

# Calvary Communicator



## CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MURRYSVILLE

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We're on the Web!  
[www.CalvaryLCMS.org](http://www.CalvaryLCMS.org)  
Check for all church events

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### Connecting People to the Love of Jesus

Calvary Lutheran Church invites you to explore the love of Jesus. We offer many ways to connect with the love of Jesus whether it is through traditional or contemporary worship, Christian education or church and community ministries. We invite you to be a part of the journey to everlasting life and to know and experience the loving, saving grace of God.

### Calvary Worship Times Opportunities for Worship

Sunday - 8:30 am

Sunday - 11:00 am

Monday - 6:30 pm

### Office Hours

M-TH 8 am - 4 pm

Friday

9 am - 2 pm

Elected officers, staff, and administration also need a time to worship, receive the Lord's Supper, and study God's Word over the weekend. Please allow them to do that and refrain from business discussions during those spiritually edifying times. Feel free to write a note, send an email, leave a message, visit the office during office hours, or otherwise let an Elder know of your needs and concerns.

From the  
Pastor's  
Desk



### Four Years of Ministry at Calvary

This March marks my fourth year of ministry at Calvary, and as I look back, I am overwhelmed with gratitude for all that God has done in and through our church. These years have been filled with moments of joy and challenge and through it all, God has been faithful.

*"He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."* – Philippians 1:6

God is always at work. He is shaping us, refining us, and drawing us closer to Him. Sometimes, we see His work in big moments—baptisms, weddings, or answered prayers. Other times, His work is quiet and steady, unfolding in our daily lives in ways we may not even be aware of. But no matter how it looks, we trust that He is not finished with us yet. What He has started, He will complete. And that is our hope as we continue to serve, love, and grow together as His church.

Together, we have built meaningful connections through our small group ministry, Barnabas Groups, offering encouragement and discipleship to one another. We have invested in the faith of our children and youth through Bible studies and family events. We have celebrated new life in Christ through baptisms and walked alongside one another in times of grief and loss.

One of my favorite ways we have served has been our Week of Mission at Concordia in Monroeville. This ministry has allowed us to extend Christ's love to the aging population and those who care for them—

offering companionship, prayer, and support to a community often in need of encouragement. In these moments of service, we live out our calling to be the hands and feet of Jesus, bringing light and hope to others.

Through all of this, I see God's faithfulness. I see Him in your willingness to serve, in the way you care for one another, and in the joy of our shared worship. Worship remains at the heart of who we are, and every Sunday, we gather to lift our voices, hear God's Word, and receive His grace anew.

I am thankful for these four years and excited for what is to come as we continue growing in Christ together. May we press on, trusting that the good work God has begun in us will be carried to completion.

### Upcoming in March

- **Ash Wednesday – March 5th:** Worship will be at 7:00 PM and will include the imposition of ashes.
- **Lenten Services & Meals:** Following Ash Wednesday, each Lenten service will be preceded by a meager meal at 6:00 PM.

**High School Youth Bible Study:** We will continue meeting on Sundays at 5:30 PM in the Community Center to study Colossians.

I look forward to walking through this season of Lent with you as we prepare our hearts for Easter.

In His Love,  
Pastor Josh

# Hannah's Desk

As we step into March, signs of spring begin to emerge—longer days, blooming flowers, and fresh beginnings. Just as the earth awakens after winter, God calls us to experience renewal in our faith. Isaiah 43:19 reminds us, *"See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?"* This season is a perfect time to embrace the new things God is doing in our lives, our families, and our church community. Let's grow together in faith and fellowship this month!

## **Parent Informational Meeting – March 2nd at 12:15 PM**

Parents of middle and high school youth, join us after the late service in the Community Center to learn about an exciting **summer mission trip** opportunity! Hannah and Pastor Josh will be available to answer any questions.

## **Children's Sundaes Funday – March 9th at 2:00 PM**

Bring your favorite ice cream topping and join us in the Community Center for an afternoon of delicious sundaes and fun games!

## **Family Movie Night – March 14th at 5:30 PM**

Come enjoy a cozy movie night with us as we watch *Toy Story 4!* We'll have popcorn, fellowship, and plenty of fun in the Community Center.

## **Middle School Bible Study – March 23rd at 6:30 PM**

Middle schoolers, meet us in the Community Center for a night of Bible study, snacks, and games. Let's grow in faith together!

## **Hoagie Fundraiser**

Support our youth group by purchasing a hoagie! Order forms are available on my desk and due by **March 24th**. We'll also be selling hoagies at the **Craft Fair on March 29th**, so stop by and grab a bite while supporting our youth ministry!

## **High School Bible Study – Sundays at 5:30 PM**

Our high school Bible study is ongoing! We meet every Sunday at 5:30 PM in the Community Center and are currently studying the book of Colossians. Join Pastor Josh as we dive into God's Word and grow together in faith.

March is filled with opportunities to grow in faith, serve others, and have fun together. We can't wait to see you at these events!

Blessings,  
Hannah Obermann  
Calvary Youth & Family Ministry



## *Elder's Corner by Tom Harbaugh*

It is that time of year I call the church doldrums. It is that time between Advent and the beginning of Lent. The church calls this time Epiphany. Epiphany celebrates God revealing himself to the world. We are just coming off the spiritual high of Christmas and birth of the savior and two months later we go into Lent, a time of repentance, which culminates in the death and resurrection of our savior (The highest of spiritual highs). During Epiphany we see scriptures that reveal Jesus as the son of God. I sometimes find it difficult to relate to the meaning of these scriptures during that short time between Christmas and Lent.

So, what do we do between those two spiritual highs? It is the dead of winter, dark, cold, blustery, just depressing. I find that you can get into a spiritual depression during this time. You don't feel like getting up, getting dressed and bundling up to go to church. I know there are Sunday mornings, in bed, snug and warm and I just don't want to get up. Sometimes those mornings you feel like God is just kind of not there.

Between Christmas day and the last Sunday before Ash Wednesday are 14 Gospel reading opportunities. This year 12 of those opportunities are readings from the Gospel of Luke. I find Luke to be an awesome set of recordings of what Jesus was doing, who he was talking to, and what he was saying. Historically, Luke was said to be a physician and was Greek. He was educated and wrote well. In ad-

dition to the Gospel of Luke, he is credited for writing the Book of Acts.

I find reading Luke is proof God is there and Jesus is there right with us and through Luke we can hear and see what Jesus was like. Luke's interest in people is undeniable. Much of the material unique to Luke's gospel involves Jesus's interactions with individuals, many of them on the fringes of "acceptable" society—sinners, women, and children among them. Like Matthew and Mark, Luke recorded the incident of a woman coming to pour perfume on Jesus's feet. But Luke was the only gospel writer to point out the fact known to all present that she was an immoral woman ([Luke 7:37](#)).

Likewise, we find in Luke was the only one recoding the conversation between the robbers crucified alongside Jesus, one of them defending Jesus and receiving the promise of paradise. Luke's portrayal of Jesus reveals in our Lord a man come to minister and show compassion to all people, no matter their station in life.

Just as Matthew portrays Jesus as the King, and as Mark reveals Him as the Servant, Luke offers a unique perspective of Jesus as the Son of Man. This phrase, "Son of Man," was Jesus's favorite way to refer to Himself.

Most famous among the people unique to Luke's writings is the tax collector Zaccheus, a short man who had to climb a tree to see over the crowds as Jesus approached his town. Jesus ended up sharing a meal with Zaccheus at his house, much to the dismay and angst of the local religious leaders. When Zaccheus expressed his regret over his former way of life and vowed to make restitution, Jesus responded with what became the theme of Luke's gospel: "For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost" ([Luke 19:10](#)). Luke portrayed Jesus as God's ideal Man, who offers salvation to all humanity—Jew and Gentile alike.

The richness of Luke's portrayal of Jesus has profound implications for our relationship with God today. Jesus walks through Luke's gospel illustrating His deep and abiding care for people, regardless of what they have done or their status in society.

Do you believe that God loves you no matter what you've done? The fact that the eternal Son of God condescended to lower Himself, take on human flesh, make Himself subject to human limitations, and seek out His people in bodily form shows us clearly how much God cares for us and, in turn, how we are to care for others.

So, don't let the doldrums wear you down. Take heart in hearing Luke's words during this time before Lent starts.



## Evangelism/Hospitality & Fellowship Update

**A strength is a personal** characteristic that can be used on behalf of God in service to others. Usually, they are present throughout our lives but can be enhanced through experience or training. Strengths are part of who we are while skills are more about what we do. Are you using your strengths to glorify God?

**Lent midweek meals:** Starting March 12 on Wednesday. Evangelism will do the 12<sup>th</sup> and try to be more of a meager meal. Wedding soup and fresh baked bread will be served.

**Craft Fair for CELC** on March 29<sup>th</sup>. Youth will be overseeing the kitchen. CELC will receive proceeds from fair and basket sales. Youth will receive profits from kitchen. I will sell tickets the Sunday before at early service for baskets.

**Easter Egg hunt April 12.** We will be asking for candy donations and then we will be stuffing eggs for this on Thursday, April 10 at 6:30 PM in the Wisteria Room. We will be asking the congregation for candy donations. See Hanah if you wish to help with egg hunt. **We will set up tables for Palm Sunday breakfast after egg hunt.**

**Palm Sunday breakfast- April 13.** Breakfast starts at 8:30 AM. Menu: Egg casseroles, sausage links, bacon, pancakes, mini muffins, juice, & fruit. Can you help? Set up, preparing, serving, clean up helpers are needed. Please see Lori to volunteer.

**Mark your calendar** Saturday, May 3 -a women's event: A shower-like event to honor the Blackburn Center with items from their wish list. Finger sandwiches, salads, and petite desserts will be served.

**Keep filing the shopping cart** with non-perishable food items and personal hygiene items for Loaves and Fishes. Soaps and detergent are always appreciated. The community needs your support. Please check the expiration labels.

*Go in peace and serve the Lord!*

# MARCH 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 <i>Barnabas Group A</i>
2 8:30 Communion 9:45 Bible Study/SS 11:00 Worship 5:30 H.S Bible Study 7:00 Financial Peace	3 6:30 Worship	4 10:00 LBS	5 Ash Wednesday 7:00 	6 7:00 Elders	7	8 8:00 MBS
9 8:30 Worship 9:45 Bible Study/SS 11:00 Communion 5:30 H.S. Bible Study 	10 6:30 Communion	11 10:00 LBS	12 6:00 Meager Meal 7:00 Worship	13	14 Movie Night 5:30	15 Newsletter Deadline
16 8:30 Communion 9:45 Bible Study/SS 11:00 Worship 5:30 H.S. Bible Study	17 6:30 Worship 	18 10:00 LBS	19 6:00 Meager Meal 7:00 Worship	20 6:30 Council	21	22 8:00 MBS
23 8:30 Worship 9:45 Bible Study/SS 11:00 Communion 5:30 H.S. Bible Study	24 6:30 Communion	25 10:00 LBS	26 6:00 Meager Meal 7:00 Worship	27	28	29 Craft Fair 10:00 - 2:00
30 8:30 Communion 9:45 Bible Study/SS 11:00 Worship 5:30 H.S. Bible Study	31 6:30 Communion					





# Calvary Youth Group Hoagie Fundraiser



In March Calvary will be teaming up with Triangle Bar, home of the battleship, for a hoagie sale with all proceeds going to the Calvary Youth fund. One change from previous orders to note, lettuce, tomato, onion, and dressing will be withheld from all hoagies this time.



**\$8.50 Italian**



**\$9.50 Turkey, Corned Beef, or Roast Beef**

**Order Now- March 24<sup>th</sup>**

(No late orders will be accepted)

**Pickup March 28<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 - 4:00PM or at the Craft fair on the 29<sup>th</sup>**

Name	Address	Italian	Turkey	Roast Beef	Corned Beef	Total
<b>TOTAL QUANTITY AND TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED</b>						

**All hoagies must be paid for in advance and checks should be made payable to Calvary Lutheran Church**



# Jazz Warriors Big Band

A volunteer organization made up of roughly 25 musicians primarily from the eastern suburbs of Pittsburgh, the group started in January 2018 as a subgroup of the Penn-Trafford Community Band after several band members had an interest in forming a “Jazz Band.” Members vary in age, profession and background, but all share a common love of music and play a wide variety of music from popular Big Band and Jazz Standards to Swing, Latin, Funk and even a few Jazz Rock favorites.

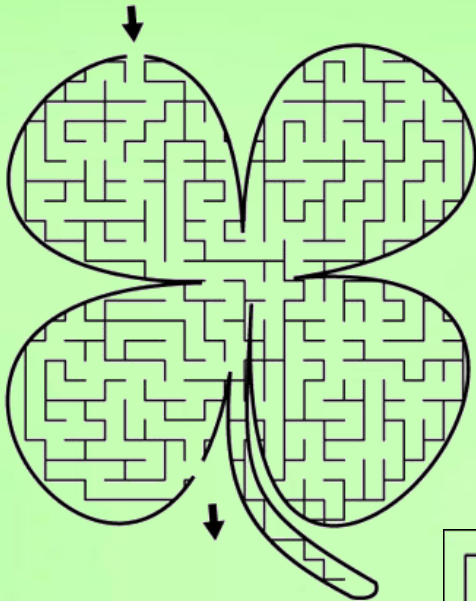
**Sunday, March 30 @ 3 p.m.**

Zion Ev. Lutheran Church  
 237-37<sup>th</sup> St., Lawrenceville  
**Tickets \$10 at door.**



# KIDS PAGE

### Clover Maze



	Find all ten words:	W	J	E	P	S	A	C	T	A	P
	Jesus	E	Q	L	L	U	F	A	W	L	R
	Lent	D	J	G	E	O	R	V	R	M	A
	Ash	N	E	A	F	N	V	P	C	Q	Y
	Wednesday	E	P	R	R	I	T	E	L	W	E
	Dust	S	A	C	R	I	F	I	C	E	R
	Prayer	D	U	S	T	F	W	Y	R	Z	N
	Alms	A	R	Y	H	V	A	L	M	S	D
	Fasting	Y	Z	B	J	E	S	U	S	H	U
	Sacrifice	Z	J	F	A	S	T	I	N	G	F
Purple											



### Ash Wednesday



# ST. PATRICK'S DAY WORD SEARCH

E H V W E P Y Y W E G I K O U B G Q G R  
 F H K Y M I A J J N T N B C N V M J I Z  
 B O P L W Z C T U P M C P M K T W N Q D  
 S U Q A X R L A R L S K N N I U A S N L  
 U P L M B G H V N I X V L H R S T A T F  
 H A C K A C X M Q P C M G G Y G L O L R  
 H R N Z E T C D S J G K C B J E K V H K  
 S A S R Y E S Z O W E M N A R M O R C Z  
 U D P I A Y M T N M U H N I Y E L D Z I  
 J E R V Q I F Y B M Y D Y G M R T X I N  
 L T R W W O N R X R G P R G C A L F C D  
 A E O V N P M B N J F L L O N L W Y Z V  
 F D A I X B J G O C E E S E Q D X B V B  
 A W A W A T S B F W A Q E N M W X A P E  
 U U F R T B P S V R X R R H K M A J I I  
 J G R L P F C A V B G V Z R F F O C A A  
 H O E B W H P I N C H O V M V J L T C F  
 E H A B T P U N S B Y J D A W V E D C F  
 I O G J D B K T L K Z I Z R D I D E L T  
 A Z R B L Y P W C K J Y B C P G S B O B  
 D H L E V M L U P B A L E H W J F H V O  
 O C F P S X L J G R H Z J H W Q U R E A  
 W Y D S H A M R O C K G J X J Y U Q R S  
 P U I A A Z F Q L C Q F M X T N T P M F  
 Y Z O R M A A J D R Z N U R D R Z O K T

- |            |          |         |
|------------|----------|---------|
| Saint      | Ireland  | Clover  |
| Patrick    | Wishes   | Parade  |
| Leprechaun | Shamrock | March   |
| Rainbow    | Green    | Pinch   |
| Gold       | Lucky    | Emerald |

