



the Messenger

† October 2020



In October, we will be launching another Bible study called “Who Are We? – A Journey from Head to Heart.” This will be a class of three six-week components created by our own Bishop LaTrelle Easterling and others in the Baltimore Washington Conference.

The study will take place on Zoom and be led by me. We will start on Tuesday, October 6 and finish the first session on November 10. We will offer sessions both in the morning at 10:00 AM and at 7:00 PM in the evening so you can choose one that is more convenient for you. The class uses video presentations to spark conversation. People are free to drop in and out along the way. No preparation or reading is required, meaning it may be ideal for many of us who are particularly busy.

The United Methodist Church is in the midst of another pivotal moment in history. Globally, in our churches, we are considering the future of the denomination, what it means to be the Church, what it means to be United Methodists, and what it means to be spirit-filled Christ followers making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world in this present age. Some may question, “Will the Church continue to be able to give a faithful voice and witness to the will of God in the days ahead? What is the will of God?”

There are many conversations and many questions that arise in our uncertainty. This Bible Study was developed so that we might enter into a process of discernment and wonder together. It isn't meant to cater to one outcome or cajole participants into a certain line of thinking.

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Rather, receive this study as an invitation into communal dialogue chiefly interested in our common roots and the common interest we share as United Methodists within the universal body of Christ today.

This study was first created in the fall of 2019 but seems even more valuable to us in a time of turmoil and uncertainty we are facing in the time of a global pandemic and reckoning over racism in our society and nation.

This study was designed to center us in our core identity. And so, we ask – Who are we? Who are we as the people of God? Who are we as the people called Methodists shaped by Wesleyan theology? Who are we as the members of the Baltimore-Washington Conference? Who are we becoming as we journey on toward perfection?

The answers to these questions can be found in a shared conversation with one another. It is our hope that as we study and wrestle with Scripture that we will pay close attention to and compassionately engage one another, quiet ourselves and await God's voice in our discernment in order to make room for emerging responses that can guide us.

Six weeks, October 6 – November 10

Tuesdays, offered at two times, 10 AM and 7 PM.

Virtual discussion on Zoom. (I am happy to help anyone learn how to use this on their computer or tablet)

Facilitator/discussion leader: Rev. Steve Larsen.

For more information and to join Zoom session contact me at RevSteve@calvaryumc.org

To learn more, see https://youtu.be/_znHcnJytoQvisit.

-Rev. Steve Larsen

Sunshine Visits.

If you have been unable to see your friends and loved ones and would enjoy a visit from one of your pastors, please let us know. We would be happy to come to visit you on a porch, driveway or through a window. Call and leave a message at the church office to let us know you are interested. 301-662-1464



Worship in October

We will be continuing the virtual worship services this month. These can be viewed on Facebook and YouTube. The new services are available at 9:00 am each Sunday morning and you can watch the service and make comments with others who are watching in real time. All the worship services can also be viewed at a later time. You can find links to both the new and previous services on our website at calvaryumc.org.

We will also be offering a limited worship service in the sanctuary each Sunday morning at 9:00 AM. This service allows us to come into the beautiful building and see one another. However, there are restrictions in place such as no singing, no time with the children, no lay readers and the wearing of masks and social distancing for everyone present. The details about this service are subject to change based on safety considerations.

The virtual service and the in-person service are similar in the message and scripture lessons. For several technical reasons, the virtual service is recorded and edited ahead of time rather than being livestreamed from the sanctuary. The virtual service also includes several elements that are not present in the in-person worship service.

We are continuing to follow the Revised Common Lectionary that guides the choice of scripture lessons for each Sunday. This selection of lessons is widely used by many different congregations and denominations.

For All Saints Sunday, November 1, we usually lift up the names of those members in the congregation who have died in the past year. We also lift up the names of relatives as well. We will continue with that practice this year and invite people in the congregation to provide us with any names of those who have died along with pictures if available to be included in our worship services. These can be sent to office@calvaryumc.org or mailed to the church.

Another way to be in touch

We recognize that not everyone is able to connect to the church electronically. We would be happy to send you a weekly bulletin that includes prayer list, announcements and a copy of the weekly "Pastor's Pondering." Just let us know you are interested by calling the church office at 301-662-1464. We are also happy to send along a copy of The Upper Room devotional books.

And anyone who wants to add a member to the list for these mailings can also let us know in the same way.

October Worship Schedule

October 4, 2020

World Communion Sunday

Rev Sullivan, preacher

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

Philippians 3:4b-14

Matthew 21:33-46

October 11, 2020

Rev Larsen, preacher

Exodus 32:1-14

Philippians 4:1-9

Matthew 22:1-14

October 18, 2020

Rev Larsen, preacher

Exodus 33:12-23

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Matthew 22:15-22

October 25, 2020

Rev Sullivan, preacher

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

Matthew 22:34-46

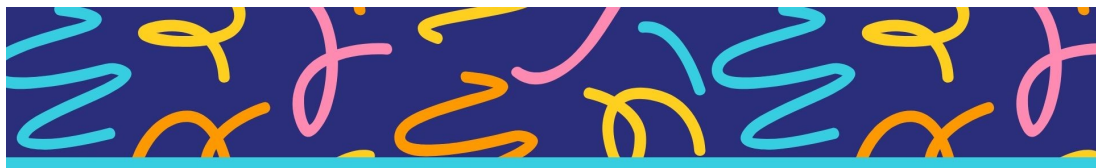
November 1, 2020 All Saints Day

Rev Larsen, preacher

Revelation 7:9-17

1 John 3:1-3

Matthew 5:1-12



ZOOM STORY TIME

With Pastor Shannon & Friends

Every Sunday at 11:00 am

[RSVP Here to Receive Log-In Details](#)



From Pastor Shannon:

In September, we had a delayed virtual meeting of clergy and representatives from churches around the Baltimore-Washington Conference. Elizabeth Anderson shared a little more about the Mission of Peace trip to India we supported as a church that she went on before the pandemic hit. Here's the transcript of what she shared:

Hi! My name is Elizabeth Anderson. I am a current freshman at Drew University, and this past January, I had the honor of traveling on the 2020 Mission of Peace to India. Speaking a little bit to the connection between that and the theme of this year's Annual Conference (We are One: Going Out in Mission), I feel that the definition of mission changed for me on this trip to India. A lot of us think of mission as this act of helping others, of teaching others, and I have come to believe that it's actually the opposite (at least for me). I think that mission is listening to others and making an effort to understand their perspectives, because everyone has a different perspective, and yet we are all still children of God. I think that mission is the act of going and being Christ-like toward people no matter what their background is, no matter what their identity is, even no matter what their faith might be, and really the Mission of Peace was all about listening to other people. We met with people of all different communities, people who were in more impoverished communities, more wealthy communities. We met with people of different faiths: Jainism, Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, and really made an effort to hear their own experiences. I mean, for myself, I am a white Christian woman, and I have very different experiences than somebody who is maybe a Muslim living in India, perhaps in a poorer community. It forced me to take a look at my own belief system and my own values, and what I took away from the experience is that you can't judge a book by its cover. You have to open yourself up, open your heart and your mind to other people, and you have to get rid of any preconceived notions and assumptions about people before you are ever able to talk to them. Again, each of our experiences is so different, so we can't say, "Oh, I think that you're going through this," when we have not been in their shoes. That's a lesson that I will certainly take with me through college, through going into the workforce, as I continue building my faith, and past that. So I encourage all of you to consider that as well and I thank you for allowing me to speak to my experience today. Thank you!



CALVARY UMC FREDERICK
**TRICKS &
TREATS**

ONLINE PHOTO CONTEST FOR:

- **COSTUMES**
- **BEST DOOR/WINDOW DECORATIONS**
- **PUMPKIN CARVING**
- **CREEPY CUISINE**

DOOR PRIZES AWARDED!

**ENTRANCE FEE - CANNED FOOD
DONATION TO FREDERICK FOOD
BANK**

**OCT 24 - OCT 31
ONLINE!**

**FUN, GAMES
& PRIZES**

Calvary Tricks & Treats Online Halloween Celebration

Photo Contests for Best:

Costumes, Door/Window Decorating, Pumpkin Carving, Creepy Cuisine

Door prizes for the best in each category. Voting on Calvary's Facebook page

Watch for more details!

All canned or non-perishables items can be brought to the kitchen door of Calvary Church on Oct. 24-25 9am –12pm and Oct. 30-31 9 am-12pm



Angel Tree

The Hannah Circle invites you join us in providing Christmas gifts for children from the Religious Coalition, and gifts for the residents of the Gale House. This year we will be supporting numerous kids through the Religious Coalition, and the 31 ladies residing in the Gale House. With the addiction epidemic in the area, the Gale House had grown in recent years from serving 12 ladies to now treating and housing 31.

The Christmas tree is covered with ornaments. The colorful children's ornaments contain toys from their Christmas wish list, clothing needs of the children and grocery store gift cards for their Christmas dinner. The white ornaments are small gifts for the residents of the Gale House.

Participation is easy and instructions are included on the back of each ornament. All gifts need to be returned to the tree no later than **Sunday Nov. 25th** We have sorting, packing, and tagging that has to be done before they can be delivered, and it is very time consuming.

If you choose to purchase a clothing item, it is very helpful if you include a gift receipt in the package. This helps to make exchanges easier for the family in case they need a different size.

If you wish to contribute but do not have time to shop, checks, gift certificates, gift cards, or cash donations will be gratefully accepted. The Hannah Circle will be glad to do your shopping for you! Please make checks out to Calvary United Methodist Women and reference "Angel Tree". There is a red box near the tree that you may drop your donation in.

Wesleyan Circle will be meeting on Thursday,
October 20th at 1:30 p.m. in the parish hall,
please remember to wear your mask.

Church Conference

Our annual meeting with the district superintendent to review the ministry, membership and pastoral leadership of the church will take place on **Saturday, November 21** at 1:30 pm. More details will be provided as this day approaches.

Diaper Drive for the Henderson Settlement

Calvary and the Mission Team would love to send diapers to the Early Childhood Program at Henderson Settlement. We will not be sending workers this year but the family needs are still there.

On Sunday mornings there will be a cradle available for diapers (all sizes are needed) and /or wipes, or donations. These will be taken or sent to the Henderson Settlement in late October or November.



Blessed are the merciful ...

These words of our Lord have been a reality in numerous ways at Calvary as it ministers in mission and for justice to the local, national, and global community. Even as the current pandemic has altered the ways in which we worship and serve the Lord, the blessings bestowed upon our church and its members have continued to be shared with others in need.

While our congregation's annual summer missions trips for adults and youth (VIM) had to be canceled this year, outreach continued in several ways to those especially in need within our local community. Many of you contributed food this summer to the Frederick Community Action Agency food bank, while others may also have contributed financially to the Frederick Rescue Mission's myriad outreach programs for vulnerable populations. The Heartly House for victims of domestic violence has been another ministry supported by some of our congregation. And, through the leadership of the Bob and Kay Jacobs family, some have volunteered on a bi-monthly basis to serve meals at the Frederick Community Action Agency. While public health policies in effect at this time have altered the way in which that ministry has been conducted, it continues through a service of preparing advanced packed individual meals for those in need. Please contact Bob Jacobs if you would like to help.

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Another local ministry in which Calvary has been engaged with other congregations in the Frederick community are the homeless shelter programs sponsored by The Religious Coalition for Human Needs. Some have volunteered to help with the adult shelter, while others have helped with the Emergency Family Shelter Program, directed by Neil Donnelly, a transition program to prepare and place young families into more permanent housing. Although our church was unable to offer our building for a 2-week period of overnight housing for families served in this program (which it has done in July and December each year), we did make a contribution of \$2,000 to the Religious Coalition from our church missions funds, and continue to be supportive in other ways. A new feature will soon be added to that ministry, a collaborative effort with other community agencies based on the national agenda of creating “bridges out of poverty.” As this program is launched, volunteers will be needed from our church communities for certain meals and child care during four multi-week life skills training sessions each year. Please let me know if you are interested in helping with the family shelter program; and contact Dave Herber if you would like to help with the adult shelter program.

Finally, as Pastor Steve and Pastor Shannon reminded us on Sunday, September 13, we also need to remember the national and global needs served by such organizations as the American Red Cross and UMCOR. With so many severe natural disasters, refugee camps for displaced persons, vast populations without sufficient food, and the effects on all populations of the covid pandemic, the need to care for others has hardly ever been greater.

As we launch our new church year at Calvary this Autumn, therefore, let us all be especially mindful of the needs of so many others locally, nationally, and globally, reflecting not only in prayer but also in planned action on how in the year ahead we might share with others the blessings bestowed by God upon each of us. As Pastor Shannon reminded us in her message on Sunday, September 13, based on Paul’s letter to the Romans (Chapter 14), it is not only a comfort that we all belong to the Lord, but also a challenge! What does God at this time call each of us to be and do towards



In September, Calvary church reopened its doors to in sanctuary worship. It was limited in the number of attendees, but a large step in the expression of our need of a God who is present in our lives. It is a way we can visibly express to the world our faith and our confidence in God who is with us.

We also continued our worship by virtual services. This has become a new ministry that reached up to 700 viewers outside of our congregational family. We worshiped in the church parking lot during the summer months. Whatever our way of worship, it is still to a caring and loving God. Calvary has witnessed God's blessing to us in this trial of the world and our congregational family.

A theme throughout the Bible is the calling of God to be his people, to be his children, to inherit his kingdom. His call is for a renewal of our relationship and a re-calling for our return out of sin to Him. This is a blessing also. Exodus 23 gives us ways to reflect upon our response to God's call: "No one is to appear before me empty handed." (v. 15). This leads us to think of our stewardship as a financial manner. While this is an important part of our expression of faith, we also appear before God physically in a parking lot, in a virtual worship and in a church sanctuary. We come to God with a receptive heart longing for God to indwell in our hearts. Our hands are not empty.

Another command: "Bring the best of the first fruits of your soil to the house of the Lord your God." (v. 19). Giving of "first fruits" is a reminder that we should always put God first and foremost in our hearts and minds. And that we should give back to God from out of what he has blessed us. This is a reminder of how much we are truly dependent upon God in a world we do not control.

Bless God for blessing us.

Education Updates

To say that things in Fall 2020 are different is the understatement of the year. Normally a time that I'd be working with many of you to make sure kids were finding their proper classrooms, make sure our nursery is stocked with what it needs, and planning our Annual Trunk or Treat - here we are. Just starting to get back into the church building with no gathering opportunities outside of worship available just yet.



I've been in conversation with most of you and have heard that what you want is support (you've got it!) and resources that can be available when you are available. To that end, here's what Sunday School will look like for at least the next month or so (always subject to change in our current environment). Our families loved the Zoom Story Time with Pastor Shannon and Friends. That's a 15-minute Zoom gathering on Sunday mornings at 11:00. Usually led by Pastor Shannon with the help of me and other Sunday School teachers. We've also got our regular Sunday School teachers planning some special offerings of their own - Story Time will have some familiar faces pop in to give Pastor Shannon a respite and to let our kids see those teachers they love and miss. Expect to see your favorite Sunday School teachers doing a story or two in the coming weeks.

We will share with those that can't make our Zoom Story Time the books we are reading and sharing so you can check these out as it's convenient for you.

We will do at least one Group music/VBS style "gathering" on a Sunday morning in the next month. Watch for details.

I've also set up a private Facebook group so that I can share our copyrighted Sunday School material with you, our parents. If you haven't joined this group yet, email me for access. In here I will be sharing parenting resources I find, printable coloring pages, activity sheets, music videos and Bible story videos. These will be able to be accessed by you whenever it's convenient for you.

Hopefully this provides you, our parents, with whatever tools you need - a chance once a week for your kids to connect with their church friends and beloved teachers via Zoom, in a casual, fun, and short story time (always connecting back to Bible points and values) as well as resources that you can print out or turn on for your kids during those moments you have down time.

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If YOU have ideas, suggestions, hopes of what you'd like to see from our Sunday School or other Christian Education programs over the next few months, please reach out. I'd love to hear from you!

We're working on something fun for Halloween and we've got some pretty great Advent/Christmas program ideas to come. Our Traditional Pageant isn't going anywhere - we may just have to be a little bit creative in how we present it.

If you did not participate in our Compassion Camp over the summer, be sure to join this Facebook group - all of our videos and lessons for 5 weeks worth of character building and faith-filled activities can be found inside this group for you to watch or revisit. This includes videos, Bible stories, activity sheets, service projects, and even some fantastic kids yoga!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/328121244882326>

Are you back in worship with your kids? I've got a treat for them! I'm putting together some pretty special worship bags with the material that I had just purchased to use in Children's Church in March. I've got a tote bag, a great coloring book filled with details about worship in the church and things for them to look for, and a few other "quiet" activities. Let me know you're joining us and I'll get a bag together for you!

Many Blessings,

A hand holding a yellow pencil over a piece of paper with text. The text is centered and reads: "Calling Calvary Writers for our 2020 Advent Devotional Looking for artists, poets, prayer writers to contribute by November 1. Email revshannon@calvaryumc.org for more information about length and scripture suggestions." The background is a blurred image of a hand holding a pencil over a piece of paper.

Calling
Calvary Writers
for our
2020 Advent Devotional
Looking for artists, poets, prayer writers to
contribute by November 1.
Email revshannon@calvaryumc.org
for more information about length and scripture suggestions.



Rob and Audra Chewing	Oct 1
John and Amy Farner	Oct 4
Rev. Shannon Sullivan and Aaron Harrington	Oct 6
Brian and Rebecca Forsythe	Oct 9
John and Jennifer Esler	Oct 16
Art and Carol Fennington	Oct 17

Paul and Christy Quigley	Oct 17	Ray and Becky McKinnon	Oct 21
Stephen and Stefanie Harris	Oct 18	Bob and Kay Jacobs	Oct 28
Paul and Cyd Maubert	Oct 20	Mike and Melissa Gaeta	Oct 31

Greetings from Calvary Weekday School!



It was a strange feeling not to have students and families in the building during September. Olivia and I finished refunding families and registering current families for the 2021-2022 school year. We will continue to register families throughout the year rather than waiting until December since at this time we are unable to have visitors in the school. We are working on our website this month and hoping to add a virtual tour. Please call the school at 301-662-6783 or email at calvaryweekdayschool.calvaryweekdayschool.com if you are interested or know someone who would like to register for the 2021-2022 school year.

We continue to stay busy at the school. The ceilings, lights, and fans were replaced in two classrooms on the second floor. The exterior lights on the front and side of the school building were also replaced as well as two exterior doors. The dividers have been removed in all the classrooms. Everything looks great! We are fortunate that most of these expenses are covered by the Safety and Aging School Grants from Maryland State Department of Education.

The teachers continue to participate in professional learning classes and are maintaining their current credentialing levels. Last month I participated in an Emergency Preparedness class and we will work on updating our current procedures.

Take time to enjoy these beautiful fall days-



- 1, Terre Rhoderick, Rev. Shannon Sullivan
- 2, **Emily Carnochan (99)**, Erica Shipley, Bethany Webster
- 3, Julian Pearce, Patricia Pettingall, Joche Wilmot
- 4, Bob Cannon, David Carter, Ann Crum, JoAn Ehlers, Gloria Orrison, Evan Schultze
- 5, Allison Chapman, Carol Fennington, Megan Reilly, Carol Stockhausen, Daniel Valentin-Morales

6, Isam Ballenger

7, Stuart Austin, Timothy Caudill, Laken Daugherty, Kay Hirsch-Jacobs

8, Margaret Burkett, Kelsey Huss

9, Jennifer Aud, David Colby

10, Ellen Ahr, Grace Heller, **Jean Oxley (95)**

11, **Buck Isaacs (99)**, Jacob Leftwich, Cameron Rokisky

12, Brady Adam, Nancy East, Reagan Kinsey, Ginger Ward

13, Larry Johnson, Charlotte Miller

14, Kelley Cardy, Gracie Mayer, Christopher Miller

15, Sarah Austin, Donna Loeb, Ian Vega

16, Andrew Keirn, Elizabeth Putman, Lucas Putman, Adell Remsberg, Deni Remsberg, Gloria Retzer

17, Kayleigh Adam, Tom Stokes

18, Andrew Crum,

19, **Barbara Burke (101)**, Kevin Davies, Jonah Miller

20, Courtney Keirn, Melinda Kerin

21, Betsy Bryant, Taylor Fox, Carla Martz, Ryan Mills

22, Kevin Giller, Thomas Mills, Edward Milum

23, Scott Engler, Lunn Schumacher

24, Nancy McLaughlin

25, Joan Cooley, Thomas Nazari

28, Angela Mayer, Samantha Shipley

29, Bruce Caruthers, Maria Rowley, Barbara Stone

30, Christine Bowersox, Rachel Gray, Caroline Sunderman



Wishing long time member Jean Oxley a very happy 95th birthday on October 10th. Jean taught home economics in the Frederick County Schools for many years.

Let Jean know you are thinking of her on this special day. Cards can be mailed to:

7201 Dogwood Lane
Middletown, Maryland 21769



Wishing Barbara Burke a very Happy 101st Birthday on October 19th!!

Barbara is a life time member. If you would like to send her a card, please send to:

405 Pearl Street
Frederick, Maryland 21701-6406

Pastor Shannon shared some new pictures of baby Zeke.



Calvary United Methodist Church
131 W. Second Street
Frederick, MD 21701
301-662-1464

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*Calvary United Methodist Church seeks and invites all to become disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of our community and our world.*

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