

Calvary News Update – October 2019

Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church • 341 Hamline Avenue South, St. Paul, MN 55105 • (651) 698-6138
Rev. Joe Marsh • A Member of The American Association of Lutheran Churches (TAALC) • www.calvarystpaul.org

Winners & Losers or God's Glory?

There's an old axiom that says, "It doesn't matter if you win or lose, but how you play the game." It's a nice thought but we all know that what really matters is WINNING.

It has become popular in today's politically correct America to give every child in a sport a "participation trophy" at the end of the season to keep them from "feeling like losers." The problem is that even the kids know it's a meaningless gesture. When younger children play a team sport where no official score is kept, everyone still keeps mental track of who is ahead and who is behind. No one is fooling anyone. Even without an official score, it's still about winning or losing.

In everyday life we even use win/lose terms in categorizing people. When someone says, "He's a real winner!" and says it sarcastically, what they means is, "He is a real loser."

Everyone wants to be a winner. No one wants to be a loser. Every human being is insecure in one way or another, and so we keep mental score by looking at the kind of cars other people drive, the house they live in, the clubs they belong to. "Keeping up with the Joneses" is all about cultural winning or losing.

Unfortunately, the win/lose paradigm can also sneak into a congregation. It's a tendency we see all through the Old and New Testament. Absalom wanted to win over David, the Pharisees wanted to defeat Jesus, two of the disciples were ready and willing to call down thunder and lightning on their enemies, the Corinthian congregations had all kinds

of disputes and disagreements which Paul had to straighten out, even the wonderful Philipian congregation had two women who couldn't get along with each other and were reprimanded by Paul himself.

In the Psalms we read, "Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!"

Paul wrote to the Romans about the Christian alternative to the win/lose model. "May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, *that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.* Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God." In this short verse Paul gives us the reason for love, harmony and unity in the church and he says twice... "for the glory of God."

Does that mean that Christians can never disagree or have different opinions? Of course not. But if we win what will we lose?

Here are some Scriptural ways to enjoy harmony/unity and also glorify God in spite of differences:

1. **Be humble. Be gentle. Be patient. Bear with one another in love.** (*Ephesians 4:1-3*)
2. **Hold fast to the word preached by the apostles.** (*1 Corinthians 15:2*)
3. **Remember that the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus are the matters of "first importance."** (*1 Corinthians 15:3*)
4. **Do not quarrel over opinions.** (*Romans 14:1*)


Our goal as individual Christians should never be to win.

In God's eyes we are already winners. Through Jesus we have eternal life. Through Christ's death he won a victory for us over sin, death and the Devil. We already have everything we ever wanted and need, so let's glorify God together!

– Pastor Joe



Clean Up Day
Saturday, Sept. 28
9:00 a.m.
Lunch Will Be Served.



Short Takes...

Thursday, October 17: An all-day Regional AALC congregational gathering for pastors and lay leaders will be held at Calvary.

Ramsey County plans to use Calvary as a polling place on November 5.

Thank you to all who assisted our outreach to Randolph Heights Elementary with the back-to-school lunch Aug. 26. We served about 50 teachers and staff, and we discussed ways that Calvary can be of service to our neighbors.



CORRECTION:

Vicar Nathan Rinne

Last month we introduced you to Vicar Nathan Rinne, but we spelled his name wrong.

Sorry, 'bout that, Vicar. It's Rinne – that's R-I-N-N-E.

We have a collection of small jobs that need to be done inside and outside the church building. If you are willing and able to help, it would be much appreciated! Please let Pastor Marsh, Bob Fett or Joan Sedlacek know if you would like to take on one or more.

- Scrape, prime and paint trim around front doors.
 - Cover northwest door with siding.
- Fill and seal cracks around stoop by northwest door.
- Remove broken cement, clean, refill, and seal space between back door and stoop.
 - Pound nails back into metal trim around stained glass windows outside as needed.
- Scrape, prime, and paint metal trim around stained glass windows outside as needed.
- Replace broken rubber treads on steps by Hamline entrance.
 - Scrape, prime and paint kitchen wall.
 - Repair (patch) cement wall on south side.
 - Find your own project.

Prayer Request Forms: The ushers have forms you can use to make a prayer request *prior* to the beginning of Sunday worship. If you like, request some forms to take home with you to prepare for the next week. You may e-mail prayer requests to **office@calvarystpaul.org** during the week.

Check out our new website at
www.calvarystpaul.org.

You can sign up for events, subscribe to Pastor Joe's sermons in print, and hear them online.

Enlarged copies of the Sunday scripture readings are available from the ushers. Please ask an usher if you would like an easier-to-read version of the week's Bible verses.

Have you snapped some good photos of Calvary happenings that you can share?
Please email them to the church office at: **office@calvarystpaul.org**

Let Us Pray for One Another:



Please pray each day for the following people of Calvary who have special needs: Fred Hall, Sandy Hall, Orlando Hash, Sally Kahn, Jack Lightfoot, Chris Steiner-Lightfoot, Bill White and Kay Witt. Please pray for Pastor Joe Marsh, for God's powerful guidance. Also please pray for other family and friends: Pastor Tom & Mary Aadland, Debbie & John Amacher, Marcie Ann Coville, Dan & Dawn Hall, Pastor Jay Eberth, Scott McClure, Rita Schenk, Dawn Stewart. If you know one or more people on the "other family and friends" prayer list in this newsletter, and you think that their names should continue on the list, please let the church office know not later than Oct. 16 so that those names will not be removed from the list.



What's Going On? Newsletter

**Submissions to
church office by Oct. 16.
office@calvarystpaul.org
or 651-698-6138**

OCTOBER 2019



Want to Hear it Again?
Share it with a Friend?

SERMONS ONLINE
www.calvarystpaul.org

<p>Sunday Morning Fellowship Serving October 2019 Sally Iverson Sally Kahn</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2 8:30 am Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>3 NO QUILTING! Recovery Meeting Noon-1:00 pm AA Meeting - 7 pm</p>	<p>4 Recovery Group 7:00 pm</p>	<p>5 Karen CRC 6-8pm</p>
<p>6 9:00 am Adult Bible Class 10:00 am Worship Service 11:00 am Coffee & Fellowship Usher Training/Review 1:00 pm Karen CRC Worship Ushers: Gretchen & Bob Fett Reader: Betty Anfinson</p>	<p>7 </p>	<p>8 8:30 am Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>9 Recovery Meeting Noon-1:00 pm AA Meeting - 7 pm</p>	<p>10 Recovery Group 7:00 pm</p>	<p>11 Recovery Group 7:00 pm</p>
<p>13 FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY! Oktoberfest 9:00 am Adult Bible Class 10:00 am Worship Service 11:00 am Oktoberfest Potluck 1:00 pm Karen CRC Worship Ushers: Karol Holmquist / Matt Taylor Reader: April Taylor</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 16 8:30 am Prayer Meeting Mark Carter Newsletter submissions due 651-698-6138 • office@calvarystpaul.org</p>	<p>17 NO QUILTING! Recovery Meeting Noon-1:00 pm Western Great Lakes Regional Gathering 8:30am-4:00pm AA Meeting 7 pm</p>	<p>18 Recovery Group 7:00 pm</p>	<p>19 Tammy Downing Karen CRC 6-8pm</p>
<p>20 9:00 am Adult Bible Class 10:00 am Worship Service 11:00 am Coffee & Fellowship 1:00 pm Karen CRC Worship Ushers: Gretchen & Bob Fett Reader: Gretchen Fett</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 23 8:30 am Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>24 Recovery Meeting Noon-1:00 pm AA Meeting - 7 pm</p>	<p>25 Recovery Group 7:00 pm</p>	<p>26 Karen CRC 6-8pm</p>
<p>27 9:00 am Adult Bible Class 10:00 am Communion Service 11:00 am Coffee & Fellowship 1:00 pm Karen CRC Worship Ushers: Sally Kahn / Barbara Ruuska Reader: Sandy Hall</p>	<p>28 1915 CENTENNIAL</p>	<p>29 30 8:30 am Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>31 Recovery Meeting Noon-1:00 pm AA Meeting - 7 pm</p>	<p>(Nov.) 1 ALL SAINTS DAY Recovery Group 7:00 pm</p>	<p>2 Standard Time "Fall Back" Set Clocks BACK when you go to bed tonight. Karen CRC 6-8pm</p>

AALC Pastor's Conference (Evenings)

Address Service Requested
Time Dated Material - Please Deliver Promptly

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341 Hamline Avenue South
St. Paul, MN 55105
(651)698-6138



Friendship Sunday & Oktoberfest

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!

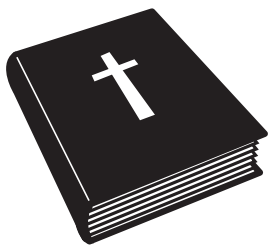
October 13 • 10:00 am

... and Following Worship:

All members and guests are invited to attend our Oktoberfest fellowship luncheon after our worship service October 13. Invite your friends!



POTLUCK LUNCH!



ADULT BIBLE CLASS

9:00am Sunday

You're never too old to learn!

Join us! You won't be asked to read out loud. You do need to be willing to learn and to talk to your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. Come, check it out!

Right this way...

Usher Training

(and Review)

after worship

October 6

