

Calvin Connection



January 2017

Note:

Page 2 - Church group outing to Martin Luther art exhibit at the MIA

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Epiphany

Epiphany is:

The 12th day of the “season of Christmas” falling on January 6th

An *epiphany* can mean a sudden awareness; it comes from a Greek word meaning ‘to show’



Star mosaic in church dedicated to Lydia (from Acts 16), outside Philippi, Greece

Rejoice!

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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.’ ” ~Matthew 2:1-6

This year we celebrate Epiphany at Calvin Church on Sunday, January 8th

Eternal God, by a star you led magi to the worship of your Son.
Guide the nations of the earth by your light,
that the whole world may see your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



Stained glass from chapel
at St. John's University

Pastor Carol's Corner

Music is an important part of our Christmas celebrations. It is at the center of our worship along with the Scripture readings that bring a message of hope and peace that comes in the birth of our Savior.

We usually call the songs we sing during the Christmas season *carols*; they were originally circle dances. During the Middle Ages, carols were used by the church as a teaching tool. The words were important, teaching people about the Christian faith. Some of the carols we sing are very old; some more recent.

On Christmas Eve we sang "O Little Town of Bethlehem" and on Christmas morning during the time slotted for singing of our favorite carols, we sang the same carol, this time to an English folk melody (there are two versions in our Presbyterian Hymnal).

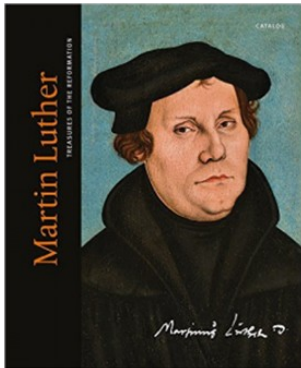
An Episcopal priest from Philadelphia named Phillip Brooks wrote the words to "O Little Town of Bethlehem" in 1868 for the Sunday School program at his church. Several years earlier he had been in the Holy Land at Christmastime. On Christmas Eve he had traveled on horseback from Jerusalem to Bethlehem, passing fields where shepherds would have kept sheep. He worshipped that night at the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem. Still recalling his arrival in the little town where Christ was born, Phillip Brooks penned a poem. He asked Lewis Redner, the church organist, to write a simple tune for the words.

On Christmas day following our worship service I went to Chapel View, the care facility where my mother is a resident. My brother, sister-in-law, nephew, niece and her husband had already been to church and were there when I arrived. We gathered in the dining room where the residents were finishing lunch. I am not sure who started it but someone in our group started singing a Christmas carol. My mother joined in the singing of the carol and then we sang another and another, my mother never missing a beat or a word in the singing. At some point I realized many of the residents were also singing with our group. As my nephew Brandon commented later in the day, it was one of those unexpected magical moments that just happen. For me it was also a reminder that Christ is present with us wherever we are, bringing peace to our lives.

*O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in the dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.*

Blessings to you through the season of Epiphany and into the New Year,

Carol



500 years ago a German priest took a stand that shook Europe and changed the world. Martin Luther's stand to reform the Catholic Church began a reformation not only of the church but also began a time of huge cultural and societal change. **The Minneapolis Institute of Arts** is hosting an exhibit of artwork and historical objects from this era of change, many traveling outside Germany for the first time. We are fortunate it is happening in our own city.

Join a group from Calvin Church to visit the exhibit on **Monday, January 9th** (due to demand for this exhibit the MIA is opening on Mondays.) Group rate is **\$16/adult**. We will carpool from the church lot at 9:30 and have time to visit other parts of the museum or have a bite of lunch before returning. We need to make reservations quickly to ensure we get a spot; there is a **sign-up sheet** in the Gathering Hall. **Invite a friend; we need 10 people for the group rate.**

Greeter/Liturgist Schedule

January 1 - Communion/Rev. Heidi Vardeman preaching

Greeter - Belinda Breit
Liturgist - Belinda Breit

January 8 - Epiphany

Greeter - Ron Bowman
Liturgist - Candy Bowman

January 15

Greeters - Joel & Sarah Settles
Liturgist - Joel Settles

January 22

Greeters - The Berbig Family
Liturgist - Krista Berbig

January 29

Greeters - Walter & Susan Baker
Liturgist - Susan Baker



Winter Schedule

9:00am Adult Education, Fellowship Hall

9:30am Chancel choir practice, Choir Rehearsal Room

10:00am Worship

10:00am Sunday school (for the 1st Sunday of the month), all other Sundays the children will be in worship until the children's message

11:00am Coffee Fellowship in Fellowship Hall

Weekly Activities

Sunday

9:00am Adult Education
9:30am Chancel choir rehearsal
10:00am Worship/Sunday school
11:00am Fellowship time

Tuesday

3:00pm SPARKS program

Wednesday

6:00pm Handbell practice
7:00pm Chancel choir practice

Thursday

3:00pm SPARKS program

Monthly Activities

Men's Breakfast	1st Monday	8:00am
Feed My Starving Children	1st Tuesday	2:30pm
Session Meeting	1st Tuesday	6:30pm
Lunch Bunch	1st Wednesday	12:00pm
PW Meeting	3rd Monday	9:00am
Ruth Circle	2nd Thursday	2:00pm
Mary & Martha Circle	4th Wednesday	9:30am

Annual Report



Reminder: All annual reports are due to Angela in the church office by Wednesday, January 4th.



The Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 5th immediately following worship. 2016 Annual Reports will be available mid-January.



THANK YOU

Thank you to Dave and Skelly Shaughnessy for making the manger for our nativity scene this Christmas season.

The Little Star: A Christmas Fantasy

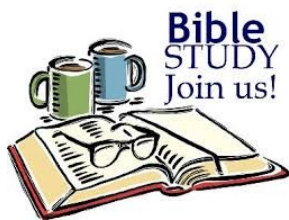
Pictures from Calvin Children's Christmas Play - Sunday, December 18th during worship.



Thank you to **Tammy Wenz** for all her time and talent in creating such a wonderful children's Christmas play this year! Thank you also to Amy Wenz for being a great assistant, and Mark Bilyeu and Teri Wood for providing music and star costumes.



Come in from the cold and snow to enjoy an afternoon with your Calvin family! We will play some fun board games in the Fellowship Hall and share a chili potluck supper on Sunday, January 15th at 3pm. The chili will be provided, so bring a salad or dessert. Please sign-up in the Gathering Hall. Everyone is welcome!



**Bible
STUDY**
Join us!

ADULT EDUCATION

Fellowship Hall - 9:00am
Everyone is welcome!

A Bible Study Series on the theme
CREATION AND SALVATION
Unit Two: All Creation Praises God

Rev. Chamberlain is needing to take a break from teaching due to back issues.
We will hold him in prayer. In the meantime, Rev. Reed will lead the adult education class.

Sunday, January 1 - **No Adult Ed. class**

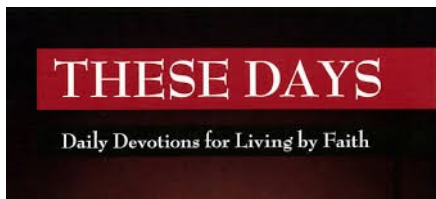
Sunday, January 8 - Lesson 1, Praising God the Creator -- Psalm 33:1-9

Sunday, January 15 - Lesson 2, All Creation Joins in Praise -- Psalm 96:1-6, 10-13

Sunday, January 22 - Lesson 3, Praise God the Provider -- Psalm 65:1-2, 9-13

Sunday, January 29 - Lesson 4, Praise for the Creator's Wisdom -- Psalm 104:1-4, 24-30





The church orders daily devotional books for every month of the year and makes them available to church members. Start the New Year off with God; pick up a These Days devotional in the Gathering Hall!



Alternative Christmas Giving

Thank you to everyone who participated in the alternative Christmas giving and provided extra mission giving donations to the agencies our church supports.

Heifer International - \$105
Presbyterian Mission Agency - \$200

Prayer for the new year by Nancy C. Townley:

God of hope and light, your good news has been emblazoned across the skies, the great starry night of Jesus' birth, sung by angels, celebrated by shepherds, witnessed by animals. You have given to us a new chance, a reminder of your continual love for us. Be with us in this worship we pray. Guide our thoughts, our lives, our spirits. Heal and restore us. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

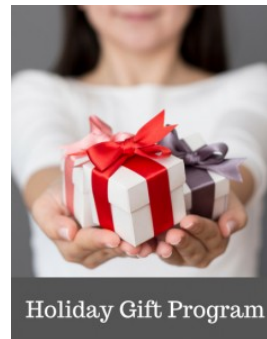


Birthdays

- January 4 Val Hagan
- January 7 Todd Wood
- January 13 Carol Reed
- January 14 Pam Vande Vegte
- January 15 Debbie Baker
- January 19 Marj Eisinger
- January 24 Joel Wenz
- January 26 Lily Carver
- January 27 Pat King
- January 28 Bella Coccoluto



Celebrate!



Holiday Gift Program

Adopt-A-Family

A huge thank you to everyone who was a Santa's helper in our Adopt-a-Family Christmas project. It is always so heartwarming to see our Calvin generosity in action. Thank you for the gifts and the gift cards and the time you spent choosing your gifts. May you all be blessed. ~Belinda Breit

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Ruth Circle No January meeting
PW Meeting January 9th @ 9am
Mary & Martha Circle Meeting Jan. 25th @ 9:30am





Lunch Bunch will be Wednesday, January 4th at 12pm. Bring a dish to share, **but no need to bring your own place settings**. Going forward we will be using kitchen supplies from church to simplify clean-up afterwards. Join us - everyone is welcome!



A big thank you to John Manro for all his care and attention to the advent candles this season. Also for faithfully changing the paraments and banner in the sanctuary. The list could go on and on, as he does so much around the church. Suffice it to say that everything he does is very much appreciated!



The 2017 flower chart is available. Sign up for flowers on your loved one's birthday or to celebrate a special anniversary. The cost of the standard arrangement is \$35. Flower questions? See Gay Kearin.



Coffee Fellowship - Please take a moment to look at the sign-up sheet in the Gathering Hall. There are many open Sundays in January and February for hosting coffee hour. If you would like to simply bring treats or snacks, juice and coffee will be made. Just note "food only" next to your name on the sign-up sheet.



Session meeting minutes are available upon request. Please see Angela in the church office to receive a copy.



Thank you to the chancel and handbell choirs for all the beautiful music during Advent and Christmas.

We will be welcoming another Choral Scholar in January, Sabreana Cherrington, who will be joining the soprano section.

Do you love to sing? The Calvin Chancel Choir is always welcoming new singers! No experience is necessary—only a love for music! There's also no need for a long-term commitment. Join us for one rehearsal and see if you like it. Rehearsals are on Wednesday nights from 7:00-8:30pm in the music room.



JANUARY 2017



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>1 Communion</p> <p>10am Worship/No Sunday school</p> 	<p>2</p> <p>Office Closed (observed holiday)</p>	<p>3</p> <p>2:30-4:30pm FMSC</p>	<p>4</p> <p>12pm Lunch Bunch</p> <p>7pm Choir practice</p>	<p>5</p> <p>3-5pm SPARKS</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8 Epiphany</p> <p>9am Adult Education</p> <p>9:30am Choir rehearsal</p> <p>10am Worship/Sunday school</p>	<p>9</p> <p>8am Men's breakfast</p> <p>9am PW meeting</p> <p>6:30pm Session meeting</p>	<p>10</p> <p>3-5pm SPARKS</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7pm Choir practice</p>	<p>12</p> <p>3-5pm SPARKS</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9am Adult Education</p> <p>9:30am Choir rehearsal</p> <p>10am Worship/Sunday school</p> <p>3pm Family game night & chili potluck</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>3-5pm SPARKS</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7pm Choir practice</p>	<p>19</p> <p>3-5pm SPARKS</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Clearwater Forest Snow Camp</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Clearwater Forest Snow Camp</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9am Adult Education</p> <p>9:30am Choir rehearsal</p> <p>10am Worship/Sunday school</p> <p>Clearwater Forest Snow Camp</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>3-5pm SPARKS</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:30am Mary & Martha</p> <p>7pm Choir practice</p>	<p>26</p> <p>3-5pm SPARKS</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9am Adult Education</p> <p>9:30am Choir rehearsal</p> <p>10am Worship/Sunday school</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p><i>Fellowship Time is on Sundays at 11:00am (following worship)</i></p> </div>			

NOTES:



CALVIN
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

177 Glendale Drive
Long Lake, MN 55356

Phone: 952-473-5419

calvinchurch.net

Connect with us!



OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday
10:00am - 2:00pm

*Pastor Carol is in
the office Tues - Fri
(or can be reached at
her home phone #)*



Please recycle

*We extend a most cordial invitation
to you to participate in worship,
study and the many other activities in
the life of our Calvin family.*



Church Staff

- Pastor - Rev. Dr. Carol Reed
- Parish Associate - Rev. Dwight Chamberlain
- Pastor Emeritus - Rev. Douglas Potter
- Clerk of Session - Walter Baker

- Music Director - Mark Bilyeu
- Handbell Director - Mark Bilyeu
- Choral Accompanist - Taylor Burkhardt

- Office Administrator - Angela Cocoluto
- Treasurer - Pat King
- Financial Secretaries - Marj Eisinger & Tammy Wenz
- Custodian - Dave Zajac

Email address contacts:

- Carol Reed carol.reed@calvinchurch.net
- Angela Cocoluto angela@calvinchurch.net

Calvin Connection deadline: Second Friday of the month
Sunday Bulletin announcements deadline: Thursdays at 10am
Email articles and/or announcements for the Calvin Connection & Sunday bulletins to Angela (see email address above), or drop them off in the church office. Any questions, please call Angela at 952-473-5419.