

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH



Your Weekly E-Newsletter February 4, 2021

This Week's Pondering ...

Pastor Ken Nelson, Senior Pastor



"I tell you the truth", Jesus answered, "before Abraham was born, I am!" At this they picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus hid himself, slipping away from the temple grounds. John 8:58-59

The preceding verse is the culmination of a rather testy exchange between our Lord and some Jewish leaders. The whys and wherefores of the argument

center around Jesus' claim to authority, and the leaders thought he was getting a little big for his britches.

They said, "Look, who do you think you are?" If Jesus had called himself a prophet, that may have been that. If he'd said he was a man like Moses, he'd have turned heads but might have been left alone or laughed off. But our Lord went for broke so to speak – and said he was greater than Abraham, their "father". In fact, he far preceded him, all but saying his "Father" was their God! That was enough – the stones were already being foraged for and gathered up by these irate leaders to do Jesus in on the spot!

There is a profound subtlety in this text. Jesus, in referring to himself, uses a form of an absolutely unmentionable name – Yahweh. "*Before Abraham was ... I AM*" is an introduction of sorts, not simply a comment on parentage or age. Jesus called himself the great "I AM", the God who revealed himself to Moses on Mount Sinai in fire and in the law. But John does more than that ... well Jesus actually. In his gospel are found the "I AM" statements of our Lord – "*I am the Bread of Life ... the Way, the Truth, and the Life, the Resurrection and the Life, as well as 'I AM the Light of the World'*". In Lent, they make for particularly good promises to dwell in. These will be used in succeeding weeks as part of our introduction to Taizé worship, which our Music Director Nicole Moritz writes about in "Nicole's Notes" in this week's *Connections*.

I am grateful to her and our musicians for again taking on this

Worship Resources

[Live Stream Link](#)

Online Resources

[Calvary Website](#)

[Foretaste of the Feast Podcast](#)

[NALC Daily Devotion](#)

[Online Giving](#)

[Prior Sermons](#)

[Text Study for weekend readings](#)

ambitious new style of worship. The five weeks following Ash Wednesday, beginning on February 24, will be a very “cross centered” worship – that is what Taizé is and what makes it so appropriate for Lent.

For those of you who experienced our Advent Vespers services in December, you know how deeply meaningful the use of ...

Click [HERE](#) to read the rest of this week's message.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION - Annual Meeting



RESCHEDULED DATE
Calvary's Annual Meeting will be held on
Sunday, February 21 at 9:30 a.m.
in the Sanctuary.

There will NOT be Christian Education or a 10:15 a.m. service that day. In the event the meeting is cancelled due to

inclement weather or other unforeseen circumstances, the meeting will be held the following Sunday, February 28 at 9:30 a.m.

To maintain social distancing during the meeting, please sit in the pews marked for the 10:15 a.m. service. Face coverings will be required. Materials to sign into the meeting will be placed on tables outside the entrance to the Sanctuary.

Nominating Committee Members Needed

Under our By-Laws, we need four members of the congregation for the 2021 Nominating Committee whose role is to identify three incoming Council members for 2022. If you are willing to serve on the Nominating Committee, you can reach out to Brad Meyer (Council President) or the church office (office@calvarylc.com). The tasks of this committee do not necessarily require in-person meetings and do not require a large time commitment.

Worship Information and Updates

WORSHIP LIVE STREAM NOW AVAILABLE!

Can't make it to worship? We are now live streaming the 8:15 a.m. service on Sunday mornings, and it's *almost* like you're with us in person.

You can access it at any time from the home page of our website (www.calvarylc.com), or by using the link below.



[Link to Weekly Live Stream](#)

February 6 & 7, 2021
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Serving at Worship

PRESIDING MINISTER:

- Pastor Ken Nelson

ASSISTING MINISTER:

- Lee Tyne

DEACONS:

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

USHERS:

- Sunday (8:15 am): Tom and Mary Ellen Thiede
- Sunday (10:15 am): Needed

LECTORS:

- Sunday (8:15 am): Cathy Wahlgren
- Sunday (10:15 am): Bill Graffin

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

- Megan Schatz

ALTAR GUILD:

- Jonni Roush

POWERPOINT TECH:

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

Music Ministry



Thank you to Don and JoAnne Krause for the donation of a new digital piano in our Sanctuary. It is an awesome gift to the church and we are all very grateful for this upgrade to our music program.

You may notice that Nicole can now sing our hymns and songs away from being seated at the keyboard, as she can pre-record her music to accompany her. This beautiful new instrument of

worship will be dedicated this weekend at all services.

Taize Lenten Worship This Year

We invite you to partake of a singular contemplative prayer experience during our journey through **Lent**. We will be using Holden

Prayer Around the Cross, "a flexible order for contemplative prayer . . . developed at the Holden Village retreat center in Washington state," it borrows deeply from the Taize traditions of simplicity and space for silence before God.

So what is Taize worship, then? The Taize Community is located in Burgundy, France, where an ecumenical monastic community was founded in 1940 by "Brother" Roger Schutz. During its 80-year run, it has birthed an entire tradition of prayer and music and attracted the attention of thousands of Christians (from all denominations) as a destination of pilgrimage. Much more information is readily available on the internet, if you search for "Taize Community," "Taize Worship," or "Brother Roger."



The introduction describes it as "evening services that include scripture readings, prayers, silence, and an opportunity to kneel or sit near a large cross, light a candle, and pray.. Because these services take place in near darkness, the music used is simple and easily learned without the aid of printed resources. Eyes are closed or focused on the flickering candles at the cross; worshipers are free from the need to follow notes and words on a page. Short songs and brief refrains . . . are sung repeatedly as the gathered community meditates on a simple phrase that serves to focus and facilitate prayer."

What should you expect? An opportunity to step back from life's busy rhythms, to be quiet and still before God, to wait on His voice, and to bring our own thoughts, praise, and petitions to Him - a deeply meaningful experience in your walk with God. The music is simple, mostly familiar and repetitive, allowing your mind to lift away from harsher realities and focus on the peace of Christ. If you'd like to get a sneak peek at what a Taize service looks like, check out this video from St. Paul's Basilica in Toronto using this [link](#).

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." John 14:27

Giving and Worship Attendance - January 30, 2021

	Attendance
Saturday 5:00 p.m.	40
Sunday 8:15 a.m.	Cancelled
Sunday 10:15 a.m.	Cancelled

Faith Formation

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



Join us!

You're invited to join Pastor Ken's mid-week Bible study every Wednesday 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 beverage.

Middle & High School Winter Retreat

This weekend, seven middle and high school students will be heading down to Camp Timberlee in East Troy to get away from their usual routines to relax, have fun, and spend some intentional time in God's word and their faith.

Please pray for safe travel and a strengthening of faith for Natalie and Scott Anderson, Preston and Addison Meyer, Josh Morris, and Matt and Megan Schatz as well as their chaperones, Sue Meyer and Kyle Jones.



Our Church Family

Happy Birthday!

Jim Marsho, 2/5
Erwin Ramthun, 2/5
Tina Baumgartner, 2/5
Johanna Nelson, 2/7
Diane Speth, 2/7
Garry Gillespie, 2/8
Diane Knappe, 2/13
Philip Voss, 2/14
Eleanor Koster, 2/15
Lydia Trudell, 2/16
Wayne Johnson, 2/18
Carolyn Gillespie, 2/19
Connor Voss, 2/21
Sue Becker, 2/23
Bobby Vollmar, 2/24
Jim Brostowitz, 2/25
Luther Himself, 2/25
Eli Douglas, 2/28

Happy Anniversary!

Sue and Mike Rowe, 2/14 (40 years)

Prayer Requests



New prayer requests: Dave DeBruine (son of Judy DeBruine); Sheila Bryan (sister of Sue

Sadowsky); Jenna Slattery (friend of Sue Sadowsky)

Ongoing short-term prayer requests: Bill Krause, Mike Santell (brother-in-law of Judy Sayas); Pastor Jerry Wittmus; Don Heyen; Nadine Schuelke; George Rooney; Grace Gunnlaugsson; Rebecca Cornell (niece of Pastor Ken and Marcella); Debbie and Jens Douglas (sister-in-law of Lynnae Douglas); Debby (friend of Judy Sayas); Dale Solberg (friend of Ken and Marcella Nelson); Pamela Scott (mother of Megan Sayas); Theodore Peelen (grandfather of Tony Dentice); Jim Walters (uncle of Krista Dentice); Denver Green (friend of Janet Zastrow); Karen (friend of Lydia Trudell); Jerry Locy (father of Cindy Rooks); Olivia (granddaughter of Megan Sayas' co-worker).

Serving in the Military: Kevin Butler (son of Heidi Powers, serving in the U.S. Army); 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:* Diane Foley; 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.

Monday Morning Movie

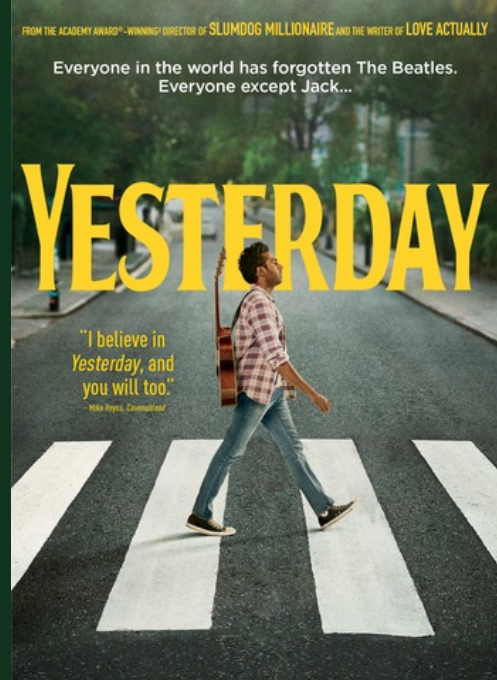
Monday, February 22 – 9:30 a.m.

Join us as we watch the movie “**Yesterday**” on the big screen in the Sanctuary. If you enjoy the music of the early Beatles, this will be a treat. It's an entertaining movie - here's a short recap:

“Jack Malik was just another struggling songwriter . . . but that was yesterday. After a mysterious blackout, Jack discovers he is the only person on earth who remembers The Beatles!

As he rockets to fame by passing off the Fab Four's songs as his own, Jack risks losing Ellie – the one person who has loved him and believed in him from the start. Before the door to his old life closes forever, Jack must decide if all he needs is love, after all.”

Join us and bring a friend!



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!



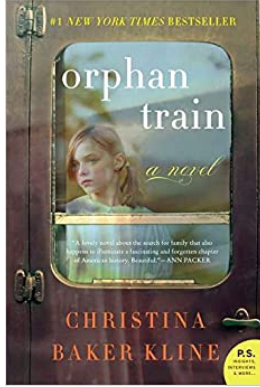
Monthly Men's Gathering
Thursday, February 25
6:00 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

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.

Women's Ministry

Women's Book Group - February 8
1:00 p.m. - Fellowship Hall



"The Orphan Train"

Between 1854 and 1929, so-called orphan trains ran regularly from the cities of the East Coast to the farmlands of the Midwest, carrying thousands of abandoned children whose fates would be determined by pure luck. Would they be adopted by a kind and loving family, or would they face a childhood and adolescence of hard labor and servitude?

February Mission of the Month - Youth Missions



The picture above is from the 2019 high school mission trip to the Virginia/West Virginia border. There, Calvary high school students joined other students from across the country to serve the local community by doing light construction work on homes in the area. They repainted houses, they tore down and rebuilt porches and wheelchair ramps, and they even recoated roofs of mobile homes.

They grew in relationships with each other, with the other students they met, and with the residents they served, most of whom are no longer able to do or afford repairs to their homes. They also spent intentional time in God's word and in worship and grew in their faith.

Every year at Calvary we set aside one of the Missions of the Month for student and youth missions. The high school mission trip is a transformative experience for the students who participate. But the cost of an average mission trip can be steep. Calvary has always tried to minimize the cost to families, but to do that takes a congregation of people willing to support students. And Calvary is one of those congregations.

The registration fee for the mission trip this year is \$468 per participant (students and adults). We ask parents to pay \$250 of that and Calvary aims to cover the rest to make it possible for as many students as possible to participate. While the fee covers food, lodging, and a myriad of other things while we're on location, the overall cost of a mission trip also includes vehicle rental, gas, hotel rooms, and meals while we travel to and from our place of service. It can cost upwards of \$8,000 to take 10 people (8 students and 2 adults) on a mission trip. This year's trip will be to Gilbert, South Carolina from June 18 - 27, 2021.

The students of Calvary are blessed to be members of a congregation that firmly believes that money should not be an obstacle for students called to serve God and their neighbors on a mission trip. As the Director of Faith Formation, I cannot thank you enough for praying for and supporting our students and providing them opportunities to grow in faith through service.

So please remember that when you give to the February Mission of the Month in support of youth missions you are providing more than an opportunity to better the lives of the individuals and communities our students serve, but providing a chance for them to grow ever closer to the God who draws them near in baptism and forgives their sins again and again through the blood of his Son.

In Christ,

Kyle G. Jones

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

Thursday, Feb. 11, 2021
8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.



American Red Cross

**BLOOD
DRIVE**

We are again partnering with the Key Club at Brookfield Central High School to host their February Blood Drive. (Due to COVID restrictions and the re-allocation of larger spaces for classrooms, they do not have the space available to host this drive as they have in the past.) As a bonus, Amazon is thanking donors with a \$5 Amazon.com gift card by email. You can book your appointment to donate blood at www.redcrossblood.org.

Volunteers will be needed to help with screening and check-in. If you can spare an hour or so to help, please email Sue Rowe with your availability. (communications@calvarylc.com)



Did you know we have a food pantry collection box in the back hallway near Nicole's office? Food items (*especially the "Big 8" items*) are always needed and can be placed into the pantry box at any time.

These items are used for individuals who stop by the church looking for food assistance. Surplus items are donated to the Waukesha Food Pantry for their distribution to the community.

Please check expiration dates on items being donated to make sure they are not past date.



The "Big 8" items most needed are:

- Canned fruits (esp. pineapple and mandarin oranges)
- Shelf stable protein (stews, tuna, chicken, spam, tofu)
- Rice - brown, white and boxed mixes
- Chunky soup (ready-to-eat)
- Canned pasta with meat
- Shelf stable almond or soy milk
- Soaps, laundry detergent, toilet paper

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

Friday, February 5 Youth Winter Retreat
10:30a Bible Study (Janet Zastrow group)

Saturday, February 6 Youth Winter Retreat
5:00p Worship

Sunday, February 7 Youth Winter Retreat
8:15a Worship
Sunday School has been cancelled

Monday, February 8 Serenity Inn Meal Program
1:00p Women's Book Group

Tuesday, February 9
9:30a Staff Meeting
11:00a Endowment Committee
12:30p Bible Study (Pat Dieck group)
6:00p Executive Committee
7:00p Deacon meeting

Wednesday, February 10 COUNCIL REPORTS DUE
7:00a Men's Breakfast (Maxim's)
12:30p Pastor Ken's Bible Study
5:30p Celebration Ringers Rehearsal

Thursday, February 11 BROOKFIELD CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL BLOOD DRIVE
9:30a Calvary Knitters

Friday, February 12
10:30a Bible Study (Janet Jastrow group)

A few reminders



Severe Weather Announcements

With this week's snowfall, we are reminded that weather can definitely impact traveling to church. 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.



The right side of the Sanctuary (as you face the altar) is equipped with a hearing loop system which transmits an audio signal directly into a hearing aid via a magnetic field. This greatly

reduces background noise, competing sounds, reverberation and other acoustic distortions that reduce clarity of sound.

The church office is open **Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. until noon.** The door that is closest to the office (NW corner) will be open during those hours.

Office Hours

Please check in with the office staff so we know you are in the building.

Most hearing aids are equipped with a t-coil and connecting to this system is an easy switch on the hearing aid. If you need assistance during worship with this system, please reach out to an usher or any staff member.

The office phone number is (262) 786-4010. Feel free to leave a message if you call after hours and we will contact you the next day.

Sanctuary Flowers Sign Up

We invite you to sign up for flowers to beautify our altar each weekend. **The sign-up sheet for 2021 is posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex.**

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



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, 8 a.m. - noon 262.786.4010

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