

**CALVARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
131 West Second Street, Frederick, Maryland 21701  
301-662-1464 • [www.calvaryumc.org](http://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 22, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Advent 10:00 a.m. Worship Service



**We Celebrate Our Presence Together: Gathering**

Prelude

"Voluntary V: Adagio"

by John Stanley  
Daniel Catalano, guest organist

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

\*Opening Hymn

"Love Divine, All Love's Excelling"

UMH #384

Lighting the Advent Candle (read responsively) The Duthoy Family

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

**We open our hearts as we open the gift!**

The promise of LOVE is the Divine Gift we receive.

**And what will we do with it?**

The Holy One wants to be present to us. God's reaches out to us in love. In Jesus, God took on our humanity.

**We light this Candle of Love as a sign that we receive God's love and share it with the world.**

Prayer of Presence

Let us pray:

**Holy Living Light of God,  
You are our Loving Presence.  
Let this love grow in our lives each day,  
so we can be a Present of Love to others.  
Unwrap and open our hearts.  
May it be so. Amen.**

**The Word Present Among Us: Proclaiming**

New Testament Lesson      Romans 16:25-27      David Cline

Anthem      “I Hear the Prophet Callin’ ”      Pepper Choplin  
Sanctuary Choir, Julia Lancione, soloist, Joyce Summers, pianist

\*Gospel Lesson      Luke 1: 26-31      David Cline

\*Response

The word of God for the people of God.  
**THANKS BE TO GOD.**

Special Music      “Noel”  
words and music by Matt Redman, Chris Tomlin, and Ed Cash  
Agape: Lainey Davy, soloist; Brad Davy, Rob Summers, Dr. Ray Moreland, guitarists  
Joyce Summers, pianist

Time With the Children

*Following the Time with the Children, all children in K-3<sup>rd</sup> 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      “In the Bleak Midwinter”      UMH #221

Sermon      Being Present with LOVE      Rev. Steve Larsen

Special Music      “Mary, Did You Know?”  
words and music by Mark Lowry and Buddy Greene  
Lainey Davy, soloist; Joyce Summers, pianist

## Fully Present in the Moment: Praying

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory

"Simple Gifts"

by Patricia Harris

*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 2<sup>nd</sup> St, Frederick, MD 21701.*

*Online payments can be made easily and securely by going to [www.Calvaryumc.org/give/](http://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

UMH #221 (st. 4)

**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 I give him; give him my heart.**

\*Prayer of Dedication

### Present to the World: Sending

\*Closing Carol

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

UMH #230

\*Dismissal with Blessing

\*Postlude

"Voluntary V: Allegro"

by John Stanley

---

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 [WorshipDesignStudios.com](http://WorshipDesignStudios.com). 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 God, to our loved ones, to our community and to those who need it most.

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

**Coffee Host:** Frank and Beth Strakonsky

**Acolyte:** Charlotte Miller

**The altar flowers** are in loving memory of John Slovikosky, beloved husband of Nancy, father of Bret, Bary and wife Anastasia, and PapPap to six loving grandchildren. Merry Christmas, you are loved and missed by all.

**Children's Sunday School** for **Preschool 3-Year-Olds** through **5<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto:jujubee820@yahoo.com)

**Children's Church** is for children in grades K- 5th, and meets in the chapel following the **Time with the Children**. Children's Church is now incorporating many elements of our traditional service so that children are interactively engaging in worship, just on a smaller scale.

**WHEELBARROW/FOOD BANK** 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.

### **SHIP Homeless for the Holiday Hygiene Drive**

Calvary UMC s 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](mailto: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 Pape



### Christmas Eve worship services

**5 p.m.** – A service particularly suited for younger children and families

**7 and 9 p.m. Candlelight and Communion** – Music provided by Sanctuary Choir, Joyful Noise Ringers, Harps, Organ, Vocalists. Worship including singing carols, scripture, sermon, and sharing at the Lord's Table

### Looking Ahead: Special Epiphany Study

The Old Timers & Newcomers Bible study group, that meets at **9 a.m. Sunday mornings** in the conference room of Calvary's Administrative Building, will have a special study of the Gospel of John during the Epiphany season for eight weeks, beginning January 5. **ALL ARE WELCOME!**



**Veggie Tale Movie Night** is happening from **6 – 7 p.m. Friday, January 17** 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 pillow and blanket if you'd like. Please register by contacting [AmyStone@calvaryumc.org](mailto:AmyStone@calvaryumc.org)



**Mission Possible Kids** next meeting will be **5:30 p.m.-7 p.m. Sunday, January 26** in the Activities Room of the Education Building to assemble **LOVE BAGS!** Join us! Please contact [AmyStone@calvaryumc.org](mailto:AmyStone@calvaryumc.org) for more information and to order a Mission Possible Kids t-shirt.



### Pajama Drive for Heartly House

Since 1979 Heartly House has been the only organization in Frederick County, MD that provides comprehensive services – free of charge – to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, intimate partner violence, human trafficking, and child abuse. Fleeing for their safety, many come with nothing in hand. To sleep comfortably, especially that first crucial evening, they need night clothes. Calvary is holding a **Valentine Drive for NEW pajamas** – women's and children's – all sizes and some non-gender specific. As you notice after-Christmas sales be sure to look out for new pajamas to donate to this important cause. A container will be available on the Parish Hall stage from January through February for donations. Please package your selections in clear plastic bags to help their distribution.

## December 22~December 29, 2024

Today, Sunday December 22

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship

11:15 a.m. Children's Choir

5:30 p.m. Youth Group

Tuesday, December 24

5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

7:00 p.m. Candlelight/Communion Service

9:00 p.m. Candlelight/Communion Service

Wednesday, December 25

Merry Christmas!

Thursday, December 26

3:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Tour of Churches

Next Sunday, December 29

10:00 a.m. Worship

### Prayer Concerns:

#### **Members of Calvary:**

Jim Dobbs, Patricia Pettingall, Rev. Ken Humbert, Mike Isaacs, Jackie Grimes, Helen Alysmeier, Nancy Huffman, Gracie Heller, Joyce Dixon, Lois Pacheco, 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)



# **38TH ANNUAL TOUR OF CHURCHES**

## **CALVARY UMC EVENT THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26TH DOORS OPEN AT 3:00 P.M.**

*CHICKEN CORN SOUP, COOKIES, HOT CHOCOLATE, COFFEE, HOT TEA, AND WATER WILL BE SERVICED FROM 3:00 P.M. UNTIL 8:00 P.M. OR WHEN WE RUN OUT.*

### **MUSICAL LINEUP**

**Tri State Harp Ensemble**

**Led by Sally Lay**

**3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

**Trinity Brass Ensemble**

**Led by Matthew Stegle**

**5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

**Seasonal Organ Music played by Karen Gebhart**

**6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.**

**Peal Bells Ringing and Demonstration**

**6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

**Seasonal Organ Music played by Karen Gebhart**

**7:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.**

**Peal Bells Ringing and Demonstration**

**7:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**





131 West Second Street  
Frederick, Maryland 21701  
301-662-1464 or [office@calvaryumc.org](mailto:office@calvaryumc.org)

## **Church Staff**

Rev. Dr. Steve Larsen, Lead Pastor  
[revsteve@calvaryumc.org](mailto:revsteve@calvaryumc.org) or 301-848-8216

Rev. Ken Humbert, Visitation Pastor  
[revkenh@starpower.net](mailto:revkenh@starpower.net)

Dr. Adela Peeva, Director of Music Ministries  
[adela@calvaryumc.org](mailto:adela@calvaryumc.org)

Jenn Duthoy, Director of Youth Ministries  
[calvaryyouth@calvaryumc.org](mailto:calvaryyouth@calvaryumc.org)

Amy Stone, Director of Children's Ministry  
[AmyStone@calvaryumc.org](mailto:AmyStone@calvaryumc.org)

Cathy Baker, Office Manager  
[cathybaker@calvaryumc.org](mailto:cathybaker@calvaryumc.org)

Sharon Brown, Financial Secretary  
[finance@calvaryumc.org](mailto:finance@calvaryumc.org)

Paul Metcalf, Custodian  
[paulmetcalf@calvaryumc.org](mailto:paulmetcalf@calvaryumc.org)

Joyce Summers, pianist

## **Calvary Weekday School**

133 West Second Street, Frederick MD 21701  
301-662-6783 ~ [www.calvaryweekdayschool.com](http://www.calvaryweekdayschool.com)

Patricia Lockard, Director  
[director@calvaryweekdayschool.com](mailto:director@calvaryweekdayschool.com)

Olivia Watkins, Administrative Assistant  
[calvaryweekdayschool@calvaryweekdayschool.com](mailto:calvaryweekdayschool@calvaryweekdayschool.com)

To give online visit our website at [www.calvaryumc.org/give](http://www.calvaryumc.org/give)