter of Megan Sayas' co-worker); Elizabeth Scott (cousin of Megan Sayas);

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:* Bill Jordan; Jeanette Ketelsen; Marge Skarie; Lowell Sonderman; Donna Polizzi; Pat Treutelaar; and Janet Zastrow.

Non-members: Mike Foster (son of Ron Foster); Judy Grosnitz; 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); Bill Barwa (friend of Megan Sayas); Doug Haus (brother-in-law of Chet Elliott); Christine Elliott (friend of Chet Elliott); Reidun Asland (friend of Pastor Ken and Marcella Nelson); 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.

Giving and Worship Attendance - November 7 & 8

	Attendance
Saturday 5:00 p.m.	29
Sunday 8:15 a.m.	50
Sunday 10:15 a.m.	50

	AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2020		
	Month-to-Date	Year-to-Date	YTD Budget
Pledged Offerings	\$ 30,814	\$ 386,619	\$ 379,830
Unpledged Offerings	\$3,873	\$40,519	\$46,890
Income less Expenses	\$6,241	\$67,982	\$23,788
October MOM	\$1,064	\$1,324	N/A

Men's Ministry

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

**Maxim's Restaurant
18025 W. Capitol Drive
Brookfield**

The restaurant seating has been reconfigured in

compliance with social distancing requirements.

All men are invited to attend!



November Mission of the Month



Samaritan's Purse/Operation Christmas Child November Mission of the Month

Financial contributions collected in November will support the shipping of the boxes as well as underwriting the cost of *The Greatest Journey* (a book that shares the good news of Jesus Christ that is given to each child receiving a gift box.) Please designate your giving as "Operation Christmas Child" or Mission of the Month.



Thank you to everyone who provided a box or two. We collected ## filled boxes and they were packed up for shipment on Tuesday, November 10. They will be on their way to children around the world in time for Christmas. Any questions should be directed to Marcella Nelson.

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.

Community Outreach

It's time to decorate the Mitten Tree!

Our "mittens, gloves, hats, scarves and socks tree" will be in the Narthex until December 16th.

Please help to decorate the tree with

warm items for all ages (think keeping warm in Wisconsin).

Your donations will be distributed at the annual New Year's Eve Day outreach sponsored by B.A.S.I.C.S. (Brothers and Sisters In Christ Serving). Let's all help keep our Milwaukee neighbors warm!



Winter Clothing Drive for BASICS



New or clean used items

Coats, Jackets and Snow Pants
Sweatshirts and Sweaters
Mittens, Gloves, Scarves and Caps
Long underwear and Turtlenecks
Warm Socks, Leggings and Tights

Men, Women, Teen and Children all sizes

Collection bins are in the Narthex.

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

Friday, November 13

- 10:30a Mission & Outreach Committee
- 10:30a Janet Zastrow Bible Study Group

Saturday, November 14

- 3:45p Little Chimers
- 5:00p Worship

Sunday, November 15

- 8:15a Worship
- 9:15a Christian Education
- COFFEE at the Cross Rehearsal
- 10:15a Worship

Monday, November 16

- 10:00a Pat Dieck Bible Study

Tuesday, November 17

- 9:30a Staff Meeting
- 1:00p Rebekah Circle
- 7:00p Council meeting (virtual)

Wednesday, November 18

- 7:00a Men's Breakfast (Maxim's)
- 12:30p Pastor Ken's Bible Study
- 6:00p Celebration Ringers Rehearsal
- 6:30p Evangelism Committee
- 7:30p "Liturgy of the Ordinary" study

Thursday, November 19

- 9:00a Calvary Quilters

Friday, November 20

- 10:30a Janet Zastrow Bible Study

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. The sign-up sheet for 2021 has been posted.



Flowers are \$35 and may be taken home following the 10:15 a.m. worship on Sunday morning.

You can find the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

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.

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.



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