



Being the Church



Sunday, September 6, 2026

Worshipping God Together

WELCOME TO CALVARY



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.**

NEW TO CALVARY?

If you're new to Calvary, you're invited to visit the Welcome Areas to learn more about the church—pick up the monthly newsletter, and fill out a Get Connected card found in the pews. Large-print Bibles and hymnals are available upon request. Our monthly newsletter includes ministry updates, upcoming events, small group opportunities and a monthly calendar insert outlining all activities and gatherings.

FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

Children are always welcome. A Family Area is available at the back left of the sanctuary, with rocking chairs and toys for your little ones.

RESTROOMS

From the front exits of the sanctuary, restrooms are available to the right, including an accessible restroom with a baby changing table; additional men's and women's restrooms are located at the back of the chapel to the right, and downstairs to the left, with elevator access from the right side of the sanctuary.

PRAYER CONCERNS



IMMEDIATE PRAYER CONCERNS

Georgia Brucker and family in the passing of
her husband Paul Brucker
Kerry Sturtz, daughter of Joan
Kaia Bachman & Tyler Hayden's baby-to-be
(due Jan 8th)
Nancy Westfall
Geradine Knight on the passing of her sister
Mariia Isaieva and family
Carol Piper
Cecilia Griffin Golden on the loss of her husband
Twin baby girls - Charlee & Cameron
Karen Hines. – Patty Bogdewic's mother
Sarah Woodward and baby Elsie
Rev Jorinda Bullit on the death of her brother
Janice and Roy Engelman
Paul W. – friend of Mary Emili

CONTINUING CONCERNS

Bobby Buckner and his family
Jeanne Dithomas
Terri Jagielski
Martha Helmreich
Judy Melvin
Al Meyers
Sheila Molyneaux
Tim Napieralski
Christine Siewers
Marcia Webb – friend of Mark Snyder
Aleata Weis
Barbara Wood – friend of Marirose
Venus W.
Joyce Zimmerman – sister of Yvonne Hudson

SHARING PRAYER REQUESTS & JOYS

Share prayer requests or joys by filling out a pew card, calling the church office, or submitting the form online at calvarypgh.com/contact.

THIS WEEK AT CALVARY



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

- **A Service of Celebration—Sunday Morning Worship** | 11:00AM | Calvary UMC
- **A Time for Fellowship** | Following Worship | Fellowship Hall
- **Celebration of Life—Paul Brucker** | 1:00 PM | Sanctuary
- **AA (Alcoholics Anonymous)** | 8:00 PM | Fellowship Hall

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

- **Back to Life NA (Narcotics Anonymous)** | 7:00–8:00 PM | Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

- **Exercise Class for All Ages** | 9:00-10:00 AM | Chapel
- **Choir Rehearsal** | 6:00–7:00 PM | Choir Loft
- **Hand Bell Rehearsal** | 7:00–8:00 PM | Music Office
- **NA (Narcotics Anonymous)** | 7:00–8:00 PM | Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

- **Iron City Squares** | 7:00–9:15 PM | Fellowship Hall

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

- **Exercise Class for All Ages** | 9:00-10:00 AM | Chapel
- **Women's Bible Study** | 10:00–11:30 AM | Parlor
- **Daily Bread** | 11:00 AM–12:00 PM | Trinity Lutheran Church

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

- **Sunday Morning Cafe** | 10:00–11:00 AM | Chapel
- **Sunday School (K–3rd, 4th–6th)** | 10:00–10:30 AM | Fellowship Hall
- **Sunday School (7th–12th)** | 10:00–10:30 AM | Christian Education Office
- **Choir Rehearsal** | 10:00–10:45 AM | Choir Loft
- **A Service of Celebration—Sunday Morning Worship** | 11:00AM | Calvary UMC
- **A Time for Fellowship** | Following Worship | Fellowship Hall
- **AA (Alcoholics Anonymous)** | 8:00 PM | Fellowship Hall

SUNDAY CELEBRATION



PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP + *

Leader: Come, all who labor and are weighed down with responsibility, uncertainty, and worry.

People: We come, because the load we carry is heavier than we can bear alone.

Leader: Come, all you who seek to relate work and worship, leisure and service, into a meaningful whole.

People: We gather for spiritual renewal and practical challenge, for help in making choices and carrying out our commitments.

Leader: Come, sinner and saint, with your hatreds and loves, your failures and successes, your sorrows and joys.

People: We respond to the Spirit's leading and open ourselves to receive God's gracious gifts.

OPENING HYMN OF PRAISE + * . . . "This is the Day of New Beginnings" — #383 UMH

UNISON PRAYER + *

God of power and mercy, only with your help can we offer you fitting service and praise. May we live the faith we profess and trust your promise of eternal life. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

WORDS OF WELCOME +

COMMUNITY GREETINGS +

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PSALTER LESSON * Psalm 119:33-40 NRSV

- 33 Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, and I will observe it to the end.
- 34 Give me understanding, that I may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart.
- 35 Lead me in the path of your commandments, for I delight in it.
- 36 Turn my heart to your decrees and not to selfish gain.
- 37 Turn my eyes from looking at vanities; be gracious to me according to your word.
- 38 Confirm to your servant your promise, which is for those who fear you.
- 39 Turn away the disgrace that I dread, for your ordinances are good.
- 40 See, I have longed for your precepts; in your righteousness be gracious to me.

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 + * Matthew 18:15-20 NRSV

- 15 "If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one.

- 16 But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses.
- 17 If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector.
- 18 Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.
- 19 Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven.
- 20 For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

Leader: The word of God, written by the people of God, for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON “Being the Church” — Rev. Beth L. Nelson

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION *

Leader: When we offer God our confession, we join the beautiful work of reconciliation, which begins with our reconciling with God. Trusting in God, our Partner in grace, let us make our confession, first in silent prayer.

Silent confession.

People: Gracious and loving God, open our hearts so that we are able to admit to you the fullness of our lives – that which is beautiful and good, and that which is hurtful and hateful. We confess that we do not follow Jesus in all that we do. We love with condition. We judge and condemn. We cast the first stone and keep the logs in our own eyes. We do not turn to You as the source of our healing. Forgive us, we pray. Forgive our sin and empower us to be imitators of Christ in love and service. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS *

Leader: Friends in Christ, know this: the mercy of God is from everlasting to everlasting, and I remind you of this surpassing grace – in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. You gave us the mandate to care for your creation and to find fulfillment in our daily labor. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

People: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Leader: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives, and to give sight to the blind. He ate with outcasts, walked with the weary, and blessed the work of human hands. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection, you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

People: **Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Leader: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit, sustain all who labor in fields, factories, offices, homes, and schools. Renew those who are weary, grant dignity to those who seek employment, and guide us all to work for your kingdom of justice and peace. Until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

Leader: And now with confidence, let us pray the prayer taught by Jesus"

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.**

All are welcome to receive the gift of Holy Communion. The bread we share is gluten-free so that all may participate. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers, take a piece of bread and dip it into the cup of grape juice.

WORDS OF COMMUNITY LIFE

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 †

MINISTRY MOMENTS

CLOSING HYMN † * “All Praise to Our Redeeming Lord” — #554 UMH

BENEDICTION †

POSTLUDE †

† Please stand as you are able | * Words on screen | Bold text is unison.

POSTLUDE TRADITION: At Calvary, we stand and listen to the postlude, many turning toward the choir loft to watch our organist play. This tradition began after our once-silent organ was restored, renewing our gratitude for its beautiful sound and our strong music ministry. We invite you to join us in this meaningful moment.

JOIN US FOR FELLOWSHIP: You're invited to the Fellowship Hall after worship for a time of good company, along with a light meal and beverages. The Fellowship Hall is located down the stairs, or you may use the elevator at the back of the chapel.

UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



DAILY BREAD COOKIE DONATIONS NEEDED ASAP

Daily Bread is asking for your help! Due to a recent freezer repair at Calvary, our supply of cookies was lost. We need **at least 25 dozen cookies for each monthly meal** and welcome donations throughout the month. If you enjoy baking, please consider supporting this important ministry by providing cookies for those we serve. Thank you for your generosity and continued support of Daily Bread!

NEW WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY BEGINS SEPTEMBER 3

Join us for Women's Bible Study on Thursdays from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. in the Parlor. An exciting new study will begin on September 3rd as we explore **Paul's Epistle to the Romans**. Accompanying our study will be William Barclay's commentary, *The Letter to the Romans, Revised Edition*. Copies of this book are available for **\$5 from Linda Ehrlich**. If you would like a copy, please call or text Linda at 412-321-2503. Women are warmly invited to join us for prayer, fellowship, study, and encouragement as we grow together in faith and deepen our understanding of God's Word. For more information, please contact Kathy Wagner.

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



CALVARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

Phone: 412-231-2007

Email: calvarypgh@gmail.com

Website: calvarypgh.com

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

Facebook: [Calvary United Methodist Church, Pittsburgh](#)

YouTube: [Calvary UMC Pittsburgh PA](#)

Instagram: [calvaryumc_pittsburgh](#)

OFFICE HOURS

Monday: 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Wednesday: 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Thursday: 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

PASTOR

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

CHURCH STAFF

Office Administrator: Judith Melvin

Music Ministry: Brian Burns

Family Ministry & Education: Megan Bova

Communications Director: Karen Ferguson

Lay Leader: Ken Elliott

Treasurer: Georgia Brucker

Facilities Manager: Brianna Wolfe

Wedding Coordinator: Aleata Weis

Queer Ministry Coordinator: Tim Napieralski

Social Media Coordinator: Judith Melvin

Worship Tech Coordinator: Aiden Weis

Food Ministry Coordinator: Michael Schnitgen

**SUPPORT
OUR MINISTRIES**

Scan or visit
calvarypgh.com/give
to give. Thank you!

