

Calvary Comment¹

Calvary Lutheran Church
December 2020



From the Pastor



**Pastor Paul & Phyllis
Zwarich**

The Advent Season is upon us. This year we will host Mid-Week Advent Services in-person and via zoom. The Mid-Week services will be held each Wednesday at 6pm beginning Dec. 2. The zoom ID and password will be sent out to the congregation via email. Our theme this year is **"The Colors of the Season."** The Christmas Eve Service will also be held via Zoom and in-person at 7 pm on December 24, 2020. The Congregation Council will continue to monitor the latest developments concerning the corona virus and will keep the congregation advised of any changes to our planned activities.

One phrase I have heard over, and over again is that Christmas this year will be like no other Christmas that we have experienced in the past. While it may be true that past customs and traditions may be altered or cancelled the message of the season will remain the same. Luke 2:9-11 sums up this message well. The text reads as follows:

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.

This year on Christmas Eve, as we meet in-person or via zoom you are invited to light a candle and join your brother and sisters in Christ as we sing 'Silent Night' on Christmas Eve.

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*Silent night, holy night
All is calm, all is bright
'Round yon virgin Mother and Child
Holy infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace
Sleep in heavenly peace*

*Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight!
Glories stream from heaven afar;
Heavenly hosts sing Al-le-lu-ia!
Christ the Savior is born!
Christ the Savior is born!*

Merry Christmas,
Pastor Paul



Silent Night Oh Holy Night.



Church Council

Linda Ortegon
Council Secretary

Calvary Lutheran Church Council Meeting
12th of October 2020

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. on the 12th day of October 2020 by the Council President Fritz Leifeste. Pastor Paul opened with a prayer. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts. Let our Thankfulness overflow in our praises and in our actions. Let us be mindful of your will for us. Lord thank you for all that gather with us tonight, but most of all for our Lord and Savior.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Joyce O'Connell, Chris Kinsey, Fritz Leifeste, Linda Ortegon, Bee Rose, Betty Thane, Barbara Walker, Marie Williams, John Ulrich, and Pastor Paul Zwarich

MINUTES: Fritz motion to accept the September 2020 Calvary Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes. Marie made a motion to accept the minutes. Bee second the motion. The council approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: John Ulrich. The September 2020 Treasurer's Report and was approved as presented. John mentioned we were still looking ok.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT: Joyce O'Connell. The Financial Report was accepted as reported. Joyce said we're pretty consistent. September was up from August. However, August had five Sundays instead of the normal four. Other than that we are doing okay considering the circumstances.

CORE TEAM REPORTS

Education: Marie Williams. Nothing new to report.

Fellowship: Kara Martinez. Absence.

Social and Justice: Betty Thane. Betty said she and Marie have discussed doing God's Work, Our Hands with the beans and rice. A final solution has not been decided, but they did entertain setting up a couple of different stations with a sign up sheet. This way social distancing guidelines could be met. Another idea discussed was to let the rice and beans be taken home to be

bagged there. If the council didn't have any objections she will continue with the planning. The council agreed she should continue.

Worship: Bee Rose. Nothing new to report. Except for she has kind of established at least one person that she can go to as a Eucharist minister and that is Ida Walter's brother, Glen. The pastor went with Bee on the first visit and she went last week but this week's visit is still pending. Bee and Pastor chose hymns until the end of December.

Evangelism: Barbara Walker. Nothing new to report.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor said one thing he wanted to say about our attendance is that we are actually tracking pretty well. We have been averaging 20-25 in the sanctuary and about the same number on zoom. That means we have been averaging 50 almost 60 in total attendance of Sunday worship service. Phyllis has been taking attendance each Sunday so we have a record and the church secretary, Shelly, created a spreadsheet to track who is attending in person and who is attending per zoom and we are actually tracking very well all things considered. Pastor went over his pastoral acts. Four in person and zoom Sunday Worship Services. One Worship Service in Miles. One graveside service for Miles. There was a zoom Synod Assembly two weeks ago. The music was wonderful. It was an eye opening experience to what can go right and what can go wrong having a zoom meeting with that many people, but again we're all working through the bugs. There was a budget committee meeting held and that report will be given later in our meeting today. A Seventy-fifth anniversary meeting was held and we are just two years away from the event. We are watching to see what is going to happen with the restaurants. Will they be open and still be in business. There is a lot going on. As we talk to the restaurant owners, they are really worried about

their bottom line right now. Pastor attended one council meeting yesterday in Miles and the intent to apply for an intern was completed. The rest of the application has to be in by January 2021, but we declared our intent to do that. There were four adult bible studies and four Confirmation lessons since we last met. Pastor did an invocation at Pedro's Navy Retirement Ceremony. The COW Conference meeting that was scheduled for October 03 in Abilene was postpone to February due to restrictions at that location. Pastor will be out of the office this Friday and Saturday. He and Phyllis are taking an Amtrak Train ride for Phyllis's birthday. Pastor has continuing education coming up October 19 and 20th via zoom that is the Bishop Convocation. We are going to receive two new members on Reformation Sunday. Lori Smithwick and Elaine Welty. The following week is all Saints Sunday, November 1st. Then we have our Semi-Annual congregational meeting which will be discussed later tonight. The mid-week advent services will soon be upon us so next month we need to decide if the mid-week advent services will be held. This year devotional advent books have been purchased for everyone in the congregation. The devotional advent books will be given out so they can be taken home. The Christmas Eve service will be at 7pm that evening. Later in this meeting a decision will be made if a Thanksgiving meal should be held this year. We also need to decide if the Epiphany meal will be held in January 2021. Pastor said his cruise has been officially canceled but he would still like to take a week off in January. Ash Wednesday will be February 17th. The Synod Assembly will be April 23rd – 24th. Our delegates will need to be selected by our Semi Annual Congregation Meeting for this event.

*****Continued on page 3*****

Old Business

Fritz said he has not heard from Harrison roofing, so that's still on hold. Pastor would like to have an all committee night after the new council members have been approved. The meeting would include all members, new members as well as the members going out. Sometime after our Semi-Annual Congregation Meeting so we can set the date next month.

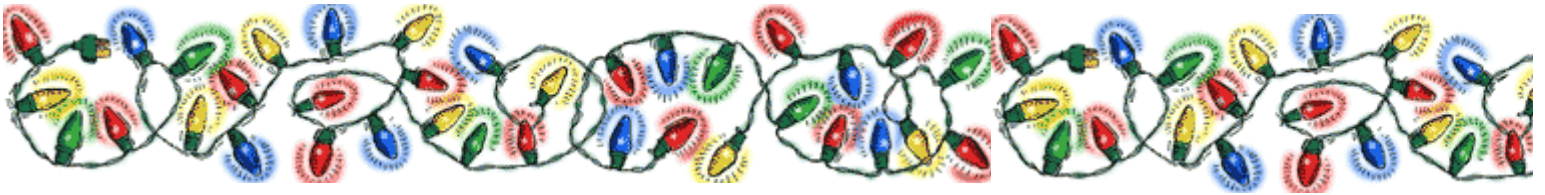
New Business

John provided a copy of the new 2021 Budget. The council didn't have any questions of John. A motion to accept the 2021 Budget was given. Marie moved to accept and Joyce second the motion. The council approved to present the 2021 Budget at the congregation meeting. Since it is a budget submitted by the council John can move to have the budget approved and there does not need to be a

second motion to accept it. Fritz presented a copy of the proposed agenda for the Semi-Annual Congregation Meeting which is actually our Annual this year. The council agreed to count the members in the service and the members per Zoom in attendance. The agenda shows to consider the 2021 Budget, election of council members and the selection of two delegates for the Synod Assembly in April. Fritz presented a motion to accept this agenda. Bee motioned to accept and Barbara second the motion. The council approved. Two new members will be accepted on Reformation Sunday. All Saints Sunday the council agreed to use the candles. The council discussed having Thanksgiving Dinner this year. Betty motioned not to have it and Chris second the motion. The council agreed. Barbara suggested we do something to celebrate Thanksgiving since we are not having a meal. Marie said especially for those that don't have family members around them.

The council will come up with some suggestions and discuss it in our November meeting. Fritz said if the council wanted to suggest someone as a delegate to the Synod Assembly in April to let him know and he could talk to them if needed. Pastor mentioned about Betty's nomination report. Right now we don't have anyone nominated for Education, but he is not worried about that right now because the church is experiencing change and how committees are organized is changing in many congregations. Since we don't have a lot of youth, it's difficult to plan lessons and activities so that can get very discouraging for someone. This is something the council should discuss in the future. The meeting was closed with Lord's Prayer.

Linda Ortegon





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





Worship

Bee Rose

Team Leader



DATE	Greeter	Usher	Acolyte	Assistant Minister (Liturgist)	Communion Assistant	Reader (Lector)	Technology Assistants	Flowers
Dec 6	Jo McCormick	John Ulrich		Joyce O'Connell				Fiveash
Dec 13				Elaine Welty				Marie Williams
Dec 20	Pam Ulrich	John Ulrich		Ann Helm				St Germain
Dec 24								
Dec 27								Thane
Jan 3	Jo McCormick	John Ulrich						
Jan 10				Elaine Welty		Valerie Bluthardt		
Jan 17	Pam Ulrich	John Ulrich		Ann Helm				
Jan 24						Valerie Bluthardt		
Jan 31				Ann Helm				



Thank you to our volunteers!
 If you would like to serve as a worship assistant, please contact Bee Rose, or you can simply 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!

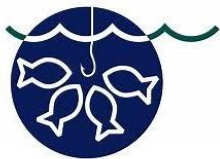


Education

Marie Williams
Team Leader



Please continue to use the children's bulletins that are mailed to you until Sunday School meets again in person.



Evangelism

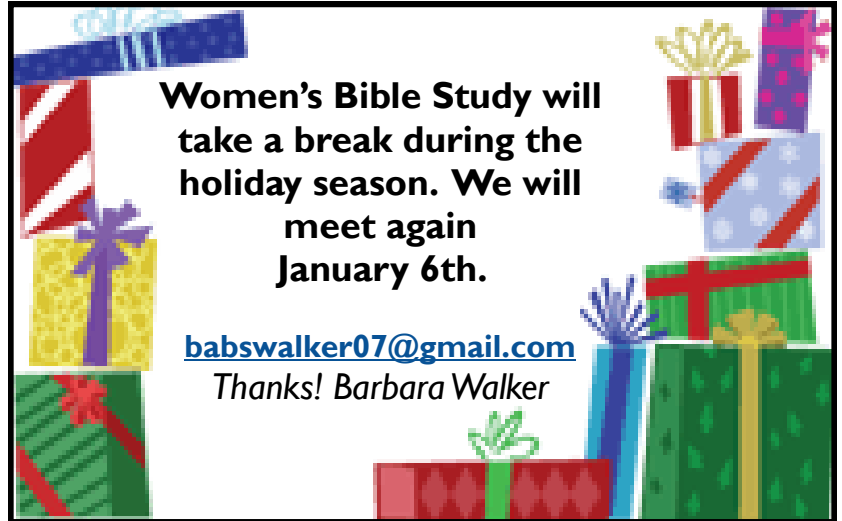
Barbara Walker
Team Leader



Women's Bible Study will take a break during the holiday season. We will meet again January 6th.

babswalker07@gmail.com

Thanks! Barbara Walker



BIBLE STUDY with

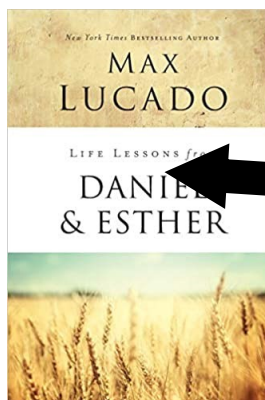
Pastor Paul

"Life Lessons from Genesis".

By Max Lucado

Tuesday, Dec. 1st & 8th
6:30pm on Zoom

Winter Break Dec. 9 — Jan. 12



Coming in January...

"Daniel & Esther"

By Max Lucado

Call the office to order
a copy!



Service & Justice

Betty Thane
Team Leader

Greetings and Blessings as we prepare for the Christmas season. Birthdays are such an exciting time and especially as we prepare and celebrate for the birth of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

THE GOOD GIFTS CHRISTMAS TREE will be in the Narthex by Sunday, November 29. A special gift for someone at Christmas is to buy a Good Gift to ensure God's work will continue tomorrow and for years to come. What a privilege of love to be able to aid our neighbors by sharing our wealth in helping to teach them and supplying needed items for a better life. This is what Christian Life is all about.

Listed below are just a few of the favorite items we can purchase: Bibles, \$12; Honeybees, \$20; Pig, \$30; Goat, \$50; Water Filter \$30; Chicks \$10; Blanket, \$10; Mosquito Net, \$10; Vaccinations for a child, \$30; Fruit-tree Seedlings, \$10; Solar Powered Lantern, \$30; Feed 10 at a Soup Kitchen, \$20; Simple Water Well, \$2,500; or Share a Water Well, \$250; Latrine, \$150, and School Supplies for a Classroom, \$300. There are lots of other items in the Good Gifts catalog on the table in the Narthex. If there is an item that cost more than you want to spend, consider sharing the cost with someone else.


After deciding on the gift you would like to purchase, make a check payable to Calvary and BE SURE to write what you are purchasing in the memo of your check and place it in the offering plate in the sanctuary or give to the church

secretary. If it is not convenient for you to go to the church to get your ornament, call Marie Williams (325-245-5630) or Betty Thane (325-939-3976) and we will make arrangements to deliver or mail you your purchase. For more information, call Betty or Marie.

Marie Williams was elected by the congregation to serve as the new Service and justice Team Leader. I would like to thank all of you who have supported me in this position for the past four years and hope that you will support Marie as she takes over this position. I have learned a lot during this time, and it has been an interesting four years meeting our neighbors in the community and others in the ELCA. Again, Thank You.

Betty Thane, Service and Justice Team Leader.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
A BLESSED 2021.**


FOR
 unto us a
Child is born
 UNTO US A *Son*
 is given; and the government
 shall be upon *His* shoulder. And
His name will be called
WONDERFUL,
Counselor, THE MIGHTY GOD
THE EVERLASTING FATHER,
The Prince of Peace.
 ISAIAH
9:6





Fellowship

Kara Martinez
Team Leader

Thank you

to everyone for the food, cards, calls, visits, and prayers

that we received when Carla passed away. Everyone was so kind, and we appreciate everything that you all have done for us. God bless you,

Gladys Jones
& Kara Martinez



Autumn Blessing

Dorothy St. Germain & Jo McCormick created this beautiful harvest display for our Sunday service on Nov. 22nd. Pam Ulrich, Rosalee King, Norma Kahlig, and Lou St. Germain provided some of the items for the display. Thanks to all of you!

PROJECT DIGNIDAD

Calvary has donated \$593 of miscellaneous items, food, and clothing since April. Thank you for making a difference!



BIRTHDAYS

12/04	Heidi Wierzowiecki
12/07	Christine Fryar
12/09	Steven L. Tucker
12/10	Lee Rose
12/12	William Anderson
12/12	Kara Martinez
12/15	Peyton Burney
12/19	Charlene Siegrist
12/21	Hilda Torres
12/25	Lori Smithwick



Thank you for the sweet acknowledgements of our Anniversary.

God bless you all,
Al & Rosalee King



ANNIVERSARY

Betty & Leon
Thane
12/27/1964

Prayers for Healing and Strength

Danny McLaughlin Ida Walter & all the family & friends of Glen Skelton Glady Jones Rev. Moon Grace Allen's dad Ollie Holland Joyce O'Connell's great-granddaughter	Tulisha Bennett Ann Marie's mother Cody Scott Mark Mitchell's nephew Rich Myers broken shoulder Norma Kahlig Recovering from a broken hip in Abilene rehab facility Karla Hariman Foot surgery	David Van Houten Phyllis Zwarich's son Bill Handley Phyllis Zwarich's brother-in-law Kenneth Hutson Phyllis Zwarich's boss Amanda Boring Leifeste's niece Phyllis Zwarich Broken wrist
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In the Military

Jessica Arnold Turner Bickford Ross Bogard Alex Conover	Brandon Cross Zach Fleming Pedro Montañez Austin Seamands	Kristy Simon James Walton Curtis Williamson Adam Zucker
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Our Shut-ins

Conway Ahrens Helen Brandenberger	Barbara Fumagalli Irene Hunter	Travis Raab Lee Rose
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Pastor's Theme for the Mid-Week Advent Services is

COLORS of the SEASON

Red- represents the blood of Jesus shed for our sins, offering salvation to all. *1 John 1:7-9*



Orange- represents fire, for our God is a consuming fire. Hebrews 12:29

Yellow- represents the light of God, in him there is no darkness. *1 John 1:5-7*

Green- represents eternal life in Jesus. *John 3:16*

Blue- represents living water. *John 4:14*

Purple- represents the royalty of the king of kings and the crown of life. *James 1:12*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Nov. 29 Advent 1 10am Worship Service	30 AA group 5:30pm Pastor's Day Off	Dec. 1 AA group 5:30pm Pastor's Bible Study 6:30 pm Zoom	2 Mid-Week Advent Service 6pm	3 AA group 5:30pm	4 AA group 5:30pm	5
6 Advent 2 10am Worship Service	7 AA group 5:30pm Pastor's Day Off 6pm Church Council Meeting Zoom	8 AA group 5:30pm Pastor's Bible Study 6:30 pm Zoom	9 Mid-Week Advent Service 6pm	10 AA group 5:30pm	11 AA group 5:30pm	12
13 Advent 3 10am Worship Service 11:30 Pastor in Miles	14 AA group 5:30pm Pastor's Day Off	15 AA group 5:30pm	16 Mid-Week Advent Service 6pm	17 AA group 5:30pm	18 AA group 5:30pm	19 Pastor: wedding in Miles
20 Advent 4 10am Worship Service	21 AA group 5:30pm Pastor's Day Off Newsletter Deadline	22 AA group 5:30pm	23 Mid-Week Advent Service 6pm	24 Christmas Eve 7pm Service 	25 AA group 5:30pm Merry Christmas 	26
27 1 Christmas 10am Worship Service	28 AA group 5:30pm Pastor's Day Off	29 AA group 5:30pm	30	31 AA group 5:30pm	Jan. 1 AA group 5:30pm	2

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.

FOR TO US
A SON IS GIVEN



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PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

