

sunday times

Third Sunday of Advent
December 11, 2016



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Calvary Lutheran Church, 108 Eastman St., Cranford, NJ 07016-2122
(908) 276-2418 office@calvarycranford.com <http://www.calvarycranford.com>

As Mary did on learning she would bear God's son, may we magnify the Lord and rejoice in God our savior (Luke 1:46-47). Welcome!

If you are visiting with us today, please fill out one of the yellow "Welcome Friend" forms located in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. We are very glad to have you visiting with us and we hope the service is a blessing to you.



Stewardship CAMPAIGN

Members and Friends have received Stewardship materials in the mail, which

included an Estimate of Giving form for 2017. We are asking everyone to submit a pledge for next year. We believe that everyone makes our mission and vision possible. Extra forms are available on the table in the narthex and may be placed in the blue box. If you prefer to send this electronically, please see the back of this form for instructions.

Pastoral Prayers, Joys & Concerns

- ✠ Louise Engstrom continues as a patient in ICU at the University Hospital in Newark. She and her family really need our prayers.

ORDER YOUR CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA THIS MORNING!

Help to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas Worship! The cost of each plant is \$15; order forms are in the bulletins and in the narthex. **The deadline to place an order is Thursday, December 15th.**



PLEASE LEND A HAND AND HELP US DECORATE THE SANCTUARY FOR CHRISTMAS.

We will be gathering after the 10:30am service on December 18th to decorate our church by putting out the rest of our holiday trimmings. Many hands make for light work.

The Prayer Shawl group will meet **TODAY Sunday, December 11 at 9:15 AM** in the Betty Dahlquist room. All are welcome!



CHRISTMAS CAROLING FOR ALL AGES, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 5:30 PM



CAROLING

All are invited!! Bring your voices & enthusiasm as we go caroling and spread Christmas joy to Calvary's shut-ins. We will gather at 5:30pm in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, December 11th to begin our evening of caroling. After caroling, we will meet back at Fellowship Hall for some light refreshments. Please RSVP Claire Fiebiger by Dec.9th at claire@fiebiger.org

CHURCH FINANCE UPDATE

The YTD November 2016 income is \$257,775 with an expense of \$287,551, a current shortfall of \$29,776. If the income this



December equals last year, we will be nearly \$12,000 in the red, expenses exceeding income, for 2016. Please review your recently delivered pledge statement and help the congregation minimize the shortfall before the new year.

FROM THE FINANCE OFFICE: Offering envelopes are available for pick up in the church narthex. The closing date of Calvary's 2016 books to be announced.



"The Stars of Moshi" Advent @ Calvary 2016

"Stars of Moshi" is our Advent theme at Calvary this year. You have an opportunity to help Project MEMA bring the Love of Emmanuel to children in Tanzania. Come up and see the Christmas Tree - take an ornament and consider making a financial gift to this non-profit organization. Use the envelopes below the tree to submit your gifts. Consider this as an alternative giving suggestion, too. Cards are available under the tree.

Advent Worship

Prepare the Way: Cultivating a Heart for God in Advent is our preaching focus this year during this special season. We will be looking at **Fearlessness** (Nov. 27, Daniel 6), **Faithfulness** (Dec. 4, Joel 2), **Justice** (Dec. 11, Isaiah 61) and **Peace** (Dec. 18, Luke 1). If you would like to read along in the book that Pastor Carol is using for this series please look for Pamela C. Hawkins book (title above). It is available from Amazon or from the publisher: www.upperroom.org.

YOUTH BELL CHOIR REHEARSALS



The Youth Bell Choir will be preparing music for Christmas Eve. Rehearsals will be held from **4:00-5:00 p.m.** on the following Sunday afternoons: **TODAY 12/11** and **12/18**. We also

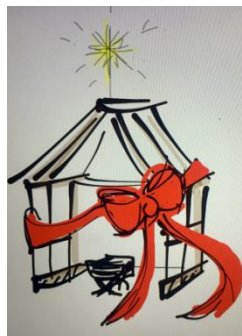
welcome members of the congregation that would like to share their musical gifts during a worship service anytime during the year. Please contact Jeanne Elmuccio on Sunday mornings or email Jeanne at jeanne@calvarycranford.com.

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY LUNCHEON
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16,**

12:30PM The Women's Bible Study will be going to lunch **Friday, December 16th** at the Chestnut Chateau. We will meet at the restaurant at 12:30 p.m. All are invited! To RSVP, please call June Kaiser at 908-276-2546.



**AMONGST A MESS, COMES CHRISTMAS
DECEMBER 24, 7PM**



On CHRISTMAS EVE at our family service held at 7pm, the Sunday school children of all ages will present the wondrous story of the Nativity with a fresh "twist" in "**Amongst a mess, comes Christmas.**" A child "pieces together" the Christmas story with characters and beloved carols. **We will have rehearsals for the show during Sunday school time Dec 4, 11, and 18th with one dress rehearsal close to Christmas Eve.** First grade through confirmation will practice all three Sundays. The pre K and Kindergarten children will practice the last 2 rehearsals. We welcome all to be a part of this Christmas tradition, which many of us grew up with! Please contact your Sunday school teachers or Cindy Nordstrom Roy cmndesigns@aol.com to have your children added to the cast!

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♥ OPERATION WARM HEART ♥

Operation Warm Heart is being sponsored by The First Presbyterian Church & they need our help! They are asking for donations of new or gently used winter clothing, boots, gloves & scarves. Also needed are sewing supplies, laundry pods, plastic eating utensils, paper plates, cups, napkins, packaged milk, sugar packets, instant coffee and tea, canned sodas, boxed juices, and vegetarian tomato sauce. If you are interested in donating your time, you can make dinner, to-go breakfast bags or do some light sewing/repairing of clothing. Finally, if you are a licensed professional interested in giving some help, please contact Meg Spatz at 908-304-3531. **Collections go through March.**

*Thanks,
Everyone!*

Thanks to all who made donations to the NJ Cares coat drive. Over the past 3 weeks, close to 70 winter coats were collected from the church and nursery school. What a great way to spread warmth and kindness to those in need during the upcoming winter months!

THOSE SERVING TODAY

	8:15am	10:30am
Asst. Min.	Meg Spatz	Chuck Sherrick
Comm. Asst.	Chris Wendel	Eric Pastore
Ushers	Chris Wendel (C)	Dave TenBroeck(C)
	Cathi Wendel	Barb Birger
	TBD	TBD
	TBD	TBD
Acolyte	TBD	Lauren Gaudin
Altar Guild	Lori Gaudin	Lori Gaudin

THIS WEEK AT CALVARY

Sun 12/11	<i>Third Sunday of Advent</i>
8:15am	Worship with Holy Communion Spoken Liturgy, contemporary music
9:15am	Prayer Shawl Group Meets
9:15am	Sunday School/ Rehearsal for 12/24
9:30am	Choir Rehearsal
10:30am	Worship w/Holy Communion Sung Liturgy, traditional music Youth Bell Choir Rehearsals
4pm	
Tue 12/13	
11am	CNSCC Chapel – Fellowship Hall
7:30pm	Church Council Meeting
Wed 12/14	
11am	CNSCC Chapel – Church
Thu 12/15	
12:15pm	Midweek Service Christmas Luncheon
1:15pm	Midweek Worship
Fri 12/16	
12:30pm	Women's Bible Study Luncheon
Sun 12/18	<i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>
8:15am	Worship with Holy Communion Spoken Liturgy, contemporary music
9:15am	Sunday School/Rehearsal for 12/24
9:30am	Choir Rehearsal
10:30am	Worship w/Holy Communion Sung Liturgy, traditional music Youth Bell Choir Rehearsals
4pm	
5:30pm	Christmas Caroling

Our office hours are:
 Mon, Wed, Fri: 9:00am – 4:00pm
 Tues and Thurs: 10:30am – 5:30pm

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The Rev. Dr. Carol A. Lindsay, Pastor
 Kathleen Jacinto, Parish Manager
 Jeanne Elmuccio, Music Director
 Tyler Simko, Associate Organist
 Sean McGinity, Contemporary Musician
 Marsha Stoltz, Council President

Calvary Nursery School and Child Care
 Phone (908) 272-3962
 E-mail: calvarynsc@verizon.net
 Stacy Nick-Casey, Director

Calvary Lutheran Church is a member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) serving Cranford and the surrounding area for more than 88 years.

www.calvarycranford.com

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PICK UP YOUR COPY of the **November** issue of Cross Currents, now available in the narthex.