

CALVIN
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH



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DEADLINES:

Calvin Connection
3rd Friday of the month

Sunday Bulletin
Thursdays at 10am

*Email articles and/or
announcements for the Calvin
Connection & Sunday bulletins to
the church office.*



Calvin Connection



June 2022

Interim Pastor Update

The Personnel Committee is excited to announce Rev. Dr. John Gay will start July 5 as Calvin's transitional pastor until the PNC calls our installed pastor. Interviews were conducted over the past two weeks which included a one-on-one 30-minute get-to-know you call, a 75-minute panel interview, and each member of the Personnel Committee watching various virtual sermons.

We feel that Pastor John has the following qualities and skills to prepare Calvin for an installed pastor.

- Dynamic mannerisms including his sermons
- Willingness to integrate children's time into Sunday's worship service
- Willingness to provide ministry to those that may not be able to make it to church
- Open to assisting with adult bible study group if needed
- Ability to facilitate small group and larger town hall style listening sessions to assist the congregation in healing in order to be ready and open for a new pastor
- Ability to delegate and assist with execution of ideas

If you are interested, Pastor John's previous church's YouTube page is located here: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UctPzgZVSwl6qtNy-k44-Knw>.

Information about Pastor John's office hours will be provided in late June.

Pastor Dave's last Sunday is June 19; therefore, Calvin will have fill-in pastors for June 26 and July 3.

Highlights of May 22 Special Meeting



- The Congregation voted to affirm Bylaw 12 to reduce the membership of the Session from 9 to 6 members effective immediately after the meeting. Review of Congregation Survey in Detail; Study of our neighborhood.
- The Pastoral Nominating Committee was formed to include: Vanessa Gagner, Val Hagen, Chelsea Rhea, Joel Settles, Ann Shaughnessy, Arlo VandeVegte, Tammy Wenz, and Sharon Corl (alternate)

Please direct any questions to the Clerk of Session, Walter Baker, at Church via email or phone message.

Dave's Deliberations

Dearest Friends,

This is the final newsletter of my tenure at Calvin Presbyterian Church and hence my last “deliberation”. Let me just begin by saying what an extreme privilege and pleasure it has been to serve as your interim pastor over these last 12 months. Calvin is a warm, friendly, and hardworking congregation and I carry away many insights, friendships, and happy memories from this time together. You are loving, caring, Jesus loving people and your witness in this corner of Long Lake is important. I will continue to watch and to pray from a distance as God’s preferred future unfolds before you.

As a young pastor in St Paul, MN, I was once faced with a difficult task. One of the pre-school teachers from the Children’s Center Montessori School that was housed in our building died suddenly. She was “spiritual but not religious” and the families in the school were religiously diverse. I was asked to do a memorial service for the children and their families, but also asked NOT to make it explicitly Christian. Well ... I AM a Christian and I don’t know how to talk about death without talking about resurrection. How was I going to talk about the promise of new life without talking explicitly about the resurrection? It was really hard. It was like an artist being asked to create a portrait without using paint! Well, we did a number of things. We planted a blue spruce tree that eventually came to tower over the building. We read children’s books aloud. The children hung the potholders they had made on little hand looms and other artwork that they had made with Jeanne in school, on the tree. We sang the teachers favorite children’s song. We wept. And SOMEHOW, we witnessed to the power of life over death together. It was one of the most difficult things I had ever done...and one of the most important. Sometimes we do our best work when we are deprived of our accustomed tools. Sometimes the Spirit is with us in surprising ways in those moments when we don’t know what to try next and we are wondering how we will continue to move forward.

Much is riding on the success both of your next INTERIM pastorate and the success of the next Called Pastor. The pandemic continues to undermine and complicate ALL of the traditional ways in which a new pastor enters a new congregation. Pastor John Gay, your new interim and Calvin Church will be beginning this relationship at a time that still requires flexibility and creativity and which means... Pastor John will need to “think outside the box” and to work harder to communicate to you who he is and to earn your trust. It is his responsibility to make that happen, but he will FAIL at it if you all do not reach out TO HIM with the same intentionality and determination. And the prospects of Calvin will suffer if you do not.

SO... when you are offered ANY opportunity to get to know Pastor John, SEIZE IT! If you don’t see a good opportunity, create one. Drop by the church and introduce yourself to him. Call him up and invite him to lunch or dinner. Invite John to your fellowship or study group whether it is in person or by zoom. Email John and invite him to call you on the phone at his convenience (let him know it’s just a “get to know you” call). Organize a men’s breakfast at Perkins or somewhere and invite him to be with you. Be creative, innovative, pro-active, and determined. Let Pastor Doug know that you are willing to do what you can do to help him get started. Share with him what you would like to see happen during the remainder of the Interim Time.

And then, when the new CALLED Pastor comes... Do it ALL OVER AGAIN! The power to create a happy and effective pastorate is MOSTLY in your hands. This may well be the most important thing you ever do for Calvin Church. And Calvin Church is TOTALLY WORTH the effort!! And finally don't waste you time and energy worrying. Remember what God said to the Jewish people through the prophet Jeremiah,

"For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope." Jeremiah 29:11

Love you all!
Pastor Dave



Thanks to everyone who helped to make this year's **Spring Rummage Sale a success!** After expenses, the grand total raised was \$4,662.41. The money will be used for the following missions: WeCan \$600, Westonka Food Shelf \$600, IOCP Food Shelf \$600, Delano Helping Hands Food Shelf \$600, Feed My Starving Children \$500, Mission Inc/Home Free \$500, Rural Health Care Initiative (RHCI) \$500. The remaining monies will be used for PW programs including the Garden Fund, PW Circle study books & the Sunshine Fund. A special thanks to Marj Eisinger for traveling from Arkansas to help us for a few days. It was a great surprise! Mark your calendars for the next rummage sale from October 5th-8th, 2022. Blessings, Tammy Wenz, Rummage Sale Chair

Ruth/M&M Circle will hold a hybrid meeting both in-person and via Zoom on **Thursday, June 9th a 1:30**. A link will be sent out that week. All are welcome, including people of any faith, gender and age. For further information, please feel free to contact Kate Boylan by text or phone: 612-247-7024.



The Adult Education Class will meet for a final lesson on the first Sunday of the month, June 5th, before beginning a summer break. The lesson will be on God's Part of our Salvation and Our Part. God Willing, the Adult Ed class and lessons will begin again in September. You are very welcome to come, too. 9a on Sundays in the Fellowship Hall.

A HUGE THANK-YOU to Terri Wood for stepping up to run our Sunday School Program this spring! Sunday School will be on summer break, and Calvin will continue to seek out a person to fill this role. If you know of anyone that may be interested in this position or would like additional information, please contact Tammy Wenz, or Pastor Dave. A background check is required



Church volunteers are needed!



Liturgists
Greeters

Nursery Attendants
Kitchen Clean-Up

Offering your time and skills is an act of worship!

IT'S TIME TO THINK ABOUT BACK-TO-SCHOOL SHOPPING.

Sales for these items usually start right after the 4th of July. Often, Wal-mart has the best prices. The contents for the school kits usually cost around \$4. Hygiene kits are more expensive- usually around \$6. If you would rather contribute funds, you can give money directly to Belinda Breit or add it to your Calvin pledge and mark it for back-to-school. Belinda would like to have supplies by the end of July so that they can be packaged in August.

HYGIENE KITS (must include:)

- One new hand towel measuring approximately 16"x 28"(no fingertip or bath towels)
- One new washcloth
- One wide-tooth comb (please look at the beauty supply stores or Wal-mart or Target and find a comb suitable for heavier, coarser hair)
- One nail clipper
- One bar of soap (bath size in wrapper, not the ones you get at a hotel. Those can be donated to a local homeless shelter, along with the travel size shampoo.)
- One toothbrush (in original packaging. Do not split multi-packs)
- Ten standard size Band-Aids®

Place all items in a one-gallon plastic bag with a zipper closure; remove excess air from bag, and seal. Because these kits may sit in a hot warehouse until they are needed, please do not add toothpaste to the Hygiene Kit. Cartons of toothpaste that have an extended expiration date will be added to Hygiene Kit shipments just prior to shipment. Please add \$3 for each kit for postage for shipping to Little Rock for Church World Service

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

- 3 70-page spiral-bound notebooks, wide ruled
- 12-inch wooden ruler, not plastic
- 24 count crayons
- Child-size scissors for age 5+
- 6 pencils with attached erasers (unsharpened)
- Handheld sharpener & eraser

Birthdays

June 2	Phil Goodall
June 4	Gloria Purnick
June 5	Bob Kvale
June 8	Jeff Settles
June 8	Skelly Shaughnessy
June 9	Ron Breit
June 10	Kim King
June 10	Carol Strassburg
June 12	Harry Johnson
June 17	Joel Settles
June 20	Walter Rhea
June 21	Jim Rettinger
June 26	Phyllis Johnson

