

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH



Your Weekly E-Newsletter December 3, 2020

This Week's Pondering

Pastor Ken Nelson



"Who hopes for what he already has? But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently." Romans 8:24b-25

One does not need to look far to find evidence that the words "hope" and "wait" are seldom used in isolation - one without the other. Hope has vision – as Paul suggests in Romans 8 – somehow it "sees" what is not there, but since "it's" not there,

hope...waits. I have been making my way through several Advent devotions this week, and I've come across quite a few of them that speak to how hope and waiting walk this world in tandem. A writer by the name of Anne Lamott wrote that *"hope begins in the dark"* – which is why Christian hope is centered in the cross of Jesus. The cross not only represents human hope for the world to come but also the hope of God in and for the world. Ms. Lamott adds that hope is a sort of *"revolutionary patience."* Hope won't give up...hoping. God won't give up on us – the cross is proof of that.

The Christian season of Advent was established well over 1500 years ago. It usually gets started in our country right after holiday of Thanksgiving, which is a coincidence I suppose but also a bit unfortunate. Most of us are just emerging from our holiday turkey and stuffing induced stupors when Advent begins – so we're a bit unprepared for its call to active waiting. Usually by the weekend we get a little momentum rolling but then tend to laser focus on Christmas and its joy. Advent seems like an imposed restriction on that joy and let's face it, we're not ...

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](#)

What is the history of the Advent wreath and what do the different colors mean?



The Advent wreath is a Christian tradition that symbolizes the passage of the four weeks of Advent in the liturgical calendar of the Western church. It is traditionally a Lutheran practice, although it has spread to many other Christian denominations.

The concept of the Advent wreath originated among German Lutherans in the 16th century. However, it was not until three centuries later that the modern Advent wreath took shape. Johann Hinrich Wichern (1808–1881), a Protestant pastor in Germany and a pioneer in urban mission work among the poor, is recognized as the inventor of the modern Advent wreath in the 19th century. During Advent, children at the mission school Rauhes Haus, founded by Wichern in Hamburg, would ask daily if Christmas had arrived. In 1839, he built a large wooden ring (made out of an old cartwheel) with 20 small red and four large white candles. A small candle was lit successively every weekday and Saturday during

Advent. On Sundays, a large white candle was lit.

The custom gained ground among Protestant churches in Germany and evolved into the smaller wreath with four or five candles known today. Advent wreaths are circular, representing God's infinite love, and are usually made of evergreen leaves, which "represent the hope of eternal life brought by Jesus Christ". Within the wreath are candles that generally represent the four weeks of the Advent season as well as "the light of God coming into the world through the birth of Jesus Christ". Each of the candles can be given its own significance as well; in one version of such interpretation, the candles specifically symbolize the Christian concepts of hope (week one), peace (week two), joy (week three) and love (week four). Another interpretation states that the first candle is the Messiah or Prophecy candle (representing the prophets who predicted the coming of Jesus), the second is the Bethlehem candle (representing the journey of Joseph and Mary), the third represents the shepherds and their joy, and the fourth is the Angel's candle, representing peace.

Many Advent wreaths also have a white candle in the center to symbolize the arrival of Christmastide, sometimes known as the "Christ candle." It is lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. The Christ candle is colored white because this is the traditional festival color in the Western Church.

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Advent_wreath

**Original Advent wreath
as designed by Johann
Hinrich Wichern**



The North American Lutheran Church has created

a wonderful Advent Devotional.

You can access it by clicking on the photo below or copies will be available on the table in the Narthex.



THIS WEEKEND
2nd Sunday of Advent

**Lessons & Carols at both
services on Sunday**

PRESIDING MINISTER:

- Pastor Ken Nelson

ASSISTING MINISTER:

- Lynnae Douglas

DEACONS:

- Saturday (5:00 pm): Sheila Kershek
- Sunday (8:15 am): Glori Kurth
- Sunday (10:15 am): Darlene Louison

USHERS:

- Sunday (8:15 am): George and Kay Sedivek
- Sunday (10:15 am): Jane Krause

LECTORS:

- Sunday (8:15 am): Larry Bonier, Ruth Brostowitz, Sallie Schulz
- Sunday (10:15 am): Bill Graffin, Lenny Graffin, Chuck Lukasik

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

- Lynnae Douglas

SPECIAL MUSIC:

- Wayne Johnson, Larry Bonier, Jenny Brostowitz, Celebration Ringers, Chris and Jessica Dudzik, Lori Guse, Diane Knappe, JoAnne Krause

ALTAR GUILD:

- Jan Lukasik

ALTAR FLOWERS:

- Kalupa family in memory of Gabriele Muth

POWERPOINT TECH:

- **Saturday (5:00 pm):** Cindy Rooks
- **Sunday (8:15 am):** Sue Rowe
- **Sunday (10:15 am):** Chuck Lukasik

Worship Updates

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Reservation System



To ensure a safe environment in the Sanctuary for the Christmas Eve and Day worship services, we are asking everyone to sign up for the particular service they will be attending. There will be space limitations for each time slot, so be sure to sign up early.

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.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE TIMES: 3:30 p.m., 5 p.m. and 10 p.m.
CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE TIME: 10 a.m.

[CLICK HERE TO MAKE YOUR RESERVATION](#)

Christmas Poinsettia Orders Are Due 12/14

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.



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.

Faith Formation - Winter Retreat February 5-7, 2021

Where is the Winter Retreat held?

Camp Timber-lee in East Troy, WI

Who can go?

Students currently in middle school & high school

What's the cost?

\$150 per person

\$50 deposit is due now (the remaining \$100 is due by January 31, 2021.) *If cost may be an issue, please let Kyle know either in person or via email.*

Parents please note the following: Should winter retreat be canceled due to government action or changes to government-issued public health guidance, including but not limited to state shelter in place orders, government restrictions on group sizes, or closure of schools, churches, and/or Timber-lee, then we will have the option to be refunded any deposits paid or transfer deposits to a future reservation.

What is Camp Timber-lee's COVID-19 Plan

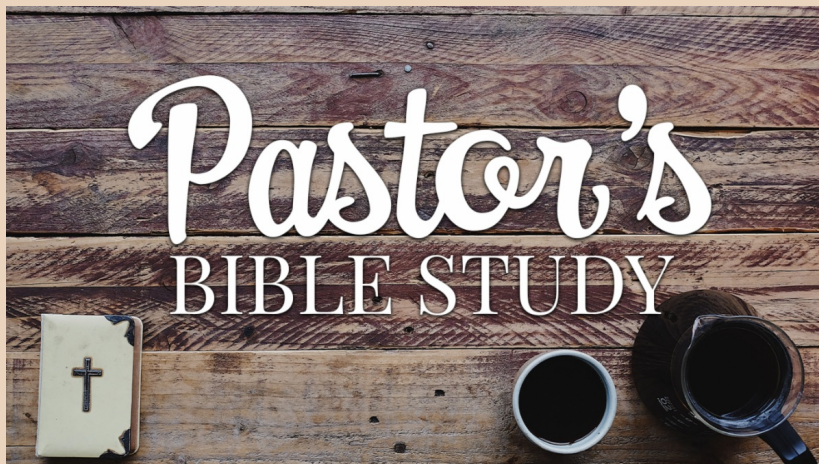
Camp Timber-lee's COVID-19 Plan was developed in conjunction with our Communicable Disease Plan (CDP) to preserve the camp experience while protecting our camp population.

Final details, such as departure/return time, packing list, and more, will be forthcoming.



[Click here to register for the Winter Retreat](#)

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.

Music Ministry - Special Event

Christmas Concert - Thursday, December 3rd at 7:30 p.m.

Come hear the **Lakeshore Quartet** play exhilarating Christmas music in a special concert at Calvary! The quartet includes "Calvary's own" **Katherine Messer** (*daughter of Pam Corcoran Messer*), violist extraordinaire; **Ian Wasserman**, a Milwaukee-based cellist who has performed with the Sheboygan Symphony

Orchestra and PianoArts of North America; and Kristian and Ernest Brusabardis of the famously musical Brusabardis family, who have been tremendously involved in the MYSO and MSO, among many other ensembles (several siblings have been finalists and winners of Stars of Tomorrow).

Christmas Selections Include:

- Christmas Carol Medley (Jingle Bells, Away in a Manger, We Three Kings and Joy to the World)
- Deck the Halls (jazzy)
- Carol of the Bells
- Winter Fest (based on Vivaldi melodies)
- Christmas Concerto Grosso - Corelli
- Selections from The Nutcracker - Tchaikovsky
- Oh Holy Night
- We Wish You a Jazzy Christmas

The beauty of familiar seasonal melodies is elevated by musicianship at stellar levels. Don't miss it! Seating within the Sanctuary will be socially distanced and face coverings will be required at all times. Come early - if we reach capacity, we will have to turn folks away.

Thursday, December 3, 2020 7:00 p.m.

LAKE SHORE STRING QUARTET Christmas Concert

Kristian Brusubardis, violin
Ernest Brusubardis IV, violin
Katherine Messer, viola
Ian Wasserman, cello

Calvary Lutheran Church, NALC
1750 N Calhoun Road
Brookfield, WI
(262) 786-4010
www.calvarylc.com

Our Church Family

Happy Birthday!

John Foley, 12/5
Nadine Schuelke, 12/11
Caleb Liu, 12/14
Amanda Kalupa, 12/15
Brian Kretschmann, 12/15
Bob Smith, 12/15
Ray Chesner, 12/17
Donnie Dentice, 12/17
Pat Treutelaar, 12/18
Ingrid Nelson, 12/19
Judy Sayas, 12/19

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 Caitlin (sister of Lauren Beeson/KyleJones) who passed away unexpectedly on November 29; and to the family of Edith Kedrow, long-time Calvary member who passed away on November 27.

New prayer requests: Ray Chesner, Sue Bellin (friend of Terry Bzdusek); Pamela Scott (mother of Megan Sayas); Lee Novotny (husband of Holly Novotny)

Ongoing short-term prayer requests: Don Heyen; Nadine Schuelke; Sue Dindorf; George Rooney; Grace Gunnlaugsson; Marlene Hartman(mother of Cindy Zilske); and Mona Connelly (sister-in-law of Sue Rowe); Theodore Peelen (grandfather of Tony Dentice); Jim Walters (uncle of Krista Dentice); and Denver Green (friend of Janet Zastrow); Karen (friend of Lydia Trudell); 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 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.

Worship Attendance - November 28 & 29

	Attendance
Saturday 5:00 p.m.	24
Sunday 8:15 a.m.	33
Sunday 10:15 a.m.	45

Monday Morning Movie

Join us to watch a delightful movie, *"This Beautiful Fantastic"* on **Monday, December 7 at 9:30 a.m.** The movie will be shown in the Sanctuary where everyone can be safely socially distanced.

Refreshments will not be provided; please feel free to bring your



own cup of coffee or water.

Here's a quick synopsis of the movie: A contemporary fairy tale revolving around the unlikely friendship between a reclusive young woman with dreams of being a children's book author and a cantankerous widower, set against the backdrop of a beautiful garden in the heart of London. Bella Brown is a beautifully quirky young woman who dreams of writing and illustrating a successful children's book. When she is forced by her landlord to deal with her neglected garden or face eviction, she meets her nemesis, match and mentor in Alfie Stephenson, a grumpy, loveless, rich old man who lives next door and happens to be an amazing horticulturalist.

Questions? Please reach out to Grace Gunnlaugsson at gracemg@mac.com.

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!

Community Outreach

It's time to decorate the Mitten Tree!

There's still time to participate! 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). Men's caps, gloves and mittens are a special need at this time.



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!

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.

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 at right: Lynnae Douglas at her graduation from seminary in 2018. Caleb graduated from seminary in 2017.



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

Friday, December 4

10:30a Janet Zastrow Bible Study Group

Saturday, December 5

5:00p Worship

Sunday, December 6

Lessons & Carols at both services

8:15a Worship

9:15a Christian Education (no High School mtg this week)

10:15a Worship

Monday, December 7

9:30a Monday Morning Movie

Tuesday, December 8

9:30a Staff Meeting

6:00p Executive Committee

7:00p Deacon Meeting

Wednesday, December 9

Council Reports are Due

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

12:30p Pastor Ken's Bible Study

6:30p Advent Vespers Service

7:15p Celebration Ringers Rehearsal

7:30p "Liturgy of the Ordinary Study"

Thursday, December 10

9:30a Calvary Knitting Group

Friday, December 11

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 in the Narthex.**

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

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