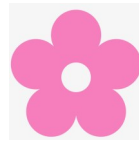




909 NE "A" Street, Grants Pass, OR 97526
Phone: (541) 479-2577
E-Mail: calvluth@calvarylutherangp.org
www.calvarylutherangp.org

Kirby Nave, John Maas, Keith Jaroslow, Interim Pastoral Team
Wendy Ross, Director of Choirs
Jeannine Reddell, Pianist
Megan McCarty, Administrative Assistant
Sundays:

9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship
10:30 a.m. Sunday School



Calvary Caller



March 2023

“Kirby’s Korner”



“Morning has broken like the first morning
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning
Praise for them springing fresh from the world”

Welcome to the month of Spring! This is the hymn I associate with the coming of Spring. Spring is a time of new birth, plants springing fresh from the ground, and light in the mornings. It is a time to celebrate Resurrection: Easter is a spring holiday. And Calvary Lutheran Church is at the possibility of a new pastor and family coming soon. We are truly entering a season of new beginnings.

Let us greet this season with joy! Let us let go of past hurts and disappointments and let God create us anew for this new day! And let us claim this new day as our own:

“Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning
Born of the one light, Eden saw play
Praise with elation, praise every morning
God’s recreation of the new day.”



Blessings,
Pastor Kirby

Meet the Prospective Pastoral Team

Saturday, March 18th 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Coffee, Cookies, and Conversation at Church

Join us for an afternoon devotion given by the prospective pastor.

Then we will have a question and answer time afterwards

Sunday, March 19

After Worship Service Brunch and Meet and Greet



Serving the Lord...



Communion Assistants

3/5 Pastor / Janine Nave
Crystal Zimmer & Carol Wilson

3/12 Pastor / Gary Blom
Bonnie Cordes & Diane Weaver

3/19 Pastor / Janine Nave
Carol Wilson & Crystal Zimmer

3/26 Pastor / Diane Weaver
Dave & Tanya Haight

Video/Sound

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

Lectors

3/5 George Straka
3/12 Marcia Lembcke
3/19 Marcia Cottrill
3/26 Mary Quick

Altar Guild

3/5 Denise & Madeleine Angstadt / Teresa Schwerdt

3/12 Dolly Rodriguez / Bonnie Cordes

3/19 Denise & Madeleine Angstadt / Sandy Hoadley

3/26 Anna Gorskaya / Dave & Tanya Haight

Ushers

Scott Christopherson, Captain
Mark Grinde
David Grimes

Hostess Committee

Mary Quick
Diane & Larry Weaver
Pat Brown
Janet Capetty
Pat Chambers
Deb Christopherson
Teresa Connelly
Bev Kane
Julie Galloway

Council Members

Lisa Jaroslow
John Maas
Karen Blom
Matt Eide
Karen Mastel
Gary Blom
Judi Bliss
Bill Bianchi
Dave Leverenz
Jackie Matheny
Audra Myerchin
Noel Hoback
JoAnne Smith

ALTAR FLOWERS Presented to the glory of God by:

3/5 The Stutts Children, grandchildren and great grandchildren in Honor of Ken & Ann Stutts 70th Anniversary

3/12 Claudia Canter in Memory of Jan Niehaus Birthday

3/19 Mary Ann Stevenson in Honor of March Birthdays

3/26 Bonnie & Alan Cordes in Honor of their 52nd Anniversary

3/26 Don & Carol Wilson in Honor of their 59th Anniversary





Chuck Hathaway 03/01
 Dr. Don Lanahan 03/01
 Mitchell Matheny 03/01
 Sandy Hoadley 03/05
 Lori Nissen 03/05
 Scott Christopherson 03/06
 Mark Grinde 03/07
 Paul Hoadley 03/07
 Linda Welo 03/07
 Sandie Andrew 03/09
 Andrew Jaroslow 03/09
 Gloria Fox 03/10
 Bowman Bixler 03/11
 Fallon Zeller 03/11
 Brandon Jaroslow 03/12
 Kendyl Jernigan 03/13
 George Straka 03/14
 Kirby Nave 03/16
 Rudy Rugenstein 03/17
 Zane Borge 03/18
 Vic Connelly 03/18
 Dawn Grinde 03/19
 Mary Ann Stevenson 03/19
 Adele Tamosunas 03/22
 Grace Connelly 03/23
 David Gilmour 03/23
 Richard Acosta 03/24
 Linda Butler 03/26
 Kim Grinde 03/26
 Roger Scheusner 03/26
 Karen Nantais 03/30
 Kerrie Borge 03/31



03/02
 03/04
 03/05
 03/07
 03/09
 03/17
 03/19
 03/23
 03/26
 03/27

Jeff & Elaine Wolf
 Frank & Sherry Damico
 Bev & Gene Totten
 Ken & Ann Stutts
 Dolly & Dan Rodriguez
 Linda & Timothy Sullivan
 Mark & Kim Grinde
 Don & Carol Wilson
 Dave & Jill Cook
 Alan & Bonnie Cordes



**Celebrate Ann & Ken Stutts' 70th
 Wedding Anniversary
 March 12!**

Ann and Ken Stutts will celebrate their 70th
 wedding anniversary following the worship service
 on **Sunday, March 12 in the Fellowship Hall.**
 Please come and wish them well and share
 refreshments with them and their family.



From the Council:



“Trust in the Lord with all your heart.” Proverbs 3:5

Sometimes in life, when decisions have to be made, and we are unsure of the direction we should turn, it can be a bit stressful and we can feel very uncertain. In these times, it's easy to feel anxious and uneasy. However, its precisely during these times that God tells us to turn to Him, to trust Him. But this is when it's most difficult.

Over the past year and a half our church has felt a fair amount of uncertainty. I've heard questions raised such as; *Who will our next pastor be? Who is going to take care of this job or that job? Our congregation is getting older, how can we attract younger members? What are our long-range goals?* My goal as president has been to have a strong, successful pastoral interim team in place. This team will care for, maintain and strengthen the ministries within our congregation, and will provide a solid, healthy church body for the incoming pastor to take over and lead. Throughout this process, prayer to God and trusting in Him has been pivotal. In fact, I was just reading this morning from the book of 2 Chronicles 26:5, where it states, *“Uzziah sought God during the days of Zechariah, who taught him to fear God. And as long as the king sought guidance from the Lord, God gave him success.”* Seeking this guidance is dire.

Last month, when Scott presented the official recommendation from the Call Committee to call this pastoral team, I felt hope and excitement. At our Council meeting on Feb. 9, the Council unanimously voted to accept this recommendation and bring this pastoral team to the congregation for a vote. Before this vote occurs at a special congregational meeting on April 16, everyone will have a couple of opportunities to meet the prospective pastoral team and their family. The family will be arriving in Grants Pass on Friday, March 17 and we are planning an afternoon event on Saturday, March 18, as well as a brunch and social time after worship service on March 19. I hope that everyone marks those dates on their calendar and will take this opportunity to get to know this family.

I believe with all my heart that God has been walking with our church family over the last year and a half. He has been providing for our church, strengthening us, and guiding us so that we are ready to receive the gifts He has in store for us. I encourage all of us to continue praying for guidance and to continue trusting that God will provide for all of our needs.

Lisa Jaroslow
 Council President

2022 Year End Financial Report

Operating Account as of 01/01/2022	\$130,612
Operating Account as of 01/31/2022	\$124,367
Budgeted Income as of 12/31/2022	\$356,356
Actual Budget Income as of 12/31/2022	\$339,343
Budgeted Expense as of 12/31/2021	\$356,356
Actual Budget Expenses as of 12/31/2021	\$322,573
Restricted Funds as of 12/31/2022	\$41,920
Investment Funds as of 12/31/2022	\$271,599
Thrivent Choice Funds as of 12/31/2022	\$1,775

Restricted Funds Summary

Major Improvements	\$19,420
Non-Budgeted Benevolence	\$ 2,187
1% Benevolence – Outreach	\$1,455
Pastor Discretion	\$4,128
Memorials	\$0
Family/Youth Ministries	\$14,122
Endowment – Deposits	\$527

Savings & Investment Funds

Savings/Money Market	\$110,058
Mission Investment CD 906	\$4,002
Mission Investment CD 898	\$48,377
Mission Investment CD 980	\$109,162



Remember, "Simply Giving" is a great way to give to Calvary. .

2022 Benevolence Giving

Non-Local

Oregon Synod	\$6,720
Missionaries	\$6,000
Ukraine Victims (Lutheran Disaster Relief)	\$8,512
Flood, Hurricane Victims (Lutheran Disaster Relief)	\$7,600

TOTAL \$28,832

Local

Gospel Rescue Mission	\$5,025
Reach Our Community (ROC)	\$5,025
Every Child	\$6,800
Woman's Crisis Support Team	\$5,077
Josephine County Food Bank	\$243

TOTAL \$22,170

Benevolence Total \$51,002

PARISH ED

Greetings from Parish Education Committee. We are having some wonderful connections and conversations. We are holding both group sessions and small group sessions, so if you know any youth, there is a little something for everyone! We had an amazing turnout for our January outing organized by Kelly Tommerup we thank you! We had both congregation members, and the youth go on a hike at Cathedral Hills.

Our February outing is ice skating! In March, we are organizing a rock climbing outing, with special thanks to some of our talented congregation members, we appreciate and thank those willing to get involved with our youth!

We are working to organize and update the nursery and hopefully hire an attendant for during Sunday worship and perhaps other special times. If you know anyone who would be qualified for this position, please pass on their information to Audra, and we will reach out; Calvary Lutheran is an amazing place to work!

Our March plans include Sunday School on March 5th, 12th & 19th from 10:30 to 11:15; there will be no Sunday School on March 26th because of spring break. If anyone would like to lead a Sunday School session, please contact me. Our next parish education committee meeting is planned for March 24th at 2pm. Looking ahead, we are planning a bingo event and an Easter egg hunt for April; stay tuned for information, or if you'd like to help, please contact anyone on the parish education committee! We also would love congregation members to get involved in Sunday School, you can organize crafts, read a bible passage, play a game, or even connect and get to know our youth, there are many meaningful ways you can get involved with our young people.

Thanks for the continued support parish education receives, it's a worthy endeavor.

Sincerely,
Audra Myerchin
Chair, Parish Education Committee



Stitchcrafter update

Stitchcrafters met in February to gift some of our funds from our bazaar. The amount Raised was \$ 6,781 plus extra from sales on the table in the narthex.

The group decided to give money to: Calvary, Food with Friends (for a freezer), the Humane Society, Lunch with Friends, CASA, and Salvation Army.

This money could not have been gifted to these charities without the help and support of Our church. You not only supported our bazaar by your purchases, your help that day and your ongoing support for our group. THANK YOU, we appreciate all of you!

We continue to meet on Wednesdays at 9:30. We will discuss group activities at another meeting In hopes of keeping our Stitchcrafters active and of interest to all. Please drop in for a visit and A cup of coffee and usually a treat.

Mary



World Mission Prayer League – Schroeder Family For the past 9 years, Calvary has supported the Schroeder Family’s missionary work in the Philippines. Last summer, the church council voted to stop our monthly benevolence to them effective December 31, 2022. To gather more information regarding their fund-raising opportunities, the World Mission Prayer League (WMPL) was contacted to inquire when the Schroeder’s current contract would be ending and when they would be returning to the US to begin visiting congregations. These visits allow the Schroeders to thank supporting congregations and to help them raise funding for their work in the Philippines. WMPL stated that the Schroeders will be returning to the US in 2024. In December, the council voted to continue to support the Schroeders through 2023 so that they will have ample time during next year’s visits to find additional/alternative funding for their work while they are visiting the US



Smarter Giving That Benefits You and Calvary



In 2023, if you are 70 ½ or older, you can make a direct transfer from your IRA to charity—a tax effective way to provide a gift to Calvary’s Endowment Fund.

What are the benefits of providing a gift directly from your IRA?

- ◆ It is a simple way to make a lasting impact at Calvary
- ◆ The gift counts toward your required minimum distribution
- ◆ The gift is excluded from your gross income. It will be reported to the IRS as a QCD—qualified charitable distribution.

What are the simple rules and requirements?

- ◆ You must be 70 ½ or older at the time of the gift
- ◆ To ensure that your IRA transfer is not taxable, the check must be made payable to *Calvary Lutheran Church*, not to you personally. Provide your investment firm with Calvary’s name and address so they can mail the check directly to the church
- ◆ The gift must not exceed \$100,000
- ◆ Let Calvary’s treasurer know you are intending to make an IRA rollover distribution.

If interested, talk to your financial planner and Calvary’s Endowment Committee Chair,
Marcia Lawson

Call Committee



Your Call Committee has been busy over the last month. We are continuing to move forward with the current candidate. He will be coming out for another visit March 17th through March 21st with his whole family. Only key people in his current congregation know about his potential call. He will not be notifying his current congregation until we have extended an official call to him. Between now and then he will be praying for discernment about a call with Calvary Lutheran in Grants Pass. To be respectful of that process we will not be releasing his name to the wider Calvary congregational family until his next visit in March. Please allow him the opportunity to be the one to share with his congregation in his time about this call.

When the Bishop presented this candidate to the Call Committee, she indicated that this was a unique opportunity for us to hire a husband-and-wife ministry team. He would fill the role as Pastor and she would be available on a part-time basis to support Calvary in ministries that she has been trained for and performed over the years. The Call Committee was very excited to talk with both candidates the Holy Spirit had led to our church. Although we have only met, in-person, the candidate for pastor during his visit with us in January, we have had a remote Zoom interview and conversations with his wife. The Call Committee was unanimous in our vote to recommend both candidates to Council to Call for our vacant Pastoral position.

Last month we brought this same candidate out for several days at the end of January. Your Call Committee and select Council members were able to spend some quality time talking with him about Calvary and what the area has to offer him, his wife and 4 children. He was especially interested in learning more about the school systems in Grants Pass as his children range in age from 4 years to 10 years old. He also got a little bit of sticker shock when looking at housing in the area. It is quite a bit more expensive here than where he is currently living. Since he and his wife are coming as a team part of the discussions centered around a salary package that would allow both to work in ministry here at Calvary. He is rostered with the ELCA as a Minister of Word and Sacrament, has his Master of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary and completed his Lutheran Year at Lutheran Theological Seminary. He has 12 years of experience including his current role as the Pastor at his current church, working as a Pastor/Mission Developer, a Coordinator of Youth and Family Ministry and a Director of a Youth Development Center.

A little about his wife. She is rostered with the ELCA as Minister of Word and Service, has a Master of Arts in Youth and Family Ministry from Luther Northwestern Theological Seminary and a Bachelor of Arts from Ohio State University. She is active in the ELCA Deaconess Community and has helped plan multiple Deaconess Assemblies. She is currently working as Director of Discipleship at her current church. Her prior work experience included Parish Deaconess & Co-Mission Developer/Redeveloper, Family Ministry Coordinator, Parish Administrator, Director of Youth & Family Ministry.

In summary, the Call Committee was unanimous in recommending that both individuals be called to Calvary. This recommendation was presented at the Feb 9th Council meeting where they voted and approved the Call Committee recommendations. The Call Committee is coordinating another visit with this candidate and his family so that the entire Calvary family can meet them prior to the final Congregational meeting on April 16th. This Congregational meeting is where all voting members have the opportunity to vote on who our next pastor will be. I strongly encourage everyone to take the time to meet these candidates during their March visit so that you can see who the Holy Spirit has led to our church and if after prayerful discernment, they will be called to Calvary.

Scott Christopherson – Call Committee

March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			6:00 am Men's Breakfast 1 9:30 am Stitchcrafters 10:00 am Music & Worship Mtg 4:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 5:15 pm Praise Team 5:45 pm Soup Suppers 6:30 pm Lenten Service	2	3 12:00 pm Lunch with Friends	4
5 2nd Sunday in Lent 9:30 am Sunday Worship 10:30 am Sunday School Bible Study (After Worship) 2:00pm "Lockdown" Barnstormers	6 C.B.S. 10:00am-12:00pm	7 10:00 am Outreach Mtg	8 6:00 am Men's Breakfast 9:30 am Stitchcrafters 4:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 5:15 pm Praise Team 5:45 pm Soup Suppers 6:30 pm Lenten Service	9 2:00 pm Countryside 4:30 pm Council Mtg	10	11
12 3rd Sunday in Lent 9:30 am Sunday Worship 10:30 am Sunday School Bible Study (After Worship) Ken & Ann Stutts 70th Party (After Worship)	13 C.B.S. 10:00am-12:00pm MoPs 6:30-7:30 pm	14	15 6:00 am Men's Breakfast 9:30 am Stitchcrafters 4:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 5:15 pm Praise Team 5:45 pm Soup Suppers 6:30 pm Lenten Service	16	17	18 Meet the prospective Pastoral Team! 2-4 p.m.
19 4th Sunday in Lent 9:30 am Sunday Worship 10:30 am Sunday School New Members Potluck (After Worship)	20 C.B.S. 10:00am-12:00pm	21	22 6:00 am Men's Breakfast 9:30 am Stitchcrafters 4:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 5:15 pm Praise Team 5:45 pm Soup Suppers 6:30 pm Lenten Service	23	24 Red Cross Blood drive 9am to 2pm 2:00 p.m. Parish Ed Mtg	25
26 5th Sunday in Lent 9:30 am Sunday Worship Bible Study (After Worship) Youth Outing	27 C.B.S. 10:00am-12:00pm	28	29 6:00 am Men's Breakfast 9:30 am Stitchcrafters 4:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 5:15 pm Praise Team 5:45 pm Soup Suppers 6:30 pm Lenten Service	30	31	