

# CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH



Your Weekly E-Newsletter December 23, 2020

## This Week's Pondering .....

Pastor Ken Nelson, Senior Pastor



*And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior. For he has regarded the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed."*

Luke 1:46-47

I devoted my remarks last time to Mary, the Mother of our Lord. I wish to add just a few. The question has arisen for me - What 'humble state' was she referring to? If a person is aware of their own "humble state" maybe they're not so humble to begin with. In other words, if you consider yourself humble, you've already given the devil a foothold to puff you up with pride, so enamored are you of so fine a virtue as humility. But I don't think that was what Mary was saying. I think the "humble state" ("low estate" in some translations) of Mary was not the reason she "magnified" the Lord, but that God would have "regard" for her at all. Luther wrote *"her low estate is not to be praised, but God's regard, as, when a prince gives his hand to a beggar, the meanness of the beggar is not to be praised but the graciousness and goodness of the prince."*

We've included a picture of our entire staff in this "Pastor's Pondering" because we all want to thank you – humbly – for how gracious and kind you've been to us this past year. It's been so inspiring to us how ....

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

## Worship Resources

[Livestream Link](#)

## Online Resources

[Calvary Website](#)

[NALC Daily Devotion](#)

[Online Giving](#)

[Prior Sermons](#)

[Text Study for weekend readings](#)

## Worship Updates

**Livestream Available!**



The equipment is in, we have been practicing and we are now ready to do our first livestream on Christmas Eve! If you're not able to join us in person, you can catch the 5:00 p.m. service live ... or watch the recorded video anytime after that. The link to the left will be an easy way to get to the livestream. (It will be available at 5:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve.)

*Special thanks to Kyle Jones for all his work on getting the system up and running. His audio visual talents have indeed been a blessing to Calvary.*

[Link to Christmas Eve Livestream](#)

## Christmas Eve 10pm and Christmas Day 10am Reservations Still Available

Your response has been terrific! Thank you for using the online system to sign up for the Christmas Eve 3:30pm and 5pm services - **all available spots have been filled for these two services.**

There are still openings for the 10pm Christmas Eve or 10am Christmas Day services.

You can click on the button below to sign up. If you are more comfortable calling in your reservation, office staff can take your reservation anytime Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. until noon.



[CLICK HERE TO MAKE YOUR RESERVATION](#)

**Serving at Worship**

# Celebrate the Birth of Our Lord

## CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICES

### 3:30 P.M. SERVICE

Assisting Minister	Lynnae Douglas
Lector	Jon Sayas
Altar Guild	Tom and Sue Sadowsky
Children's Sermon	Kyle Jones
Deacon	Sheila Kershek
Ushers	Ed Ramthun and George Sedivec
PowerPoint	Cindy Rooks

### 5:00 P.M. SERVICE

Assisting Minister	Lynnae Douglas
Lector	Lenni Graffin
Altar Guild	Tom and Sue Sadowsky
Children's Sermon	Kyle Jones
Deacon	Ed Ramthun
Ushers	Tom and Mary Ellen Thiede
PowerPoint	Sue Rowe

### 10:00 P.M. SERVICE

Assisting Minister	Lynnae Douglas
Lector	Sallie Schulz
Altar Guild	Tom and Sue Sadowsky
Deacon	Jonni Roush
Ushers	Chuck Lukasik and Jim Brostowitz
PowerPoint	Johanna Nelson

## CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP SERVICE

### 10:00 A.M. SERVICE

Assisting Minister	Lynnae Douglas
Lector	Marcella Nelson
Altar Guild	Tom and Sue Sadowsky
Children's Sermon	Kyle Jones
Deacon	Lisa Grossman
Ushers	Keith and Karen Pierce
PowerPoint	Lydia Trudell

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**THE POINSETTIAS DECORATING OUR CHURCH THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON WERE DONATED BY THE FOLLOWING CALVARY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS:**



- Caleb & Lynnae Douglas in memory of Jill Douglas
- Bill & Lenny Graffin in memory of Lester & Wilma Graffin and Grace & Colin MacMillan
- Judy Kestly in memory of Tom Kestly
- Linda Kindt in memory of John Rupnick and Rick Kindt
- Darlene Louison in memory of Duane Louison
- Nicole Moritz in memory of Holly Strickland
- Ken & Marcella Nelson in memory of our parents John and Marie Skoglund/Elsie and Cliff Nelson
- Al & Rhonda Rodriguez in honor of our Grandchildren Adelina and Adler Schlaupitz
- Sandi Rupnick in memory of John Rupnick and Rick Kindt
- Judy Sayas in memory of Dave Sayas, Jean & Leo Hock, and Helen & Ray Sayas
- Schlieve Family and Mark & Cocoa Rogers in memory of Pastor Ted Youngquist and John & Ellie Ellison
- Bruce & Ruth Steffens in memory of our Grandson Brett
- Mark & Lydia Trudell in memory of Urban Trudell

The outdoor Christmas wreath decorating the entrance near the garden was donated by Martha & Dale Altmin in memory of their parents and in honor of their grandchildren.

Thank you to Ray Chesner and Matt & Heidi Powers for the new lights on the outdoor tower and the crew for lighting the outdoor tower.

Thank you to those members who helped decorate the church.



## **Serving at Worship**

## **December 26 and 27 - First Sunday after Christmas**

### **PRESIDING MINISTER:**

- Pastor Ken Nelson

### **ASSISTING MINISTER:**

- Lynnae Douglas

### **DEACONS:**

- Saturday (5:00 pm): Ed Ramthun
- Sunday (8:15 am): Ed Ramthun
- Sunday (10:15 am): Terry Bzdusek

### **USHERS:**

- Sunday (8:15 am): Needed
- Sunday (10:15 am): Needed

## LECTORS:

- Sunday (8:15 am): Chuck Lukasik
- Sunday (10:15 am): Cathy Wahlgren

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

- Kyle Jones

## ALTAR GUILD:

- Jonni Roush

## POWERPOINT TECH:

- Saturday (5:00 pm): Lydia Trudell
  - Sunday (8:15 am): Chuck Lukasik
  - Sunday (10:15 am): Sue Rowe
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## Music Ministry



*But Jesus called the children to him and said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. - Luke 18:16*

Nicole Moritz has done a fantastic job in offering a great variety of music this Advent season, and last weekend was no exception, including the children as part of worship.

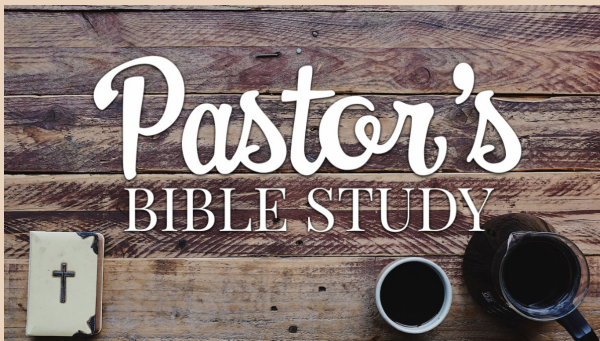


Last weekend the **Little Chimers** made their debut performance on Saturday night, and played again at the second service on Sunday, playing "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star" and "Silent Night". Her son Sean played the Clavinova with a song during the prelude.

Well done, little ones!

## Faith Formation

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



#### Join us!

Pastor Ken's Wednesday Bible study will resume on **Wednesday, January 6** 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.



## SAVE THE DATES!

Sunday, January 10, 2021  
5 p.m. High School Youth  
Group

Sunday, January 24, 2021  
5 p.m. Middle School Youth  
Group



## Our Church Family

### Happy Birthday!

Ed Witzke, 12/23  
Lynette Anderson, 12/24  
Mike Anderson, 12/24  
Wayne Dieck, 12/25  
Joe Grundman, 12/25  
Hannah Ware, 12/27  
Lenny Graffin, 12/28  
Gabrielle Hanke, 12/29  
Judy Klade, 12/31  
Sallie Schulz, 12/31

### Happy Anniversary!

Al and Rhonda Rodriguez, 12/23 (48 years)  
Ron and Jean Holman, 12/26 (67 years)  
Bob and Donna Siderits, 12/26 (60 years)  
Jeremy and Nicole Nowicki, 12/28 (10 years)  
Rick and Carol Treadwell, 12/29 (47 years)

## Prayer Requests



**God's grace and peace to:** the family of Calvary member Ruth Steffens who passed away on December 21; and to the family of Lee Novotny, husband of former Calvary staff member Holly Novotny, who passed away on December 19.

**Ongoing short-term prayer requests:** Herb Grospitz; Diane Foley; Pastor Jerry Wittmus; Ray Chesner, Don Heyen; Nadine Schuelke; Sue Dindorf; George Rooney; Grace Gunnlaugsson; Jan (friend of Judy Sayas); Judy Jorgenson (former member); Pamela Scott (mother of Megan Sayas); Theodore Peelen (grandfather of Tony Dentice); Jim Walters (uncle of Krista Dentice); and Denver Green (friend of Janet Zastrow); Karen (friend of Lydia Trudell); Jerry Locy (father of Cindy Rooks); and Olivia (granddaughter of Megan Sayas' co-worker)

**Serving in the Military:** Ben DeYoung (son-in-law of George and Kay Sedivec, serving in the U.S. Air Force); 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 Grospitz; 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); 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](mailto:office@calvarylc.com).

## Worship Attendance and Giving - December 19 & 20

	Attendance
Saturday 5:00 p.m.	24
Sunday 8:15 a.m.	56
Sunday 10:15 a.m.	67

	AS OF DECEMBER 21, 2020		
	Month-to-Date	Year-to-Date	YTD Budget
Pledged Offerings	\$26,075	\$427,902	\$433,000
Unpledged Offerings	\$6,020	\$53,683	\$70,000
Income less Expenses	(\$1,461)	\$32,864	
December MOM	\$1,108	\$3,473	N/A

## Women's Ministry

**Monday, January 11, 2021**  
**11:00 a.m.**

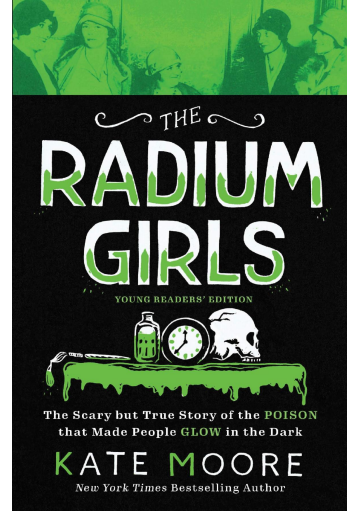
Join us to discuss the January book group selection  
*The Radium Girls* by Kate Moore.



Book overview: The Curies' newly discovered element of radium makes gleaming headlines across the nation as the fresh face of beauty, and wonder drug of the medical community. From body lotion to tonic water, the popular new element shines bright in the otherwise dark years of the First World War.

Meanwhile, hundreds of girls toil amidst the glowing dust of the radium-dial factories. With such a coveted job, these "shining girls" are the luckiest alive — until they begin to fall mysteriously ill.

But the factories that once offered golden opportunities are now ignoring all claims of the gruesome side effects, and the women's cries of corruption. And as the fatal poison of the radium takes hold, the brave shining girls find themselves embroiled in one of the biggest scandals of America's early 20th century, and in a groundbreaking battle for workers' rights that will echo for centuries to come. The Radium Girls fully illuminates the inspiring young women exposed to the "wonder" substance of radium, and their awe-inspiring strength in the face of almost impossible circumstances. Their courage and tenacity led to life-changing regulations, research into nuclear bombing, and ultimately saved hundreds of thousands of lives.



Questions? Please reach out to Grace Gunnlaugsson at [gracemg@mac.com](mailto:gracemg@mac.com).

## Men's Ministry



**Weekly Men's Breakfast**  
**Wednesdays at 7 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!



**Monthly Men's Gathering**  
**Thursday, January 28**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
**Fellowship Hall**

Come for fellowship, food and devotion time. Dinner will be provided. Invite a friend. Social distancing will be respected and practiced; face coverings are required.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Ernie Kretschmann at [kretschmann@att.net](mailto:kretschmann@att.net).

## December Mission of the Month: Seminary Funds





In December we raise up a vital Mission of the Month supporting the training of pastors for service in the North American Lutheran Churches. We have been blessed to have Lynnae Douglas with us this year as a pastoral intern. Lynnae and her husband Caleb are both graduates of the North American Lutheran Seminary in Amhearst, Pennsylvania.

Why is this important? The NALC is growing and the need for pastors trained for our Synod is crucial to us and congregations like ours in the NALC. Current pastors in other Synod traditions have received training in preparation for serving in NALC congregations; however, many of those pastors are nearing retirement. The NALC has grown from 17 congregations at inception to over 440.

Initially there was only one seminary in Amhearst, PA; however, due to growth and demand, the Lutheran Institute of Technology in Brookings, SD also trains pastors for the NALC. We have a goal this year to increase our giving from \$5,000 to \$7,000.

Please prayerfully consider an end-of-year gift in support of these vital seminarians. 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.

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*Are you interested in attending seminary?* Local congregations like Calvary are the source of future seminarians.

We need to identify, encourage and support prospective seminarians as they consider their educational choices. Calvary's Endowment Fund is poised to do just that. Up to one-third of its annual disburseable funds are available for tuition support of Calvary's members who attend seminary.

*Pictured: Lynnae Douglas at her graduation from the North American Lutheran Seminary in 2018. Caleb graduated from NALS in 2017.*



**This Week at a Glance** (also available on Calvary's website [calvarylc.com](http://calvarylc.com))

**Friday, December 25**   **CHRISTMAS DAY**  
10:00a   Worship

**Saturday, December 26**  
5:00p   Worship

**Sunday, December 27**  
8:15a   Worship  
10:15a   Worship

**Monday, December 28**  
9:30a   Pat Dieck Bible Study Group

**Tuesday, December 29**  
9:30a   Staff Meeting

**Wednesday, December 30**  
7:00a   Men's Breakfast (Maxim's)

**Thursday, December 31**

**Friday, January 1**   Happy New Year! (Office is closed)

**SAVE THE DATE: ANNUAL MEETING ON JAN. 31 AT 9:30 A.M.**



The church office will be open on  
December 24 and 31 from  
8 a.m. until noon.

**The office will be closed on  
Christmas Day and New Years Day.**

### **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 in the Narthex.

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

## Severe Weather Announcements



While we are enjoying milder November weather, we can't forget that winter is coming. And with that, inclement weather could necessitate the cancelling of worship.

In the event this should happen, you will receive an e-mail stating that the church is closed. We will also be sharing this with WISN-TV 12 and FOX6 so that it will be included in their scrolling list and on their website of closures.

## 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](mailto:office@calvarylc.com). You may set up a schedule of delivery weekly, or less often if you choose.



Regular office hours are Monday-Friday, 8am-noon 262.786.4010  
Questions or comments? Email Sue Rowe at [communications@calvarylc.com](mailto:communications@calvarylc.com)