

CONNECTION

CALVARY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Calvary Staff

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**December 23, 2024 is
the Deadline for the
January 2025
Connection**

A Word from Dr. Dan

I inherited a picture from Deb's parents – actually a few. It is apparent that I'm the only one that likes art in the family, at least for personal pleasure. I have a four-set farm painting that hangs in my office that reminds me of home and the old farmhouse where I grew up. I have a couple of aerial photos of Deb's folks farm where I worked for many years. And I have one that is a snow-covered pasture with a black fence and a barren tree. I love it for its simplicity. Black. White. Grey.

It reminds me of the times when I could just go out with my galoshes, my feet wrapped up in Wonder Bread plastic bags (I'm dating myself), and just walk out into the untouched snowy pasture or field. The only noise being the crunching of my feet as they penetrated the newly fallen and hardened snow. I loved it best on those dreary grey days – no sunglasses needed to keep from going snow blind. A sense of somberness, a time of reflection.

I know that I'm not unique in this but the older that I get the more nostalgic I become. Longing for the old days – as a kid or when many of my relatives were still alive. I get more minimalistic as well. Trying to keep the holidays simple. It is a challenge, especially in the church when the expectation is high – high to perform, to be creative, to top last year.

What can top, "While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him

December Birthdays

Mike Hopkins	December 2
Beth Workman	December 2
Martha Young	December 2
Frank Austin	December 4
Cindy Heinzman	December 4
Martha Cotner	December 6
Danny Reef	December 6
Jeff Beeman	December 13
Malcolm Bainbridge	December 18
Kathy DeWitt	December 28
Wanda Winegardner	December 28
Steve Sims	December 29
Jane David	December 30

December Anniversaries

Steve & Joyce Reed

married for 63 years December 16

Dave & Beth Workman

married for 41 years December 17

Patrick & Judy McNarny

married for 64 years December 30

in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn."

Black. White. Grey. Silent night. Holy night. All is calm.
All is bright.

My favorite artwork to ponder this time of year.

GIVE THANKS WITH A GRATEFUL HEART *by Cindy Heinzman*

Give Thanks With A Grateful Heart... There is a relationship between worship and thanksgiving. Worship is our adoration of God expressed in many ways. This leads us to a deep sense of gratitude. When we worship God, we become more aware of the countless blessings around us, from the beauty of creation to the love of family and friends. A heart filled with thanksgiving enriches our worship experience, allowing us to approach God with authenticity and joy. Embracing worship and thanksgiving allows us to recognize the blessings we receive and live each day with a heart full of praise.

Psalm 69:30: I will praise the name of God with a song; I will magnify him with thanksgiving.

THE KING'S BRASS CHRISTMAS

Calvary will host The King's Brass on **Thursday, December 19, 2024 at 7:00 pm.** What a wonderful way to get into the Christmas spirit! Please share this information with your friends and family to help us fill the sanctuary for this event.

COFFEE HOUR

Covenant partners, the Deacons want to thank all of you who are willing to help with coffee hour treats. Just a reminder that it is helpful if you can have a friend help you with treats! The average attendees each Sunday is probably 30 to 40 at the most. Also only one pitcher of lemonade is needed. If you need plates, napkins, silverware, etc and cannot find them please reach out to a Deacon. Chris Williamson and Pat Reef are in charge of supplies and can help with this. Carole Maxwell who helps regularly and Buttons Smith is another Deacon that can be helpful also. Thank you again for helping in this fellowship ministry!

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

We will continue holding the prayer meetings once a month. It gives us an opportunity to spend some time in prayer -which is desperately needed. Below are a few of the scheduled dates, where we can gather to pray for each other, for the lost, for our nation, or just pray through the scriptures to hear God's voice.

Time: 6:30-7:30

Place: Sanctuary

Dates: December 18th
January 15th
February 19th

We hope that you can join us and invite someone to come with you.

Blessings,

Pastor Dan/Bill Heinzman (Elder)

SENIOR CHRISTMAS BAGS *by Sara Overway*

Our plan is to start packing the bags on December 8th and delivering them on December 14th at 10:00 am. We will need several volunteers for this.

Please sign up on the Welcome Center table if you would like help.

Elders: Class of 2024

Steve Sims
Brian VanSoest

Elders: Class of 2025

Bill Heinzman
Terrie VanSoest

Elders: Class of 2026

Sara Overway
David Swigart

Deacons: Class of 2024

Carol Rush
Scott Sarver
Chris Williamson

Deacons: Class of 2025

Dan Reef
Kay Rottet
Ron Rottet

Deacons: Class of 2026

Jeff Goltry
Pat Reef
Buttons Smith

CALVARY CHANCEL CHOIR *by Charlie Hartsch*

The Chancel Choir will practice December 5th & 12th at 7:00 pm in the choir room. Everyone is welcome to join us!

HOPE IN STITCHES *by Annette Shively*

We will be taking a break until January.

LOAVES AND FISHES SCHEDULE FOR 2024

Loaves and Fishes provide meals for the needy as well as fellowship by many of the local area churches including Calvary . This program provides a Saturday lunch, 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., all year long. Donations are accepted. Meals will be served on the following dates:

December 7	Calvary Presbyterian
December 14	No Meals Served
December 21	Church of the Good Shepherd
December 28	Trinity Episcopal

We want our covenant partners and any other friends of Calvary to know that there are wonderful scripture based Bible studies currently in session. We will try to keep our Connection viewers informed of what each study is studying monthly. The following is information on current studies. We welcome all who want to join a study to do so!

WOMEN'S MONDAY MORNING & EVENING BIBLE STUDY *by Deb Lute*

On November 25, the Monday morning and evening Bible study led by Deb Lute will complete our study on the The Beatitudes.

This Bible study group will take a break for the holiday season, and we will come together again in February. We will be studying Paul's letter to the Galatians: Faith and Freedom in Christ. Check future newsletters for our start update.

WOMEN'S MONDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY *by Nikki Reid*

On November 25th we will start our new study - Because of Bethlehem with Max Lucado. Love is Born- Hope is Here. Our first lesson - Revive your wonder - that the One who made everything chose to make himself nothing for us. Second lesson - Rekindle your connection to the Christ of Christmas who offers lasting hope. Third lesson - Help you lay down your endless Christmas to do list and receive what Jesus has already done. Fourth lesson - Heal your heartache by embracing the God who is always near you, always for you and always in you. For some, Christmas is a time of excitement, celebration, and family, while for others it is a time of loneliness, grief, and loss. No matter what this season holds for you, the promise of Christmas will bring you a lifetime of hope. GOD IS LOVE - CHRISTMAS IS PROOF!

WOMEN'S TUESDAY AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY *by Annette Shively*

The H.I.S. (Hope in Scripture) Women's Tuesday afternoon Bible study for December will be the Miracle of Advent.

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY *by Rev. Dan Lute*

The Wednesday night Genesis Bible study will take a break through the holidays and with Pastor Dan's Kenya Mission trip. This study will begin again on January 8th.

MEN'S THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY *by Rev. Dan Lute*

The Thursday morning men's Bible study meets from 8:15 to 9:15ish in the library. We are doing a study in the Book of Ezekiel.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SERIES *by Rev. Dan Lute*

The Ezekiel study will start back up on Sunday, January 5th.

December 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 1st Sunday of Advent 9:30 am Worship with Dave Reinking & Communion 7:30 pm AA	2 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study 7:30 AA	3 10:00 am AA 1:00 Women's Bible Study 2:30 Alanon 5:30 Senior Dance Group 6:30 Deacons Meeting	4 7:30 pm AA	5 8:15 am Men's Bible Study 11:00 Mom's Group 7:00 Choir Practice	6 10:00 am AA	7 <i>L&F at Calvary Presb.</i>
8 2nd Sunday of Advent 9:30 am Worship with Dave Reinking 7:30 pm AA	9 6:00 pm Psi Iota Xi Meeting 7:00 Women's Bible Study 7:30 AA	10 10:00 am AA 1:00 Women's Bible Study 2:30 Alanon 5:30 Senior Dance Group 6:00 GB Meet & Greet	11 7:30 pm AA	12 8:15 am Men's Bible Study 6:30 Mission/Outreach Mtg 7:00 Choir Practice	13 10:00 am AA	14 <i>L&F – No Meals Served</i> 7:30 am-Noon Delta Kappa Gamma
15 3rd Sunday of Advent 9:30 am Worship 7:30 pm AA	16 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study 7:30 AA	17 10:00 am AA 1:00 Women's Bible Study 2:00 Hope Behavioral Christmas Program 2:30 Alanon 5:30 Senior Dance Group 6:30 Session Mtg 6:30 GB Team Meeting	18 10:00 am Hope Behavioral Christmas Program 6:30 Prayer Meeting 7:30 pm AA	19 8:15 am Men's Bible Study 11:00 Mom's Group 7:00 King's Brass Concert	20 10:00 am AA	21 <i>L&F at Church of the Good Shepherd</i>
22 4th Sunday of Advent 9:30 am Worship Ham loaf luncheon after service 7:30 pm AA	23 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study 7:30 AA	24 Christmas Eve Church Office Closed 10:00 am AA 6:30 Christmas Eve Service	25 Christmas Church Office Closed	26	27 10:00 am AA	28 <i>L&F at Trinity Episcopal</i>
29 9:30 am Worship 7:30 pm AA	30 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study 7:30 AA	31 New Year's Eve Church Office Closed at Noon				