

CALVARY

United Methodist Church



Why are we
still waiting?



AUG

10TH

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'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



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

Jeffrey Marsico, who recently passed away, cousin of David Rizzo

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 **calvarypgh.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



PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP †★

Leader: From the rising to the setting sun,
People: God summons us.
Leader: In the perfect beauty all around us,
People: God brightens our hearts.
Leader: When we worship with acts of love and mercy,
People: God is pleased to give us the kingdom.
Leader: Come! Let justice and righteousness be our worship.

HYMN OF PRAISE †★ "My Lord, What a Morning" — #719 UMH

OPENING PRAYER †★

Jesus, we are here because you somehow found a way into our lives and said, in a way that we were able to hear, "Follow me." We are here because somehow your Holy Spirit found a way to enable us, even with our doubts and misgivings, to say yes to your invitation. We are on a journey with you. Sometimes you take us places where our faith is tested, and we aren't sure we have what it takes to keep walking with you. At other moments along the way, we have been confused, unable to see where we are headed. In our time of worship, equip us for the journey ahead. Give us what we need faithfully to continue to walk with you so that wherever you move, we might move with you. 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 50:1-8, 22-23 NRSV

- 1 The mighty one, God the Lord, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.
- 2 Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.

- 3 Our God comes and does not keep silent; before him is a devouring fire and a mighty tempest all around him.
- 4 He calls to the heavens above and to the earth, that he may judge his people:
- 5 “Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!”
- 6 The heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself is judge. Selah
- 7 “Hear, O my people, and I will speak, O Israel, I will testify against you. I am God, your God.
- 8 Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you; your burnt offerings are continually before me.
- 22 Mark this, then, you who forget God, or I will tear you apart, and there will be no one to deliver.
- 23 Those who bring thanksgiving as their sacrifice honor me; to those who go the right way, I will show the salvation of God.”

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 ★. "Take Time to Be Holy" — #395 UMH
You are welcome to come forward to the altar for prayer.

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.

GOSPEL LESSON †★. Luke 12:32-40 NRSV

- 32 “Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.
- 33 Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys.
- 34 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.
- 35 “Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit;
- 36 be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks.

37 Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them.

38 If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

39 “But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into.

40 You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

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 “Why Are We Still Waiting?” — Nathan Salamacha

HYMN ★. “Seek the Lord” — #124 UMH

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 †

CLOSING HYMN †★. “In Christ There Is No East or West” — #548 UMH

BENEDICTION †

POSTLUDE †

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



JOIN US FOR



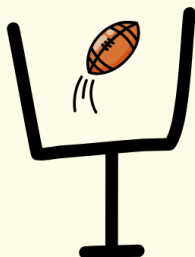
KICKOFF SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 7

Calvary is kicking off the fall season with a fresh new format for Sunday School — designed for adults, children & families.

IT ALL BEGINS ON KICKOFF SUNDAY!

WE CAN'T WAIT TO SHARE MORE
WITH YOU SOON!



THIS WEEK AT CALVARY



SUN
AUG 10

COMMUNION

During Worship (Monthly) | Sanctuary

AA (ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS) — NORTHSIDE SUNDAY NIGHTERS

8:00 PM (Weekly) | Fellowship Hall

MON
AUG 11

GA (GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS)

6:30 PM (Bi-Monthly) | Chapel

TUES
AUG 12

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 14

EXERCISE CLASS FOR ALL AGES

9:00 – 10:00 AM (Weekly) | Chapel

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

10:00 – 11:30 AM (Weekly) | Parsonage

CALVARY UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH — SERVING DAILY BREAD

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM (Monthly) | Trinity Lutheran Church

OPEN SANCTUARY

6:00 – 8:00 PM (Weekly) | Sanctuary

SUN
AUG 17

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

"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



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



MISSIONS & OUTREACH



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 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.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION UPDATE

Thank you to everyone who attended last week's Christian Education meeting! We're excited about what's coming this fall. Be on the lookout for more information about upcoming classes and a new format for Sunday School. We'll be launching the new season with a Kickoff Sunday on September 7 – the Sunday after Labor Day. Stay tuned for details!

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'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



ANNOUNCEMENTS

FELLOWSHIP UPDATE FOR AUGUST

Fellowship will be on hold for the month of August due to ongoing construction. It will resume on the last Sunday of August, August 31, with our Community Luncheon. We look forward to seeing you there!

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

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.

COMMUNION

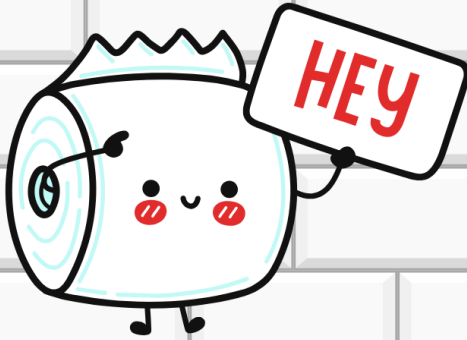
Sunday, September 7 (1st Sunday of each month) | During Worship | Sanctuary

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, September 7 (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.



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



SMALL GROUPS



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 | Parsonage

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.

SPECIAL EVENTS



CALVARY WELCOMES BOBBY JO VALENTINE!

Wednesday, September 3 | 7:00 PM | Sanctuary

Tickets: \$25

Purchase Tickets: 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

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. Myles Bradley

Rev. Jorinda Bullitt

Rev. Larry Homitsky

CHURCH STAFF

Music Ministry – Brian Burns

724-388-3246 | bsburns77@aol.com

Office Administrator – Mary Emili

412-231-2007 | CalvaryPgh@gmail.com

Family Ministry & Education

Megan Bova

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Brittany Bova-Mickens

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Communications – Karen Ferguson

724-448-1429 | 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

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CalvaryPgh.com

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YouTube

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