

Calvary News Update – September 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

What Makes a Christian?

What is it that makes (produces) a Christian?

Wearing a cross? I have seen many celebrities who live blatantly immoral and godless lives wearing a cross. Maybe it's a good luck charm to them rather than a statement of faith and commitment but it certainly doesn't make them Christian.

Living a moral life? Living a moral life is certainly commendable but as we know from Scripture a moral life without faith is pointless and does not impress God. *"Without faith it is impossible to please God."* (Hebrews 11:6)

Having your name on a church membership roster? I have been amazed over the years how common this idea is among many so-called Christians. The Pharisees were moral, "religious" and knew their Scriptures, but because they lacked faith and trust in Jesus he called them "Sons of the Devil."

The latest issue of *The Lutheran Witness* included a quote from Luther about "what makes a Christian." Luther wrote, "What makes (produces/builds) a Christian is: 1)Prayer, 2)God's Word, 3)Trials. Obviously he was not saying that these are the only signs of a Christian. Being a Christian includes the sacraments, daily and weekly worship, fellowship with fellow believers and using your spiritual gifts to serve others. Also by "trials" he isn't talking about illnesses, physical problems, etc. Trials refers to things that we suffer because we are Christian. Things like persecution, sacrifice, and loss which is a result of living out our faith.



All of the great people of the Bible were "tested" in their faith by trials. Abraham was told to sacrifice his only son and by trusting God he was willing to do it. Joseph was sold into slavery by his own brothers, falsely accused and thrown into prison for over a decade, and still put his trust in God. Saint Paul suffered greatly as a missionary but never gave up. Stephen was stoned to death for his faith. Eleven of the 12 disciples were martyred. Hebrews 11 gives us a "Hall of Faith" to remind us of what our Christian ancestors suffered while remaining faithful.

Pastor Richard Wurmbrand was imprisoned by Communists for 14 years because of his faith. He often took his Confirmation class to the zoo on their Confirmation day. He stood them in front of the lions' cage and told them that their commitment could one day cost them their life as it had the early Christians. In our Confirmation vow we say, "I will be faithful to Jesus even if it costs me my life." Is that still true? Or were we just saying words without thinking?

If there is one thing that is constant in the life of every child of God, it is: 1)Prayer, 2)Trust in God's Word, 3)Trials brought on by our faith.

It is through our faith in Jesus Christ, using the tools with which he has gifted us, that God forms and leads us in our Christian walk and "makes us Christian." St. Peter wrote, "Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you." It is part of God's process.

– Pastor Joe

ADULT BIBLE CLASS • "Proverbs" • 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!



New Faces at Calvary

Dan Wooley is our new organist.

Dan lives in St. Paul, and also serves as music director at St. Peter's Lutheran in the West 7th neighborhood, where he plays at the 8:30am service.

Dan has a music degree from Brigham Young University, and graduate studies in organ performance at the U of M. During the week, Dan works as a market analyst for a Twin Cities air conditioning company.



Vicar Nathan Renni

(caught helping mop up after 2" of rain on a Saturday night) is serving an AALC vicarage, under the supervision of Pastor Joe Marsh.

Nathan is preaching most Sundays at Clam Falls (Wisc.) Lutheran Church, but will make occasional appearances preaching at Calvary. (He filled in last Nov. 4.)

Nathan works full time in the library at Concordia University, and teaches some online classes.

He lives in Columbia Heights with his wife and 5 boys (ages 6-17).



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 Sept. 18 so that those names will not be removed from the list.

Ushers & Readers

September 1

Ushers: Gretchen & Bob Fett
Reader: Bob Witt

September 8

Ushers: Karol Holmquist/Matt Taylor
Reader: April Taylor

September 15

Ushers: Charlene & Mark Carter
Reader: Sandy Hall

September 22

Ushers: Barbara Ruuska/Bob Fett
Reader: Gretchen Fett

September 29

Ushers: Charlene & Mark Carter
Reader: ????

October 6

Ushers: Gretchen & Bob Fett
Reader: Betty Anfinson

???? = ... you?

Fall Clean-Up
Date to be
Announced



A Funeral Planning
Worksheet is available
on the ushers' desk
in the narthex.



What's Going On?
Newsletter

Submissions to
church office by Sept. 18.
office@calvarystpaul.org
or 651-698-6138

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday Morning Fellowship Serving
September 2019
Judie White
Helen Miels

SEPTEMBER '19



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

SERMONS ONLINE

www.calvarystpaul.org

1	<p><i>Betty Anderson</i> Happy Birthday!</p> <p>9:00 am Adult Bible Class 10:00 am Worship Service 11:00 am Coffee & Fellowship 1:00 pm Karen CRC Worship</p> <p>Ushers: Gretchen & Bob Fett Reader: April Taylor</p>				5	6	7
2	<p>Labor Day</p>			<p>8:30 am Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>Quilters 9:30 am Recovery Meeting Noon-1:00 pm AA Meeting - 7 pm</p>	<p>Recovery Group 7:00 pm</p>	<p>Karen CRC 6-8pm</p>
3							
4				<p>8:30 am Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>Recovery Meeting Noon-1:00 pm AA Meeting - 7 pm</p>	<p>Recovery Group 7:00 pm</p>	<p>Karen CRC 6-8pm</p>
5				<p>8:30 am Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>Recovery Meeting Noon-1:00 pm AA Meeting - 7 pm</p>	<p>Recovery Group 7:00 pm</p>	<p>Karen CRC 6-8pm</p>
6				<p>8:30 am Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>Recovery Meeting Noon-1:00 pm AA Meeting - 7 pm</p>	<p>Recovery Group 7:00 pm</p>	<p>Karen CRC 6-8pm</p>
7				<p>8:30 am Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>Recovery Meeting Noon-1:00 pm AA Meeting - 7 pm</p>	<p>Recovery Group 7:00 pm</p>	<p>Karen CRC 6-8pm</p>
8	<p>9:00 am Adult Bible Class 10:00 am Worship Service 11:00 am Coffee & Fellowship 1:00 pm Karen CRC Worship</p> <p>Ushers: Carol Holmquist/Matt Taylor Reader: April Taylor</p>			<p>8:30 am Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>Recovery Meeting Noon-1:00 pm AA Meeting - 7 pm</p>	<p>Recovery Group 7:00 pm</p>	<p>Karen CRC 6-8pm</p>
9							
10							
11				<p>8:30 am Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>Recovery Meeting Noon-1:00 pm AA Meeting - 7 pm</p>	<p>Recovery Group 7:00 pm</p>	<p>Karen CRC 6-8pm</p>
12				<p>8:30 am Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>Recovery Meeting Noon-1:00 pm AA Meeting - 7 pm</p>	<p>Recovery Group 7:00 pm</p>	<p>Karen CRC 6-8pm</p>
13				<p>8:30 am Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>Recovery Meeting Noon-1:00 pm AA Meeting - 7 pm</p>	<p>Recovery Group 7:00 pm</p>	<p>Karen CRC 6-8pm</p>
14				<p>8:30 am Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>Recovery Meeting Noon-1:00 pm AA Meeting - 7 pm</p>	<p>Recovery Group 7:00 pm</p>	<p>Karen CRC 6-8pm</p>
15	<p>9:00 am Adult Bible Class 10:00 am Worship Service 11:00 am Coffee & Fellowship 1:00 pm Karen CRC Worship</p> <p>Ushers: Charlene & Mark Carter Reader: Sandy Hall</p>			<p>8:30 am Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>Recovery Meeting Noon-1:00 pm AA Meeting - 7 pm</p>	<p>Recovery Group 7:00 pm</p>	<p>Karen CRC 6-8pm</p>
16							
17							
18				<p>8:30 am Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>Recovery Meeting Noon-1:00 pm AA Meeting - 7 pm</p>	<p>Recovery Group 7:00 pm</p>	<p>Karen CRC 6-8pm</p>
19				<p>8:30 am Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>Recovery Meeting Noon-1:00 pm AA Meeting - 7 pm</p>	<p>Recovery Group 7:00 pm</p>	<p>Karen CRC 6-8pm</p>
20				<p>8:30 am Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>Recovery Meeting Noon-1:00 pm AA Meeting - 7 pm</p>	<p>Recovery Group 7:00 pm</p>	<p>Karen CRC 6-8pm</p>
21				<p>8:30 am Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>Recovery Meeting Noon-1:00 pm AA Meeting - 7 pm</p>	<p>Recovery Group 7:00 pm</p>	<p>Karen CRC 6-8pm</p>
22	<p>9:00 am Adult Bible Class 10:00 am Worship Service 11:00 am Coffee & Fellowship 1:00 pm Karen CRC Worship</p> <p>Ushers: Barbara Ruuska/Bob Fett Reader: Gretchen Fett</p>			<p>8:30 am Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>Recovery Meeting Noon-1:00 pm AA Meeting - 7 pm</p>	<p>Recovery Group 7:00 pm</p>	<p>Karen CRC 6-8pm</p>
23							
24							
25				<p>8:30 am Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>Recovery Meeting Noon-1:00 pm AA Meeting - 7 pm</p>	<p>Recovery Group 7:00 pm</p>	<p>Karen CRC 6-8pm</p>
26				<p>8:30 am Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>Recovery Meeting Noon-1:00 pm AA Meeting - 7 pm</p>	<p>Recovery Group 7:00 pm</p>	<p>Karen CRC 6-8pm</p>
27				<p>8:30 am Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>Recovery Meeting Noon-1:00 pm AA Meeting - 7 pm</p>	<p>Recovery Group 7:00 pm</p>	<p>Karen CRC 6-8pm</p>
28				<p>8:30 am Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>Recovery Meeting Noon-1:00 pm AA Meeting - 7 pm</p>	<p>Recovery Group 7:00 pm</p>	<p>Karen CRC 6-8pm</p>
29	<p>9:00 am Adult Bible Class 10:00 am Communion Service 11:00 am Coffee & Fellowship 1:00 pm Karen CRC Worship</p> <p>Ushers: Charlene & Mark Carter Reader:</p>			<p>8:30 am Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>Recovery Meeting Noon-1:00 pm AA Meeting - 7 pm</p>	<p>Recovery Group 7:00 pm</p>	<p>Karen CRC 6-8pm</p>
30							
31							



9:00 am Adult Bible Class
10:00 am Communion Service
11:00 am Coffee & Fellowship
1:00 pm Karen CRC Worship

Ushers: Charlene & Mark Carter
Reader:

(Oct. 1)

8:30 am Prayer Meeting

Recovery Meeting Noon-1:00 pm
AA Meeting - 7 pm

Recovery Group 7:00 pm

Karen CRC 6-8pm

Address Service Requested
Time Dated Material - Please Deliver Promptly

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



Friendship Sunday & Oktoberfest

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!

October 6 • 10:00 am

... and Following Worship:



**POTLUCK
LUNCH!**

All members and guests are invited to attend our Oktoberfest fellowship luncheon after our worship service October 6. Invite your friends!



Short Takes...

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.

Printed Copies of Sermons are Available: If you'd like a printed copy of the sermon available to you on Sunday mornings, please let Pastor Joe know and a copy will be available for you at the ushers' desk in the narthex.

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

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. During the week, you may e-mail prayer requests to office@calvarystpaul.org.

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

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. The office email is now: office@calvarystpaul.org.

ALARMING NEWS!



We have had several false alarms in the last several months. When the alarm goes off, the security company calls. If they can't reach our designated numbers, the police are dispatched - Which costs money! The security system is in use when the church is locked. If you need to be in the building during non-service/office hours and need a refresher on setting/cancelling the alarm, please ask. And if you accidentally set off the alarm, please let us know at the church office (651-698-6138) so we know it was an accident and not something requiring further investigation.



His Mission for Us:

This is our best understanding of why God wants us here as a congregation!

"Changing Lives by Sharing Christ!"

His Values for Us:

These are the values we stand for, without compromise, regardless of the challenges placed before us. These are our guiding principles, defining our relationships and our work together.

- Fellowship • Our Salvation • Reaching the Unchurched
- Scriptures • Preaching and Teaching
- Love and Care for One Another • Grow in Our Faith