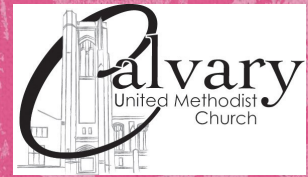
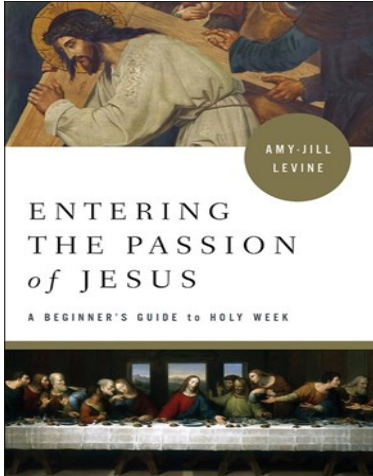


FEBRUARY



2024 Lenten Study



All four Gospels provide an account of the last days of Jesus. They include stories of failure and courage, despair and hope, political machinations, and theological inspiration. The meaning of the stories grows as we learn the history and contexts behind the words of the Gospels. As we look at the history and literature of the Passion accounts, we can find ways to understand our own lives through the stories, trials and choices of Jesus. This Lenten season, we can be challenged to examine our conscience and find that our own relationship with Jesus and the Bible bring us into closer relationship with others and the world.

In *Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week*, popular author, professor, and biblical scholar [Amy-Jill Levine](#) explores the biblical texts surrounding the Passion story. She shows us how the text raises ethical and spiritual questions for the reader, and how we all face risk in our Christian experience.

There will be a meal offered each Wednesday at 6:00 PM. This is a great time for fellowship and sharing with others.

The program study will start promptly at 6:45 PM and wrap up by 7:45 PM. Each program will involve a presentation to the whole group as well as table discussion and individual reflection.

Format:

6:00 PM Gathering, blessing, meal, fellowship time (optional)

6:45 PM Program

7:45 PM Going Forth

Five Sessions: Wednesdays, February 21– March 20

Week 1 ~Wednesday Feb. 21 Jerusalem: Risking Reputation

Week 2 ~ Wednesday Feb. 28 The Temple: Risking Righteous Anger

Week 3~ Wednesday March 6 Teachings: Risking Challenge

Week 4 ~ Wednesday March 13 The First Dinner: Risking Rejection

Week 5 ~ Wednesday March 20 The Last Supper: Risking the Loss of Friends

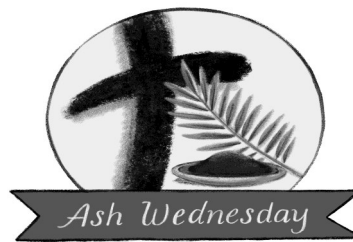
February Worship Schedule

February 4

Holy Communion
5th Sunday after the Epiphany
Isaiah 40:21-31 and Mark 1:29-39

Feb 11

Jesus as Friend
Luke 7:31-35 and John 15:13-17
Service of Baptism



Feb 14

Ash Wednesday
Psalm 51:10-17, Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 and Mark 8:27-30
There will be both a service at noon in Chapel as well as an evening service at
7 PM in Sanctuary

Lenten Worship Series: **Who Do You Say That I Am?**

There are various ways that Jesus Christ is viewed and encountered. Using *Freeing Jesus*, by Diane Butler Bass (2021), we will look at several of these ways of rediscovering the fullness of Jesus for our lives today.

Feb. 18

First Sunday in Lent (Presidents Day Weekend)
Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Lucy Hogan, retired professor of homiletics,
Wesley Theological Seminary

Feb. 25

2nd Sunday in Lent
Jesus as Teacher
Mark 10:17-23



United Women in Faith

Back Row: Fran Haller, Mary Crum, Karen Gebhart, Judy Shickel, Becky Kile

Front Row; Judy Johnson, Jane Sowers, Susan Baggette, Angela Fossett, Helen Shepard, Betsy Bryant, Jane Hahn

Calvary United Women in Faith (UWFaith)

We held our first UWFaith Executive Committee meeting of the new year on January 2nd. New President Karen Gebhart presided and a lot of work was accomplished to set our course for our 2024 mission program. Our special guest was Angela Fossett, the UWFaith Baltimore/Washington Conference Frederick District President. She shared her thoughts from the national organization and aided us in formulating direction for our many areas of mission work. We look forward to our first upcoming program - our World Day of Prayer event March 1st in our Chapel here at Calvary. Stay tuned for more details. One of our goals for this year is to encourage more women of our congregation to become involved in one of our Circles as active members of Calvary's UWFaith. At the conclusion of our meeting, a surprise announcement and unanimous vote took place recognizing past President Jane Sowers as Calvary UWFaith "President Emeritus". This is an honor bestowed on Jane showing respect for her distinguished career with UWFaith and granting her lifetime membership in Calvary's UWFaith group.

Thank you for the continued support of the food bank.

Many of you contribute weekly to the wheelbarrow and have expressed how much you like knowing specific requests from the food bank. After speaking with one of the directors this week, we decided to focus on the following items for the months of February and March.

- Canned Meats: Chicken and Tuna
- Canned Fruit and Fruit Cups
- Soups
- Pasta and Pasta Sauce
- Boxed Cereals and Oatmeal



Again, thank you for your support

Roy and Julie

We are entering the Lenten season with Ash Wednesday midmonth and marching (pardon the pun) on to Easter Sunday, the last Sunday of March. Some of us, Easter People, practice fasting during the time of Lent.

Fasting is a practice of giving up something that is of importance to us personally.

Does chocolate, coffee, or meat come to mind? The purpose of fasting is to help us focus on the sacrifice of God, he gave us his only son to death, and Jesus Christ's sacrifice of His life, for our own salvation.

What we sacrifice are worldly things that are meaningful to us – yet in heavenly things mean nothing.

Fasting is practiced to remind us of our relationship with God. How important to us is He? Isaiah 58 tells us about fasting. Isaiah speaks for God is describing the fast of the Israelites that has become imperfect. They has lost the true meaning of the fast. On the day of fasting they “...do as you please and exploit all your workers.’ They quarreled and fought with others. In other words, they and by implication –we, do not change our thinking from worldly to heavenly things when fasting. We are more concerned with “what” we give up than “why” we give up.

In verse 5, God says through Isaiah: “Is this the kind of fast I have chosen, **only a day** for people to humble themselves?’ (emphasis mine). To God the act of fasting is a means to personal reflection of your spiritual condition. The greater part of Chapter 58 describes true fasting as “loose the chains of injustice, ...set the oppressed free, ...share your food with the hungry, ...provide the poor wanderer with shelter, ...not turn away from your own flesh and blood, ...”. These are Christ like acts that God calls us to engage in our daily living. We should be doing these things daily. Fasting is a means to remember we are doing the sacrifices of self because of our relationship with God.

Besides the feeling of accomplishment and recognition of self will power, there are spiritual benefits. If you fast a true fast, God's blessing will be heaped upon you in abundance that is beyond imagination. Note the importance of the quantity and quality of the blessings. They are from God and are in abundance and beyond anything we could ever hope.

Thank you so much for the benefits of the “Bake-a-Batch” fundraiser/ Cookie sale. It is amazing to know that my Church Family remembered my contribution to the Nursery. Thank you also goes to those people in the congregation that bought them.

My rehab lacked in 2023 but, I'm planning on a speech pathologist in 2024. The funds donated should DEFINITELY help me to have a conversation with members, without a translator.

I hope to soon return to the Nursery. While I can't do what I used to, at least I can see the evolution of the Nursery.

Thanks, again. I am blessed.

Sincerely,

Jenn Fischer Esler

Bookends of our faith ...

The introductory and concluding chapters are the bookends of a good novel. To understand them, however, one must read what the former news commentator Paul Harvey referred to as “the rest of the story.” So it is also with our Christian faith. To best understand the meaning of the Old Testament and the New Testament Books of Acts, Letters, and Revelation, one must read and understand the gospels, the heart of the Christian Bible. Even within the gospels, however, our faith is often defined by the birth, death and resurrection of Jesus, the alpha and omega of his human life, the celebration of which is our Christmas and Easter experience.

And now we come to Lent, a period between those celebratory bookends, a period of reflection and repentance in our relationship with God through Jesus the Christ. The question I ask of myself each Lent, and ask of you at this time, is about the focus of our reflections and repentance. Are we focused on such matters as our sinfulness and salvation, guided by such scriptures as John 3:16 or Romans 8:1-4 and 10:5-10? Or are we focused on how our faith is translated into action guided by such scriptures as Mathew 22:37-40, Mark 8:34-35 or James 2:14-18?

My own reflection is that both of these orientations are essential to Christian discipleship, that one without the other is insufficient to be a follower of Jesus. We come together each week to worship God in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit; but does our weekly faith journey begin and end there? Or do we faithfully engage also daily or weekly in studying the scriptures, alone or in prayer and devotional groups of one form or another? And beyond strengthening our faith in these ways, how engaged are we in mercy and justice outreach in the community, a witness to our faith through action?

Calvary offers many opportunities for growth in discipleship through all of the above venues, alerting us always to such opportunities through our weekly worship bulletins and email notices, our monthly newsletter, our website, and handouts available in Parish Hall. My prayer for this Lent is that we continue to grow as disciples of Jesus in fellowship with one another, that our faith not be defined only by bookends but also by the Message in between.

Paul Nelson, Church & Society Ministries

Thank you—from Betty Waltz

Thank you my Calvary UMC family for thinking of me. The poinsettia is lovely, thanks again to all. I am so grateful for all the kind thoughts and prayers that have been shared with me. Many thanks to Rev. Humbert for sharing communion with me. Appreciate it so much. I miss being with all my Calvary Family and The Friendly Circle Class. I am feeling better, but have a ways to go. I am so grateful for all thoughts and prayers that have been shared with me.

Winter Blood Drive

We could really use your help for our upcoming blood drive. There are still open appointment times, and here are three easy ways you can help us meet our goal on **Wednesday, February 7, from 8:30 to 7 pm** at **Calvary United Methodist Church**.



It's as easy as 1. 2. 3.

1. Sign up! Give me a text or call at 301-848-8216 or email RevSteve@calvaryumc.org (please include your name and preferred appointment time.) We have appointments available throughout the day from 9:30 AM to 7:00 PM
2. Invite your spouse or significant other to be a donor. Share the love as you share the lifesaving gift of blood together.
3. Invite a friend to our drive. Donating blood is always more fun with a friend, so bring one along or in place of your donation.

If you have any questions or concerns about donating blood, don't hesitate to get in touch. Your donation means so much to our community and the American Red Cross. Patients and hospitals count on drives like ours to provide a steady supply of blood. Each donation can help save up to three lives, so by meeting our goal, we can touch so many lives in our community and around the country.

Your commitment to our blood drive's success is greatly appreciated.

Eric Anderson

Rev. Steve Larsen





Greetings from Calvary Weekday School

We are excited to share we have republished our MD Excels Level 5 again this year which demonstrates we are committed to providing the highest level of quality education and care. Kudos to the Calvary Weekday School Staff for all their hard work and dedication every day!

This month we will work with Keri Henson from FCPS, who serves as a liaison for homeless and foster children. We will collect underwear for boys and girls sizes 4-12 as well as gift cards to Walmart, Target, grocery stores or gas stations (Wawa and Sheetz) to help homeless or foster children in our Frederick community. If you would like to help with this project, items can be dropped off at the school, Monday-Friday from 8-1, or left at the church office.

Registration continues to keep us busy. We have a few more spots left in the 3's classes but we have already started a waiting list for the kindergarten and 4 year old preschool classes. Families and friends wishing to register may contact Olivia for a tour or more information at 301-662-6783 or email at calvaryweekdayschool@calvaryweekdayschool.com.

We are always looking for additional staff/substitutes. If you are interested in working at our school email Patty at director@calvaryweekdayschool.com.

Happy Valentine's Day!

Patty Lockard, Director

Children's Ministry News

Love Bags will be assembled by Calvary's Children's Classes and Mission Possible Kids, and will be ready to be picked up and delivered by Calvary Church members! Please look for the **Love Bags** in the hallway of the main church building, and if you are able, pick up a few and deliver them to the recipient named on the label sometime during the month of February. Thank you for brightening someone's day by delivering a bag filled with love from Calvary.



Children's Ministry News

Children's Sunday School is for children in **Preschool – 5th Grade**. We meet every Sunday at 9:00 am in the Activities Room of the Education Building for Bible Learning, songs, games, crafts and more! Visitors are always welcome!



Veggie Tale Movie Night is happening on **Friday, February 16** from **6:00 – 7:00 pm** in the Activities Room of the Education Building. Join us for pizza, a movie, discussion, a craft and more! Wear your pajamas and bring a blanket and pillow if you'd like! Please register by contacting AmyStone@calvaryumc.org, or sign up in Sunday School.



Mission Possible Kids is for kids in Kindergarten through 5th Grade who want to help others and make a difference in the world! Mission Possible Kids will not meet in December, but next month, **MPK** will meet on **Sunday, February 25** from **5:30 – 7:00 pm** in the Activities Room of the Education Building to put together Love Bags and to help out with other tasks. Join us! Please contact AmyStone@calvaryumc.org for more information and to order a Mission Possible Kids t-shirt.

Children's Church meets in the Chapel during the 10:00 worship service for children in Kindergarten through 5th Grade, immediately following the *Time With The Children* during the service. Children's Worship Bulletins are provided, and children are encouraged to play or color quietly while listening to the service in the "Big Church". If you would like to sign up to volunteer as an adult leader for Children's Church, please use this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0949ACAD2FABFBC61-childrens>

If no adult leader is available for Children's Church, children are welcome to walk over to the Education Building to the temporary Nursery location in the first classroom on the middle floor.

Children's Worship bags are also available in the Narthex to be used during the service and returned.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner

February 13, 2024 6:00p-7:30p

Donations to benefit the Youth
Mission Trip to the
Henderson Settlement in Kentucky



Calvary United Methodist Church
Renew & Rejoice



Decorative finials for the casework.
These match the finials in our reredos.



The blower motor, which will live in the newly renovated basement room.



One side of the chancel casework, ready for staining and finishing.



The blower fan, which will push air into the wind lines to allow the pipes to make sound. Located in the basement blower room.



Pieces of the casework in the paint room at Zimmer's Shop

World Day of Prayer



Friday, March 1, 2024

2:00 p.m. Chapel

Calvary United Methodist Church

131 West 2nd Street

Frederick, Maryland 21701

Calvary will celebrate the World Day of Prayer on Friday, March 1, at 2:00 p.m. in the Chapel. The sponsoring country of Calvary's service this year is Zimbabwe. Its theme come from John 5:2-9, as Jesus said to the man who had been an invalid for 38 years: "Rise! Take your mat and walk." We have given an ecumenical invitation to over 28 churches in Frederick County. Please join us for a moving service sponsored by the United Women of Faith's Executive Committee. All are invited!



Sponsored by Calvary's Youth

BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK

Packing Event March 3, 2024

Directly following the Service

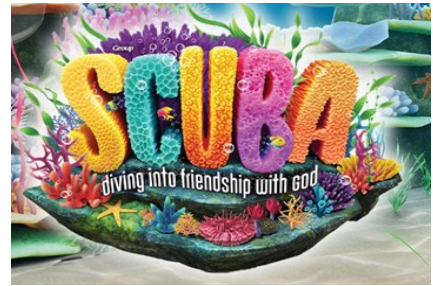
Collecting food items on the stage

February 19-March 3

All ages and skills welcome

B Museum of the Bible Trip

A bus trip is being planned to the Museum of the Bible. Families and friends are welcomed. The date is Saturday, April 6th, we will meet at the Marc Train Station, behind Target in Frederick at 9:30am and return at 4:00pm. Discount tickets will be purchased in advance, \$17.50 each for a group rate, if you purchase them individually it is \$29.99. The cost per person is \$57.75. This includes the bus trip, tip for the driver, taxes, and your ticket into the museum. There is a sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center in addition to the breakdown of the costs, details of the trip and map of the 6 floors of the museum. Checks must be received by March 3rd and made out to Fran Haller. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out, Helen Sheppard, brucehelenshep@msn.com, Fran Haller, fehaller@outlook.com.



Mark your calendars for this summer's **SCUBA VBS!**

June 17 – June 20, 2024

Online registration begins April 1. If you are available to volunteer for this fun and amazing ministry, please contact AmyStone@calvaryumc.org.



Calvary is going to see **DANIEL! Live On Stage!**

in Lancaster PA at Sight and Sound Theater

August 10, 2024 at 3:00 pm

Note the time change to the afternoon show!

(We will be having lunch before the show in Lancaster).

We were able to reserve a few extra seats, so if you are interested in joining us, please contact AmyStone@calvaryumc.org.

(Adults \$89, Children 12 and under \$39)

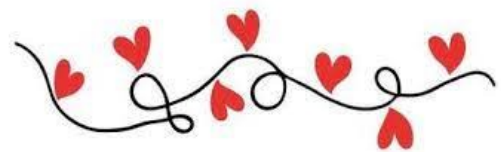
Payment will be due at a later date.

<https://www.sight-sound.com/shows/lancaster/daniel/2024>

FEBRUARY

Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 1,** Donna Jean Jeo, Zachary Patterson, Robert Schmeltz
- 2,** Daniel Long, Michael Pfister, Carmen Vega
- 3,** John Harper, David Herber, Betsy MacMullen, Tristen Palmer
- 4,** Richard Alsmeyer, Maurlea Long, Christopher Moyer, Thea Ruff, Thomas Winkler
- 5,** Steve Mood, Amelia Whitmarsh, **6,** Emily Capano, **7,** Joe Cerrito, Katherine Crum, Heidi Sweet
- 8,** Pauline Baker, William Schmersahl, **9,** Gary Coffman, Kimberly Remsberg
- 10,** Ralph Lopez, Paul Quigley, Alison Radcliffe, Sandy Sengstack, Katie Stone
- 11,** Amelia Irving, **12,** Wanda Bulkowski-Larsen, Abigail Proudfoot, Linda Sheridan
- 13,** Grace Carter, William Davy, **14,** Ashlynd Adam, Nancy Crum, Susan Miller
- Anniversaries -Feb 14.,** Michael and Nancy Leftwich & David and Juanita Pard
- 15,** Gerald Palmer, Isabelle Wilde, Ramona Yanike, **16,** Jeff Stone,
- Anniversary Feb. 16.,** Jack and Grace Heller
- 17,** Payton Forsythe, Shannon Whitmarsh
- Anniversary Feb. 17.,** Jeff and Michelle Matsler
- 18,** Terry Fisher, Elizabeth Kluttz, **19,** Patricia Grimes, Jane Hahn, Josie Manger, Bradley Proudfoot
- 20,** Susan Burall, Jennie Davy, Edwin Kinsey, Lois Pacheco, Andrew Wilde
- 21,** Pat Herber, Katelyn Irving, Patricia Kellam, **22,** Joshua Herber, Alyxandra Hoover
- 23,** Roy Schwarzenberg, Adam Stone, Kathryn Woodall, **24,** Luke Witmer
- Anniversary Feb. 24.,** Keven and Kelli Fox
- 25,** Jean Flory
- 26,** Addison Benton, Janet Cline, Peter Duthoy, Penny Reading
- 27,** Chase Leber, **28,** Armani Gough, Vic Rohrback, Lydia Souders



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday 1	Friday 2	Saturday 3
				5:30 p.m. Birthing Group		9:30 a.m. WRS
Wheelbarrow 4 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Peal Bell 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl 11:15 a.m. Children's Choir 5:30 p.m. Youth Group	5 7:00 p.m. SPRC	6 10 a.m. Pastor's Bible Study 1:30 p.m. UWF Ex. Committee 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir	7 8:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m. Calvary Blood Drive 6:30 p.m. Men's Bible Study	8	9	10 7:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast
11 9 a.m. Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Peal Bell 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Children's Choir 3:00 p.m. Concert 5:30 p.m. Youth Group	12	13 10:00 a.m. Pastor's Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir	14 Ash Wednesday 12:00 p.m. Service 6:30 p.m. Men's Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Service	15	16	17
18 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Peal Bell 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl 11:15 a.m. Children's Choir 5:30 p.m. Youth Group	19	20 10:00 a.m. Pastor's Bible Study 1:30 p.m. Wesleyan Circle 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir	21 6:00 p.m. Lenten Study	22	23	24
25 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Peal Bell 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Children's Choir 5:30 p.m. Youth Group	26	27 10:00 a.m. Pastor's Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir	28 2:00 p.m. Miriam's Circle 6:00 p.m. Lenten Study	29		
						15

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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Calvary’s Community Concert Series

Brian Ganz, pianist

Sunday, February 11, 2024

3:00 p.m.

(doors open at 2:30 p.m.)