

News from Calvary



November 2019

Calvary's Mission

As God's Children, our mission is to

Know His Word,

Share His Word

and

Live His Word.

Calvary's Vision

To be a Christ-centered church, alive with worship and meaningful ministries, where the youngest to the oldest are serving and being served, growing and helping others to grow, and connecting with each other and our surrounding communities.



Connect.



Grow.



Serve.

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Years ago, when I was in college, I was an avid weight lifter. I couldn't get enough of it. For me, going to the gym and working out, lifting weights; that's where I got my high. I loved it. To warm up, we would bench 200 pounds. It was great.

Well, as time has gone by, my time and personal commitments as well as my priorities have all changed. I still try to work out when I have the energy and the time. But I'm nowhere near in the shape that I used to be in. But we'll come back to that in a minute or so.

I was re-reading Psalm 119 recently. If you've ever read through the Psalms, you know that Psalm 119 is one that a lot of people skip over. While most psalms have around ten to twenty verses, Psalm 119 has 176 verses. But let me encourage you by saying that you should read it. It's a great psalm. I like to call it the whole heart psalm. We're told to *"Praise Him with your whole heart. Seek Him with your whole heart. Search His Word with your whole heart. Seek His favor and blessings with your whole heart. Obey Him with your whole heart. Cry out to Him with your whole heart."* Essentially, whatever you're doing, do it with your whole heart.

If you're sitting there telling yourself that this is such a simple and common-sense concept to follow, you're right. But let me ask you this: How many of us actually do this? How many followers of Christ actually do all or any of those things from Psalm 119 with their whole heart? The best analogy is the one of the pool. When you go in the pool, do you test out the waters by dipping your foot in or do you take the plunge and jump right into the deep end? When it comes to your faith, are you testing the water first or are you all in?

Author and pastor Timothy Keller once said that if you are struggling with your faith, go to church and really just worship. And when you're there, don't just sing the words, but truly with your whole heart sing them to God. When you're there in worship and you hear that your sins have been forgiven, internalize that forgiveness in your heart and remind yourself what it means to be forgiven in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. And when you pray, do it from your heart knowing that the God you're praying to is the same one that we hear about in the Bible.

So, what does this have to do with weight lifting? Well, when I used to lift in college, I always had a buddy or two that I worked out with. We would both push and encourage each other when we worked out. And I'm convinced that the reason I used to be able to lift as much as I did was because of this.

One of the reasons that we worship as a church (sometimes known as the communion of the saints,) is to be strengthened and encouraged in our walk with God. And so that brings us to one last point. When you come to church and you are worshipping God with your whole heart, those who are around you are also encouraged and strengthened. And that's an amazing thing if you stop to think about it. If you come to church to worship and you are all in in your worship, worshipping God with your whole heart, then those who are around you are strengthened as well.

So my prayer for you is that the next time you come to worship, with the help of the Holy Spirit, you are able to leave the rest of the world behind and to let God have all of you. Go all in. And worship Him with your whole heart.

Remember my friends, wherever you go, whatever you do, you're on the King's business.

Blessings,
Pastor Kuder

I'm sure you've heard the saying "It takes a village."

This statement holds true for Calvary as well. As we remember our abundant blessings at Thanksgiving, and prepare for Advent and Christmas, we need to give witness to our thankfulness by participating in our church's outreach activities in order to make them successful! This is a time to talk with members we haven't seen in a while and encourage them to join us for worship.

Calvary invites you to volunteer your time and talents for upcoming outreach and fellowship events by

- * Joining us for our wonderful soup suppers.
- * Helping trim the Christmas trees at church.
- * Caroling and visiting with Calvary's senior members.
- * Being a part of our Living Nativity.

Join us for these and other events highlighted in this newsletter!

We **know** the reason for the season. Let us share the love of Christ with others and celebrate together! God's blessings, *Anne Daly*



ANNUAL LIVING NATIVITY

Calvary's annual **living** tableau of the nativity will

be held **Sunday, Dec. 15th from 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.** This traditional event has become one of our major community outreach programs.

Everyone is encouraged to get involved in some way. We need bakers and singers, as well as your assistance in promoting the event. There will also be a need for actors and actresses of all ages! **Ask your family, friends and neighbors if they would like to participate.** Our collection of costumes fits all sizes. You will not be required to speak any lines and winter coats can be worn under the costumes.

Please sign up on the poster in the Narthex if you are able to participate. If you have any questions, please contact Robin Haenchen at 973-783-7783.

Those Who Serve Us:

✝ Altar Guild: Jaya Lakra

✝ Greeters:

Nov. 3 10:00 a.m. Karen Gordon El
Nov. 10 10:00 a.m. Ajit and Jaya Lakra
Nov. 17 10:00 a.m. Cindy Eucker
Nov. 24 10:00 a.m. Gbenga Adesokan
Nov. 27 7:30 p.m. Bill and Nancy Keltner



Those Who Serve Us:

✝ Flower Visitors:

Nov. 3 Joyce Sapara-Grant
Nov. 10 Jaya Lakra
Nov. 17 Liz Kuder
Nov. 24 Edith Conte

✝ Ushers:

Nov. 3 10:00 a.m. Gbenga Adesokan, John Ricca,
Gordon Wickham
Nov. 10 10:00 a.m. Richard Akers, John Wickham
Nov. 17 10:00 a.m. Abbaccus Dokie, Brian Keltner,
Stephen Molinari
Nov. 24 10:00 a.m. Ajit Lakra, Karl Wetter
Nov. 27 7:30 p.m. Gordon Wickham, John Wickham





Nov. 1 Jon Najimian

Nov. 13 Bokaidyu Dulkpado

Nov. 16 Adam Arroyo

Nov. 17 Evelyn Ponczek

Nov. 23 Helene Zierold

Nov. 28 Klaus Haenchen

Nov. 7 Joyce Sapara-Grant

Nov. 15 Rebecca Kassor

Nov. 17 Connie Vaughan

Nov. 18 Luise Wetter

Nov. 25 Esther Dulkpado



Happy Anniversary

Nov. 24 Klaus and Robin Haenchen

Nov. 26 Al and Joanne Arroyo