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**Pastor Jon Myers**, Pastor

**Sister Jennie Myers**, Director of Discipleship

**Wendy Ross**, Director of Choirs

**Jeanine Reddell**, Pianist

**Jill Cook**, Organist

**Kimberly White**, Administrative Assistant

**Sundays:**

9:20 a.m. Pre-Service

9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship

# Calvary Caller



## SEPTEMBER

## 2023



### **Teamwork Makes the Dream Work**

Back in March, while my family was visiting Calvary and Grants Pass for the first time, I offered a vision of leadership based especially on Exodus 17:11-13 – Moses (literally) being supported

by his fellow leaders. Traditional models of leadership usually look like a triangle with one person at the top. Another model puts a single person at the bottom of an upside-down triangle, trying to bear the weight of the whole community.

I'm not strong enough for either of those, and so I've proposed something else: mutuality. Mutuality means we never try to act alone or on our own, but rather seek out others to work together, share burdens, and support one another as partners in ministry. Even when a particular ministry belongs especially to one person, they seek out ways to involve others.

I've had the privilege in my travels of getting to know all sorts of interesting people, especially in the "Lutheran world." One such person was the synod's head of youth ministry in Philadelphia when Sister Jennie and I were both serving as youth directors in that area. Some years later, this woman had become the Director of the ELCA Youth Gathering – an indescribably massive undertaking, hosting 30,000 young people for a week-long event of worship, music, service, learning and more, held every three years in a different city around the country.

At the 2018 Houston Gathering I ran into her, just as my group and dozens of other youth groups were lining up to board buses for day-long service projects. After a hello and a hug, I said to her, "No offense, but you look pretty relaxed for being the person supposedly in charge of all this," and she replied absolutely, one hundred percent earnestly, "I'm surrounded by a really good team."

If I ever look relaxed with my family in tow, it's because Sister Jennie and I make a pretty good team. If I ever look relaxed around Calvary or out in the community serving in God's name, it's because I'm surrounded by a really good team here – one that's only getting better at what we do together, as we get to know each other better.

With the Holy Spirit at our back and with the support of one another, there is literally nothing we cannot do together to serve others, locally and globally, in response to the unconditional love God has already shown us. As we dream about who God is calling us to be as Calvary Lutheran Church, let us also pray that God will pull us together into small teams, bigger teams, and one big team for the sake of the Good News of Jesus Christ.

- Pastor Jon

# Serving the Lord . . .

### **Communion Assistants**

9/3 Pastor Jon / Sister Jennie  
Gary Blom & Linda Johnson

9/10 Pastor Jon / Sister Jennie  
Crystal Zimmer & Carol Wilson

9/17 Pastor Jon / Sister Jennie  
Tanya Haight & Gary Blom

9/24 Pastor Jon / Sister Jennie  
Diane Weaver & Gary Blom

### **Video/Sound**

Gary Blom  
Larry Weaver  
Rich Acosta  
Monte Zeller  
Jim Sweeney  
Janine Nave  
Dean Schwerdt

### **Altar Guild**

9/3 Dolly Rodriguez / Sandy Hoadley  
9/10 Evelyn McFarland / Sandy Hoadley  
9/17 Anna Gorskaya / Tanya Haight  
9/24 Denise & Madeleine Angstadt / Sandy Hoadley

### **Lectors**

9/3 George Straka  
9/10 Marcia Lembcke  
9/17 Crystal Zimmer  
9/24 Linda Johnson

### **Hostess Committee**

Nancy Lindall  
Marcia Lembcke  
Melissa Mendoza  
Lynna Monnot  
Claudia Carter  
Gail Bohey



### **Council Members**

Pastor Jon Myers  
Lisa Jaroslow  
Karen Blom  
Matt Eide  
Karen Mastel  
Gary Blom  
Judi Bliss  
Bill Bianchi  
Rich Acosta  
Jackie Matheny  
Audra Myerchin  
Noel Hoback  
JoAnne Smith

### **ALTAR FLOWERS Presented to the glory of God by:**

9/3 Anna & Valentina Gorskaya in memory of Grandmother Tat'yana  
9/3 Crystal Zimmer, in Memory of Joe.  
9/10 Robert Marsh in Memory of her Mother, Father & her Sister Loretta  
9/17 Dick Rice in Memory of Audrey  
9/17 Lanahan & Scherpf in Memory of John  
9/17 Jaime Glans, Anniversary  
9/24 Gary & Karen Blom, Anniversary

### **Ushers**

Scott Christopherson,  
Captain  
David Grimes



## **COUNCIL OPENINGS**

Council will have several vacancies as current Council members complete their term at the end of 2023. Please, prayerfully consider serving in one of these areas. Council positions begin January of 2024. Contact any Council member for information or submissions.

**Deadline for your submission is October 1, 2023.**

### **OFFICER OPENINGS (3):**

**President**

**Secretary**

**Treasurer**

### **COUNCIL MEMBERS (3):**

**Music & Worship**

**Property Chair**

**Stewardship Chair**

### **NON-VOTING MEMBER**

**Council Recording Secretary**



### **From the Council:**

There is always something about the start of a new school year- new, clean shoes, a fresh backpack, sharpened pencils, un-broken crayons, reuniting with old friends, and beginning the school year with a new teacher. There is always excitement in the air, a bit of nervousness, anticipation, and maybe sadness, since the fun of summer will be coming to an end.

Here at Calvary, we also are beginning a new season. As with the beginning of a new school year, there is excitement in the air and anticipation of all that is upcoming. On Sept. 10, Bishop Laurie and Sister Noreen Stevens will be coming to Grants Pass to officially install Pastor Jon and Sister Jennie as our pastoral team. This will serve as the starting point of their ministry at Calvary. This also marks the beginning of a new season in our church history, and I'm excited about this new beginning. I know that there are many, many opportunities coming up for growth, fun, and service within our church community.

One specific opportunity is the chance to be able to serve on our Church Council. At our August Council meeting, we formed a nominating committee composed of the five outgoing Council members whose terms are ending. The committee is comprised of Karen Mastel, Bill Bianchi, Rich Acosta, Jackie Matheny and me. Over the course of the next couple of months, together with two congregation members, we will be seeking individuals to serve and fill these roles. If you are interested in serving in this capacity, please let one of us know.

We also are beginning this new season with our new Administrative Assistant, Kimberly White. Kimberly comes to us with many years of administrative experience in high-level settings and is quickly picking up everything in our church office. We are so very blessed to have her join our staff and for her desire to serve God at this level. I would also like to thank Jennifer Voris. For the past six weeks she has been serving in this role in an interim capacity and, most recently, she has been training Kim in all the aspects of the job. She has been a huge blessing and has devoted so much of her time to our church. Thank you, Jennifer! Additionally, Janine Nave has volunteered to serve as a mentor to Kim. As Janine continues her own healing process, she'll also begin working with Kim. Thank you so much, Janine, for your serving heart!

Finally, as we reflect on the beginning of a new season and a new school year, I'm also reminded that each day is a new day for all of us. Each day as we start anew, we are given the free gift of God's forgiveness. This is true EVERY SINGLE DAY. Thank you, Jesus, for granting us this gift and for forgiving our sins so that we can start new each day, free and forgiven, no matter what.

**—Lisa Jaroslow, Council President**



## The Deaconess Assembly: Unplugging

For two-and-a-half days, sisters of the ELCA Deaconess Community assembled in Minneapolis. We ate together, we worshiped together, we wrestled with our identity as a community of women in a rapidly changing world, and we also had much-needed time to play and have fellowship time together.

The theme of the weekend was Unplugging. We were invited—challenged, even—to be in relationship with each other without the help of our tablets, phones, and computers, as much as we could stand, to put the technology and noise aside and just be together.

If you struggle to “unplug,” I am with you in the challenge. It was refreshing for me because I’ll be the first to admit how easy it is to get lost in the noise of technology. So I come back to you with a fresh soul, excited to continue getting to know each of you!

I always like to bring home ministry resources or learnings from my time away at Assemblies as I come back to my own congregation. Most relevant to our area, I have learned that a deaconess sister in Seattle has been invited into an effort to help Lutheran Disaster Response create an emotional-spiritual care program for communities impacted by disasters in the Pacific Northwest and elsewhere.

This is being organized as a partnership with the Oregon Synod, and others, as wildfires become more and more a part of our landscape. They are working to help disaster-impacted communities become more resilient after an immediate crisis has been addressed. Another focus is helping communities most likely to be impacted by wildfires be more prepared for future events. I am just beginning to learn about this, but I will share more as I learn it. I believe there will be ways for pastors, deacons, and congregations, such as Calvary, to be invited into this work.

—Sister Jennie



## **September Celebrations**

Happy Birthdays



David Williams	9/03
Karen Baertschiger	9/04
Deb Christopherson	9/04
JoAnne Smith	9/05
Craig Chambers	9/06
Suzanne Wicklin	9/09
Michael Borge	9/10
Marcia Lawson	9/10
Diane Weaver	9/13
Ariadne Myers	9/14
Katja Myers	9/14
Marie Wachsmuth	9/15
Carmella Menke	9/17
James Baertschiger	9/18
Chuck Morrison	9/21
Jim Sweeney	9/21
Shirley Albertson	9/23
Vicki Boyer	9/23
Willa Bianchi	9/25
Al Kincaid	9/25
Jack Nahmias	9/26
Amy Thompson	9/26
Jessica Albertson	9/27
Kevin Bixler	9/27
Deserae Gindlesperger	9/27
Dorie Holm	9/27
Dianne Weitzel	9/27
Denise Angstadt	9/28
Robert Moodie	9/28
Mary Quick	9/30
Debby Steinbrenner	9/30

Happy Anniversary

09/14 Hoadley, Sandy & Paul

09/16 Morrison, Terry Jane & Chuck

09/18 Chambers, Pat & Craig

09/20 Blom, Karen & Gary

09/27 Rentz, John & Candy

TO LOVE,  
LAUGHTER  
& HAPPILY  
EVER AFTER

### **Belated Congratulations**



A very Happy Anniversary to  
Pastor Jon & Sister Jennie who  
celebrated their 15th wedding  
anniversary on August 23rd.

## Healthy Communication

Transitions are naturally a time of heightened anxiety. Since we have several ongoing transitions at Calvary, it's a very good time to lay out what healthy communication looks like.

Direct communication is the key. Anonymous communication through third parties often feels easier, but unless your only goal is to "vent" (and we all need to vent sometimes!) it rarely improves a situation for someone to pass along anonymous feedback.

Anonymous feedback can't be followed up on for clarification or further details. So if it's negative, the recipient hears the general concern loud and clear, but then is often unable to address the concern constructively and is, instead, left guessing at what's really wrong.

Anonymous feedback is often shared as "some people are saying..." However, healthy communication means speaking for yourself. Ideally, this is direct, in private, and at least initially one-on-one. Matthew 18:15-17 lays this out very clearly.

Most of the time it should be relatively easy to practice direct communication. Honestly, if something is important enough to share, it could benefit from follow-up and future clarification.

I realize it can be intimidating to approach a pastor directly. You've each had various experiences with other pastors, both positive and negative. This is one of many reasons that I am not your sole leader, but rather share leadership both formally and informally with a variety of people – including first and foremost, your congregation Council. These folks have been elected from Calvary's membership to oversee our life together and are entrusted with guiding us in mission and ministry in all its aspects.

So if you cannot attach your name to feedback, or speak directly to the person who needs to act on your feedback, please speak to a member of Calvary's Council you trust. Ask them for confidentiality, but please be open to them returning to you for clarification and further insight. No one can address what they do not fully understand.

**Pastor Jon**

## HEARTS AND HANDS BAKE & QUILT SALE

Our annual "Sale-agation" will be on Saturday, **November 18<sup>th</sup> from 9-1 pm**. Shop for quilts, crafts, and a variety of sweet and savory baked goods. Muffins, pie by the slice and coffee will be for sale during the event.

We will be **making lefse on Sept 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, Oct 4<sup>th</sup>, and Oct 8<sup>th</sup>**. A meeting to finalize our event will be held on October 11<sup>th</sup>.

**How You Can Help:** You can bake or craft, you can be a cashier or a helper. Help is also needed with set-up and clean-up. A sign-up sheet will appear in the narthex in October. Please sign up and join in the fun! More details will follow as we get close to the event.

We are currently looking for holiday donations for our "Sale-agation." If you have fall or Christmas decoration in "good" or "gently-used" shape, please contact Karen Mastel.




Funds from previous bake/quilt events have been donated to a variety of non-profits (mostly local) such as, Every Child, YMCA, Food with Friends, Casa, and The Roc, among others. Our sales have been a "sweet" way to help our community, while stocking up on delicious and wonderful items, along with serving our church and Our Savior (He'll be there, too!).

If you have questions, see Mary Quick or any member of our group!  
—Mary Quick

### **Calvary Financial Report**

as of July 31, 2023

Income - General Offering:	
Budget:	\$ 206,185
Actual:	\$ 185,006
Difference: (minus)	\$ 21,179

## THE DISCIPLESHIP CORNER

### More Than a Walk in the Woods

Maybe you've already heard that I'm hoping to meet with people who want to commit to hiking together on a regular basis. But why? As your new Director of Discipleship, one of my areas of focus is to help create new ways of being together as a congregation through small group ministries.

Small groups are a great way to experience community and fellowship. A Christian community "small group" has one or more of the following elements: prayer, a devotion, some kind of community service activity, or intentional evangelical outreach. Group activities allow us to invite a neighbor or friend to experience a bit of Calvary and community life. This can be a great "next step" to deepen our relationships with one another, whether we are new to Calvary or have been attending for some time.



I would love to hear any ideas you may have for taking what you love to do, to share with others. Maybe you love woodcarving, or being outdoors, or want to do a book study. I know you each have passions and gifts that I haven't even begun to hear about. Please come talk to me if you have questions or want to explore more about your community group idea. Even if your idea of starting a group sounds too taxing right now, I want to encourage you to still come in and chat. Your idea might not be for "right now," but that doesn't mean we can't begin dreaming about future ideas together.

I am starting the new hiking group partly because I'd love to learn from more experienced hikers, but also to bring people together who are intentionally willing get to know each other and who desire to become more attuned to God's presence while hiking.

**Our first hike is scheduled for September 30<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am.** We are **meeting at the north end of the pedestrian bridge at Reinhart Park.** If you can't make this one, stay tuned for future event. All are welcome to join.

- Sister Jennie

### Hearts and Hands Wednesdays



Some of our Calvary women have been faithfully meeting to quilt, on **Wednesday mornings from 9:30 until 11:00 am.** Most of the quilts that are gifted to local organizations are made to meet the needs within wider communities. It's a wonderful way to share their creative gifts as a ministry!

If you are reading this and love quilting, or have craft projects waiting to be started or lying around unfinished (cross-stitch, knitting, crocheting, etc.), please consider joining us for Hearts and Hands Wednesdays. It is a great place to gather with other women in fellowship over a cup of coffee and conversation. - Sister Jennie

### New! Endowment Committee Brochure

When you check your church mailbox in the narthex, you will find the newly revised brochure which describes how gifts, large and small, to the Calvary Lutheran Endowment Fund have reached over \$125,000. Thank you!

Your generosity has allowed the interest earned from this Fund to support development of our CLC website, provide member scholarships to college and most recently contribute to the ELCA Fund for Leaders, training students in seminary to become pastors.

This brochure explains how the Endowment Fund is administered, how to use the funds, and how to contribute. Please take the brochure home for future reference.

If you have suggestions and/or questions, please contact one of these five members of the Endowment committee who will be happy to assist you: Marcia Lawson, Chair; Marcia Cottrill, Marcia Lembcke, Elaine Trump and Suzanne Wicklin.

If you do not have a mailbox in the narthex or your Endowment Fund brochure is missing, please contact the church office.

—Marcia Cottrill

## **Sunday School Season is Coming Soon! Pizza anyone?**

The end of summer is an exciting time as we plan how our congregation can walk alongside our children and youth. Young people have returned to school, and you know what that means? Sunday school will be resuming, as well. There's a much-anticipated **pizza party on Sunday, September 17, immediately following worship**, so please plan to stay. Grab some pizza, for sure, but we invite you to also take a few moments to get to know a young person in our midst.

Yes, it's true, we are in need of people willing to walk alongside kids or youth in the classrooms. We know that many of you have spent years teaching in a Sunday school setting and that an "every week" commitment may not be desirable. We would love to create a pool of teachers to share a rotation of teaching that would meet individual needs.

For example, if you can only commit to once a month, or one month at a time, or anything in-between, please come for a chat with me, Sister Jennie, or a Parish Ed committee member, and we can design a schedule that meets your needs.

You can view samples of the Sunday school curriculum at the pizza party that teachers will be using in the classroom. We invite you to take a look!

We're excited to announce that we will continue Sunday School large group monthly outings! These are whole-congregation events, usually on the last Sunday of the month, and we hope you will join us. The first one will be in October. You can anticipate hearing more about events in future announcements and in next month's newsletter.

On Sunday, September 24, children and youth can look forward to meeting their classmates who will be with them for this coming school year. Please have students meet in the upper room directly after service to have a snack and meet their teacher.

It will be a good year as we continue to build relationships with one another and with God, all while learning about our faith.

--Sister Jennie



## **ADULT BIBLE STUDY & SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS 9/24!**

Join Pastor Jon for an Adult Bible Study on Genesis:  
*From the Beginning,*

starting on 9/24 directly after the service in the Fellowship Hall.

A circular logo with the words "Sunday School" in a stylized, cursive font. The "S" is large and decorative.

Sunday School also begins for

Children and Youth on 9/24.

Meet in the Upper Room for snacks

before going to your classrooms.

### **ATTENTIION CALVARY LADIES!**

Community Bible Series (CBS) resumes September 11th with an eight-week study on David.

CBS is a non-denominational women's group that has been meeting at Calvary Lutheran Church on Monday mornings for the past twenty-some years.

If you're interested in this study of David but would like more information, please contact Barbara Williams at (541) 955-4595.



David © 2014 www.christian.com

**"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work." II Tim 3:16**



## Installation Ceremony

Pastor Jon & Sister Jennie

Sunday, September 10th at 3 o'clock

Lasagna Dinner directly after the Ceremony

*You're Invited*



**JOIN US!**

1st Hiking Group 9/30 at 9:00 am

Meet at the Reinhart Park pedestrian bridge on the north side of the river at 9:00 am on Saturday, September 30.

## YOUTH CORNER



September 24th is our Sunday School kick-off day, so, grab your pizza and meet up with me, Sister Jennie, in the hall by the Upper Room. Let's chat about what the format of your Sunday School this year, including special events and topics you are interested in.

—Sister Jennie

## Women's Friendship Bible & Book Study

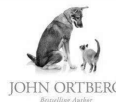
The fall session of Women's Friendship Bible Study will begin on **Wednesday, September 6 at 1pm**. We will meet in a Sunday School room at Calvary. Our study book for this session is *I'd Like You More If You Were More Like Me*, by John Ortberg. This paperback book can be purchased from Amazon or Thriftbooks: [www.thriftbooks.com](http://www.thriftbooks.com).

Our emphasis is on building closer friendships through Bible study, social events, having lunch together, as well as attending events, etc. We also pray for prayer requests shared in our group.

We meet twice a month at the church and may decide to go on outings in the future. There are no sign-ups, just show up. All women are welcome! We look forward to meeting new friends. **Questions? Call Jo Anne Smith 541-660-7397**

**Meeting Dates, Wednesdays at 1:00 pm:**

**Sept 6 & 27, October 11 & 25, November 8 & 22, and December 13**



Someone is posing as me and attempting to solicit gift cards for "someone with cancer." Sister Jennie and I will **\*NEVER\*** attempt to directly solicit gift cards via email, text, or phone calls.

If you receive such a request, please ignore and block, or forward to a known good email address for Calvary or one of us. In general, if you receive a suspicious email, phone call, or text, you can always reach out to the church office to confirm, or text or email me or Sister Jennie at a known good number or email address.

Often scam emails will come from an address that looks like mine but is not. Typos and grammatical errors are often one clue something is wrong. Another is an air of urgency to the request, or a statement that, "I'm too busy," or "going into a meeting."

If you ever find someone asking you to share the numbers off the back of a gift card over phone, email, social media or text: please STOP and think. If it is a scam, once those numbers are shared, the money will soon be gone, and the scammer will disappear. We don't want that to happen to anyone!

—PASTOR JON




# Oregon Synod Day of Learning

September 23, 2023  
9:00am to 3:30 pm



***Nurturing Authentic Spiritual Friendship and  
Healthy, Vital Faith Communities through the  
Gift of Sacred Encounter***

For more information or to register go to:  
[www.oregonsynod.org](http://www.oregonsynod.org)

	<p><b><u>Meet the Myers</u></b></p> <p>Pastor Jon and Sister Jennie would love to sit down and get to know you, individually, or as a family. If interested, please fill out a “Meet the Myers” form located in the narthex. Pastor Jon or Sister Jennie will contact you.</p>
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God loves a cheerful giver and all of you gave so cheerfully and so very generously to the Every Child “Back to School” drive. Truly our box over-flowed with backpacks, pens, markers, Kleenex, crayons, glue, folders, erasers, binders and so much more! The donated supplies represented almost every item requested on the supply list! On behalf of all the children who will be blessed by your generosity, I would like to say, “Thank YOU!!” –Melinda Eide




**“Speak the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of Him, who is the head, that is, Christ. “**

**Eph 4:15**



# September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Lunch with Friends 12:00pm	2
3 9:20 am Pre-Service 9:30am Sunday Worship	4 LABOR DAY OFFICE CLOSED	5	6 6:00am Men's Breakfast 9:30am Hearts & Hands Special Speaker: "Youth & Poverty" 3:30pm Choir Rehearsal 4:15 pm Praise Team	7	8	9
10 9:20 am Pre-Service 9:30am Sunday Worship 3:00 pm Installation & Celebration Dinner	11 Community Bible Study, 8am-Noon	12	13 6:00am Men's Breakfast 9:30am Hearts & Hands Lefse Making 3:30pm Choir Rehearsal 4:15 pm Praise Team	14 2:00pm Countryside Service 4:30pm Council Meeting	15	16
17 9:20 am Pre-Service 9:30am Sunday Worship Directly following service, Sunday School Kick-off (Pizza Party)	18 Community Bible Study, 8am-Noon	19	20 6:00am Men's Breakfast 9:30am Hearts & Hands Lefse Making 3:30pm Choir Rehearsal 4:15 pm Praise Team	21	22  9am-2pm	23
24 9:20 am Pre-Service 9:30 am Sunday Worship 10:45 Adult Bible Study: Genesis: From the Beginning Kid/Youth Sunday School Begins	25 Community Bible Study, 8am-Noon	26 10:00 am Outreach	27 6:00am Men's Breakfast 9:30am Hearts & Hands Lefse Making 3:30pm Choir Rehearsal 4:15 pm Praise Team	28 3:00 pm Fellowship Mtng	29	30 9:00 am Hiking Group (Reinhart Volunteer Park)