

# *CALVARY CALLER*

*September 2025*

## **Transitions, Continued**

As I shared in July, we are in a season of transitions. Diana Little is stepping up to replace financial accountant Janine Nave. We celebrated Wendy Ross' retirement at the end of August. And we have hired Carolyn Grossi to take over from Kim White as our administrative assistant.

Carolyn is a longtime member of St. Anne Catholic here in GP, and like many of you, grew up in California, but she's been here longer than nearly all of us. She is already proving adept and adaptable, and as soon as we get her email access straightened out, the office will be firing on all cylinders again.

Her hours will generally be 9am-3pm Monday through Friday, with a flexible half hour off for lunch. On certain days she'll arrive and leave early (e.g. when we host the Red Cross blood drives). The interview team was particularly impressed with her solid understanding of the crucial importance of both direct communication and protecting confidentiality.

Our worship and music committee has elected not to directly replace Wendy as music director. Pianist Jeannine Reddell will be picking up music selection duties, with guidance from me and Jackie Matheny. The Praise Team and the Sound of Praise quartet will be self-directing. Choir and handbells are currently on hiatus.

Diana Little is taking over the nuts and bolts of Calvary's finances with continued guidance from Janine Nave, her predecessor Gary Blom, and treasurer Noel Hoback.

Our financial accountant is a hired staff position with voice and vote on our congregation council, and is responsible for paying bills, including payroll, and generating reports. This person also physically makes deposits, although those are prepared by a separate team, currently Crystal Zimmer, April Marshall and Kim Grinde.

Diana's primary paid vocation for three decades was in financial roles for the U.S. Air Force, and she also served five years as office administrator at Faith Lutheran in Roseburg. We have great confidence in her, and she expressed great enthusiasm for this role. That's needed—because it's a lot of very detail-oriented work! We are grateful for her willingness.

Other new members who joined at the same time have also been contributing in their own ways—helping us refresh our audiovisual systems, joining our outreach committee, and one of the Baker boys has expressed a strong interest in joining the praise team on guitar. We have two more families joining imminently. Who knows what the Spirit will inspire them to step into? Please take a moment to welcome Carolyn when you get a chance, and also to get to know our newest members, the Willhites and the Bagoses!

*Pastor Jon*

## *Thoughts From the Council President*

Happy Fall Calvary Lutheran.

Welcome Back to School! The children are back in school, our recent seniors are away at college, and the heat (please) will subside as we move to this next season. Very soon (not soon enough) the leaves will change, and the air will be crisp. It is my favorite time of the year.

From a financial perspective, we are still behind ~\$18,000.

No update on the Bell Tower. There should be one coming soon.

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 to ensure we are spending God's treasure on things that are important. I welcome your input on your priorities.

There are a couple of Council positions available:

Property: Works with the Property Committee on all things building

Fellowship: Plans and organizes gatherings, works with Parish Education

More positions may come available as we look at the term expirations for other Council positions. We would like to have you join us!

*In Christ,  
Matt*

## *Reflections from Sister Jennie*

### **Starting the Year Out Right**

After my kids got home from school on the first day of school, I decided to try something different with them, a new tradition. Instead of asking them the obligatory “how was your day? What did you do?” questions, I decided to ask them a set of different questions. “Tell me something that you learned today (about yourself, your teacher, a classmate, a learning concept). And also where did you see God today? It created more of a conversation and made them think. They could no longer just pass the questions and say “Fine...Nothing!”

And that made me think about everyone at Calvary. These are questions that could be part of a new spiritual discipline for your own family or in your own life. Because we should always keep learning whether its about ourselves, those around us, or our community that we live in. And to always be wondering and noticing where and when you feel God’s presence. Sometimes its more obvious where we feel his presence, other times its more subtle. The more you are watching and asking yourself the more you can train yourself to be watchful.

It reminds me one of my favorite Old Testament stories that often gets overlooked involving one of the major prophets, Elijah, looking for God to appear on the mountain as directed by God. He was looking for God in the large obvious forces of nature, when God actually appears to him in the sheer sound of silence. God is there in our lives but sometimes not where with think to look. This story comes from 1 Kings 19.

I encourage you to wonder about these two areas this next month. Ask those in your family or close friends as you talk with them what they have learned today, and where they saw God today, and see where the conversation goes.

*Amen,  
Sister Jennie Myers*

# Faith Formation Updates



Join us after worship, Sunday, Sept. 7  
Pizza and lemonade for everyone! That means  
there's a space for YOU at the table!

Come learn about the faith formation opportunities  
for all ages! Kids & Youth Sunday school, Adult  
Sunday school!

See you in the Fellowship Hall!  
(Youth invited to eat in Upper Room)



## Sunday school Starts on Sunday, Sept 14

Its not too late to register  
your child for Sunday  
school. Scan the QR code  
below to go directly to the  
registration form or click  
on the link here: [https://  
forms.gle/  
vPtkAc92YxQ7abgd9](https://forms.gle/vPtkAc92YxQ7abgd9) to  
make sure we have the  
latest information on your  
child and we can look  
forward to them being in  
class.

- **First Day of Sunday  
school for Kids and  
Youth on Sunday,  
September 14.**
- **First Day of Adult Ed  
Forum on Sunday,  
September 14**

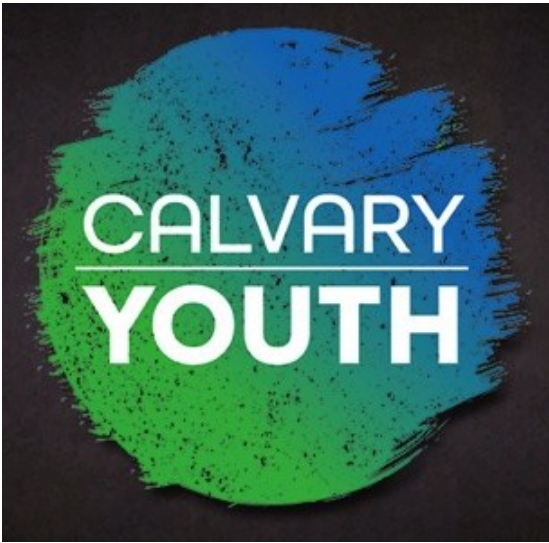
Adults, join Pastor Jon in  
the Fellowship Hall  
following worship and  
continue exploring the  
book of Exodus where  
conversation paused for  
the summer. If you didn't  
attend last year you're  
more than welcome to join  
in!





# Calvary Youth

Right before school resumed we all got together at Udders for back to school ice cream. We had a good mix of middle and high school kids. And this isn't even everyone. Getting everyone together on the same schedule with sports practices, vacation and work scheduled proved an interesting challenge this summer. It wasn't for lack of interest. We were glad to finally get a bunch of them together at the end of the summer.



## Reminder for this Sunday, September 7

On Sunday, September 7 we'll be having pizza after church as we get ready for Sunday school. **Middle and high school youth** you're invited to bring your pizza into the Upper Room for conversation and to hang out. Bring your ideas of what you want to do together during the year as a youth group and when it works best for your schedule to gather. We want to find things to do that are fun for all and to find a time that allows as many to gather together.

**High school youth** you'll also have a chance to talk with Sr. Jennie and your youth Sunday school teacher about what you'd like to do for Sunday school. So think about what you'd like to learn about or talk about this year.



## SMALL GROUP MINISTRIES INVITES

### September Faithful Hikers

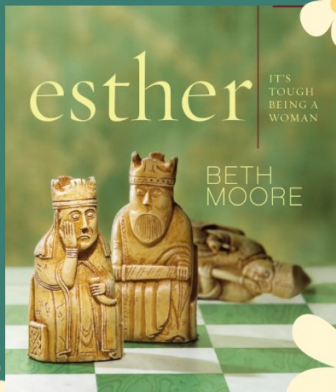
Our next hike takes place on **Saturday, September 6 at 9:00 am.** We'll be meeting at Briggs Creek Trail in Merlin. Carpooling will be available and will leave Calvary at 8:00 a.m.

If you are interested please let Sr. Jennie know. We'd love to have new faces! All ages welcome as long as you are aware of your physical capability for hiking.



Enjoying last month's hike that got moved to Cathedral Hills. Always fun to have new faces join for a hike and get to know people more intentionally. No limit on ages!

### Woman's BIBLE STUDY



Wednesday's, 9-11 am

September 17 - November 12th

To learn more see Melinda Eide or  
Jennifer Voris

### September Faithful Walkers

Join us on **Saturday, September 27 at 9:00 a.m. at Tom Pearce Park.** This time we are going to park outside the park (when Agness Avenue & Spalding meet and turns into N Street). There is a gravel parking area. Be sure to invite a friend or neighbor to join you for a walk in the outdoors!



## INVITATIONS & UPDATES

**THE TABLE IS SET! JOIN US  
FOR LUNCH WITH FRIENDS ON  
August 1st at NOON.**

**YOU'RE WELCOME TO BRING  
A FRIEND!**



### **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!

Current needs: canned fruit and vegetables, macaroni and cheese, pasta, pasta sauce, beans, rice (small packages, please!)

### **Is Your Child Interested in Being an Acolyte?**

Would your child be interested in being an acolyte during worship? First of all—what is an acolyte? An acolyte lights the candles at the beginning of worship and extinguishes them at the conclusion of worship. You will also see the acolyte hand the ushers the offering plates and collect them again at the end of offering time.



If your child would like to learn how to do these things and be a part of worship, please talk to Sister Jennie. We will be getting ready to have a fall training for returning acolytes and new kids who are interested in learning. We will also go over why we do what we do as acolytes so kids can understand more about worship.

**The August Blood Drive at Calvary is scheduled for Friday, September 19 from 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.**

Blood donations save lives. Please consider making an appointment to give.

### **Property Chair Needed**

The Calvary council's property chair is currently vacant. Our property committee maintains all church property and equipment, rents or acquires equipment, works toward capital improvements and long-term projects, oversees regular internal and external cleanings, and reports to our congregation council. Currently Larry Weaver and Gary Blom are managing this work, but they hope to mentor someone new and step back by year's end. To volunteer or learn more, please reach out to Matt Eide, Gary Blom or Larry Weaver.

# September Celebrations!!!



Deb Christopherson	09/04
JoAnne Smith	09/05
Jedidiah Baker	09/07
Benjamin Smith	09/09
Suzanne Wicklin	09/09
Michael Bjorge	09/10
Marcia Lawson	09/10
Diane Weaver	09/13
Addie Myers	09/14
Katie Myers	09/14
Calysta DeLeon	09/14
Marie Wachsmuth	09/15
Trevor Willhite	09/15
Carmella Menke	09/15
Jim Sweeney	09/21
Shirley Albertson	09/23
Vicki Boyer	09/23
Willa Bianchi	09/25
Al Kincaid	09/25
Jack Nahmias	09/26
Amy Thompson	09/26
Jessica Albertson	09/27
Kevin Bixler	09/27
Deserae Gindlesperger	09/27
Dianne Weitzel	09/27
Denise Angstadt	09/28
Robert Moodie	09/28
Nicole Smith	09/28
Mary Quick	09/30
Debby Steinbrenner	09/30

09/14  
Paul & Sandy Hoadley

09/18  
Craig & Pat Chambers

09/19  
Graham & Kathleen Baker


09/20  
Gary & Karen Blom

09/27  
John & Candy Rentz





# SEPTEMBER

<i><b>SUN</b></i>	<i><b>MON</b></i>	<i><b>TUE</b></i>	<i><b>WED</b></i>	<i><b>THU</b></i>	<i><b>FRI</b></i>	<i><b>SAT</b></i>
	<b>1</b> Labor Day (Office Closed) 	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 9:30am Hearts & Hands Lefse-making  3:30 pm Praise Team	<b>4</b> 10am Parish Ed Mtg	<b>5</b> 12pm Lunch with Friends  11-11:45 am Chair Yoga 12-1:00 pm Yoga	<b>6</b> Faithful Hikers 9:00 am at Briggs Creek Trail
<b>7</b> 9:30 am Service  Pizza Kickoff Party (after worship)	<b>8</b> 10-11:45 am Community Bible Study (CBS) Starts  11-11:45 am Chair Yoga 12-1:00 pm Yoga	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 9:30am Hearts & Hands Lefse-making  3:30 pm Praise Team	<b>11</b> 2:00 pm Countryside Service  4:30 pm Council Mtg	<b>12</b>   11-11:45 am Chair Yoga 12-1:00 pm Yoga	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 9:30 am Service  10:40 am SS Starts (Kids & youth)  10:40 am Adult SS begins	<b>15</b> 10-11:45 am CBS  11-11:45 am Chair Yoga 12-1:00 pm Yoga	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 9:30am Hearts & Hands Lefse-making  3:30 pm Praise Team	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 9:00 am—2:00 pm Red Cross Blood Drive  11-11:45 am Chair Yoga 12-1:00 pm Yoga	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 9:30 am Service  10:40 SS all ages	<b>22</b> 10-11:45 am CBS  11-11:45 am Chair Yoga 12-1:00 pm Yoga	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 9:30am Hearts & Hands Lefse-making  10:00 am Outreach Mtg  3:30 pm Praise Team	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 11-11:45 am Chair Yoga 12-1:00 pm Yoga	<b>27</b> 9:00 am Faithful Walkers (Tom Pearce Park)
<b>28</b> 9:30 am Service No Kids/youth SS 10:40 am Adult SS meets	<b>29</b> 10-11:45 am CBS  11-11:45 am Chair Yoga 12-1:00 pm Yoga	<b>30</b>				



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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

(except summer)