

CALVIN  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH



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**DEADLINES:**

**Calvin Connection**  
3<sup>rd</sup> 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



April 2023



**Our 2023 Holy Week Celebrations** will include services on:

**Palm Sunday—April 2nd at 10a:** Join us for a service celebrating Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, and the beginning of His journey to the cross, and stay for a catered brunch after!

**Maundy Thursday—April 6th at 6:30pm at Maple Plain**

**Good Friday—April 7th at 7:30pm** for a Tenebrae service

**Easter Sunday - April 17th at 10a** Join us for a service celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ



## ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

On Sunday April 2nd we will take up the **One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)** offering. Your gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing are shared with the ministries of the Presbyterian Hunger Program, Self-Development of People and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. To learn more about how your gift to One Great Hour of Sharing makes a difference visit [pcusa.org/oghs](https://pcusa.org/oghs)

## Pastor John's message...

Happy Easter!

As I write this, we're just about finishing up our Lenten mid week services. We have been meeting with our close neighbors, First Presbyterian of Maple Plain, and learned about a few spiritual practices. Prayer, bible study, worship, service...there are more that we didn't get a chance to talk about – but they all lead to a life of resurrection.

Technically, I think the definition of resurrection has to do with becoming alive again after being dead, but I think it is an idea that we can learn from and grow into as individuals, as families, and as a congregation. Resurrection means leading a life of... well, LIFE!

Without suggesting anything to you about his personal theology, I really think Thoreau hit the nail on the head when he said "Most [people] lead lives of quiet desperation." We exist mostly, we don't LIVE. And that in itself may mean many things to different people, but my point is that Jesus came so that we might have abundant life, not merely existing (John 10). Sin entered into the world and caused humanity to die spiritually (Genesis 3), and Christ lived and died and was raised so that we could LIVE. Really live.

All of us, no matter how old we are, no matter how little we might know of the world, we are equipped and called and sent to lead lives of hope and grace, not desperation. The problem is that most of us don't. So this Easter – throughout the entire Easter season – my hope and prayer is that you will find ways of living that grow a renewed sense of hope and love in all that you do. Easter is a time of new life, of renewal, of second (and third, and fourth, and....) chances! Don't let it pass you by!

Have a Blessed Easter season –  
Pastor John

## Community needs

Eric Hutchison is the Worship & Music Director at Christ Lutheran Church in Maple Plain. His families house caught fire on Saturday March 18th and was a total loss, along with 2 cars, and pets.

Please lift up this family in prayer as they sort through the next steps and the challenges ahead.

There is a go fund me for those who would like to help financially.

[Fundraiser for Ashley Hutchison by Jenna Eastvold : Hutchison's House Fire Total Loss \(gofundme.com\)](https://www.gofundme.com/c/fundraiser-for-ashley-hutchison-by-jenna-eastvold-hutchison-s-house-fire-total-loss)



My name is **Miguel Sousa** and I am so excited to join your wonderful church!

I am from Portugal but I have been in the US for almost 10 years. I did my Masters in Piano Performance at Central Michigan University and then I worked with choirs at Texas A&M University for 6 years. During that time, I worked as a music director at a church in town and it was a great experience! I never thought of myself as more than just a pianist, but somehow I felt the call to join the ministry as a musician.

I have two dogs, Kiba and Pearl, and they are my everything! We go on hikes quite often and I even cook all their meals.



**The MN Food Share 41st campaign began on February 27th and run through April 9th. Our goal this year is to raise \$2,000 plus 500 lbs. of food.** We



have a fundraising tracker posted to show our progress. The most needed items are canned fruit, diced tomatoes, dried fruit, kid's cereal, pasta sauce, paper towels, toilet paper & shampoo. You can drop these items off at the church starting Monday, February 27th. Cash donations will also be accepted. Make your checks payable to Calvin Church and put "MN Food Share" in the memo portion of your check. You can also donate via Venmo @ Calvin-church. Questions?

Church volunteers are needed!

**Liturgists  
Greeters**

***Offering your time  
and skills is an act  
of worship!***



**Birthdays**

- April 2 Ron Bowman
- April 11 Vicky Williamson
- April 13 Denny Anderson
- April 15 Alison Bowman
- April 17 Chris Rhea
- April 18 Bonnie Boylan
- April 22 Adeline Gagner
- April 25 Lenny Berg
- April 26 Susan Baker  
Wanda Pratt
- April 27 Ann Shaughnessy

## Clerks Highlights of Session Regular March Meeting, 2023

Five Session members attended the meeting together with the Pastor, Clerk, and the Treasurer

1. The Calvin church website will now be under the guidance of the Outreach committee.
2. Good Friday services will be at 7:30 PM at the church.
3. Session members have been selected to be representatives on each of the church committees.
4. The Session voted to hire Miguel as our new choir director who will start work May 15th if the way be clear.
5. Our new janitor is doing a great job cleaning the church.
6. A Palm Sunday brunch on April 2nd will be held immediately following morning worship.

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

Walter Baker,  
Clerk of Session

## Church Staff

Interim Pastor - Rev. Dr. John R. Gay  
Parish Associate - Rev. Dwight Chamberlain  
Clerk of Session - Walter Baker

Music Director - Miguel Sousa  
Accompanist - Ella Johnson

Office Administrator - Chelsea Rhea  
Treasurer - Cheryl Pelkey  
Financial Secretaries - Tammy Wenz  
Custodian - Tom Pekley

### **Email address contacts:**

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