

CALVARY LUTHERAN

CHURCH AND SCHOOL



Church Newsletter

December 2023

From the Pastors

"Peace on earth...on whom his favor 'RESTS'..."

It is about this time of year that I find the days start feeling shorter and shorter. Well, yes, the days are technically getting shorter in respect to the amount of sunlight, but I'm talking more about the fact that in the month of December we fill our lives so full that the day seems shorter. It seems like we never have enough time to get "everything" done. The month of December isn't what many people would describe as "restful". All the present shopping, house decorating, cookie baking, card writing, party attending, family traveling, and people visiting end up packing the days so full that we spend January trying to recover from holiday exhaustion—and a little bit holiday overeating as well.

In the midst of this Christmas busyness, I can't help but think of what God might say about all our "busyness." What would his invitation to us be in these shortened days of December?

Psalm 127:1-2 *Unless the LORD builds the house, its builders labor in vain.
Unless the LORD watches over the city, the watchmen stand guard in vain.
In vain you rise early and stay up late, toiling for food to eat—
for he grants sleep to those he loves.*

Psalm 46:10-11 *"Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth." The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.*

In the busyness of Christmas it's hard to "Be still. We all have things to do. It's hard to take a breath, let alone take a break, and even harder to find true rest. Yet, it is into the busyness of this world that our Lord Jesus Christ was born. It was into the hustle and bustle that this gift of Christ was given. He came to bring peace and rest to all our strivings and searchings. It was due to the busy comings and goings of life that "there was no room in the inn."

It is my prayer that all our comings and goings may not crowd out the coming of our Lord Jesus into our lives this Christmas. I pray that each of you has the chance to step back and sit in the peaceful glow of your Christmas tree, with perhaps a few Christmas hymns playing in the background, and simply read, reflect, and pray about the blessings that have come to us in the Christ child. We rest in the fact that He has done it all for you. There is no amount of effort and busyness that will be able to deal with the darkness of our sin—only the light of Christ's love can dispel the stain of sin, our struggle for control, and our hopeless efforts to "do it all." Relax this Christmas season in knowing that He has dealt with what is needful. He has come to save you from carrying the weight of the world. He says to us, "Be still, and know that I am God..." or the Gospel of Luke says it this way, "*Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, **and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests**' (Luke 2:13-14).* May His peace and favor "rest" on you this Christmastime and may you know of His great love all the days of your life. God's blessings to you this Advent and Christmas.

God's Peace, *Pastor Kurt Ebert*

Staff Spotlight

Clara Yoo



What is your role at Calvary?

Website Ministry Coordinator

What is your favorite thing about serving at Calvary?

That I can see all perspectives, and help people to see that when they can't come physically to church

Who has been the biggest influence on your faith? Why?

My mom. She always prays 24/7 and has a heart of Jesus.

Favorite Book/Verse of the Bible?

Romans 8:28

Favorite Dessert?

Anything with chocolate!

What is one thing that the people of Calvary can keep in their prayers for your area of ministry?

That people can unite in Christ even through social media and the website.

Dustin Smith



What is your role at Calvary?

5th Grade Teacher

What is your favorite thing about serving at Calvary?

I love the people at Calvary.

Who has been the biggest influence on your faith? Why?

My grandmother had the biggest influence on my faith. God was at the center of everything she said and did during her life.

Favorite Book/Verse of the Bible?

I can do all this by the power of Christ. He gives me strength.—Philippians 4:13

Favorite Dessert?

Anything chocolate

What is one thing that the people of Calvary can keep in their prayers for your area of ministry?

Please thank God for the wonderful school that we have! Continue to pray for the students and staff as we continue to grow each year.

General News



2023 Holiday Worship Schedule

WEEKLY WORSHIP

Saturdays at 5:30 p.m.

Sundays at 8:00 & 10:45 a.m.

CALVARY LUTHERAN SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS

Wed., Nov 29th, 6:30 p.m. (*5th-8th Grade Christmas Service*)

Wed., Dec 6th, 6:30 p.m. (*2nd-4th Grade Christmas Service*)

Wed., Dec 13th, 6:30 p.m. (*PS-1st Grade Christmas Service*)

ADVENT MIDWEEK AFTERNOON SERVICES

Wed., December 6th, 3:45 p.m.

Wed., December 13th, 3:45 p.m.

HOPE, PEACE, & CANDLES SERVICE

Wed., December 20th, 6:30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE (Sun., Dec 24th)

10:45 a.m. – Children's Christmas Service

5:00 p.m. – Candlelight Service

7:00 p.m. – Candlelight Service with Choirs

CHRISTMAS DAY (Mon., Dec 25th)

10:00 a.m. Divine Service with Communion



Foundations of Faith Class

• 6 Sunday Morning Sessions

• Starts Sunday, January 21, 9:25 a.m. Room 125

Twice a year Calvary offers its *Foundations of Faith* Class for adults, providing practical answers about faith, the Lutheran Church, and Calvary's mission. Our fall class will begin January 21 for 6 sessions (no class Labor Day weekend.) If you are interested in becoming a member of Calvary, this class is a great opportunity to learn more about our ministries and to become better acquainted with our pastors and other individuals. All materials and refreshments are provided; Sunday School classes are available for children.

Questions? Email Kara Hiatt.

General News

Midweek Advent Afternoon Services (*Onsite only*)

Join us for our thematic Advent series entitled "Arise and Shine." We prepare for the Christ Child, who is the light of the world. Each week will focus on a different aspect of the light of Christ. Each service will be filled with reading, prayer, hymns, and a sermon, as we prepare for Christmas.

Wed., Dec 6 at 3:45 p.m. "Rising Light" (Isaiah 60:1)

Wed., Dec 13 at 3:45 p.m. "Reflected Light" (Zechariah 9:16)

Please note: There will be **NO 3:45 p.m. service on Dec 20.**

***The sermon series, however, will conclude in the evening service on Dec 20 at 6:30 p.m. "Healing Light" (Malachi 4:2)

An Advent Service of Hope, Peace, and Candles

Join us **Wed, Dec 20 at 6:30 p.m.** for a service of readings, songs, and candle lighting, as we reflect upon the year that has gone by, as well as the hope, peace, & comfort that comes at Christmas to shine in the midst of the darkness of sin. Whether it has been a tough year of loss, a busy year that leaves you feeling exhausted, or simply an opportunity to enjoy the peace of Christ, join us for a service of prayer and reflection. ***A time of cookies and fellowship will follow.***

Call Committee Update

In late October, the Call Committee and Spiritual Care met with Indiana District Representative, Pastor Seth Mierow. After receiving his support, the Call Committee met in November to outline the process of calling Calvary's new Associate Pastor. Search is being done for a specific candidate that will offer leadership in Pastoral Care and Adult Education.

The Call Committee is currently waiting to receive a list of candidates that the Indiana District office will submit for review. At that time, the committee will move forward in assessing the candidates that best fit Calvary's needs.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact any member of the Call Committee: Phil Hendershott (chair), Ann Arnold, Rhonda Hansen, Gene Jend, Ben Langhammer, and Kirsten Springer.

All members of Calvary are asked to keep the work of the Call Committee in their prayers and that the Holy Spirit guide this process.

Christmas Card Sorting

You can bring your Christmas cards that you have for Calvary members and drop them in the bins by both sets of doors. Christmas cards must be dropped off by **Sunday, December 17** to be sorted and distributed.

General News

Advent Sermon Series 'Prepare Ye' (Dec 2/3–23/24)

"Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God" (Isaiah 40:3). Join us each weekend as we prepare for Christmas with a special sermon series. We will reflect upon the 'psalms of old' and meet those whom God chose to play a part in the story of our Lord's birth.

Dec 2/3 – Ponder with Mary (Psalm 48:9)

Dec 9/10 – Pray with Zechariah (Psalm 69:13)

Dec 16/17 – Praise with Elizabeth (Psalm 30:4)

Dec 23/24 – Proclaim with John the Baptism (Psalm 145:6)

Winter Weather Cancellation Reminder

Should winter weather cause us to cancel an event, we will ...

- 1) Post to our website (clcs.org) & Facebook ([clcs.org/fb](https://www.facebook.com/clcs.org/fb)).
- 2) Send out a mass e-mail to our e-mail lists.
- 3) As able, change our phone greeting for the church.

Join our e-mail list by contacting churchsecretary@clcs.org. Above all, use your best judgment during this time of year.

Breakfast for Jesus!

Saturday, December 9th from 9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Calvary Lutheran School gymnasium

Join our **Praising Hands Puppet Ministry** for a morning of food, puppets, and crafts to celebrate the birth of our Savior. This is a free family event open to all ages. Parking is available in the North Lot for access through door #2.

Contact Sarah Ebert with any questions

Calvary India Mission Giving Tree

Are you looking for a gift for a friend or family member that will have spiritual value? Stop by the lobby and select a tag from the Calvary India Mission giving tree. The items on the tags will be distributed to the tailoring and tuition students in India in support of Christ-based education. For questions, please contact Rhonda Hansen.

Attention Thrivent Members—"Choice Dollars" Designation

If you have not directed your 2023 Thrivent Choice Dollars, please consider directing them to "Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church" or "Calvary Lutheran School". Visit thrivent.com/thriventchoice or call 800-847-4836 to find out if you have Choice Dollars to direct.



Executive Director

From Your Executive Director

The holiday season has been encroaching on us since Labor Day. Stores like Hobby Lobby and Michaels had their products on the shelves in advance of the many craft shows. By October, many retailers had their Christmas décor displays in place, and before we knew it, actual decorations were up not only in stores but also some homes. It seems like the new pattern is we go from Labor Day to Halloween (of course, being Lutheran, Reformation Day as well), gloss over Thanksgiving and straight to Christmas.

Ah, the overabundance of Christmas. Parties. School plays. Church services. Family gatherings. Performances. We feel compelled to squeeze every possible type of event into that short time window between Thanksgiving and New Year's. And we end up exhausted.

The Puritans who immigrated to America were non-celebrants of Christmas. Believing it to be too secular an event and not in the Bible (being literalists), England banned Christmas in 1644 following Scotland's ban in 1640. In 1659 the Massachusetts Bay Colony enacted a law called Penalty for Keeping Christmas. The notion was that such "festivals as were superstitiously kept in other countries" were a "great dishonor of God and offence of others." Anyone found celebrating Christmas by failing to work, "feasting, or any other way... shall pay for every such offence five shillings." This ban lasted 22 years – slightly longer than the 18th Amendment to Constitution, another failed attempt at legislating morality.

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given" reads Isaiah 9:6 (ESV). We celebrate His birth with our Advent and Christmas services, giving thanks to God for this gift, with our family members – some of whom may not come on a regular basis.

And guess what? This child wasn't given just to us at Calvary or Missouri Synod Lutheran Christians, even though sometimes we want to treat Him as ours, and only ours alone. We're like a toddler, not wanting to share with others.

There's a whole world out there: our local community, our State, our country, all in need of this gift. This Savior. The number of unchurched is growing each year, giving us plenty of opportunities to share Christ with an increasingly unreligious world. We have that opportunity to Engage People In Christ, not only inside our church but outside our church.

We need to learn how to Connect to others, sharing the Gospel. We need to better Learn how to share that Gospel and know what we are sharing. And we need to know how we let others know we Care about them, enough to take that step to demonstrate to them we are all His children. And we cannot worry about how He is perceived by others: He is their Savior, just as He is ours. We must do better fulfilling the Great Commission given to us by Him.

One of my favorite Christmas songs is by Alfred Burt, the son of an Episcopal church rector: "Some Children See Him". We all see Him differently, and to quote the final lines of the song, "Come worship now the infant King. 'Tis love that's born tonight!" Come, let us not only worship, but share that infant King with our community this Christmas season, giving them a priceless gift just as we have been given!

CHRISTmas blessings!

In His and your service,

Bill Laut

Calvary Lutheran School News from Principal Rensner

Christmas Saving Accounts

Many banks provide personal Christmas Club bank accounts. These accounts are put into place so that individuals may deposit money month to month, week to week throughout the year. The money is then withdrawn to pay for Christmas gift purchases. Individuals plan throughout the year as they prepare for the purchases to be made.

There are many ways to prepare for the holiday of Christmas. The most important is to attend to the daily hearing of the Word of God. This preparation is received every day at Calvary Lutheran School. The students hear the saving news of God's love each day. They are investing in the future plans that God has according to His Good Will given to them in faith.

The Christmas Club savings account is emptied after the bills have been paid. The investment process must begin once again in the New Year. Our investment in the Lord's Word should never stop or be emptied. The Gospel message strengthens us for the work of our Lord. We have the greatest news to share.....JESUS CHRIST IS BORN!!!!

Advent Services

Students at Calvary Lutheran School will be leading our Advent services this year. All services are at 6:30 p.m. as we proclaim the Lord's birth with scripture, music, and narration.

Wednesday, November 29 5th-8th grade students

Wednesday, December 6 2nd-4th grade students

Wednesday, December 13 PS 4/5 year old's, Kindergarten, & 1st grade students

End of second quarter

Our second quarter will be completed on Friday, December 19. Report cards will be emailed on Wednesday, January 10. We commend our work into the Lord's Hands asking Him to bless those who teach and those who learn in this place.

Christmas Vacation

Our final day prior to Christmas vacation is **Wednesday, December 20**. School will dismiss at 3:00 p.m. on that day. School will resume on **Wednesday, January 3rd**. We ask the Lord to be with all traveling during this Christmas break. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

2024-25 Preschool, Kindergarten, & First through Eighth Grade Registration Information

Preschool, Kindergarten, First – Eighth Grade registration for Calvary members, returning students and their siblings will begin on January 8th. Our Early enrollment period will continue through January 31st. New applications for enrollment will be accepted starting on February 1st. Families are invited to call and schedule an appointment for a tour during the school day.

We are excited as we prepare and plan for the upcoming school year. Help spread the word to coworkers, neighbors, friends, and family. God has blessed us enabling us to be a blessing to others.

National Lutheran Schools Week

Calvary will join with thousands of other Lutheran School students and teachers during the week of January 28-February 4 as we celebrate NLSW!! Many exciting activities are planned during this week-long celebration. A calendar of events will be distributed following our Christmas Vacation.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – No school

Calvary Lutheran School will be closed on Monday January 15 in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. We ask the Lord to eliminate the sin of prejudice that still exists in our world today. We ask God to reveal "the Dream" of Dr. King to all people.

Open Positions

We are currently accepting applications for a kindergarten teacher. Please contact the school office if interested and for more information.



Calvary Lutheran School News from Principal Rensner

State Tax Credit Information

Too Good To Be True?! 50% TAX CREDIT for Indiana tax liabilities!

God has provided a unique opportunity to help fund the Christian education of our Calvary students. The Lutheran Scholarship Granting Organization of Indiana has been identified as a Scholarship Granting Organization. Scholarships through private and corporate donations are granted to Calvary student families whose income is less than 400% of the Federal free or reduced hot lunch guidelines.

Multiple Benefits for Calvary Lutheran School students, the private or corporate donor, and Calvary Lutheran Church

1. Students and their families accepted in this program will receive a scholarship grant per child enrolled in Preschool 4-5 year olds, Kindergarten-8th grade at Calvary.
2. The donor will receive a 50% Indiana State tax credit for every dollar donated. Example: A donation of \$1000.00 will result in a tax credit of \$500.00 towards your Indiana income tax liability. Private as well as corporate donations will receive this benefit. A Federal charitable deduction may also be realized.

Creative donations

Put your donation on a credit card that offers special incentives. Reward points, airline miles, etc. in addition to the tax savings. Reap the rewards while assisting others to hear God's Word.

How may I help? \$45,500.00 is needed to fully fund all applications

We are currently about \$28,000.00 short of this goal. Donations are currently being accepted. Please submit your donation directly to the Lutheran SGO of Indiana online by December 31. Please note: Be sure to clearly mark Calvary Lutheran School as the recipient of your donation. The entire process is found online at www.LutheranSGO.org.

What happens in the future?

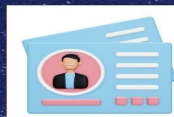
Children will have the opportunity to hear God's Word through your giving. God continues to open doors to others once thought closed due to financial restrictions. Your assistance in this program is so greatly appreciated! Your gift is multiplied in so many ways.

YEARBOOK BUSINESS ADS

SING A LITTLE LOUDER

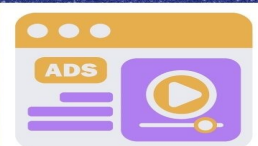
WHAT IS YEARBOOK AD SPACE?

Help support Calvary Lutheran school and receive business ad space. Each ad space sold helps to keep the price of the yearbooks below \$20.00 and support other school assemblies.



BUSINESS CARD

\$50.00 per Space



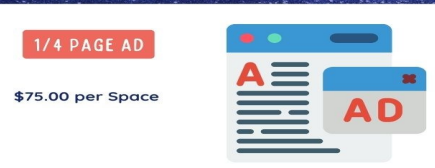
1/2 PAGE AD

\$125.00 per Space



FULL PAGE AD

\$200.00 per Space



1/4 PAGE AD

\$75.00 per Space

HOW TO ORDER AD SPACE?

Step 1: Select your Ad size.

Step 2: Email a digital logo or image to schoolsecretary@thecalvaryschool.org along with contact information and size of the ad you are committing to.

Step 3: Drop off cash or check to school office

Compassion Ministry

College Care Packages

35 college students received a care package in early November filled with goodies, a hand written note, and a "Pass It On" card from Psalm 55:22. May the Lord guide and protect them as they finish this semester.

Cast your cares on the Lord and He will sustain you. Psalm 55:22

Outreach Ministry

Advent Church Service Visitor Mugs

The Outreach team is partnering with the Adult Ministry group and the school to provide special Christmas coffee mugs and hot cocoa mix for our Advent service visitors. We always have extra visitors at our advent services when the school children are singing, and we want to have something nice to share with them. Each visiting family will be offered a Christmas themed mug packed with cocoa mix and a list of our Christmas season church service times. Many thanks to the Adult Ministry and school children who do most of the work preparing these gifts and the Outreach team members who distribute the mugs!

New Member Reception

The Outreach team hosted a breakfast to welcome our new members on Sunday, October 29th. Thanks to everyone who brought food and took time to meet and greet our new members! After receiving our new members at the 10:45 service we also had a cake reception to celebrate and welcome our new members and their families! A special thanks to Kara Hiatt for coordinating the new member classes and assisting the Outreach team and other church members in getting to know them better.

Outreach Partnerships at Calvary

The past few months the Outreach team has been busy assisting other groups in their efforts to connect with our church and school members as well as the community. This included assisting the Fellowship team with the outdoor family cookout on October 21st, participating in the PTL Trunk-or-Treat on October 27th, hosting a welcome table at the Calvary Bazaar on November 11th, and helping the Adult Ministry group prepare visitor gifts to distribute at our Advent services. We thank these groups for their own outreach efforts and for working with the Outreach team to share God's blessings!

Memorials

December Memorials

In Memory of Larry Stanford:

Sharon Brewer and Dennis Meyer

In Memory of Gene & Betty Lauterbach:

Sharon Brewer

In Memory of Judy Kirkland:

Jim & Jan Dunaway and Sherri Terry



Youth Ministry

LAUNCH & SAIL (5th-8th grades)

The all-youth camp-in is back this coming **Sat., Dec 9 to Sun., Dec 10**. 5th and 6th grade Youth should come prepared for a night of fun from 6:30-10:00 p.m. 7th and 8th grade Youth will arrive at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday and will stay overnight until 7:30 a.m. on Sunday! 7th and 8th graders should bring a sleeping bag, pillow, and anything else that they want to use to make their campsite. This can include a tent, air mattress, fort supplies, or whatever else! We have no shortage of space, so get creative and have fun with it!



A pizza dinner will be offered on Saturday night and breakfast will be provided by our high school youth early Sunday morning. Snacks will be available throughout the event. At the Camp-In, youth can enjoy video games in the youth room, active games in the gym, or hang out in the cafeteria. The cost of this event is \$10 per 5th and 6th grade youth and \$20 per 7th and 8th grade youth. This event is open to all youth 5th-8th grade no matter where they attend church or school. All are welcome!

NEWS FROM LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL OF INDIANAPOLIS

The Together Project

We are making big strides in our **Together** campaign! Several projects are completed or underway including baseball fencing, new sidewalks, curb repairs, new tables and chairs, stage flooring, debt reduction, and merit scholarship funding. Will you accept the invitation to be part of **together**? Help us cross the finish line! Email for more info.

LuFest Tickets are LIVE!

Make plans to join us at the beautiful Biltwell Event Center on February 9, 2024. Tickets are **LIVE**, and you don't want to miss out on our Early Bird pricing **through December 15**. We can't wait to celebrate and support Lutheran High School during this amazing event with you! Buy tickets today at LuFest.org.

Applications for Lutheran High School

Applications for the 2024-2025 school year will open on December 1st. Visit lhsi.org for more information!

Toys for Tots Collection

Lutheran High School Student Council will sponsor a toy drive benefiting Toys for Tots. The Toy Drive will take place Monday, November 27 - Tuesday, December 12. They are encouraging donations for high school age children.

Saints on Stage is looking for people who can sew!

As we gear up for the February production of *The Little Mermaid*, we are looking for people who are able and willing to help our costumer with sewing costumes. A little bit of sewing ability is helpful, and we can help guide with what needs to be done. Sewing tasks will range from very simple alterations to more complex design and assembly. Much of this could be done on your own time, or at scheduled times with others on the costume crew. Even if you haven't done sewing for theatre before, we encourage you to give it a try! We will provide assistance as needed. Contact Matthew Frick with questions.

Stewardship Emphasis

Student Scholarship Needs - Scholarship Granting Organization

God provides a unique opportunity to help fund the Christian education of our Calvary students. The Lutheran Scholarship Granting Organization of Indiana is a Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO). Scholarships through private and corporate donations are available to Calvary student families whose income is less certain Federal free or reduced hot lunch guidelines.

Gifts received will be used to fund SGO Scholarships for Calvary Students for the coming school year. The needed SGO Scholarship funds this year are over \$45,000 to fully fund scholarships for all eligible recipients.

Too Good To Be True?! A 50% TAX CREDIT for Indiana State tax liabilities!

The SGO donor will receive a 50% Indiana State tax credit for every dollar donated.

Example: A donation of \$1,000 will result in a state tax credit of \$500. towards your Indiana income tax liability. Private as well as corporate donations will receive this benefit. Please check with your tax preparer if a Federal Tax deduction is available.

To receive tax benefits for the current year please donate by December 31. The donor form and steps are located online at www.LutheranSGO.org. Be sure to identify CALVARY LUTHERAN, INDIANAPOLIS as the recipient of your gift.

Advent Offering Envelopes are designated for the Student Assistance Fund

Advent offering envelopes will be designated for the Student Assistance Fund this year. The Student Assistance Fund provides scholarships for Calvary members studying to be church workers. Anyone who is considering pursuing an education in church work and would like more information on scholarship opportunities please reach out to the Stewardship Ministry Team.

Calvary Partners in Ministry – Shepherd Community

Mission Envelope gifts received for the second half of 2023 were used to provide financial support to the Shepherd Community Center. Shepherd is a faith based organization that serves people on the near east side of Indianapolis with the goal of breaking the cycle of poverty by providing spiritual and economic support. <https://shepherdcommunity.org/>

Thanks to everyone for your continued support of Calvary ministry partners thru the Mission Envelopes and other designated giving. For a complete list of Calvary Partners in Ministry please visit our website. <https://www.clcs.org/partners/>

Women in Mission

Ladies' Bible Study, Saturday, December 2 8:30 a.m.

This month's study will be from the Lutheran Women's Fall 2023 Quarterly and shared by everyone.

Join us in the Church Library on **Saturday, December 2nd** at 8:30 a.m.

Ladies' Pinochle Club

Whether it's your first time or you're an old pro, join us for Pinochle! We meet the 2nd Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the Conference Room. Pinochle will meet **December 11th**. Please join us.

Questions? Contact Sandra Wilson.

Blankets for Babies

We will create our blankets from home in December.

Our meeting dates for January and February are: **Thursdays, January 9 and February 13th**. (4:00- 5:30 p.m.). It will be great to come in from the cold and warm our hearts and hands with our baby blankets!! All ages are welcome. We have teachers ready to get you started. Practice yarn is also available.

Questions? Call Susan Daniels.

Extravagant Sharing

Emmaus Food Pantry so appreciates all the donations from Extravagant Sharing. Pat O'Connor from Emmaus faithfully picks up and takes all donations to the Pantry to be distributed to those needing them. In October, nearly 200 items were taken to the Pantry from Calvary's shelves. Thank you, Pat! Thank you, donors!

During December, please support the many outreaches of all Calvary ministries. If you desire to continue filling the Extravagant Sharing shelves, the food will be taken to Emmaus. We will resume our specific food support in January with Canned and Instant Potatoes, Canned Meat and Tuna. God is blessing our outreach to the hungry through Extravagant Sharing!

Ladies Christmas Luncheon

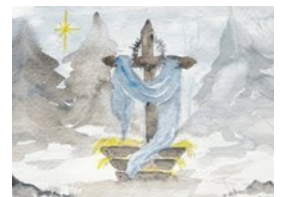
Wednesday, December 13, 2023, 11:00 am

Bynum's Steak House

3850 S. Meridian

The devotion "From the Cradle to the Cross" will inspire attendees at the annual Christmas luncheon. You may pick up an invitation which includes details from the table by the church office door.

Questions? Contact Pat Struss.



Worship Anew

Lutheran Ministries Media, Inc.

Toll-Free: (888) 286-8002 www.worshipanew.org

Sunday 10:00 AM - WHMB-TV 40 Sunday 11:30 a.m. - Direct TV Channel 377

December 2023

What Are You Waiting For?

December 3, 2023 – First Sunday in Advent

Rev. Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer

Be it the second coming or your own mortality, Jesus will return! Are you ready? If not, what are you waiting for?

Sermon Text: Mark 13:37 Readings: Psalm 80:1-7; Isaiah 64:1-9; Mark 13:24-37

Comfort, Comfort My People

December 10, 2023 – Second Sunday in Advent

Rev. Dr. Walter Maier III

We all need comfort for various reasons, which includes our feeling sorrow over our sins. So, be comforted! Even though we are sinners, God shows us abundant grace. These truths are certain because they come from God's Word, which stands forever.

Sermon Text: Isaiah 40:1-11 Readings: Psalm 85:1-9, Isaiah 40:1-11, Mark 1:1-8

The Way of the Lord

December 17, 2023 – Third Sunday in Advent

Rev. Thomas Eggold

The message of Advent is not that we should get better or get busy. Instead, Advent calls us to despair of our efforts and let go of our past performance and to die at the foot of the cross of Jesus Christ where our burden was carried, salvation is found, and we receive the righteousness of Christ.

Sermon Text: John 1:23 Readings: Psalm 126; Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; John 1:6-8, 19-28

In a Manger?

December 24, 2023 – Christmas Day Observed

Rev. Shayne Jonker

The manger in Bethlehem is the first step toward a hilltop called Calvary and Christ's death for the sins of the world. Rather than shy away from that truth, we remember and marvel: the Son of God wills to become a swaddled baby in a Bethlehem barn because He wills to go to the cross for you.

Sermon Text: Luke 2:7 Readings: Psalm 98; Isaiah 9:2-7; Luke 2:1-20

At Home with Jesus

December 31, 2023 – First Sunday after Christmas

Rev. Paul Shoemaker

Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the temple. Simeon and Anna greeted Him with joy. For many, being in church is a source of great joy. Worship Anew seeks to bring that joy to those who are unable to attend church.

Sermon Text: Luke 2:22-40 Readings: Psalm 111; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40



CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

6111 Shelby Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46227
www.clcs.org
Phone: 317-783-2000

Return Service Requested

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

Worship: Saturdays 5:30 PM Sundays 8:00 & 10:45 AM
Family Education Hour (Bible Study & Sunday School) 9:25 AM

Senior Pastor: Kurt Ebert	kebert@clcs.org
Youth & Family Pastor: Sam Troemel	stroemel@clcs.org
Tamil Indian Ministry: Pastor Udhay Raji	revudhay@hotmail.com
Dir. of Adult Ministry: Barb Sorgius	bsorgius@clcs.org
Dir. of Children's Ministry: Heather Marrero	childrensministry@clcs.org
Dir. of Connection & Engagement: Kara Hiatt	connections@clcs.org
Youth Ministry Intern: Brian Krohmer	bkrohmer@clcs.org
Principal: Stephen Rensner	rensner@thecalvaryschool.org
Admissions Counselor: Jason Scheidt	admissions@thecalvaryschool.org
Church Secretary: Shari Lipps	churchsecretary@clcs.org
School Secretary: Megan Waterman	schoolsecretary@thecalvaryschool.org
Bookkeeper: Tereasa Camin	calvarybookkeeper@clcs.org
Business Manager: Gary Bugher	businessmanager@clcs.org
Church Office & Website: (317) 783-2000 www.clcs.org	
School Office & Website: (317) 783-2305 www.choosecalvary.com	