

Calvary Comment¹



**Pastor Paul & Phyllis
Zwarich**



**Calvary Lutheran Church
January 2023**

From the Pastor,

"I will bless you..., so that you will be a blessing." Genesis 12:2

The Lord blessed Abraham so that he would be a blessing. The Lord promised that from his seed (Abraham's seed) a Savior of the world would come and be a blessing to God's people. Abraham believed in that promise and Abraham trusted that the Lord would provide just as He promised. Thus, everything Abraham did was colored by this promise. Abraham willingly gave himself and his household in service to the Lord.

Today God has blessed us richly too. As Luther's Explanation of the First Article of the Apostles Creed states *"I believe that God has created me and all that exists. He has given me and still preserves my body and soul with all their powers. He provides me with food and clothing, home and family, daily work, and all I need from day to day. God also protects me in time of danger and guards me from every evil. All this He does out of fatherly and divine goodness and mercy, though I do not deserve it. Therefore, I surely ought to thank and praise, serve, and obey Him. This is most certainly true."* Luther's Small Catechism

God has given us all that we need to live out our daily lives, and God has given us the promised seed through His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Jesus is the Savior of nations. Jesus is the Redeemer of the world. Jesus is the One who has conquered sin, death, and the power of the evil one through his death, resurrection, and ascension.

Just as we are richly blessed, we are now free to be a blessing. Since God has given us all that we need, we are now free to share what God has given us with those around us. We give of the blessings we have received so others may be blessed too.

On **February 5, 2023**, Calvary Lutheran Church will host Consecration Sunday. Come and join us as we celebrate Stewardship Sunday. Come and join us as we hear "The Lord has blessed you, so that you can be a blessing too."

Happy New Year

Pastor Paul

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NOEL HALLELUJAH MERRY CHRISTMAS HAPPY NEW YEAR
Noel Hallelujah Merry Christmas Happy New Year



Consecration Sunday Is Coming

February 5, 2023

Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

Our congregation's Stewardship Committee has selected the *New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program* as a way to teach the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education emphasis this year.

New Consecration Sunday is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. *New Consecration Sunday* encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

During the 10am worship service on February 5, 2023 (Consecration Sunday), we are asking our members to make their financial commitments to our church's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries in this community and around the world.

Every member who completes an *Estimate of Giving Card* does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Consecration Sunday. We urge people to attend who feel strongly opposed to completing a card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card.

We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. During morning worship our guest leader will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, climaxed by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

We will encourage participation in Consecration Sunday events through the Consecration Sunday team and governing board members. Since we will make no follow-up visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend Consecration Sunday worship.

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in Consecration Sunday events.

Chris Kinsey ~ Vice President and Consecration Sunday Committee Chair

DATE 2023	Assist. Minister	Reader (Lector)	Technology Assistants	Flowers	Altar Guild for the month
Jan 1 1 Christmas	Joyce O'Connell	Phyllis Zwarich	John Ulrich		Pam Ulrich
Jan 8 Baptism of our Lord	Tori Redman	Phyllis Zwarich			
Jan 15 2 Epiphany					
Jan 22 3 Epiphany		Tori Redman			
Jan 29 4 Epiphany	Ashlyn Scott	Ashlyn Scott		St. Germain's	

Youth Christmas Pageant



Grace Allen..... *In Honor of my Family*
Valerie & Bob Bluthardt.....*To the Glory of God*
Ouida & Elwin Hahn..... *In Memory of our Moms & Dads*
Ann Helm..... *To the Glory of God*
Ervilene Kuhlmann..... *In Memory of Kathryn*
Fritz & Margaret Leifeste. *In Honor of our Children,
Grandchildren & Great-grandchildren*
Joyce O'Connell....*To the Glory of God & in Memory of Family*
James and Blossom Parry..... *To the Glory of God*
Bee & Hank Rose (2)..... *In Memory of Family*
Dorothy and Lou St. Germain (2)...*In Memory of our Parents,
Annabel & George Crook and Elaine & Ray St. Germain*
Leon and Betty Thane (2).....*In Memory of Family*
Pam and John Ulrich..... *To the Glory of God*
Ida Walter..... *To the Glory of God*
Elaine Welty..... *Thanks be to God*
Wierzowiecki Family..... *To the Glory of God*
Marie Williams..... *Thanks be to God for Friends & Family*
Bob Zwarich.....*In Thanks for all our Blessings*
Pastor Paul & Phyllis Zwarich.....*To the Glory of God*



EPIPHANY

Save the Date

Saturday, Jan. 7th 2023 at 11 am, we will have our annual Epiphany Baked Potato Luncheon. **Our Guest speaker will be Bob Bluthardt**, site manager at Fort Concho National Historic Landmark. He will enlighten us with interesting aspects about the Fort. Bob is an excellent speaker, & you will not want to miss this special event!

After Bob's talk, we will share a baked potato lunch. Please bring your favorite topping. Please RSVP to Pam Ulrich so we can get a count of how many potatoes we need to bake.

Thank you!

RSVP to Pam at
325-942-9404.



**Women's Bible Study
will resume
Wednesday, Jan. 4
6:30pm**

In-person or Zoom

**Please contact
Joyce O'Connell for
more information.**



"A WORD OF SINCERE THANKS"



To each and everyone of you from Calvary Lutheran, I want to express to each of you my sincere "Thanks" for all of the prayers; the cards; the phone calls; and especially your visits to see me during my most recent severe illness. I had been to our granddaughter's wedding in Tucson, Az and had a wonderful time. Felt great until I got home and in bed. A stomach bug hit me. We called the ambulance & I was admitted to the hospital. The bug persisted for several days. The Dr. told me I needed to be able to get out of the hospital and get some therapy to try to get my strength back. My son

Donnie Steve came down from Lockney to see about me. By weeks end they had released me to rehab. I ended up at Meadowcreek. Thanks to Robert Wierzowiecki and his staff, I was given therapy twice a day, and by November 9 was able to return home. Home Health is still working with me twice a week for another 3 to 4 weeks. After all their testing, the hospital told me I had somehow contracted "Norovirus". I tell you it is terrible.

Thanks once again and God bless each and everyone of you.

Rosalee King



1/3/2009

Dave & Sassy Puckett

1/24/1970

Fritz & Margaret Leifeste



- | | |
|----|----------------|
| 7 | Tori Redman |
| 9 | Doris Wendland |
| 11 | Ann Helm |
| 11 | Rosalee King |
| 21 | Abigail Scott |
| 21 | Curt Tucker |
| 23 | John Rowoldt |
| 26 | Julius Bricker |
| 31 | Denise Cooley |



Wisdom from MLK

"If you can't fly, run. If you can't run, walk. If you can't walk, crawl, but by all means, keep moving." *Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Another year for God

Another year is dawning; dear Father, let it be,
in working or in waiting, another year with thee....

Another year of progress, another year of praise,
another year of proving thy presence all the days.

Another year of service, of witness for thy love;
another year of training for holier work above.

Another year is dawning! Dear Father, let it be,
on earth, or else in heaven, another year for thee.

—Frances Ridley Havergal



Ordering the days

God spoke and created all that exists. He separated and ordered his creation. What did God say about all he made?

Directions: Write the correct day of creation next to each clue. Then fill in the circled letters in order below to complete Genesis 1:31, NIV.

FIRST SECOND THIRD FOURTH FIFTH SIXTH

God made wild animals and livestock.

God said, "Let there be light."

God gathered the waters under the sky into one place.

God made a vault to separate the waters and called it "sky."

God created plants and trees.

God separated the light from the darkness.

God made the water teem with living creatures.

God made the sun and moon.

God made birds fly above the earth.

God made stars.

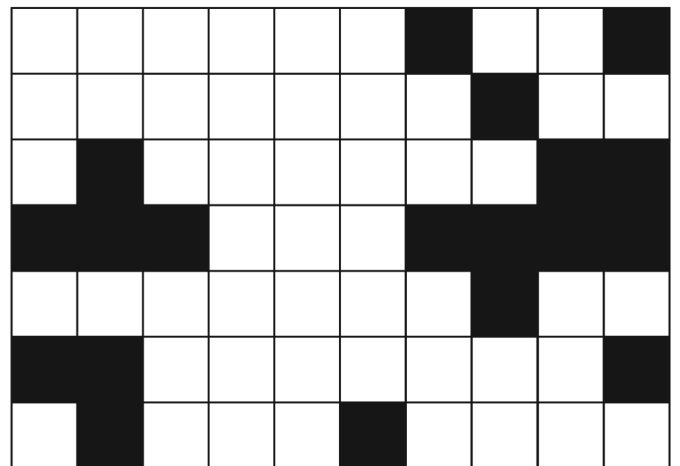
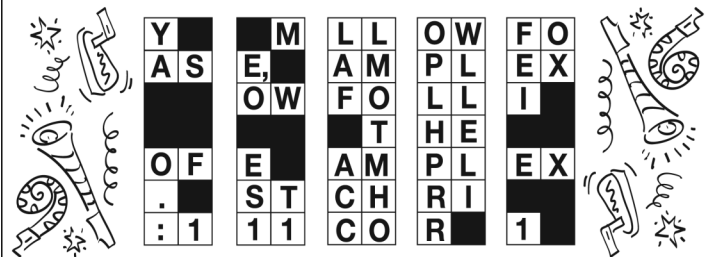
God created mankind in his own image.

God _aw all tha _ he _ad ma _e, an _ t was ve _y g _od.

GENESIS 1:31, NIV

Puzzle!

Match the blocks of spaces and letters to complete an NIV Bible verse about an important commitment.

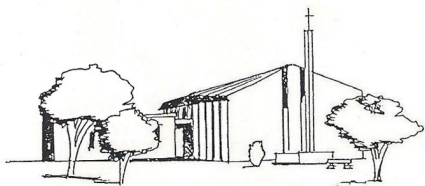


Answer: Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ. 1 Cor. 11:1

Answer: sixth, first, third, second, third, first, fifth, fourth, fifth, sixth, God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.

JANUARY 2023						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Christmas 1 8:45am Adult bible study & Sunday School 10am Worship Service HAPPY NEW YEAR	2 AA group 5:30pm Pastor's Day Off	3 AA group 5:30pm	4 6:30pm Ladies Bible Study	5 AA group 5:30pm	6 AA group 5:30pm Epiphany of Our Lord	7 10am altar guild 11am Potato Luncheon w/ Speaker, Bob Bluthardt
8 Baptism of Our Lord 8:45am Adult bible study & Sunday School 10am Worship Service	9 AA group 5:30pm Pastor's Day Off	10 AA group 5:30pm 6:45pm Church Council Meeting Zoom only	11 6:30pm Ladies Bible Study	12 AA group 5:30pm	13 AA group 5:30pm	14
15 Epiphany 2 8:45am Adult bible study & Sunday School 10am Worship Service	16 AA group 5:30pm Pastor's Day Off Martin Luther King, JR. Day	17 AA group 5:30pm	18 6:30pm Ladies Bible Study	19 AA group 5:30pm	20 AA group 5:30pm Soup Kitchen 9:30-1	21
22 Epiphany 3 8:45am Adult bible study & Sunday School 10am Worship Service Noisy Bucket	23 AA group 5:30pm Pastor's Day Off Newsletter Deadline	24 AA group 5:30pm	25 6:30pm Ladies Bible Study	26 AA group 5:30pm	27 AA group 5:30pm	28
29 Epiphany 4 8:45am Adult bible study & Sunday School 10am Worship Service	30 AA group 5:30pm Pastor's Day Off	31 AA group 5:30pm	6:30pm Ladies Bible Study	AA group 5:30pm	AA group 5:30pm	

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

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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.