



March 2016
Vol 2 | Issue 2

"The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land." - Song of Solomon 2:12



Waiting & Yearning in Lent | Pastor Dan Quiram

As I was working on the rest of the Lenten Season and Holy Week, I came across this article by Charles M. Olsen in my files, which I believe speaks so well to our journey of faith and witness. It is a bit long, but worthy of our disciplined reading of it. *(The illustration used is from another denomination, but that doesn't diminish the value of the story.)*

Advent, Lent, and pre-Pentecost are each unique seasons into which a wide variety of congregational and individual stories can be gathered. While waiting and yearning, we find common threads of relinquishment in each. We let go in each season in order to move to a new future—sometimes from our own planning and effort, sometimes from pain and the threat of death, and sometimes from focused spiritual practice. In the season of Lent, we are invited to surface stories that evidence waiting and yearning, but their character is very different from those of Advent. Stories of waiting and yearning in Lent and Holy Week become laced with strange mixtures of excitement and fear, success and failure, loyalty and betrayal, affirmation and denial, life and death.

Jesus's popular Galilean ministry of teaching and healing took a dramatic turn after his mountaintop visit with Moses and Elijah, when God affirmed for the second time that Jesus was a beloved Son. When Jesus returned from the transfiguration, he found a confused band of disciples frustrated in their own efforts to heal and teach. From that moment he told them of his determination to go to Jerusalem to encounter hostile death threats. "He set his face to go to Jerusalem" (Luke 9:51). (This

turning marks the beginning of our Lenten season.) The crowds did not receive him because they did not understand the direction he was heading. And his disciples objected to even the thought of death. His followers waited and yearned—but for a popular crowning of a king as the culmination to glorious ministry.

Matthew places Jesus's intent to go to Jerusalem immediately after the feeding of the 5,000, where waiting and yearning were expressed by their determination to make him their king. But Jesus disappointed them, inviting them to let go of their illusion, "From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering . . . and be killed" (Matt. 16:21). Our Lenten stories are often filled with the same elements of failure, disillusionment, and frustration.

The 40 days of Lent, beginning with Ash Wednesday, reflect Israel's 40 years' wandering in the desert before entering the Promised Land. This ancient holy season of self-denial and repentance is rooted in the early church's practice of instructing new adherents in the faith during a period of fasting and before their baptism at sunrise on Easter morning. The whole church came to adopt the practice of fasting during Lent as preparation for celebrating the festival of Easter. The earliest known recommendation that Christians should fast for 40 days before Easter comes from a letter written in 330 ce by St. Athanasius, Patriarch of Alexandria, Egypt. By the Middle Ages, fasting was enforced throughout Europe, and innkeepers faced threats of

continued on page 2

Inside this issue:	
Pastor's Message	1/2
Sunday School, Bible Study & More!	3
Camp Calvary	4
"Notes" from Worship & Music	5/6
Power of Prayer	5
Calvary Youth	6
Lutheran Schools Week	7
Mark Your Calendars!	8
Events Calendar & Special Notices	insert



Waiting & Yearning in Lent cont'd from p. 1 | Pastor Dan Quiram

WAITING FOR THE INTENTIONAL INTERIM PASTOR

Our District President, Rev. Dr. John Denninger, has been seeking to find a certified Intentional Interim Pastor to serve our congregation.

There is a candidate currently working in North Carolina that may be available for us shortly after Easter. He has done exceptional good work in our district. God has uniquely blessed him.

Let us keep this process in prayer that His will may be worked out among us. Meanwhile, Pastor Dan has agreed to a 1-month extension of his contract to serve as a short-term vacancy pastor.

imprisonment if they served meat during the final weeks before Easter.

The Reformers of the 16th century de-emphasized the season, but in recent years Protestants have renewed their interest and participation in special Lenten programs and liturgies. Palm Sunday, for instance, which used to be celebrated as Little Easter with worshipers waving palms in joyous processions, marks the beginning of Holy Week with a more somber emphasis on Christ's sufferings. Fasting in identification with the sufferings of Jesus becomes an important discipline for spiritual growth while waiting and yearning for Easter life.

The liturgical color for the season of Lent is purple, which characterizes waiting and yearning in the experiences of repentance, suffering, death, relinquishment, brokenness, alienation, abandonment, loneliness, isolation, and conflict. While putting on the color of purple, an individual might ask:

- ◆ *Do I feel like I am in a wilderness?*
- ◆ *Am I facing temptation and need help to resist?*
- ◆ *Do I see weakness in myself and the need to change?*
- ◆ *What do I need to allow to die in me in order to be closer to God?*
- ◆ *What do I need to confess in order to be rid of guilt?*
- ◆ *With what am I struggling and in pain?*
- ◆ *Do setbacks and losses eat away at me?*
- ◆ *How far have I strayed from God's purpose for my life?*
- ◆ *Do I doubt God, myself, others?*
- ◆ *From what or whom do I run away and hide?*
- ◆ *Does saying goodbye to people and places leave me feeling sad?*

A friend and I used to compare notes on what we each were giving up for Lent or what new spiritual practice we were initiating for the season. Two years ago my response was, "I am entering chemotherapy." My chemo treatment started at Ash Wednesday and continued into the season of Pentecost. I accepted my trips to the clinic for six hours of chemical injections as a spiritual discipline, one in which the forces of death were vying with the forces of life. The chemicals injected into my body were aimed at a nasty tumor but damaged my hair, digestive process, and good cells. I experienced much "dying unto self" while I awaited the good news of Easter life.

Congregations struggle, wait, and yearn as well. Betrayals of trust, posturing, power moves, hidden dirty laundry, and scores of other life-depleting attitudes and behaviors sap our common life and call for resolution and healing. The church knows the stories of Holy Week within its own life. We might ask, "Is it possible to discover God's presence in the midst of all this stuff?" Denying the existence of our struggles will only be self-defeating. Lent calls us to openly and humbly face them and to offer them to God for resolution. Now letting go gets into the act, repeating the same movement of spiritual formation that played at Advent. This time we let go of anything that hides the existence of our shortcomings and life-depleting behaviors.

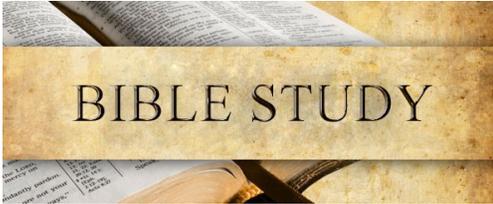
The leaders of one church tell their Lenten story: They were looking for an associate pastor to share leadership ministry with the senior pastor. After a long search, the committee unanimously recommended that the pastor's wife, also an ordained minister, be called to the position. When her name was presented to the congregation, her nomination failed by two votes. The ensuing embarrassment, mistrust, misunderstanding, and frustration boiled beneath the surface, and the leaders of the church were at a loss to deal with it. The hurt and confusion cut so deep that they hardly knew how to talk about it. It surely was a Lenten story. They yearned to be free of the pain and confusion. To deal adequately with it, the leaders would have to find an opportunity to tell the story together, thereby forming a corporate memory of it. Then they would need to name the dynamics that surrounded and infected the story. They could associate it with the confusion of the Passion story in Lent and Holy Week—interweaving it with biblical stories. Finally, they could let go of resentments and critical judgments—waiting for God to touch their story with grace. When they offer it to God, they could work their way through it in faith, hope, and love.

Lenten waiting and yearning culminates in Holy Week with the devastation of letting go in death. Dread, not God, seems to hold the future. Neither individuals nor congregations can bypass Good Friday. Walking through the valley of the shadow of death is part of the pilgrimage. For congregations, betrayal by a minister, the departure of a beloved pastor, the burning of a sacred building, a church split, an all-consuming conflict, or an overloaded program schedule sounds the death knell. In the midst of death, we yearn for life.

Adapted from The Wisdom of the Seasons: How the Church Year Helps Us Understand Our Congregational Sto-



Sunday School & Bible Study | Scott Jones



Sunday Bible Study, 9:45am

Fellowship Hall

We continue our 12-week study of the Book of Hebrews. Come learn what makes Christianity so vastly superior and the fulfillment of the Judaism that preceded it. Jesus Christ is the ultimate prophet, priest and king. Find out what those truths mean to you on this side of the Cross. Don't ever worry about missing any prior studies; you are invited to explore the true life-giving Word.

Wednesday Lectionary Bible Study

7pm, Office Conference Room

This is Year C in the 3 Year Lectionary and our Gospel focus will be on Luke. Christmas would not be complete without the reading of Luke's account of the birth of the promise Messiah in the little town of Bethlehem. You are invited to prepare for Sunday's Divine Service by studying the upcoming readings at our weekly Lectionary Bible Study.

NEW – Luncheon Bible Study: Over the next three months we are going to be testing a lunch time (11:30 – 12:30) Bible Study on Wednesdays at a restaurant in the Towson area. Potential topics include Book of Concord, Apocrypha, Psalms, Gospel of Mark, or other topics that you may have. This is new so nothing has been finalized – please contact Scott Jones @ 443-377-4151 for details.

Please contact Scott Jones, 410.828.9208, with any questions on these opportunities.

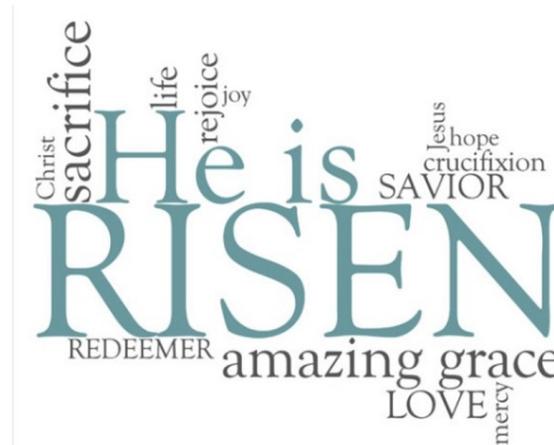
Other Children's, youth and adult Bible Study opportunities are available throughout the week, including:

Youth Confirmation: please see Pastor Quiram for more information.

Women's Bible Study, 1st & 3rd

Tuesdays of the month, 7:30pm, Pat Bell's house. Starting January 5, the group will be discussing Philip Yancey's book "Vanishing Grace - Whatever Happened to the Good News", using an accompanying study guide and DVD to facilitate discussion.

Topics for Today Group Discussion, Sunday, 9:45am-10:45am. Nancie & Ron Seymour lead this adult group in discussion based on current events and other topics in facing Christians today. Contact Nancie or Ron for the current offering and meeting place.



Greetings in the mighty name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! I am sending you a ministry newsletter for March 2016. Please pray for this ministry.

I have developed sessions to understand Islam and Muslim belief and way of salvation and issue of ISIS. It is based on Quran, Hadiths and Islamic history written by Muslim historians. It gives insight into Islam and helps to witness to our Muslim neighbors, friends working with us, studying in schools, colleges and universities. I can teach this in your churches.

- 1-Allah of Islam and God of the Holy Bible, similarities and differences (the word Allah in the Arabic Bible and word Allah in Quran);
- 2-Muhammad, the founder of this religion, his life and teachings;
- 3-The Meaning of Islam, the book of Quran, Hadiths, Sunnah, Muslim marriage, etc.;
- 4-Textual history of the Quran and teachings of Allah;
- 5-Why Muslims consider non-Muslims infidels (Kafir/kafur);
- 6-How to evangelize to Muslims.

Peace of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Pastor Falak Robson

Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Baltimore, MD

LINC Baltimore - West Side Immigrant Outreach

TO SUBMIT NEWS OR FIND OUT MORE ABOUT CALVARY'S NEWSLETTER, CONTACT:

- **Board of Public Relations**
Bridget Mainley
bmainley@gmail.com
- To submit news, email calvarynews@gmail.com or calvarylutherancs@gmail.com; contact Bridget Mainley (bmainley@gmail.com, 410.804.7811, cell); or place in the Public Relations mailbox in the Church office
- Make sure you're getting the digital version of the newsletter and other congregational communications—sign up outside the narthex or send your name and current email address to calvarylutherancs@gmail.com.
- Upcoming publications, dates and deadlines are:
⇒ **April** issue:
deadline March 26th

**READERS FOR
MARCH/APRIL**

3/6 Joshua 5:9-12, Ps.32 2,
Cor. 5:16-21

8:15 Allison Sabatino
11:00 Tomi Lucas

3/13 Daylight Savings
Time

Isaiah 43:16-21, Ps.126,
Phil.3:4b-14

10:00 Denise Venzke

3/20 Palm Sunday

Isaiah 50:4-9a, Ps.31:9-16,
Phil.2:5-11

8:15 Olive Abt
11:00 Andrew Venzke

3/24 Maundy Thursday

Exodus 12:1-4 (5-10) 11-14
1Cor. 11:23-26

7pm Manfred Reek

3/25 Good Friday

Isaiah 52:13—53:12;
Heb.10:16-25

7pm John Trotz

3/27 Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34-43 or Ps.118 1-2,
14-24

6:30 Scott Ruhl

Isaiah 65:17-25, 1 Cor. 15:
19-26 or Acts 10: 34-43

8:15 Cynthia Hoerl
11:00 Cara Lucas

4/3 Acts 5: 27-32,

Ps.118:14-29, Rev. 1:4-8

8:15 Kaylee Hoerl

11:00 Ronnie Segal

4/10 Acts 9:1-6 (7-20),

Ps.30, Rev.5:11-14

8:15 Olive Abt

11:00 Bev Karageorge

4/17 Acts 9: 36-43,

Ps.23, Rev. 7:9-17

8:15 David Sitter

11:00 Alasaro Lucas

4/24 Acts 11:1-18, Ps.148,

Rev.21:1-6

8:15 Scott Ruhl

11:00 John Trotz

Readers are always needed—please contact Amanda Richter, if interested. Please arrive early in time to check the bulletin for changes in scripture. If you cannot read, please find a substitute for your scheduled day and notify the church office before Wednesday. Thank you for your service as readers!

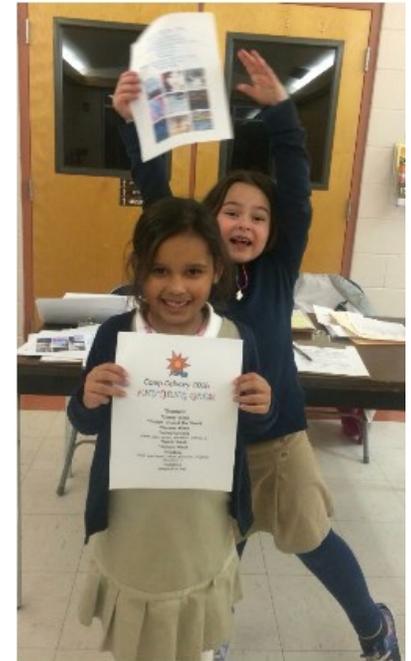
Camp Calvary | Laura Stratton

Camp Calvary's 4th summer is starting to take shape!

Our theme for this summer is "ANYTHING GOES!" We are busy planning all kinds of activities, crafts, special guests and field trips. We are going to have some amazing weekly themes!

We will be celebrating a week of holidays, a cruise around the world, America from the past, and SO MUCH MORE! Our field trips include: skating, the movie theatre, the ships in the Inner Harbor and SO MUCH MORE!

We had an early registration for Calvary students and past campers last month. We already have 33 campers registered! So far we have 17 K-1 Calvary students and six students from the early learning center. We are so excited about our growing camp! God continues to bless us with campers and quality staff.



8-Week Summer Camp Program

June 20 - August 12

Open to ages 3.5 up to current grade 5

Calvary Lutheran Church & School

2625 E. Northern Parkway | Baltimore, MD 21214

410.426.4302 | calvarydifference.com

Monday-Friday, 8am-3pm/\$150*

before (7am-8am) \$5 | after (3pm-6pm) \$10

campcalvarybaltimore@gmail.com

[facebook.com/campcalvarybaltimore](https://www.facebook.com/campcalvarybaltimore)



Certified Youth Camp by the State of Maryland, trained/certified teaching & support personnel staff the camp providing a safe & nurturing environment

* Weekly registration available; all pricing is per week & includes breakfast & snack; you provide lunch



“Notes” from Worship & Music | Barb Sommer

As we prepare for Holy Week and Easter, it is very humbling to remember the Lenten season involves us as the primary recipients of this gift of God’s Salvation through Jesus Christ.

There is nothing more valuable for all than forgiveness and eternal life through belief in Him. Why do we spend 40 days in preparation for Easter, year after year? Don’t you need to be reminded in your heart and mind over and over that you are loved, you are valuable in the sight of God, you are forgiven? Spend more time, or is it just time, in prayer, reading of the Bible, learning how Christ needs your time and talents for His mission. You don’t have to be young or old, healthy or compromised in your health, overburdened or sitting around waiting for something to happen, working on a GED or have many degrees, a preacher or teacher for this -- just a humble child of Almighty God who created you and blessed you with all you have, that you should be willing to tell others about His love for you and them. Be more like the ladies who stuck their heads in Jesus’ empty tomb and heard, “He is not here, He is risen!” They ran and told others!

“God so Loved the World” - God loved me - “that He gave His only begotten Son. That whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” (John 3:16)

See you in church!



**THRIVENT
FINANCIAL®**

Connecting faith & finances for good.®

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

Did you know that eligible members of Thrivent Financial can help support Calvary Lutheran Church and School through the Thrivent Choice Member-advised Charitable Grant Program?

Annually, eligible Thrivent members are able to designate “Choice Dollars” based on their qualifying insurance premiums, contract values and volunteer leadership. When they direct “Choice Dollars”, they recommend where Thrivent distributes a portion of its charitable funds. Are you an eligible Thrivent member with Choice Dollars available to direct? If so, you can help strengthen our church community by directing your “Choice Dollars” to Calvary Lutheran Church and School.

This past year eligible Thrivent members directed \$1,667 to Calvary Lutheran Church and School. Thank you to those members who helped to support our church’s mission by directing their “Choice Dollars”. There are 124 Thrivent members among Calvary’s membership and 48 are eligible to direct “Choice Dollars”. See if you are one of them. Choose to make a difference. Simply visit Thrivent.com/thriventchoice to

The Power of Prayer | Pat Bell

"Standing in the Need of Prayer" written by Moses Hogan is a gospel hymn known by many. We often find ourselves in need of intercessory prayer. Praying for others can put a spiritual wall of protection around those requesting prayer. Prayer is a ministry of the church that uses this power God gave the church to call upon him in times of need and times of praise and thanksgiving.

Calvary's Prayer Circle has been using this power of prayer for years. They are waiting for your call!

Ruth Pfeffer, chair 410.252.7169
Betty Heilman, 410.666.2806

Marlene Kluge, 717.235.7879
Laura Sitter, 410.668.1617
Pat Peters, 410.569.3459
Lynne Funck, 410.661.1763

+++++

Calvary has a **Prayer Ministry Team** that meets every Sunday during the Bible Study hour praying for the needs of others and for Calvary's renewal. All are invited to join them for prayer any Sunday during the entire time or any portion of the time they meet. Prayer requests can also be given to the group leader, Joan Colliflower, 410.426.3919.



Notes from Music & Worship | cont'd

CAR NEEDED

Do you have a car that you would like to donate to a good cause - and a possible tax deduction?

We are looking for a working automobile for one of the school families. The Lutheran Mission Society will work with Calvary so the owner could still get a tax deduction, and a school family will have transportation to get to work and school.

If you have such a car, or know of someone who does, please contact Barb Sommer at 410-254-5212 or Darlene Quiram at 410-339-7979.



RIDE NEEDED

The Weimer family, members of Advent in Harford County, are looking for a ride share for their son who lives in Parkville and is disabled.

Transportation is needed from work on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from the Parkville area to Gaithersburg. He will help with gas money.

If you are able to help please call Pam at 240.925.3840.

learn more about program terms and conditions.

“STAND WITH YOUR COMMUNITY” GRANT

Calvary applied for a special grant called *Stand With Your Community* to honor the 500th anniversary of the Reformation (2017). The funding partners are the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, the Lutheran Church Extension Fund, and Thrivent Financial Foundation. We asked for this money to prepare for and expand on our church’s new areas of outreach through the Mercy House and Grace/Gray House.



Out of 500 applications and an intense selection process, Calvary was awarded their request of almost \$16,000. What a blessing! The work on these two houses continues as we prepare to launch ministries in this year, which will impact the community in which we live. Look for more news and details in the near future as to how you too can be a part of this exciting and heart- warming interaction with people. First they are strangers, then acquaintances, then friends, then like family and open to hear the invitation of Jesus.

HANDS-ON CPR



Calvary has again been selected to host a community evening of learning through **Hands-On CPR**, run through the Office of Community Health of the Johns Hopkins Health Systems. You will be taught a simplified method of CPR which has allowed ordinary by- standers to be instrumental in saving lives.

The date is Monday, April 11th; 7:00 to 8:00 PM. Wear comfortable shoes and clothes and be ready for an enjoyable evening. Please RSVP by Sunday, April 3rd to Barb Sommer 410.254.5212, so enough equipment and trainers will be available. The cost is free!

TENDING THE FLAME—SUPPORT CALVARY’S YOUTH

Alison Baptiste and Rosa White are leading a group of Calvary’s young people in attending the “Tending the Flame” Outreach Conference, July 29 and 30 at Wyndam Virginia Crossings in Glen Allen, VA. The conference includes:

The presenter Keith Anderson, author of The Digital Cathedral, explores massive changes in communications and technology taking place today. He will help create a constructive framework to help congregations and ministry leaders understand how to employ new media in ways that strengthen faith communities. Keith’s work focuses on the understanding and use of social media and digital technologies for ministry, ministering in a culture of increasing religious non-affiliation, and extending ministry and the Gospel beyond our church buildings into local and digital gathering space.

Jeff Smith Ministries - Saturday Evening:

An incredible Ministry celebration with Christian performing artist Jeff Smith. Jeff, a creative ministry performer, brings Bible stories and Bible characters to life - drama, music, comedy and storytelling is his unique brand of ministry.

New Location - New Agenda: Make your plans now to join us at this new location for our summer conference. The Wyndam Virginia Crossings is a colonial style hotel surrounded by a golf course available to hotel guests. This year our event is two days, beginning Friday afternoon with workshops and ending Saturday with an evening event.

Workshops: Five sessions of workshop presentations by leaders in ministries. A complete list will be posted in April.

Youth Program: The team from Messiah, Charlotte, NC, is back to shape and lead this event designed for infants and children.

Teen Program: Robbie & James from Concordia, Conover, NC, will be back to provide an exciting teen program.

Early bird registration and special rates for youth/teens are available. If you are interested in attending or in supporting Calvary Youth in their attendance, check out <http://www.se.lcms.org/ttf2016> or contact either Alison or Rosa if you’d like to help the youth.



Calvary Celebrates Lutheran School Week | Deb Heilman

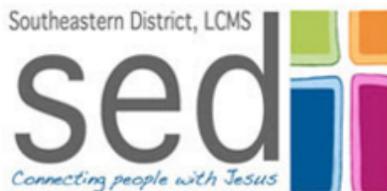
Calvary School students in Preschool through Grade 5 celebrated National Lutheran Schools Week March 6 – 11 along with 90 other school ministries in our Southeastern District. This year's theme was "Celebrating Together With Christ".

Activities for the week included our Liturgical Dance Group and student singers praising God through music during Sunday worship services. The students of the fifth grade class used their artistic talents to design and decorate the banner that hung in church.

On Monday students celebrated being a part of families with pajama day. Tuesday was celebrating God's gift of reading with students

dressing as favorite story characters and older students reading to the younger children. Wednesday the children celebrated with special family guests, worshipping together in chapel led by Pastor Quiram. Thursday's celebration included dressing in various styles through the decades. (see SED article below!) The week long activities ended Friday celebrating Crazy Hair and Dress Day.

Along with the excitement and fun of celebrating, students were involved in a special project to collect materials for Parent Kits. The kits will aid parents whose children are patients at the University of Maryland Medical Center.



Tel: [703-971-9371](tel:703-971-9371) or [800-637-5723](tel:800-637-5723)
Fax: [703-922-6047](tel:703-922-6047)

Celebrating Lutheran Schools Week

It's Friday of Lutheran Schools Week and so many of our Schools have celebrated in creative and fun ways. There has been Wacky Wednesday, Twin Tuesday, Throwback Thursday, Fantastic Friday to name a few. Grandparents have been celebrated, food drives conducted, and visits to local fire stations to say thank you. Chapel services focused on our Life Together with Christ. After all, in the midst of wacky, fantastic, and marvelous, it comes down to what Jesus has done and wanting to live as his disciple that makes our Lutheran Schools Lutheran.



A big HI from Concordia Upper Marlboro MD

Today, I give thanks to the many people who make it possible for our children to receive a Christian education: for congregations who have a vision for connecting with their neighbors through school ministries, for parents who hunger for Christian education, safe places, and academic excellence for their children, and for teachers and school workers who are the classroom missionaries. Indeed, we give thanks to God for all of you!

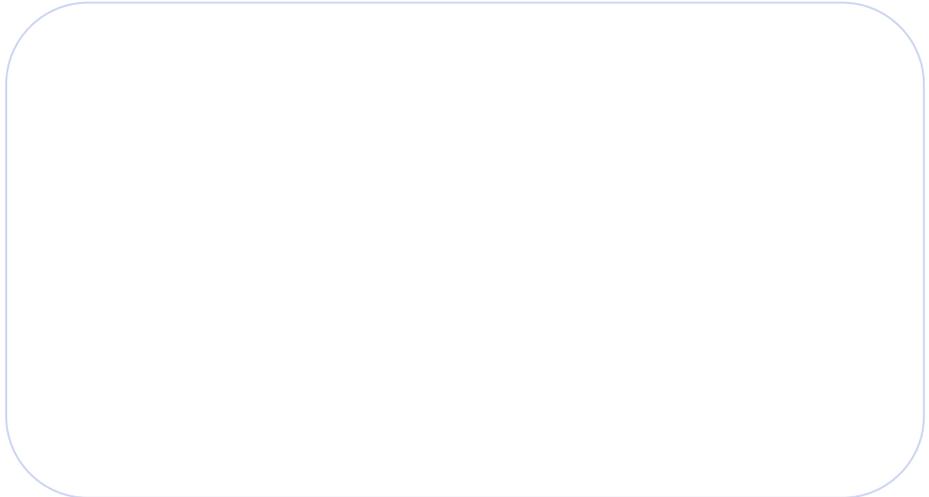


Decade Day at Calvary Baltimore MD



Calvary's Newsletter is published monthly by the Board of Public Relations for Calvary Lutheran Church & School. Its purpose is to inform the community, members and friends of Calvary of activities, programs, and most of all, the Lord's blessings upon us all. A parish paper has been in publication since January 1932.

In Christ, We Grow & Love Each Other!



Calvary Lutheran Church & School

2625 E. Northern Parkway
Baltimore, MD 21214

P: church | 410.426.4301

school, 410.426.4302

F: 410.426.7590

E: calvarylutherancs@gmail.com

Rev. Dan Quiram, Vacancy Pastor
Deborah Heilman, Principal
Gina Merendino, Secretary



Easter Comes Early This Year... Are You Ready?



2016 Lenten Season

Ash Wednesday

February 10th, 7pm
"The Sign of Forgiveness"

Mid Week 2 *

February 17th, 7pm
"The Sign of Peace"

Mid Week 3 *

February 24th, 7pm
"The Sign of Understanding"

Mid Week 4 *

March 2nd, 7pm
"The Sign of Agony"

Mid Week 5 *

March 9th, 7pm
"The Sign of Decision"

Mid Week 6 *

March 16th, 7pm
"The Sign of Mystery"



Holy Week

Palm Sunday

March 20th
8:15am & 11am Worship Services

Maundy Thursday

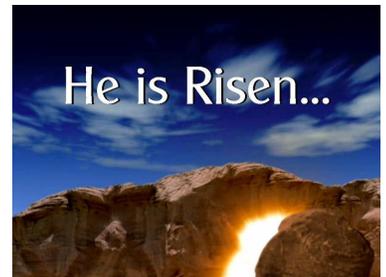
"The Sign of Power"
March 24th, 7pm

Good Friday

"The Sign of Finality"
March 25th, 7pm

Easter Sunday

"The Sign of His Presence"
March 27th
6:30am**, 8:30am** & 11am
Worship Services



* Mid Week Services are casual in format, held in the Fellowship Hall preceded by a Soup Supper at 6pm
** continental breakfast served following services



You
**don't want to
miss this.**

“Cross Connect” - Support the Community/Classifieds

HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS: As part of the ongoing effort to keep our neighborhoods and waterways cleaner and healthier, Baltimore City is providing Municipal Trash Cans to every residential address that currently receives City trash collection. These durable, wheeled trash cans are equipped with attached, tight-fitting lids that have proven effective in keeping streets and alleys clean, and in deterring rodents. Trash can distribution will begin by early 2016. To learn about Municipal Trash Cans and their distribution go to: <http://publicworks.baltimorecity.gov/PublicInformation/PressReleases/tabid/2382/articleType/ArticleView/articleId/5427/Municipal-Trash-Can-Program-Begins.aspx>.

HARBEL HIRING: Part –time administrative assistant in outpatient substance abuse treatment program. Hours will be Tuesday evenings and two Saturdays per month from 9am to 3pm. Some additional hours may be available. Position is responsible for input of data into various systems required by grants and for insurance authorizations, phone triage, customer service to clients, and assistance with billing as well as routine office clerical tasks. Experience and interest in behavioral health or medical setting is preferred.. Billing experience system is an asset, prefer experience with Value Options/Beacon Health authorization process for substance abuse treatment. Submit cover letter that specifies interest in part time administrative position and specifies hours you are available to work to pstable@harbelprc.com.

FREE TAX PREPARATION by appointment only for people who make \$53,000 or less. To schedule an appointment, call [410-234-8008](tel:410-234-8008) or visit www.bmorefreetaxes.org. Locations in or close to Northeast Baltimore:

Morgan State University @ Graves School of Business, McMechen Building
1700 E. Cold Spring Lane, 21251 (building is located east of the pedestrian bridge)

Northern Community Action Center, 5225 York Road, 21212 (Baltimore City Residents only)

When you come to the FREE tax preparation location, bring the following:

- Proof of health insurance including a from 1095 A, B, or C
- A Social Security Card and photo ID for EACH family member
- W-2 forms for all jobs worked
- All tax forms for other income if any
- Letter for child care provider with address, Tax ID number, name of child and amount paid
- All banking account information (a voided check and/or saving deposit slip) to direct deposit your refund (up to three separate accounts)
- A copy of last year's tax return
- Any document or information about money from the IRS or the State of Maryland
- Any other tax related documents you have received

Every adult on your return must come to sign the return. All tax sites offer FREE access to other financial resources such as savings accounts, US Savings Bonds, and prepaid cards. Assistance to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is available at some locations, call for more information. Anyone making \$60,000 or less can use My Free Taxes FREE online software to file Federal Taxes for FREE! www.myfreetaxes.com. The Maryland State Comptroller's Office will prepare your Maryland State Taxes for FREE. For more information go to: http://taxes.marylandtaxes.com/Individual_Taxes/Taxpayer_Assistance/Free_Income_Tax_Preparation.shtml or call: [410-260-7980](tel:410-260-7980).



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“Cross Connect” - Support the Community/Classifieds

LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES IS seeking to fill the position of Division Director, US Ministries, St. Louis office, and we are requesting your help. To fill this important role at Lutheran Hour Ministries, qualified candidates for the Division Director, US Ministries must show: spiritual maturity, acting in a manner consistent with the Christian principles and convictions of the LCMS and Lutheran Church-Canada, and a member in good standing of one of their congregations; 5+ years influence and/or leadership experience; dynamic, energetic, and visible leadership, with the ability to motivate, energize, and inspire the respect of others and create a culture of collaboration, teamwork, and results; experience with mass media and multiple media platforms. Feel free to forward this to someone you consider a strong candidate. Questions may be sent to LHMjobs@lhm.org, Kimberly Gannon, Talent Acquisition Specialist, Lutheran Hour Ministries,

HAMILTON HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION CASUAL MEETING, Wednesday, March 16th 6-8:00pm, at “Lost in the 50’s” Diner (5512 Harford Rd). Come out and get your local questions answered and meet some neighbors. Ask Secretary Blom and the block captains about dumpster and neighborhood clean up days. Ask President Schmitt how the neighborhood works to resolve vacant and nuisance properties and sign the speed hump petition your streets (Bayonne, Westfield and Tramore). The Diner will also be taking orders from their kid-friendly menu.

BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT’S NORTHEAST DISTRICT’S EASTER EGG HUNT: Thursday, March 24, 2016, 4pm-6pm, Northwood Baseball Field (next to Morgan State University’s Murphy Fine Art’s Center). GAMES – RAFFLE – PRIZES. Sponsored by McDonald’s at the Northwood Plaza and Harford and Moravia Roads.

3RD DISTRICT CITY COUNCIL FORUM: Thursday, March 24th, 7pm-9pm, Faith Community United Methodist Church, 5315 Harford Road, Baltimore, MD 21214. The League of Women Voters and the HARBEL Community Organization invite you to join them for a night with the 2016 Candidates for the 3rd District of the Baltimore City Council. The forum will be moderated by a member of the League of Women Voters. For more information call: [410-336-8826](tel:410-336-8826).

5TH ANNUAL NORTH BALTIMORE PUBLIC SAFETY SUMMIT: Decriminalization and Treatment not Incarceration—A joint initiative of The York Road Partnership, HARBEL, and the Northeast Community Organization. Featuring: Kurt Schmoke, President of the University of Baltimore, Mayor City of Baltimore 1987-1999 and L.E.A.P. – Law Enforcement Against Prohibition. Monday, March, 28th 6:30pm-9pm, Morgan State University Student Center. Free, but reservations suggested. Help us plan! Register in advance (FREE tickets) at EVENTBRITE.COM. Keywords: “Baltimore Public Safety Summit”. Volunteers are needed to staff this event, if you would be interested in being a part of the Summit’s staff, contact Mike Hillard at mike.hilliard@harbel.org. Special thanks to the Govanstowne Business Association who have sponsored the Summit for the last five years.

HOW TO PREVENT CRIME IN YOUR COMMUNITY: With HARBEL, and the Northeast Police District, Tuesday, March 29, 2016, 7pm, Northeast Police District, 1900 Argonne Drive. HARBEL and the Northeast Police District invite you to join them to learn how you and your community can prevent crime through a proven and effective crime prevention program, the Northeast Citizens Patrol, the NECOP. Learn how the NECOP has and is preventing crime in communities within Northeast Baltimore, and learn how you and your community can participate in this program that will reduce crime in your community.

HAMILTON MAYORAL CANDIDATE FORUM: Monday, April 4th 7pm-9pm, Faith Community Church (5315 Harford Rd). Join mayoral candidates Sheila Dixon, Catherine Pugh, Carl Stokes, Nick Mosby, David Warnock, Elizabeth Embry, Calvin Young, Gersham Cupid, Mack Clifton, Patrick Gutierrez, Joshua Harris, Frank Logan, Emanuel McCray, LaVern Murray and Alan Walden for night moderated by Jody Landers. Have a question you would like a candidate to answer? Email it to: HamiltonForums@gmail.com. The event is sponsored by Hamilton Hills Neighborhood Association, Glenham Belhar Community Association, Waltherson Improvement Association, North Harford Road Communities Association, Hamilton Lauraville Main Street, HARBEL, NECO and York Road Partnership. Special thanks to Hamilton Elementary Middle School’s student government.



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WOCKENFUSS CANDY COMPANY 4TH ANNUAL FACTORY TOUR: Saturday, April 9, 2016, 9am-4pm, the Wockenfuss Store and Factory, 6831 Harford Road, Baltimore, MD 21234. Wockenfuss Candies invites you to their 4th annual Factory Tour. The tour is free and they will be giving away free samples. Please join them at their Store and Factory on Harford Road for this great annual event.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM: Delegate Cory McCray of the 45th District is accepting applications for the House of Delegates Scholarship Program through April 6, 2016 you can download an application for this program at: <http://www.electcorymccray.com/application.pdf>.

A LEARNING EVENT: CONVERSATION ON MENTAL WELLNESS: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Springfield, VA, invites you to join a conversation on mental wellness. Dr. David J. Ludwig and Dr. Mary R. Jacob, authors of *Christian Concepts for Care: Understanding and Helping People with Mental Health Issues*, will be on our campus the weekend of April 15-16, 2016 to lead this conversation.

On Friday, April 15 at 6:00-9:00 p.m. we will host #BOUNCEBACK - An evening for teens and parents (and all who are interested in attending) to learn how to bounce back from stress, anxiety, and depression. This is a FREE event and will be offered on-site and via live stream. Individuals, families, and groups can register at: <http://www.poplc.org/bounce>. A pizza and salad bar dinner will kick the evening off at 6:00 p.m.

On Saturday, April 16, from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., we will host a community-wide conversation entitled HOPE RESTORED. This all-day conference will focus on creating environments that welcomes and compassionately cares for all people and encourages mental wellness. Dr. Ludwig and Dr. Jacob will provide the keynote addresses and ten area professionals will lead relevant break-out sessions on topics such as anxiety, trauma, early intervention for childhood disorders, suicide, supporting a loved one with mental illness, and indicators of healthy relationships. In addition to the on-site option (\$30 per person), a livestreaming option will also be offered (\$20 per person and special group rates). Register at: <http://www.poplc.org/hope>.

On-site registration will be limited to 150 people for each event. Additional information can be found on the websites noted above. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. I hope you will join the conversation in how to build emotional resiliency in our community! Peace to you, DCE Stacey Crosson, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 8304 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield VA 222142, 703-451-5855 .



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“Cross Connect” - Support the Community/Classifieds



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CONTACT:

Elisabeth or Brian Castleman

443-422-5419

maidinthecastle@outlook.com

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Lectionary Summaries for Meditation

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY (31 January 2016): Jeremiah 1:4–10 (17–19); 1 Cor. 12:31b–13:13; Luke 4:31–44

Jesus Has Authority to Forgive Your Sins and Give You Life: Jesus was sent to “preach the good news of the kingdom of God” (Luke 4:43). His preaching is an epiphany, or manifestation, of God because His Word reveals the authority of His cross and resurrection, by which He has atoned for the sins of the world. By the preaching of His Gospel in every place, He silences the unclean spirits and casts out demons, heals the diseases of body and soul, and restores life and health to His creation (Luke 4:40–41). For the sake of His divine love, He is “patient and kind” toward us; He “bears all things,” “endures all things” and delivers up His body to save us (1 Cor. 13:3–4, 7). So also for the sake of His love, He calls and sends His prophets, as ministers of His Word, “to pluck up and to break down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant” (Jer. 1:10).

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT (13 March 2016) - Isaiah 43:16–21; Philippians 3:(4b–7) 8–14; Luke 20:9–20

God's Beloved Son Has Redeemed Us: Our life and works apart from Christ, no matter how they may glitter to the eyes of the world, are ultimately rubbish and have no righteousness. Rather, in the scandalous cross of Jesus we find our righteousness alone “through faith in Christ” (Phil. 3:9). By such faith, we “know him and the power of his resurrection” (Phil. 3:10). For the same God who brought Israel out of Egypt has done a “new thing” for us in Christ Jesus (Is. 43:19). He has sent His beloved Son into His vineyard to be killed by sinful men and to become “the stone that the builders rejected.” Yet, the One rejected by men “has become the cornerstone” of His Church (Luke 20:17). Through the waters of Holy Baptism, He provides us daily refreshment in our earthly pilgrimage, “a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert” (Is. 43:19).

PALM SUNDAY / SUNDAY OF THE PASSION (20 March 2016) - John 12:12–19 (Palm Sunday Procession); Deuteronomy 32:36–39; Philippians 2:5–11; Luke 22:1–23:56 or Luke 23:1–56 or John 12:20–43

The Cross and Passion of Our Lord Are the Hour of His Glory: The King of Israel comes into His royal glory by the path of humble obedience “to the point of death, even death on a cross” (Phil. 2:8). He “goes as it has been determined” (Luke 22:22), according to the Scriptures, willingly submitting to His Father’s plan for the salvation of sinners. “Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name” (Phil. 2:9). His suffering and death open the way of repentance for the forgiveness of sins because He goes to the cross bearing the sins of the world. In His resurrection, God the Father vindicates His people and has compassion on His servants (Deut. 32:36). He kills to make alive; He wounds in order to heal. In remembrance of Him, we praise God, confessing “that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father” (Phil. 2:11).

HOLY (MAUNDY) THURSDAY (24 March 2016) - Jeremiah 31:31–34 or Exodus 12:1–14; Hebrews 10:15–25 or 1 Corinthians 11:23–32; Luke 22:7–20 or John 13:1–17, 31b–35

Let Us Love One Another, as Christ Jesus Has Loved Us: By Holy Baptism, “with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water” (Heb. 10:22), we enter the holy place with Jesus. For Jesus is our Passover Lamb who has been sacrificed for us. He reclines at table with us and feeds us with His own flesh and blood: “the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain” (Heb. 10:20). In Christ, the Lord remembers us in mercy and remembers our sin no more; He forgives us all our iniquity (Jer. 31:34; Heb. 10:17). With such love, He “loved his own who were in the world,” and He even loves us “to the end” (John 13:1). As He washes us and feeds us in love, let us love one another, just as He has loved us (John 13:34).

GOOD FRIDAY (25 March 2016) - Isaiah 52:13–53:12; Hebrews 4:14–16; 5:7–9; John 18:1–19:42 or John 19:17–30

Behold the Lamb of God, Who Takes Away the Sin of the World: Jesus, the Lamb of God, is led to the slaughter of His cross as the sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the world. “Despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief” (Is. 53:3), He is the righteous Servant who justifies many by His innocent suffering and death. He bears our griefs and carries our sorrows; He is wounded for our transgressions; He is crushed for our iniquities; He suffers our chastisement, so that “with his wounds we are healed” (Is. 53:4–5). As the Son of God, He fulfills the Law for us in human flesh, and so fulfills the Scriptures (John 19:7, 24). In perfect faith and faithfulness, He shares all our weaknesses and temptations, “yet without sin” (Heb. 4:15), and as our merciful High Priest, He brings us to the Father in peace.

EASTER SUNRISE (27 March 2016) - Job 19:23–27; 1 Corinthians 15:51–57; John 20:1–18

Our Redeemer Lives! In Adam, all die because all sin. The children of that first gardener have been driven out of Paradise and return to the dust whence they were taken. But now another Gardener has come, who has made His bed in the dust of the earth, and in His resurrection He has opened paradise for all the children of Adam. For “death is swallowed up in victory” (1 Cor. 15:54), and God “gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Cor. 15:57). So we each confess that “my Redeemer lives” and “in my flesh I shall see God” (Job 19:25, 26). As He has called us out of darkness into light and wiped away our tears, we behold Him now by faith and recognize His voice in the Gospel. We enter His tomb by the death of Holy Baptism, and we also share His resurrection. For as surely as He has risen, so we also one day “must rise from the dead” (John 20:9).

EASTER DAY (27 March 2016) - Isaiah 65:17–25; 1 Corinthians 15:19–26; Luke 24:1–12

Christ's Resurrection Is the First Fruits of the New Creation: The Lord has promised to “create new heavens and a new earth” (Is. 65:17), in which His people shall abide in peace and joy. That new creation has begun in the bodily resurrection of Christ Jesus. All the baptized belong to that new creation. Reborn of water and the Holy Spirit, they are “the offspring of the blessed of the LORD” (Is. 65:23). The Lord rejoices and is glad in them; He hears and answers their prayers. For “if in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied” (1 Cor. 15:19). But Christ Jesus has been raised, “the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep” (1 Cor. 15:20). We may be “perplexed about this” (Luke 24:4), perhaps even frightened and brought to our knees, because it seems like an “idle tale” (Luke 24:11). But faith clings to the Word of Christ and finds His resurrected body — not in the tomb, but in His Holy Supper.

EASTER EVENING / MONDAY (27 or 28 March 2016) - Exodus 15:1–18 or Daniel 12:1c–3; Acts 10:34–43 or 1 Corinthians 5:6b–8; Luke 24:13–35 (36–49)

The Passover Lamb Is Known in the Breaking of the Bread: The celebration of Easter is a never-ending feast because “Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed” (1 Cor. 5:7). Therefore, let us “sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously” (Ex. 15:1). He is our strength and our song because He has become our salvation. “They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him on the third day” (Acts 10:39–40). His chosen witnesses, “who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead” (Acts 10:41), now preach “forgiveness of sins through his name” (Acts 10:43). By this preaching, Jesus draws near and leads us home. He opens the Scriptures to us, and He opens our minds to understand “the things concerning himself” (Luke 24:27). He opens our eyes to recognize His wounds and to know Him “in the breaking of the bread” (Luke 24:35). He pours out the Spirit of His Father upon us, so that we shall be delivered and finally awakened from the dust of the earth “to everlasting life” (Dan. 12:2).

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	1	2	3	4	5
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30am - Men's Devotions 7 pm - Bible Study @ Calvary 7 pm - Mid-Week Lenten Svc @ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 pm - Lay Ministry Bd Mtg @ 		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15am - Early Worship 9:45am - Adult Bible Study @ 9:45am - Children's Sunday 9:45am - Youth Confirmation 11 am - Late Worship Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 pm - Bible Study/S. Jones' 7 pm - Girl Scouts Mtg @ 7 pm - Stewardship Bd Mtg @ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 pm - Outreach Bd Mtg @ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 pm - Bible Study @ Calvary 7 pm - Mid-Week Lenten Svc @ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 pm - Worship/Music Mtg @ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am - St. Matthias Outrch 	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daylight Saving Time starts 9 am - Adult Bible Study @ 9 am - Children's Sunday 9 am - Youth Confirmation @ 10am - Single Service Worship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 pm - Bible Study/S. Jones' 7 pm - Girl Scouts Mtg @ 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30am - Men's Devotions 7 pm - Bible Study @ Calvary 7 pm - Mid-Week Lenten Svc @ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 pm - Board of Ed Mtg @ 7 pm - Church Council Mtg @ 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am - Disciple Training @
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15am - PALM SUN Early 9:45am - Adult Bible Study @ 9:45am - Children's Sunday 9:45am - Youth Confirmation 11am - PALM SUN Late 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 pm - Bible Study/S. Jones' 7 pm - Girl Scouts Mtg @ 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 pm - Bible Study @ Calvary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11:30am - Early Dismissal @ 7 pm - Maundy (Holy) Thursday 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Closed @ Calvary Lutheran School, 2625 East Northern 7 pm - Good Friday Worship @ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 pm - Food & Fellowship @ 6 pm - Calvary Youth Grp Mtg
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Closed @ Calvary Lutheran School, 2625 East Northern Parkway, Baltimore, MD 21214, United States Easter Sunday 6:30am - EASTER Sunrise 8:30am - EASTER Early 11 am - EASTER Late Worship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 pm - Bible Study/S. Jones' 7 pm - Girl Scouts Mtg @ 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 pm - Bible Study @ Calvary 			

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
<p>School Closed @ Calvary Lutheran School, 2625 East Northern Parkway, Baltimore, MD 21214, United States</p>						
<p>Easter Sunday</p>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30am - EASTER Sunrise 8:30am - EASTER Early 11am - EASTER Late Worship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm - Bible Study/S. Jones' 7pm - Girl Scouts Mtg @ 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm - Bible Study @ Calvary 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15am - Early Worship 9:45am - Adult Bible Study @ 9:45am - Children's Sunday 9:45am - Youth Confirmation 11am - Late Worship Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am - School resumes @ 7pm - Bible Study/S. Jones' 7pm - Girl Scouts Mtg @ 7pm - Stewardship Bd Mtg @ 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30am - Men's Devotions 7pm - Bible Study @ Calvary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3pm - Report Cards Issued @ 7pm - Lay Ministry Bd Mtg @ 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am - St. Matthias Outrch
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15am - Early Worship 9:45am - Adult Bible Study @ 9:45am - Children's Sunday 9:45am - Youth Confirmation 11am - Late Worship Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm - Bible Study/S. Jones' 7pm - Girl Scouts Mtg @ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm - Outreach Bd Mtg @ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thomas Jefferson's Birthday 7pm - Bible Study @ Calvary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm - Worship/Music Mtg @ 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am - Disciple Training @
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15am - Early Worship 9:45am - Adult Bible Study @ 9:45am - Children's Sunday 9:45am - Youth Confirmation 11am - Late Worship Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm - Bible Study/S. Jones' 7pm - Girl Scouts Mtg @ 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Achievement Testing @ Calvary Lutheran School, 2625 East Northern Parkway, Baltimore, MD 21214, United States 6:30am - Men's Devotions 7pm - Bible Study @ Calvary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm - Board of Ed Mtg @ 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4pm - Food & Fellowship @ 6pm - Calvary Youth Grp Mtg
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15am - Early Worship 9:45am - Adult Bible Study @ 9:45am - Children's Sunday 9:45am - Youth Confirmation 11am - Late Worship Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm - Bible Study/S. Jones' 7pm - Girl Scouts Mtg @ 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm - Bible Study @ Calvary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm - Church Council Mtg @ 		