

Calvary Communicator



CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MURRYSVILLE

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We're on the Web!
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



Dear Calvary,

Many of you have heard by now that Joy is retiring June 1st. I want to take this opportunity to tell you that I am very happy for her! She has truly served our church well for over a decade! I know that she has plans to travel, camp, and watch Pirate's baseball. I will be wishing her much joy and rest in this new season of her life! I pray that you will join me in showering her with our love!

Some of you may now be asking, "What is our plan for the church secretary position?" The council and I agree that we would like to hire a church secretary to work 27.5 hours per week. The hours for this position will be 8:45am – 2:15pm Monday through Friday. These hours ensure that the secretary of the church will be available for drop off and pick up during the CELC school year as well as perform the tasks needed by the congregation.

Why the change? Reducing the hours from 40 to 27.5 allows us to reduce some of the cost to the church. At 40 hours per week, we are required to provide short-long term disability insurance, retirement, and health care. At 27.5 hours per week, we are not required to provide health care. This change will provide savings to the church.

Now obviously a reduction in hours may result in a reduction of duties. We fully understand that. It is our belief that 27.5 hours per week is more than enough time to produce the weekly bulletins and assist the office staff as needed.

Certainly, there may be some trial and error in figuring what else can and cannot be done during that time frame, but we are confident that with the right candidate we will have a highly efficient office.

Are you taking applications? As of April 1st, we are currently seeking resumes. If you are interested in becoming Calvary's next office secretary then please send your resume to me and I will forward it on to the council.

Rev.obermann@gmail.com.

We will be scheduling interviews by the end of April.

When you send me your resume, I will send you a copy of our job description and qualifications. The job description and qualifications will also be posted on our bulletin board for anyone that would like to see them.

What can I do to help? Please keep Calvary in your prayers at this time. As we lift up Joy in our prayers as she transitions to a new stage of life, we also lift up our congregation through our own transition as well. We ask that God will lead us to a faithful candidate that will love the church and be loved by the church. We ask for God's wisdom and provision throughout this process.

I know that God is with us. I know that God will lead us to the right person and lead the right person to us.

In His Love,

Pastor Josh

Hannah's Desk

Jesus welcomed children, saying, “Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these” (Matthew 19:14). His death and resurrection remind us that faith is for all—young and old alike. Just as Jesus took time to bless and teach children, we too are called to nurture their faith. Children’s ministry is not just about fun events; it’s about planting seeds of faith that will grow for a lifetime. When we teach children about Jesus’ sacrifice and victory over death, we equip them with hope that will sustain them through every challenge. Their childlike faith reflects the very trust and dependence that God desires from all of us. As we celebrate Easter, let us renew our commitment to guiding the next generation in the love and truth of Christ. In doing so, we follow His example and fulfill His command to “go and make disciples”.

Spring is here, and with it comes a season of celebration, reflection, and service! We have several exciting events happening this month, and we invite you to be a part of them.

- **Easter Egg Hunt – April 12:** Bring your little ones for a morning of fun and fellowship as we celebrate the joy of Easter!
- **Palm Sunday Breakfast - April 13**
Come kick off Holy Week - enjoy food and fellowship, courtesy of our Evangelism Team. Contact: Lori Gulaskey
- **Seder Meal – April 17:** Join us as we experience a traditional Passover meal and reflect on its significance in light of Christ’s sacrifice.
- **Good Friday - April 18:** Join us for a solemn service as we reflect on the sacrifice of our Lord. Contact: Pastor Josh
- **Egg My Yard Fundraiser – April 19:**
Support our youth by signing up to have Easter eggs hidden in your yard for a fun surprise!
- **Middle School Bible Study – April 27:**
All 6th–8th graders are invited for a night of faith, fun, and fellowship.

You can sign up for all events at calvarylcs.org under the Events tab. Middle and high school youth interested in our Summer Servant Event should see me for more details.

Jesus welcomed children, saying, “Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these” (Matthew 19:14). His death and resurrection remind us that faith is for all—young and old alike. Just as Jesus took time to bless and teach children, we too are called to nurture their faith. Children’s ministry is not just about fun events; it’s about planting seeds of faith that will grow for a lifetime. When we teach children about Jesus’ sacrifice and victory over death, we equip them with hope that will sustain them through every challenge. Their childlike faith reflects the very trust and dependence that God desires from all of us. As we celebrate Easter, let us renew our commitment to guiding the next generation in the love and truth of Christ. In doing so, we follow His example and fulfill His command to “go and make disciples” (Matthew 28:19).

Elder's Corner by Bob Kemper

Behold, the Lamb of God, that takes away the sin of the world!
John 1:29

A remarkable royal procession made its way on Palm Sunday toward the capital city. The King did not appear very kingly as He sat there on His lowly mount. His servants had no shining armor, no gleaming swords. They were all poor fishermen who came from despised Galilee, as did the King. While His following was large it was in no way impressive: mostly women and children, loudly crying "Hosanna!"

Luke reports that the procession stops, and the King weeps! A king who weeps? Yes, the King of kings! He weeps because Jerusalem will be leveled, and He has so little time left to teach and to help His people. He rides on into the city; where specifically is He going? David's old royal fortress? No, because *His* royal fortress is outside the city wall, on a hill called Golgotha. As He rides along He can see the terrible throne which awaits Him. It is not a gold-adorned one such as the kings of Judah possessed long ago but a cross, the accursed tree that the Romans employed to execute common criminals.

We cannot fully understand the sufferings of Jesus, neither the anxiety that His soul experienced in Gethsemane nor His being forsaken by God the Father on the cross. As we read what Scripture tells us about the most terrible event that has ever happened on earth, let us recall John the Baptist's proclamation: "*Behold!*" The Israelites who had been bitten by poisonous snakes in the wilder-

ness had only to look up at the serpent of brass to be healed. They were not expected to understand this miracle of salvation, only to behold. So let us not become bewildered at the means of our salvation because we cannot understand it. We do not have to understand it, only behold! Behold the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! No Israelite died of the serpent bites provided he looked up at the serpent of brass. And no sinners will be lost as long as they look to the Lamb of God. This is true even though our sins are so foul in the eyes of God the Father that Jesus had to endure suffering beyond comprehension in order to redeem us.

Yet suffer he did – and we are redeemed and free! Jesus breaking the portal of death and hell on Easter is the greatest event in history. For we are all criminals under a sentence of death for our sins. However, as the apostle Paul states in Romans 4:25, Jesus Christ was "*raised for our justification.*" God brought the body of Jesus out of the tomb to demonstrate that His beloved Son has paid the full price for our sin, and that as a result we are free. All charges against believers have been transferred to our Savior's account and paid in full by Him. Oh, the joy His resurrection brings to earth, and to heaven!!

How can we express the joy that Easter brings? One way is found in Colossians 3:17, where the apostle Paul writes: "*Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name*

of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him." There is to be no division between the sacred and the secular in what a Christian says or does. The Scriptures teach that our daily life and work are a service to God. Martin Luther's so-called Doctrine of Vocation emphasizes *attitude*. Luther maintains that it is equally as well-pleasing to God that we sweep the floor as it is that we preach the Gospel, given that both are done with the proper attitude of heart: to the glory of God, in love for Him, and for the welfare of others. So we are free to live life here fully, freely and joyfully serving our living God. As we celebrate His resurrection, may the blessings of Easter flow to everyone!!

Bob Kemper

Evangelism/Hospitality & Fellowship Update

Spring! A wonderful time of rebirth, growth, and renewal. Our blessings are abundantly given to us by our Lord and Savior. Let show our gratitude by loving our neighbors and always doing everything to the glory of God.

Easter Egg Hunt will be on Saturday, April 12. Donations of small candies are needed and should be turned in by Sunday, April 6. We will be stuffing eggs on Monday, April 7 at 6:00 in the Wisteria Room. Extra hands are always needed. Let Lori know if you can help. Palm Sunday breakfast will be on the following day on April 13 beginning at 8:30 AM. There will be only one service at 10:00 AM. Invite friends and family for a delicious breakfast. Please sign up so we know how many to prepare for.

Ladies Luncheon- It has been too long since we got together! Join us on Saturday May 5th at noon. This event will be "Showering the Blackburn Center" with gifts from their needed donation list for the shelter. A light lunch will be served and a speaker from Blackburn will give a presentation. We ask that gifts for the center only be wrapped with a ribbon and encouraging words. Gift cards and monetary donations can also be given to shower the center. Save the date! A sign up sheet and There will be more info to follow. Invite friends and family for a relaxing time of fellowship with a cause.

MOS Food Pantry-We will be collecting once again bars of soap and boxes of tissues to the MOS May food bank distribution on Tuesday, May 6. Our donation goal is at least 100 each. Donations are needed by 9:00 AM, Tuesday, May 6.

Fill the Shopping Cart During April, we will fill the cart with mac n cheese, peanut butter, tuna, cereals, and other foods that kids can prepare themselves. Snack cups of fruit and granola/ breakfast bars are also popular. Thanks for thinking of others as we fill the cart for Loaves and Fishes.

Anyone having a clever saying for our church signs, please email to Lori at gulaskey4@comcast.net.

"Go in peace and serve the Lord!"

BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN at Calvary is launching this year's campaign to benefit Network of Life (Women's Choice Network) April 6 - April 27. Watch for more details in the bulletins.



The funds generated from this campaign go directly toward helping abortion-vulnerable women to choose life. Network of Life provides, at no cost to our clients, pregnancy testing, abortion pill reversal, ultrasounds, STD testing and treatments, medical consultations, Life Support programming to support parents and their children and Breathe: Post-abortion care. Young men and expectant fathers are being reached and equipped through our Men's Outreach.

Together In Mission

In February Joel and I were able to witness Jesus move during our annual Men's and Women's Retreats. While Joel stayed with our kids, we were able to hear that student from the men's retreat prayed to receive Christ over the weekend, praise God! This year the Women's Retreat was organized by our two staff women, Rachel and Marianna and the theme was "**Sit, Stand, and Walk, a journey through the book of Ephesians**".

I am pleased to report that even after 15 years, Ephesians continues to bring the reality of life with Christ so much hope and strength to me, as well as it did to the women that weekend.

The first session was a reminder on how to **sit** in the presence of the Lord and how our grace was "freely given us [by God] in the One he loves". We not only have redemption through Christ, but he chooses to "lavish us with the riches of God's grace". If we just choose him to sit next to, we will be given the gifts of his very Spirit (Ephesians 1:1-10). The second and third were characterized with **stand** and **walk**. The second, encompassing Ephesians 2:1-10, being "raised up and seated with Him in the heavenly realms" in the face of all of the challenges of this world.

"**But God, in his great love for us...**" becomes a battle cry for the hopeless and overwhelmed as we were reminded that we are established and wholly loved by a God

who delights in us. Finally, we were reminded that we are God's masterpieces, made for good works that God has already for us to take part in; the key understanding that we cannot enjoy those works if we are not sitting and standing in the truth of who we are in Christ. In addition, we all participated in intentional activities that brought struggles and damaging beliefs to the light, and were able to stand up for each other and smash those false beliefs to the ground (see photo). In the end, women left lifted up by the community and one woman even prayed to receive Christ for the first time, praise God and alleluia!



Women wrote lies they believe about themselves and about God on plates, only to be smashed by the

I hope this brought YOU encouragement today. I hope that if you have made Jesus Lord over your life, that this reminds you of where you stand with him. If you have not made that choice, I hope this brings you some encouragement in knowing that communities of loving people exist because of the great love they themselves have received. Yours faithfully,

Joel + Jenn

APRIL 2025

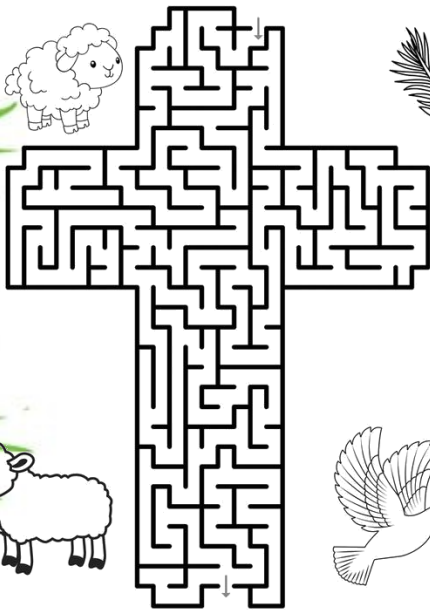
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 10:00 LBS	2 6:00 Meager Meal 7:00 Worship	3 7:00 Elders	4	5 Barnabas Group A
6 8:30 Communion 9:45 Bible Study/SS 11:00 Worship 5:30 H.S Bible Study	7 6:30 Worship	8 10:00 LBS	9 6:00 Meager Meal 7:00 Worship	10	11	12 8:00 MBS 10 - 12 Easter Egg Hunt
13 8:30 Palm Sunday Breakfast 10:00 Communion <i>Hosanna!</i>	14 NO SERVICE	15 10:00 LBS Newsletter Deadline	16	17 7:00 Seder Meal	18 7:00 Good Friday	19
20 8:30 Easter Communion 11:00 Communion 	21 NO SERVICE	22 10:00 LBS	23	24 6:30 Council	25	26 8:00 MBS
27 8:30 Worship 9:45 Bible Study/SS 11:00 Communion 5:30 H.S. Bible Study 6:30 MBS	28 6:30 Communion	29 10:00 LBS	30			



KIDS PAGE

CROSS MAZE

CAN YOU FIND YOUR WAY THROUGH THE MAZE?



Easter Word Search

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

APOSTLES
 CHRIST
 CROSS
 CROWN
 CRUCIFIXION
 HOLY
 JESUS
 KING
 LAMB
 LOVE



MARY
 REDEMPTION
 RESURRECTION
 RISEN
 ROMANS
 ROOSTER
 SACRIFICE
 SALVATION
 SAVIOR
 THORNS

He is Risen



Easter Word Search

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- ANGELS
- APOSTLES
- BETRAYAL
- BLOOD
- CALVARY
- CROSS
- CROWN OF THORNS
- CRUCIFIXION
- DARKNESS
- DEATH
- EARTHQUAKE
- EASTER
- GOLGOTHA
- HIGH PRIEST
- JESUS CHRIST
- JOSEPH
- JUDAS ISCARIOT
- KING
- LAMB

- MARY
- NAILS
- PASSOVER
- PIECES OF SILVER
- PIERCED
- PILATE
- RESURRECTION
- ROBE
- ROMANS
- SACRIFICE
- SIMON OF CYRENE
- SOLDIERS
- SON OF GOD
- SPEAR
- STONE
- TEMPLE
- THIEVES
- THREE DAYS
- TOMB