#### **Calvary and Covenant Presbyterian Churches**

A Loving Community to Support you on Your Faith Journey!



Happy Easter! Here's your April issue of Connections! Please remember: be sure to click OPEN when your email provider delivers your newsletter so you don't miss any content.

While you are reading this month's newsletter: if you see a word or phrase in **bold** and deep **LAVENDER** like **THIS**, or if you see the word **HERE** - click on it! These are links that will automatically open a website or document.

# A Word from your Session about Leadership

#### From Calvary Clerks

Here we go again! Is that what you are thinking? God has an interesting way of nudging us into discomfort. Sometimes, getting uncomfortable and wandering in the unknown is exactly what we need to reach new heights. And we all know that new heights are exactly what the church needs. Maybe we need it too.



On a recent drive through Palmyra, I was halted by a seemingly innocent political candidate sign in patriotic red, white, and blue. Or at least that is what I thought it was, until I read, "JESUS \* 2022 \* Our Only Hope." We can feel blessed, that hope (and faith and grace...) is on our side.

You might be curious about what happens now. Please know that Calvary is in good hands. Session has been working to secure pastors and lay preachers to lead Sunday services. We have met with Deb Brincivalli to request the Commission on Ministry to secure a moderator for our meetings and help us identify an interim pastor. Our church secretary Nedra is back to her prepandemic office hours and the Elders are working together to meet the operational needs of the church and the spiritual needs of this congregation.

Each week, we will provide an update to you about where we are in the process of hiring our next pastor. Session cannot secure Calvary's next pastor without you. Our first step will be to demonstrate to the Presbytery that our congregation's giving can support a Pastor's salary. Your giving is one way to demonstrate that your preference is for Calvary to have a full-time pastor.

In the coming weeks, you will receive questions to update Calvary's 2018 mission study, a necessary step in creating our vision for what skills,

experiences, theology, and spiritual leadership will be vital to selecting Calvary's next pastor. Please answer the questions carefully. You will also have an opportunity to take part in small group discussions to share your thoughts on the key characteristics of our next pastor. If you would like to serve on the Mission Committee to review questions, listen to church members and provide input into Calvary's updated mission study report, please contact Bobbie Beck or Stephanie Zarus, the church office or any Elder or Deacon.

Our church secretary Nedra is back to her pre-pandemic office hours and the Elders are working together to meet the operational needs of the church and the spiritual needs of this congregation. Our Deacons continue to provide care and support to those in need.

After the COM approves of our mission study, we will form a PNC (Pastor Nominating Committee) to craft a position description and begin the recruitment process. You may be called upon to support these efforts. We hope that you will accept the duty and serve. If you have any questions or concerns, reach out to us or any session member. We want to hear from you.

Active, innovative, creative. Willing to try new things. Willing to experiment. This is what we hear from others, about Calvary. This is who we are. With creativity and care and the guiding hands of Jesus, we will navigate this process, together.

On behalf of Calvary, Bobbie Beck Stephanie Zarus

#### From Covenant

Isn't it great to live in an area where we have seasons? While I'm not equally enamored with all of them, it's nice to have the variety that comes with a four-season area, and to me, the change of season seems especially obvious with the arrival of spring. At this time of year it seems like there is something new to



see almost every day – all of a sudden, things are just blooming, with every day bringing a new flower, bush, or tree back to life.

Spring is about renewed life and change, and the seasonal change is manageable because we know what to expect. Normally, change is not something that most people enjoy or embrace, in large part because we don't know what to expect, we don't know what change will bring. But we all know that change is a part of life.

Covenant is at the beginning of such a change, which we all know will include its fair share of challenges.

Over two thousand years ago, big change came to the world in a quiet stable in Bethlehem. God's people were awaiting a promised Messiah, and had been waiting for hundreds of years, with only hints about what this messiah was going to be like or what he was going to do. I'm sure many people were comfortable with how their faith worked, comfortable with their relationship with God. They knew what to do – follow the laws, make the appropriate sacrifices, observe the holy days, but they still looked forward with anticipation to this huge change that was promised.

And what a change it was! God sent his Son to live among us as a man, to completely understand what we go through here on earth within our bodies, to live, to love, to hope, and to long for a deeper connection with each other and with God. And He showed us a new way to think about each other and the kingdom of heaven. He offered himself as a perfect sacrifice for all of our sins – every single sin of every single person. And as if all that wasn't enough, His resurrection assures of us eternal life.

Change can be scary and unsettling, and most of us are extremely uncomfortable with it, even though we know that it can be a good (or even a great) thing. Covenant is at the beginning of a big change, and it may be unsettling and uncomfortable. But God has a plan for us. We look to the future with hope, that we can be the church family that God wants us to be. That we can strive to make God proud of us, to advance His work here in our community, to spread the good news to all.

On behalf of the Session, Carol Lovell

#### **NOTE FOR COVENANT MEMBERS:**

Rev. Debby Brincivalli, Executive Presbyter of the Presbytery for Southern New Jersey, will be leading worship services at Covenant on April 3. Following this service, she will be holding a town hall-style meeting with the congregation to explain/review next steps in our journey toward securing a new pastor. *This is an important meeting and we encourage all to attend.* 

NEW START TIME! Beginning April 10th, Palm Sunday, Covenant Sunday services will start at 10am.

#### **Farewell & Best Wishes Pastor Joel**

March 20th was Pastor Joel's last Sunday services at Covenant and Calvary Churches. Pastor Joel has led Covenant for over 19 years, and Calvary for the past three years. Pastor Joel is moving on to a new ministry. Members of both churches wish him well on his new path.







# Holy Week Services



- Maundy Thursday service will be held at Calvary Presbyterian Church on April 14 at 7:00 pm.
- Good Friday Service will be held at Asbury United Methodist Church in Cinnaminson from 12:00 PM to 3:00 pm.
- Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday Services at your respective churches. NOTE: Covenant services will begin at 10am.

# **So Many Ways to Connect!**

Links to Facebook pages, Live streaming services, YouTube and Church Websites all in one place. Just click on the buttons and stay connected!





Staying connected to your church family. Use the links below to worship with live streaming services on Facebook. Our YouTube channel is a repository for past services and music. Participate in virtual group meetings with Zoom.

You can access videos, websites and streaming services right from this email! Just click on the buttons for a direct link!

Visit the Calvary Facebook Page

Visit the Covenant Facebook Page

Visit Calvary Website

Visit Covenant Website

Visit the YouTube Channel

**April Services at Calvary and Covenant** 

#### **Services at Calvary**

- Rev. Floyd White will be leading services on April 3 and May 1
- There will be a Palm Sunday Drama featuring a cast from Calvary performing from Matthew 21: 1-11
- Maundy Thursday services will be held at Calvary with Rev. Dr. Patty Epprecht
- Pam Fox of Urban Promise will be leading services and giving the sermon on Easter Sunday.
- April 24, Calvary will present 2 monologues from members. One soldier at the Cross, Two Salome, a servant.

#### **Services at Covenant**

- April 3, Rev. Debby Brincivalli will be leading the service. Carol Lovell will be reading.
- April 10, Palm Sunday, Pastor Lynne will be leading service. Mandy Rosica will be reading. Services will start at 10am.
- April 17, Easter Sunday, Pastor Lynne will be leading our service, and Chuck Rosica will be reading. Services will start at 10am.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**: Beginning Palm Sunday, April 10th, the worship service at Covenant will begin at 10am going forward.

Sunday school will hold an in-person class, April 17th on Easter during the service. In person Sunday School will continue once a month.

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH One Great Hour of Sharing

Join with Presbyterians worldwide in sharing God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed. You can help sustain the important ministries and programs that are supported by **One Great Hour** is Sharing



Offering by making an online gift anytime throughout the year. Presbyterian Special Offerings, One **Great Hour of Sharing** (pcusa.org).

## **Contemporary Worship Service, March 20th**

If you attended our Contemporary Music Service, you enjoyed these sights and sounds. If you didn't here's a sampling of what you missed. And, stay tuned for our next date with Revival!









**More Music News!** 



# MUSIC at Calvary and Covenant in April

**Music for April and the Easter Season at Calvary** 

The Chancel Choir is back!

April 3: The choir will sing Twila Paris' "How Beautiful", incorporating "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross".

April 10: Palm Sunday - Always a favorite anthem, the choir & congregation will raise their voices with "The Palms" by Jean B. Faure. The choir will continue with the spirited "Ride On!, Ride On! Palm Branches Prepare Your Way".

April 14: Maundy Thursday's service will include Mozart's solemn "Ave Verum Corpus".

April 17: Easter Sunday will be full of festive music - beginning with the triumphal fanfare "Hear the News" by Joel Raney with choir, handbells and trumpet. The music continues with Joseph Martin's regal anthem "Come, Proclaim the Victory", incorporating "Crown Him with Many Crowns".

April 24: The choir sings "Beyond the Cross" by Mosie Lister

#### **Music for the Easter Season at Covenant**

Covenant's Chancel Choir has returned! If you would like to share your voice, we welcome you to sing with us. We have a warm-up at 9:00 AM before the service, then rehearsal begins at 10:30 AM following worship service and ends around 11:30AM.

Our Bell Choir is in full swing (and ring!) Our rehearsals are on Mondays at 7:00 PM.

April 3: The Chancel Choir will be singing Ashes to Ashes by Stephen Decasare with Nicole Peak as the soprano soloist.

April: 10: On Palm Sunday, the Chancel Choir will be presenting a Cantata called The Power of the Cross by Mark Hayes. Please join us in the story of the Passion of Christ.

April 17: Easter Sunday brings rejoicing this Sunday morning. The Bell Choir will be performing three pieces called, Easter Hymn, Christ Arose! and God's Love. The Chancel Choir will be singing Glorious, Risen Christ!, by David

burke and Lloyd Larson and Introit for Easter by Joel Raney. Joining Covenant this Easter celebration is flutist Elisa Muzzillo and Violinist Ruth Kiang who will perform in a trio with Music Director, Greg DiBona. Hymn arrangements of Catherine McMichael will be played for the Prelude and Postlude.

April 24: Continuing the Easter celebration, Covenant's Chancel Choir will be performing Song of Praise, by Richard A. Nichols.

# Not to be Missed! Piano Concert with Greg & Diana May 22, 3pm!

After receiving wonderful feedback from performing piano duets during the service, Music Directors Greg DiBona and Diana Dohrmann will be performing a concert of piano duets, Sunday May 22, 3:00 PM at Calvary Presbyterian Church.

There will be piano duets from major composers such as Scott Joplin, Johannes Brahms, Franz Liszt, Aaron Copland and many more. All proceeds will be used to benefit programs at both Covenant and Calvary. We hope to see you there!

Our Church Family



Happy April Birthday to you!

#### **Calvary Birthdays**

Violet Zapisek, 2

Hailey Heck, 4

Barbara Beck, 5

Dianne Spiegel, 5

C. J. Mannon, 8

Zachary Galasso, 8

Gary Knepp, 11

Leigh Bridge, 13

Dorothy Talavera, 17

Hazel Redman, 19

Jerry Blackman, 20

Tessa Beck, 21

Frank Breece, 21

Ian White, 24

Jean Gilmore, 27

#### **Covenant Birthdays**

Cherie Raymond, 2

Mark Hood, 6

Helen DiPopolo, 10

Kimberly Staub, 13

Barb Hendrickson, 15

Grace Hafner, 16

Etna Kessler, 18

Karen Staub, 18

Dot Sakaguchi, 23

Zack Rosica, 24

Nick Minieri, 24

Florence Hammer, 25

Laurisa Duba, 30

Stephen Mulville, Jr., 30

# In Memorium... please pray for our members who've been welcomed into Christ's eternal, loving embrace...

It is with great sadness to share the passing of member, Grace Morgan.

Grace Morgan (nee Heppler), formerly of Cinnaminson, passed away peacefully at her home in Warminster, PA on March 15, 2022. Born in Girardsville, PA to the late Harry and Thelma (Strong) Heppler, she was 95 years old.



Grace was the beloved wife of the late Gay Morgan; loving mother of Pamela Lanni (Joe) and Wendy Carreon (David); cherished MiMi of Daniel Carreon, Morgan Carreon (Deion Resarias-Ramirez), Nicole Cassidy (Chad), Kyle Lanni (Brittany), Kaitlyn Lanni, and Michaela Lanni. Predeceased by her brother Harry Heppler.

Services for Grace are private for the family. Memorial donations in her memory may be made to Ann's Choice Benevolent Care Fund, 20000 Ann's Choice Way, Warminster, PA 18974. Please visit www.Givnish.com for more.

#### **Sunday School at Covenant**



Covenant Zoom Sunday School was held on March 13th. Our next date is Easter Sunday IN PERSON during our Easter Service, April 17th, 10AM. We look forward to seeing your smiling faces at Church and have fun activities planned! Going forward, we will be holding in person Sunday School, once a month.

#### **More Calvary Treasure Day News!**



We are continuing to accept donations for Treasure Day. Donations may be left at the bottom of the basement stairs. Please do not leave them on the table to avoid confusion - items that are priced versus items that have yet to be priced.

In addition, you are welcome to shop in advance of Treasure Day. Use the cash box - honor system applies. If you want something but lack the cash, or there's not enough change in the box, leave an IOU and pay later. New items will be arriving from now until May 7th, so come look often! Larger furniture is in the choir room and the sitting room upstairs as well, and big items in the garage. We can arrange to have you see those as well as what's easily accessed in the basement.

**Lyn Wargny** is still looking for volunteers to help set up and man tables on Treasure Day. Talk to Lyn!

**Terry Pahl** is seeking volunteers for Calvary Kitchen. Whether you're a grill master or whiz at the cash box, we need YOU! Contact Terry!

#### Calvary: Bread of Life Easter Pantry Day

At this time, **Bread of Life**Food Pantry is collecting hams

for their Easter Pantry Day.

Additionally, Calvary is collecting tuna, soup, canned fruit and fruit juice, canned vegetables and baked beans for the pantry.

Drop-off times: Wednesdays 1 pm

to 3 pm

Thursdays 7 pm to 8 pm until March 31



#### **Covenant: Christian Caring Center Food Donations**



The Deacons at Covenant are continuing to deliver groceries to the **Christian Caring Center**. Non-perishable food items may be dropped off on the 1st Sunday of the month and placed in the narthex.

Thank you for helping Covenant's Deacons continue this tradition of feeding our neighbors!

### **Calvary Thrift Shop April Sale!**

#### **April SALE!**

Come in and see the changes to the store! We acquired some new display racks.

And, 50% off on anything that has BLUE on it.

Check our **Facebook** page for more great deals!



Riverton Food Truck Night dates: April 27th and May 4th.

#### WE WILL BE OPEN!



Mark your Calendars! Easter Activities for Kids st Calvary & Covenant

Calvary Pics with Bunny, Egg Roll and Hunt

FREE Easter Event!

Egg Roll and Hunt

at Calvary Church

Saturday, April 16th, 9am-11am

at Calvary
Church
300 4th St.
Riverton

- · Pose for pictures with a real bunny!
  - Face painting
    - Egg hunt
  - · Old Fashioned Egg roll

Egg roll begins 10:45am. Please BYO egg and spoon.

- · Arts and crafts table
  - · Ages up to 10 yrs

NOTE for Calvary: Sarah Wood is looking for Easter treats for the Easter Egg Hunt Small bite-size candy (lollipops, chocolate, etc), Easter pencils, Easter/spring small toys, and anything else you think might go into an Easter treat bag for kids 10 and under. Drop donations off in the narthex in the labeled box.

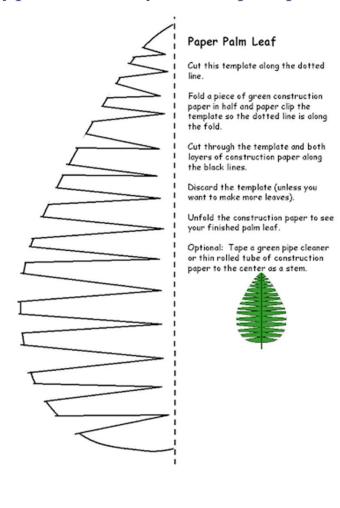
#### Covenant Lunch with the Easter Bunny and Egg Hunt

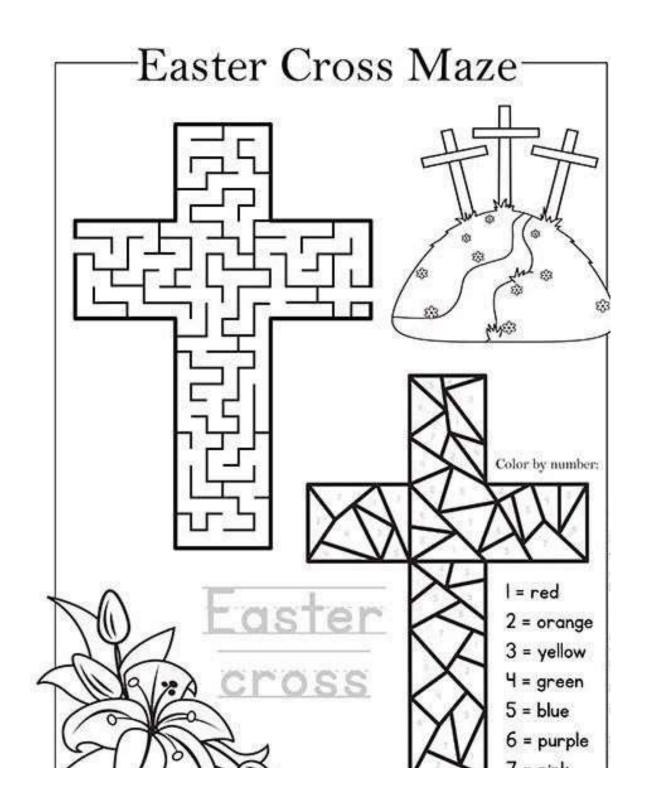


### Fun & Games!

## Kids Korner Activities

#### Click on any puzzle or activity sheet to open a printable version!

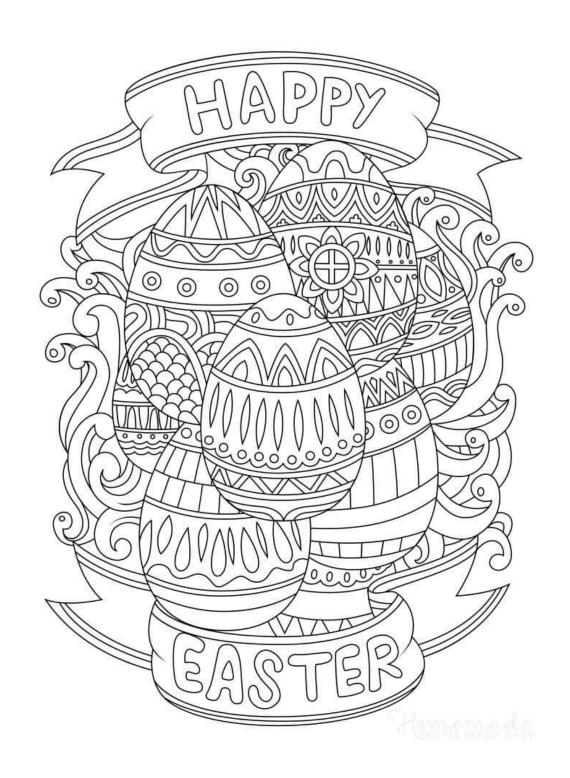






#### **Adult Diversion: Activities**

Click any puzzle or activity sheet to open a printable version!



# EASTER WORD SEARCH

P I E R C E D S
I A S L R U R P
E C S A S A T K
C N E S C I B L
E P D W O R N B
S N Q F Z V I Y
O O S L S O E F

K Z O U K H J R C Y J F I N E H Y K R I E K A U Q H T R A E D R O B E Q B T J T O S T D O Y U V X X C L Z S E V E I H T E T H R E E D A Y S S I C L K F I H O V I E J C F A G W A N A P O S T L E S S D E L E O U L G N O I X I F I C U R C N U T N J T N Y Q V Y C P V R T I C R O W N O F T H O R N S T V H I G H P R I E S T H E R F V G J U D A S I S C A R I O T I

RUVBCYLU

**ANGELS APOSTLES** BETRAYAL **BLOOD** CALVARY CROSS CROWN OF THORNS CRUCIFIXION DARKNESS DEATH **EARTHQUAKE** EASTER **GOLGOTHA HIGH PRIEST** JESUS CHRIST **JOSEPH** JUDAS ISCARIOT KING LAMB

RSKPSTPC BETRAYAL QRTQOSEF TDVSNXNG FORAAHEO NBMIKERL VOOBIBYG RPVINWCO QDRTGVFT DMJJCFOH BLOODENA CBXVLSOJ ISGPLEME SRMITTIS AEAAXSSU TNLVTHYS PIGOCRSC PUNEAVRH DEUVLOER MALNGSII TARACCDS CIRKMMLT VRZYNBOY RYOREESG

KICSYDSG

**MARY** NAILS **PASSOVER** PIECES OF SILVER PIERCED PILATE RESURRECTION ROBE ROMANS **SACRIFICE** SIMON OF CYRENE SOLDIERS SON OF GOD **SPEAR** STONE **TEMPLE THIEVES** THREE DAYS TOMB

# PNHNSQES

# Prayer for Ukraine



God of mercy, justice and peace

Our spirits are heavy with sorrow, our souls shocked

At the sudden and breathtaking violence,

the invasion of Ukraine by their neighbor, Russia.

We pray for lives caught in the grip of war,

who hear the bombs in the night,

the ominous movement of troops on the road into town

the whistle of incoming shells,

for a cry from a desperate neighbor or a shout of warning.

For those who huddle in subways and basements

or flee for the borders, clutching their children's hands

We pray for families separated from fathers, brothers and sons

who must remain to fight and protect their homeland.

We pray for neighbors in Eastern and Central Europe

As their hearts and doors open to these refugees

That strained resources will become an abundance of hope

That fears and struggles with racism will yield to a generosity of profound welcome

That communities of faith within Ukraine will be protected from harm and sustained in their efforts to feed and shelter their neighbors.

That peacemakers and protesters in Russia will be heard and their lives preserved.

May we undergird our prayers with tangible resources to help.

May we reach deeply, give generously, and welcome extravagantly.

May we lift our voices in a strong and unified advocacy.

May we all, even as we breathe in lament, breathe out mercy, hope and peace.

And in this Lenten season, when we walk the way toward death and resurrection, repent our complicity in cultures of violence and renew our efforts toward justice and peace. Amen.

--Rev. Dr. Laurie Kraus, Director, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

# Faithfully Funny...



Happy Easter! He is Risen!



#### **Calvary Presbyterian Church**

300 4th St.
Riverton, NJ 08077
(856) 829-0783
www.calvaryriverton.org

#### **Covenant Presbyterian Church**

2618 New Albany Rd. Cinnaminson, NJ 08077 (856) 829-7522

www.covenantpreschurch.org

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