

# CALVARY

*United Methodist Church*



Just a  
fool?



**AUG**

**3<sup>RD</sup>**

**2025**

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



# WELCOME TO CALVARY

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## OUR WELCOME STATEMENT

**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.**

## GETTING TO KNOW YOU

If you're visiting us for the first time, thank you for joining us! We'd love to get to know you better – please stop by our Welcome Tables to learn more about who we are. You'll also find a Get Connected card in the back of the pews – feel free to fill one out so we can stay in touch. If you need a large print Bible or hymnal, just let one of our greeters know – we're happy to help!

## FAMILIES WITH BABIES OR YOUNG CHILDREN

We welcome all of God's children into our worship services – including infants and toddlers. If you'd find it helpful, there's a Family Area located in the rear left of the sanctuary, equipped with rocking chairs and toys to help keep little ones comfortable.

## RESTROOMS & ACCESSIBILITY

From the front exits of the sanctuary: (1) to the right, you'll find an accessible restroom and a baby changing table on the same level, (2) to the left, restrooms are located down the stairs, and (3) an elevator is available by exiting through the right side of the sanctuary and heading toward the back.

# PRAYER CONCERNS

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**Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.**

Philippians 4:6

## PRAYER CONCERNS

### IMMEDIATE PRAYER CONCERNS

Star Lawrance, friend of Bing's sister

Terry Jagielski

### CONTINUING CONCERNS

Paul Brucker

Nathaniel Crum, friend of Judy Melvin

Jeanne Dithomas

Susan Gilliland

Martha Helmreich

Judy Melvin

Sheila Molyneaux

Marcia Webb, friend of Mark S.

Venus W.

Joyce Zimmerman, sister of Yvonne  
Hudson

## SHARING PRAYER REQUESTS & JOYS

If you have a prayer request or a joy to share, you have a few options:

- Fill out a Prayer Request card located in the back of the pews and place it in the offering plate.
- Contact the church office directly at 412-231-2007.
- Submit a request online at **[calvarypggh.com/contact](http://calvarypggh.com/contact)**.

We treat all prayer concerns confidentially, unless you indicate otherwise.

Prayer concerns remain on our list for four weeks. Each week, the oldest requests are removed as others move up.

If you'd like us to send a card or email to let someone know we're praying for them, please include their mailing address or email.

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

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## PRELUDE

## WORDS OF WELCOME

### CALL TO WORSHIP †★

Leader: Give thanks to God,  
**People: for God's steadfast love lasts forever.**  
Leader: God accompanies us in our distress,  
**People: as we cross the threshold to worship's blessings.**  
Leader: Give thanks to our God,  
**People: for God's steadfast love abides with us.**  
Leader: Let us enter this space for worship,  
**People: celebrating God's works for humankind.**

### HYMN OF PRAISE †★ . . . . . "O Worship the King" — #73 UMH

### OPENING PRAYER †★

Loving God, Divine Guide, may we not turn away from you as our desires take hold. When we are drawn to the sparkle around us, draw us back to the holy glow of your realm. When we focus on the divisions that divide us, lead us to share your steadfast love with those we are separated from. When we fixate on how to get ahead, move us to share your bounty with our neighbors. Draw us back to you, Holy Beacon of Hope, that we might all be made well. Amen.

### COMMUNITY GREETINGS †

### GATHERING SONG OF PRAISE †★ . . . . . "Sweet, Sweet Spirit" — #334 UMH

There's a sweet, sweet spirit in this place  
And I know that it's the spirit of the Lord.  
There are sweet expressions on each face  
And I know that it's the presence of the Lord.  
Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly dove,  
Stay right here with us filling us with your love.  
And for all these blessings we lift our hearts in praise.  
Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived  
When we shall leave this place.

### PSALTER LESSON ★ . . . . . Psalm 107:1-9 NRSV

- 1 O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.
- 2 Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, those he redeemed from trouble
- 3 and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.
- 4 Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to an inhabited town;

- 5 hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them.
- 6 Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress;
- 7 he led them by a straight way, until they reached an inhabited town.
- 8 Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind.
- 9 For he satisfies the thirsty, and the hungry he fills with good things.

Leader: The word of God, written by the people of God, for the people of God.  
**All: Thanks be to God.**

**SHARING PRAYER CONCERNS**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**GOSPEL LESSON** †★ . . . . . Luke 12:13-21 NRSV

- 13 Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.”
- 14 But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?”
- 15 And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.”
- 16 Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly.
- 17 And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’
- 18 Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods.
- 19 And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’
- 20 But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’
- 21 So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

Leader: The word of God, written by the people of God, for the people of God.  
**All: Thanks be to God.**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**SERMON** . . . . . “Just a fool?” — Rev. Beth L. Nelson

**HYMN OF PREPARATION** ★ . . . . . “I Come with Joy” — #617 UMH

## SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION ★

Leader: God be with you,

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Open wide your hearts!

**People: We open them up to God.**

Leader: Let us give thanks for this time and space,

**People: Giving praise to God for this meal we will share.**

Leader: We are surrounded by a world of hunger and hurt. We are surrounded by injustices, loneliness, illnesses, and hate. Yet through you, God, we know a different story.

Our sacred story tells us of many times when our ancestors dined with the Divine. When the Israelites left Egypt, they escaped with little resources. As refugees, they moved into the wilderness. In their exile, God rained sacred sustaining bread from heaven.

Our sacred story tells us of times when our ancestors dined with those who hungered. When Abraham was approached by three strangers, he offered them bread to rebuild their bodies and refresh their souls.

Our sacred story tells us that when sojourners listening to the teachings of Jesus became hungry, Jesus gathered loaves and fish, ultimately providing enough for all in attendance with twelve additional baskets to share.

Our sacred story tells us that on the night before Jesus died, as he and his friends gathered in a room, Jesus clenched a loaf of bread. He broke the loaf and said “do this in remembrance of me.” And after supper, as the night grew long, Jesus took a cup. As he blessed its contents, he exclaimed “Drink in remembrance of me.”

And our sacred story tells us that two of the disciples were on their way to Emmaus and came upon a stranger on the journey. In a spirit of hospitality, they invited him to stay. As their new friend broke the bread, they were able to see the Christ.

Our table extends beyond this time and space: to food pantries, to community meals, to dinners shared with home-bound friends, and to coffee shared with friends who grieve. When two or three are gathered, the Christ is present. As scriptures detail, in showing hospitality to strangers, we entertain the angels in our midst. As we have experienced, while sharing bread and cup, we have encountered angels among us. May the Spirit of God encircle these gifts with love. May the Spirit of God bless these gifts and, in doing so, bless the connections between all here and all in our hearts. May the Spirit of God bless the widows and spouseless ones, children without parents and children from foreign lands, the last and first, the poor in spirit and the ones who hunger and thirst for righteousness. May all of your children in each space on our earth feel your love and experience the winds of your righteousness. And together we pray as Jesus taught:

**People:** Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

**SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP**

*Please come forward at the leading of the ushers. Our bread is gluten- free so that all may participate. You are welcome to kneel at the altar after receiving for personal prayer.*

**WORDS OF COMMUNITY LIFE**

**AN UPDATE ON OUR CONSTRUCTION PROJECT**

**CALL TO GIVE**

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND TITHES**

**DOXOLOGY** †★ . . . . . "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow" — #94 UMH  
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**  
**Praise God, all creatures here below:**  
**Alleluia! Alleluia!**  
**Praise God, the source of all our gifts!**  
**Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!**  
**Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!**  
**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**OFFERING PRAYER** †

**CLOSING HYMN** †★ . . . . . "I Am Thine, O Lord" — #419 UMH

**BENEDICTION** †

**POSTLUDE** †

*The communion liturgy was written by Rev. Michelle Torigian.*  
*Please join us for a time of fellowship around the tables in the Fellowship Hall.*  
† Please stand as you are able | ★ Words on screen | Bold text is unison.



# THIS WEEK AT CALVARY

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**SUN**  
**AUG 3**

## **COMMUNION**

During Worship (Monthly) | Sanctuary

## **A TIME FOR FELLOWSHIP**

Following Worship (Weekly) | Fellowship Hall

## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MEETING**

Following Worship | Chapel

## **NEW MEMBER GATHERING**

Following Worship (Monthly) | Parlor

## **PARABLES ON THE PORCH: VBS REIMAGINED!**

4:00 – 6:30 PM | Calvary UMC

## **AA (ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS) — NORTHSIDE SUNDAY NIGHTERS**

8:00 PM (Weekly) | Fellowship Hall

**TUES**  
**AUG 5**

## **EXERCISE CLASS FOR ALL AGES**

9:00 – 10:00 AM (Weekly) | Chapel

## **NA (NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS) — MANCHESTER**

7:00 – 8:00 PM (Weekly) | Fellowship Hall

**THURS**  
**AUG 7**

## **EXERCISE CLASS FOR ALL AGES**

9:00 – 10:00 AM (Weekly) | Chapel

## **WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

10:00 – 11:30 AM (Weekly) | Parlor

## **OPEN SANCTUARY**

6:00 – 8:00 PM (Weekly) | Sanctuary

**SUN**  
**AUG 10**

## **CAREGIVING MINISTRY**

10:00 AM (Weekly) | Chapel

## **A TIME FOR FELLOWSHIP**

Following Worship (Weekly) | Fellowship Hall

## **AA (ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS) — NORTHSIDE SUNDAY NIGHTERS**

8:00 PM (Weekly) | Fellowship Hall





Calvary UMC presents  
heart-opening, award-winning folk/pop artist

# BOBBY JO VALENTINE

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"Bobby Jo has both the spirit and songs that bring us back to believing. Whatever our faith, he has the humor, compassion, words, and music to help us believe again." - Dar Williams

All proceeds benefit our Revive & Renew Capital Campaign

WED, SEPTEMBER 3  
7 PM

TICKETS - \$25

TICKETS - [CALVARYPGH.COM](http://CALVARYPGH.COM)



Calvary United Methodist Church  
971 Beech Avenue, Northside, Pittsburgh, PA 15233



# MISSIONS & OUTREACH

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### NEW CAREGIVING MINISTRY

Calvary has launched a new Caregiving Ministry, led by Denny Brown and Rev. Budd Wagner. Training sessions will be held on Sunday mornings at 10:00 AM to equip volunteers with the confidence and skills needed to support others through life's challenges. Caring for others is a meaningful way to live out our faith and make a real difference. If you're interested in learning more or getting involved, please speak with Denny Brown, Rev. Budd Wagner or Rev. Beth.

### TOOTHPASTE & BAG COLLECTION CONTINUES

Northside Common Ministries has asked Calvary to continue collecting toothpaste – donations can be placed in the collection bin in the chapel. We're also still collecting cloth grocery bags

## EVENTS

### CALVARY UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH — SERVING DAILY BREAD

**Thursday, August 14 (2nd Thursday of each month) | 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

**Trinity Lutheran Church, 616 W North Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15212**

The Calvary United Women in Faith (CUWF) organizes the meal preparation for Daily Bread, a ministry that provides meals three times a week to those who are unhoused or underemployed.

### NORTHVIEW HEIGHTS FOOD DISTRIBUTION

**Saturday, August 30 & Saturday, September 27 | 9:00 – 10:30 AM**

**Northview Heights, 533 Mount Pleasant Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15214**

Six volunteers are needed for each date. There is a sign-up sheet in the chapel, and a written description of the work. Contact Linda Ehrlich at [laehrlich927@aol.com](mailto:laehrlich927@aol.com) with any questions.

### “CHANGE MATTERS” SPECIAL OFFERING

**Sunday, August 31 (Last Sunday of each month) | During Worship | Sanctuary**

Our children are collecting “change” – because when we all give a little, it adds up to make a big difference! These gifts help purchase food for Daily Bread, supporting those in need in our community. Thank you for your generosity! Every little bit helps!

## WEEKLY

### OPEN SANCTUARY

**Thursdays | 6:00 – 8:00 PM | Sanctuary**

The sanctuary will be open for prayer or silence or meditation every Thursday evening. Feel free to pass through as our special guest, or return on Sunday to make us your home.

# SPECIAL EVENTS



## CALVARY WELCOMES BOBBY JO VALENTINE!

Wednesday, September 3 | 7:00 PM | Sanctuary

Tickets: \$25

Purchase Tickets: [CalvaryPgh.com](http://CalvaryPgh.com)

Join us for a soul-stirring concert featuring the inspiring music of Bobby Jo Valentine – a genre-defying singer-songwriter known for his poetic storytelling, spiritual depth, and uplifting melodies. Whether you're moved by his heartfelt lyrics or simply love powerful, live music, this evening promises to be a night to remember. **This special performance will benefit our Revive & Renew Capital Campaign.** Come enjoy the music – and help support a cause that makes a tangible difference in our church community.

### ABOUT BOBBY JO VALENTINE

Bobby Jo Valentine is a soulful and award-winning artist whose songs speak to everyday awakenings, inclusive faith, and a life open to transformation. Raised in a rigid Baptist setting, Bobby's journey has led him to embrace a more compassionate and inclusive spirituality – reflected in the authenticity of his lyrics and message. With multiple accolades from the West Coast Songwriter's Association and performances at national events like the Wild Goose Festival and the UCC's General Synod, Bobby brings a unique voice to stages across the country. His music bridges faith and humanity, inviting listeners into a deeper, kinder connection with the world. Learn more at [bobbyjovalentine.com](http://bobbyjovalentine.com)

YOU'RE INVITED!!

## PARABLES ON THE PORCH



## VBS REIMAGINED AT CALVARY UMC

Join us for 4 Sunday evenings of live-action parables, interactive storytelling & community fun!

Dinner included! All ages welcome!

SUNDAY, JUNE 22, 4:00-6:30 PM

SUNDAY, JULY 13, 4:00-6:30 PM

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3, 4:00-6:30 PM

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24, 4:00-6:30 PM

412-231-2007



[CALVARYPGH.COM](http://CALVARYPGH.COM)



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

#### **Calling all Lay Liturgists, Welcome Team, Slide Projectionists, Children's Message Leaders and Communion Servers**

Summer is here, and with many folks traveling, we need all hands on deck to keep worship running smoothly. Whether you love working with kids, greeting guests, speaking, or helping behind the scenes – there's a place for you! Please reply with the dates you're available to serve. Whether it's once or multiple times, your help makes a difference. Contact the church office to sign up – we can't do it without you!

## EVENTS

### COMMUNION

#### **Sunday, August 3 (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 partake.

### NEW MEMBER GATHERING

#### **Sunday, August 3 (1st Sunday of each month) | Following Worship | Parlor**

We will gather in the parlor after enjoying some snacks. If you're interested, please inform Rev. Beth or Kenny, our Lay Leader. Feel free to reach out with any questions.

### NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

#### **Sunday, August 10 (2nd Sunday of each month) | During Worship | Sanctuary**

New members will be welcomed during morning worship.

### CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

#### **Thursday, August 28 (3rd Thursday of each month) | 6:30 – 8:00 PM | Chapel**

The August meeting was moved from August 21 because Rev. Beth Nelson will be out of town that week. There will not be a meeting in December.

### COMMUNITY LUNCH

#### **Sunday, August 31 (Last Sunday of each month) | Following Worship | Fellowship Hall**

This is an expansion on our normally scheduled fellowship time following morning worship. Please join us in the fellowship hall located downstairs following morning worship.

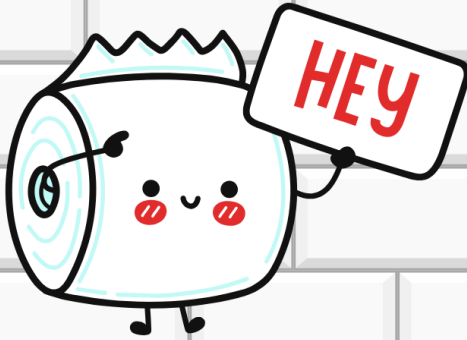
## WEEKLY

### A TIME FOR FELLOWSHIP

#### **Sundays | Following Worship | Fellowship Hall**

Please join us around the tables in the Fellowship Hall downstairs following morning worship for refreshments and fellowship.





Don't like the  
condition of our  
restrooms?

Neither do we...  
We have a plan!

Please help us to fully renovate  
all of our restrooms by donating  
to our CAPITAL CAMPAIGN.

## REVIVE & RENEW A THREE-PHASE JOURNEY



1

This year, in 2025, we will complete the restroom installation and entryway project.

2

Complete the exterior restoration, including repointing, roofing, and final window repairs.

3

Updates to the fellowship hall, basement restrooms, and kitchen.

LEARN MORE AT  
[CALVARYPGH.COM](http://CALVARYPGH.COM)



# SMALL GROUPS

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## WEEKLY

### CAREGIVING MINISTRY

**Sundays | 10:00 AM | Chapel**

Calvary has launched a new Caregiving Ministry, led by Denny Brown and Rev. Budd Wagner. Training sessions will be held on Sunday mornings at 10:00 AM to equip volunteers with the confidence and skills needed to support others through life's challenges. Caring for others is a meaningful way to live out our faith and make a real difference. If you're interested in learning more or getting involved, please speak with Denny Brown, Rev. Budd Wagner or Rev. Beth.

### AA (ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS) — NORTHSIDE SUNDAY NIGHTERS

**Sundays | 8:00 PM | Fellowship Hall**

Every addict in the world has the chance to experience their message, and find the opportunity for a new way of life.

### GA (GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS)

**Mondays (2nd Monday every other month) | 6:30 PM | Chapel**

**Next Meeting: August 11**

Through shared experiences, participants work toward recovery in a confidential and non-judgmental space.

### NA (NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS) — MANCHESTER

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

Every addict in the world has the chance to experience their message, and find the opportunity for a new way of life.

### EXERCISE CLASS FOR ALL AGES

**Tuesdays & Thursdays | 9:00 AM | Chapel**

The program is targeted to "older adults", but great for people of all ages.

### WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

**Thursdays | 10:00 – 11:30 AM | Parlor**

This summer we will be reading and discussing a small booklet titled, "KEEP CALM, TRUST GOD". There will be a few of these booklets available for those who don't have one. Some of the topics that the authors touch on are: anxiety, worry, fear, depression, stress, and frustration, to name just a few. In this study, "you will find the promises of God and Hope that will provide encouragement, strength and inspiration to overcome whatever challenges you may be facing." (author, Jake Provance). ALL women are welcome as we gather in community around God's Word, in the church parlor.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MEETING – SUNDAY, AUGUST 3

**Sunday, August 3 | Following Worship | Chapel**

Next Sunday, after church, there will be a meeting of the Education Committee and all those interested in Christian Education. Is God calling you to be a teacher? We are reorganizing our children and youth and need your help! Is there a class that you would like to take? Let us know! Grab your snack and come back up stair for a meeting in the chapel.

# FAMILY MINISTRY

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## WEEKLY

**SUNDAY SCHOOL — THIS GROUP IS ON BREAK UNTIL SEPTEMBER**

**Sundays | 10:00 – 10:45 AM | Fellowship Hall**

## EVENTS

**PARABLES ON THE PORCH: VBS REIMAGINED!**

**Four Sundays – June 22, July 13, August 3, August 24 | 4:00 – 6:30 PM | Calvary UMC**

Join us this summer for four Sunday evenings of interactive, live-action storytelling as we bring Jesus' parables to life! Enjoy creative reenactments, meaningful discussions, and community connection – all with a delicious meal. Bring your family, invite your neighbors, and experience the wisdom of Jesus in a fresh, fun way. See you on the porch!



*You* ARE GOD'S BELOVED.  
*You* ARE WELCOME HERE.



## CONTACT US

### PASTOR

**Rev. Beth L. Nelson**

412-398-7894 | [RevBeth@CalvaryPgh.com](mailto:RevBeth@CalvaryPgh.com)

### EMERITUS CLERGY

**Rev. Myles Bradley**

**Rev. Jorinda Bullitt**

**Rev. Larry Homitsky**

### CHURCH STAFF

**Music Ministry – Brian Burns**

724-388-3246 | [bsburns77@aol.com](mailto:bsburns77@aol.com)

**Office Administrator – Mary Emili**

412-231-2007 | [CalvaryPgh@gmail.com](mailto:CalvaryPgh@gmail.com)

**Family Ministry & Education**

**Megan Bova**

412-715-4946 | [mbova@CalvaryPgh.com](mailto:mbova@CalvaryPgh.com)

**Brittany Bova-Mickens**

412-715-4947 | [bbova@CalvaryPgh.com](mailto:bbova@CalvaryPgh.com)

**Communications – Karen Ferguson**

724-448-1429 | [karen.ferguson.15202@gmail.com](mailto:karen.ferguson.15202@gmail.com)

**LGBTQIA+ Ministry Coordinator – Tim Napieralski**

**Social Media Coordinator – Judith Melvin**

**Worship Tech Coordinator – Aiden Weis**

**Food Ministry Coordinator – Michael Schnitgen**

**Assistant Facilities Manager – Susan Derouin**

**Facilities Manager & Wedding Coordinator – Aleata Weis**

**Treasurer – Georgia Brucker**

### CALVARY UMC

971 Beech Avenue

Pittsburgh, PA 15233

### Office Hours

Monday: 9 AM – NOON

Tuesday: 9 AM – 3 PM

Thursday: 9 AM – 3 PM

### Phone

412-231-2007

### Email

[CalvaryPgh@gmail.com](mailto:CalvaryPgh@gmail.com)

### Website

[CalvaryPgh.com](http://CalvaryPgh.com)

### Facebook

Calvary United Methodist  
Church, Pittsburgh

### YouTube

Calvary UMC Pittsburgh PA

### Instagram

[calvaryumc\\_pittsburgh](https://www.instagram.com/calvaryumc_pittsburgh)

