

CALVARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

131 West Second Street, Frederick, Maryland 21701

301-662-1464 • www.calvaryumc.org

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

December 1, 2024

1st Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m. Worship Service



We Celebrate Our Presence Together: Gathering

Prelude

“Devotion”

by Alexander Schreiner
Daniel Catalano, organist

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Leader: Advent can be filled with worry about finding the perfect Christmas gifts. Deep down we want people in our lives to know they are special and that we love them. But sometimes we overlook the greatest gift of all... our very presence. This Advent season, we can be reminded that even if we are feeling poor — in resources, in body or spirit — we can give our hearts to others.

People: We can offer a gift of presence.

*Opening Hymn

“What Gift Can We Bring”

UMH #87

Lighting the Advent Candle: HOPE

David and Judy Shickel

Reader: We unwrap a present on this first Sunday of Advent with great anticipation for the gift that God will reveal.

People: We open our hearts as we open the gift!

Reader: The promise of Hope is the Divine Gift we receive.

The gift of hope is an essential survival tool because it reminds us that the hard times do not have the last word. Hope is not simply a wish. Hope calls us into action based on a belief that things can be different. We can work to bring about the better world that we hope for.

***People:* We light this Candle of Hope as a sign that we will be Present with Hope in the world.**

Prayer of Presence (unison)

Holy Living Light of God,

You are our Hopeful Presence.

Let this hope grow in our lives each day,

so we can be a Present of Hope to others.

Unwrap and open our hearts. May it be so. Amen.

The Word Present Among Us: Proclaiming

Scripture Lesson 1 Corinthians 1: 4-7

Karen Gebhart

*Gospel Lesson Mark 13:32-37

*Response

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Time With the Children

Following the Time with the Children, all children in K-3rd grade are invited to Children's Church either in the Chapel or in the Nursery for the remainder of the worship service. Parents are asked to walk their children to narthex/lobby where they will find the children's church leader.

*Hymn "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

UMH #196

Sermon Being Present with HOPE

Rev. Steve Larsen

Fully Present in the Moment: Praying

Time for Reflection and Commitment

Prayers for Ourselves and Others

We Bring our Gifts

The Offertory

“Awake! Awake, Greet the New Morn”
Text and music by Marty Haugen
Sanctuary Choir, Joyce Summers, pianist

When we pass the offering plate in the worship service we are linking our giving with other ways we worship God.

*Checks can also be sent to the church office at 131 West 2nd St, Frederick, MD 21701.
Online payments can be made easily and securely by going to www.Calvaryumc.org/give/. (See QR code on the back of this bulletin) You can make a one-time gift or set up ongoing electronic payments. Please use this time to register your attendance here today in the red folders found in the pews.*

*Doxology

Stanza 4, UMH #221

**What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part;
Yet what I can give him; give him my heart.**

*The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...and so, with you people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

...and so in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ... as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

...all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

Please pray this prayer using the words that are closest to you heart:

**Our Father/Mother/Parent, 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.**

Sharing at the Lord's Table

Prayer After Receiving

Present to the World: Sending

*Closing Carol "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" UMH #218

*Dismissal with Blessing

*Postlude "Echo Carol" by Louis Claude D'Aquin

Our worship series throughout the season of Advent and Christmas is called "The gift of Being Present." It is based on a theme and materials from Worship Design Studios (worshipdesignstudio.com/present). The scripture lessons this month remind us that "the Holy One is with you" and God's gift of being present to us in the child born in Bethlehem. This year, we are invited to offer the gift of being present to our loved ones, our community and to those who need it most. In this holy season, we are invited to be the gift of presence for our loved ones, for our communities, for those who need it most.

Ushers: Paul Nelson, Bill Pasquerette, Bret Slovikosky, Paul Muehl, Dave Mills

Coffee Host: Helen Sheppard

Acolyte: Savannah Muehl

Children's Sunday School for Preschool 3-Year-Olds through 5th Graders. Join us for songs, snacks, crafts and Bible learning! We meet in the Activities Room of the Education Building from **9:00 - 9:45 a.m. every Sunday.** For more information, please contact AmyStone@calvaryumc.org or sign up using this link:

<https://calvaryfrederick.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/113/responses/new>

Acolytes Needed: Dates have been added to the sign-up list! Please use this link to sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090b4aa9a82aa4ff2-acolyte/18827003#/> If you have any questions please contact Stefanie Harris at jujubee820@yahoo.com

Children's Church is for children in grades K-3, and takes place in our chapel during the worship service, immediately following the *Time with the Children*.

Exploring Membership Class

Persons interested in becoming a member of Calvary United Methodist Church and learning more of what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ are invited to take part in an Exploring Membership class at **9 a.m. Sunday, December 8** in Parish Hall. Pastor Steve Larsen will lead the class to discuss the history and purpose of the church and what it means to have a vital and growing faith.



Calvary Holiday Blood Drive

8:30 a.m.-7:15 p.m. Wednesday, December 4

To donate or volunteer with the blood drive, please contact Rev. Steve Larsen at revsteve@calvaryumc.org or text at 301-848-8216 with your name and preferred donation time.

Children' Ministry



Calvary will be participating in ***Frederick's Kris Kringle Procession*** on **Friday, December 13**.

Line-up begins at **5:30 p.m.** on South Carroll Street between East Patrick and East All Saints Street and ending at Calvary where we will enjoy cookies and hot

cocoa in the Parish Hall! We will need **children and adults** to help us sing Christmas carols and to participate in our mini Nativity Scene float, complete with Mary, Joseph, the angels and stable animals! Walking musicians are welcome and encouraged as well! Please contact

AmyStone@calvaryumc.org for questions or to sign up, or visit <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0949ACAD2FABFBC61-52220851-christmas> .

Watch the Weekly E-news and the Sunday bulletin for our exact line-up number on South Carroll Street and look for our banner and float! **Members of ALL AGES ARE WELCOME!**



Pageant Dress Rehearsal is 10:00 a.m. – Noon. Saturday, December 14.

Calvary's Annual Children's Christmas Pageant will take place at **9 a.m. Sunday, December 15** in **Parish Hall!**

(Participants will put on costumes in the Education Building at 8:30).

We invite **EVERYONE** to join us as Calvary's Children act out the traditional story of Jesus' birth! It's not too late to take part in Calvary's Annual Children's Pageant! Contact

AmyStone@calvaryumc.org for more information!



We would like to sincerely thank the congregation for their weekly donations to the **wheelbarrow/food bank**. It truly warms our hearts to walk in on Sunday mornings to see the generous donations. With the season of giving upon us, there are numerous ways for us all to spread love thru giving.... hygiene items for the homeless youth (SHIP), Angel Tree gifts for children to name a few. The “Reverse Advent” food bank collection was such a success we decided to bring it back again this year.

Basically, 1 item per day. We will gladly take your collections and deliver them to the food bank. If you prefer to bring items weekly instead of waiting until Christmas Eve, feel free to place them in the “holiday wheelbarrow” (Please find the list of food on the Wheelbarrow in the hall outside of the Parish Hall). May your hearts be filled with the spirit of love and joy.

Roy and Julie Schwarzenberg

BAKE a BATCH cookie event for Jenn Esler. Jenn is a Calvary member and served as the Nursery Director before being diagnosed with a brain tumor years ago. Following surgery, she had extensive rehabilitation to improve her quality of life. Proceeds from Bake a Batch serve to help Jenn in her rehab and to remind her that she is not forgotten by her Calvary family.

All cookie donations can be dropped off in the kitchen or church office on **Friday, December 13** or by **9 a.m. Saturday, December 14**. Cookie trays will be available for purchase Sunday, **December 15**.

Baking Cookies is a great activity to do with your children or grandchildren and for a great cause. All homemade cookies whether family favorites or holiday classics are welcomed. So get those mixers moving!!! Any questions please contact Julie Schwarzenberg at 240-626-7666.

Week of December 1 ~ December 8

Today, Sunday, December 1

9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Worship
11:15 a.m. Children’s Choir
11:15 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry
5:30 p.m. Youth Group

Tuesday, December 3

10:00 a.m. Pastor’s Bible Study
1:30 p.m. UMFaith Ex. Committee
6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise Handbells
7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

Wednesday, December 4

Calvary Blood Drive 8:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.
6:30 p.m. Men’s Bible Study

Saturday, December 7

2:00 p.m. Advent Tea

Sunday, December 8

9:00 a.m. Sunday School
9:00 a.m. Exploring Membership Class
10:00 a.m. Worship
11:15 a.m. Children’s Choir
5:30 p.m. Youth Group

SHIP Homeless for the Holiday Hygiene Drive

Calvary UMC is once again supporting SHIP's (Student Homelessness Initiative Partnership) Hygiene Drive. Now thru December 31, we will be collecting new, full sized hygiene products for students in Frederick County experiencing homelessness.

The Christmas wrapped SHIP collection box can be found in the hallway outside the Parish Hall. Listed below are the most needed items. Please contact Beth Stitely with any questions. 301-730-8282, Autumn.purple@hotmail.com.

- Ethnic Hair Care Products
- Deodorant
- Shampoo and Conditioner
- Body Wash
- Laundry Detergent
- Razors
- Hand Soap
- First Aid Items
- Dental Floss
- Mouth Wash
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Feminine Hygiene Product
- Shaving Cream
- Body Lotion
- Hair Brushes
- Hair Ties
- Paper Towels
- Toilet Paper

Prayer Concerns:

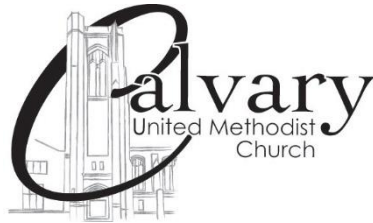
Recent Passing: Bradley Proudfoot (Son of Carole Proudfoot)

Members of Calvary:

Patricia Pettingall, Rev. Ken Humbert, Mike Isaacs, Jackie Grimes, Helen Alysmeier, Nancy Huffman, Gracie Heller, Joyce Dixon, Lois Pacheco, Bobbie Parsons, Rita Sharpe, Ann Crum, Marilyn Moyers, Peggy Griffiee, Ramona Yanike, Nancy Dobbs, Judy Allen, John Stenner, Paul Metcalf

Friends of Calvary:

Ruth Spring (Friend of Stephanie Felton), Dom Norris (Friend of Drew Irving), Waldo Blake (Father of Melissa Rust), Jan Nefflen (Friend of Peggy Rhoderick), Kassidy Noble (Niece of Brad and Jennie Davy), Eileen Morrow (Cousin of Karen Gebhart), Angela Gorens (Friend of Stephanie Felton), Jerry Black (Son-in-law of Betsy Bryant), Drew Wilson, Marie Slovikosky Miller, and Mike Miller (Brother and Sister-in-law of Nancy Slovikosky), Sarah Jenkins (Sister of Mary Crum), Cheryl Christine (Chris) Irving (Wife of Drew Irving), Allan Huffman (Son of Nancy Huffman), Brian Jones (Friend of the Linda & Scott English), Scott Berry, Janet Stone (Mother of Jeff Stone), Hope Patterson and Cathy Short (Sisters of Charlotte Pasquerette), Ken Kessel (Brother of Susan Baggette), Audrey Cash (Friend of Helen Sheppard), Kitty Cooley (Sister of Connie Scoggins), Suzanne Simpson and Adam Shake (Sister & brother-in-law to Christy Mossburg), Alice and Becky Woodward (Family of Rita Sharpe), Virginia Painter Floyd, Jill and Tracy Sizemore, Gil Crippen, Jim Clark, Ida Durden, and Janella Walls, Louise Brieto (Family Members and Friends of Rita Sharpe)



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Church Staff

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Joyce Summers, pianist

Calvary Weekday School

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To give online visit our website at www.calvaryumc.org/give