

DECEMBER 2021



# Calvary Comment

Calvary Lutheran Church San Angelo, Texas



Pastor Paul & Phyllis Zwarich



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Council...2,3
- Evangelism...4
- Fellowship...5
- Worship...6
- Service & Justice...7
  
- Education & Birthdays...8
- Calendar...9



### From the Pastor

*“And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ‘Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!’” Luke 2:13-14*

These are the familiar words of Christmas. They take us to the fields of Bethlehem where the angels had just announced the birth of the Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord. Then the angels directed the shepherds on where to find Him, in the unlikely location, a manger.

Finally, after sharing the wonderful news, the angels joined their voices together and sang *“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors.”*

What a fitting response to all that had just taken place. The angels could have put it another way and sang **“God gets the praise, and you get the peace.”** But the message would have been the same.

Yes, God deserves the praise for all that God has done. Salvation was God’s idea. Salvation is given to us according to God’s plan. Salvation is a gift given to us from God above with no strings attached. Salvation is God’s desired outcome for us. So yes, we defiantly should join the angel chorus and give God the praise and the glory.

Come and join us on Wednesday Evenings at 6pm as we give God the praise and glory at our Mid-Week Advent services. You can participate either in-person or on zoom or Facebook. Our theme this year will be *“Christ our Prophet, Christ our Priest, Christ our King, and Christ our Redeemer.”*

Christmas Eve Services will be held on December 24 at 7pm and will include a service of light. You can participate in person or on zoom or Facebook.

I want to wish you all **A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!**

Pastor Paul



# Church Council



**Linda Ortegon**  
**Council Secretary**

## Church Council Meeting October 2021

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on the 11<sup>TH</sup> day of October by the Council President Joyce O'Connell. Pastor Paul gave the devotion from the 6<sup>th</sup> Chapter of John. The ray of light comes down from heaven that gives light to the world. We crave a word, handshake, a hug. Something that fills our heart with love and satisfaction. So let us pray as John wrote, "Give us the bread of God for we are dying without it". God hears our prayer and smiles. Pastor opened with a prayer.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Joyce O'Connell, Ann Helm, Linda Ortegon, Dorothy St. Germain, Bee Rose, Leon Thane, John Ulrich, Marie Williams and Pastor Paul Zwarich.

**MINUTES:** Joyce motion to accept the September 13, 2021, Calvary Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes. Marie moved to accept the minutes. Bee second the motion. The council approved the September Calvary Lutheran Church Council Minutes.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** John Ulrich. The Treasurer's report was accepted as presented.

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Leon Thane presented the report for September. Bee motioned to accept. Marie second the motion. The council accepted the report as presented.

### CORE TEAM REPORTS

**Education:** Heidi Wierzowiecki. Absent.

**Fellowship:** Dorothy St. Germain. Thanksgiving Dinner is scheduled for November 21, 2021.

**Service and Justice:** Marie Williams. Ronald McDonald House is no longer accepting can tabs. It was suggested the money collected so far for the sale of the aluminum can tabs be donated to Ronald McDonald House January 2022.

**Worship:** Bee Rose. The Committee will be selecting music for December worship services and hymns for the next quarter.

**Evangelism:** Ann Helm. Evangelism committee will meet September 22, 2021, to finalize the "Halloween Truck & Treat" event scheduled for October 30, 2021. Mark will meet with Chris and John about responding to Facebook comments. While Gary's been gone, Betty and Leon are doing the bread run. Ann and Kara are delivering items to Project Dignidad. They also made eleven contacts, nine of whom lived on the street. Ouida volunteer to be our representative for Project Dignidad.

**PASTOR'S REPORT:** Pastor Paul thanked the council for his appreciate gift. Pastor had two in Person, (Zoom and Facebook) Sunday Worship Services. Joyce led two services. Nine people received Communion at Rio Concho Nursing Home. Seven office visits. Two Sunday Adult Bible Studies on the Book of Philippians. Three Internship Supervision meetings. There has been two Budget Committee Meeting. He attended the Pericope Study with the Southeastern Synod on September 14, 2021. Pastor attended the Faithful Innovation Meeting held on September 18th, 2021. Pastor was on vacation September 25, 2021 – October 03, 2021. The Men's Breakfast Bible Study is scheduled for October 09, 2021. The next Faithful Innovation Meeting is on October 14, 2021. The next the Pericope Study with the Southeastern Synod is scheduled for Octobers 18, 2021. The COW Conference Meeting is scheduled for October 16, 2021. NT-NL Briarwood Leadership is scheduled for October 18-20, 2021. The Synod Event, "Leading for God's Future", is scheduled for October 21, 2021. A series of five sessions. Any council member may participate. Registration is required. Trunk and Treat is scheduled for October 30, 2021. Reformation Sunday is October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021. Wear Red. All Saints Sunday is November 7. 2021. Men's breakfast bible study will be on November 13, 2021. The Semi-Annual Congregation Meeting is scheduled for November 14, 2021. Our Thanksgiving Meal is scheduled for November 21, 2021. Mid-Week Advent Services begin Decembers 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, and 22<sup>nd</sup>. Pastor will be on vacation January 04<sup>th</sup> – January 06, 2021, and on vacation May 15<sup>th</sup> - May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022. Pulpit Supply needed for May 15, 2022. Pastor will be on vacation June 09 – June 22, 2023. Pulpit Supply needed. Calvary's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration is scheduled for October 16, 2022. It's on the Bishop's schedule.



# Church Council continued

## NEW BUSINESS

The 2022 Budget was presented to the council. Marie motion to recommend the budget as presented to the congregation. Leon second the motion. The council approved. The Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting Agenda was presented to the council. The council approved the agenda as presented. The Semi-Annual Congregation Meeting is scheduled for November 14, 2021.

## OLD BUSINESS

Rally Day is scheduled to coincide with this year's Mini Christmas Pageant. Invitation will be mailed to the parents. Thanksgiving Dinner is scheduled for the November 21, 2021. This is an election

year for our Bishop so it's important to let the congregation know delegates are needed to attend the Synod/Mission Assembly scheduled for April of 2022. It will be held in Dallas. Joyce is getting the Banner for our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.

## OTHER BUSINESS

The December Council Meeting will be a dinner. The council members are welcome to bring their spouse, family members or a guest. The council members pay for their own meals.

Leon motion to adjourn the meeting. Marie second the motion.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

*Linda Ortegon*

Council Secretary

## From the Calvary 75th Anniversary Committee



At the Sunday November 14, 2021 Calvary Congregational meeting, the budget was approved which included funds for celebrating the 75th anniversary of Calvary on **October 16th of 2022**. Please note the meal at the church will be catered. More, of course, will be forthcoming. Please put that date on your social calendar.

Leon Thane, for Pastor Paul, Joyce O'Connell, Dorothy St. Germain, Pam Ulrich and Betty Thane



Calvary has been streaming the Sunday services on Facebook . **We have now added YouTube**. Go to our website at [calvarysa.org](http://calvarysa.org) to find a link to our services on YouTube. If you have questions, please talk to John Ulrich.



Join us as we decorate the church on Saturday the 11th at 10am. Everyone is welcome. Please come help us!

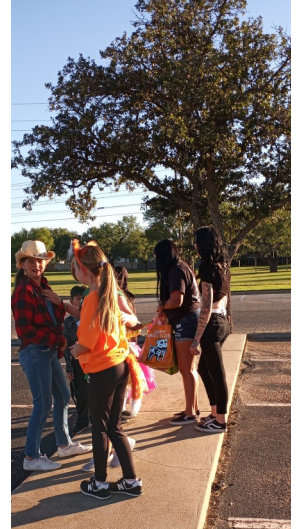


Calvary, You can help adorn the sanctuary for Christmas Eve by purchasing a Christmas poinsettia for \$10. To order, call Pam Ulrich, Shelly at the office, or sign the sheet on the table in the narthex. Please mail your check, or put it in the offering plate & designate that it is for a poinsettia. Thank You.

# Evangelism



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



## ***Our Christmas Stories*** ***A 26-day Devotional for Advent.***

You are invited to join a YouVersion Bible Study for Advent that **begins December 1**. In ***Our Christmas Stories***, dozens of women share memories of past Christmases. From inspiring to bittersweet these personal stories may have different details, but they all ultimately reveal the same story of Advent, of waiting for the "good news of great joy" of Jesus' birth (Luke 2:10). Janet Denison also provides daily devotional thoughts to go with each story, assuring the greatest story of Christmas is never just a memory.

You can download the Bible App with the following link:

<https://j794q.app.goo.gl/6VsMbP4kawsKQfNH8>

Contact Ann Helm if you need help.

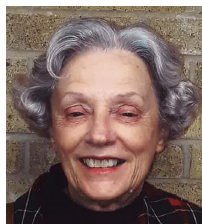


## Worship Assistants, Flowers & Altar Guild

You are welcome to sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex, call the office or contact Bee Rose.

DATE	Greeter	Usher	Acolyte	AM	Reader	Technology	Flowers	Altar Guild
<b>12/5</b> Advent 2	Jo McCormick			Joyce O'Connell	Betty Thane	John Ulrich  Pedro Montanez	Wierzomiecki Family	
<b>12/12</b> Advent 3				Leon Thane	Bee Rose		Poinsettias	
<b>12/19</b> Advent 4				Ann Helm				
<b>12/24</b> Christmas Eve				Bee Rose	Phyllis Zwarich			
<b>12/26</b> Christmas 1				Elaine Welty				

## Fellowship



**Dorothy St. Germain**  
Team Leader



As we prepare our hearts for Christmas let us remember others with cards of greetings. It makes life joyful for the recipient. For shut in people who enjoy receiving cards, please mail directly to their addresses. They will get it sooner than leaving the cards in the church mailboxes. Thank you and have a blessed Christmas.



Thank you to the folks that created the harvest display for our Nov. 21st service. It was beautiful!



# Worship



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

Thank you to Bette Thane for assisting Pastor Paul and me in picking out hymns for the next few months!

Please remember, we're always looking for assistance, and Pastor Paul is a gem at picking Hymns that match the sermon.

You've maybe heard the old adage "Count your blessings". Well I was reading an article that explained it I believe. Make the time to write down your blessings or things during your day that you are grateful for. Write say one to five. The purpose or maybe result is that you start looking for or noticing the good around you instead of the bad or frustrating things. It has helped me appreciate my surroundings and calms me. Who knows, maybe doing so might help you.

### **Some things to Ponder:**

#### *Psalms 96*

1. Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth! 2. Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. 3. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples! 4. For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods. 5. For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the LORD made the heavens. 6. Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary. 7. Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength! 8. Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts! 9. Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness; tremble before him, all the earth! 10. Say among the nations, "The LORD reigns! Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity." 11. Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; 12. let the field exult, and everything in it! Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy 13. before the LORD, for he comes, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness, and the peoples in his faithfulness.

#### *Standing For Our Convictions*

Jesus was a person of convictions. His cause—the ideal for which he stood—was love. He lived that conviction by healing on the Sabbath, by eating with “questionable” people, by touching people with leprosy and people who were dead, and by forgiving sins. In showing such love, he

risked being rejected in his hometown. He risked being criticized for breaking the rules of the Sabbath. He risked becoming “unclean” from having touched others who were ritually unclean. Ultimately, he risked his life. Martin Luther was also a person of convictions. Luther’s cause was the gospel—the good news that we cannot obtain forgiveness or righteousness from God on our own, but that it comes by God’s grace and through our faith in Jesus. In standing for the gospel, he risked being excommunicated.

Our faith, as both followers of Jesus and as Lutherans, is a product of people who stood for their convictions. This message is adapted from “Faith reflections: Faith in action” written by Emily K. Hartner that first appeared in the May 2014 issue of Café magazine.

#### Bible Trivia Questions:

1. What name appears in the shortest bible verse?  
A) Eve. B) Jesus. C) Moses. D) Job
2. What young man rebuked Job's friends?  
A) Isaac. B) Elihu. C) Caleb. D) Uriah.
3. Job's children were killed in Job 1:13-20. How many sons and daughters did Job have?  
A) Seven sons and three daughters? B) nine sons and two daughters? C) ten sons and no daughters? D) The number is unknown.

Blessings,

*Bee Rose*



# Service & Justice



*Marie Williams*  
Team Leader



Calvary, Thank you for all the donations for Project Dignidad's Thanksgiving Meals! We collected 7 baskets of food!

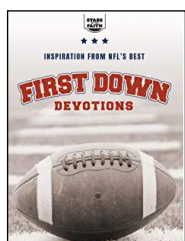
## ELCA GOOD GIFTS ADVENT TREE ORNAMENTS

The Good Gifts project will continue with the Christmas Ornament Tree. There will be a variety of gifts to give for someone special that will be received by a person in need. It is a double giving. There will be bibles/religious needs, animals, plants, education needs, medical needs, as well as clean water needs for you to give as a double gift. You see a few of the ornaments to the right. You can either mail the cost of the ornament to the church or drop it at the church when the office is open. If you are a member of the church, we will put the ornament in your box. We can also send you a paper ornament by email for you to print out if you request it.



# Education

**Heidi Wierzowiecki**  
Team Leader



## *Men's Breakfast Bible Study*

Saturday, December 11, 2021  
Rosa's Café & Tortilla Factory  
4235 Sherwood Way at 8 am.



12/27/1964  
Leon & Betty Thane



## *First Communion*

Our youth will be participating in First Communion instruction on Dec. 5 immediately after the service. Pizza will be served. Families are welcome to attend.



04	Heidi Wierzowiecki
07	Christine Fryar
09	Steven L. Tucker
10	Lee Rose
12	William Anderson
12	Kara Martinez
19	Charlene Siegrist
21	Hilda Torres
21	LaMont Allen
25	Lori Smithwick
29	Myshae Allen

## *Christmas Program*



The youth will practice for the Christmas Program on Sat. Dec. 11 at 2pm. We will enjoy Chick Fil A after practice.


The following day, they will present the program during the service on Dec. 12. Please join us!

Bible Quiz answers from page 6:

1. B Jesus. The shortest bible verse is just two words: "Jesus wept."  
See John 11:35.
2. B Elihu. See Job 32.
3. A Seven sons and three daughters. See Job 1:1-2.



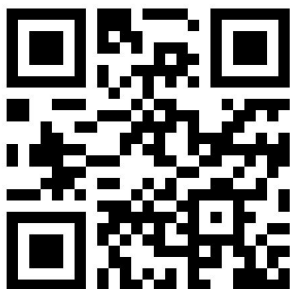
# DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Mid Week Advent 6pm	2	3 AA group 5:30pm	4
5 8:45am Adult bible study 10am Worship Service 2nd Sunday of Advent First Communion instruction after the service	6 AA group 5:30pm Pastor's Day Off	7 AA group 5:30pm	8 Mid Week Advent 6pm	9 AA group 5:30pm	10 AA group 5:30pm	11 Men's Breakfast Bible Study 8am Rosa's Decorate the church 10am Youth Christmas Program practice 2pm
12 8:45am Adult bible study 10am Worship Service 3rd Sunday of Advent Youth Christmas Program during the service	13 AA group 5:30pm Pastor's Day Off Church Council Meal	14 AA group 5:30pm	15 Mid Week Advent 6pm	16 AA group 5:30pm	17 AA group 5:30pm Soup Kitchen 9:30-1 Newsletter deadline	18
19 8:45am Adult bible study 10am Worship Service 4th Sunday of Advent	20 AA group 5:30pm Pastor's Day Off	21 AA group 5:30pm	22 Mid Week Advent 6pm	23 AA group 5:30pm	24 AA group 5:30pm Christmas Eve 7pm	25 
26 8:45am Adult bible study 10am Worship Service 1st Sunday of Christmas	27 AA group 5:30pm Pastor's Day Off	28 AA group 5:30pm	29	30	31	

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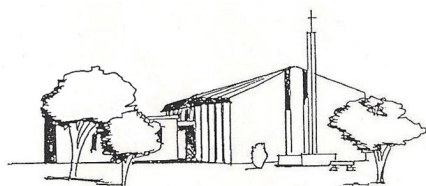
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Link to website



*Sharing God's word & love  
within and beyond  
Calvary.*

Link to Facebook page



Phone: 325-944-1116  
Website: calvarysa.org  
E-mail: secretary@calvarysa.org

### 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.