

# CALVARY

United Methodist Church



the good news is..

together, the impossible  
is possible

*Sunday Celebration — March 8, 2026*

Worshipping God Together

# 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.

## 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)

- To the right, then to the immediate right, there is an accessible restroom and a baby changing table
- To the right then stay to the right, go to the back of the chapel, there are women's and men's restrooms
- There are men's and women's restrooms on the left then down the stairs on the right, or an elevator is available by exiting the right side of the sanctuary and heading toward the back of the building

# PRAYER CONCERNS

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## IMMEDIATE PRAYER CONCERNS

Bing Ewalt  
Aleata Weis  
Rick Stern  
Rhonda Harrison  
Barbara Wood – friend of Marirose  
Wayne Younger – friend of John Engle  
Bobby Buckner and his family  
Chris Griffin – nephew of Lorraine  
Beth – Chris' sister (caregiver)  
Louise – sister of Lorraine (caregiver of Chris)

## CONTINUING CONCERNS

Paul Brucker  
Jeanne Dithomas  
Kyle Giest  
Terri Jagielski  
Martha Helmreich  
Judy Melvin  
Sheila Molyneaux  
Renee – friend of Mark Snyder  
Marcia Webb – friend of Mark Snyder  
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:

- Filling out a Prayer Request card (in the pews) and placing it in the offering plate
- Contacting the church office: 412-231-2007
- Submitting online: [calvarypgh.com/contact](http://calvarypgh.com/contact).

# THIS WEEK AT CALVARY

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## SUNDAY, MARCH 8

- **A Time for Fellowship** | Following Church | Fellowship Hall
- **New Member Gathering** | 12:15 PM | Parlor
- **AA (Alcoholics Anonymous)** | 8:00 PM | Fellowship Hall

## MONDAY, MARCH 9

- **Sleeping Bag Ministry** | 6:00 PM | Fellowship Hall

## TUESDAY, MARCH 10

- **Exercise Class** | 9:00 AM | Chapel
- **Choir Rehearsal** | 6:00-7:30 PM | Choir Loft
- **Hand Bell Rehearsal** | 7:30-8:30 PM | Music Office
- **NA (Narcotics Anonymous)** | 7:00-8:00 PM | Fellowship Hall

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

- **Hey, Neighbors! Wednesday Dinner** | 6:00-8:00 PM | Chapel
- **Iron City Squares** | 7:00-9:15 PM | Fellowship Hall

## THURSDAY, MARCH 12

- **Exercise Class for All Ages** | 9:00 AM | Chapel
- **Women's Bible Study** | 10:00-11:30 AM | Parlor
- **Daily Bread (CUWF)** | 11:00 AM-12:00 PM | Trinity Lutheran Church
- **Learn to Knit & Prayer Shawl Ministry** | 11:30 AM-12:30 PM | Chapel
- **Open Sanctuary** | 6:00-8:00 PM | Sanctuary

## SATURDAY, MARCH 14

- **Calvary United Women in Faith Meeting** | 9:00 AM | Chapel

## SUNDAY, MARCH 15

- **Sunday Morning Cafe** | 9:30-11:00 AM | Chapel
- **Opening Gathering** | 9:45-10:00 AM | Chapel
- **Lenten Bible Study Led by Rev. Chenda Lee** | 10:00-10:45 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** | 10:00-10:30 AM | Choir Loft
- **Lent Play Practice** | 10:30-10:45 AM | Sanctuary
- **A Time for Fellowship** | Following Church | Fellowship Hall
- **Lunch & Learn: What is Drag?** | 12:15 PM | Chapel
- **Gathering with Bishop Sandra Steiner-Ball** | 3:00-5:00 PM | Monroeville UMC
- **AA (Alcoholics Anonymous)** | 8:00 PM | Fellowship Hall

# SUNDAY CELEBRATION



## WORSHIPPING GOD TOGETHER

**PRELUDE** . . . . . "O Man, Bewail Thy Mortal Sin" – J.S. Bach

### CHORAL INTROIT

#### CALL TO CELEBRATION †★

**Leader:** If you need good news,

**People:** **settle into this space. We have good news to share.**

**Leader:** If you need a word of hope,

**People:** **then trust us when we say, there is hope enough to go around.**

**Leader:** If you need a glimmer of joy,

**People:** **then you're in luck! We have resilient joy abounding.**

**Leader:** If you need to feel God's presence in your midst,

**People:** **then know that this is God's house.**

**Leader:** This is the good news of the gospel.

**People:** **God is here. Love is real. Joy is on the move. Let us worship our with-us God!**

**HYMN OF PRAISE** †★ . . . . . "Hope of the World" – #178 UMH

#### OPENING UNISON PRAYER †★

Holy God, we could press our ear to the page, hoping to hear you more clearly. We could silence all the alarms and notifications, hoping to catch a murmur of your voice. We could still our beating hearts, and still we might miss your voice. So today we pray, open up space in our hearts, in our spirits, in our minds, to feel your presence among us. With you, anything is possible. We believe. Help our unbelief. Amen.

#### WORDS OF WELCOME †

#### COMMUNITY GREETINGS †

**GATHERING SONG** †★ . . . . . "Cornerstone"

**My hope is built on nothing less. Then Jesus, blood and righteousness. I dare not to trust the sweetest frame, but wholly trust in Jesus name. Christ, alone, cornerstone; Weak made strong in the Savior's love through the storm he is Lord. Lord of all.**

**PSALTER LESSON** ★ . . . . . Psalm 95 NRSV

- 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
- 2 Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!
- 3 For the Lord is a great God and a great King above all gods.
- 4 In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also.
- 5 The sea is his, for he made it, and the dry land, which his hands have formed.
- 6 O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!
- 7 For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. O that today you would listen to his voice!
- 8 Do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as on the day at Massah in the wilderness,
- 9 when your ancestors tested me and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work.

10 For forty years I loathed that generation and said, "They are a people whose hearts go astray, and they do not regard my ways."

11 Therefore in my anger I swore, "They shall not enter my rest."

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

All: Thanks be to God.

**A TIME OF PRAYER**

**HYMN OF PRAYER** \* . . . . . "Break Thou the Bread of Life" – #599 UMH  
*You are invited to come and kneel at the altar rail for personal prayer.*

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION** \*

Holy God, with you the impossible is possible. 5,000 can be fed. The blind can see. The hopeless can find hope. With you the impossible is possible, but we are quick to forget that. We look at our hurting world and tell ourselves that nothing can be done. We forget that you empowered the disciples to feed the crowd. We forget that you are always with us. Forgive our small-minded ways. Forgive us for doubting that change could ever come. But even more so, forgive us when we refuse to be a part of it. With hope for a better tomorrow we pray, amen.

**WORDS OF FORGIVENESS** \*

Leader: Family of faith, no matter how many mistakes the disciples made, Jesus still washed their feet. Jesus still fed them. Jesus still called them beloved. The same is true for you and me, so hear and believe this good news:

People: Today is a new day, and once again, we belong to God. We are forgiven. We are called. We are not alone. What good, good news. Amen!

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** \* . . . . . #895 UMH  
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

**GOSPEL LESSON** †\* . . . . . Mark 6:32-44 NRSV

- 32 And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves.
- 33 Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them.
- 34 As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he began to teach them many things.
- 35 When it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now very late;
- 36 send them away so that they may go into the surrounding country and villages and buy something for themselves to eat."
- 37 But he answered them, "You give them something to eat." They said to him, "Are we to go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give it to them to eat?"

*Continued on following page.*

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

- 38 And he said to them, “How many loaves have you? Go and see.” When they had found out, they said, “Five, and two fish.”
- 39 Then he ordered them to get all the people to sit down in groups on the green grass.
- 40 So they sat down in groups of hundreds and of fifties.
- 41 Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to his disciples to set before the people, and he divided the two fish among them all.
- 42 And all ate and were filled,
- 43 and they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish.
- 44 Those who had eaten the loaves numbered five thousand men.

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHILDREN

**SERMON** . . . . . “Together, the Impossible is Possible” – Rev. Beth L. Nelson

## WORDS OF COMMUNITY LIFE

### CALL TO GIVE

**OFFERTORY** . . . . . “My Jesus, I Love Thee” – Lani Smith

**DOXOLOGY** †\* . . . . . “Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow” – #95 UMH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**  
**Praise God, all creatures here below;**  
**Praise him above, ye heavenly host;**  
**Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION †

**CLOSING HYMN** †\* . . . . . “We Are Called” – #2172 TFWS

### BENEDICTION †

**POSTLUDE** † . . . . . “Ah, Holy Jesus” – Mary McDonald

*† 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.

# IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## EVENTS

### **SPECIALY CALLED CHURCH CONFERENCE**

**Thursday, March 19 | 6:30-6:45 PM | Chapel**

A specially called Church Conference will be held for the purpose of voting on Nathan Salamacha as a candidate for ordained ministry in the United Methodist Church. Nathan has received full approval from SPRC. A written, printed ballot will be used for voting at this meeting. The District Superintendent will be present. This conference will take place prior to the regularly scheduled Church Council meeting that evening.

### **SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Sunday, March 22 | 12:15 PM | Parlor**

Calvary is forming a Social Justice Committee to help define and organize our Social Justice Ministry, one of our strategic goals for 2026. If you feel called and have a passion for Christ's world-transforming Gospel and the United Methodist Church's social principles.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **NEW MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

Calvary's bulletin has been updated to include only the schedule for the upcoming week, order of celebration, prayer concerns and new announcements. Our newsletter has returned in a monthly format, featuring a calendar and highlights of Calvary programs – pick up a copy in the welcome areas. See March's newsletter for complete details.

### **INTRODUCING “LUNCH & LEARNS” – EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS**

We're excited to introduce a new name for our after-church educational gatherings: Lunch & Learns! These workshops offer an opportunity to share a meal, deepen our understanding and engage meaningful topics together in a welcoming and conversational setting. Everyone is invited to grab a snack in the fellowship hall, listen, learn and participate in these meaningful conversations as we continue growing together as a community of faith. We have two scheduled so far:

- Sunday, March 15 - “What is Drag?”
- Sunday, April 12 - “Neurodivergent Ministry”

### **EASTER FLOWER ORDERS**

Honor or remember loved ones this Easter with altar flowers. Flowers are \$10 each, will adorn the altar on Easter Sunday and may be taken home after church. Order by Sunday, March 22, with payment due when you submit your form.

### **MEN'S TIES NEEDED**

Men's ties are needed for the Sleeping Bag Group. Please place in the chapel in the appropriate mission bin.

### **COOKIE BAKERS NEEDED FOR DAILY BREAD**

Help Daily Bread by baking cookies! We need 25 dozen each month. Label containers and place cookies in the freezer. Sign up or get info from Judy Flaherty at 412-913-8250.

*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)

### CHURCH STAFF & LEADERSHIP

**Music Ministry – Brian Burns**

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

**Office Administrator – Mary Emili**

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**Lay Leader – Ken Elliott**

724-513-4625 | [kenelliott76@gmail.com](mailto:kenelliott76@gmail.com)

**Treasurer – Georgia Brucker**

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

**Assistant Facilities Manager – Susan Derouin**

**Queer Ministry Coordinator – Tim Napieralski**

**Social Media Coordinator – Judith Melvin**

**Worship Tech Coordinator – Aiden Weis**

**Food Ministry Coordinator – Michael Schnitgen**

### CALVARY UMC

971 Beech Avenue

Pittsburgh, PA 15233

412-231-2007

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

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

### Office Hours

Monday: 9 AM – NOON

Tuesday: 9 AM – 3 PM

Thursday: 9 AM – 3 PM

### Facebook

Calvary United Methodist Church, Pittsburgh

### YouTube

Calvary UMC Pittsburgh PA

### Instagram

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

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