

CALVARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
131 WEST SECOND STREET, FREDERICK, MARYLAND 21701



Light for the CITY

November 23, 2025

10:00 A.M. Worship

www.Calvaryumc.org

CALVARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

131 West Second Street, Frederick, Maryland 21701

www.CalvaryUMC.org Facebook & Instagram @CalvaryUMCFred

Your presence is an offering to God. Please take a moment to record your participation in worship on the welcome pad located at the end of the pew and pass to your neighbor. This is a great place to leave prayer joys, concerns or notes for the pastoral staff as they are reviewed each week in the office.

GATHERING HYMN

“Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies”

UMH #173

WELCOME

Karen Gebhart, Worship Leader

PRELUDE & BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

“Prelude in g minor”

J. S. Bach

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Today we gather as one body, united in faith and purpose.

People: We come to dedicate our gifts, our lives, and our future to God.

Leader: The light of Christ has shone through generations at Calvary and still burns bright today.

People: We give thanks for those who came before us and for the mission that lies ahead.

Leader: The world needs the light that only God's people can offer.

All: Together we shine, for our city, for our neighbors, for the glory of God!

*OPENING HYMN

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

UMH #327

MINISTRY INVITATION & CELEBRATIONS

FAMILY TIME

Children's Church is for children ages 4 - 5th Grade and meets in the Chapel immediately following Family Time in the service.

OFFERING PRAYER

God of infinite light, we stand before You in gratitude and hope. Take these offerings and the commitments made this day, may they reflect our love for You and our faith in what You will do through us. Shine through our worship, our service, and our giving, that Calvary may be a beacon of grace and a witness to Your goodness. Let our lives shine with the light of Christ, now and always. Amen.

Offertory

“Nun bitten wir den Heiligen Geist”

Dietrich Buxtehude

*DOXOLOGY

UMH #94

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Eternal God, You are the source of all light and life. We praise You for calling us to be Your church, to love, to serve, to give, and to shine. Thank You for every pledge, every gift, every prayer offered today in faith. Bless the ministries of this church, that they may bring healing, hope, and new life to our city and world. Strengthen us to live generously and joyfully, trusting that You will multiply every gift for Your glory.

PRAYER HYMN

“Take My Life, and Let it Be”

UMH #399

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, 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.

ANTHEM

“Praise His Holy Name”

Keith Hampton

Sanctuary Choir

Soloists- Julia Lancione and Brad Davy

SCRIPTURE

Philippians 2:12-16 & John 1:5

Beth Strakonsky

MESSAGE

“Shining Together”

Rev. Dr. Beth Hutton

CALVARY CHEST – BRINGING OUR GIFTS TO GOD’S TEMPLE

They gave according to their means, and beyond their means, of their own free will, begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part..., but first they gave themselves to the Lord.

*CONSECRATION HYMN

“Jesus, Be the Center”

INSERT

*BENEDICTION

*CLOSING HYMN

“Now Thank We All Our God”

UMH #102

CARRYING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

POSTLUDE

“Fanfare”

John Cook

**Congregation stands, in body, heart or spirit.*

***WIFI PASSWORD: 131Guest**

Ushers: Linda Watson, Richard Delauter, Judy Wilson, Paul Muehl, Dave Mills

Coffee Host: Beth Strakonsky

Acolyte: Ryan and Mikey Mills

The altar flowers are in remembrance of those who are hungry, homeless, and without hope this Thanksgiving ~ by Paul Nelson

☞ **Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube @CalvaryUMCFred**

Services are livestreamed on Facebook & YouTube weekly



Want to receive our weekly e-news? You can get a “Between Sundays”, announcement of upcoming events, prayer concerns and other great information each Tuesday. Just send an email request to office@calvaryumc.org, sign up at <https://calvaryumc.org/newsletter/>, or the scan the QR code to the left.

Stay Connected & Support Calvary through Online Giving

Scan the QR code to give online or to update your contact information in our Calvary database. Keeping your information current helps us stay connected as a church family — and your gifts help us shine Christ’s light in our community. Thank you for your faithfulness and generosity! www.calvaryumc.org/give



November Love Offering – This month’s Love Offering supports the Frederick Foodbank. Frederick Foodbank needs non-perishable foods such as canned fruits and vegetables, canned meats and fishes, juices and drinks, pasta products, canned soups, rice and other staples. The Foodbank also needs personal hygiene supplies and childcare items such as shampoo, towels, washcloths, razors, shaving cream, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, disposable diapers, and baby food. Please place your donations in the wheelbarrow outside the Parish Hall doors.

You are also invited to give toward this special offering by placing your gift in the offering plate and nothing **Love Offering** in the memo line. You may also give directly online using the QR code above- again, please mark **“Love Offering”** in the memo line.

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION – CALLING ALL SMART PHONE USERS!

If you can operate a Smartphone you can operate the Calvary Live Stream Equipment, and we would like you to join our team! The goal is to have enough team members to facilitate a three- or four-month rotation making sure Calvary’s message is broadcast on Facebook and YouTube. If you would like to join the team or see how it works, please talk with Rob Summers or Dr. Hutton. We will be glad to show you how to get started!



**READY?
DONATE BLOOD.**



Blood Drive
Calvary UMC
Frederick

Parish Hall

131 W Second Street
Frederick, MD 21701

Wednesday, December 3, 2025
8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org
and enter: CalvaryUMCFrederick
to schedule an appointment.

Maximize your blood donation. Help more patients.
If you are an eligible type O, B - or A - donor,
consider making a Power Red donation.
Red blood cells are the most commonly transfused blood component.



Scan to be directed to
RapidPass®



**Give blood Nov. 17-Dec. 7 for an exclusive pair of Red
Cross x PAC-MAN socks, while supplies last!**



Scan to schedule
an appointment.

Schedule your blood donation appointment today!
1-800-RED CROSS | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

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[388] - Order ID: 1088445 - Item ID: 0487388 - Qty: 1 of 1 - 423088 - 2025-APL-0844, 2025-APL-0742 - A493 - 202706

Children's Ministry

Mission Possible Kids is for kids in Kindergarten through 5th Grade who want to help others and make a difference in the world! This month, **MPK** will meet from **5:30 p.m. – 7 p.m. Sunday, November 23** in the Activities Room of the Education Building. Join us! **Bring a canned food item for our local food bank!**



Please register at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0949ACAD2FABFBC61-48584528-mission> or contact AmyStone@calvaryumc.org for more information and to order a Mission Possible Kids t-shirt!



Calvary will be participating in *Frederick's Kris Kringle Procession* on **Friday, December 12**. 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 complete our mini-Nativity Scene float, complete with Mary, Joseph, the angels and stable animals! Walking musicians are welcome and encouraged as well!



Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal:

10 a.m. – Noon Saturday, December 13

Calvary's Annual Children's Christmas Pageant

will take place at **8:45 a.m. Sunday, December 14** in the Parish Hall!

Children will meet in the Activities Room at 8:30 to put on costumes!

Please let us know if your family will be participating in any or all of these exciting events at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0949ACAD2FABFBC61-52220851-christmas>

Advent Tea



Save the date!

Come and enjoy the beginning of the Advent Season at **2 p.m. Saturday December 6**. Share tea, cookies and cakes and join in the fellowship of singing hymns with the Calvary Women. Look for a sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center in the Parish Hall, **All Are Welcome!**

Angel Tree

The Calvary Angel Tree will once again be in Parrish Hall, helping provide Christmas gifts and meals for families in our community. For the past 25 years, Sheila Howard has faithfully led a team of Calvary women in organizing this ministry. As she steps away to focus on the Sleep in Heavenly Peace partnership, we thank her for her dedicated service and leadership.



After the Holiday Bazaar, the Angel Tree will be set up and decorated with ornaments. Each ornament lists a child's Christmas wish-list items, clothing needs, or a request for a grocery gift card. Participation is simple, and instructions are printed on the back of each ornament. Please remember to sign out the ornaments you take in the white binder.

All gifts must be returned to the tree by **Sunday, December 7**, so we have time to sort, pack, and tag everything before delivery. If you purchase clothing, including a gift receipt is very helpful for families who may need to exchange sizes.

We will also collect gift cards (Target, Walmart, Kohl's, local grocery stores) and cash donations for those who prefer not to shop. A box for these contributions is located near the tree.

Please make checks out to Calvary United Methodist Church and reference "Angel Tree."

Questions, please contact: Julie Schwarzenberg at 240-626-7666



Attention all bakers...

A favorite Calvary event is just around the corner ...

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 12 or by 9:30 a.m. Saturday, December 13.

Cookie trays will be available for purchase Sunday, December 14.

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

This Week at Calvary November 23 ~ November 30

Sunday, November 23 • 9 a.m. Sunday School • 10 a.m. Worship Service – Sanctuary • 11:15 a.m. Joyful Voices – Choir Room • 5:30 p.m. Mission Possible Kids-Activity Room • 5:30 p.m. Youth Group – Youth Room	Thursday, November 27 Happy Thanksgiving – Church Office Closed
Monday, November 24 • 7 p.m. Administrative Council	Friday, November 28 • 9 a.m. Fluffing of the Wreaths
Tuesday, November 25 • 10 a.m. Pastor’s Bible Study- Parlor • 6:30 p.m. Handbells- Bell Room • 7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir- Choir Room	Saturday, November 29 • 9 a.m. Hanging of the Greens
Wednesday, November 26 • 2 p.m. Miriam’s Circle • 6 p.m. Men’s Bible Study- Conference Room	Sunday, November 30 • 9 a.m. Sunday School • 10 a.m. Worship- Sanctuary

Altar Committee Meeting & Training: TODAY, November 23 – Immediately Following Worship

With a new pastor joining us, now is the perfect time to gather our Altar Committee for a refresher and training. We will review the setup for communion, altar paraments, and other worship-related preparations that make our services so meaningful.

We are also looking to **welcome new members** to the team! If you have ever wondered how everything comes together each Sunday, or if you would like to be part of creating a beautiful worship space, come join us. No experience necessary, just a willing heart and a good eye for detail. Contact Bonnie Strine for more information.

The We Care Committee will be honoring Jane Sowers and Bonnie Strine for their 26 years of leadership and dedication. If you have served with this group or helped in any way, you are invited to join us in celebrating the retirement of these two remarkable ladies! Call or text Peggy Rhoderick 301.676.7599 by Sunday, Nov. 30. Hope lots of We Care volunteers can join us!

What: Retirement Luncheon for Jane and Bonnie
When: Friday, December 5 at 1:00 p.m.
Where: Gladchuck’s, 489 West Patrick Street, Frederick

Gladchuck’s will honor individual tabs, so order anything you want for yourself from the menu. You can bring a donation that day (or to Peggy) to cover Jane’s and Bonnie’s meals. Any excess money will be donated to the We Care Committee in honor of Jane and Bonnie.

Prayer Concerns:

Members of Calvary: Judy Johnson, Becky Acklin, Anne Mossburg, Lois Tyson, Lois Pacheco, Tom Mullineaux, Charlie Geisbert, Jim Dobbs, Patricia Pettingall, Mike Isaacs, Helen Alysmeier, Nancy Huffman, Gracie Heller, Jack Heller, Rita Sharpe, Ann Crum, Marilyn Moyers, Peggy Griffiee, Nancy Dobbs, Susan Howe, Josie Manger

Friends of Calvary: Angie Miller (Mother of David Petrucci), Family of Sandi Holm (Sister of Paulette Shockey-Petrucci), Zintis Muiznieck (Family member of Paul Nelson), Leanne and Albert Hutton, Paul and Gwen Landers (Friends of Stephanie Felton), The Moldenda Family (Stephen Harris sister's family), Patrick Henry and Joe Birch (Friend of Paul Nelson), Judy Keys (Charlie Geisbert Caregiver), Charlotte Woodward (Friend of Betsy Bryant), Charles LeMaster (Father of Didi Willard), Thomas Crone (Brother-in-Law to Patsy Eavey), Chris Cubby (Friend of Paul Nelson), Lillian Schwarzenberg (Mother of Roy Schwarzenberg), Wendi Cyford (Friend of Angie and Eric Anderson), Marcy (Friend of Julie Schwarzenberg), Agnes Dobson (Mother of Grace Dobson), Dom Norris (Friend of Drew Irving), Jan Nefflen (Friend of Peggy Rhoderick), Angela Gorens (Friend of Stephanie Felton), Drew Wilson, Marie Slovikosky Miller (Sister-in-law of Nancy Slovikosky), Cheryl Christine (Chris) Irving (Wife of Drew Irving), Allan Huffman (Son of Nancy Huffman), Brian Jones (Friend of the Linda & Scott English), Janet Stone (Mother of Jeff Stone), Hope Patterson (Sister of Charlotte Pasquerette), Kitty Cooley (Sister of Connie Scoggins), Gil Crippen, Jim Clark, Ida Durden, and Janella Walls, Louise Brieto (Family Members and Friends of Rita Sharpe)



Calvary United Methodist Church
131 West Second Street, Frederick, Maryland 21701

the
Gifts
beneath the lists

Where our true longings meet God's gifts.

"Why spend your money
on what is not bread,
and your labor on what
does not satisfy?

Listen, that you may live."

Isaiah 55:2-3

ADVENT WORSHIP SERIES

10:00 A.M. Worship

WWW.CALVARYUMC.ORG

This Advent Worship Series is perfect for small groups and circles,
Books will be available for sale in the Parish Hall, \$12 per book.

Christmas Eve
SERVICES

5:00 P.M. FAMILY SERVICE
CHILDREN'S MUSIC & LIVING NATIVITY

7:00 P.M. & 9:00 P.M.
TRADITIONAL CAROLS & LESSONS
CANDLELIGHT & COMMUNION

CALVARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
131 W. 2ND STREET, FREDERICK



Congregational Vote



Calvary will hold a congregational vote in December to discern whether we will become a Reconciling Congregation within the Reconciling Ministries Network (RMN). **This step affirms that LGBTQIA+ individuals are welcomed, affirmed, and loved as beloved children of God in our community of faith.**

Who votes?

All professing members, ordained clergy connected to Calvary, and preparatory members in professing-member households will receive a ballot envelope. Ballots themselves are anonymous.

When to vote:

- Sunday, December 7 – before & after worship
- Sunday, December 14 – before & after worship
- Located in the Parish Hall

If you cannot attend either Sunday:

You may cast your ballot in the church office during the week (Dec. 8–12) from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., or call the office to vote by phone with a staff member. 301-662-1464

Ballots will be counted by the Finance Team to ensure transparency and impartiality.

Calvary Congregational Vote — December 2025

The Question Before the Congregation

Calvary United Methodist Church will vote on whether to join the **Reconciling Ministries Network (RMN)** and publicly affirm that **LGBTQIA+ individuals are welcomed, affirmed, and loved as beloved children of God** within our community of faith.

This step is not about perfect language but about taking our place as a church committed to full inclusion and safety for all God's people as we continue "moving on to perfection in love." As part of becoming a Reconciling Congregation, Calvary would adopt the following statement and participate in the ongoing work of the Reconciling Ministries Network.

Reconciling Ministries Network Foundational Statement

"We celebrate God's gift of diversity and value the wholeness made possible in community equally shared and shepherded by all. We welcome and affirm people of every gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation, who are also of every age, race, ethnicity, physical and mental ability, level of education, and family structure, and of every economic, immigration, marital, and social status, and so much more. We acknowledge that we live in a world of profound social, economic, and political inequities. As followers of Jesus, we commit ourselves to the pursuit of justice and pledge to journey in solidarity with all who are marginalized and oppressed. "

Please record your vote below:

- ☐ **Yes.** I support adopting the above statement and partnering with the Reconciling Ministries Network as a Reconciling Congregation.
- ☐ **No.** I do not support adopting the above statement or partnering with the Reconciling Ministries Network as a Reconciling Congregation.
- ☐ **I support Calvary's step toward full inclusion, trusting God's grace as I continue to discern.** *(This vote will be counted as a "Yes.")*
- ☐ **Abstention.** *(This vote will not be counted as a yes or a no.)*

Thank you for your prayerful discernment and participation.



Poinsettia Order

Deadline to place orders is December 3.

Red 6.5-inch pot is \$15.00 ~ White 6.5-inch pot is \$15.00

(Please return to church office)

_____ Enclosed is my check/cash for \$_____for _____poinsettias

Dedication: **PLEASE PRINT**

In MEMORY

of _____

In HONOR

of _____

Given by:

_____I will pick up my poinsettia(s)

_____please donate my poinsettia(s)

Totals:

_____ Red Poinsettia

_____ White Poinsettia

\$_____ Total amount paid



131 West Second Street
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Church Staff

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Brenda Weiser, Interim Director of Music Ministries and Organist
bweiser@calvaryumc.org

Paul Metcalf, Custodian

Joyce Summers, Pianist
jsummers@calvaryumc.org



Calvary Weekday School

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