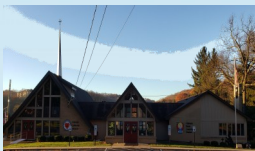


Calvary Communicator



**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*



I am incredibly excited about everything that is going on here at Calvary! We have started several new ministries. Specifically, we have started new Bible studies and youth related activities.

For those that may not be aware, over the last six months, we have started a new middle school Bible study, a new high school Bible study, we are planning a mission trip for our youth, and working toward a regular youth night! These events and Bible studies have been well attended. We have had seven students attend our high school Bible study and we maintain an average of five. He have had five attend and continue to attend our middle school Bible study! Both groups are excited about God's word and being a part of the church.

Our middle schooler, Caelan Lynch, wants to use her photography and editing skills to add content to our social media page. Hannah said "[The middle schoolers] really enjoyed creating the video for Joy Fest and they want to do more!"

Our high schooler, Colbin Kuehn, has been seen around church reading the readings, assisting with communion, carrying our cross, acolyting and so much more.

These young men and women are so excited to be a part of this church. I am excited to have them here. From Jake and Joey Gulaskey who help their Pap usher on Sunday morning to Hayden Emmanuele who is getting ready to graduate high school, it has been an absolute pleasure to watch them all grow in their faith and love for God and this church.

As I share my joy with you, I want to share with you the "what's next" of it all. The next thing that I would love to see take off here at Calvary is a Young Adult Bible Study. Hannah and I have always shared a "you build from the ground up" approach to ministry. We start with the youngest groups, our infants and toddlers and create ministries for them and their

families. Then as they age, we continue to create ministries around them in the next phases of their lives; elementary age and upward. This allows us have ministries in place that we know are successful and adaptable for every phase of life. The next most notable step is young adults.

I want to create a study for those young adults in our congregation that may feel as if they do not have a ministry for them. It is not easy for our young adults to attend a women's Bible study on a Tuesday morning during business hours. It is equally challenging for young men to wake up before 9am on a Saturday morning. (I am speaking from experience.) And so I am currently seeking to create a group that will attended by and led by young adults. I want to give them an opportunity to gather together and study the word of God. My hope is to this study blossom and grow into a regular small group.

If you consider yourself a young adult, please contact me. Let me know what times and places work best for you. The goal is to start this study in May or June and study topics of your choosing. I know that it is hard to be committed to the church at that age. You are establishing a new career, dating, building and navigating new social relationships, and often church life can take a back seat. My goal is to help you navigate that while keeping Christ in the driver's seat.

Everyone else, please pray for these ministries. Pray for our youth and young adults. Pray for the hardships that they face, while also praying for God's grace to overcome them.

And remember, if you have a ministry idea, please share it with me. I would love to help you start a new study, project, or the like. God is growing our church and He is using you to do it.

In His Love,
Pastor Josh

Hannah's Desk

As the school year comes to a close, many of us are feeling the anticipation of summer break—sunshine, rest, and a change of rhythm. For our students and families, this is a season of transition and fresh starts. In Psalm 25:4, we read, “Show me your ways, Lord, teach me your paths.” What a powerful reminder that no matter where we are—finishing up a school year or stepping into the freedom of summer—God is always guiding us. He is our compass, our True North.

Speaking of True North, we are thrilled to announce this year's Vacation Bible School, happening June 9–13 from 9:00–11:30 AM. The theme, *True North* will help kids learn how to trust Jesus to guide them through life's twists and turns. VBS is one of the most important weeks of the year in our Children's Ministry. It's more than games and snacks (though those are fun, too!)—it's about planting seeds of faith in the hearts of children,

teaching them about Jesus' love, and helping them know that He is with them always. If you know a child who would love to join, registration opens May 1st at Calvarylcms.org.

To make VBS a success, we're also in need of volunteers! Whether you're available to help with games, lessons, snacks, or guiding a group, your presence makes a big difference. Children's ministry is a powerful way to share the Gospel, and we'd love for you to be part of it.

Before we step into summer, I want to pause and say thank you to everyone who participated in our Easter events. It was such a joy to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord with our church family. Christ is risen—He is risen indeed! And it is truly a blessing to walk in faith together here at Calvary.

With joy and gratitude,
Hannah Obermann

Elder's Corner by Bill Zachar

Receive these words of Comfort from Jesus:

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.” (Matt 11:28)

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; Trust also in me.” (John 14:1)

“In my Father’s house are many rooms; ... I am going there to prepare a place for you ... and I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.” (John 14: 2-3)

“Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.” (John 14: 23)

“All this I have spoken while still with you. But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.” (John 14: 25-26)

“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.” (John 14:27)

All but the first verse listed above are from chapter 14 of John and were spoken by Jesus just before he and his disciples leave the upper room. They are words of comfort and also promise. Our Lord always keeps his promises. Like me, it may be that some of these verses are so important to you that you keep them stored in your heart. Perhaps like me, you didn’t ever consider that Jesus gave us these words just hours before his suffering and death. That Jesus gave us all such important words, turned his heart toward us all at this time and gave us words to live by and die by, shows us a love that is so very great, I can hardly take it in.

Jesus begins and ends this chapter with his longing that our hearts not be troubled, and encourages us to trust in Him and the Father, and to not fear (verses 1 and 27).

In verses 2-3, and 18, Jesus repeats his words that he is going to the Father and will come back for us. He will come back for you. He will come back for you. He points our hearts to the Father and to Heaven.

Jesus’ words for those who love him and obey him, that Jesus and the Father will come and make their home with us, speaks of a special intimacy. Jesus is saying something huge there.

In our troubled times, even in our last moments, may the Holy Spirit remind us of everything God has told us, all the truths the Lord has spoken to us, all the times he has been there for us and loved us.

And may we receive His Peace, beyond anything this world could ever give us.

In verse 31, it seems fitting that Jesus ends this chapter with the words “I want the world to know I love the Father and I do exactly what the Father has commanded me”. Because in just hours he will suffer for us and he will die for us. And then, he will come back for us.

Bill

Thank You For 15 Wonderful Years

It has been a blessing to have worked here these past 15 yrs. I have met many wonderful people and made some everlasting relationships.

Thank- you Pastor Weeks, I would not have been here if it wasn't for you.

I so appreciate Pastor Obermann for getting to know me.

I always believed in an open door policy, so members and anyone else could come in anytime.

Thank you Audrey for filling in for me when I was on vacation.

Peg, Ruth, Lori & Rose. My door was always open to visit and talk. I will also treasure you kindness and friendships.

A lot of others ones that came into this office, I hope I gave them peace of mind.

The relationships that I made with CELC parents and children will always have a special place in my heart. Just remember lollipops day. The little

ones always knew when that day was going to be.

Watching the little ones in my office when mom & dad had to take the older siblings to their class the little babies always put a smile on my face.

Megan, Jess, Laura, Barb, Amy, Mary & Peggy. My door was always open to you to stop in and say hello or whatever you had on your mind.

My list could go on and on. I just want to say thank-you to my Calvary family. I will miss each and everyone.

But now I can do a little more camping & traveling with Bob. And if you know me, I am a big Pirate fan and of course all the MLB teams. I can never have enough of baseball.

Thank you to all of Calvary for you love, support, and you friendships.

Joy

Evangelism/Hospitality & Fellowship Update

SPRING!!! A wonderful time of year! God's creations and blessings are evident each passing day. His joy warms our hearts as the sun warms new life in our world. Take time to enjoy the beauty of his creation prepared just for us. Help bring this sunshine into the lives of many who may need to see our Lord and His gifts.

Thanks to all who prepared, served, and cleaned up at our Palm Sunday Breakfast. It takes a dedicated group of diligent workers to make this day such a success! We served about 80 people before joining together as a family to worship.

Blackburn Center Fundraiser- We will be "Showering" the Blackburn Center on May 3 at noon in the fellowship hall. I hope all the women of the church attend this special event to bring joy and hope to our sisters in need. A list of shelter needs is posted to help you pick the perfect gift to bless the shelter. A speaker will also be present to tell us more about the shelter. Hope to see you all there! **Please sign up** on the information board.

MOS Food Bank is counting on our donations of 100 soap bars and 100 boxes of tissue for their May 6 food pantry distribution. All donations must be received by May 5th. Can you help us reach our goal? Thanks for your generosity!

Busy hands have been working hard to crochet Prayer Shawls for those who need the comfort of our prayers. Thank you for sharing your gifts. See Ruth Greer for info on how you can join this wonderful ministry.

Fill the Shopping Cart for the Loaves and Fishes Food Ministry. This is a vital local food bank that helps our neighbors in need. All non-perishable and personal hygiene items are appreciated.

Go in peace and serve the Lord!

Together In Mission

Hello from Jenn and I and our family! Spring in central PA means days of sunshine mixed with days of cloudy gray rain, allergy pills and the hints of new life all around us: green grass and daffodils. This new life and vibrancy we see in our yard is a welcomed reminder of God's plan and His power to bring seemingly dead things back to life.

Along that theme, I wanted to share a story of meeting two students at Penn College: Luke and Frank. I met Luke at the first Cru weekly meeting of the semester. I spoke that first week and challenged students to take steps of faith in different areas. After the talk, Luke made it a point to introduce himself and tell me he really wanted to grow in his faith. I scheduled a time that week to meet with him and was able to hear more of his story. He transferred from Penn State Erie where he fell into a not so great group of friends. He was raised as a Christian but was not living out his faith in Erie. He was thankful to be able to find Cru right away at Penn College and was eager to get more involved. I'll pause on Luke's story for a moment and talk about Frank.

I met Frank through Luke. Frank had met Luke as they were both looking for our Men's Bible study on campus. Luke invited Frank to the next weekly meeting for Cru and made plans to come together. When they arrived Luke told me right away that I should meet Frank. Frank told me he was brand new to Christianity

and felt like he didn't know anything about it. I asked Frank if he'd be willing to get together the next day so I could hear more of his story & share about what Christianity was all about.



The group of students & staff who came from Penn College and Penn State on our mission trip to Panama City Beach, FL.

During my follow up meeting with Frank, I shared the Gospel with Frank through our Knowing God Personally booklet. When we got to the end, Frank let me know he wanted to accept Jesus and his Lord and Savior and I was able to pray with him right then! I've been able to continue to meet with both Frank and Luke this semester. It's been a highlight for me to read God's Word with them, hear what they are learning and answer their questions.

Going back to Luke's story—Luke took a step of faith when decided to come with us on our mission trip to Panama City Beach, FL. This was a big step for him as he'd never been on a mission trip before. But God honored his step of faith in lots of ways; one of which was using Luke to lead another college student to the Lord on the beach!

God truly is the resurrection and the life. Praise Him! Thank you for your prayers and financial support that make it possible for us to minister with Cru in the Susquehanna Valley!

Joel + Jenna

MAY 2025

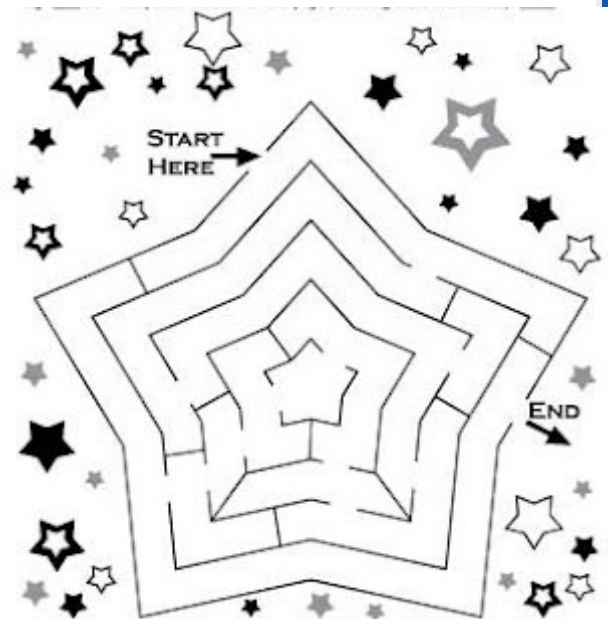
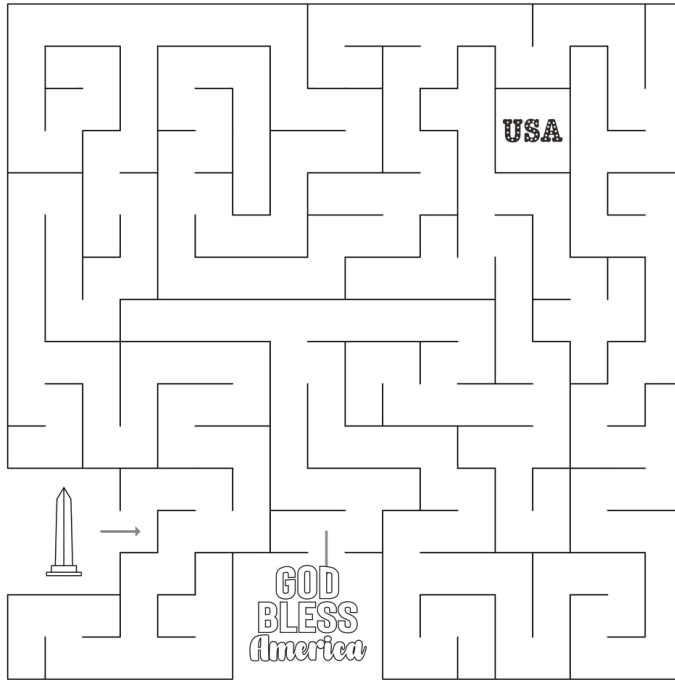
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
				National Day of Prayer 7:00 Voters Meeting		Ladies Shower Noon
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8:30 Communion 9:45 Bible Study/SS 11:00 Worship 5:30 H.S Bible Study	6:30 Worship	10:00 LBS				8:00 MBS
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
8:30 8:30 Worship 9:45 Bible Study/SS 11:00 Communion 5:30 H.S. Bible Study	6:30 Communion	10:00 LBS				
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8:30 Communion 9:45 Bible Study/SS 11:00 Worship 5:30 H.S Bible Study	6:30 Worship	10:00 LBS	Preschool Graduation			8:00 MBS
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
8:30 Worship 9:45 Bible Study/SS 11:00 Communion 5:30 H.S. Bible Study	6:30 Communion	10:00 LBS			Kindergarten- Graduation	

KIDS PAGE



MEMORIAL DAY MAZE

CAN YOU GET THROUGH THE MAZE?



Find and color the hidden objects





MEMORIAL DAY

Word Search



AMERICA
ANTHEM
ARLINGTON
CEMETERY
CEREMONY
FALLEN

FLAGS
FLOWERS
GRAVES
HALF MAST
HEROES
HONOR

MILITARY
MONDAY
OBSERVANCE
PARADE
PATRIOTIC
SAILORS

SALUTE
SERVICE
SOLDIERS
TRIBUTE
VETERANS
WREATH