

August 2026

THE CROSS ROAD

“So we have
come to know
and to believe
the love that
God has for us.
God is love, and
whoever abides
in love abides in
God, and God
abides in him.”

1 John 4:16



Calvary United Methodist Church

Monthly Newsletter





WELCOME TO OUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

This newsletter keeps you informed and connected with everything happening at Calvary. Each issue includes:

- A complete monthly calendar insert
- Upcoming events & special services
- Ministry highlights & leadership updates
- Important church announcements
- Fellowship opportunities
- Community outreach news
- Building & project updates
- Ways to serve & get involved

We hope this newsletter helps you stay informed, engaged and inspired by all that is happening at Calvary.

YOU ARE GOD'S BELOVED. YOU ARE WELCOME HERE.

Calvary United Methodist Church believes that all means all.

We open our hearts, our minds, and our doors to all our neighbors. We gladly invite into our shared life all persons who seek a community of support where they can grow in God's grace. Regardless of your race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, ability, relationship status or background – **you are God's beloved, and you are welcome here.**

WANT TO SEE MORE OF CALVARY?

Scan here or visit **CalvaryPgh.com** for a closer look!



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Gathering as a community to reflect give thanks and grow together.

CELEBRATE: WORSHIPPING GOD TOGETHER

Worship With Us

SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS

Join us each week to celebrate God's presence with joyful music, inspiring messages, prayer and community. Come as you are and experience a spirit-filled, uplifting hour of hope and connection.

WORSHIP IN PERSON — SUNDAYS AT 11 AM

Come to Calvary! We have several lots available to you most Sundays. When there is a Pittsburgh Steelers football game, there is still plenty of parking for you to use. Scan the Parking QR code below or visit calvarypgh.com/worship-in-person for additional information about parking.

WATCH ONLINE

Celebrate God's presence from the comfort of your home with uplifting moments, inspiring messages and meaningful fellowship. If you miss a Sunday, explore our archives and watch anytime that's convenient. Stay connected and be part of our community as we celebrate together in real time. Simply scan the Watch Online QR code below or visit calvarypgh.com/watch-online to join live or access our archives, Facebook or YouTube.

COMMUNION

1st Sunday of Each Month | During Worship | Sanctuary

All are invited to the table of our Lord. You do not need to be a member of Calvary or any church to participate. The bread that we share is gluten-free so that all may share.

Watch
Online



Worship
Archives



Bulletin
Archives



Parking



Sundays at Calvary

SUNDAY MORNING SUMMER CAFÉ (JUNE, JULY, AUGUST)

Weekly—Sundays | 9:30–11:00 AM | Chapel

Main Contact: Mike Schnitgen (info@calvarypgh.com)

During the summer months, we invite everyone to gather for fellowship before worship. The Calvary Café will be open each Sunday, offering coffee, tea and snacks—a wonderful opportunity to connect ahead of the service..

SUMMER BREAK

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE FOLLOWING SUNDAY MORNING GROUPS WILL BE ON BREAK DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS OF JUNE, JULY AND AUGUST. WE LOOK FORWARD TO GATHERING AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER.

CHOIR REHEARSAL

Weekly—Sundays | 10:00–10:45 AM | Choir Loft

Main Contact: Brian Burns (musicministry@calvarypgh.com)

Everyone is welcome to join. No experience, auditions or music reading skills required. Just bring your love of singing and be part of a supportive, uplifting group.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Weekly-Sundays | 10:00–10:45 AM | Fellowship Hall (K–6) & Christian Ed Office (7–12)

Main Contact: Megan Bova (youthministry@calvarypgh.com)

ADULT BIBLE STUDIES

Weekly—Sundays | 10:00–10:45 AM | Chapel

Current Bible Study: TBA

Main Contact: Linda McDonald (adultministry@calvarypgh.com)

A TIME FOR FELLOWSHIP

Weekly—Sundays | Following Worship | Fellowship Hall

Main Contact: Mike Schnitgen (info@calvarypgh.com)

Sharing food after worship at Calvary builds fellowship and connections, and volunteers are needed to support this ministry. Monthly teams assist with preparation, serving and cleanup, and those interested can contact Food Ministry Coordinator Mike Schnitgen.

COMMUNITY LUNCH

Monthly—Last Sunday of Each Month | Following Worship | Fellowship Hall

Main Contact: Mike Schnitgen (info@calvarypgh.com)

This is an expansion on our normally scheduled fellowship time following worship.

Growing together through faith, friendship and mutual support.

CONNECT: FAITH & FELLOWSHIP



Special Events & Meetings

ANNOUNCEMENTS

STEELERS SUNDAYS — 1 PM HOME GAMES

Please note that on the following Sundays, the Pittsburgh Steelers have 1:00 PM home games. As a result, our normal parking lots will not be available. We kindly ask everyone to use the Behan Lot for parking and reserve the accessible parking spaces in front of the church and in the back parking lot for those who need them most.

- September 13
- September 27
- October 11
- November 1
- December 20
- Saturday, December 26 / Sunday, December 27 (Date and time TBD)

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration of those with accessibility needs. Your assistance helps ensure that parking remains available for parishioners who require convenient access to the church.

CHURCH MEETINGS

CHURCH COUNCIL — AUGUST MEETING MOVED UP ONE WEEK

Thursday, August 13 | 6:30 PM | Chapel

Main Contact: Kenny Elliott (724-513-4625 or layleadership@calvarypgh.com)

Please note: The Church Council's August meeting will be held one week earlier than usual, on Thursday, August 13. Church Council meetings are typically held on the third Thursday of each month, but the August meeting has been moved up by one week. Please mark your calendars accordingly.

CONGREGATION & COMMUNITY EVENTS

CELEBRATION FOR ALEATA WEIS' RETIREMENT

Sunday, August 2 | Following Worship | Fellowship Hall

Main Contact: Rev. Beth L. Nelson (412-398-7894 or revbeth@calvarypgh.com)

We are so excited to celebrate Aleata and the many years she has poured into Calvary with love, care and faithful service. After worship on August 2, we'll gather in Fellowship Hall for a joyful picnic lunch featuring fried chicken, potato salad and all the best summer favorites. The tables will be dressed with red-and-white checkered cloths—Aleata's favorite—to make the day feel extra special. We hope you'll join us, bring a card sharing your appreciation and help us send her off with full hearts, laughter and plenty of love. Gifts are welcome but your presence and gratitude are the greatest gifts of all.

COMMUNION SUNDAY

Sunday, August 2 | During Worship | Calvary UMC

"HEY, NEIGHBORS!" SUMMER COOKOUTS

Wednesdays—August 5 & 19 | 6:00 PM | Back Parking Lot & Lawn

Main Contact: Rev. Beth L. Nelson (412-398-7894 or revbeth@calvarypgh.com)

Everyone is invited to our "Hey, Neighbors!" Summer Cookouts! Enjoy grilled favorites, yard games, fellowship, and—weather permitting—a cozy fire pit with roasted marshmallows and s'mores for dessert. Bring a friend and join us for four fun-filled evenings of food, laughter, and community!

We're also looking for 3–4 volunteers for each cookout to help with setup, serving, and cleanup. Signup sheets are available in the Chapel. Thank you for helping make these gatherings welcoming and enjoyable for everyone!

COMMUNION SUNDAY

Sunday, September 6 | During Worship | Calvary UMC

HEARTS & PAWS — BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Sunday, October 4 | 12:30–2:30 PM | Front of Calvary UMC along Allegheny Avenue

Main Contact: Karen Ferguson (karen.ferguson.15202@gmail.com)

Join Calvary United Methodist Church, GBU Life's North Side Neighborhood and the Humane Society for Hearts & Paws—a joyful community celebration of the animals we love and the neighbors we cherish! This special event features a Blessing of the Animals, pet-friendly swag, kid-friendly activities and meaningful ways to support local animal welfare. Whether you have a beloved companion, are considering adoption or simply love animals, all are welcome. Come celebrate compassion, connection and community—with wagging tails, open hearts and joyful spirits. More details to come!

Hey, Neighbors!

Join us for

Wednesday Summer Cookouts!



August 5 & 19

6-8 PM



Back Parking Lot & Beech Ave Lawn

**Enjoy Grilled Favorites, Yard Games,
Fellowship & S'mores by the Fire!**

Calvary Is Firing Up the Grill and Gathering the Neighborhood!
Join us for food, fun, fellowship and summer memories.



United
Women
In Faith



KISSED BY GRACE

A Women's Retreat presented by
Calvary United Women in Faith

Led by Rev. Jorinda Bullitt

All Women Are Welcome

A Time for Inspiration & Reflection

Saturday, October 17 | 9:00 AM–12:00 PM | Calvary UMC Chapel

Cost: \$10 (Cash or check made payable to CUMW)

More information to come!



Weekly Small Groups

AA (ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS) — NORTHSIDE SUNDAY NIGHTERS

Sundays | 8:00 PM | Fellowship Hall

Sharing strength and experience to help one another stay sober.

GA (GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS)

Mondays (2nd Monday Every Other Month) | 6:30 PM | Chapel

2026 Meetings: August 10, October 12, December 14

A supportive place to find hope and freedom from gambling.

BACK TO LIFE NA (NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS)

Mondays | 7:00–8:00 PM | Fellowship Hall

A welcoming community offering guidance toward a clean, healthy life.

EXERCISE CLASS FOR ALL AGES

Tuesdays & Thursdays | 9:00–10:00 AM | Chapel

Main Contact: Calvary UMC Church Office (info@calvarypgh.com)

Using chairs and light equipment, participants enjoy a 50-minute workout focused on movement and core strength in a fun judgment free environment. Classes are free and open to everyone. Bring a friend or neighbor and join in the fun.

NA (NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS) — MANCHESTER

Tuesdays | 7:00–8:00 PM | Fellowship Hall

A welcoming community offering guidance toward a clean, healthy life.

IRON CITY SQUARES — LGBTQIA+ SQUARE DANCE CLUB

Wednesdays | 7:00–9:15 PM | Fellowship Hall

Main Contact: Blaine Knupp (724-464-4324)

Enjoy modern square dancing—no partner or special clothes needed!

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

CURRENTLY ON SUMMER BREAK & WILL RESUME AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER

Thursdays | 10:00–11:30 AM | Parlor

Main Contact: Kathy Wagner (adultministry@calvarypgh.com)

An exciting new Bible study begins in September—more details to come! All are welcome regardless of Bible study experience. Women are invited to join us for Bible study, prayer, fellowship and encouragement as we grow together in faith and deepen our understanding of God's Word.

Missions & Outreach

SMALL GROUPS & EVENTS

“CHANGE MATTERS” SPECIAL OFFERING

Sunday, August 30 (Last Sunday of Each Month) | During Worship | Sanctuary

Our children are collecting “change”—because when we all contribute a little, it adds up to make a big difference! These gifts help buy food for Daily Bread.

Queer Ministry

ANNOUNCEMENT

QUEER MINISTRY UPDATE

Please note that all Queer Ministry events and gatherings are temporarily on hold while our Queer Ministry Coordinator, Tim Napieralski, recovers from a severe fall. We ask that you keep Tim in your prayers during his recovery and healing journey. We know many of you care deeply about this ministry and its community, and we appreciate your understanding and support during this time. We will keep everyone updated as we learn more and look forward to resuming activities when Tim is able. Thank you for your prayers, patience and compassion.

Family Ministry

WEEKLY

SUNDAY SCHOOL

CURRENTLY ON SUMMER BREAK & WILL RESUME AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER

Sundays | 10:00–10:45 AM | Fellowship Hall (K–6th) & Christian Ed Office (7th–12th)

EVENTS — SAVE THE DATE!

14TH ANNUAL HANDEL'S MESSIAH SING-ALONG CONCERT

Saturday, December 13 & Sunday, December 14 | 4:00 PM | Calvary UMC

Main Contact: Karen Ferguson (musicministry@calvarypgh.com)

Hallelujah! Tiffany meets Handel! You're invited to lift your voice and celebrate the season with this joyful holiday tradition featuring Messiah by George Frideric Handel. Experience the beauty of this beloved, family-friendly and interactive concert surrounded by candlelight and Calvary's stunning Tiffany stained glass. Enjoy professional soloists, the Festival Choir and Chamber Orchestra conducted by Brian Burns, performances on the historic 1895 Farrand & Votey organ, a sing-along experience with eight choruses, children's activity packs and a festive reception with cookies and fellowship in the Victorian Chapel. More than a concert, this cherished tradition celebrates community and outreach.

WEEKLY

CHOIR REHEARSAL

CURRENTLY ON SUMMER BREAK & WILL RESUME AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER

Weekly—Sundays | 10:00–10:45 AM | Choir Loft

Weekly—Tuesdays | 6:00–7:00 PM | Choir Loft

All singers are welcome—no matter your experience or ability to read music! Whether you're a seasoned vocalist or just love to sing, we'd love to have you as part of our supportive and uplifting group. No audition is required—just bring your love for music and a desire to be part of something special.

HAND BELL REHEARSAL

CURRENTLY ON SUMMER BREAK & WILL RESUME AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER

Weekly—Tuesdays | 7:00–8:00 PM | Music Office

No audition or music-reading skills required! Whether you're a beginner or have prior experience, we welcome all who want to be part of this joyful and unique musical ministry.

United Women in Faith

EVENTS

SERVING DAILY BREAD

Thursday, August 13 (2nd Thursday of Each Month) | 11:00 AM–12:00 PM

Trinity Lutheran Church, 616 W North Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Calvary United Women in Faith coordinates the meal preparation for Daily Bread, a ministry that offers meals three times a week to those who are unhoused or underemployed. They provide products, gloves, hand warmers, toothpaste and reusable bags. Thank you for sharing nourishment and care with our neighbors!

REGULAR MEETING

Saturday, September 19 | 9:30 AM Breakfast & 10:00 AM Meeting | Fellowship Hall

All women are welcome to join us as we gather to plan our fall events and activities. Please bring a breakfast item to share. We look forward to seeing you!

"KISSED BY GRACE" — UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH WOMEN'S RETREAT

Saturday, October 17 | 9:00 AM–12:00 PM | Chapel

Cost: \$10 (Cash or check made payable to CUMW)

We invite all women to join us for a special morning of fellowship, inspiration, reflection, and spiritual renewal led by Rev. Jorinda Bullitt. This uplifting retreat will offer an opportunity to connect with one another and grow in faith. Additional information and registration details will be shared in the coming weeks. We hope you'll make plans to attend!

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Sunday, November 8 | 12:30–3:00 PM | Bravo, 4976 McKnight Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Cost: TBD

RSVP Deadline: Sunday, November 1

Mark Your Calendars! Join us for the UWF Christmas Luncheon and our popular Regift Exchange. Bring a wrapped Christmas gift to share and enjoy an afternoon of fellowship and holiday cheer. More details to come!

ALLEGHENY WEST HOUSE TOUR & UWF CHRISTMAS SHOPPE TABLE

Friday, December 4 & Sunday, December 5 | Times TBA | Calvary UMC

Volunteers will be needed for setup, hospitality, sales and cleanup. More details and volunteer opportunities will be shared in the coming months. Please mark your calendars and plan to help!

A welcoming community grounded in love service and shared purpose.

ABOUT: WHO WE ARE



Church Communication Updates

GROWING TOGETHER AT CALVARY

We know that many of you have been looking for better communication, more opportunities to connect and clearer ways to stay involved in the life of Calvary. We're listening and we're working hard to make that happen.

Over the coming months, you'll begin to see improvements in how we communicate through our church office communications, social media and website. Our goal is simple: to create a more welcoming, accessible and engaging experience that helps everyone stay informed and connected whether you're worshipping with us in person or following along from home.

Your leadership is working hard to move Calvary forward and develop thoughtful plans that will carry our church confidently into the future. We're excited to be developing new ministries, including a Neurodivergent Ministry and a Social Justice Ministry, while continuing to strengthen and grow the ministries that are already making a difference at Calvary. We believe there is tremendous potential for growth, connection and outreach and we're committed to building on the strong foundation our congregation has created.

We understand that progress can sometimes feel slow, especially when there is enthusiasm for change. Please know that meaningful work is taking place behind the scenes every day. This is a journey and we're taking the time to create programs, ministries and communication channels that are sustainable, impactful and designed to serve our church well for years to come.

Thank you for your patience, encouragement and support as we move forward together. We are excited about where Calvary is headed and hope you'll share in that excitement with us. If you have ideas, suggestions or would like to get involved, please contact the church office. Your input is an important part of shaping the future of our church.

There are great things ahead for Calvary and we're grateful to be on this journey together.

Contact Us

CALVARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Address: 971 Beech Avenue, North Side, Pittsburgh, PA 15233

Phone: 412-231-2007

Email: calvarypgh@gmail.com or info@calvarypgh.com

Website: calvarypgh.com

OFFICE HOURS

Monday: 9:00 AM—Noon; **Tuesday:** 9:00 AM—3:00 PM; **Thursday:** 9:00 AM—3:00 PM

PASTOR

Rev. Beth L. Nelson (412-398-7894 or revbeth@calvarypgh.com)

CHURCH STAFF

Office Coordinator: Judith Melvin (info@calvarypgh.com)

Music Ministry: Brian Burns (bsburns77@aol.com)

Family Ministry: Megan Bova (youthministry@calvarypgh.com)

Queer Ministry Coordinator: Tim Napieralski (queerministry@calvarypgh.com)

Communications Director: Karen Ferguson (karen.ferguson.15202@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Georgia Brucker (georgia@calvarypgh.com)

Facilities Manager: Brianna Wolfe (info@calvarypgh.com)

Wedding Coordinator: Aleata Weis (info@calvarypgh.com)

Social Media Coordinator: Judith Melvin (info@calvarypgh.com)

Worship Tech Coordinator: Aiden Weis (info@calvarypgh.com)

Food Ministry Coordinator: Michael Schnitgen (info@calvarypgh.com)

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Worship: Rev. Beth L. Nelson (412-398-7894 or revbeth@calvarypgh.com)

Lay Leadership: Kenny Elliott (724-513-4625 or layleadership@calvarypgh.com)

Trustees: Brian Burns (bsburns77@aol.com)

Staff/Parish Relations Committee (SPRC): Renny Clark (info@calvarypgh.com)

Finance: Chris Sweeney (info@calvarypgh.com)

Adult Ministry: Linda McDonald (adultministry@calvarypgh.com)

Queer Ministry: Tim Napieralski (queerministry@calvarypgh.com)

Adult Fellowship: Nancy Richards (info@calvarypgh.com)

Missions & Outreach: Patty Bogdewic (missionministry@calvarypgh.com)

Archives & History: David Grinnell (info@calvarypgh.com)

Calvary United Women in Faith (CUWF): Joan Bradley (calvaryuwf@calvarypgh.com)

SOCIAL MEDIA — BE PART OF OUR COMMUNITY. FOLLOW US!

Facebook: [Calvary United Methodist Church, Pittsburgh](https://www.facebook.com/CalvaryUnitedMethodistChurchPittsburgh)

YouTube: [Calvary UMC Pittsburgh PA](https://www.youtube.com/CalvaryUMCPittsburghPA)

Instagram: [calvaryumc_pittsburgh](https://www.instagram.com/calvaryumc_pittsburgh)

**Support Calvary's ministries and
outreach programs.**



Scan or visit calvarypgh.com/give.

Thank you for making a difference!



You are God's beloved. You are welcome here.