



CALVARY CALLER

The Newsletter of Calvary Lutheran Church

May 2024

Vol. 64, No. 5



There is still time to get your tickets for the Calvary Youth

Evening of Talent & Trivia. Calvary's teens will be sharing their talents in between rounds of trivia. The evening will include

dinner & dessert. Tickets will be available through Wednesday May 1 and are \$30 adults / \$20 seniors 70+. KIDS TRIVIA \$10 (3 years old—7th grade) Purchase your tickets by Thursday, May 2 by clicking <u>HERE.</u>



SENIOR ADULT CALVARY CAFÉ

Wednesday, May 22nd—5:00pm

You must be 65 or older to attend

(or accompanied by someone 65 or older

RSVP BY MONDAY, MAY 16TH AT 12NOON

Starting April 28th, RSVP at Calvary's Narthex Ministry Display Signs on Sundays or by contacting the church office .(calvary@calvaryftw.org or 817-284-8724)



Calvary Lutheran Church • 7620 Baker Boulevard • Richland Hills, Texas 76118 Phone: 817-284-8724 or 817-284-8721 • Fax: 817-284-0860

Calvary Church Staff

Calvary Church Staff	
Church Office	Open M-F, 9a-4p, lunch 1-2p, closed holidays
	Phone: 817-284-8724
	Fax: 817-287-0860
Ministers	Email: calvary@calvaryftw.org
Winisters	All the Congregation
Pastor	Phillip R. Heinze (682-597-0273)
	phillipheinze@gmail.com
Pastor	Kyle Rouze (817-999-7856)
	kyle@calvaryftw.org
Intern Pastor	Thomas Johnston (980-422-3121)
Director of Youth &	intern@calvaryftw.org
Family Ministry	Janelle Miller (817-726-7031)
	janellemiller@yahoo.com
	Janenen mer el fano o toom
Director of Worship & Music	Viktor Andersson (817-831-8406)
	viktorandersson@hotmail.com
Administrative Assistant	Kathy Humen (817-284-8724)
	calvary@calvaryftw.org
Business Administrator	Stephanie Daniels (817-284-8724)
	businessadmin@calvaryftw.org
Vol. Contributions Secretary	Don Holmes & Eric Swenson (817-284-8724)
Val. Attau dan se Casuatan i	contributions@calvaryftw.org
Vol. Attendance Secretary	Lynn Boyk (817-909-5517) attendance@calvaryftw.org
Organist	Debbie Villavicencio (dvillav69145@gmail.com)
Handbell Choir Director	Mary Keller (pmkeller@verizon.net)
Altar Guild	Carrie Egan (817-412-8938)
	carrielegan@gmail.com
Sr. Adult Ministry Volunteers	Rex & Shirley Norris (817-284-1801)
	Mabel Atkinson (mabelwa61@yahoo.com)
Wedding Coordinator	Rebecca Green (817-909-0058)
	rebeccapgreen@hotmail.com
Sunday School Administration	Janelle Miller (janellemiller@yahoo.com)
	Mary Reichenbach (mgreichenbach@yahoo.com)
Church Council	Jake Chambers (mrchambers2006@yahoo.com)
Church Council	
Executive Committee	Dahar Mashaa (dahar mashaa Quas ast)
President Vice-President	Debra Machos (debra.machos@usa.net) Melanie Swenson (mswenson1016@gmail.com)
Secretary	Lynne Goodman (shadow_berry@yahoo.com)
Committee Representatives	Lynne Goodman (snadow_ben y@yunoo.com/
Education	Linda McMillan (librarianlindamc@gmail.com)
Fellowship	Diane Musfeldt (musfeldt507@gmail.com)
Finance/Budget	Mary Keller (pmkeller@verizon.net)
Membership & Personnel	Jessica Chambers (jchambers2006@yahoo.com)
Membership & Personnel	Rosemary Haywood
	(rosemary.haywood@gmail.com)
Outreach	Cathrine Andejeski (cattie1812@gmail.com)
Property	Don Acker (acker.donald@gmail.com)
Social Ministry	Sidney Kammerdiener (sbkammerdiener@gmail.com)
Social Ministry	John Schaub (mrschaubjohn@gmail.com)
Stewardship	Melanie Swenson (mswenson1016@gmail.com)
Worship & Music	Mickey Nowell (nowellrpls@gmail.com)
Worship & Music	Jim Raabe (jhr135@gmail.com)
Youth	Juan Grimaldo (jmgrim69@yahoo.com)
Parish Lay Ministers	
Jim Cronkhite (817-999-6381)	Christy Gibson (817-999-2556)
Don Holmes (817-576-3242) Patrick & Kathy Hunt (817-703-5	Melissa Herring (817-891-2071) 130) Mickey Nowell (H: 817-489-5030)
KITCK & KATOV HUDT (VI / 703 L	

Patrick & Kathy Hunt (817-703-5130)

MUSIC & WOPSHIP

Council Corner

We are pleased to introduce ourselves as your representatives on Council for Worship & Music. The Calvary Lutheran Church constitution states: "The committee on worship shall have special responsibility for matters pertaining to the congregation's worship." While that seems obvious, there is a lot that goes on behind the scenes to bring worship to the forefront on Sunday mornings.

Calvary is fortunate to have some very talented and dedicated individuals to lead and plan our worship services. Our Director of Worship & Music is Viktor Andersson and our organist is Debbie Villavicencio. These two outstanding musicians put a lot of time and effort into the music at our services each week. We would also like to recognize Mary Keller who coordinates and directs the Bell Choir.

As we have completed the first quarter of the year all of the musicians have been busy. The choir usually sings at one of the Sunday morning worship services and will also have individual members help to lead the singing of the weekly Psalm. Many of those musical Psalms that we sing at our services have been written by Viktor. On festival Sundays Viktor also organizes the orchestra and all three services are blessed with music from both the choir and the orchestra. The Bell Choir adds to our musical program on a periodic basis also. Finally, we would like to thank those musicians who play and sing at the 9:30 service. We definitely want to thank them for their dedication.

In addition to those mentioned above, it would be remiss if we did not raise up our pastors as a very significant part of Worship & Music. Both Pastor Phil and Pastor Kyle work extremely hard to give us a meaningful Worship Service. Their ability to play the guitar and sing often supplements our services in a wonderful way. It has also been a pleasure to see Intern Thomas grow as he is now winding down his time here at Calvary.

Calvary was fortunate to host the Wartburg Choir on April 22 as they were touring the southern United States including stops in Missouri, Arkansas, Texas, Oklahoma and Nebraska. Calvary worked hard to find housing for the 80 plus members of the choir during their time here. Many thanks to those members of the congregation who donated money or space in their homes for hosting members of the choir. A behind the scenes thanks goes to Mike Kammerdiener who organized a crew to clear the altar area after Sunday services in preparation for concert setup by the Wartburg Choir.

As a final note there are more plans for the remainder of the year not the least of which is the retirement of Pastor Phil. A celebration in honor of Pastor Phil is planned for August 25. Many members of the congregation have been working hard in planning and implementing this momentous occasion. While we look forward to that celebration it will obviously be a bittersweet time but we know that in God's plan there is a time for everything.

Working to serve Calvary,

Mickey Nowell and Jim Raabe

JUNE CALLER DEADLINE IS 10:00 A.M., MONDAY, MAY 20ND

Mickey Nowell (H: 817-489-5030)

DEADLINE FOR THE SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENT "GREEN SHEET": EVERY THURSDAY AT 9:00AM



NEED held their annual volunteer luncheon and meeting on April 11th. The NEED volunteers from Calvary that were able to attend and shown in this picture include: Dale Aclin, Laura Anderson, Toni Tharp, Virginia Williams, Truette Taylor and David Schlaf. We were missing Mickey Nowell, Jeff Huston, Tricia Huston, Kathy Humen and Ken Larson. A lunch was served, there was a short meeting along with entertainment. All had fun and we celebrated our volunteers who on average donate 100 to 150 hours PER MONTH to NEED.





May 4th Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 7:30-9am in the Fellowship Hall.

Sandwich Making... at home!

Interested in helping make sandwiches at home for Presbyterian Night Shelter? Contact Amy Thomas (817-992-2912) to help. Sandwiches delivered to the Presbyterian Night Shelter on the second Sunday of every month.





Anna Trimm will lead an all ages / all abilities yoga class each Tuesday from 9:30—10:15 am in the Family Life Center gym during May and the group will take a break for the Summer. Anna has a 21 year career as a movement therapist and focuses these classes on breathing and general flexibility. **Please bring your own yoga mat and accessories** and enter through the narthex. You can contact her to sign up at atrimm.rmt@gmail.com.

Classes meet each Wednesday at 10 am in the Family Life Center (or outside if the weather is nice). Wear loose comfortable clothes. Questions?

Contact instructor Dale Taylor at d.taylor54@outlook.com



CLC Senior Pie & Coffee Club!

Thursday, May 2nd at 1:30 pm at Joe's Coffee

Shop (5912 Denton Hwy, Watauga). Join for good conversation, drinks and pie. Contact Ken Laursen so we know to welcome you when you arrive: 817-899-6518.

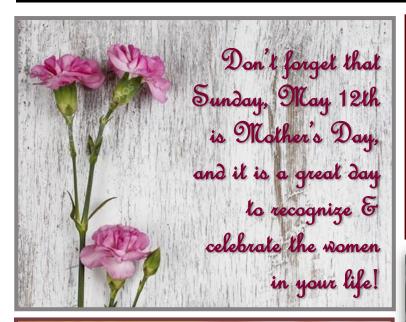


Memorial Day Remembrances

On Sunday, May 26th, we will remember & honor family members & friends who served their country in the military and have passed away.

If you would like to remember someone, please fill out the form online at bit.ly/MemorialDayRemembrances (case sensitive). Beginning mid-May, a paper sign-up will be available at the narthex ministry display signs. The last day to sign up is Wednesday, May 24th

Please note: Veterans who are still living will be honored on Veterans Day in November.



Teddy Bear Sunday Please remember to bring a *NEW* Teddy Bear on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 12th. These bears will be offered as a sign of love to children at *The Warm Place* and Child Protective Services.





Church Office Closed on Memorial Day Monday, May 27th





Mixed Vegetables, Salad

Please note: \$10 for adults, \$5 for children, \$5 for Seniors 65+

SEE YOU IN THE FALL!



Thank you to all who joined the choir in singing Hallelujah on Easter morning!





WELCA's

Mock Tea Party May 5th



The Women of the church appreciate your generous support for our various ministry projects.

Yarnwinders



This WELCA group meets the first and third Thursdays of each month at 9:30 in the church library. Besides an opportunity for fellowship and refreshments, the ladies enjoy knitting and crocheting a variety of items for those in need. All are welcome to join!

NO experience necessary. Materials and Instruction provided!



Thank You for investing in Calvary's Children each week!

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS:

Ms. Patti (3 year olds) Ms. Emma (4 year olds) Ms. Linda & Ms. Kathy (Kinder)

Ms. Jennifer (1st & 2nd) Ms. Jen (3rd & 4th)

Ms. Sharon & Ms. Jessica (6th)

Ms. Lynne & Ms. Danielle (5th)

a (6th) Ms. Mary, Mr. Jake & Mr. Juan (Admin Team) Ms. Michaelann (nursery)

CONFIRMATION MENTORS: Ms. Linda & Ms. Brigitte

HIGH SCHOOL: Michael, Ashley, Kathy & AJ

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS:

Ms. Debbie (openings)

Ashley, Amanda, Michaelann, Savannah, Tucker, Chase, Lilly, Nate, Katie, Lily, Mason, Travis, Laila, Jake and the Kitchen Crew!

Music and Barbeque in the Park

Saturday, June 8 6:00-9:00pm Smith-Barfield Park 640 W Pleasantview Drive Hurst, TX 76054

FOUNDATION

Feather of CourageFunding Scholarships for Exemplary Leadership
Remembering Kyle Wagley (1986-2017)Foundation awards 3 schol-
arships annually to Calvary
alumni in honor of Kyle!Funding Scholarships for Exemplary Leadership
Remembering Kyle Wagley (1986-2017)Foundation awards 3 schol-
arships annually to Calvary
alumni in honor of Kyle!Funding Scholarships for Exemplary Leadership
Remembering Kyle Wagley (1986-2017)Foundation awards 3 schol-
arships annually to Calvary
alumni in honor of Kyle!Funding Scholarships for Exemplary Leadership
Remembering Kyle Wagley (1986-2017)



PASTOR PHIL'S RETIREMENT SUNDAY, AUGUST 25, 2024

- Service of Praise at 4:00
- Potluck Celebration immediately following



SCRAPBOOK PAGE DAY • SATURDAY, JUNE 1



Do you have a few pictures of Phil and not sure what to do with them? JUNE 1 will with have scrapbookers available to help you create your own page! Each page will be included into a congregational scrapbook. It's the fun and easy way to do it! Plan on joining in on June 1!



DONATIONS:

Donations for Pastor Phil's retirement gift are still being accepted. Please make checks payable to Calvary Lutheran with "Pastor Phil's Retirement" in the memo line.



RSVPs FOR OUR CONGREGATIONAL MEMBERS OPEN IN EARLY JUNE: There is no cost to attend the Service of Praise or the Potluck Celebration. However, to adequately prepare for all our attendees, we request that you RSVP. We will send a link to congregational members in early June. Please reply as soon as you can. In July, if space allows, we could open invitations to additional guests.



Orchestra Rehearsal

Sun May 5th @ 10:45 am FELLOWSHIP HALL

Prepare for Pentecost & Pr. Phil's Retirement Eucharist



Intern Thomas's Farewell Potluck Luncheon & Celebration

Sunday, June 2 after the 11am service Family Life Center

As Thomas turns to the next page of his ministry career, let's send him off with food, fun and fellowship!

Food assignments:

Single individuals or families of two bring a side dish or dessert. Families of three or more bring a main dish and a side dish.

Want to contribute to the farewell gift?

Checks: Calvary Lutheran. Memo line: intern gift.

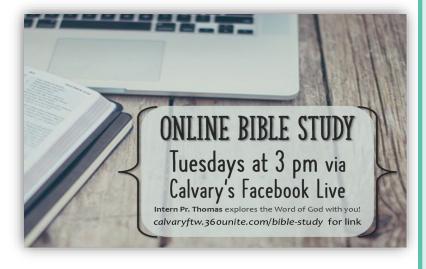


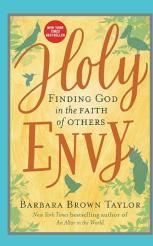




ADULT EDUCATION SCHEDULES

- ⇒ Monday & Tuesday Women's Bible Study continues reading the book "Questions God Asks." The Monday group will not meet May 27.
- ⇒ Pr. Kyle's Wednesday 12:30pm Bible Study continues in the Fellowship Hall.
- ⇒ Wednesday Evening Adult Education is on break until the fall after May 1.
- ⇒ Sunday 9:30am Adult will be taking a break for the Summer
- ⇒ Sunday 10:45 am Adult Education in the Library on May 5 will begin a book study of *Holy Envy* by Barbara Brown Taylor.
- ⇒ Intern Thomas' online studies will continue. Details here: godshearthumanhands.org/adulteducationonline.htm





Starting May 5, the 10:30 Adult Study Group will begin a book study of Holy Envy by Barbara Brown Taylor. They will study her teachings of World Religions and where God can be found in them. The book is available at any bookstore and Amazon. For more information or help finding the book, contact Sharon Dobbs or Sharon Bartells.



ONSITE ADULT EDUCATION

Monday & Tuesday Women's Bible Study On break for the summer! See you again in October. Watch announcements in early fall for the next book

Watch announcements in early fall for the next book we'll study. Contact Gail Kviz @ 817-232-3996 with questions.

Sunday Adult Education, 9:30 am Library. Exploring the Lectionary. Last meeting on May 7th, then on break until the fall.

Sunday Adult Education, 10:30 am On break during May. See you in June! See announcement to left for book we'll study.

Pastor Kyle's Wednesday Bible study

is meeting in person in the Fellowship Hall at church every Wednesday at 12:30pm. If you are interested but want to attend via zoom Pastor Kyle will arrange that with you. Please email kyle@calvaryftw.org for a zoom link or if you have other questions.

> Wednesday Adult Education, 7:00 pm On break until the Fall.

Men's Bible Study meets the 1st Saturday of the month in the Fellowship Hall

ONLINE ADULT EDUCATION

Via Calvary's Facebook page (godshearthumanhands.org for link)

Monday-Friday, 8 am Pr. Phil's Weekday Online Bible Study Scripture, Song, Prayer

Every Tuesday, 3 pm Intern Pr. Thomas' Online Bible Study



Hi Friends, there have been a lot of things happening during the week that I can't wait to tell you about! All of the usual Calvary things keep happening — Bible Studies, quilting, sticks and yarn, Café & the little crumb droppers, Tai Chi, and Men's breakfast — it is nice that we don't get lonely during the week since so many friends are here!

I tell you a lot about the inside of Calvary, but the outside has been really busy! Did you know that we have a go cart? It is in the garage and there is a group of men that have started playing on it every week! I thought they just went back and forth in straight lines because they are not crazy kids who like circles, but it turns out that our go cart cuts grass. Daddy said that cutting grass in circles takes a lot longer. I guess the Calvary guys know this too because they all do straight lines. The go cart is a lot of fun to ride on, but it is bouncy so they put in a little seat so I won't fall off! Momma and Daddy said that the church is saving a lot of money each year by people chipping in to help with projects like mowing and fixing things!

The Calvary outside also got some new lights in the back parking lot and the rainbow doors doorbell got new batteries! The lights are kind of bright, but momma said that is a good thing.

We had a Monday surprise this month! I bunch of big kids showed up and they were everywhere playing and talking and having dinner! Then the craziest thing happened, they put on fancy clothes and their laughs turned into songs! All of these kids went into the sanctuary and sang for our family and lots of Calvary families. It was so pretty, that we called some of our friends to scurry over to hear part of it. Momma said they have voices of angels. After it was over people started putting the angel singers in their cars — it was a little weird and I ran to get momma. She said they were called host families and that the big kids were going to having a slumber party at their house so they didn't have to sleep on the church floor. That was a lot of angel singers and a lot of Calvary people that made sure they didn't have to sleep on the hard floor.

Momma got to go on her second Ladies Retreat! She got to hear lots of ladies talking about God and sharing stories and laughing! Momma took my auntie with her this time and she said they talked about God's surprises. There was a even a Flat Jesus that brought sweet messages to her door every day! She said she has never heard so many women laughing and talking at the same time. She also said they eat as much as the kids – but their food was fancier! Some of the ladies were mommas like her – some with big kids who were grown ups now and some with little kids like me. She felt encouraged that some of my craziness will settle down and that it was normal for her to feel tired at the end of the day. One night they all wore their jammies. They must shop at the

same stores because lots of ladies wore the same jammies as their friends. Momma borrowed my camera and Haley took a picture with her camera too. Most of the ladies were there for the jammie picture. This was the silly "surprise" picture of my momma and her friends, but I like it the best!

Love, Walter





Baptisms

Baptized on Sunday, April 14, 2024 was Eric Collin.

Baptized on April 28, 2024, were **Reagan Claire Waller, Harper Rose Waller & Mason Foard Waller,** children of Benjamin & Lori Waller , and baptismal sponsors Matt & Sidney Kammerdiener



2023 Altar Flower Signup Is available online through this form: <u>bit.ly/calvaryaltarflowers</u> Or through the sign up across from the Fellowship Hall. This is a great way to celebrate milestones in your family's life!

Galvary Senior Adult Activities

Lunch Out on 2nd Friday



All are welcome to join us as we eat at First Watch on Hwy 26 at **1 pm** on the **2nd Friday** of the month. Call Rex & Shirley Norris (817-284-1801) or Mabel Atkinson (817-713-4951) the day before to RSVP. *See you on May10th!*

Wednesday Afternoon Games

All ages are welcome to join the Senior Adults on Wednesday afternoons at **2 pm** in Calvary's narthex (gathering space outside of the sanctuary). We enjoy all kinds of games, including dominos, board games



including dominos, board games, and card



Did you know that Calvary has a **prayer request email** and that we have a dedicated team of people who pray for those requests?

If you would like to send in a prayer request, the link can be found on our homepage <u>www.godshearthumanhands.org</u> or you can send an email to <u>prayerrequest@calvaryftw.org</u>

If you would like to receive the emails and pray for the requests at home, please email <u>prayerrequest@calvaryftw.org</u> and you will be added to this list.

Thanks in advance for your support.



Room in the Inn Wants Your Travel-Size Toiletries!

As we prepare for the summer season hosting homeless guests, we're gathering unopened travel-sized shampoo, conditioner, body wash, toothpaste, and lotion.

If you're traveling in the next several months, we'd love to have those hotel provided toiletries that you didn't need! Items can be dropped off in the basket labeled "Room in the Inn Toiletries" in the Narthex.



GIVING OPTIONS:

Info On Different Options:

https://godshearthumanhands.org/faithfulgiving.htm

Vanco Mobile Giving App: Download from your smart phone's app store.

Text: 817-760-2980 with amount contributed (Example: 25).

QR Code: Use smart phone camera, point at QR code (upper right), click link.



Available Monday—Thursday mornings for a 15 minute appointment.

Pastors leads you in prayer and speak the words of institution.

Pr. Kyle:kyle@calvaryftw.org, 817-999-7856 Pr. Phil: phillipheinze@gmail.com, 682-597-0273



Pastors, Staff, & Council Contact Info is always available on page 2 of the *Caller* newsletter.

Available Digitally Anytime

A direct link is shared at the end of each weekly emailed "Friday Flier," or by logging into <u>calvaryftw.360unite.com/directory</u> *Digital directory will be updated monthly**



Free Printed Directories Available Upon Request

Through this online form: bit.ly/calvarydirectoryrequest

*Need to Update Your Info or Picture?

You can send your update to Lauren at any time (<u>lauren@calvaryftw.org</u>), and your update will be reflected in the next monthly digital update.

Financial Report: December March 2024 Results

	Month			Year-to-Date**			
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	Variance*	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	Variance	
Income	\$ 100,316	\$ 85,517 \$	5 14,798	\$ 734,483	\$ 760,256	\$ 25,77	
Expense	<u>\$ 72,266</u>	<u>\$ 66,099</u>	6,167	<u>\$ 781,558</u>	<u>\$ 779,653</u>	<u>\$ 1,90</u>	
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>\$ 28,050</u>	<u>\$ 19,418 </u>	<u>\$ </u>	<u>\$ (47,075)</u>	<u>) \$ (19,397)</u>	<u>\$ 27,67</u>	



'3)5

Mortgage Balance as of 03/31/24-\$1,162,634

 \Rightarrow Favorable variances are reported as positive results while unfavorable variances are shown as negative results.

⇒ Note: The full financial report is posted on the hall bulletin board outside the Fellowship Hall



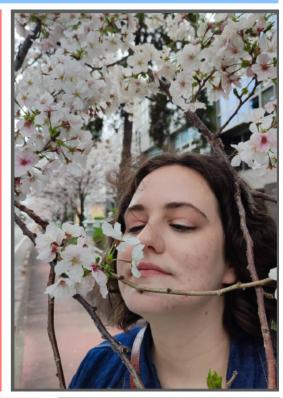


News from Nihon*

*Nihon or Nippon is the Japanese way of saying Japan.

Happy Easter! He is risen! I hope you all had a wonderful time observing Holy Week and celebrating the resurrection. I am currently in the middle of spring vacation between school years. Cherry blossoms are in full bloom and I continue to be amazed by their beauty.

Change is not my favorite, but it has come with the changing seasons and years. Some of my coworkers moved on to new schools or new job opportunities at the end of the school year. The pastor at Oe Church has taken a new call in Tokyo and Easter Sunday was his final Sunday. While I am curious about the new faces and relationships to come, parting has been bittersweet. I haven't done any major traveling this past month. Instead, I have been taking this time off to rest and recharge and reset. At the end of April and beginning of May, Japan has a series of national holidays that come together and create "Golden Week." I will be traveling during that time and so my newsletter will either be late or resume in June.





On a random rainy Sunday afternoon in March, I came upon a dance festival. There were many different dance troupes with a mix of ages and genders in bright, colorful costumes. They radiated joy, in spite of the weather for their outdoor performances. I thought they were beautiful and fascinating to watch, especially all the people who were supporting them buy waving flags or lugging around various props.





Laura's May 2024 newsletter. Page 1 of 2. Calvary member Laura Slezak is the ELCA's Missionary to Japan, in partnership with the Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church. My family's visit highlighted my amazing community for me. What I remember most looking back on our many adventures is how well we were supported.

So many wonderful friends stepped in to help me plan sightseeing, meals, introductions, and transportation. I was so overjoyed my family had the chance to meet so many of the wonderful people who have enriched my life greatly. I don't have a good photo of this event, but Oe Church even threw my family a welcome party after the Sunday service. I am also grateful for my brother's long arms and his ability to take group selfies. The pictures below represent people from all across my life in Japan. Glad to have them :) My ongoing prayer is that everyone might have such a community, that no one would feel alone or isolated.











Laura's May 2024 newsletter. Page 2 of 2 Calvary member Laura Slezak is the ELCA's Missionary to Japan, in partnership with the Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Oe Lutheran Church 2023

I have consistent chances to preach, which I have valued. They've kept me feeling grounded in a spiritual practice I enjoy and challenged me to stay rooted in my different contexts. I've especially found preaching every other week at the school to be an area of growth as I continue to figure out the best way to deliver a chapel message to students not familiar with Christianity outside of the school context in 400 words or less. I value the spiritual practice of getting to the heart of



what I believe and hold to be true without all of the cultural background and ideas of American Christianity, which, of course, has its upsides and downsides. As a foreigner, I feel a constant invitation into listening. It feels like a carryover from my time as a student chaplain.

There is so much rich culture and tradition in Japan and having the chance to be a continual learner in all areas of my life has meant a lot. There are times when I long for the familiar, but I am content in my life in Kumamoto in ways I never saw coming. I have the access I need to green spaces and Kumamoto is very green all summer. I don't love the humidity, but I love the results. I have the community I need and care deeply about. And I have the chance to have adventures and new experiences regularly.

Three years ago, moving to Japan wasn't on my radar at all. Two years ago, the idea of moving to Japan was there, but in an unknown haze that felt like it could be out of reach thanks to circumstances beyond my control. One year ago, the reality of moving to Japan hit me like a brick wall and I couldn't figure out which way was up or down. Clearly I don't know what the future will bring given the events and the timeline that brought me here, but I am much more confident to face the next year from my position in Kumamoto. I am hoping for deepened relationships and a greater ability to communicate in Japanese when it comes time for me to reflect on the year ahead.

I am a believer in discernment and being open to where you might find God drawing your path. I don't know what my life would look like if I had ignored my gut feelings and ignored the new paths that continued to open up for me. As my therapist once told me, we are all on a journey in life with no final destination, meaning you don't get to some moment in your self-awareness or growth or development in your 30s or 50s or 70s and then remain stagnant. We live and change and grow until we reach the end of this life. I know this is a newsletter and a self-reflection on my first year in Japan, but I can't ignore the opportunity to remind you to remain open to the new ideas and opportunities that appear in your lives. Where might God be directing your attention? And how can you be open to the wide and diverse world around you?



May 2024 Birthdays!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Shanda Reichenbach	2 Sarah Jensen	3	4 Dana Hoffman Mary Keller Brooklyn Sizemore- Taylor
5 Riley Wood Waverly Hartman	6 Betsy Williams	7	8	9 Jessica Chambers	10 Charolette Ton Emma Ton	11
12 Brent Anderson Annelise Gruebmeyer Gunnar Stone	13 Chris Costanzo Baylee Lanham Tyler Strouse	14 Bruce Bakke	15 Clark Graaf Beckie Machmuller	16 Christine Miller Trenton Taylor	17 Wyatt Downing Kirsten Newbrough Emily Tener	18 Sophia Frohberg
19 Liam Allen Bonnie Dykhouse	20 Tom Fleischer Alaina Stubblefield Creedence Wood	21 Duane Buuck Keith Ditto Eric Swenson Dennis Truckenbrod	22	23 Eddie Wilkerson Sharon Wilkinson Bryleigh Dorchak	24 Jack Bowden Zachary Herd Jean Shoup	25 Jon Prusansky
26 Donette Olson Nathan Tener	27 Sharon Key Naomi Tijerina Phil Beckman	28	29 Ashley Loest Margi Mountcastle Evalynn Williams	30 Len Elliott Richard Saxen Rick Seim	31 Carol Hutchinson	

May, 2024

Calendar also found online: calvaryftw.360unite.com/calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
SUNDAY MORN 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 9:30, 11:00 Onlin 9:30 Children's 9:30 Adult Sunda 10:45 Adult Ed) Sanctuary Worshi ne Worship Sunday School	ρ	WEDNESDAY EVE 5:00—6:30 Calvar 5:45-6:55 Kids Clu 6:30 Handbell Ch 6:33 Sanctuary Cl 7:00 Confirmation High School	y Café ub & Club456 oir Practice hoir Practice		
5 WELCA Tea Party	6 10:00 Staff mtg 1:00 Women's	7 9:30 Yoga 10:00 Women's	1 10:00 Tai Chi 2:00 Senior Games Last Café & Kids Activities 8 10:00 Tai Chi 12:30 Pr. Kyle	2 9:30 Yarnwinders 1:30 Pie & Coffee Coffee Club 9	3 10 1:00 2nd Friday Lunch	4 7:30 Men's Bkft & Bible Study 5:00 HS Fund- raiser 11
SS End of the Year Day Camp Lunch 12	Bible Study	Bible Study	Bible Study 2:00 Senior Games	16	10:00 - 2:00 Quilters 17	18
Sr Sunday/ Mothers Day 12:00 Church Council	10:00 Staff mtg 1:00 Women's Bible Study		10:00 Tai Chi 12:30 Pr. Kyle's Bible Study 2:00 Senior	9:30 Yarnwinders	12:00 Quilting	Confirmation Banquet
19 Pentacost/ Confirmation	20 10:00 Staff mtg 1:00 Women's Bible Study	21 9:30 Yoga 10:00 Women's Bible Study	22 10:00 Tai Chi 12:30 Pr. Kyle Bible Study 2:00 Sr Games	23	24	25 12:00 Scap- booking
26	27 Memorial Day	28 9:30 Yoga 10:00 Women's Bible Study	29 10:00 Tai Chi 2:00 Senior Games	30	31	



To have a loved one's name **added**, email the prayer chain: prayerrequest@calvaryftw.org Names added to Long-Term & Military lists **remain** until the family asks to remove them

Lists also updated every Friday online: https://calvaryftw.360unite.com/long-term-prayer-list

LONG-TERM ILLNESS

Jack Alexander; Nikki Perez (friend of Hannah Melton); Cameron (friend of Susan Scott); Dick Christie and family (requested by Alice Lee); Virginia Lester (sister of Betty Parker); Dianna Beaman-Finzen (friend of the Saxen's); Carl Raines (request from Gary Gollhofer); Pat Specht; Karen Pence (friend of Margi Mountcastle); Taylor Scott and Family (requested by Stubblefield and Ringler families), Judi Loy (Peggy Cox's request), Kristin Frazer (Peggy Cox's niece Tim Garrett & Family (Margi Mountcastle's request); David Mountcastle (Margi Mountcastle's husband); Lawrence Trimm (Anna Trimm's father); Kevin Williams & Family (Keith Williams' brother); John Cannaday (Naomi Tijerina's request); Carolyn Holman (Virginia Williams' friend); Susan DeFanti; Mitzi Cimino (Calvary's Business Administrator); Leah Stanfield (Kyrie Pub Church member); Tom & Joey Prohaska (Ringler & Stubblefield families' request); Cory Thompson (Ringler & Stubblefield families' request); Abbi DeFanti; Marvin and Francis Bradley (Mabel Atkinson's brother-in-law and sister); Harold Lorz (Peggy Cox's brother-in-law); Roger Guinn (Doug Guinn's brother); Kristy Dudley (Lori Saxen's sister's daughter); Emily May (Kyle May's sister-in-law); Layla (Lloyd & Carolyn Johnson's granddaughter); Mike Neeley (Monica Neeley's brother); Jim Allen; Bob Machos; LaVonne Luedke; Fran Kliebert; Pat Viveros (Meg Acker's friend); Bruce & Candé Parker (Betty Parker's son); Bobbie Thompson (Louise Wagner & Monica Neeley's request); David & Suzanne Bayer (Margaret Bayer's son & daughter-in-law); Amelia **DeFanti;** Clare Graham-Smith (Meg Acker's niece); Cora (Lloyd & Carolyn Johnson's grandniece); Lenka Wanzer; Alex Tedmon-Bury; Teressa Cox (Meg Acker's friend); Michelle Lanham; Todd (Lloyd & Carolyn Johnson's nephew); Andrew May (Rex & Shirley Norris's request); Connie (Melissa Herring's request); Paul Wilson (Don Acker's coworker); Clay (Susan DeFanti's brother-in-law); Dellis May (Kyle May's father); Lauren Neeley (Monica Neeley's niece); Tara Conroy-Briggs (Phil & Cathy Conroy's daughter); Anne Kells (Mignon Kells's daughter-in-law); Ethel Weydert (Theresa Jorgenson's step-mother)

FAMILY MEMBERS SERVING IN MILITARY

Major Ryan Hall, Army (Beverly Murray's grandson-in-law); Zachary Schade, Marines (Mabel Atkinson's grandson); Mason Gore, Air Force (Joyce Ness's grandson); Cameron Crawford, Navy, *deployed* (Ken & Marlene Laursen's grandson); Jason Holm, Air Force, (Keith & Barbara Holm's son); Brent Rios, Air Force, (Eric & Cheril Rios's son) Kelsey Peta, Army, (Joe & Deb Peta's daughter); Allison Yanney, Air Force (Lloyd & Carolyn Johnson's daughter); Kyle Sullivan, Navy, *deployed* (Terry & Bobi Sullivan's son); Tanner Pegg, Air Force, *deployed* (Chuck & Geri Pegg's grandson); Alexus Fears, Air Force (Mary & David Lakota's friend); Katarina Rogers, Air Force (Don Roger's daughter) Bryant Hudson, Marines, (Neil & Debby Krey's grandson); Andrew Musfeldt (Greg & Diana Musfeldt's son); Deanna Musfeldt (Greg & Diana Musfeldt's daughter-in-law); Jonathan Lee, Air Force (Alice Lee's grandson); Robert Chapman Marine (Pat Specht's great nephew); Jeffrey Place, Army (David & Mary Lakota's nephew)