

Weeds and Seeds



CALVARY
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
SUNDAY, JULY 23, 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.

Location of Bathrooms

From the front exits of the Sanctuary outside the right doorway, a handicapped accessible restroom and baby changing table are available on this level. From the front exits of the Sanctuary outside the left side exit, restrooms are located down the stairs.

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

Ellen Homitsky
Megan MacDonald
Cel Thomas, John Rosella, Darlene Lesure (friends of
Fred Ruddock)
Samara Smith-Hopkins (daughter of Larry and Pam
Hopkins)
Lori McDonough (Venus' sister in law)
Steve (brother of Shirley Mehring)
Michael Dodson
Jacqueline Melvin Cannon (Judy Melvin's sister)

Ongoing Prayer Concerns

Sara Belohavek
Rev. Tom Funk
Mary Callison
Martha Helmreich
Christine Thomas
Paul Brucker
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.

NEW PASTOR APPOINTED FOR CALVARY UMC

New Pastor Appointed for Calvary United Methodist Church

On June 25, 2023, the Western PA Conference of the United Methodist Church announced the appointment of Rev. Beth L. Nelson to Calvary United Methodist Church, Pittsburgh, PA. Rev. Nelson will serve half-time as the pastor at Calvary effective July 1, 2023. From all of us at Calvary, *WELCOME Rev. Beth!!*



Rev. Beth L. Nelson

Rev. Beth L. Nelson grew up in the Mon Valley in the little town of Fayette City. She graduated from Belle Vernon Area High School and then Otterbein College in Westerville Ohio. Her educational journey took her to Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC and it was there that she fell in love with the city and all its ministry possibilities. Her first appointment was to Erie and during her ministry there, she was one of the founding pastors of The Refuge, The Rainbow Connection and San Juan United Methodist Church.

Beth's next appointments were Mars, Carnegie, and Coraopolis.

Beth was appointed as The Director of Training and Resources for the Annual Conference and spent many years as part of the Conference Program staff. In 2011, Beth was appointed to Salem United Methodist Church in Wexford until she retired in June of 2020, after 43 years of service. Since retirement, Beth has been working "part time" at the United Methodist Church Union. She is the president of the Common Roots Federal Credit Union Board of Directors and a Board member of The United Methodist House at Chautauqua. She also serves on the Mission Strategy Team of the Pittsburgh District and the District Committee on Ministry.

Weekly, Beth volunteers at the Olive Branch, a fair-trade gift store and mission center in Wexford. This is an outreach of Salem United Methodist Church and makes a positive difference throughout the world. Through sewing projects, knitting, and crocheting, women are changing history for those in need. In addition, the items sold in our store are helping women and children break the bonds of poverty and lead meaningful, healthy lives.

In her spare time, Beth is a dedicated Pittsburgh sports fan! She has been a Pirate season ticket holder for over 25 years. Beth enjoys live theater, at the Benedum, in small theater venues and on Broadway. She shares season tickets for the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra and the Pittsburgh Symphony Pops. Beth has a passion for traveling the world and an even greater passion and love for the city of Pittsburgh!

To relax, Beth loves to build jigsaw puzzles. If she posts many puzzles in a row on Facebook, chances are she is stressed about something. But she is always happy to welcome others to her puzzle building therapy. Beth is known for having many "happy places" and Calvary United Methodist Church is her newest happy place!

Organ Concert

FEATURING

Brian Burns & David Bridge

*Performing on Calvary's Historic
1895 "Farrand & Votey" Pipe Organ*

Sunday, August 6

4:30 pm

Calvary United Methodist Church
Northside, Pittsburgh

ADMISSION

Admission is free, but donations are appreciated.

There will be a free-will offering at intermission to help support the Calvary Choir on their journey to perform the Messiah at Carnegie Hall in New York City this November. Reception to follow in the Chapel.



971 Beech Ave, Pgh, PA 15233

412.231.2007

CalvaryPgh.com

CalvaryPgh@gmail.com

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship †*

Leader: Weeds and seeds, growing together.

All: Each will influence the other.

Leader: What will we learn from the weeds?

All: Trials and tribulations, choices that have not always worked out. Weeds can teach us about perseverance — consider the tough dandelion plant pushing its way up through the pavement — for some it's just a weed, but for others there are lessons to be learned.

Leader: What will be gained from seeds?

All: Inside each one of us is a special person, waiting to be nurtured to wholeness. Each seed is unique; each has its own gifts to offer.

Leader: In God's garden, God's love extends to both — asking both to consider what each has to offer to a hurting world.

All: Lord, help us to be good seeds, bearing fruits of kindness, justice and compassion. Keep us mindful of those for whom life has been difficult and yet they persist in trying to make each day better. Be in our hearts, O Lord, and in our lives. Amen.

Opening Hymn †* “Come, Ye Thankful People Come” — #694 UMH

Unison Prayer †*

God of surprises, we come here from the weariness of the week, from various triumphs, from fears and doubts. Open our hearts to receive your surprising message of hope for all people. We are such a unique group of people. Some of us are at the “top of our game” and others just struggle to get through each day. Yet you draw us here where we will find friendship, peace, and hope not only for our lives right now but for all the times to come. Re-plant us and put us back on the pathways of service and reconciliation. Warm our hearts with your love; lift our spirits with your power, for we ask these things in the Name of Jesus our Savior. Amen.

Community Greetings †

Song of Praise †* “Surely the Presence of the Lord” — #328 UMH (Sing Twice)

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

I can feel His mighty power and His grace.

I can hear the brush of angel's wings, I see glory on each face.

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

ORDER OF WORSHIP, CONT...

Children’s Message

Psalter Lesson †* Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24 NRSV

1 O Lord, you have searched me and known me. 2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away. 3 You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. 4 Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely. 5 You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it. 7 Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence? 8 If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there. 9 If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, 10 even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast. 11 If I say, “Surely the darkness shall cover me, and night wraps itself around me,” 12 even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you.

23 Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts. 24 See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

Leader: The word of God, written by the people of God, for the people of God.
All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sharing Prayer Concerns

Hymn of Prayer * “You are the Seed” — #583 UMH

Pastoral Prayer

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.

Gospel Lesson †* Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 NRSV

24 He put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field, 25 but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. 26 So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. 27 And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ 28 He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Gospel Lesson (Cont...) †* Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 NRSV

29 But he replied, ‘No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. 30 Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’”

36 Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” 37 He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; 38 the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, 39 and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. 40 Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. 41 The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, 42 and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 43 Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

Leader: The word of God, written by the people of God, for the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon “Weeds and Seeds” — Rev. Beth L. Nelson

Words of Community Life

Call to Give

Offering Our Gifts and Tithes

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 †

Closing Hymn †* “God of Grace and God of Glory” — #577 UMH

Benediction †

Postlude †



A Time for Fellowship

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A TIME OF
FELLOWSHIP AROUND THE
TABLES IN THE CHAPEL
FOLLOWING MORNING WORSHIP.

CHANGE MATTERS!

There will be a special "change" offering the first Sunday of every month. During worship, our children will collect "change" because when there is lots of change together, we can make a difference. These gifts will be used to help the Women United in Faith to purchase food for Daily Bread. Food costs have increased and the number of people needing food has also increased. So gather up that loose change and help support this ministry. Paper money and checks work too.

Change matters!



UPCOMING EVENTS

Safety & Security Meeting

Sunday, July 30th following worship in the Calvary Parlor

This meeting is to review the assessment reports from the Office of Emergency Management & Homeland Security. Should you have questions please contact Budd Wagner at either 412-837-2081 or at wagner8thdayvineyard@gmail.com.

Organ Concert

Sunday, August 6th at 4:30pm at Calvary UMC

You are invited to an Organ Concert featuring Brian Burns & David Bridge performing on Calvary's Historic 1895 "Farrand & Votey" Pipe Organ. Admission is free, but donations are appreciated. There will be a free-will offering at intermission to help support the Calvary Choir on their journey to perform the Messiah at Carnegie Hall in New York City this November. There will also be a reception in the Chapel following the concert.

Northview Heights Food Distribution

Saturday, August 26th at 8:45am at Northview Heights

Six volunteers are needed. If you are interested, please sign up on the bulletin board in the chapel. Please see Stacey Chervon (stc38@pitt.edu) with any questions.

WEEKLY CALENDAR — WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT CALVARY

SUNDAY

Fellowship Following Morning Worship

Following Morning Worship in the Calvary Chapel

Come to the chapel following morning worship for fellowship. You can sign up to serve or clean up on the bulletin board in the chapel.

AA (Northside Sunday Nighters)

8:00pm in the Calvary Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY & THURSDAY

Exercise Class For All Ages

9:00am in the Calvary Chapel

The group uses the program "Grow Young Fitness". The program is targeted to "older adults", but great for people of all ages. If you have any questions contact Linda Ehrlich at laehrlich927@aol.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

July Church Council Meeting Postponed

The July 20th Church Council Meeting has been postponed. A new date is being set. A notice will be sent out with new date and time.

Calvary is Seeking Our Next Office Coordinator

The job description is posted on the website and Facebook. For people applying, they should send their application to the Chairperson of SPRC, Dave Tinker via email to tinker.calvaryumc@gmail.com and in the memo line please state "Office Coordinator" position.

Ministry Opportunities at Calvary UMC — A Message from Ken Elliott

Calvary is always in need of helpers for the Welcome Team to greet visitors and attendees, hand out bulletins, and collect the offering. Having a strong Welcome Team presence is important to provide a heartfelt and positive experience for everyone who enters our church. Also - we are in need of drivers who can pick up members who need transportation on Sunday mornings. Please let Ken Elliott know if you would like more information or are interested in helping with either of these requests.

Calvary Garden Club and Grounds Crew — Volunteers Needed

Interested in getting a little dirt under your fingernails and helping make the exterior of Calvary Church pop with colorful flower blossoms and other plants during the growing season? Volunteers are needed to help the Calvary GARDEN CLUB and GROUNDS CREW. We are all set to start planting when the flats of annuals arrive at the United Women in Faith's plant sale and there is also mulch that has arrived. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Chapel.

Communications Update — A Message from Karen Ferguson

Moving forward we will no longer be using the Communications Form as a way to submit announcements, events, and information to the congregation. We have decided to change it up and move things back to the way they used to be. If you have an announcement that you would like to be placed in the bulletin, website, Facebook, etc... please email Karen Ferguson at karen.ferguson.15202@gmail.com. More details will be given in the future about timelines and expectations, but for the time being, please include the following information with each request: 1) title of announcement, 2) how long it should be advertised, 3) where do you want the information to be publicized, and 4) content that you would like to be included. Thank you for your flexibility as we maneuver improving communications at Calvary!

Northside Common Ministries Continues to Need Toothpaste — A Message from the Missions Committee

TOOTHPASTE continues to be a weekly need at the pantry. Jana, Dir., would like Calvary to continue to collect it as she can then have it on the weekly grocery list available to the patrons. We continue to have a wonderful response from the generous hearts of our Calvary family! There are 2 collection bins—one at the Allegheny entrance and the other in the Parlor/Chapel. Cloth grocery bags also continue to be collected.

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



CALVARY

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

PASTOR
REV. BETH L. NELSON

EMERITUS CLERGY
REV. THOMAS FUNK, REV. JORINDA BULLITT, AND REV. LARRY HOMITSKY

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