

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

1930 Bradner Road
Northwood, OH 43619
Phone: 419-836-8986

Pastor Bob Noble

Email: calvarynorthwood@hotmail.com

DECEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER



Pastor's Ponderings

Dear Friends in Christ,

This month instead of writing to you I am going to write a letter to Jesus. I have attached it for your review.

Dear Jesus,

I am writing to you today because we need your help. I am sure that you know this, but it helps if I write the words down. Your creation has always had a tendency for self-destruction, but lately it seems that it is getting harder for us to turn away from the evil we perpetrate on each other. We need you! We need to hear the story again! We need to sing with the angels. We need to be amazed like the shepherds and humbled like the Magi.

Come Lord Jesus into the hearts of our ugly disagreeable selves and fill us with your wonder and love once again! The mystery of the Love you show the fallen creation is the only power that can save us from ourselves. We need you now more than ever. Come Lord Jesus, Come.

Serving in your name,

Pastor Bob Noble

Calvary/Christ Lutheran Church

I know that He listens to our prayers. I know that he loves us! I know that our world is broken and hurting. I know that only way to heal is through the power of the Baby of the manger. The only way to the light is through the Carpenter of Golgotha. My letter by the way has been answered. We find the answer in the Bible. We find it in our prayers, and we find it in our worship life. Prayer, Study, Worship. I am so proud to be your pastor.

Peace, *Pastor Bob*



- *Fellowship, coffee and donuts every Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m.*
- *Morning Coffee with Pastor on Facebook at 10:30 a.m.*
- *Tuesdays with Pastor & Tom on Facebook at 10:30 a.m.*
- *Bible Study on Zoom Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m.*
- *Designing Women Thursday's at 9:00 a.m.*



SUNDAY, JANUARY 28,
2024 FOLLOWING
WORSHIP SERVICE

The annual congregational meeting will be held Sunday, January 28, 2024 following service. In the event of bad weather, the meeting will be held February 5, 2024. Please plan on attending!! Thank you.



HUNGER PROGRAM

Your donations to the Hunger Program will be greatly appreciated especially during this time. We are helping St. John's Lutheran in Stony Ridge and St. Paul Episcopal Church in Oregon with this endeavor. St. Paul needs all items for their food pantry. Also, St. Paul is appealing for cash and help. If you would like to drop off donations at the church, please call the office to arrange a time. Thank you!

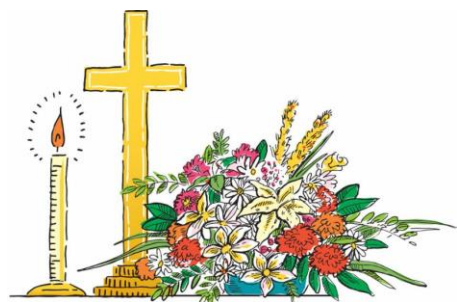
CALVARY IS ON SOCIAL MEDIA

IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW WOULD LIKE TO CONNECT ON SOCIAL MEDIA, CALVARY HAS A FACEBOOK PAGE CALVARYLUTHERANNORHWOOD AND ON TWITTER AT CALVARYLC. OUR WEBPAGE IS CALVARYNORTHWOOD.COM. FROM THE WEBPAGE YOU CAN SIGN-UP TO RECEIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS, NEWSLETTERS AND AUDIO RECORDINGS OF OUR SUNDAY SERVICES VIA EMAIL.

Morning Coffee

Join Pastor Bob daily
Monday thru Friday at 10:30
a.m. on Facebook.





Altar Flowers

Flower Chart

The 2024 Flower Chart is on the wall in the narthex across from the office. The cost of the flowers will be \$30.00. Flowers are put on the altar for the Glory of God



Altar Care-

If you would like to volunteer to help with Altar Care please see Paula. Basic weekly duties are changing paraments as needed, set-up communion and clean up after service. Thank you.



Prayer Chain

*Are you or a loved one in need of prayer? Calvary's Prayer Chain will be most happy to pray for you/them. The person does not need to be a member of Calvary. We include **everyone** in need of prayer! To start a prayer for yourself or someone else, call Charlene at 419-836-1999. When the person no longer needs our prayers, we would appreciate knowing that as well. If you would like to be a **prayer warrior**, please call me at 419-836-1999. Many thanks & blessings. Charlene Hoot*



SERVICE HELPERS NEEDED!!

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board across from the office for anyone interested in Assisting the Pastor, Reading lessons or Greeting friends & guests on Sunday mornings.

Please contact Clione Schneider if you have any questions.



REMEMBER OUR HOME BOUND

- Eleanor Sheronick, 3445 Fleitz Road, Oregon, OH 43616
- Marlene Fouty-Ehrsam, 2466 Luther Hills Circle #66, Oregon, OH 43616
- Mary McLaughlin, 30630 Drouillard Road, Lot 168, Walbridge, OH 43465
- Janie Kollarik, 30630 Drouillard Road, Lot 9, Walbridge, OH 43465



In our Prayers

Jill Cousino, Bob Joehlin, Marlene Ehrsam, Paulette Colombo, Eleanore Sheronick, Don Koenig, Beverly McIntosh, Emily Hyder-Jasinski, Ava Burkey, Jon Schwandner, Dan Pfouts, Craig Lake, Katie Glenn, Dee Mutchler, William Putnam, Logan Murphy, Wendy Kimble, Lisa Baker, Terry Murray, Dan Skadeland, Betty Messling, Duane Ralston, Shirley Loy, Paul Goodman and Angie Mazey Noesen.

Loaves and Fishes Our “Loaves and Fishes” ministry has a facilitator: Parish Nurse, Jackie Langlois. When anyone in the congregation is temporarily home bound because of an illness or surgery we try to provide meals for about a week. If you are willing to prepare a meal or would be willing to make calls please call Jackie at 419-779-6283. You do NOT have to prepare a gourmet, they can either be home cooked, deli or store bought. As always your help would be greatly appreciated.



**A HUGE Calvary
Welcome to our
newest member
Steve Rapp!**

Just Checking In Today

*Minister passing through his church in the middle of the day,
Decided to pause by the altar to see who'd come to pray.
Just then the back door opened and a man came down the aisle,
The minister frowned as he saw the man hadn't shaved in a while.
His shirt was torn and shabby and his coat was worn and frayed,
The man knelt down and bowed his head, then rose and walked away.
In the days that followed at precisely noon, the preacher saw this chap,
Each time he knelt just for a moment, a lunch pail in his lap.
Well, the minister's suspicions grew with robbery a main fear,
He decided to stop and ask the man, "What are you doing here?"
The old man said he was a factory worker and lunch was half an hour
Lunchtime was his prayer time for finding strength and power.
"I stay only a moment because the factory's far away.
As I kneel here talking to the Lord, this is kinda what I say:
I just came by to tell you, Lord, how happy I have been,
Since we found each others friendship and you took away my sin.
Don't know much of how to pray, but I think about you everyday.
So, Jesus, this is Ben, just checking in today."
The minister feeling foolish, told Ben that it was fine.
He told the man that he was welcome to pray there anytime.
"It's time to go, and thanks," Ben said, as he hurried to the door.
Then the minister knelt there at the altar, which he'd never done before.
His cold heart melted, warmed with love, as he met with Jesus there.
As the tears flowed down his cheeks, he repeated old Ben's prayer:
"I just came by to tell you, Lord, how happy I have been,
Since we found each others friendship and you took away my sin.
I don't know much of how to pray, but I think about you everyday.
So, Jesus, this is me, just checking in today."
Past noon one day, the minister noticed that old Ben hadn't come.
As more days passed and still no Ben, he began to worry some.
At the factory, he asked about him, learning he was ill.
The hospital staff was worried, but he'd given them a thrill.
The week that Ben was with them, brought changes in the ward.
His smiles and joy contagious – changed people were his reward.
The head nurse couldn't understand why Ben could be so glad,
When no flowers, calls or cards came, not a visitor he had..
The minister stayed by his bed, he voiced the nurse's concern:
No friends had come to show they cared. He had nowhere to turn.
Looking surprised, old Ben spoke up and with a winsome smile;
"The nurse is wrong, she couldn't know, He's been here all the while.
Everyday at noon He comes here, a dear friend of mine, you see,
He sits right down and takes my hand, leans over and says to me:
'I just came by to tell you, Ben, how happy I have been,
Since we found this friendship, and I took away your sin.
I think about you always, and I love to hear you pray,
And so Ben, this is Jesus, just checking in today.'*

Author Unknown

Coming Up...December

- 4 Angel Tree Gifts will be delivered to the Luther Home of Mercy after the worship service.**
- 13 Christmas Caroling to our homebound. Meet @ Calvary 5 p.m. Everyone is invited.**
- 16 Live Nativity @ Christ 4-8 p.m. (Cows, sheep, lambs, and a donkey!)**
- 23 Distribution of Christmas Food Baskets**



Joy to the World

Celebrate the Birth of our Savior

Christ Lutheran Church
22550 Carter Road
Bowling Green, OH 43402

Calvary Lutheran Church
1930 Bradner Rd.
Northwood, OH 43619

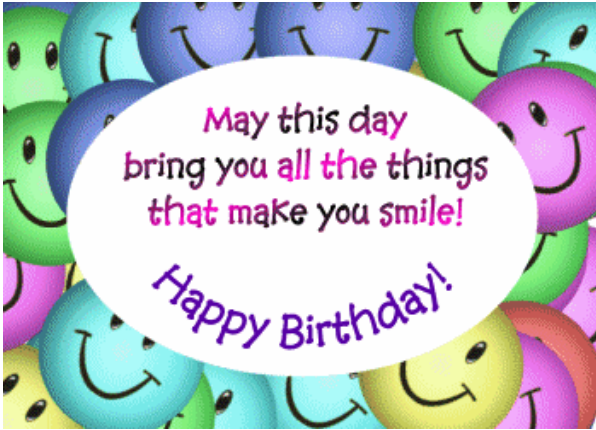
Christmas Eve

- 10 a.m. Worship at Christ
- 4 p.m. Family service at Calvary
- 7:30 p.m. Family service at Christ
- 10 p.m. Candlelight service at Calvary

New Year's Eve

- 9:15 a.m. Lessons and Carols at Christ
- 11 a.m. Lessons and Carols at Calvary





December Birthday's	
Marty Land	12/2
Rosemary Brim	12/8
Deb Pfouts	12/10
Jensen Ross	12/13
Jeff Rumpf	12/21
Luke Ross	12/22
Ted Jeffries	12/25
Ann Calevro	12/28



Kelsey & Tom Wulf
George & Wendy Kimble

December 11th
December 26th

13 years
36 years

November 24, 2023

A graphic with the words "THANK YOU!" in large, colorful, block letters. The word "THANK" is in pink, "YOU!" is in blue, and "thank you!" is written in a smaller, cursive font in black, overlapping the block letters.

Dear Friends in Christ,

Sometimes **THANK YOU** does not seem to be enough to say. I am so grateful for the financial response our congregation has made to the ongoing ministry of Calvary. The support of the Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets has been overwhelming! We served 16 families from Northwood Elementary school full Thanksgiving dinners because of your generosity. We will be helping 10 families from Lake Elementary for Christmas, because this congregation is present to the world!

Luther Home of Mercy asked us to put 20 residents on our Angel Tree, we did, and you responded! All 20 angels have been taken into the care of our members. The joy on the faces of the developmentally disabled residents of the home is priceless and I will try to share some pictures with you next month. Your giving brings Jesus to the folks at LHM. Please remember to bring your gifts to church by December 4th.

Brothers and sisters, God brings us close everyday through His Son Jesus. We feel that closeness especially during this time of the year. The homeless child of Bethlehem born to save us from ourselves truly is the reason for the season and for our entire lives. I am so proud to be your Pastor!

Peace,

Pastor Bob

FINANCIALS

ONLINE GIVING

Calvary has online and mobile options for giving. You can set up an account through the church office to give weekly, monthly or other options. You can also set up an online account by going to our website and clicking on the online giving button.

You also have the option of giving and signing up with your phone or mobile device by downloading the Vanco mobile app.

If you would like assistance in doing any of this, please contact the church office.

Thank You!

Monthly Financial Activity

Balance end September	\$572.52
Total income October: With shared cost	\$11,750.78
Total expenses:	\$12,750.47

Council notes: October 2023 meeting

***Pastor's Report:** November 18, 2023 Thanksgiving Basket distributed to families in need.

***Old Business:** Trunk or Treat October 21st. Christmas Eve services discussed. Angel tree names have been received. Gwen to organize. Christmas caroling planned. Christ will have live nativity December 16th from 4:00 to 8:00.

***New Business:** Proposed 2024 budget reviewed by council. It will be presented to the congregation at November 12, 2023 meeting. Reviewed Dean's Lawn Maintenance proposal. Will seek other estimates to be reviewed.

December 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Fellowship 10:30 Worship 11:00 First Sunday in Advent	4 Coffee with Pastor 10:30 Angel Tree gifts delivered to Luther Home	5 Office open 10: 2:00 Quilters 10:00 Coffee with Pastor & Tom	6 Office open 10:00-2:00 Coffee with Pastor 10:30 Zoom Bible Study 7:00	7 Office open 10:00-2:00 Coffee with Pastor 10:30 Designing Women 10:00	8	9 Scrapbooking & Card Club 11:00-4:00
10 Fellowship 10:30 Worship 11:00 00 Second Sunday in Advent	11 Coffee with Pastor 10:30	12 Office open 10: 2:00 Quilters 10:00 Coffee with Pastor & Tom	13 Office open 10:00-2:00 Coffee with Pastor 10:30 Caroling for homebound 5:00	14 Office open 10:00-2:00 Coffee with Pastor 10:30 Designing Women 10:00	15	16 Live Nativity Scene at Christ 4:00-8:00
17 Fellowship 10:30 Worship 11:00 00 Third Sunday in Advent	18 Coffee with Pastor 10:30 Council Meeting 7:00	19 Office open 10: 2:00 Quilters 10:00 Coffee with Pastor & Tom	20 Office open 10:00-2:00 Coffee with Pastor 10:30 Zoom Bible Study 7:00	21 Office open 10:00-2:00 Coffee with Pastor 10:30 Designing Women 10:00	22	23 Christmas Basket distribution 10:00-noon
24 Worship 10:00 at Christ Christmas Eve Services 4:00 & 10:00 at Calvary	25 Merry Christmas	26 Office open 10: 2:00 Quilters 10:00	27 Office open 10:00-2:00	28 Office open 10:00-2:00 Designing Women 10:00	29	30
31 Worship 11:00/ Lessons and Carols Service						

Name: _____

Date: _____

Christmas from the Holy Bible

I M G X R T K V B I Z V Y P D S Q T G O E P J M
M B M J J V C C I Z D I E C A Z P S Q F U B D U
M E H E L H T E B Z X R C J I J E S U S E M R G
K S K K Q F A V V M D G I T Q I N U G A V K V H
J D F I Z D O G X N N I O B F K N O R S V I N T
Y R X N H P N H I A W N J N U F H T D I G O N Y
J E M G D C B K C N J T E G L P H D T L J A Q J
M H Y O G S Q R Q L S T R O E V L G L O O D K L
T P R A B E W I H I I Z C S Y A G Q Y R G G A D
B E R H H T R I B V K K O V M X X Q T N T U T A
T H Y I A E A G P M S J Z B T F Q T H S Y Y T F
P S H K C H O A P D E U V L E U N A M M E S R V
R K D B R A T S F F K D M M A R Y O E E E A P J
F H A L L E L U J A H N U V Y J R V C Q N N K B
G W A Z D G P M W K H S H U A H N P J K F Q Y Z
L Y C E Y A H J P O A X L E N B Q K I Z R W J R
Y E S H X Q T N L V K L O P Q W L N Z H I P L W
S K H H N K F Y I C N R X S T Q C P H G I M S R
L N J R U X S O Y I P L S T K E K W A H A O J L
E O L E P P R E Q W N B M R N V Z M S N A P Q M
G D F O I C H R I S T M A S X F G R G Z X R T K
N X G R I Y J Y U R C A E V F T O E D Q L Y G T
A U I K R E T A L U C A M M I W R D D J Y Q Z A
W T F W C O N F C Z Y E J H Q T K N O Q S K I E

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|--------|------------|-------------|--------------|---------|
| Angels | Bethlehem | Birth | Christmas | Donkey |
| Earth | Emmanuel | Flocks | Frankincense | God |
| Gold | Hallelujah | Holy Spirit | Immaculate | Inn |
| Jesus | Joseph | Joy | King | Lamb |
| Magi | Manger | Mary | Myrryh | Rejoice |
| Savior | Shepherds | Star | Virgin | Worship |