

# ***CALVARY CALLER***

## ***October 2025***

### **Scouts at Calvary**

This past Sunday, with Calvary's council's approval, president Matt Eide and I signed paperwork to pave the way for this congregation to sponsor a brand new scout troop that will be forming in February. Like all scout troops, it will be an explicitly religious but nonsectarian group. All girls between the ages of 11 and 18 will be welcome in this new troop, tentatively numbered Troop 8229.

This builds on the excitement around here when we hosted local Troop 22 (my son's troop) and Pack 3029 (my daughters' Cub Scout Pack) for Scout Sunday last February. As my oldest daughter prepares to transition out of Cub Scouts with two other girls, we faced the dilemma that the closest appropriate troop for them meets in Jacksonville.

Now here's the potentially confusing part. These girls do NOT plan to become Girl Scouts, nor will we be affiliating with Girl Scouts of America (GSA). They have a great program! And they're famous for their cookie sales! We've hosted groups of Girl Scouts before, most recently for the Angstadts. But that is not what we're signing these girls up for.

Instead, we're starting a troop affiliated with Scouting America, known until very recently as Boy Scouts of America (BSA). Indeed the latter is still their formal identity, as they are congressionally chartered, and "Scouting America" is now their "doing business as" identity.

This is the natural next step for these girls. Girls have been welcomed into Cub Scouts since 2018, and my older two are each starting their fourth year this fall. The last year of Cub Scouts, the "Arrow of Light" (AoL) program is designed to "bridge" them into a troop in late winter/early spring.

My son bridged to Troop 22 shortly after we arrived in Grants Pass. We're now creating a pathway for Allie and her friends to do the same. The mission of Scouting America is the same for both boys and girls, Cubs and troop-level Scouts. As the Scout Oath, which they all recite at the beginning of every scout meeting says:

"On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight."

And the Scout Law further elaborates: "A scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent."

***Pastor Jon***

## *Reflections from Sister Jennie*

### **Planning for VBS This Summer– An Invitation**

Last summer Calvary opened our doors to young families who belonged to our church, but also friends of our families, and families from other churches. And just like that we re-entered the Vacation Bible School world after quite a long break.

The Parish Ed Team is at the beginning stage of building a new planning team for this summer's VBS Kids Program. As you read this, ask yourself if this might be up your alley? The planning team meets a few times in person, and has other discussions over email and text. We pick the VBS curriculum, set the dates/times for the summer program, work with our publicity coordinator at Calvary to get word out, invite people to join a sub-team (stage design, dinner & food, craft station, game station, kids Bible study station), and ensure they are meeting and getting their part ready for summer.

So, do you like to look at the big picture with things, enjoy planning, and love imagining how to help kids get excited to hear about God's love? Maybe you're the kind of person who needs to know it's not a team that will go on forever with no end? And you're not too old to jump into this either. This might be just the invite for you.

Please come talk to Sister Jennie if you're even mildly curious. Our work will need to start soon so come find me. And very soon we will be asking the congregation how they might be called to share their gifts on a smaller sub-team, but we'll get there.

In peace,

*Sr. Jennie Myers*



## *Thoughts From the Council President*

Happy October Calvary Lutheran,

Oh, the leaves are changing. What a notable example of letting go from God; what does not serve you and aid in your growth, let it go. Enjoy the beautiful colors and crisp mornings.

Our income and expenses are in line. This does not include the Bell Tower expenses, which we anticipate soon. If you would like to contribute to the cost, write on an envelope "Bell Tower" with a check or cash inside OR on Simply Giving add it on the "note" line.

With the arrival of Fall, it is the Council's planning time of the year for 2026. We will be looking at the budget across the Church. There is an intention to increase our overall spend, to include increases for staff and benevolence (items that were significantly reduced in 2025). I/ we welcome your feedback.

Each year some Council positions become available. As we look at the next few years, we made a decision to offer all roles to the congregation. We would love for you to take part with us. If you would like to speak more, let me know.

Here is a list:

Property: Works with the Property Committee on all things building

Fellowship: Plans and organizes gatherings (e.g., Gala), works with Parish Education

Outreach: Works with outside organizations that need support (e.g., ROC, WCST, Every Child)

Treasurer: Executive position; oversees the financial workings of the organization.

President: Executive position; oversees the entirety of the organization and heads the Church Council.

As a quick reminder, our annual congregation (set last year) will be November 23 after service.

Enjoy the autumn season!

In Christ,  
Matt

# Parish Ed News

Thank you to all who stayed after worship for fellowship at our Faith Formation Pizza Kickoff Party. Sunday school is off and running for kids & youth. The adult Sunday school class on Exodus is going as well. A few things to highlight for our families about events coming up.

This is still relatively new, as we're in experimenting mode. On the last Sunday of the month interested kids are invited to choose an instrument shaker from a basket on their way back to their seat from communion and help us add rhythm to the Closing Song in worship. They're invited to shake their instruments, dance and move however they like. We will have a basket to collect their instruments as they walk out of worship. If you have any questions about this new addition to worship, you're invited to talk to anyone on the Parish Ed team or Sister Jennie.





# Parish Ed News



*Fall*

## PARISH ED FAMILY OUTING: WILDLIFE IMAGES GROUP TOUR

 Sunday,  
October 26  
@ 1:00 p.m.

 Meet at Wildlife  
Images: 11845 Lower  
River Road, Grants  
Pass

Let Sr. Jennie know by Sunday, October 5 so we have an idea of how many we can expect. (Last minute sign ups will still be fine if you're not sure ahead of time)

**\$10/person (Kids & Youth will be covered)  
Littles 0-3 are free**


We'll gather after the tour for a fall snack at the park pavilion to talk about the experience.

We are looking forward to our first family outing for kids & youth. We will be headed to Wildlife Images to do a group tour. Any kids & youth will be covered by the church, and little kids 0-3 years old are free of charge. Adults are \$10. We will enjoy a little fellowship time after with a fall snack after talking together about the experience. Please sign-up as soon as you can so we have a head count.

2025 Kids, Youth & Adults Christmas Program

## "A Message from Bethlehem:

The Christmas Story Told from the Perspective of the Stable Animals"



**Sunday, December 14 during worship**

Sign up on the sign-up sheet in the narthex or talk to Sr. Jennie or Jackie Matheny for questions. We need everyone to help tell the story!

Jackie Matheny is organizing this year's Christmas drama, which will be the Christmas story told from the perspective of the stable animals. We need all interested kids, youth and adults as always, to sign up so we know who we have to work with. Kids will not need to have a speaking part, unless they want to. The Christmas drama will happen during worship on Sunday, December 14. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex. Please talk to Jackie or Sister Jennie with any questions.

# Calvary Youth

Bring ideas  
of what  
you want  
to do this  
year!

Giant  
Game of  
uno

## Calvary Youth Hangout

Sunday, October 12 @ 2pm

Youth Area in Upper Room at Calvary



Bring a  
friend

Snacks

### Confirmation Class Starting

Do you have a 7th or 8th grader who has not gone through our Confirmation Class yet? This is a chance for middle school youth to go deeper in exploring their faith, get an overview of the Bible, and study from Luther's Small Catechism. It is also a time for them to hear the promises made on their behalf at their baptism including God claiming them forever as a Child of God. If this sounds like something your son or daughter is ready for, please talk to Sister Jennie, the Director of Discipleship.

**Middle School and High School Youth are invited to start gathering once a month during the school year. Let Sr. Jennie know if you'll be there. And friends are always invited!**



# Holiday Bazaar

The **Bazaar** is coming and will be here on Saturday, **November 22**. If you are making quilts for the Bazaar, we invite you to bring it in Wednesday, October 22nd between 9:00 to 11:30 am. Please make sure to measure the size of them. Place size and your name on each quilt. Thank you. If you have any questions please contact Carol Wilson.



Lefse making is an important part of preparing for our Holiday Bazaar.



CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

# Holiday Quilt and Bake Sale



“With a few surprises.”

**Saturday, November  
22 from 9 am to 1 pm  
909 NE A St.**

**Pie by the  
slice, muffins,  
& coffee**

**Proceeds benefit  
local charities.**

**Homemade  
quilts,  
lefse, baked &  
canned goods**

**Sloppy  
Joe Lunch  
11 am**

**2024 Charities: GP Sobering  
Center, Our Foster Kids, Joe's  
Place Ministries, Mid-Rogue Foundation/Evans  
House, GP YMCA**





*Hear Ye! Hear Ye!!*

## **“Community Corner”**

### **GPHS Band:**

**Pride of the Northwest Marching Band Competition** - Saturday, Oct. 11 @ GP Mel Ingram Field (bands performing throughout day). Tickets: \$20 Adults, \$15 Student/Senior/Veteran (Children under 4 are free)

If interested, Business Sponsorships are due Sept. 25

Tickets can be pre-purchased (in person after service 9/21 & 9/28 or by emailing until Sunday, Oct. 5.

**Holiday Wreath Sales** - Due Oct. 26. Fresh and delivered in time for Thanksgiving: 22' Noble Fir for \$40; 28" Mixed Evergreen for \$55

Checks for PNW tickets or Wreaths are made to "GPHS Band Boosters"

Students involved: Deserae Gindlesperger, Luke Boldon (Contact Vicki Boyer or Laura Boldon)

### **GPHS Orchestra:**

**Orchapalooza! At the Cinema!** - Saturday, Oct. 25 @ GP Performing Arts Center - 7:00pm

Tickets will be available in October. \$10 Adults, \$6 Student/Senior/Veteran (Children under 4 are free)

Students involved: Kendyl Jernigan, Luke Boldon (Contact Ken/Charlene Jernigan or Laura Boldon)

**GPHS Holiday Concerts-** Save the date! December 16 & 17

The 2025-2026 school year is off to a good start. I look forward to partnering with your generous faith-based community in helping to provide for my school kiddos with much-needed items. This helps alleviate some of their stress level, which can be incredibly high with not knowing if they will be able to provide for themselves.

What I haven't mentioned before but would like to address is, yes, I do all I can to provide for my houseless students but also, as we are a high poverty school, I try to help out as many of our students with great needs in addition to our houseless students.

Last year along with the 150 students I worked with on a regular basis and helped to provide needs for all school year, I also provided over 350 items to students considered high poverty. I rely heavily on donations to make this happen and without your help for the last couple of years, I wouldn't be able to provide as much as I've been able to.

It truly takes a village to support our community of students in need. They are my heart, they are my reason for reaching out to Community Partners such as you for continued support to help make sure our kiddos never have to do without. Our need is high, and our kids are grateful.

Thank you for continually caring for our kids.

Forever Grateful,

Cathy Deley

Grants Pass High School Student Liaison

## SMALL GROUP MINISTRIES INVITES

### October Faithful Hikers

The **Faithful Hikers** will again be meeting for another hike and hopefully not get smoked out. This time we will be returning to **Waters Creek Trail on Saturday, October 4**. We will meet at 9:00 am at the trailhead. There will also be a carpool opportunity from Calvary leaving at 8:30 am.



### Prayer Small Group

Some of the members of the Prayer Small Group have decided to start meeting again, but before they pick a day/time to meet they want to invite you to be included. So, are you needing new ideas about how to pray? Just need a place to talk about things going on in your life and you're in a safe space? Want to get to know a few people at Calvary more intentionally? Please reach out to Denise Angstadt if you're interested in learning more.

### October Faithful Walkers

The **Faithful Walkers** will again meet on **Saturday, October 27 at 9:00 a.m. at Tom Pearce Park**, meeting up outside the park where Spalding Avenue ends and turns into N Street at Agness Avenue. We will walk into the park from a different angle this time. If you've not joined us for a walk yet and are interested, please connect with Sr. Jennie. Invite someone new to join you for a nice walk in the park and conversation. Who knows? Maybe this is an entry point for a new person to become curious about Calvary.



**Winter Adventures Small Group**—last year we gathered those at Calvary who don't hide from the snow in the winter months but rather like to seek it out. A group would go skiing at Mt. Ashland a few times, and we did a snowshoe hike at Crater Lake National Park. Start thinking if you would enjoy getting to know a smaller group of people at Calvary who are outdoor, snow-seeking types. Talk to Sister Jennie if 1) you'd be interested in re-joining this group from last year, or 2) if you're newer or just seeing this invite if you want to be included this year.



# SMALL GROUP MINISTRIES INVITES

## Talking About Loss

“Life sometimes seems like nothing more than a series of losses, from beginning to end. That’s the given. How you respond to those losses ... that’s the part you have to make up as you go.”  
—The Music Lesson by Katharine Weber

I know nothing of Katharine Weber other than this novel features a painting by Vermeer. However, there is much wisdom in this quote. We experience loss and the accompanying emotions of grief throughout life: deaths of people we love, loss of relationships, loss of jobs, friendships, marriages, pets, and health.

I have held several grief groups at Calvary which I believe have been valuable to those who have been members. I’m interested in trying something new this year. I would like to invite you to sessions held in the sanctuary at 11:00 AM on Fridays prior to “Lunch With Friends” starting in October. I will have a brief presentation and then invite you to make groups of 3 or 4. I will have some prepared questions for the group; however, the primary goal is to invite you to talk about your experience of loss and then provide the opportunity for you to listen and support others. The conversations may continue at the “Lunch With Friends” (just remember to sign up.)

The presentations will be structured around Elizabeth Kubler Ross’ 5 Stages of Grief.

If you have questions, contact Kirby Nave.



## Attention All Current and Former Choir Members

Your help is needed. We need our choir to be singing during worship services.

My suggestion is:

We get together as early as possible and go through the music we’ve sung, pick out the ones we are familiar with, and have sung a few times,

and ones that we enjoy singing. Then we get together early on **Sunday mornings, say 8:30 a.m.**, as we have done in the past, and rehearse those songs. And, as we have done in the past, sing every other Sunday.

Also, anyone who is musically inclined and willing to share that musical talent, is invited to sing or play musical instruments on the Sundays that the choir doesn’t sing. You can speak with any of the choir members or Pastor Jon to let us know of your interest.

Music is vitally important in our worship.

NOW is the time to step up and share your time and talents with our community! Thank you

Linda Johnson

## INVITATIONS & UPDATES



MAKING THE  
NARTHEX EVEN  
MORE WELCOMING  
TO ALL!

*Coming soon!*

A sub-group of the Outreach Team, with Council's support, has been looking at how we can make our narthex space even more welcoming and friendly to everyone from children to adults. We're considering everything, including how furniture in the narthex is arranged to how information is shared on our bulletin boards. Some changes will be more noticeable than others. If you have particular questions or ideas, we invite and welcome you to come talk to anyone on the Narthex Team (Whitney Bixler, Karen Blom, Marcia Cottrill, Karen Nantais, Diane Weaver, and Sr. Jennie Myers). We will be as transparent as we can through future Caller articles and announcements as we get ready to add or change something so you know what is coming.

I want to thank the Calvary family for all the prayers, thoughts and support Marcia and I have received during my recent heart surgery/recovery. The support is so very much appreciated. God is Great!! Dick Cottrill

**THE TABLE IS SET!  
JOIN US  
FOR LUNCH WITH  
FRIENDS ON  
October 3rd at**



**NOON.**

**YOU'RE WELCOME**



I want to thank you all for the many kindnesses you have showered on me during my broken hip recovery. I greatly appreciate the calls, cards, and tasty dinners. May God Bless us all with joy & gladness. Barb Woodburn

### **The ROC Food Pantry Update**

We love supporting the ROC Food Pantry with both financial and in-kind donations. Our collection point is a shopping cart just inside Calvary's front doors. Thank you all for your on-going donations. Our goal is 100 pounds (or more!) per week; keep up the good work!

#### **Our Most Needed Food Items:**

Any Gluten Free Items! Canned Goods: Vegetables, fruits, tomato sauce, applesauce, chili, beans, soup, broth, tuna, canned meats  
Gluten Free Dry Goods: White rice (1- or 2-pound packages), pasta, macaroni and cheese, Dried beans and lentils, cereal, oatmeal, bread

**NOTE:** We cannot accept expired food, dented cans, or food that has been opened.



# October Celebrations!!!



Keith Jaroslow	10/02
Dennis Vroman	10/03
Kaydan Gindlesperger	10/07
Dick Cottrill	10/08
Brad Myerchin	10/08
Tanya Haight	10/09
Lori Elrod	10/19
Rudy Dierks	10/21
Alan Cordes	10/22
Diana Little	10/23
John Mann	10/23
Carol Wilson	10/25

10/01  
Brian & Nicole Smith  
Buck & Barbara Woodburn

10/04  
Ryan & Amy Thompson

10/06  
Kevin & Whitney Bixler

10/12  
Peter & Denise Angstadt

10/23  
Travers & Jennifer Voris

10/24  
Benjamin & Cindy Smith

**The deadline for submitting articles, pictures, etc for the November Caller will be last Friday of October. Thank you!**



<b>SUN</b>	<b>MON</b>	<b>TUE</b>	<b>WED</b>	<b>THU</b>	<b>FRI</b>	<b>SAT</b>
			<b>1</b> 9:30am Hearts & Hands 3:30 pm Praise Team	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 12pm Lunch with Friends 11-11:45 am Chair Yoga 12-1:00 pm	<b>4</b> 9:00 am Faithful Hikers: Waters Creek Trailhead
<b>5</b> 9:30 am Service 10:40 Sunday School all ages 6:30 pm Confirmation	<b>6</b> 10-11:45 am Community Bible Study (CBS) 11-11:45 am Chair Yoga 12-1:00 pm	<b>7</b> 11:00 am Parish Ed Team Mtg 3:00pm–4:00pm Stewardship	<b>8</b> 9:30am Hearts & Hands 3:30 pm Praise Team	<b>9</b> 2:00 pm Countryside Service 4:30 pm Council Mtg	<b>10</b> 11-11:45 am Chair Yoga 12-1:00 pm Yoga	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 9:30 am Service 10:40 Sunday School all ages 2:00 pm Youth Hangout	<b>13</b> FEDERAL HOLIDAY 10-11:45 am CBS 11-11:45 am Chair Yoga 12-1:00 pm	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 9:30am Hearts & Hands 3:30 pm Praise Team	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 11:00 am Memorial Service Arlette Butler 11-11:45 am Chair Yoga 12-1:00 pm Yoga	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 9:30 am Service 10:40 Sunday School all ages 6:30 pm Confirmation	<b>20</b> 10-11:45 am CBS 11-11:45 am Chair Yoga	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 9:30am Hearts & Hands 10:00 am Outreach Mtg 3:30 pm Praise Team	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 11-11:45 am Chair Yoga 12-1:00 pm Yoga	<b>25</b> 9-10:00 am Faithful Walkers: Tom Pearce Park
<b>26</b> 9:30 am Service No Youth/Kids Sunday School 1:00 pm Wildlife Images PE event	<b>27</b> 10-11:45 am CBS 11-11:45 am Chair Yoga	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 9:30am Hearts & Hands 3:30 pm Praise Team	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> HALLOWEEN 11-11:45 am Chair Yoga 12-1:00 pm Yoga	







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**Jon Myers, Pastor**

**Sister Jennie Myers, Director of Discipleship**

**Sundays:** 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship

10:45 a.m. Sunday School