

Calvary News Update – February 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

God's Handwriting

You may or may not know that I have this thing for pens. Some people like cars, food, clothes, shoes... or insert your own "thing." I like pens and "calligraphy" (which means "beautiful writing").

I'm told that many schools today don't even teach cursive writing any more because "everyone" uses computers – so what's the point of learning how to write with a pen or pencil?

Even though my writing is often illegible, I can, if I concentrate and take my time, write pretty well.

I have real admiration for people who write beautifully. When I look at the handwriting of people who lived a hundred years ago it is often a wonder to behold.

A person's handwriting tells you something about them. Handwriting experts reportedly can tell if a person is a felon or a potential criminal. Their style is distinctive and apparently obvious to the trained eye. Handwriting can also tell something about a person's patience (or lack thereof), their mood, their health and many other things.

In a sense, the world we live in is God's handwriting. It tells us a lot about who He is and what He is like. For instance, God didn't have to create the world as we know it. He could have created a much simpler world. He could have made people and the creation to look like Legos, all made out of the same shape little pieces with just a few color variations. He could have made trees and animals to look like Lego creatures also, but he didn't.

God's handwriting is meticulous, original and unique. No two people are exactly alike. We have different faces, different shapes and sizes. No two people have the same fingerprints. Even identical twins are different from each other.

Every time science thinks they have found the smallest building blocks of creation, an even smaller one is discovered. God's handwriting is amazing and beautiful.

Not only is his handwriting beautiful, but He also cares about what he has created. Jesus told us that He even knows the number of hairs on our head – that's more than I know about myself or anyone else. God knows the secrets of our hearts, our desires, our intentions, our thoughts. "Before I created you, I knew you."

We are part of God's handwriting. "We are fearfully and wonderfully made." God didn't just scribble us out like a note for a grocery list, he made us exactly as He wanted us, in our body, our personality, our intelligence, down to the color of our eyes.

The world seems to think that we can do whatever we want with this body we have been blessed with. Because of sin, we tend to abuse it by not taking care of it. In fact, many of us take better care of our car and our house than we do of our body.

This body he has given to us is not temporary, either. We will one day die and in the resurrection be reunited with our perfect body. It will be like God intended it to be all along.

Thank you, Lord for this wonderful world we live in! Thank you, Lord for giving me this wonderful body, soul, and mind. Help me to use it to your glory, for you have made me and my body eternal. I am God's handwriting!

– Pastor Joe

Want to Hear it Again?

Share it with a Friend?

SERMONS ONLINE

www.calvarystpaul.org

*Preach It Again,
Pastor Joe.*



Annual Meeting Held January 20



At the annual meeting, a 2019 budget of \$113,933 was approved (an increase of about one percent). One seat on the council was open for election, but there were no candidates, so the council will need to fill the position. We also enjoyed a potluck lunch and good Christian fellowship.

2019 Calvary Council Members:

Karol Holmquist	Sally Kahn
Joan Sedlacek	April Taylor
Bob Fett	Sara Bauer

(Remaining seat to be filled by council.)



It's Easier than Ever to **HEAR THE GOSPEL!** at Calvary Lutheran

Do you find it hard to hear the service? We've got some great hearing-assist devices you will want to try. They are easy to use and inconspicuous. *Think: Transistor radio and earphone.* And another device actually works wirelessly with many hearing aids.



Let Us Pray for One Another:



Please pray each day for the following people of Calvary who have special needs: **Lorenda Brown, Fred Hall, Sandy Hall, Jack Lightfoot, Chris Steiner-Lightfoot, Norm McClure, Carole Sunde, 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, Pastor Jay Eberth, Rita Schenk, Dawn Stewart, Marcie Ann Coville, Dan & Dawn Hall. 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 Feb. 20 so that those names will not be removed from the list.



**What's Going On?
Newsletter
Submissions to
Calvary office by Feb. 20**
celc341@msn.com
or 651-698-6138

FEBRUARY 2019

Preach it Again,
Pastor Joe

Want to Hear it Again?
Share it with a Friend?
SERMONS ONLINE
www.calvarystpaul.org

Sunday Morning Fellowship Serving
February 2019
Betty Anfinson
Karol Holmquist

Don't forget...
Pray for
Our Troops

His Every-Day Mission for Us:
This is our best understanding of why God wants us here as a congregation!
"Changing Lives by Sharing Christ!"

3
9:00 am Adult Bible Class
10:00 am Worship Service
11:00 am Coffee & Fellowship
1:00 pm Karen CRC Worship
Ushers:
Reader:

4

5

6
8:30 am Prayer Meeting

7:15 pm • Choir Practice

7
Quilters 9:30 am
Recovery Meeting Noon-1:00 pm
AA Meeting - 7 pm

8
Recovery Group 7:00 pm

9
Groundhog Day

Karen CRC 6-8pm

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

11

12

13
8:30 am Prayer Meeting

7:15 pm • Choir Practice

14 St. Valentine's Day
Recovery Meeting Noon-1:00 pm
Valentine's Dinner at Little Venetian - Time TBD
AA Meeting - 7 pm

15
Recovery Group 7:00 pm

16
Karen CRC 6-8pm

17
Charlene Carter
9:00 am Adult Bible Class
10:00 am Worship Service
11:00 am Coffee & Fellowship
1:00 pm Karen CRC Worship
Ushers:
Reader:

18

Presidents' Day

Helen Mielis

19

20
8:30 am Prayer Meeting
Newsletter submissions due
to Calvary office: celic341@msn.com

7:15 pm • Choir Practice

21
Recovery Meeting Noon-1:00 pm
Quilters 1:00 pm
AA Meeting 7:00 pm

22
Recovery Group 7:00 pm

23
Karen CRC 6-8pm

24

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

25

Helen Mielis

26

27
8:30 am Prayer Meeting

7:15 pm • Choir Practice
Sally Iverson
Newsletter Mailing

7:15 pm • Choir Practice

28
Recovery Meeting Noon-1:00 pm
AA Meeting 7:00 pm

(Mar)1
Recovery Group 7:00 pm

2
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



Valentine's Dinner – Thursday, Feb. 14

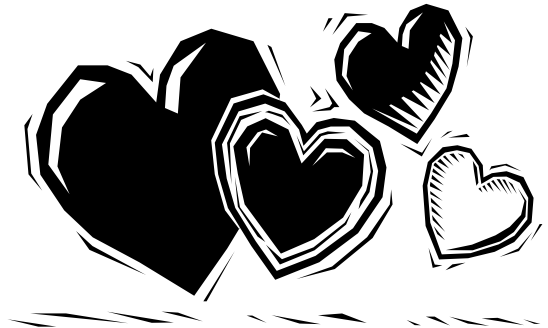
*Calvary's annual Valentine's dinner –
for singles as well as couples.*

Little Venetian Inn

2900 Rice Street, #240 • Little Canada

Time to be announced • Thursday, Feb. 14

Sign up at church – or call Sally Kahn at 651-291-1568



Short Takes...

Karleen Witt has taken over the position of Calvary's "office helper," to work 12 hours per week. A big *thank you* to **April Taylor** for filling in temporarily.

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 celc341@msn.com during the week.

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.

Calvary Welcomes Karen Christian Revival Church on Sunday Afternoons

The Karen Christian Revival Church, under the leadership of Pastor Saul, is now worshipping at Calvary on Sunday afternoons, at 1:00 pm. The Karen people in Myanmar (formerly Burma) have been persecuted by the military regime there. Fortunately, many have been able to come to the U.S., where they are free to worship as they please and seek better lives for their families. Members of the congregation will also be present in the building on Saturday evening, practicing music for Sunday worship. You can learn more about their faith and fundamental beliefs on their church's website: www.kcrcusa.org/about-us.