

Calvary Comment

Calvary Lutheran Church
January 2020

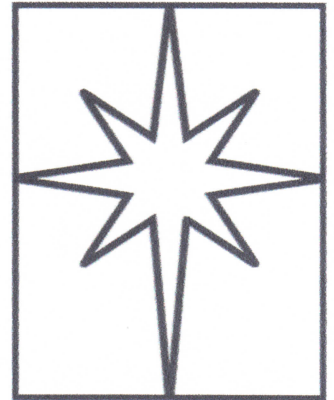


Pastor Paul and Phyllis Zwarich

From the Pastor:

Resolutions for daily living: "Baptism indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man (a new woman) should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever."

Luther's Small Catechism



Have you made your "New Year's Resolution" yet? One of the things that I love about the New Year is the fact that most people approach the New Year with renewed hope and vitality. I often hear phrases like, "This year is going to be better year than last year." Or "I am going to make _____ change in my life." Or "I can't wait to see what the New Year brings." Hope-filled phrases like these are indeed wonderful.

And yet, as I think about these hope-filled phrases I can't help but wonder why this is not the case every day. Every day, which the Lord gives to us, is a gift. Each day is filled with both the unpredictable and the opportunity to strive to move forward. And when I think about this, I am often drawn to the words above from Luther's Small Catechism.

When Martin Luther talks about the need for the Old Adam to be drowned, he is not talking about a person named Adam, but about the sinful nature that consumes each of us that we inherited from Adam and Eve. So, what is Luther saying? Luther is reminding us that because of the sin in our lives we are called to repentance each and every day. And then every day we are reborn; and given a fresh start as our sins are completely forgiven.

1 John Chapter 1 verse 9 reminds us of this exact same thing stating, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." That, brothers and sisters in Christ, is one of the beautiful parts of being connected to Jesus through the waters of Baptism. Through Jesus we are given a fresh start, and we are made new again.

Therefore, why should we not approach each and every day with hope? And the answer is we should, because every day through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ we are made new, our old sinful self is drowned and new life springs forth. Each and every day, Christ makes us "New," and it is this knowledge that should fill us with hope and confidence as we enter the year 2020.

Happy New Year

Pastor Paul

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Council's Corner

There are no Church Council minutes included in this newsletter because the December meeting was a social rather than a business meeting.

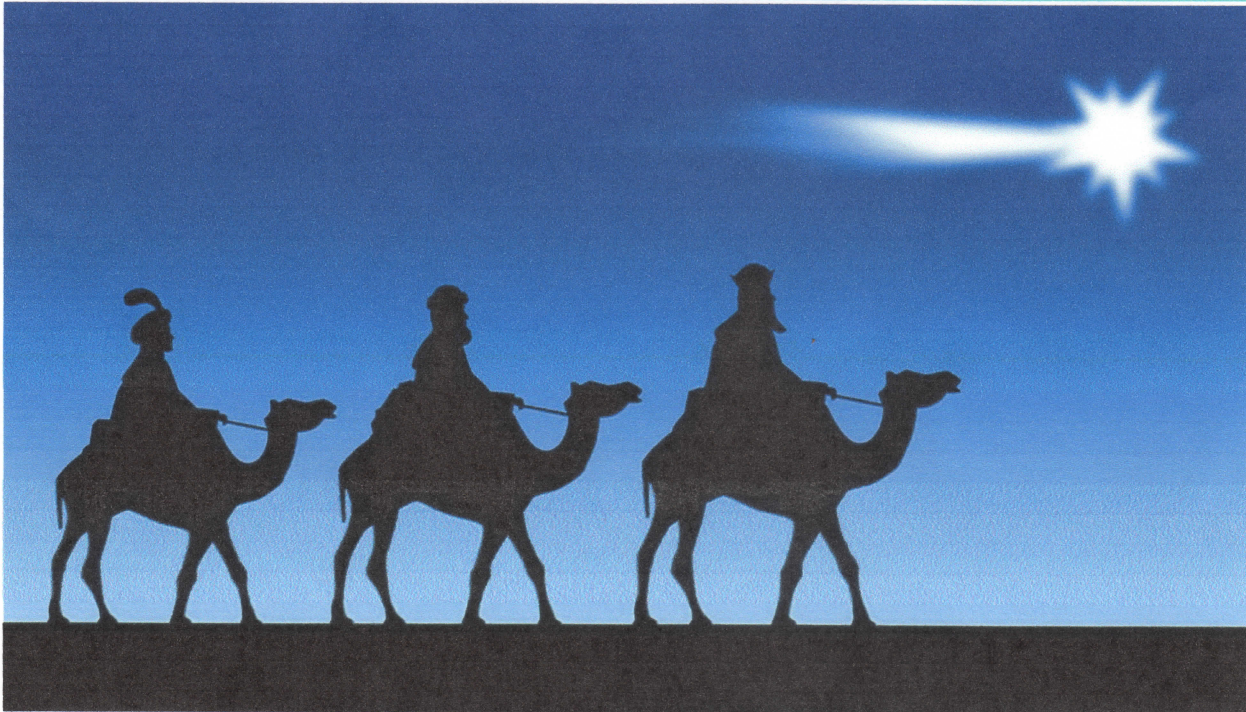


The next Church Council meeting will be on Monday, January 13, 2020, at 6:30 p.m.

The Council Annual Reports are due on Friday, January 31, 2020.

Worship

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



The gifts of gold, frankincense & myrrh

- Gold – represents Deity (King).
 - Symbol of kingship on earth & heaven.
- Frankincense – represents Priesthood.
 - Incense burned in Temple.
 - Imported to Israel from East.
- Myrrh – represents Death.
 - Used for embalming or death anointing.
 - More valuable than gold at this time.

Worship Service	Usher	Greeter/s	Acolyte	Assistant Minister (Liturgist)	Reader (Lector)	Communion Assistant
January 5		Jo McCormick		Joyce O'Connell	Marie Williams	
January 12	John Ulrich			Steve Mild	Gary Griffin	XXXXX
January 19				Ann Helm	Margaret Leifeste	Steve Mild
January 26				Steve Mild	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 Sunday School Christmas Program went off without a problem. The children did an excellent job. The addition of showing the script on the overhead screen helped the congregation know what was being said. A big thanks to the

congregation for acting as our sheep and angel choir.

The Women's Bible Study that meets on Wednesdays has been taking a break during the holiday times. It will begin again on Wednesday, January 8th, at 6:00 p.m. Please come and enjoy the fellowship and information.

The Men's Bible Breakfast group that usually meets on the second Saturday of the month will meet on Saturday, January 11th, at 8:00 a.m. at Rosa's Café on Sherwood Way.

Sunday School attendance for the lower grades is still averaging 3. The Confirmation Class, as well as the adults attending that class, average 6 in attendance. The Adult Bible Study has an average attendance of 5. The Sunday School program has also been taking a break during the holidays, and will be starting again on January 12th, 2020, at the usual time.

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

Marie Williams,

Parish Education Team Leader

Evangelism

Do you have a passion to build deeper relationships with others? We have begun planning ways to encourage relationships within Calvary as well as outside of Calvary. Please pray about this. We could use your ideas and help.

We hope to get together in January to make plans for 2020 (watch for a meeting announcement in the bulletin).

Let me know if you are interested in helping, or if you just have an idea!

We had 14 accept the invitation to join in the Online Bible Study. I hope you enjoyed the study! You can still catch up and finish it even though it was scheduled to end

on December 16th. I would be interested in your thoughts concerning the study and the Bible app.

Joy and Peace to you this season and all year!

Barbara Walker 432-213-5293 or

email: babswalker07@gmail.com

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

[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA-NC](#)

Service and Justice

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

SERVICE AND JUSTICE

January, 2020

HAPPY NEW YEAR. 2020 is here as we continue with our lives and the work of our Lord Jesus Christ. Let us pray for blessings and the sharing of love with our Christian family and community, that we may work in harmony doing His will.



*Betty Thane,
Service and Justice
Team Leader*

SPECIAL THANKS to everyone who participated in our preparation for the Christmas season: the children's Sunday School program, decorating the church, caroling, baking cookies for the military and the remodel of our kitchen. Many members have been busy, and we appreciate all their efforts.

THE NOISY BUCKET OFFERINGS will resume on the fourth Sunday, January 26th. Start saving your change for the bucket.

THE CHURCH OF THE DAMASCUS ROAD is an ELCA prison ministry. Please buy boxed Christmas cards that are on sale after Christmas. Bring them to the church and leave them in the box in the Narthex. For Christmas 2020, the cards will be given to prisoners to send to their family members.

PROJECT DIGNIDAD: Please continue to remember our homeless and less fortunate by bringing nonperishable food items, clothes, coats, blankets, and household items. Place items in the Project Dignidad box in the Narthex.

Betty Thane,
Service and Justice Team Leader

Fellowship

"Building Christian community in love and grace."



Kara Martinez,
Fellowship Team Leader

Faith & Fellowship

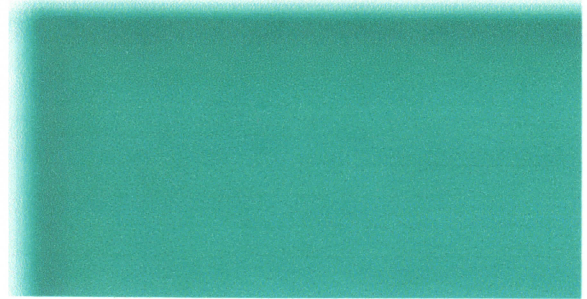
EPIPHANY LUNCHEON: January 4th, 11:00 a.m. Check the article below for more information.

MEN'S BIBLE BREAKFAST will be meeting at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 11th, at Rosa's Café on Sherwood Way. Sure wish you would join us!

LUTHERAN LUNCHERS will meet on Thursday, January 16th, at 11:00 a.m. at Fuentes Café Downtown. Please RSVP to Leon or Betty Thane at 653-3876. See you there!

EPIPHANY LUNCHEON:

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 4th, for our Epiphany Luncheon. Baked potatoes will be provided. Please bring your favorite topping! Our speaker will be Pastor Paul, and he will speak about Epiphany, and about growing up in Canada.



Happy Anniversary

January 3, 2009 - Dave and Sassy Puckett
January 20, 2018 - Rob and Christine Fryar
January 24, 1970 - Fritz and Margaret Leifeste

Happy Birthday

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



The Altar Guild will meet on Saturday, January 4th, at 9:30 a.m. Being on the Altar Guild is such a wonderful way to serve the Lord, and we'd love to have you join us! For more information, please call Pam Ulrich at 942-9404.

January

2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
  Matthew 2:1-12			<i>BLESSSED NEW YEAR!</i> Church Office Closed	10:00am Exercise Group 5:30pm AA Group		9:30am Altar Guild Meeting 11:00am Epiphany Baked Potato Luncheon 11:00am AA Group
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<i>Christmas 2</i> 8:45am Adult Bible Study 10:00am Worship Service	<i>Epiphany of Our Lord</i> 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	8:00am Men's Bible Breakfast at Rosa's Café on Sherwood Way 11:00am AA Group
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<i>Baptism 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 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 Fuentes Café Downtown 5:30pm AA Group	11:00am AA Group	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
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26	27	28	29	30	31	Looking Ahead
<i>Epiphany 3</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	Pastor Paul at Synod Office 5:30pm AA Group	February 2 - Presentation of Our Lord February 23 - Transfiguration of Our Lord February 26 - Ash Wednesday

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.

The only Son from heaven, foretold by ancient seers,
by God the Father given, in human form appears.
No sphere His light confining, no star so brightly shining
as He, our Morning Star.

Oh, time of God appointed, oh, bright and holy morn!
He comes, the king anointed, the Christ, the virgin-born.
Grim death to vanquish for us, to open heaven before us
and bring us life again.

Awaken, Lord, our spirit to know and love you more,
in faith to stand unshaken, in spirit to adore,
that we, through this world moving, each glimpse of heaven proving,
may reap it fullness there.

O Father, here before you with God the Holy Ghost,
and Jesus, we adore you, O pride of angel-host:
before you mortals lowly cry, "Holy, holy, holy,
O blessed Trinity!"

From "The Only Son from Heaven"

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PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Epiphany of Our Lord - January 6
Baptism of Our Lord - January 12

