

CALVARY CROSS ROADS

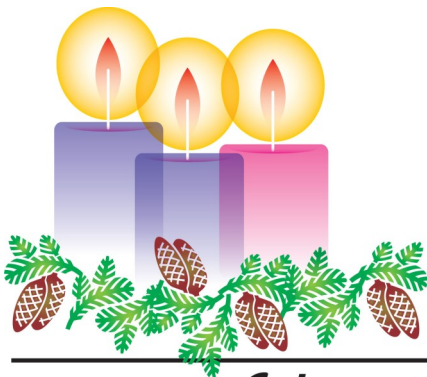
December 12, 2019

Worship This Sunday, December 15, 2019

Rev. Sarah Schlieckert, Pastor

Sermon Series: Are We There Yet? (Third Sunday of Advent)

Sermon Title: Joy



THIRD SUNDAY OF *Advent*



Isaiah 35:1-10

Matthew 11:2-11

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Mark Your Calendar

December 13 - 3-7pm Our Place Waldorf Setup & Friday Night Meal

December 14 - 9am UMW Christmas Party

December 15 - 9am Sunday School
10am Worship Service (3rd Sunday of Advent), Christmas Pageant

11am Baby Shower for Jesus
3-7pm Our Place Waldorf Setup & Sunday Night Meal

December 16 - 12pm Friendship Club Christmas Party

December 17 - AA Christmas Party

December 18 - 6pm Quilters Guild, 7pm 12-Step Program

December 20 - 3-7pm Our Place Waldorf Setup & Friday Night Meal

December 21 - All day - Christ Foundation Christmas Party

December 22 - 9am Sunday School
10am Worship Service (4th Sunday of Advent),
3-7pm Our Place Waldorf Setup & Sunday Night Meal

December 23 - 10:30am Friendship Club - dominoes



Christmas Eve

Candlelight Service
with Communion
7:00 PM

CUMC message board

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The United Methodist Women will meet Saturday, December 14th at 9:00 a.m. for their Christmas Party "potluck" breakfast and white elephant gift exchange. Speak to Stacy Feldman for details.



This Sunday, December 15th, during our worship service, we will have a wonderful instant Christmas pageant! As children and youth arrive, they are invited to select their role and costume from the altar rail. Then, as the pageant is narrated during the Children's Sermon time, they will be invited to come forward at appropriate times.

Adults will also get a chance to take part, helping with remaining roles! Adults who would like to take part will be invited to grab their costume during the opening hymn (after children and youth have chosen theirs).

Don't miss this fun, meaningful worship experience as we tell the story of Jesus' birth together!



"I'm a sheep again?! What about a reindeer?"

BABY SHOWER FOR JESUS

This Sunday, December 15th, immediately following worship service is our Baby Shower for Jesus.

What is a Baby Shower for Jesus? Well it's a fun way to donate baby items to families in need. We will be sending items to the Catherine Foundation as well as Lifestyles, who both help families in our area.

Needed items include diapers and wipes, new baby items of any kind, as well as gift cards. Items should be unwrapped

We will also have special cards available for you to fill out to give to family or friends to note gifts given in their honor to the Baby Shower.

If you are unable to attend but would like to donate, please leave your gift in the baby crib setup in the Fellowship Hall.

The Friendship Club will be hosting the baby shower. There will be games, lunch and cake and ice cream!

PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND!

FIRST RESPONDERS CHRISTMAS EVE DINNER

If you haven't signed up to help with preparing and delivering a holiday meal for the first responders who are at work on **Christmas Eve** in Waldorf, please speak to Stacy Feldman or you can contact her via email jfeld0928@md.metrocast.net.

PRAYERS LIST

Marion Schreiber	Martha Anderson
Gordan Christmas	Eddie Blanford
Bobby Vermillion	Sara Wilson
Bob Bushman	Linda Black
Flordeliza Azurin	Russ Greatwood
John Martin	Pati Jackson
Kathryn Brown	
Rebecca & Robby Bushman	

To have names added to the prayer chain contact Pastor Sarah (pastor@calvumc.org) or Kathie Auth (calvumc@calvumc.org)

CALVARY UMC

3235 Leonardtown Road, Waldorf, MD 20601

301-645-5247/www.calvumc.org

Www.facebook.com/CalvUMC/office@calvumc.org

Rev. Sarah Andrews Schlieckert, Pastor

january 2020

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
29 9am Sunday School 10 am Worship 3-7 pm OPW setup and meal	30 12pm Friendship Club Meeting	31 New Year's Eve	1 New Year's Day	2	3 3-7pm OPW setup and meal	4 9am UMM Meeting
5 Epiphany Sunday 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 3-7pm OPW setup and meal	6 Friendship Club 8:30am undecorate church 10:30am dominoes	7 6:30pm AA Meeting	8 7pm 12-Step Program	9	10 3-7pm OPW setup and meal	11 9am UMW Meeting
12 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 11am UMW Chili Cookoff 3-7pm OPW setup and meal	13 12pm Friendship Club Meeting	14 6:30pm AA Meeting	15 6pm Quilters Guild 7pm 12- Step Program	16	17 3-7pm OPW setup and meal	18
19 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 3-7pm OPW setup and meal	20 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day 10:30 am Friendship Club dominoes	21 6:30pm AA Meeting	22 9:30am Casual Quilters 7pm 12-Step Program	23	24 3-7pm OPW setup and meal	25
26 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 11:30am CPR Class 3-7pm OPW setup and meal	27 12pm Friendship Club Meeting	28 6:30pm AA Meeting	29 7pm 12- Step Program	30	31 3-7pm OPW setup and meal	1 9am UMM Breakfast at Cracker Barrel
2 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 3-7pm OPW setup and meal	3 10:30am Friendship Club dominoes	4 6:30pm AA Meeting	5 7pm 12-Step Program	6	7 3-7pm OPW setup and meal	8 9am UMW Meeting

Notes

Pastor Sarah's Reflection

One of my favorite things about social media these days, for all its negative effects, is its ability to help remind us of some of the great moments of our lives. One of the primary ways I do this is through the "Memories" app on Facebook, which allows me, each day, to see posts on that date in previous years. Most of those memories are good ones—though some indeed are bittersweet or even just plain hard. As you might imagine, many of my posts, especially those including photos, involve our daughters Anna and Mary.

In a world of posed photos—including those infamous school photos—I treasure the photos I have of our girls in natural, un-posed moments. When I try to get the girls to smile for a photo, posed nicely and looking happy for the camera, inevitably, the photos are awkward. Apparently even our bodies know forced smiles are, well, forced. We can try to act happy, but not even all that well. And we certainly can't pretend to be joyful. I usually have to take twenty posed photos to get one that seems natural. Acting happy isn't easy.

As I look through those old photos on Facebook most days, I see special moments of smiles, laughter and yes, joy (because let's be honest, we don't usually post the photos mid-meltdown!).

Pure joy. Unfiltered, un-posed, real, not pretend joy. Not for my sake, or the camera, or my Facebook friends, just joy because that was what the moment called for.

Have you ever had someone say, "Smile," to you? I don't mean for a photo. I mean just going through your day. Maybe at work, or the store? If you're a man, perhaps you have not. If you're a woman, I bet you have. Especially as a young woman.

We seem to have equated smiling with happiness, and happiness with our main goal in life. We say we want our children to be happy, want our friends to be happy. We celebrate, indeed especially around Christmas, the mere appearance of happiness.

In so doing, we miss the power of joy.

Happiness can often be shallow. Joy is deep.

Happiness is light, airy, and in difficult times, quite elusive.

Joy meets us when the depth of our spirit finds light even in dark times. Joy can bear the difficult times. It powers us through our days. It draws us deep into the well of authenticity, wholeness and holiness that God created us for.

This Sunday, our theme for the 3rd Sunday of Advent is joy. We reflect on this theme powerfully on the Sunday the Church also traditionally tells the story of Mary. In the midst of the challenge path that God invited her to walk along, it seems to be shallow to expect her to have started that journey with happiness. But I do believe, and the Church has taught across the ages, that she did so with joy. We hear that joy in the words of the Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55), and we can easily envision it as she held her newborn baby. Even with all the pressures and uncertainties, her faith in God and confidence in God's abiding presence with her filled her with joy.

Pastor Sarah's Reflection - Con't.

I pray that as you look back on the days of your life, you see glimpses of happiness—but I hope you also see moments of joy. Joy that can sustain you even today. Joy that is born anew in your heart, in your life this day. May you know how deeply God delights in you. How giddy with joy your God is when you find joy in each day, and strength for the journey. And may this Advent and Christmas season pour even more joy into your life!

Grace and Peace.

Pastor Sarah



Photo caption: Mary, at her preschool, on Mud Day. I've rarely seen a more joyful photo. And she wasn't the least bit worried to try to *act happy* for anyone. If only we could all be like a three year-old in mud!

Calvary UMC
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Waldorf, MD 20601
Rev. Sarah Andrews Schlieckert, Pastor

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*We seek to be a faithful
congregation sharing Jesus
Christ's love by feeding our
neighbors physically,
emotionally and spiritually.*



NEW Office Hours

Beginning January 1, 2020
The Church Office will be open
on Tuesday's - 9am - 3pm

We're on the Web...
www.calvumc.org

**Submit information to be
included in the newsletter or
suggestions to:
calvumc@calvumc.org**

cUmc message board

CHRISTMAS CARD MAILBOXES

Once again this year, Myrtle and Everett Currie have setup the Christmas Card Mailboxes.

You can send your Calvary church family Christmas cards free by using the boxes on the table in the Fellowship Hall. At the same time please check for cards sent to you. Please, only cards for our Calvary family, we cannot mail cards to those not attending church services. Thank you.

CPR TRAINING

As promised in the spring, we have scheduled another CPR training class with Chris Schlieckert. The class will be held **Sunday, January 26th beginning at 11:30 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. Since there are a limited number of spots available for the training, if you are interested in taking the class, please contact the church office or speak to Pastor Sarah to sign-up.

CHRISTMAS OFFICE HOURS

The week of Christmas, the office will only be open on Monday, December 23rd. However, you can reach Pastor Sarah on her cell phone 240-315-6965 or you can email her at pastor@calvumc.org.

NEW CALVARY CROSS ROADS SCHEDULE

Beginning in January, Calvary Cross Roads will become a monthly publication. We will, however, when necessary we will send out weekly meeting and event updates. We will also include a monthly calendar the newsletter.

To ensure information regarding your meetings and events is published in CCR, please submit your information for the January newsletter no later than December 20th.

Questions: contact the church office at calvumc@calvumc.org.



The Friendship Club would like to thank the United Methodist Men for getting out the Christmas decorations, and a very special thank you to them for putting up the "big" tree in the Sanctuary!

Also, they would like to thank Jim Quade for all his help decorating the church for Christmas!