

# Calvary Comment



**Pastor Paul & Phyllis Zwarich**



**Calvary Lutheran Church  
January 2021**

Happy New Year!!! 2021 is almost here. For some of you, it is scary how quickly the year 2020 disappeared. But for other people, you cannot wait to turn the page and get this year over with and say goodbye to the year 2020. Since March, life has been turned upside down. Social distancing, masks, at times limited supplies of toilet paper and paper goods, cancelled vacations, zoom meetings and classes, etc., etc., what a year it has been. Who knows what the year 2021 will bring?

In all seriousness, who knows what tomorrow will bring? If you have ever worried or fretted about the future, God has given us a powerful verse in the Old Testament Book of Jeremiah to help us through these periods of anxiety.

The Prophet Jeremiah had a good reason to be worried about the future. Day by day Jeremiah took a beating because he stood up for God's truth and proclaimed God's Word. But God lifted Jeremiah's eyes up to see the future and to know the truth about what was in store for him.

God said to Jeremiah (just as God as telling us) "11For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope." Jeremiah 29:11 NRSV Talk about comforting and encouraging words.

God is in control. The corona virus is not in control. Yes, we may have some sleepless nights. And yes, we may have to deal with illness and death and even more cancelled events due to the virus. But these things are passing, God does have a plan for us to prosper.

As children of God, we are called to live in His promises and not fret about tomorrow. If we turn to God and ask for His forgiveness for all our sins, we will never be weary even as we experience suffering in our lives.

Because we have Jesus, we have sure hope of heaven. Because of Jesus, we have a future. Because of Jesus, we have been set free from all sin, shame, sorrow, and sadness. Because of Jesus, we do not have to worry about what the year 2021 will bring. Because of Jesus, we can live lives full of compassion and justice today even as we journey through the darkness of this world.

As Paul wrote in his letter to the Ephesians while in prison, I now write to you as we face the pandemic together, "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as Christ God forgave you." Ephesians 4:32

Blessings to you as we journey together in the Year 2021. *Pastor Paul*

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# Church Council

The council 's January monthly meeting was postponed . Therefore, we don't have any approved minutes to report this month. Thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBERS 2021	
President: Fritz Leifeste	Vice President: Chris Kinsey
Secretary: Linda Ortegon	Treasurer: John Ulrich
Finance: Joyce O'Connell	Worship: Bee Rose
Fellowship: Dorothy St. Germain	Service & Justice: Marie Williams
Evangelism: Ann Helm	

## Start the New Year with *Prayer*

Prayers for Healing and Strength		
<b>Danny McLaughlin</b>  <b>Glady Jones</b>  <b>Rev. Moon</b> Grace Allen's dad  <b>Ollie Holland</b> Joyce O'Connell's great-granddaughter  <b>Doris Wendland &amp; all</b> of The family and friends of <b>Marvin</b> <b>Wendland</b>	<b>Tulisha Bennett</b> Ann Marie's mother  <b>Cody Scott</b> Mark Mitchell's nephew  <b>Norma &amp; James Kahlig</b>  <b>Karla Hariman</b> Foot surgery  The family of <b>Crista Pumfrey</b> Pastor Paul's niece	<b>David Van Houten</b> Phyllis Zwarich's son  <b>Bill Handley</b> Phyllis Zwarich's brother-in-law  <b>Kenneth Hutson</b> Phyllis Zwarich's boss  <b>Amanda Boring</b> Leifeste's niece  <b>Margie Rose</b> Hank Rose's mom
In the Military		
<b>Jessica Arnold</b> <b>Turner Bickford</b> <b>Ross Bogard</b> <b>Alex Conover</b>	<b>Brandon Cross</b> <b>Zach Fleming</b> <b>Pedro Montañez</b> <b>Austin Seamands</b>	<b>Kristy Simon</b> <b>James Walton</b> <b>Curtis Williamson</b> <b>Adam Zucker</b>
Our Shut-ins		
<b>Conway Ahrens</b> <b>Helen Brandenberger</b>	<b>Barbara Fumagalli</b> <b>Irene Hunter</b>	<b>Travis Raab</b> <b>Lee Rose</b>

### LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.



**Bee Rose**  
**Team Leader**

# Worship

In this trying time of separation and anguish, I would like to remind everyone that you still have the Lord Jesus who though you may not notice it, blesses each of us everyday and probably multiple times. We just get so involved in life that we may miss some. With that said, I would like to start all of you paying attention to those blessings. At first you may have to really look but it will get much easier as time goes by. Now, when you find/notice a blessing then put a coin of your choice in a container that will be your Thank offering container.

My thought is that we can make our Thank offering service the one just prior to our semi annual meeting. Then the congregation can decide the best use of these donations. Oh, and this is completely voluntary.

On another note if anyone can't make it to church and doesn't have the where withal to partake of Communion during the Zoom service, please let me know or you can let Shelly in the office know and I'll be glad to try and get Communion to you.

And now, I know you all have been waiting for the second installment of the acrostic P.R.A.Y. particularly since I missed last month, mea culpa. So without further ado here is R.

## REPENT: The Second Step in Effective Prayer

In the last devotional we began to look at what makes for effective prayer by using the acronym P-R-A-Y. The first step is praise. Today, I want to focus on the second letter of our acronym, "R", which stands for repent.

By repentance in prayer, I mean taking the time before God to search your heart and repent of anything that has come between you and Him. Psalm 19:12-13 expresses it well: Who can understand his errors? Cleanse me from secret faults. Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins; let



them not have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and I shall be innocent of great transgression.

Verse 12 begins with the question, "Who can understand his errors?" The psalmist is telling us, "You will not always know when you do something wrong. You will not always know when you get into an area that is not right."



(Continued on p. 4)

(Continued from p. 3)

What David is pointing to are the secret faults and presumptuous sins which can still have dominion over you—even though you may not be aware that what you did was wrong.

For example, sometimes we can allow attitudes to get into our hearts that we don't realize are inconsistent with God's character. Or sometimes we can do and say things that are detrimental, not only to us, but to others, and not really understand the damage we have done.

How do you deal with these sins? You come before God and say, "God, put the spotlight on anything in my life that has raised a barrier between You and me, and I will repent of it."

So when you pray, ask God to reveal any sin in your life you may be overlooking. God will honor your heart of repentance.

A psalm of David

But who can discern their own errors? Forgive my hidden faults. Keep your servant also from willful sins; may they not rule over me. Then I will be blameless, innocent of great transgression.

Psalms 19:12-13 NIV

<https://bible.com/bible/111/psa.19.12-13.NIV>

DATE	Greeter	Usher	Acolyte	Assistant Minister (Liturgist)	Communion Assistant	Reader (Lector)	Technology Assistants	Flowers
Jan 3	Jo McCormick	John Ulrich			Leon Thane	Betty Thane		
Jan 10					Elaine Welty	Valerie Bluthardt		Bluthardts
Jan 17	Pam Ulrich	John Ulrich			Ann Helm	Phyllis Zwarich		
Jan 24					Joyce O'Connell	Valerie Bluthardt		Fritz & Margaret Leifeste
Jan 31					Ann Helm			Hank & Bee Rose

## Christmas POINSETTIAS 2020

Given by...	Given to...
John & Pam Ulrich	To the Glory of God
Hank & Bee Rose	In memory of those passed
Shelly Salling & Tom Tate	To the Glory of God
Pastor Paul & Phyllis	To the Glory of God
Marie Williams	To the Glory of God & Thanks for Family
Norma Kahlig	To the Glory of God
Joyce O'Connell	To the Glory of God & in Memory of Werner & Celia Gerlach & Frieda G. Stelling
Ervilene Kuhlmann	In memory of Kathryn Kuhlmann
Ida Walter	To the Glory of God
Blossom & James Parry	To the Glory of God

## VOLUNTEERS

If you would like to serve as a *worship assistant*, please contact Bee Rose, or you can sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

The new *flower chart* is up for 2021. Please sign up if you'd like to provide flowers.

Thank you!



# Education



**2021**  
**CONFIRMATION**

Information will be coming soon for the New Year!

*Epiphany*

*Epiphany is January 6th, twelve days after Christmas.*

*Epiphany is derived from the Greek word meaning to show or reveal. Christ was revealed!*

*It celebrates the arrival of the Magi (Three Wise Men) who visited Jesus. We see their visit as a sign that Christ's message is for all nations.*



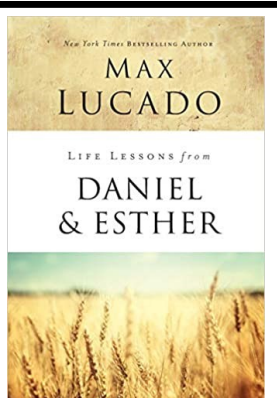
**Ann Helm**  
**Team Leader**

# Evangelism



**BIBLE STUDY**  
with  
**Pastor Paul**  
"Life Lessons from Daniel & Esther"  
By Max Lucado

**Tuesday, Jan. 12th**  
**6:30pm on Zoom**



**Women's Bible Study**  
will resume  
**Wed., Jan. 6**  
**6pm via Zoom**

**Contact Barbary Walker for information:**

[babswalker07@gmail.com](mailto:babswalker07@gmail.com)

Thanks!

Marie Williams  
Team Leader

# Service & Justice

"What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God."  
Micah 6:8

Dorothy St. Germain  
Team Leader

# Fellowship



**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

- 2 Landen Simon
- 9 Doris Wendland
- 11 Ann Helm
- 11 Rosalee King
- 21 Abigail Scott
- 21 Curt Tucker
- 22 Jeannie Mild
- 23 John Rowoldt
- 26 Julius Bricker
- 31 Denise Cooley



**JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES**

1/2/2009  
**Dave & Sassy Puckett**


1/24/1970  
**Fritz & Margaret Leifeste**

**GOLD myrrh & incense**

**Bible Quiz**

In the story of the Magi, what word is used to give a sense of Jesus' age when the wise men visited? What does it tell us?

- A. "baby"; Jesus was still a newborn in a manger
- B. "child"; when the wise men visited, Jesus had grown past infancy
- C. "youth"; Jesus was probably between 10 and 14
- D. No word is used to suggest Jesus' age at the time of the wise men's visit.



Answer: B (See Matthew 2:1-12.)



I am grateful for all the get well, sympathy, Thanksgiving & Christmas cards over the last few months. Thank you all for the many prayers & phone calls. I appreciate your kindness so very much. Love,  
Ida Walter



*When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.*  
Matthew 2:10, ESV

\*When you get a chance, please check your mailbox in the fellowship hall. We use the boxes to distribute devotional booklets, some cards, a few newsletters and various items.

\*The shipment of devotional booklets, "Christ in our Home" is delayed. We will get them to you as soon as they arrive.

\*The prayer list for strength & healing will be reset in January. Please email [secretary@calvarysa.org](mailto:secretary@calvarysa.org) to add a prayer request.

THANK YOU

# JANUARY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Dec. 27 Christmas 1 10am Worship Service	28 AA group 5:30pm Pastor's Day Off	29 AA group 5:30pm	30	31 AA group 5:30pm	1 AA group 5:30pm HAPPY NEW YEAR	2
3 Christmas 2 10am Worship Service	4 AA group 5:30pm Pastor's Day Off	5 AA group 5:30pm	6 6pm Ladies Bible Study--Zoom	7 AA group 5:30pm	8 AA group 5:30pm	9
10 Baptism of Our Lord 10am Worship Service 11:30 Pastor in Miles	11 AA group 5:30pm Pastor's Day Off 6pm Church Council Meeting Zoom	12 AA group 5:30pm 6:30 pm Pastor's Bible Study Zoom	13 6pm Ladies Bible Study--Zoom	14 AA group 5:30pm	15 AA group 5:30pm	16
17 Epiphany 2 10am Worship Service	18 AA group 5:30pm Pastor's Day Off	19 AA group 5:30pm 6:30 pm Pastor's Bible Study Zoom Virtual town Hall w/ Bishop 10:30am	20 6pm Ladies Bible Study--Zoom	21 _AA group 5:30pm	22 AA group 5:30pm Newsletter Deadline	23
24 Epiphany 3 10am Worship Service	25 AA group 5:30pm Pastor's Day Off	26 AA group 5:30pm 6:30 pm Pastor's Bible Study Zoom Tri-Theological Conference 25 & 26	27 6pm Ladies Bible Study--Zoom	28 AA group 5:30pm	29 AA group 5:30pm	30
31 Epiphany 4 10am Worship Service	Feb. 1 AA group 5:30pm Pastor's Day Off	2 AA group 5:30pm 6:30 pm Pastor's Bible Study Zoom	3	4 AA group 5:30pm	5 AA group 5:30pm	6

# Calvary Lutheran Church

We strive to recognize and nurture the Christ in ourselves and each person that we encounter along the way. Our church is a thriving community of believers, and lovers of the word of God. Calvary Lutheran has a long tradition of outreach and service to its members and the community. We hope you will join us for service on Sunday to experience for yourself the fellowship of Christ.



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PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

