

Epiphany



CALVARY
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2023

WELCOME TO CALVARY

YOU ARE GOD'S
BELOVED,
AND YOU ARE
WELCOME HERE.



Our Welcome Statement

Calvary United Methodist Church believes that all means all. We open our hearts, our minds and our doors to all our neighbors. We gladly invite into our shared life all persons who seek a community of support where they can grow in God's grace. Regardless of your race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, ability, relationship status, or background – ***you are God's beloved, and you are welcome here.***

Welcome to Calvary!

If you are a first time guest, thank you for visiting Calvary! We would invite you to check out our Welcome Tables for more information about who we are. We would also ask you to fill out a "GET CONNECTED" card in the back of the pews so we can get to know you. If you are in need of a large print bible or hymnal, please see any greeter for help.

Families with Babies or Young Children

Families with babies or young children? We have a family area in the sanctuary with rocking chairs and toys so your family can participate in the service.

How Do I Get Involved?

There are many ways you can become involved at Calvary United Methodist Church. If you have been promising yourself to join a small group experience for not just a continuing learning opportunity but also to meet new friends, please fill out a "Get Involved" card in the back of the pews. You can also email CalvaryPgh@gmail.com or visit our website at CalvaryPgh.com for information about the many ministries available. If you are ready to serve or just want to connect and grow, there are plenty of opportunities for you to use your gifts and talents.

PRAYER CONCERNS



*Do not be anxious about anything,
but in everything, by prayer
and petition, with thanksgiving,
present your requests to God.*

Philippians 4:6

Immediate Needs

Josie & Robert Frank
Tom (friend of Anne Christianson)
Chris Griffin
Jenalee Morris
Father of Liz Martinez
Tricia Magee (friend of Larry & Pam Hopkins)

Roy Ziegler (friend of Venus)
Lori McDonough (relative of Venus)
Friend of Mark Snyder
Joshua (Brian Burns' cousin's son)
Sheila Shimko (mother of Sheila Hill)
Chuck (Eliyana Bogdewic's great uncle)

Ongoing Prayer Concerns

Martha Helmreich
Christine Thomas
Paul Brucker
Joan Jessep

Joan Sturtz
Randy & Danny
Dan Souza
Tom Smith

How Can We Pray For You?

If you have a prayer request or a joy that you would like to be lifted up, you can either fill out the "PRAYER REQUEST" card in the back of the pews and place it in the offering plate or contact the church office directly at 412-231-2007.

You can also complete the new "Prayer Request Form" on the Calvary website at calvarypgh.com/contact/prayer-request.php. The information on this form goes directly to the clergy of Calvary UMC. We treat these concerns in a private and confidential manner (unless otherwise directed), respecting the privacy of individuals as the requestor directs us.

PLEASE NOTE—Prayer concerns will be published for 4 weeks unless otherwise instructed.



One Another

A New Sermon Series Begins Next Week

A six week sermon series begins next week titled "One Another". Please join us!

Week One

**1/15 - Support One Another
(Human Relations Day)**
Hebrews 12:14-17
Matthew 6:9-13

Week Two

1/22 - Care For One Another
Colossians 3:12-17
Matthew 24:36-44

Week Three

1/29 - Hold One Another Accountable
Romans 13:1-14
Matthew 18:15-20

Week Four

2/5 - Serve One Another
Hebrews 6:9-12
John 12:20-26

Week Five

2/12 - Build Up One Another
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
John 3:1-17

Week Six

**2/19 - Love One Another
(As Christ Loves You)**
1 Peter 4:7-11
John 13:31-35

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bringing Communion to You

If you or someone you know could not be here today, we would like to celebrate Communion in your home or in some other place you choose. Pastor Shane and Pastor Beth are available next week for Communion visits. Please call the church office at 412-231-2007 so we can bring Communion to you.

Northside Common Ministries Needs — A Message from the Missions Committee

TOOTHPASTE is needed NOW by the Northside Common Ministries Food Pantry. We will be collecting through January 15th. Since the need is immediate we are hoping to collect at least 50 tubes....the rush is on. The church is open during the week so they can be dropped off in the chapel area in the marked box or at worship. The Pantry weekly serves 70-120 of our neighbors residing in the Northside meeting their basic needs with the generosity of loving hearts, like those at Calvary!

Human Relations Sunday — A Message from the Missions Committee

HUMAN RELATIONS SUNDAY is next Sunday, January 15th. We will join with other UMC congregations to celebrate and raise awareness to further the development of better human relations by involving congregations in community and youth outreach. Ministries that help those who struggle because they don't have the tools or resources to reach their God-given potential. This Sunday is held before the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday (January 16th). Gifts received from these offerings build King's vision of "the beloved community" through programs such as Community Developers and United Voluntary Services and Youth Offender Rehabilitation Programs. PLEASE set aside an offering gift to bring next Sunday. Special envelopes will be provided for your gift. Whatever amount you can give will be a gift of love and hope for someone.

Read the Bible in Two Years — A Message from Pastor Shane

You are invited to join in a simple Bible reading plan that will help us read the whole Bible in two years! You can do it by reading approximately 15 minutes a day. In order to simplify and organize this process, I will be providing a bookmark for your reading time. This guide is designed to keep your place as you read through the Bible. By keeping this guide with your Bible and checking off each day's reading as you complete it, you will be able to follow a schedule that will enable you to read all the way through the Bible in two years. These bookmarks will be distributed every month over the next two years. The bookmark for January can be found on the Welcome Tables.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude

Call to Worship †*

Leader: Calling all seekers, all dreamers, all believers... Calling all glass-half-full optimists and lighthouse keepers... Calling all star-chasers and bedtime prayer speakers... Bring your questions, your hope, your faith and your fear into this space.

All: **God is here.**

Opening Hymn †* “Go, Tell It on the Mountain” — #251 UMH

Affirmation of Faith †* #895 UMH

As we come to you in worship, we believe that faith is active, found on long walks, and in long talks, in future days, and down memory lane. We believe that those who seek will find, although it may not be what they expected. We believe that God finds us first. We believe that God drops breadcrumbs along our way in the shape of people, invitations, and even starlight. We believe that being a seeker—of God, of justice, of community—is a holy thing. So we strive to live and worship with an open spirit, with soft hearts, and with room to grow. May it be so. We worship you in faith. Amen.

Community Greetings †

Words of Community Life

Children’s Message

Prayer for Calvary’s Past Leadership

Installation of Calvary’s New Leadership

Prayer Hymn * “Here I Am, Lord” — #593 UMH

Scripture * Isaiah 60:1-6 NRSV

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

ORDER OF WORSHIP, CONT...

Choral Response †* "Glory Be to the Father" — #70 UMH
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen. Amen.

Gospel †* Matthew 2:1-12 NRSV
In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: `And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Sermon "Blessed" — Pastor Shane Siciliano

Invitation to Holy Communion

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession *

God of starlight, we know that faith isn't a vending machine. Good news can't be bought or manufactured. It does not arrive with a push of a button. Instead, in this noisy world, we have to look for you in our midst. We have to walk toward you, just as the Magi did. We have to believe that love really can change the world. We have to seek the stars beyond the city lights. Forgive us for forgetting that. Forgive us for seeking you with only part of our hearts. We long to be more like the Magi; may we walk your way every single day. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Offering Our Gifts and Tithes

ORDER OF WORSHIP, CONT...

Doxology †* "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" — #94 UMH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Offering Prayer †

The Great Thanksgiving – Our Prayer for Communion †*

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. Before the mountains were brought forth, or you had formed the earth, from everlasting to everlasting, you alone are God. You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

All: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

(Please be seated)

Leader: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ, in whom you have revealed yourself, our light and our salvation. You sent a star to guide wise men to where the Christ was born; and in your signs and witnesses, in every age and through all the world, you have led your people from far places to his light.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

ORDER OF WORSHIP, CONT...

All: **Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

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And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith. Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

All: **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer * #895 UMH

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Prayer for Those in Communion from Afar *

We who are many are one body, one loaf, rising in Spirit together. Even if we cannot be physically in the same space, we are one in love. We are one in the grace of Christ broken open for us.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion Holy Communion is open to everyone!

Bringing Communion to You — If you or someone you know could not be here today, we would like to celebrate Communion in your home or in some other place you choose. Pastor Shane and Pastor Beth are available next week for Communion visits. Please call the church office at 412-231-2007 so we can bring Communion to you.

Prayer after Communion

Closing Hymn †* "We Three Kings" — #254 UMH

Benediction †

Postlude †

† Please stand as you are able / * Words on screen / Bold text is unison

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAYS

Bible Study

Time / Location: 10:00-10:45am / Calvary Chapel

Description: *"Affirming the Scriptures of an Affirming God"* — How can we respond when people use verses of the Bible as a weapon? We can relearn the weaponized Scriptures in defense of love. We'll be looking at the Scriptures through the lens of welcoming, affirming, and accepting all people. Feel free to bring your Bible, but we also have more Bibles available.

Sunday School

Time / Location: 10:00-10:45am / Presbytery (Across the street from Calvary)

Description: Calvary offers two Sunday School Classes: (1) Ages 3-10, (2) Ages 11-15. Please meet up in the chapel and everyone will walk across the street together.

Choir Rehearsal

Time / Location: 10:00-10:45am / Calvary Choir Loft

Fellowship Following Morning Worship

Time / Location: Following morning worship / Calvary Chapel

Description: Come to the chapel following morning worship for fellowship. A light array of foods and beverages will be served.

MONDAYS

Sleeping Bag Group

Time / Location: 6:30pm / Calvary Fellowship Hall

Description: The sleeping bags are made from recycled materials, packed with personal items such as toothpaste, shampoo, hats and gloves then distributed to nearby homeless shelters. The team is also working on plastic mats made from plastic grocery bags. There is plenty to do. No sewing experience needed. Please consider joining us on Monday evenings. Questions? Please contact Terri Howell at trr_howell@yahoo.com or call 412-4822211 with any questions.

TUESDAYS

Exercise Class For All Ages

Time / Location: 9:00am / Calvary Chapel

Description: There is an exercise class that meets every Tuesday and Thursday at 9:00am in the Calvary Chapel.

Choir Rehearsal

Time / Location: 6:00-7:30pm / Calvary Choir Loft

Description: Love Singing? Thinking About Joining The Choir?... Now is the perfect time to give it a try! No audition required! All are welcome!

CALVARY'S FAMILY CORNER

UPCOMING FREE EVENTS 2023

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

6:30 PM – 9:30 PM

Movie is to be determined, but we will encourage families and church members to wear pjs and bring pillows/blankets for a true movie night feel!

**FRI
JAN
13**

**SAT
FEB
11**

PARENTS NIGHT OUT

6:30 PM – 9:30 PM

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

12 PM – 2 PM

**SUN
MAR
12**

MORE INFO - MEGAN 412-715-4946 / BRITTANY 412-715-4947

YOU ARE GOD'S BELOVED,
AND YOU ARE WELCOME HERE.



CALVARY

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SHANE SICILIANO, PASTOR
BRIAN BURNS, MUSIC DIRECTOR

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