

# Calvary News Update – March 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

## Four Unbiblical Attitudes About Worship

There are a lot of reasons people don't think they need to be a member of a church in today's world. These ideas are popular, prevalent and maybe even persuasive, but are they Biblical? When you stand before God on judgment day and try to answer why you weren't an active member of a congregation what will HIS response be? After all, in the end, isn't God the one we are ultimately answerable to for our behavior here on earth? Am I saying weekly worship will save you? Of course not. We are saved by grace through faith . . . but . . . how does God want us to live out that grace in our daily life?

Where in the Bible does it say that "You have to be a member of a church to be a Christian?" Aside from the Third Commandment, "Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy," how about 1 Corinthians 12, where Paul said clearly, "We are members of the body of Christ?" He wrote that letter to a local church in a local community.

Yeah, yeah, I know all the arguments and have probably used them myself. "The church is full of hypocrites." I agree absolutely! That's why we are there every week. We can never live up to God's standards of perfection, not even the best church goer among us. But we aren't in worship to fool anyone. We are there because we know we are sinners and need strength, encouragement and especially forgiveness which is only available in Jesus Christ.

A second reason people avoid weekly worship is because they can't find a church "that meets their needs."

As adults we hopefully learn the difference between "needs" and "wants." Unfortunately we

often confuse the two. The kind of music and worship style may be what we prefer but may not be what we really need.

Too often we criticize pastors for the length of their sermons but fail to absorb the content of what they are saying. I'm not a fan of long, drawn out sermons either, but am I really listening or just watching the clock or thinking about "what's for lunch?" Some music truly moves me, some doesn't, but what's the message in the music and isn't the message more important than the melody?

My real needs are known only by God and he wants to speak to my heart in spite of wordy sermons or "old music." Philippians 2:1-4 speaks about our attitudes of wanting things our way, "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility consider others more important than yourselves."

Hebrews 10:24-25: "And let us watch out for one another to provoke love and good works, not neglecting to gather together as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging each other, and all the more as you see the day approaching."

Our attitude toward worship is simply a reflection of our attitude toward God and His Word. Let's be honest, our sinful attitudes always get in the way of our faith.

Lord, help us to see past our preferences, our hang ups and our selfishness. Help us to desire closeness to you. Help us to live your way, in spite of every circumstance, and love your Word, your people and your forgiveness in Christ.

*(Adapted from an article by Thom Rainer, "Church Leadership.")*

– Pastor Joe



## Ash Wednesday

Communion Service March 6  
at 6:30 pm

*Lenten Services on Following Wednesdays at 6:30 pm*

## DON'T FORGET!!!

Daylight Saving Time begins

**March 10**

Don't forget to move your clock ahead one hour when you go to bed Saturday, March 9.





# Valentine's Dinner 2019

Calvary couples, singles and their guests enjoyed our annual Valentine's Dinner on February 14 at The Little Venetian. The festivities culminated with the coronation of 2019 Valentine's Queen MaryJo Marsh.



## Let Us Pray for One Another:







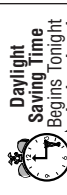
















Please pray each day for the following people of Calvary who have special needs: Lorenda Brown, Fred Hall, Sandy Hall, Jack Lightfoot, Chris Steiner-Lightfoot, Norm McClure, Carole Sunde, Bill White and Kay Witt. Please pray for Pastor Joe Marsh, for God's powerful guidance. Also please pray for other 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 March 20 so that those names will not be removed from the list.



**What's Going On?  
Newsletter  
Submissions to  
church office by March 20  
[celc341@msn.com](mailto:celc341@msn.com)  
or 651-698-6138**

**Sunday Morning Fellowship Serving**  
 March 2019  
 April Taylor  
 Joan Sedlacek

# MARCH 2019

<p><b>3</b>  <i>Karol Holmquist</i>                  9:00 am Adult Bible Class                  10:00 am Worship Service                  11:00 am Coffee &amp; Fellowship                  1:30 pm Karen CRC Worship                  Ushers: Mark &amp; Charlene Carter                  Reader: Bob Witt</p>	<p><b>4</b>                  Girl Scouts                  6 pm</p>	<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>6</b>  8:30 am Prayer Meeting   <b>LENTIL Ash Wednesday 6:30pm</b>                  Ushers: Sally Kahn / Gretchen Fett                  Reader: Sandy Hall   <b>Choir Practice after service</b></p>	<p><b>7</b>   Quilters                  9:30 am                  Recovery Meeting                  Noon-1:00 pm                  AA Meeting - 7 pm</p>	<p><b>8</b>                  Recovery Group                  7:00 pm</p>	<p><b>9</b> <b>RCA Retreat 10am-4pm</b>   Daylight Saving Time Begins Tonight                  clocks ahead                  Karen CRC                  6-8pm</p>
<p><b>10</b>  <b>DON'T BE LATE: CLOCKS AHEAD!</b>                  9:00 am Adult Bible Class                  10:00 am Worship Service                  11:00 am Coffee &amp; Fellowship                  1:30 pm Karen CRC Worship                  Ushers: Karol Holmquist / Sally Kahn                  Reader: Bob Fett</p>	<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>12</b>   <i>Lorenda Browne</i>   <b>LENTIL Lenten Service 6:30pm</b>                  Ushers: Bob &amp; Gretchen Fett                  Reader: Sandy Hall   <b>Choir Practice after service</b></p>	<p><b>13</b> 8:30 am Prayer Meeting   <i>Lorenda Browne</i>   <b>LENTIL Lenten Service 6:30pm</b>                  Ushers: Bob &amp; Gretchen Fett                  Reader: Sandy Hall   <b>Choir Practice after service</b></p>	<p><b>14</b>                  Recovery Meeting                  Noon-1:00 pm                  AA Meeting - 7 pm</p>	<p><b>15</b>                  Recovery Group                  7:00 pm</p>	<p><b>16</b>                  Karen CRC                  6-8pm</p>
<p><b>17</b>                  9:00 am Adult Bible Class                  10:00 am Worship Service                  11:00 am Coffee &amp; Fellowship                  1:30 pm Karen CRC Worship                  Ushers: Sally Kahn / Bob Fett                  Reader: Bob Witt</p>	<p><b>18</b></p>	<p><b>19</b></p>	<p><b>20</b> 8:30 am Prayer Meeting   <b>Newsletter submissions due</b>                  to Calvary office: celc341@msn.com   <b>LENTIL Lenten Service 6:30pm</b>                  Ushers: Mark &amp; Charlene Carter                  Reader: Sandy Hall   <b>Choir Practice after service</b></p>	<p><b>21</b>                  Recovery Meeting                  Noon-1:00 pm   Quilters                  1:00 pm                  AA Meeting - 7 pm</p>	<p><b>22</b>                  Recovery Group                  7:00 pm</p>	<p><b>23</b>                  Karen CRC                  6-8pm</p>
<p><b>24</b>                  9:00 am Adult Bible Class                  10:00 am Worship Service                  11:00 am Coffee &amp; Fellowship                  1:30 pm Karen CRC Worship                  Ushers: Karol Holmquist / Mark Carter                  Reader: Betty Anfinson</p>	<p><b>25</b></p>	<p><b>26</b></p>	<p><b>27</b> 8:30 am Prayer Meeting   <b>LENTIL Lenten Service 6:30pm</b>                  Ushers: Sally Kahn / ???                  Reader: Bob Witt   <b>Choir Practice after service</b></p>	<p><b>28</b>                  Recovery Meeting                  Noon-1:00 pm                  AA Meeting - 7 pm</p>	<p><b>29</b>                  Recovery Group                  7:00 pm</p>	<p><b>30</b>                  Karen CRC                  6-8pm</p>
<p><b>31</b>   <i>Karol Holmquist</i>                  9:00 am Adult Bible Class                  10:00 am Communion Service                  11:00 am Coffee &amp; Fellowship                  1:30 pm Karen CRC Worship                  Ushers: Mark &amp; Charlene Carter                  Reader:</p>	<p><b>(April) 1</b></p>	<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>3</b> 8:30 am Prayer Meeting   <b>LENTIL Lenten Service 6:30pm</b>                  Ushers: Bob &amp; Gretchen Fett                  Reader: Sandy Hall   <b>Choir Practice after service</b></p>	<p><b>4</b>   Quilters                  9:30 am                  Recovery Meeting                  Noon-1:00 pm                  AA Meeting - 7 pm</p>	<p><b>5</b>                  Recovery Group                  7:00 pm</p>	<p><b>6</b>                  Karen CRC                  6-8pm</p>

Address Service Requested  
Time Dated Material - Please Deliver Promptly

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St. Paul, MN 55105  
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**LENT**

*"God's Gift of Forgiveness"*

6:30 pm • Wed., March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10



*Palm Sunday* April 14



and  
Holy Week



April 18

6:30 pm

Holy Communion



April 19

6:30 pm



Want to know more about Calvary's affiliation with the AALC  
(The American Association of Lutheran Churches)? Pick up the brochure  
"A Lutheran Alternative" while at church, or visit: [www.taalc.org](http://www.taalc.org)

## **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 1:30 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](http://www.kcrcusa.org/about-us).

## **Short Takes...**

**Wednesday Morning Prayer Meeting** is 8:30am weekly in the pastor's office. We pray for members, family, friends and our nation. All are welcome to sit in; you do not need to pray out loud. It is very informal and something Jesus told us to do - bear one another's burdens.

**New Hope Center and Healing House** - There is a large container on a table in the Fellowship Hall for **donations** to New Hope Center & Healing House. Needed items are posted on the container. We thank Fred and Sandy Hall for delivering donated items to the Center and Healing House.

**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](mailto:celc341@msn.com) during the week.