

Calvary Comment

Calvary Lutheran Church
February 2020



Pastor Paul and Phyllis Zwarich

From the Pastor:

*"Return to the Lord your God,
for He is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love."*

These words are the verse for Lent which comes from the prophet Joel. They put into context our reason for praying, fasting, and doing acts of love during the forty days prior to our Easter joy.

We worship God because God is worthy of our praise. We repent of our sins because God is drawing us into that relationship like a forgiving parent loves a child... "slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love." We are not appealing an angry God... God cannot be "bargained with." Instead, we view our Lenten worship as a time of dedicated commitment. Included in our Lenten journey this year are our yearly Mid-Week Lenten Services on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. What a blessing it is to be able to journey together as a community of faith through this season of repentance, knowing that as we turn towards God once again, we are reminded of all that God has done for us in Christ Jesus our Lord and we can give thanks for this great gift together.

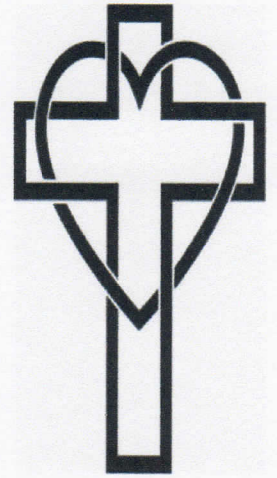
*Soli Deo Gloria!
(To God Alone be the Glory!)*

Pastor Paul



*Remember you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.*

*Ash Wednesday Service
February 26th, 6:00 p.m.*



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Council's Corner

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – November 11, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT: Joyce O'Connell, Fritz Leifeste, Kara Martinez, Betty Thane, Barbara Walker, John Ulrich, and Pastor Paul Zwarich.

President calls meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

Opening prayer – Pastor shared a devotional and prayer in honor of Veteran's Day.

Review and approve previous month's minutes. Minutes were amended with slight wording change as follows: "Barbara Walker presented two estimates from Bird's Eye Landscape: the traditional landscape idea for \$5250.00 and an estimate for a xeriscape option for \$4,800.00. Chris Kinsey motioned to accept the proposed estimate from Bird's Eye Landscape for the xeriscape option." Joyce motioned to approve minutes as amended, John seconded, motion passed.

Treasurer's report – John presented report – see attached.

Financial Secretary's report – Joyce presented report and noted the increase in attendance and offerings the last month. See attached.

Core Team reports

Education – Marie Williams sent her report including minutes from the committee's last meeting. Children's Christmas Play will be on Dec 15 during church. Calendar sales by youth are ongoing. Early planning for camps in 2020 began. See attached.

Fellowship – Kara Martinez reported on recent potluck, September 29. Committee met concerning Thanksgiving meal on November 17. They also are planning a Christmas Brunch for December 29.

Service and Justice – Betty Thane shared a report. Noisy bucket offering total as of October 31 is \$816.38. The group plans to bake cookies for the military in December. Christmas Caroling is planned for December 15 following worship service. 2019 Advent calendars and Good Gifts Christmas Tree will be available Dec 1 in the narthex.

Worship – Teddi Phillips sent in a report. Special music has been performed by LaMont. New members joining and some Baptisms coming up along with 1st communions. See attached.

Evangelism – Barbara Walker reported success at the First Saturday at the Chicken Farm giving out 125 bottles of water, 100 balloons, 45 bookmarks, and 15 brochures. We purchased an ad to be included in Playbill for 2019-20 season at San Angelo Broadway Academy Youth Theatre. She is starting an Online Bible Study and is inviting everyone to join in.

Pastor's report – Pastor presented a report and noted Curt, Julie, Ellie, and Hudson Storey have requested to be removed from membership at Calvary Lutheran Church. (See note attached.) Three students recently completed Acolyte training. We have 8 new members joining including Frances "Bee" Rose, William "Hank" Rose, Jill Zuehlke, Mark Richard Mitchell, and Robert & Heidi Wierzowiecki and their two children. We plan to have a New Member Sunday and Reception on December 1. See report attached.

Old Business

Lawn landscaping update – Barbara reported there is a problem converting existing sprinkler system to drip so we will need to add drip system to faucet (with a timer). Brent at Bird's Eye said he estimates no more than \$1,000 additional funds will be needed to cover tree trimming, repairing sprinkler system, and adding drip system. He provided two sample designs to use on the bench he is donating. Everyone agreed the simple design with church name and crosses would look better.

Kitchen update – John reported the new dishwashers have been installed. He is working with Lowes to have the new countertops installed soon.

Church Directory update – Joyce shared a sample of what the new ACS software will provide.

Church sign update – John said the sign is ordered and should be here by Christmas. Donated funds will pay for the sign.

ACS Software update – Joyce reported the information has been converted from our old system into ACS. Currently learning the new system.

New Business

December Council Meeting – We plan to have dinner at Twin Mountain Steak House for our December meeting on Dec 9.

New Member Sunday and Meal with Council – We hope to celebrate with new members on Sunday, December 1 and go to Zentner's Daughter for lunch after church.

Christmas Eve Worship Time is set for 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned with Lord's Prayer at 7:50 p.m.

Worship

*"Empowering God's people to worship in grace and truth."
John 4:23*

**Bee Rose, Interim Worship
Committee Chairperson**

Please welcome Bee Rose as our Interim Worship Committee Chairperson.

Bee was approved by the Church Council at the January Council Meeting to serve as the Chairperson until the next Semi-Annual Meeting. Please welcome her and introduce yourself to Bee if you have not done so already. The Sunday worship leader signup sheet is posted in the Narthex and ready for volunteers to sign up for specific leadership roles. The Worship Committee will meet in February to pick hymns for March, April, May and June.

As we approach the Lenten Season, let us all offer our support to Bee as we share in the Mutual Ministry Christ has given to all who are baptized.

Worship Service	Usher	Greeter/s	Acolyte	Assistant Minister (Liturgist)	Reader (Lector)	Communion Assistant
February 2						
February 9					Valerie Bluthardt	XXXXX
February 16					Bee Rose	Bee Rose
February 23				Leon Thane	Betty Thane	XXXXX

Please Note: If you are unable to serve on the date listed above, please call the Church Office at 944-1116.



Education

"Train children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray." Proverbs 22:6

Parish Education

The Women's Bible Study started meeting again on Wednesdays at their usual time. Please come and enjoy the fellowship and information.

The Men's Bible Breakfast group meets on the second Saturday of the month. Please look for the times and location either in the calendar or bulletin.

The attendance for the lower grades is still averaging 4. Their teacher is Blossom Parry. They are finishing the study of Moses. The Confirmation Class, which Pastor is teaching, has an average of 9 in attendance. The Adult Bible Study, which Phyllis is teaching, has an attendance of 9. The Sunday School program had their first class in 2020 on January 12th.

Planning for the day camp this summer has begun. The counselors from the camp will arrive on June 14th. The camp will be June 15th -19th. It will be starting at 8:45 a.m. and ending at 3:40 p.m. Please keep an eye out for further information in the newsletter.

Come and enjoy studying with any of the groups being offered.

Marie Williams, Parish Education Team Leader

A Word from the Congregational President:

I hope that 2020 will be positive for everyone. We are looking forward to all the things that our congregation can accomplish to spread the word of Jesus.

Ash Wednesday will be on February 26th this year. It is very early. Lent will begin on March 4th, with Easter falling on April 12th. Wow! Time is moving fast.

Prior to the new year, we completed the kitchen upgrades. The new dishwashers are working great. The new countertops are beautiful. The new sign is in San Angelo and should be installed soon.

I would like to leave you with this quote:

"I'll trust in God's unchanging Word
Till soul and body sever,
For though all things shall pass away

**HIS WORD SHALL
STAND FOREVER!"**

Martin Luther

Yours in Christ, Fritz

Evangelism

Watch for an opportunity to build relationships in our congregation, coming soon. If you have an idea to help spread the word about Calvary to others, please let me know.

Joy and Peace to you!

Barbara Walker - call 432-213-5293 or email babswalker07@gmail.com

Jesus was
in a small group.
I'm just sayin'...
(Life change happens in small groups)

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Service and Justice

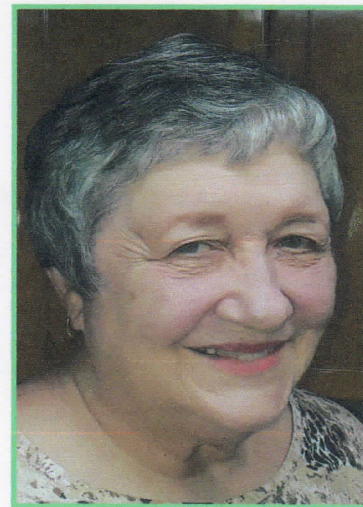
"Do justice; love kindness; walk humbly with God."

SERVICE AND JUSTICE

February, 2020

GOOD GIFTS CHRISTMAS TREE ORNAMENTS gave many of their family and friends a special gift for Christmas and gave many less fortunate the gift of hope and learning of how to help themselves against hunger. These are the ornaments Calvary members purchased:

12 Chicks	1 School Supplies for a Child
7 Roosters	2 Feed a Refugee Family
3 Goats	1 Motorbike for a Pastor
1 Bible	7 Pigs
18 Honeybees	



*Betty Thane,
Service and Justice
Team Leader*

Thank You to all who participated by giving a gift of love. The total amount received from the purchase of ornaments was \$1442.09.

NOISY BUCKET OFFERINGS for the year 2019 totaled \$750 which purchased 3 share a wells. That is outstanding. Can't you just see the smiles of those who get to experience clear running water? Noisy Bucket has resumed on January 26, 2020, and we look forward to being able to again supply clean water for our neighbors. **Let's Rattle Those Buckets!** The total collected in 2019 from the Noisy Bucket and the ornaments amounted to \$2192.09.

When we started the **NOISY BUCKET AND GOOD GIFTS ORNAMENT** Programs in October of 2016, I have to admit I thought they were neat programs, but I didn't really expect us to collect a lot of money. Boy, Was I Wrong. The total offerings we've collected from these two programs since we very first began has totaled **\$4611.55.**
THAT IS A LOT OF JINGLES AND LOVE.

The next Service and Justice meeting will be held March 5th in the church Fellowship Hall at 11:00 a.m. Please feel free to come join us and give us your input.

Betty Thane,
Service and Justice Team Leader

Fellowship

"Building Christian community in love and grace." Acts 2:44-47



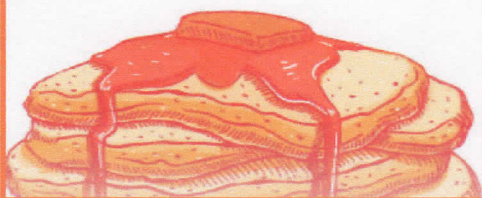
Kara Martinez,
Fellowship Team Leader

Faith & Fellowship

LUTHERAN LUNCHERS will meet on Thursday, February 13th, at 11:00 a.m. at Kenny Blane's Village Cafe. Please call Joyce O'Connell at 374-8515 to RSVP. See you there!

MEN'S BIBLE BREAKFAST will be meeting at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 15th, at Rosa's Café on Sherwood Way. Please join us!

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper,
February 25th at 6:00 p.m.!!
Sure hope you'll be joining us for
pancakes and sausage!

Happy Anniversary

February 14, 1998 - Pedro and Daisy Montanez

February 14, 1998 - Adam and Kristy Scott

February 26, 1983 - Terry and Arline Zak



February 5 - Marvin
Wendland

February 8 - Cheryl Wamer

February 8 - Helen
Brandenberger

February 16 - Jane Cocuzzi

February 17 - Andrea
Sanford

February 22 - Larry Ross

THANK YOU!

I would like to thank all those who sent Christmas cards and gave goodies. Also, I appreciate the carolers who came and sang, and the children who made nice pictures during the past year. I hope you and yours will have a great new year, and wish you God's blessings.
Helen Brandenberger

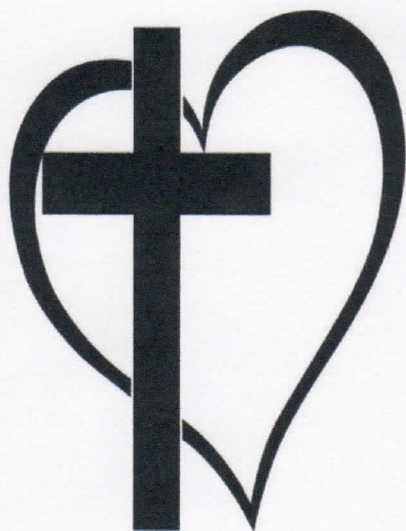
A Big Thank You to all of you for your lovely cards, words of congratulations and anything else for my 87th birthday. It was all very much appreciated, and I really had a very enjoyable birthday. So a big thank you to each and every one of you.

God bless all of you. Sincerely, Rosalee King

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Take Note...						1
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper-February 25 Ash Wednesday-February 26	Sunday, March 8 - Daylight Saving Time Begins - Spring Forward!		GOD LOVES YOU DEARLY.			11:00am AA Group
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<i>Presentation of Our Lord</i> 8:45am Adult Bible Study 8:45am Confirmation 8:45am Children's Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service	Pastor's Day Off 2:00pm Exercise Group 5:30pm AA Group	5:30-8:00pm AA Group	6:00pm Women's Bible Study	10:00am Exercise Group 5:30pm AA Group	5:30pm AA Group	11:00am AA Group
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<i>Epiphany 5</i> 8:45am Adult Bible Study 8:45am Confirmation 8:45am Children's Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service	Pastor's Day Off 2:00pm Exercise Group 6:30pm Church Council Meeting 5:30pm AA Group	5:30-8:00pm AA Group	6:00pm Women's Bible Study	10:00am Exercise Group 11:00am Lutheran Lunchers at Kenny Blank's Village Cafe 5:30pm AA Group	Happy Valentine's Day! Newsletter Deadline 5:30pm AA Group	8:00am Men's Bible Breakfast at Rosa's Cafe on Sherwood Way 11:00am AA Group
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
<i>Epiphany 6</i> 8:45am Adult Bible Study 8:45am Confirmation 8:45am Children's Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service	Pastor's Day Off 2:00pm Exercise Group 5:30pm AA Group	5:30-8:00pm AA Group	6:00pm Women's Bible Study	10:00am Exercise Group 5:30pm AA Group		11:00am AA Group
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
<i>Transfiguration of Our Lord</i> 8:45am Adult Bible Study 8:45am Confirmation 8:45am Children's Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service	Pastor's Day Off 2:00pm Exercise Group 5:30pm AA Group	6:00pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 5:30-8:00pm AA Group	<i>ASH WEDNESDAY</i> 6:00pm Ash Wednesday Service	10:00am Exercise Group 5:30pm AA Group	5:30pm AA Group	11:00am AA Group

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.



Lord, whose love in humble service bore the weight of human need,
who upon the cross, forsaken, worked your mercy's perfect deed;
we, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart;
consecrating to your purpose every gift which you impart.

Still your children wander homeless; still the hungry cry for bread;
still the captives long for freedom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
As you, Lord, in deep compassion healed the sick and freed the soul,
by your Spirit send your power to our world to make it whole.

As we worship, grant us vision, till your love's revealing light
in its height and depth and greatness dawns upon our quickened sight,
making known the needs and burdens your compassion bids us bear,
stirring us to ardent service, your abundant life to share.

Called by worship to your service, forth in your dear name we go,
to the child, the youth, the aged, love in living deeds to show;
hope and health, goodwill and comfort, counsel, aid, and peace we give,
that your servants, Lord, in freedom may your mercy know and live.

From "Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service"

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PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Presentation of Our Lord - February 2
Transfiguration of Our Lord - February 23
Ash Wednesday - February 26

