CALVARY United Methodist Church





FEB | **16** ™

2025

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



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.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

If you are a first time guest, thank you for visiting Calvary! We would invite you to check out our Welcome Tables for more information about who we are. We would also ask you to fill out a GET CONNECTED card in the back of the pews so we can get to know you better. If you are in need of a large print bible or hymnal, please see any greeter for help.

FAMILIES WITH BABIES OR YOUNG CHILDREN

We welcome all of God's children into our worship services, including infants and toddlers. If you would like to use it, we have a Family Area in the rear left of the Sanctuary with rocking chairs and toys.

LOCATION OF BATHROOMS

From the front exits of the sanctuary outside the right doorway, an accessible restroom and baby changing table are available on this level. From the front exits of the sanctuary outside the left side, restrooms are located down the stairs. An elevator is located thru the sanctuary outside the right and to the back.

PRAYER CONCERNS



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

CONTINUING CONCERNS

Paul Brucker
Martha Helmreich
Marcia Webb, friend of Mark S.

WEEK 1

Venus W.
The ministry at The Learning Hub

WEEK 2

Gil Silberman who passed away on February 1 (cousin of Shelley R.) For the people affected by the earthquakes in the Los Angeles area, especially those seeking shelter Mr. Onda – cancer diagnosis For peace and financial security

WEEK 3

Lisa P.
Jim C.
Karen Ferguson
Kim Ferguson
Chuck McCrea (brother-in-law of Karen
Ferguson)

WEEK 4

Prayers for the family of David Lucas who passed away this week. David is the brother of Doug Lucas.
Suzanne (friend of David G.)
Doug (son of Joan Sturtz)
People who are victims of fire in LA

HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU?

Prayer concerns will remain for 4 weeks. Each week the 4th week will drop off and others will move up.

If you have a prayer request or a joy that you would like to be lifted up, you can either fill out the PRAYER REQUEST card in the back of the pews and place it in the offering plate or contact the church office directly at 412-231-2007.

You can also complete the new "Prayer Request" form on the Calvary website at <u>calvarypgh.com/contact/prayer-request.php</u>. The information on this form goes directly to the clergy of Calvary UMC. We treat these concerns in a private and confidential manner (unless otherwise directed), respecting the privacy of individuals as the requestor directs us.

If you would like a card or email sent from the church to let people know we are praying for them, please give us an address or email.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE



WORDS OF WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP +*

Leader: Happy are those who delight in God's ways,

People: Who set their hearts and minds on the laws of God's love.

Leader: In the presence of the Holy, they are like trees planted by the waters of life.

People: They are fed by enduring streams, with roots that reach into the depths of the

soul.

Leader: They are nourished in times of drought and bring forth fruit in seasons of famine.

People: Life shall spring forth as they walk each day in the way of peace.

OPENING PRAYER +*

Gentle guide, loving guardian, heal our foolish ways. We long to forsake the advice of the wicked and the slow seduction of sinful paths, but our speech and actions often belie us. We yearn to be like trees planted beside living waters, bearing the fruit of righteousness in due season, but the seat of scoffers calls to us and the temptation to return evil for evil withers our souls like shrubs in the desert. Our hearts seek the ways of your Spirit and the waters of life, but our footsteps lead us into arid, desert sands. This is not your hope and plan for us. Forgive us. Turn us again to the healing you so freely offer, and mend the brokenness in our lives and in our world. Amen.

COMMUNITY GREETINGS +

GATHERING SONG OF PRAISE †* . . "Spirit of the Living God" — #393 UMH (Two Times) Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me.

- 1 Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked or take the path that sinners tread or sit in the seat of scoffers,
- 2 but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night.
- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.
- 4 The wicked are not so but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
- 5 Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous,
- for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

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

All: Thanks be to God.

SHARING PRAYER CONCERNS **HYMN OF PRAYER** * "Lord, I Want to Be a Christian" — #402 UMH You are welcome to come forward to the altar for prayer. PASTORAL PRAYER 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. ANTHEM Renewal Choir 17 He came down with them and stood on a level place with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases, and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And everyone in the crowd was trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. Then he looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is 20 the kingdom of God. "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. "Blessed are you who 21 weep now, for you will laugh. "Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you, revile you, and 22 defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven, for that 23 is how their ancestors treated the prophets. 24 "But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. "Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. "Woe to you who are lauahina 25 now, for you will mourn and weep. "Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the 26 false prophets. Leader: The word of God, written by the people of God, for the people of God.

SERMON "A Level Place" — Rev. Beth L. Nelson

All:

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Thanks be to God.

INSTALLATION AND RECOGNITION OF OUR LEADERSHIP FOR 2025

WORDS OF COMMUNITY LIFE

CALL TO GIVE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

SPECIAL OFFERING

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 +

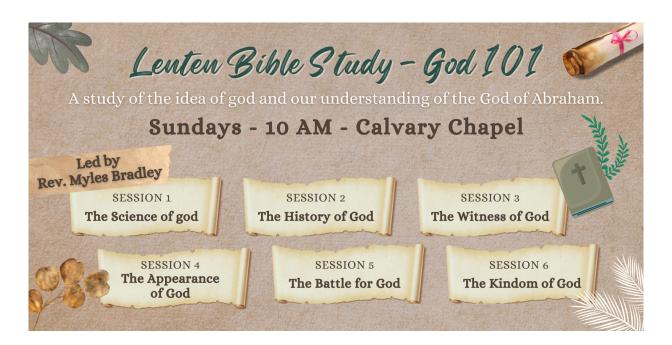
BENEDICTION +

POSTLUDE +

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

Please join us for a time of fellowship around the tables in the chapel.

We are looking for teams of 2-3 people to help prepare easy, delicious meals for our fellowship time. No culinary experience? No problem! We are also looking for people to help with clean-up. It's a great opportunity to serve and connect with others in a meaningful way. INTERESTED? See Mike Schnitgen or contact the church office directly.





THIS WEEK AT CALVARY

SUN A TIME FOR FELLOWSHIP

FEB 16 Following Worship (Weekly) | Chapel

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

12:15 PM | Parlor

JAMES W. IMAN - A PIANO CONCERT

4:00 PM | Sanctuary

MON SLEEPING BAG GROUP

FEB 17 6:30 PM (Weekly) | Fellowship Hall

TUES EXERCISE CLASS FOR ALL AGES

FEB 18 9:00 - 10:00 AM (Weekly) | Chapel

CHOIR REHEARSAL

6:00-7:00 PM (Weekly) | Sanctuary

HAND BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL

7:00 – 8:00 PM (Weekly) | Music Office (Upstairs in the Chapel)

THURS EXERCISE CLASS FOR ALL AGES

FEB 20 9:00 - 10:00 AM (Weekly) | Chapel

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

10:00 - 11:30 AM (Weekly) | Parlor

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

6:30 – 8:00 PM (Monthly) | Sanctuary

OPEN SANCTUARY

6:00 - 8:00 PM (Weekly) | Sanctuary

SAT UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH MEETING

FEB 22 9:30 – 11:00 AM | Parsonage

SUN NEW MEMBER CLASS

FEB 23 10:00 AM | Church Office

SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:00 - 10:45 AM (Weekly) | Fellowship Hall

CHOIR REHEARSAL

10:00 – 10:45 AM (Weekly) | Sanctuary

"CHANGE MATTERS" SPECIAL OFFERING

During Worship (Monthly) | Sanctuary

COMMUNITY LUNCH

Following Worship (Monthly) | Fellowship Hall

WORSHIP MEETING

12:15 PM | Parlor

SMALL GROUPS

EVENTS



FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Sunday, February 16 | 12:15 PM | Parlor

There will be a brief organizational meeting of the Finance Committee on February 16. If you are a member of that committee, please make every effort to attend.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH MEETING

Saturday, February 22 | 9:30 – 11:00 AM | Parsonage

United Women in Faith will hold its first meeting of the year on Saturday, February 22. Rev. Beth has kindly invited the women to the parsonage for this breakfast meeting. We will be working on the planning of 2025 and all ideas are welcome. Please come and share some time with us, we'd love to have you. In order for Rev. Beth to know how many to expect, please contact Joan Bradley (ogremtb@aol.com) if you plan to attend.

WEEKLY

GOD 101 – LENTEN BIBLE STUDY WITH REV. MYLES BRADLEY

Sundays (Beginning March 9 through April 13) | **10:00 AM** | **Chapel** Join us for a study of the idea of god and our understanding of the God of Abraham.

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.

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.

LENTEN LIFT

Wednesdays (Beginning March 5 through April 16) | 12:00 – 1:00 PM | Sanctuary

Every Wednesday in Lent, beginning with Ash Wednesday on March 5, we will have a midweek refreshment time, followed by a light lunch. You are invited to pause your busy week and sit in the sanctuary. There will be music and a brief time of inspiration. It is meant to be reflective and restorative! We do need your assistance. We need greeters, soup makers, and servers. If you would like to help, please sign up at Ministry Table.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

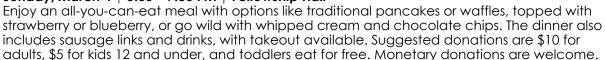
Thursdays | 10:00 - 11:30 AM | Parlor

We are exploring Beth Moore's study of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit as recorded in Galatians 5:22-23. A portion of our time is spent in prayer before delving into our study. This prayer and study time is open to all women.

LENTEN WORSHIP

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE DINNER

Sunday, March 4 | 5:00 – 7:30 PM | Fellowship Hall



ASH WEDNESDAY - ASHES TO GO

Wednesday, March 5 | 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM | Allegheny Avenue in front of Calvary UMC Calvary pastors will be outside the church during lunch hour offering the imposition of ashes to pedestrians and drivers, bringing a modern twist to the ancient Christian tradition. Everyone is welcome to join as they encourage the neighborhood to embrace the Season of Lent.

TRADITIONAL ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Wednesday, March 5 | 7:00 PM | Chapel

Join us for a meaningful Ash Wednesday service, where the imposition of ashes will be offered to all who wish to receive them. You don't need to be a church member to participate. Ash Wednesday marks the start of Lent, a time for reflection, seeking forgiveness, and working toward healing and reconciliation.

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

Sunday, April 13 | 11:00 AM | Sanctuary

We will begin with palms, celebrating Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem and recalling the joy and anticipation that filled the city. From there, we will journey together through the events of Holy Week, leading up to Easter.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Thursday, April 17 | 7:00 PM | Sanctuary

Join us for a reflective service remembering the Last Supper, where Jesus commanded, "Love one another as I have loved you." The service, co-hosted by Salem United Methodist Church, Wexford, includes Holy Communion, open to all—no church membership required.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

Friday, April 18 | 7:00 PM | Salem UMC, 350 Manor Road, Wexford, PA 15090

Worship with the congregation at Salem United Methodist Church as Calvary and Salem United Methodist Churches come together to remember Christ's crucifixion, the ultimate act of God's love and forgiveness, offering new life and a renewed relationship with Him to all.

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

Sunday, April 20 | **7:00 AM** | **West End Overlook, Marlow Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15205**Join us for a cherished community tradition as we celebrate Easter at the West End Overlook, offering one of the best views of Pittsburgh at dawn. Originally led by Emanuel United Methodist Church, this inspiring tradition continues since our congregations united in 2017.

EASTER CELEBRATION SERVICE

Sunday, April 20 | 11:00 AM | Sanctuary

Celebrate Christ's resurrection with us in a joyful Easter service, featuring special music from Calvary's Festival Choir, South Hills Brass, and other guests. Parking attendants will assist for your convenience. After a season of reflection, we proclaim, "Christ is risen! The Lord is risen indeed!" and sing, "Christ the Lord is Risen Today!"

CALVARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH PRESENTS

James W. Iman

A piano concert featuring the works of Claude Debussy

Sunday, February 16 at 4 PM

Calvary United Methodist Church

FREE ADMISSION - A FREE WILL OFFERING WILL BE TAKEN

Join us for a **mid-week boost** to refresh your spirit!



It's a perfect way to **recharge** during your lunch hour! We'd love to see you there for **fellowship** and **renewal**.

FITS INTO YOUR LUNCH HOUR 15 MINUTES OF UPLIFTING MUSIC

5 MINUTES OF INSPIRATIONAL THOUGHTS

LIGHT LUNCH OF SOUP & BREAD

MISSIONS & OUTREACH





NORTHSIDE COMMON MINISTRIES CONTINUES TO NEED TOOTHPASTE

NCM would like Calvary to continue to collect toothpaste. There is a collection bin in the chapel. Cloth grocery bags also continue to be collected. Thank you!

EVENTS

"CHANGE MATTERS" SPECIAL OFFERING

Sunday, February 23 (Last Sunday of each month) | During Worship | SanctuaryOur children collect "change" because when there is lots of change together, we can make a difference. These gifts are used to help purchase food for Daily Bread.

NORTHVIEW HEIGHTS FOOD (NVH) DISTRIBUTION

Saturday, March 8; Saturday, April 26 | 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 (<u>laehrlich927@aol.com</u>) with any questions.

DAILY BREAD - UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH (UWF)

Thursday, March 13 (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 being prepared for the Daily Bread which serves meals three times a week to those without a home or who are underemployed. Cookies can be brought at any time and put in the freezer in the basement. Contact Joan Bradley or the church office for additional information.

WEEKLY

SLEEPING BAG GROUP

Mondays | 6:30 PM | Fellowship Hall

The sleeping bags are made from recycled materials, packed with personal items such as toothpaste, shampoo, hats, and gloves, and then distributed to nearby homeless shelters.

We are currently looking for blankets, sheets, pillow cases, and neckties as well as gathering personal items like small bottles of shampoo, soap, toothpaste, tooth brushes, deodorant, etc, and new men's socks. If you can help, please put your items in the bin in the chapel marked for the Sleeping Bag ministry or leave them downstairs by the old safe.

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.

MUSIC MINISTRY





JAMES W. IMAN – A PIANO CONCERT JOIN US FOR AN UNFORGETTABLE EVENING OF MUSIC!

Sunday, February 16 \mid 4:00 PM \mid Sanctuary Free Admission: A free-will offering will be taken

Calvary is excited to present a piano concert featuring the extraordinary talents of James W. Iman, performing works that explore the impressionistic genius of Claude Debussy and beyond.

This evening's program will showcase pieces from James' highly anticipated second album, including Debussy's *Images I* and *Images II*, as well as Jenny Beck's evocative composition *Stand Still Here*.

Debussy's Images marks the beginning of his mature period, as he increasingly weaves intricate, vivid musical imagery into his compositions. The pieces are a rich tapestry of color and texture, exemplifying his distinct voice. Beck's *Stand Still Here*, inspired by Virginia Woolf's *To the Lighthouse*, adds a contemporary touch to the evening, reflecting on the complexities of time, memory, and perception.

So sit back, relax, and let the music take you on a journey. Each note tells a story, and every chord paints a picture—inviting you to lose yourself in a world of sound. Enjoy the concert, and let the music speak.

WEEKLY

CHOIR REHEARSAL

Sundays | 10:00 – 10:45 AM | Sanctuary Tuesdays | 6:00 – 7:00 PM | Sanctuary

Love singing? Thinking about joining the choir?... Well, now is the perfect time to give it a try! Contact Brian Burns (724-388-3246 or bsburns77@aol.com) for additional information.

HAND BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL

Tuesdays (January – May) | 7:00 – 8:00 PM | Music Office (Upstairs in the Chapel) Thursdays (September – December) | 6:00 – 7:00 PM | Music Office (Upstairs in the Chapel) No audition is required, and you do not have to be able to read music. Contact Brian Burns (724-388-3246 or bsburns77@aol.com) for additional information.

LENTEN MESSAGE SERIES





"EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN"MEETING GOD IN THE MIDST OF EXTREMES

Our theme for Lent is "Everything in Between". For Lent, we will look at familiar stories in the Gospel of Luke. So often, the stories we learned in Sunday School have deeper meanings. We read about the Good Samaritan and think we are just supposed to help others. But there is so much more. As we studied these scriptures, we were struck by how Jesus' ministry was rooted in relationships that disrupted the established social, political, and religious divides of his time. As modern readers, we sometimes lose the "shock factor" behind Jesus' words but we still have so much to learn.

"The story of Lent is a story of messy middles. Jesus is on the road, but he's not there yet. Jesus is telling stories, but the crowds don't understand. Jesus is leading a parade, but it's not the one they expected. Jesus is risen, but the disciples can't forget the cross. The story of Lent, the story of our faith, is a story of messy middles and nuanced surprises. So this Lent, we are remembering that faith is more complex than this or that, black or white, true or false storytelling. This Lent, we are wading into the middle of these sacred texts to find God and to stretch our own understanding beyond the binaries our world so often gives. And we hope you'll join us. Welcome to an in-between Lent. This is the light before the dawn."

— Rev. Sarah Speed

Devotional Booklets for this series are available. Visit the Welcome Tables over the coming weeks to pick up your materials.

GET CONNECTED

ANNOUNCEMENTS



FOOD/FELLOWSHIP SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

The times we gather for food at Calvary are very important for making CONNECTIONS and continuing the fellowship after the worship service. We talk, laugh, share, and nourish one another in body and spirit. To sustain these connections, we are asking for volunteers and/or sponsors for our food/fellowship times.

Teams are being formed to handle food prep, service, and clean-up one Sunday each month. For interest, contact Mike Schnitgen. A donations box will be available weekly, and sponsorships are available: \$50 for after-service and \$100 for the monthly luncheon. This helps support Calvary's budget.

EVENTS

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, February 20 (3rd Thursday of each month) | **6:30 – 8:00 PM** | **Chapel** There will not be meetings in either July or December.

NEW MEMBER CLASS

Sunday, February 23 | 10:00 AM | Church Office

If you are interested in membership or just have questions, stop by and we can answer questions together. New members will be welcomed into full membership during Sunday worship on March 2. See Rev. Beth or Kenny, our lay leader, for more information.

COMMUNITY LUNCH

Sunday, February 23 (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.

WORSHIP MEETING

Sunday, February 23 | 12:15 PM | Parlor

COMMUNION

Sunday, March 2 (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.

WEEKLY

A TIME FOR FELLOWSHIP

Sundays | Following Worship | Chapel

Please join us around the tables in the chapel behind the sanctuary following morning worship for refreshments and fellowship.

you are god's beloved. You are welcome here.



CONTACT US

PASTOR

Rev. Beth L. Nelson 412-398-7894 | RevBeth@CalvaryPgh.com

EMERITUS CLERGY

Rev. Jorinda Bullitt Rev. Larry Homitsky Rev. Myles Bradley

CHURCH STAFF

Music Ministry – Brian Burns 724-388-3246 | bsburns77@aol.com

Office Administrator – Mary Emili 412-231-2007 | CalvaryPgh@gmail.comm

Family Ministry & Education

Megan Bova
412-715-4946 | mbova@CalvaryPgh.com

Brittany Bova-Mickens
412-715-4947 | bbova@CalvaryPgh.com

Communications – Karen Ferguson 724-448-1429 | karen.ferguson.15202@gmail.com

Worship Tech Coordinator – Aiden Weis Food Ministry Coordinator – Michael Schnitgen Assistant Facilities Manager – Susan Derouin Facilities Manager & Wedding Coordinator – Aleata Weis Treasurer – Georgia Brucker

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