



# Calvary Baptist Church TWENTY TWENTY

6500 E. Girard Ave. Denver CO 80224

[www.calvarydenver.org](http://www.calvarydenver.org)

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## From Senior Pastor Rev. Anne J. Scalfaro

**“For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” - Romans 8:38-39**

While many of us have leaned on a variety of scriptures to help us weather the unpredictable and unprecedented storms of 2020, if I had to pick just one to speak the truth of this year it would be Romans 8:38-39. In *The Message* Eugene Peterson paraphrases it this way: “None of this fazes us because Jesus loves us. I’m absolutely convinced that nothing—nothing living or dead, angelic or demonic, today or tomorrow, high or low, thinkable or unthinkable—absolutely nothing can get between us and God’s love because of the way that Jesus has embraced us.”

As we have been separated physically from one another through the long months of the coronavirus pandemic – we have not been separated from the love of Christ. As we have experienced personal griefs and losses through the death of loved ones, the inability to gather and mourn in traditional ways, the cancel-

ling of significant celebrations or long-awaited travel, the inability to be with family – we have not been separated from the love of Christ. As we have seen social and political turmoil unfold around us through the politization of safety measures and medical science, the deaths of more black lives and ongoing racial injustice and inequities in all areas of society, a divisive presidential campaign and election that resulted in claims of election fraud and conspiracy theories – we have not been separated from the love of Christ. Yes, through “the thinkable and unthinkable” (mostly unthinkable!) – we have not been separated from the love of Christ.

While admittedly hard to feel at times, Christ’s love and presence with us in 2020 has been our sure and strong foundation. And we have felt the love of Christ through this our Calvary community. Calvary, we have allowed the Spirit of God to move within us and among us – even as we are spread across metro-Denver and the United States and beyond. Here are a few examples of our adaptability and creativity:

- We pivoted and adapted quickly to pre-recorded worship (gaining new skills each week on how to make this a more optimal experience) and utilizing 200+ lay leaders these services! You all took the time to record yourselves and learn how to upload videos; amazing! Our worship experiences would not have been nearly as meaningful without seeing all your faces. Thank you!
- We moved our small group gatherings and committee meetings to Zoom (how many times have we said “you’re muted!” in last year!?).
- We worshipped (socially distanced, masked) outside – creating a sacred space out of our parking lot.
- We created care teams to call our entire congregation and keep in touch and delivered tokens of care to homes.
- We started doing virtual pastoral care visits via Facetime since we could not make hospital visits for much of the year.
- We had drive-through donation opportunities for mission partners (Thank you Men’s Group) and raised a record amount of money to house families in hotels for Family Promise and to help our own congregation members in need.
- We created unique virtual opportunities for connection (Virtual Vacation Bible School, Virtual Thanksgiving Breakfast – Men’s Group, Virtual Christmas Card and Virtual Christmas Pageant).

The innovative and creative leadership of staff, Council, the Stewardship Committee, the Men’s

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Group and Women's Group, the Foot of the Cross Courtyard committee, our small group leaders, the Faith Formation Ministry Team, The Gathering, and many other lay volunteers and teams allowed ministry at Calvary to not just survive in 2020 – but to thrive. Thank you, thank you. If a pastor can be proud of her congregation, then Calvary, I could not be prouder of you and of our staff than I was this year. After twelve years, I am so grateful that I continue to grow and learn with you; thank you for that privilege.

More specifically, this past year as Senior Pastor my attention has been focused on COVID-19 decisions, preaching and worship, staff and congregational leadership, finances and stewardship, missions, pastoral care, and nurturing the partnership Calvary has with New Hope Baptist. You will find updates on some of these areas elsewhere in the Annual Report.

#### Key dates/events/themes from 2020 include:

- Jan. 5 – Continuing with our first year using the Narrative Lectionary in worship for our scriptures for preaching; this second half of the year focused on the Gospel of Mark and Paul's Letters (Jan – May)
- Jan. 7 – Began study of The Universal Christ by Richard Rohr with Tuesday Prayer & Study Group
- Jan. 12 – Baby shower for Pastor Morgan & Ian Fletcher
- Jan. 12 – Presentation by and meetings with ABC-USA Global Servants Joyce & David Reed
- Jan. 14 – Congregational Study on SABBATH continues from Fall 2019
- Jan. 23 – Delivered 240 diverse and inclusive books to Stedman Elementary School that Calvary members donated as part of our Calvary/New Hope Baptist partnership and tutoring program at Stedman



- Jan. 26-28 – Attended Pastoral Resident Reunion at Wilshire Baptist Church in Dallas, TX

- Jan. 29 – Annual Meeting
- Jan. 30 – Memorial Service for Judy Kerlin, Janet Kerlin's mother
- Feb. 22 – Meeting with the Ministerial Leadership Committee with the American Baptist Churches of the Rocky Mountains to discuss the "Statement on Homosexuality" as part of the ongoing conversation Council is having with the Region around this statement
- Feb. 26 – Ash Wednesday Service in Fireplace Room



- Mar. 3 – Habitat Helpers House Dedication/Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
- Mar. 8 – Memorial Service for Larry Hicks, Evan Hick's father
- Mar. 11 – First meeting with (what would become) the COVID-19 leadership team
- Mar. 11 – First and only "in-person" Lenten Supper in Youth Lounge
- Mar. 12 – Eblast/letter to congregation about COVID-19 and immediate building closure
- Mar. 15 – Livestreamed worship from sanctuary with no congregation due to COVID-19
- Mar. 17 – First Virtual Zoom Staff Gathering/Meeting (which would continue through 2020)



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- Mar. 17 – First Tuesday picking up the mail at the post office (would become new weekly duty until mid-fall)
- Mar. 18 – First weekly run to take the deposit to the bank (would become new weekly duty until late summer)
- Mar. 18 – First Virtual Mid-week Gathering via Zoom (started as Lenten series on Wednesdays and eventually moved to Tuesday evenings, and continued throughout 2020)
- April 21 – First Colorado Faith Leaders call (for updates on COVID-19) with Gov. Polis (would continue periodically throughout 2020)
- April 21 – Two hour Zoom call for my annual MMBB Women Pastor's Colloquium (normally a week long conference at a destination)
- May 1 – Delivered May Day flowers to staff as a "thank you" for all their hard work the previous six weeks
- May 12 – Interviewed on Mile High Theology Podcast by Canon Broderick Greer (St. John's Cathedral Denver)
- May 22 – Foot of the Cross Courtyard Service & Interment for Don Worford
- May 26-27 and June 2-3 – Socially distanced pastoral planning retreat outside (Anne, Alice, Morgan)



- Mar. 19 – Notification to congregation about Music Director David Farwig having COVID-19 and worship preparation for Mar. 22 immediately pivots to pre-recorded videos
- Mar. 22 – First pre-recorded worship service on Calvary's YouTube channel (which is the method of worship that would continue through the rest of 2020)
- April 5 – Stewardship Committee's IN RESPONSE giving campaign begins and runs through April
- Palm Sunday worship (included Palm Sunday processional with photo/video submissions from congregation)
- April 6 – Holy Monday reflection (Rev. Mary Hulst)
- April 7 – Holy Tuesday reflection video (Rev. Alice Horner Nelson)
- April 8 – Holy Wednesday reflection video (Rev. Morgan Fletcher)
- April 9 – Maundy Thursday "Love Feast" worship video
- April 10 – Good Friday "Seven Last Words of Christ" joint worship video with New Hope Baptist (three Calvary preachers, three New Hope preachers, combined anthem from joint choir in 2019)
- April 11 – Holy Saturday reflection video (Rev. Anne Scalfaro)
- April 12 – Easter Sunday worship (included 'virtual Easter garden' slideshow with submissions from the congregation)



- May 29 – Enews Letter/Video message in response to the killing of George Floyd
- May 31 – Pentecost worship video (including Pentecost parade with video/photo submissions from congregation members wearing red)
- May 31 – Dialogue on Race & Law Enforcement via Zoom with New Hope Baptist
- June – Focus on BEing the Church begins (even though we cannot "be" in the building)
- June – Congregational "We Miss You; Thank you for BEing the Church" sign deliveries
- June – Four week sermon series in Worship on 2 Corinthians begins
- June – Application for the Payroll Protection Program Loan completed with Church Accountant, Luwan Jones
- June 1 – Meeting with American Baptist Churches of the Rocky Mountains about race, law enforcement, and the killing of George Floyd
- June 9 – Neighborhood Black Lives Matter march (Southmoor to Rosamond park)
- June 14 – BLACK (Curious Theatre) – online one act play

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- June 18 – Black Lives Matter march with Stedman Elementary (New Hope partnership)
- June 20 – John Pipe Interment/Memorial Service in Foot of the Cross Courtyard, Armenia Joe Miller's (John Pipe's mother) Interment Service in Foot of the Cross Courtyard, Janice Taylor's Interment Service in Foot of the Cross Courtyard
- June 21 – Virtual Pridefest Parade video premieres
- June 23 & 30 – Bible Study/MLK's Letter from a Birmingham Jail study with Dr. Walter Fluker (joint event hosted by New Hope) on Facebook Live
- June 25 – Healing & Wholeness Service via Zoom
- June 23-26, 29, 30 and July 1-2 – Church Music Institute Lilly Scholar's Class (taken with David Farwig)
- July 5 – Joint worship service with New Hope Baptist on Luke 4 (New Baptist Covenant)
- July 12 – 9 week summer series on "Adventures in the Bible: Adventures at Sea, Adventures on Land, Adventures in the Sky" begins
- July 14 – First "Pastors' Pondering" at midweek Gathering on Zoom
- July 15 – Calvary's COVID-19 Building Guidelines approved by Church Council
- July 21 – First Outdoor Worship Service during the pandemic in Calvary's Parking Lot
- July 29 – Interview with MMBB on Church Finance's in Pandemic for their magazine
- Aug. 3-7 – Virtual Vacation Bible School
- Aug. 8 – Judy Drury Interment in Foot of the Cross Courtyard / Judy Drury's Virtual Memorial Service premieres on YouTube



- Aug. 18 – Outdoor Worship Service in Parking Lot
- Aug. 20 – Healing & Wholeness Service via Zoom
- Aug. 25 – Pastor's Pondering on Facebook Live
- Sept. 12 – Outdoor Worship Service in Parking Lot



- Sept. 13 – Virtual Gathering Sunday Worship Service including congregational 'parade' of words they use to describe Calvary
- Sept. 13 – Beginning our second year with the Narrative Lectionary (Sept – May); this year is focused on the Old Testament, prophets, and beginning the Gospel of Luke as we enter 2021
- Sept. 15 – Begin studying Caste: The Origins of our Discontents by Isabel Wilkerson with Tuesday Prayer & Study Group
- Sept. 19 – Get Out the Vote Event at Messiah Lutheran (joint event with New Hope)
- Sept. 23-26 – ABCRM Virtual Annual Meeting (American Baptist Churches of the Rocky Mountains)
- Oct. 8 – Healing and Wholeness Service via Zoom
- Oct. 18 – Six week Stewardship Campaign/Sermon Series begins: Hold On! Hold on...to our Identity! To our Purpose! To each other! To God! To our Commitments! To Hope..for the Long Haul!
- Oct. 22 – New Baptist Covenant Interview on Facebook Live with Dr. Aidsand Wright-Riggins and Rev. Eugene Downing and myself
- Oct. 26 – Missionary Zoom Report/Update with David & Joyce Reed
- Oct. 28 – Memorial Service for Dean Foust at the former Harvey Park Baptist Church
- Nov – 30 Days of Thankfulness Begins on Calvary's Social Media Platforms (or PDF in enews)
- Nov. 1 – All Saints' Virtual Worship Service
- Nov. 7 – Mike Burck Interment Service in Foot of the Cross Courtyard
- Nov. 8 – Delores Bowermaster Interment/Memorial Service in Foot of the Cross Courtyard
- Nov. 9 – My annual performance review/evaluation by Staff Relations and Co-Moderators
- Nov. 10 – Pastors' Pondering via Facebook Live
- Nov. 10 – Virtual Staff Spiritual Direction with Rev. Brad Berglund

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- Nov. 12 – Virtual “Warming Ways of Winter” Auction for Family Promise of Greater Denver
- Nov. 15 – Stewardship Commitment Card “Drop-off” in Parking Lot
- Nov. 17 – Kentucky Circle Village Annual Meeting via Zoom
- Nov. 21 – Blessing of the Animals Service via Zoom
- Nov. 22 – 15th Anniversary of the Foot of the Cross Courtyard in Worship (special video segment)
- Nov. 26 – Men’s Group: Virtual Thanksgiving Breakfast for all of Calvary
- Nov. 29 – Four week Advent series begins: Do Not be Afraid!
- Dec – Application for Group Health Insurance for Calvary’s pastors completed with Church Accountant Luwan Jones and Staff Relations
- Dec – “Home for the Holidays” packets mailed with faith formation resources, crafts, music, and a gift (mask)
- Dec. 3 – Communal Blue Christmas Worship Service via Zoom
- Dec. 10 – Advent Healing & Wholeness Service via Zoom
- Dec. 20-21 – Christmas Eve Candle Pick-up in Parking Lot
- Dec. 22 – Calvary’s Virtual Christmas Card premieres
- Dec. 24 – Virtual Christmas Eve Worship Service premieres
- Dec. 25 – Virtual Christmas Pageant premieres

Calvary, as we end 2020, I am encouraged by the ministry we are doing in Denver, and by who we are becoming as a church community. We have truly grown together in what it means to BE the church even as we have not been able to gather in the church building. That said, even as we haven’t been able to be in the building, I encourage you to read the report from Bill Warren, Chair of Resource Management and our Facilities & Operations Manager, Lori Groshkopf – as impressive upgrades and projects have been taking place from the chapel, to the west bathrooms, to the roof! Many thanks to Bill and Lori for all of their hard work in caring for our facility, and many thanks to Lori, for her development of our COVID-19 building guidelines.

It has been a hard year – full of grief and loss and exhaustion and stress. Certainly from my standpoint, it has been one of the most demanding years in terms of workload and time and energy in creating worship services and opportunities to connect, learn, and serve together while also providing meaningful

pastoral care. Through it all, I have been so impressed by our congregation’s adaptability and flexibility and support. And I am so grateful to our lay leadership during this time, for all the support and wisdom you have given me and our staff.

And of course – to Calvary’s amazing staff: you have shown such resilience and adaptability and creativity and such an unwavering commitment to showing up and meeting the demands of this difficult time with humor, creativity, wisdom, and grace. I truly feel that Calvary has had the right staff with the right set of gifts for such a time as this. And many thanks to my husband, Damon Scalfaro, and to Rev. Matt Nelson for all of their help in video production and assistance for our Sunday worship services. In so many ways, I have seen the movement of God’s spirit and presence with our staff and church family each and every day.

I am, as always, grateful for the privilege of being your Senior Pastor. I do not take this responsibility lightly, and the joys and challenges of this ministry are enriched by the relationships and love that Damon and I feel from you, the Calvary congregation.

BEing the church together, while apart,  
~Pastor Anne

# A Trip Down Memory Lane: A Few of Anne's Notable Pastor Letters in the E-News This Year

Calvary's COVID-19 Response

Eblast for Thursday afternoon - March 12, 2020

Calvary family & friends,

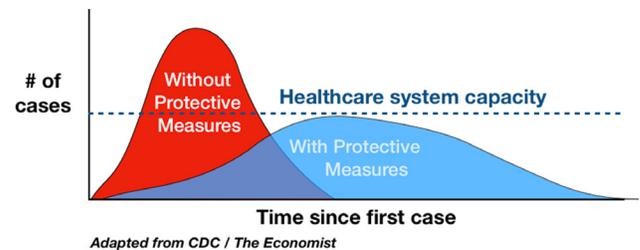
When the religious leaders of his day asked Jesus what the greatest commandment was, he told them it was to "love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength." He then added that the second greatest commandment is like the first: to "love your neighbor as yourself." As a community of faith whose mission is to "be a Christ-like community that experiences and shares God's love", we frame our actions and decisions by these two commandments.

With the global spread of COVID-19 (the coronavirus), we have watched cities shut down, universities move to online classes for the remainder of the semester, conferences and large gatherings postpone or cancel their events, and Governor Polis declare a State of Emergency in Colorado. The Centers for Disease Control, the World Health Organization, as well as state and municipal public health leaders have recommended communities avoid holding gatherings of 50 or more people. Without a vaccine in place, scientists and public health officials believe two of the most practical intermediary steps in which we can all participate is via vigilant proper hygiene and "social distancing."

Calvary's Staff and Leadership have been carefully discerning our own protocols and mechanisms for ensuring the safety of our congregants, staff, and members of the community who gather in Calvary's facilities.

In listening to the science, and in response to Christ's call to love our neighbors, we have decided that the best way to love and care for our neighbors is to temporarily move to online-only Sunday worship services, and to suspend all events, small groups, meetings, and other in-person church life activities, effective immediately. The church office will be closed during this time as well. Staff will be working remotely. You may contact staff via email (see list below) or through their cell phones (as listed in the church directory). If you do not have a church directory, you may call the church to request information. Church voicemail will be checked regularly Sundays-Thursdays.

This is a stark moment of widespread anxiety in our nation, yet we do not make this decision out of fear. It is from a deep sense of obligation to, and responsibility for, our members, neighbors, and the community at large. We want to be a part of leading the way in our community of Denver by modeling how we care for



one another; paradoxically, in this moment, it requires social distancing and vigilance in our self-hygiene.

The goal of these efforts is, as experts in these fields say, to flatten the curve, in order to reduce the pressure on the healthcare system as the situation develops. If the healthcare system is overwhelmed, an array of negative consequences cascade from that leading to a much more serious crisis.

We will continually be re-assessing the situation and, in conjunction with leaders of our community and leaders of our church, will plan accordingly. As is our practice, we will of course advise you as these decisions are developed and made. While we cannot know for certain at this time, our hope is that we will have seen a reprieve that will allow us to gather again by the beginning of Holy Week, on Palm Sunday, April 5. We will be in regular communication regarding worship opportunities, protocols, and church life activities.

In the meantime, we invite you to:

- Livestream worship with us on Sunday at 10:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. You may access the link to livestream worship [here](#). We will be uploading Orders of Worship to our website so that you may follow along as you worship.
- Give electronically: Because Calvary's mission to our community is vital, and because our commitment to funding our programs and supporting our staff remains essential, your continued giving—even in your absence—is critical. Thank you for your continued commitment to Calvary. You can [click here](#) to give online, or to set up automatic giving, at any time. You may also email or call Luwan Jones, Calvary's Accountant, for further information about online and automatic giving (303-757-8421). You may also mail your gifts to

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- Calvary (6500 E. Girard Ave. Denver, CO 80224). Pray: Pray for those who are already affected by COVID-19. One of our member's has a cousin in Washington State who has COVID-19 and he is in critical condition. Please pray for Daniel; he's 39 years old, is married and has four children. We also have members of our church in health care professions who are on the front lines of caring for those with COVID-19; please pray for them as well.
- Call the Calvary Prayer Line to hear the latest prayer concerns and updates and listen to a prayer.
- Take a Sabbath Moment to Pause & Reflect through the Lenten Devotionals that will continue to be sent via your inbox (sign up to receive those here).

Calvary, while we would have never wished this situation on our world or in our community, this is a wonderful opportunity for all of us to truly practice our Lenten theme of Sabbath together. As you are out and about less, use this opportunity to connect with God more deeply. And be creative about how you can connect with others.

- Consider writing cards to our VIPs (Very Inspiring Persons) or making a phone call or two to those in our congregation who cannot get out or who may need help with groceries or errands. Email Mary Hulst for a list of VIPs who would love a card or a call.
- If you yourself are sick or cannot get out and about and need help with groceries or errands, please contact us at the church and we will coordinate volunteers to help you during this time. If you are willing to serve on a Care Team to help get groceries or run errands for people who are sick or unable to get out, please contact us.

In moments of fear and anxiety, we have the opportunity, and obligation as God's people, to model another way. We believe this to be Christ's Way of love and compassion and justice. As we take precautions for ourselves and loved ones, it is our faith and trust in God that brings us comfort and strength. Imagine new ways of practicing hospitality, kindness, care, thoughtfulness, and even physical touch. As we protect your bodies from germs, know that our faith will protect our minds from fear and our hearts from hatred.

Calvary, our commitment is to do everything we can to communicate with you about the measures we are taking to be responsible, while also being reasonable. As feelings of fear and anxiety arise within your-

self, remember to pause and take a deep breath: "Be Still and Know that I am God," as the psalmist writes. As we live into the unknown together, know that you journey with God and with a community that loves you and prays for you.

Practicing true Sabbath Peace with you during this time,

Rev. Anne J. Scalfaro, Senior Pastor  
Sharon Murphy & Rick Breitenbecher, Co-Moderators  
Jim Comstock, Chair of Safety & Security Team

### **Calvary's COVID-19/Coronavirus Response Eblast for Friday, March 20, 2020**

Calvary family & friends,

What a difference a week makes. In Matthew 6:34 Jesus says, "So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today." Indeed. We are all taking this one day at a time.

As we all navigate this new time together, know that you are in my daily prayers. There is a lot of information coming to us each day and we are continually making adjustments to what it means to be "church" in this day and age.

Even though our building is closed, the church is not. Now, more than any other time, we have the opportunity to truly be the "church" for the world and for one another. We must love our neighbor and ourselves well by staying put in our homes. This is absolutely crucial at this time. I encourage you to utilize technology as much as possible (email, ZOOM, website, enews, phone) to stay informed and to connect with one another. We know this is affecting many of us economically, physically, emotionally, and spiritually and we encourage you to reach out to myself or Pastor Alice or Pastor Mary. We are here for you, as is our entire staff.

Calvary continues to suspend all in-person gatherings for the foreseeable future. Staff continue to work from home. Our local government has banned gatherings of more than 10 people through April 17 and gatherings of over 50 people until May 11. So we are looking to mid-May before we might be able to gather in person again at Calvary. We will continue to follow the guidelines from our local and national leaders and will keep you informed of any updates along the way.

**A final note:** Our Director of Music, David Farwig, is experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19. Testing at most of our Colorado hospitals is only be-

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ing done on those with severe respiratory distress, which thankfully, David does not have at this time. He started to experience symptoms on Wednesday and was able to finally get tested Thursday evening (March 19) at the VA Hospital. His results will come in 4-9 days. That said, based on his symptoms, doctors are advising him to assume that he has COVID-19 and to quarantine himself. David wants you all to know that while he does not feel well, overall he is doing okay, and appreciates your prayers. He and Greg have everything they need at this time. We have communicated with anyone who has been in close contact with David over the past 14 days, which includes staff.

Because staff have been exposed, we are not livestreaming our worship services this Sunday because that requires us to be in the same space. Instead, we will be prerecording our 10:30 a.m. worship in separate segments and producing a seamless worship experience for you which will be posted on Calvary's Facebook page, YouTube channel, and website at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday morning. The Gathering will be recorded in the Horner-Nelson living room with Matt & Alice and will also be posted on Sunday.

Until Sunday when I see you virtually again, I share with you the same words Jesus shared with his disciples who were scared and huddled in the Upper Room, "Peace be with you,"

~Pastor Anne

Alongside Calvary's COVID-19 Response Lay Leadership Team:

Co-Moderators - Sharon Murphy & Rick Breitenbecher

Chair of Safety & Security - Jim Comstock

Chair of Resource Management - Bill Warren

Chair of Staff Relations - Mick Davey

Church Treasurer - Virg Musil

### **Calvary's COVID-19/Coronavirus Response Eblast - Friday, May 29, 2020**

Calvary family & friends,

It's hard to believe how much our lives have changed since I wrote you on March 12th announcing that Calvary would be closing our building because of the COVID-19 outbreak. Almost three months later, we now know that we're in the midst of a full-blown global pandemic that will last many months, not just a handful of weeks.

At Calvary, we felt the seriousness of this illness early on, as our own David Farwig was diagnosed with COVID-19. We felt it's gravity even more as we lost church members and friends because of this disease; we grieve with Sandra Baldrige upon the loss of her

husband Sam, and Pam and Rick Chapman upon the loss of Pam's mom Shirley Mathis. And we give thanks for those in our church family who have recovered from COVID-19, even as we pray for those who continue to serve on the front lines and experience the devastation of the coronavirus firsthand.

And we have all felt the economic, psychological, emotional, and spiritual impact of COVID-19. We miss gathering together. We miss singing. We miss hugging. We miss lingering. We miss seeing smiles and reading body language. We miss the freedom of not having to worry about wearing a mask or being strategic about when and how we'll get our groceries. We miss the energy of in-person worship. We miss hallway conversations and Bible studies. We miss human, face-to-face connection. We are missing so much and grieving a lot, which means we're feeling a rollercoaster range of motions on any given day. It is a really hard time.

Acknowledging all of these realities and the additional grief and loss of so many events and plans being cancelled, I have difficult news to share with you: Calvary's building will remain closed through the summer months - June, July, and August. While we hope to be able to gather in the building in some capacity after Labor Day in September, we will not know that for sure until closer to that date.

I know; this is not what you want to hear. It is not what I want to be sharing with you. I think we all thought back in March that surely by May or June we'd be gathering back together. But after much prayer, thorough research on what we know so far about the nature of COVID-19 and how our human behavior affects its spread, conversations with colleagues, listening to government advice and CDC guidelines, attending church insurance webinars, outlining the plans and procedures for what it would take to safely reopen our building, and envisioning how limited and how different those gatherings would be - we have decided to keep our building closed until we can safely re-open with more of our congregation able to gather than we are able to now. This decision has not been made lightly nor in isolation; it has been an on-going conversation with Council Leadership, the COVID-19 team, and staff. While I'm sure you are hearing of some churches that are choosing to gather for in-person worship already, I can assure you that Calvary is not alone in the faith-based community in Denver in making the decision that we are.

While much has changed in three months and much will continue to shift and change as this pandemic plays out, the values that guided our decision back on March 12th to close our building have not changed. Our life together is centered on the call and love of Christ. When the religious leaders of his day asked Jesus what the greatest commandment was, he told

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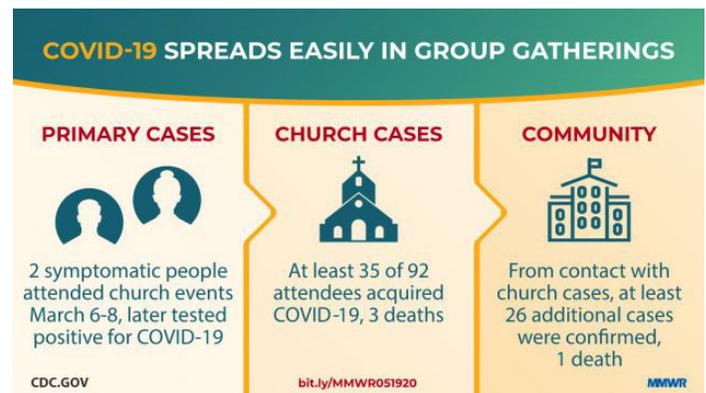
them it was to “love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength.” He then added that the second greatest commandment is like the first: to “love your neighbor as yourself.” As a community of faith whose mission is to “be a Christ-like community that experiences and shares God’s love” and whose vision is to be Open to All, Closed to None, we frame our actions and decisions by these two commandments.

With the values of “love of neighbor” and “protecting the vulnerable” in mind, I invite you to consider these points:

- Calvary has always shown a strong commitment to “the common good.” As much as we love our building and as much as we long to gather again in it, we know that our essential nature as a church comes through not whether our building is open but rather through how open our hearts are to the movement of God’s Spirit within us and among us during such a time as this, and how open our minds are to exploring new avenues of ministry.
- Because our essential nature as a church does not depend on a building, even when we can “officially” gather with more than 10 people, or even with 25 people, should we? For the sake of the economy and people’s livelihoods, it is essential for more businesses to open, as we are seeing this week with restaurants opening for dine-in service. By our building remaining closed, we are supporting other businesses who cannot survive without opening their storefront (their physical location) and thus are doing our part to not contribute to additional spread of COVID-19 which could really set us back as a city/state and endanger lives. This is a matter of economic justice as we do our part to support the many Coloradans who need to get back to work, and a matter of protecting the vulnerable, as we lower risk and spread which helps our healthcare systems and frontline workers.
- Even as other businesses do begin to open their doors again, remember that churches are not like businesses. Most businesses that are reopening with success have the ability to serve customers in one-on-one or very small group settings, thus limiting the risk of exposure. Churches do not operate that way. We are about group functions and large-scale gatherings, where the known risk of accidentally spreading infection is exponentially higher. We are relational in our work, not transactional, and this makes a fundamental difference in how and when we can reopen.
- As a community that is Open to All, Closed to None, we make our decisions with our whole

community in mind. We covenant to not deliberately isolate people by age group or any other risk factor. In this way, we are choosing to prioritize the community over the individual. The reality is, we all have a different risk tolerance; some of us will be breathing a sigh of relief at this decision and others of us will be frustrated and feel that we are being too cautious. But we are called to have a wider and more inclusive perspective than any of our individual desires. Because we are a multi-generational congregation, it’s important that when we “come back,” we come back together with as many people as possible in our community who can safely gather, without having to enforce additional restrictions on top of the required health-related restrictions and distancing and disinfecting guidelines we will be following.

- Making a decision about summer and evaluating whether or not our building is open on a quarterly basis (instead of waiting week to week for more data and constantly being in “decision-making mode”), allows us to process and accept the reality of what this means for our life together as a community so that we can move forward with more intention and care. It also moves staff from crisis mode into creativity mode, freeing us to focus on what we CAN do instead of focusing on what we CANNOT do and wondering when that may or may not change.



- In addition to the scientific data that shows COVID-19 spreads quickly in large gatherings because it lingers a long time - not only on surfaces but also in the air itself (especially indoor, air conditioned spaces), our habits will be very hard to break in terms of how we gather (which, let’s face it, is very personal and connective). No matter our good intentions, it will be hard to not be able to be close to one another, greet each other, fellowship together, sing, or engage in many of the behaviors that make being together meaningful for us as a church community. While our

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online experience lacks the relational power of in-person worship, the in-person worship experience available to us right now is far less than ideal and would put our most vulnerable members and guests at risk. Plus, there is also just the bazaar and maddening nature of this disease to consider - that we can carry it and spread it without ever even knowing that we have it. This study by the CDC shows the reality of this fact (see graphic).

- Ensuring the safety of the staff is of utmost importance. When Calvary's building opens, congregation members will have the option of whether or not they choose to enter the building and gather, whereas staff will be exposed to the most people for the longest periods of time. While we cannot eliminate all risk, it is important for Calvary to have proper disinfectant supplies and distancing protocols and procedures in place before opening the building.

Speaking of disinfectant supplies and distancing protocols, Lori Grohkopf has been working on building re-opening plans for weeks, and the COVID-19 team will expand and intensify these efforts this summer. The logistics of safely opening the building for gatherings are complex and multi-layered. While cleaning supplies were ordered back in March, it is likely that we will not receive the majority of what we need until mid-July. Then it will take several weeks to outfit the building with these supplies, implement safety plans, protocols, and signage, train volunteers and staff on our new ways of gathering together, and communicate these guidelines to you.

In the meantime, know that the staff will be focusing on the ways we can safely gather outdoors in small or larger gatherings throughout the summer. We are blessed to live in Colorado, which has beautiful weather! We look forward to sharing those plans and opportunities with you in the coming weeks, as well as ways that we will continue to connect virtually and through other appropriate socially distanced methods. Our virtual worship services - which have more than twice the "attendance" of our in-person worship services - will continue to connect us and share the gospel in powerful ways. It is a spiritually rich time for many as we all search for meaning and hope in the midst of this pandemic. We need God, and one another, now more than ever.

It has been so hard not to gather in our building and yet I have been so proud of how you have truly lived into BEING the church over the past three months, Calvary. You have shown up for one another and yourselves in remarkable ways - writing cards, making calls and deliveries, giving generously, learning new

technologies, and supporting staff as we've sought to adapt and learn quickly new ways of doing ministry. I could not be prouder than I am in this moment to be your pastor. It is because of how you are already BEING the church in such significant ways that I know we will make it through whatever the coming months hold.

In moments of anxiety and uncertainty in our society, we have the opportunity as God's people to model another way - a way that leads us forward in faith not fear. We believe this to be Christ's Way of love and compassion and justice. As we take precautions for ourselves and loved ones, it is our faith and trust in God that brings us comfort and strength.

I offer my deepest gratitude to my staff and colleagues, our Church Council, and our COVID-19 Response Lay Leadership Team for their wisdom and guidance throughout this process and for their support in evaluating our decisions on a quarterly basis as we move forward. If you have any questions or wish to discuss anything in this letter with me, please call (303-884-4475) or email ([ascalfaro@calvarydenver.org](mailto:ascalfaro@calvarydenver.org)). I am here for you, as is our entire staff.

As we live through this unprecedented season together, know that you journey with God and with a community that loves you and prays for you.

BEING the Church together,

Rev. Anne J. Scalfaro, Senior Pastor

### **Pastoral Letter for Enews Friday, June 5, 2020**

Dear Calvary, my beloved church family,

How difficult it is to be apart during times where the ache in our souls is like a gravitational pull to be together. Through your social media posts, emails, calls, and cards, I have heard your pain, your questions, and your prayers as you express emotions of outrage, sadness, and grief over the murder of George Floyd at the hands of law enforcement. I, like you, have been moved to see so many people in the streets day after day unrelenting in their calls for justice, and it has been a hopeful sign in some cities to see police officers kneeling and joining arms with organizing leaders. I have lamented with friends of color about the outside groups that have coopted peaceful protests with looting and violence. I join you in feeling a complex range of emotions. But emotions are not the headline here; injustice is. While our grief and lament and passion and worry is warranted, action is what is needed.

I'm sure that over the last week, you have read many

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letters, statements, and social media posts from organizations, businesses, former presidents, and friends. This letter is not meant to be a statement, for I cannot write a singular statement for the diverse community we love and call Calvary - which includes people of many skin colors and convictions; it is rather meant to be a letter from my heart and from my deepest ethical convictions which are grounded in the liberating gospel message of Jesus and my continual, on-going journey of faith formation and education.

There is so much I do not know; there is so much I do not understand. There's so much history I have not lived through; there are so many perspectives I have not yet taken the time to listen to and learn from. There are so many voices I have selectively muted throughout my life and so many times my privilege has protected me while harming others - without my permission. But that's the thing about privilege. It doesn't need my permission; it just exists within me and around me - because of my skin color, birthplace, upbringing, education, profession, age, and marriage to a white man. We can all look over the course of our lives and see how we got to where we are today - what blessings we've experienced, what struggles we've faced. Acknowledging privilege is not about being ashamed of who we are and where we've come from; it's about acknowledging that our journey is not lived in isolation; we are all interconnected. And our interconnectedness as humans has been grossly imbalanced for centuries. And we who are white have waited far too long to do anything about it. We've chosen comfort for a few over justice for all.

While the excruciating 8-minute-long murder of George Floyd was the spark to ignite the current protests across our country and world, we know that the embers for these cries for justice have existed for centuries. Those of us with white skin might seem surprised and distraught when we see these fires raging, but people of color are not surprised for these are the flames they walk through each and every day. These fires did not start burning with the murder of George Floyd or Ahmaud Arbery or Breonna Taylor. They started before our country was even founded, as we laid the groundwork to create a "free country" where we said that all people had the right to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," while at the same time defining all people with exceptions and exclusions - indigenous peoples whom we massacred and colonized and enslaved Africans who we bought, sold, and lynched. And these fires continue to burn under leadership that divides instead of unites, leadership that silences the cries of a country with violent rhetoric and displays of force.

Black Lives Matter. Throughout the Scripture, the

Bible speaks to matters of justice and human dignity. We are taught as Christians that all human beings bear the divine image. The Bible condemns injustice and the misuse of authority and force. God's people are called to love our neighbors, care for their needs, and work for the well-being of all.

Calvary, because we are a diverse community, I want to speak directly to our members and friends who are people of color: You are a beloved child of God. You are created in the beautiful image of God. I am here, as are all your pastors, to listen to your pain, to hear your stories, to acknowledge your experience, should you wish us to be the ones you share those with. We grieve and lament with you, while acknowledging that we will never understand your suffering. Our community stands with you and alongside you, and we know that dismantling the systems of injustice built upon the lie of white supremacy is our work to do. We built these systems at your expense. We must dismantle them, for your liberation and for our own liberation as well. In working for change, I will listen to your experiences and your requests because identifying what is broken in the system must be a collaborative effort or we will once again perpetuate systems based on limited perspective and the privilege of those in power. I know I will fail at this, and when I do, I will acknowledge it and begin again. I've learned that it's not about apologizing, it's about change.

And to our white/Euro-American Calvary members and friends: You are a beloved child of God. You are created in the beautiful image of God. I am here, as are all of your pastors, to listen to your pain, to hear your stories, to acknowledge your experience, should you wish us to be the ones you share those with. In addition, you must know that as we all have different emotions and beliefs and responses to racial injustice in our country, our emotions, beliefs, and responses are, by and large, protected and not threatened. We can disagree and continue a conversation. What we cannot do is bring people who have died back to life. What we cannot do is give years of a person's life back who has been incarcerated unjustly. What we cannot do is go back in time and create a different educational experience for those who were overlooked by our system. What we cannot do is go back and reverse a diagnosis that wasn't caught because of unequal access to healthcare. In short, what we cannot do is be silent. White supremacy and white privilege are woven into the fabric of this nation in ways that continue to claim the lives of people of color and perpetuate inequities in education, healthcare, pay, housing, and endless other institutions and aspects of life. The inaction of white Christians makes us complicit in violence against black and brown lives.

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ALL people are image-bearers of Christ, and until all people are treated and valued as such, we cannot rest nor be at peace.

At Calvary, our vision is to be Open to All, Closed to None. And with such a vision, we would all probably say to ourselves, "I'm not racist." But if we say that we are missing the point. The protests we are seeing in the streets right now are not about people's hearts, beliefs, or good intentions; it's about the reality of the lived experience of the BIPOC (black, indigenous, people of color) community. It's about the systems that give life to some while taking it from others, systems that are structured in a way that do not give equal opportunity to all. The insidious nature of racism is that it stems from the lie that white people are superior to people of color, and whether it's slavery or Jim Crow or gerrymandering or police brutality or unequal access to healthcare or unequal funding for schools, these unjust systems make up the air we breathe. If you are breathing freely, you don't even notice the air you're breathing. If you are choking to death, it's obvious that something in the air isn't right. And here's the thing, no matter our illusions, if the air we're breathing is not life-giving for some, it is not life-giving for anyone. And it will slowly deprive all of us of the freedoms we value. For when we cannot see and value all people as beloved, image-bearers of the divine, we cannot truly see ourselves as such either, and we will continue to harm one another and divide.

So what is the good news for all of us? The good news is that our faith speaks to all that we are experiencing and feeling, and it speaks quite clearly. We do not need to reinvent the wheel, we just need to keep rolling it. From the prophet Micah,

"He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

This is work our faith calls us to do and we ALL can do it; there is something for everyone in the work of racial justice. Don't worry about what you have or haven't done thus far. Start now from wherever you are.

#### Immediate Action & Advocacy:

- Drop off supplies to the grocery carts in the coat room at Calvary: bottled water, granola bars, first aid kits, and umbrellas. These will be taken to First Baptist Denver to hand out to protestors. All supplies that are not used, will be donated to shelters FBC Denver has been supporting during COVID-19. Questions? Contact Michelle Mendon-

za michelle.mendoza@gmail.com

- Head downtown (with a mask, sanitizer, and wise social distancing) to stand in solidarity, to support, to listen. The protests are happening most days and as the Interfaith Alliance of Colorado advises, "we support organic, authentic participation that amplifies the voices of people of color; think of it more like 'keeping watch' rather than 'meeting up.'" Read this document for helpful information on what to do and not do at a protest.
- Join the virtual event Poor People's Campaign Event on June 20 for an Online Moral March on Washington
- [Join SURJ \(Showing Up for Racial Justice\), a national network of groups and individuals working to undermine white supremacy and to work toward racial justice.](#) Through community organizing, mobilizing, and education, SURJ moves white people to act as part of a multi-racial majority for justice with passion and accountability.
- Sign petitions or make calls:
  - [Justice for George Floyd](#)
  - [Justice for Breonna Taylor](#)
  - [Justice for Ahmaud Arbery](#)
  - [Advocate for black-owned businesses](#)

#### Educate Yourself:

- Great starting place: [List of Educational Resources for People at All Stages of the Journey in Anti-Racism Work](#)
- [Comprehensive List of Anti-Racism Resources](#) (books, podcasts, articles, videos, movies, etc.)
- If you want to be part of a ZOOM group this summer that reads and discusses books/articles/podcasts related to the work of anti-racism and understanding white privilege, email Pastor Morgan (mfletcher@calvarydenver.org) and we will divide people into learning groups
- One of my best teachers about this work has been Pastor Morgan; I know she would be willing to have a conversation of any of you, about anything related to this. She also knows when her voice is not the one to listen to and she'll point you to the right voices.

#### Build Relationships:

- Engage in our partnership with New Hope Baptist Church. We are working on opportunities for deeper conversation and engagement this summer. Email Pastor Anne to engage with these opportunities (ascalvaro@calvarydenver.org).
- Calvary Men: Join the men of New Hope in sign-

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ing a letter petitioning for a hate crimes bill in Georgia. Email Pastor Anne if you would like more information (ascalfaro@calvarydenver.org).

- Engage in the partnership that Calvary and New Hope have with Stedman Elementary. Email Becky Whitaker (bwhitaker@comcast.net) for forthcoming information on virtual reading opportunities this summer.

Note: Remember that relationships take time and multiple conversations. Show up. And keep showing up. Initiate the effort. Yes, you may say the wrong thing or offend or hurt someone without intending to. We learn by doing and trying. In my experiencing in any relationship, silence for fear of saying the wrong thing is more hurtful than saying the wrong thing and acknowledging it and apologizing when you do and learning from there. More than anything, listen.

#### Donate Money:

Research these organizations and pick one that you can get behind. While one-time gifts are welcome, if you are able, give regularly, even if it is just \$5 or \$10 a month, as it will be a reminder to you of your ongoing effort and commitment.

- [Soul2Soul Sisters](#): a fiercely faith-based, Black womxn-led, racial justice organization focused on Black healing and Black liberation
- [SURJ \(Showing Up for Racial Justice\)](#) - is a national network of groups and individuals working to undermine white supremacy and to work toward racial justice. Through community organizing, mobilizing, and education, SURJ moves white people to act as part of a multi-racial majority for justice with passion and accountability.
- [Black Lives Matter 5280](#) - mission is to eliminate racism and fight for racial justice
- [Campaign Zero](#): support our police and our citizens by ending police brutality in America
- [Black Vision Collective: Black Visions Collective \(BLVC\)](#) believes in a future where all Black people have autonomy, safety is community-led, and we are in right relationship within our ecosystems.
- [Color of Change](#): We design campaigns powerful enough to end practices that unfairly hold Black people back, and champion solutions that move us all forward. Until justice is real.
- [BOLD \(Black Organizing for Leadership and Dignity\)](#): a national training intermediary focused on transforming the practice of Black organizers in the U.S. to increase their alignment, impact and sustainability to win progressive change.
- [Or click here for more a comprehensive list of](#)

[black-led liberation organizing efforts](#)

- [Be a patron of black-owned businesses in and around Denver](#)

Note: Calvary will be using our mission/advocacy response funds to give to Soul2Soul Sisters and SURJ. Just as protesting in the streets is a powerful public witness, giving of your finances can be too; share your donation on social media and invite others to join you in giving. Damon and I have personally donated to several of these organizations this week, and we hope you will too.

#### Pray:

- And yes, let us pray. God hears our pleas and our petitions, our laments and our praises, our confessions and our promises. Let us lift all that we are feeling and experiencing to God in prayer as we pray for healing, justice, and restoration.
- Let us pray for our leaders - nationally and locally - who are making important decisions and who can change policies and procedures. May they have wisdom and compassion. Let us pray for law enforcement, for all officers who protect our citizens and who experience trauma regularly.
- Let us pray for people of color, and let us say out loud in our prayers the names of black Americans who have died at the hands of law enforcement:

ERIC GARNER - JOHN CRAWFORD III - MICHAEL BROWN - EZELL FORD  
 DANTE PARKER - MICHELLE CUSSEAUX - LAQUAN MCDONALD - GEORGE MANN  
 TANISHA ANDERSON - AKAI GURLEY - TAMIR RICE - RUMAIN BRISBON - JERAME REID  
 MATTHEW AJIBADE - FRANK SMART - NATASHA MCKENNA - TONY ROBINSON - ANTHONY HILL  
 MYA HALL - PHILLIP WHITE - ERIC HARRIS - WALTER SCOTT - WILLIAM CHAPMAN II  
 ALEXIA CHRISTIAN - BRENDON GLENN - VICTOR MANUEL LAROSA - JONATHAN SANDERS  
 FREDDIE GRAY - JOSEPH MANN - SALVADO ELLSWOOD - SANDRA BLAND  
 ALBERT JOSEPH DAVIS - DARRIUS STEWART - BILLY RAY DAVIS - SAMUEL DUBOSE  
 MICHAEL SABBIE - BRIAN KEITH DAY - CHRISTIAN TAYLOR - TROY ROBINSON  
 ASSHAMS PHAROAH MANLEY - FELIX KUMI - KEITH HARRISON MCLEOD - JUNIOR PROSPER  
 LAMONTEZ JONES - PATERSON BROWN - DOMINIC HUTCHINSON - ANTHONY ASHFORD  
 ALONZO SMITH - TYREE CRAWFORD - INDIA KAGER - LA'VANTE BIGGS  
 MICHAEL LEE MARSHALL - JAMAR CLARK - RICHARD PERKINS - NATHANIEL HARRIS PICKETT  
 BENNI LEE TIGNOR - MIGUEL ESPINAL - MICHAEL NOEL - KEVIN MATTHEWS - BETTIE JONES  
 QUINTONIO LEGRIER - KEITH CHILDRESS JR. - JANET WILSON - RANDY NELSON  
 ANTRONIE SCOTT - WENDELL CELESTINE - DAVID JOSEPH - CALIN ROQUEMORE - DYZHAWN  
 PERKINS - CHRISTOPHER DAVIS - MARCO LOUD - PETER GAINES - TORREY ROBINSON - DARIUS  
 ROBINSON - KEVIN HICKS - MARY TRUXILLO - DEMARCUS SEMER - WILLIE TILLMAN  
 TERRILL THOMAS - SYLVILLE SMITH - ALTON STERLING - PHILANDO CASTILE - TERENCE  
 CRUTCHER - PAUL O'NEAL - ALTERIA WOODS - JORDAN EDWARDS - AARON BAILEY  
 RONELL FOSTER - STEPHON CLARK - ANTAWN ROSE II - BOTHAM JEAN  
 PAMELA TURNER - DOMINIQUE CLAYTON - ATATIANA JEFFERSON - CHRISTOPHER WHITFIELD  
 CHRISTOPHER MCCORVEY - ERIC REASON - MICHAEL LORENZO DEAN - BREGONNA TAYLOR  
 G E O R G E F L O Y D

Graphic caption: The rate at which black Americans are killed by police is more than twice as high as the rate for white Americans. This is a non-comprehensive list of deaths at the hands of police in the U.S. since Eric Garner's death in July 2014.

Graphic Source: <https://www.npr.org/2020/05/29/865261916/a-decade-of-watch-ing-black-people-die>

Calvary, I know that some of you have been deeply impacted by the events of recent weeks. This is not

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new pain, and that's part of what makes it hurt so badly...that we who are not people of color stand with you in times of immediate crisis, and then fade away, failing to do the long and hard work of educating ourselves and working for systemic change. It's my prayer that we will all be more intentional in our relationships with one another, and that we will also be more intentional with our sisters and brothers at New Hope Baptist and all of our friends and colleagues of color, praying for them as the effects of trauma and injustice continue. I'm praying for our commitment one another. Let us not disappear or fade away. Let us be present. Let us listen. Let us act. Let us pray. Let us BE the Church Christ is calling us to be. As you've heard it said, whatever we are not changing, we are choosing.

As the refrain of the hymn God of Grace and God of Glory says, "Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the facing of this hour..."

~Pastor Anne

### **Calvary's COVID-19/Coronavirus Response Eblast - Friday, August 7, 2020**

Calvary,

It's hard to believe how quickly the summer is flying by! This pandemic is lasting longer than any of us initially anticipated and it is far from over; it is a difficult time - for churches, for teachers and schools, for restaurants, for sports, for those experiencing homelessness, for businesses, for first responders and medical professionals, for families, for children and youth, for those living alone, for EVERYBODY.

Acknowledging the difficulty of this time, we are also seeking to celebrate what is going well with our ministry and how we are adapting and evolving to BE the church in meaningful ways. Thank you, Calvary, for your on-going resiliency, compassion, patience, and creativity. From Michelle Mendoza organizing a way to get supplies to Black Lives Matter protestors downtown, to the Men's Group doing a food drive for Jewish Family Service, to over 60 people attending our first service in the parking lot, to many of you delivering meals to those following surgery, to staff developing a virtual Vacation Bible School, a Hymn Request Line, faith formation resources, the delivery of yard signs and magnets, the delivery of VIP gifts, and keeping us all connected through the enews and virtual worship - we are BEING the church together, while apart.

As I shared with you in May, staff and Council are evaluating and making decisions about our building

closure and virtual/in-person ministries on a quarterly basis during the pandemic. At the June Council meeting, Lori Grohskopf presented the COVID-19 Building Guidelines & Protocols\* that she developed in consultation with Resource Management Chair Bill Warren and staff. Lori consulted many different resources and ultimately developed Calvary's guidelines based on recommendations from the Centers For Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Lori also outlined the cleaning supplies and signage being purchased and installed over the summer to prepare the building to have people in it. She emphasized that the guidelines are subject to change as new information comes out from the CDC and NIH and other entities. At that meeting, we also reflected upon the increased engagement with virtual worship, as well as the longing many of us have to see one another and be close to one another in community.

After having a month to reflect, at the July Council meeting, staff and Council returned to the discussion of how we should move forward for the fall quarter. We discussed the ongoing safety concerns of the COVID-19 pandemic as well as how the Building Guidelines would affect various in-person ministries at Calvary. Given the limited number of people we can have safely in our building and the restrictions around actions such as singing, hugging, standing close to one another, serving food or drink, lingering in enclosed spaces (to name a few), while also acknowledging the need to provide space for some to gather safely in person in limited numbers, Council voted on the following decisions for September, October, and November:

- Calvary's building will be open for use by small groups of 15 people or less by reservation/apPOINTment, and in accordance with the safety protocols in the COVID-19 Building Operations Guidelines Report
- Virtual worship services will continue
- The church office will remain closed and staff will continue to work from home

Pastors Morgan, Alice, and I will walk you through each of these points and what they mean for our life together this fall.

Pastor Morgan: Small Groups & Classes

What are the safety parameters for these small group reservations?

- All in attendance will be required to wear a face mask at all times in the building.
- All in attendance will have their temperature taken at one of our entry doors. If someone in atten-

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dance has a temperature (100.4 or above) they will be asked to exit CBC.

- All in attendance will follow seating and social distance guidelines while at CBC.
- All in attendance will not linger at CBC.
- All in attendance note that social distancing prohibits any hugs, handshakes and elbow/fist bumps.
- All in attendance will fill seats farthest seats from the door first and will exit by seat nearest the door first.
- RSVP's to your group's reserved gathering is needed and attendance will be taken to ensure we can notify all who need to be notified if someone tests Covid+.
- Reservations will be for certain rooms that will be preset and cannot be rearranged, as the seats will be spaced for social distance.
- Groups will be scheduled for 45 minutes.
- Group size will be 15 people max.
- Restroom use is limited to one person at a time and if possible to plan accordingly to not need to use the restroom.

Reservations will need to be made through Lori Grohskopf (lgrohskopf@calvarydenver.org).

While some will choose to meet onsite it is still encouraged to utilize Zoom so that folks can meet with more regularity and ensure the safety of all who attend. If you are not familiar with Zoom or your group hasn't used it yet but would like to, you may contact Pastor Morgan and she will offer trainings or help you schedule your meeting.

We encourage committees and ministry teams to continue to meet virtually as much as possible, but should your committee or ministry team need to meet on-site, you may schedule that with the same process as you would a small group.

As we work to figure out how many reservation spots Calvary will need and if those in an existing group all wish to meet in person or if some want to meet in person and others wish to meet via zoom, or if you are not part of a current group but would like to be moving forward we need to hear from you. Please take a few moments to complete this survey that will help Pastor Morgan and Lori know who wishes to meet onsite so we can plan accordingly. Here is the link to the survey: <https://forms.gle/GxqgVbfzcLLjtvGWA>.

Pastor Alice: Worship

Our worship will continue to be virtual with videos posted on our Youtube channel using Youtube Premiere. We have found that using Youtube premiere is a tremendous way for us to worship together at the same time, and using the live chat helps us connect to each other through the screen. If you'd like to use the

live chat feature but don't know how, I will be happy to walk you through it.

Some of you may be sad that we won't be worshipping in person, and I feel that grief, too. But virtual worship has allowed us to use more lay people participating in worship, we get to show laypeople's musical, artistic, and speaking gifts. It's allowed us to be more creative with how we craft our services. In the Gathering, I've been able to film spiritual formation tutorials that probably wouldn't work as well if we tried to do it in person together.

And many of you like that you can watch our worship videos at any time. You're also more likely to re-watch content that we post. And we have a lot more people all over the country watching our services, maybe they're a friend of a friend or a family member, but in this time of virtual worship, we have all of these services right at our fingertips.

Our Youtube Channel currently has 36,395 views to date, which equals to 5,800 hours of people watching our videos. We currently have 191 subscribers. Our traditional worship videos average between 200 and 300 views, and the Gathering averages between 75 and 150 views.

And for the most part, we can still feel that connection to our church community in virtual worship. Our Healing and Wholeness service via Zoom is one example. I was amazed how I was brought to tears by everyone sharing their burdens and griefs. Worshipping through a screen made me feel a lot less alone in my grief.

But one hurdle to virtual worship is accessibility. Before this pandemic, if you wanted to attend worship, it was as easy as driving to church and walking through our doors. But now, you have to have internet, a tablet or computer, and some tech know how to view our services. We strive to be a church that is open to all and closed to none, and that includes accessibility to our worship services.

If you don't have the means to watch our services on Youtube, you can request DVDs to be mailed to you. Pastor Morgan is putting our services on DVDs by request. Call or email her if you'd like that option.

We are going to continue to hold parking lot worship once a month as long as the weather cooperates, and we cherish that opportunity to physically worship together. We encourage you to RSVP for these opportunities and be with us as we worship. But we do plan on recording these outdoor services for those who don't feel comfortable being around others quite yet.

Pastor Anne: Office & Staff

Given the restrictions we have on space in our offic-

es, the limits on how many employees can be working in that limited space, the fact that staff share so many common spaces, the fact that we can only have so many people in the building at once, and because the building is open by appointment only, the office will remain closed for September, October, and November and staff will continue to work from home. Even as staff continue to work from home, many staff must use the building to complete certain tasks; staff will continue to schedule that time through Lori as we have been since mid-March. You may schedule an appointment to meet with a staff member via phone or Zoom or in person (if both parties feel safe doing so). Per our cleaning and building protocols, there is a designated space at the church for one-on-one in-person meetings, and you may schedule those meetings by contacting Lori Grohskopf.

you may email [cbc@calvarydenver.org](mailto:cbc@calvarydenver.org) or call 303-757-8421 to request a copy.

Even though you cannot physically walk into the office, you may continue to call 303-757-8421; messages are checked regularly throughout the day Monday through Friday. You may email [cbc@calvarydenver.org](mailto:cbc@calvarydenver.org) or any staff member to contact us. If you do not have our emails or phone numbers you may get that information from Lori. You may also mail your financial gifts or other communications to the church at 6500 E. Girard Ave; the mail is picked up at the post office weekly. And you may continue to enter the building briefly to drop off a financial gift or an in-kind donation in the grocery carts in the coat room.

If at any point Colorado experiences a spike in our COVID-19 numbers, Calvary might decide to close our building again if that is the safest decision for us and our community. If that happens, we will communicate that as quickly as possible. In October we will begin discussions around the next quarter (December-January-February) and will keep you informed of those decisions.

Calvary, as we move into the fall, I know we will continue to BE the church together in meaningful ways. I truly believe that God is holding us together, even when it feels like at times that we're barely holding on.

With you on this journey,

~Pastor Anne

\*If you would like to read a copy of Calvary's COVID-19 Building Guidelines as they stand now,

# **CENSUS**

## **ANNUAL ENROLLMENT REPORT 2020**

### **In Memoriam**

Judy Drury	Shirley Mathis
Don Worford	Tom Moss
John Pipe	Mike Burck
Lyle Baumgartner	Delores Bowermaster
Jane Lehrmann	Olga Ashworth

### **CALVARY 2020 POPULATION**

- |                          |                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| • Baptisms 0             | • Deaths 10             |
| • Christian Experience 0 | • Letters of Transfer 0 |
| • By Letter 0            | • Requests 0            |
| • Total 0                | • Placed on Inactive 0  |
|                          | • Total 10              |

Resident members- 403

Non-Resident members- 41

Total members- 444



# Worship

**The Lord's Prayer**  
 Our Father  
 who art in heaven,  
 hallowed be thy name.  
 Thy kingdom come,  
 thy will be done on earth  
 as it is in heaven.  
 Give us this day  
 our daily bread,  
 and forgive us our debts,  
 as we forgive our debtors.  
 And lead us not  
 into temptation,  
 but deliver us from evil.  
 For thine is the kingdom  
 and the power  
 and the glory forever.  
 Amen.

## Call to Worship

being.  
 The Lord God  
 the garden of  
 And the Lord  
 "You may fre  
 garden; but o  
 good and evi  
 day that you  
 Now the  
 other wi  
 made. Y  
 ay, "Y  
 rds

Evan Hicks

Cody Postle

# Welcome

bbie Honeker

Denise Wyld

## Call to Worship Nyagua Bile & Debil Bile

Oh praise the One Who  
 Paid my debt

# 2020 Music & Worship

## From Director of Music Dr. David Farwig



Hi Calvary!

2020 was an interesting year for me. I was sick with COVID for several weeks in March, and have felt the effects of the virus for several months now. But despite my illness, it's still been a productive year. I learned a lot thanks to the challenging production of virtual worship, and tried out new ways to share beloved music with others.

### PRE-COVID:

I worked in a cohesive team with the pastoral staff to plan for all Sunday and special services.

I supervised all aspects of music and sound including coordinating with organist, sound techs, video tech, staff and congregation.

I programmed and rehearsed choral anthems and other music with the Calvary Choir, JuBellation Bell Choir, children & youth, professional guest musicians, and volunteer congregational member musicians.

I consistently worked to improve the Calvary Choir's overall musicianship and vocal quality, including planning a choir retreat for the purpose of rehearsing and building group morale.

I was in charge of the Music Budget, to include responsible purchasing of new music, supplies, etc. and making timely payment to guest musicians; also supervises use of Memorial Funds used to purchase new music.

### POST-COVID:

I worked with a cohesive, creative team of staff members, planning all virtual Sunday and special services.

I supervised all aspects of music and sound including coordinating with organist, sound techs, video tech, staff, congregation, as well as people outside the Calvary community.

I set up and led bi-weekly Zoom sessions (with special activities) for Calvary Choir in order to maintain relationships and connection.



I planned, recruited and coordinated with musicians for virtual Sunday and other services, including musical involvement of over 35 members from the congregation as well as several guest musicians, including members of JuBellation (for Chiming of the Hour).

I found ways to bring people the joy of music with our Hymn Request Line.

I brought a high level of diverse/versatile musical and vocal performance skill to all virtual services, including solo work and playing of guitar and other instruments.

I was in charge of the Music Budget, to include responsible purchasing of new music, supplies, etc. and making timely payment to guest musicians.

Continuing Ed: I participated in the virtual Chorus America and ACDA conferences focusing on the impact of COVID on the choral world and music in worship.

## From Pastor Rev. Alice Horner Nelson



### The Gathering

2020 began with celebrating the Gathering's first birthday in March. We didn't know that it would be the last Sunday in 2020 that we would have a physical audience. We wore party hats, had delicious food and cake, and enjoyed fellowship.

We had to quickly pivot from a really fun, in-person environment to recording digital services. It was an extremely steep learning curve with lots of frustration. We went from recording in our living room, to the fireplace room, to the chapel. Every few weeks Matt would discover a new thing to try. Now for every song we play, he writes a track with instruments, drums, and more on a program called Reaper. We put together the video clips using Power Director. These days we spend about four hours on Wednesday recording our three songs, and Friday and Saturday I am often writing/recording my sermon. In 2020, Matt and I made **forty-one worship videos** together, averaging about **28 hours (includes track-writing, recording, video editing, and sermonizing)** to make one video.



A screenshot of Power Director, the program used to create the Traditional Morning Service and The Gathering.

We have had some fabulous guest preachers and speakers at The Gathering. Daniel Schweissing, Gordon Kieft, Chuck Goertz, Jacob Goertz, Krysta Baglien, Sara Reynolds, Carol Willard, John Kron, Brenda Goodman, Christine Zeiler, and my friend Karen Zimmerman.

2020 was a really exciting year with the remodel of the chapel. The chapel got a new sound system which sounds absolutely fantastic! Matt is really good at fig-

uring out new music technology, so the chapel sound system is his playground. I will be so excited when we get to invite others into the worship space with us.

### Communications

Trying to figure out communications during a pandemic felt a bit like being lost in a jungle with no map. So many pieces of communication happen in person (verbal announcements, announcement slides, brochures and flyers, welcome bags for visitors, word of mouth) that I felt so lost in how to fully take advantage of a virtual-only platform AND make sure everyone had access to it.

For the members who don't have email, Pastor Anne and Pastor Mary have been so helpful in printing out a shortened version of the E-News and mailing it to folk who didn't have regular access to email. For the many website updates required in this virtual time, Pastor Morgan has been a lifesaver in helping me.

This year I lived and breathed Mailchimp (our email creator program) more than usual because it became the main way to keep everyone in the loop. I created a new design template because our old one was a little too long. I started a new GIF section just to bring some humor and levity to our emails. I created **fifty-two editions of the E-News, eighty-two worship video emails, and a handful of special bulletins' as needed.** I created **four editions of the Messenger Newsletter**, and decided to carry out a digital distribution with the exception of mailing issues to our VIPs. I created different postcards for Marlys Marshall to use as she sends birthday and greetings postcards.

In 2020, my camera, which I usually use to take lots of pictures for publications, got a different job. It's been a true workhorse in filming videos for worship. Most of my congregational photography this year has been taking screenshots on Zoom. I have very much missed capturing Calvary community through my camera.

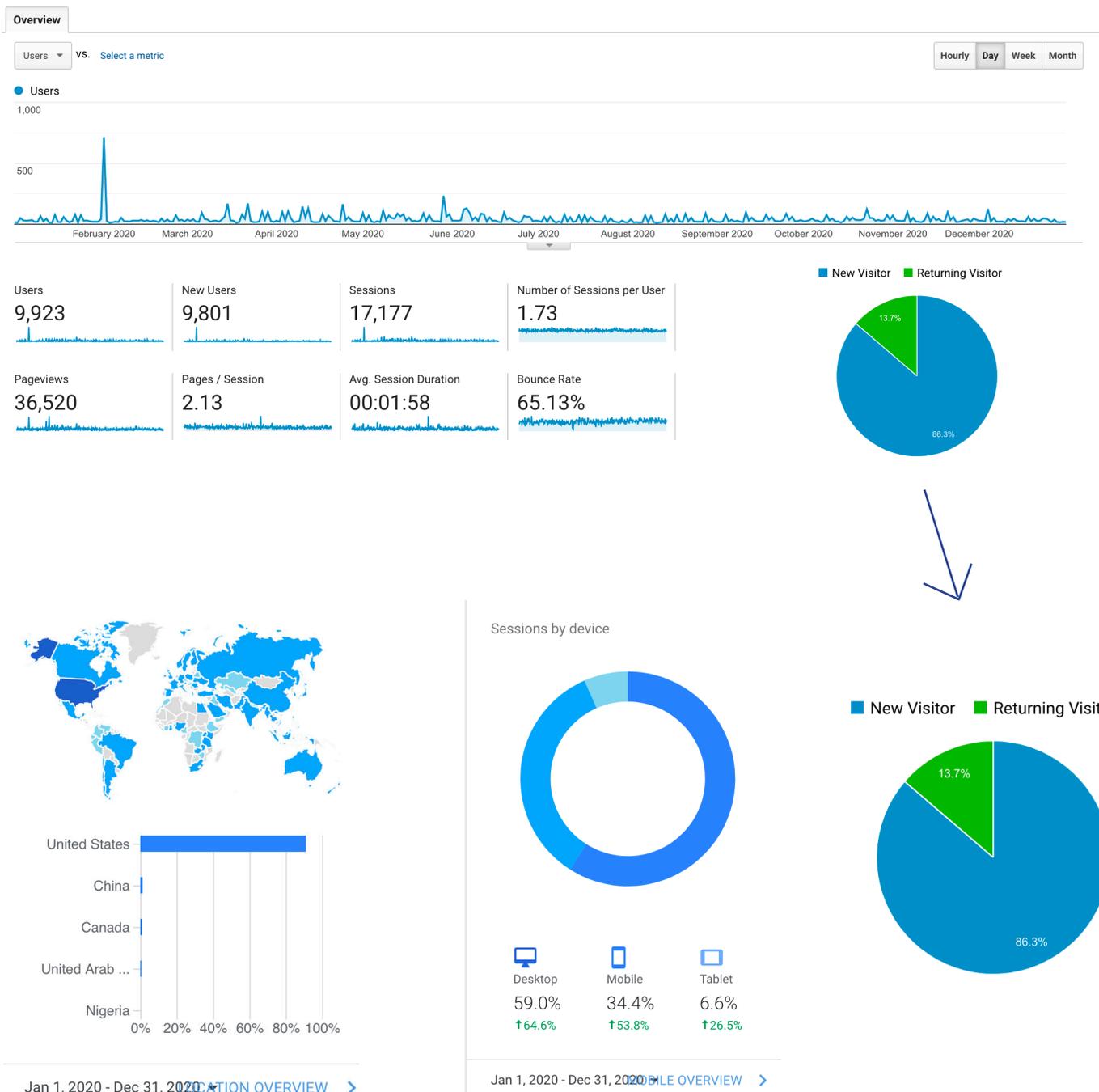
This year, my continuing education was entirely virtual. I am a member of Caffeinated Church, a church communications hub from the Episcopal Church in Colorado. I attended several workshops, with topics like "Graphic Design for Beginners," and "Storytelling Through Video." I am also a part of a peer mentor group with Caffeinated Church and we meet monthly, each of us working as a church communicator in a different timezone of the US!

2020 has been challenging in so many different ways, but I have learned a lot of new skills. I miss you all dearly, and am looking forward to when we can be together again.

# 2020 Communications

## Our 2020 Website Statistics

This graphic from Google Analytics tells us that our website had 9,923 different users to calva-rydenver.org. It also had 36,520 pageviews. A graphic from Analytics also tells us that 86.3% visitors to our website are new visitors, 13.7% are returning. 59% of users visit our website on a computer, 34.4% visit our website on their mobile device, and 6.6% visit our website on their tablet. You can also see the users from different countries- such as China, Nigeria, India, Canada, Finland, Ghana, Hong Kong, Austria, and the Bahamas, just to name a few.



# Our 2020 YouTube Statistics

## Timeline:

- Live Streamed twenty worship videos from January 5, 2020 – March 15, 2020 (Mar. 15 lives-streamed with no congregation)
- First COVID-19 pre-recorded/edited/produced worship video upload was March 22, 2020 (Morning Worship)

## Year at a Glance:

- 26,640 total views for the channel (in 2019, the channel had 8,200 views)
- 6,700 hours viewed on the channel (in 2019, the hours viewed on channel was 1,000)
- Added 122 subscribers, bringing total subscribers to Calvary's channel to 222 (in 2019, channel added 32 subscribers)
- Most viewed service - Easter Sunday Morning Service - 692 views
- On average, weekly Sunday morning service views range from 225-300, with around 80 viewers watching "live"
- On average, The Gathering views range from 30-75 with around 15 viewers watching "live"
- Total videos uploaded to the channel - 197

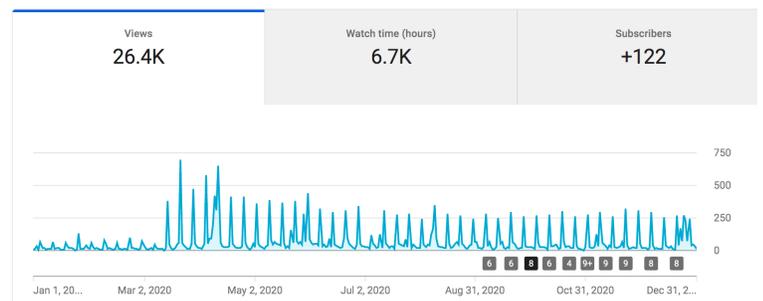
videos (including The Gathering)

## Viewership demographics:

- Female 43%, Male 57%
- 67% of our views came from unsubscribed watchers (Please subscribe to the channel!)

Submitted by Damon Scalfaro, morning worship video editor/livestream ministry

## Your videos got 26,404 views in 2020



# 2020 Staff Relations

## STAFF RELATIONS 2020 Annual Report

In 2020 the Staff Relations Committee consisted of Tom Madden, Ken Pinkham, Linda Fischer, Nancy Johnson, and Chairman Mick Davey.

- Welcomed new committee members Linda Fischer and Nancy Johnson replacing Nancy Hoffmaster and Kristin Kron Chase who resigned.
- Met with Pastor Morgan to discuss her upcoming Sabbatical Leave earned after 6 years of Calvary service, and the protocols for application as per the Calvary Ministerial Handbook.
- Discussed salaries and benefits for staff members in 2020 with regard to budgetary considerations and contract worker's wages conforming to the City of Denver's new minimum wage.
- Coordinated Human Resource matters with benefit vendor to properly provide for group medical

insurance benefits for staff in 2021.

- Coordinated Staff Relations Committee members and Co-Moderators to meet with Pastor Anne to discuss Anne's Performance Review, self-evaluation, and vision for herself and Calvary. Identified goals and concepts to further Calvary's mission.
- Discussed the new, innovative methods staff used to keep Calvary connected with the congregation during COVID-19 precautions.
- Recognized staff members for their exceptional efforts during 2020 by presenting them with a small end of year bonus for all their extra time and work involved in keeping Calvary connected.

Submitted by Mick Davey, Chair

# 2020 Our Building

Though it started out somewhat normally, 2020 turned out to be a huge surprise to all of us with the COVID-19 virus closing services and in-person meetings in March. Fortunately, our congregation and supporters responded amazingly well to minimize to the virus' financial effects. The disruption in the flow of building use income, however, had a great impact on our ability to do some of the projects we had lined up for the year. Projects such as updating the sanctuary lighting and resealing and restriping the parking lot had to be placed on hold.

Despite this, a closed building was a perfect opportunity and a lot was done at Calvary during the year. Following is a summary of major and minor projects done this year.

## Major Projects:

**Chapel Improvements** —We did a major overhaul of the Chapel. The platform was extended, a new presentation system and sound system was installed, along with new carpeting and new paint.



**Tree Removal** —Sadly, we lost a couple of our beloved mature trees east of the sanctuary during a severe windstorm in June. It was a huge undertaking, but

members of the congregation were very responsive and we saved literally thousands of dollars by doing the bulk of the downed trees ourselves.



**Landscaping Project** — We improved the grounds visual appeal and lessened the risk of a fire by placing river rock in all of the areas under the building eaves. Numerous tired shrubs and plants were removed and the location of the two downed trees was improved-



**Bathrooms by Fellowship Hall** – In the spring it became apparent that we needed to do something to the restrooms on the south side of the Fellowship Hall. We were able to undertake a large renovation project for them, including replacement of the sinks, toilets, and all fixtures, partitions, and accessories. An electric hand dryer was installed to reduce the use of paper products. We also tiled the floor and dry-walled the concrete block wall, painted, and installed new lighting. The Ladies Room is now complete and work has begun on the Men's room.

continued on next page



**New Livestream Setup** – The unprecedented use of digital worship during the COVID crisis made us realize just how important our Livestream broadcasts have become. Anticipating the reopening in the not-too-distant future, council approved use of a portion of a bequest to improve our livestream capabilities. New cameras have been installed, and a new console has been added to the balcony, complete with new professional level software and hardware.



**Re-roofing Project** – After many months of delay, we finally received a settlement to replace the building roof because of hail damage. This project is enormous, requiring lots of coordination, and we are very fortunate to have been able to do it while the building is closed. I anticipate completion in early January.



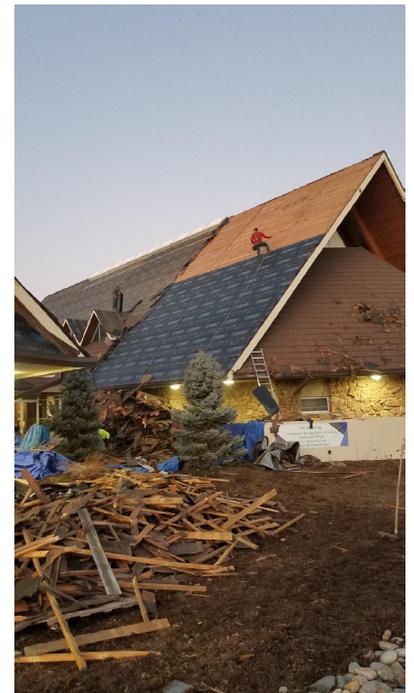
### Minor Projects:

There is never a shortage of things that need to be done. Some of the lesser items completed this year included:

- A new water fountain (complete with a bottle filler) was installed near the office.
- Sprinkler System - An abundance of sprinkler repairs, moves, and head replacements were done, just as with any normal year. We also renumbered and documented the location of zones, and moved the control systems to a wi-fi based system, eliminating the comedic practice of running back and forth from the boiler room to all points on the campus to check for a leak.
- Having a closed church office necessitated weekly mail pickups at the Post Office, a task that was taking an inordinate amount of time. Mail drops were installed in Room 226 so that it no longer be necessary to pick up mail each week.
- Security Camera Installations – several security cameras were installed during the year.
- A malfunctioning valve was causing the heat in several southeast classrooms to stay above 90 degrees. The valve was replaced by CSI, our HVAC service provider.
- As with any year, lots of small repairs, including leaky faucets, squeaky hinges, complaining computers and network maintenance items were taken care of.

It is important to recognize that most of these things were accomplished through the efforts of volunteers who work out of a sense of devotion to Calvary. Many thanks to them, and particularly to Gordon Pelton, Calvary's Property Coordinator, whose tireless sense of dedication has resulted so many of these tasks being accomplished.

Submitted by Bill Warren  
Resource Management Chair



# 2020 Stewardship

Our committee members were: John Kron, chair; Rachel Chang, Amy Kehew, Natalie Ralston, and Susan Wirt.

We met in person once in the early part of the year to 1) Review the I'm IN! Stewardship Campaign in 2019, and 2) begin planning a one-day "Calvary Gives" event for May 3rd, 2020. THEN...the covid-19 pandemic arrived, shutting everything down, forcing us into virtual worship, and causing us to get creative about everything we did the rest of the year.

We were able to meet via Zoom to plan TWO separate campaigns. The first, replacing our single-day May event, was Calvary IN RESPONSE! Over the month of April we encouraged people to stay IN-side, IN-touch, and IN-volved. We recognized that many were still IN-need, so we encouraged the congregation to trust IN-faith, and act IN-unity. This campaign raised over \$9600 dollars! Coupled with donations to Bootstraps and Blessings, Family Promise, and our Easter virtual garden, Calvary raised over \$28,000 above our normal pledges and offerings!

As the pandemic continued to disrupt the normal flow of things, the Fall Stewardship Campaign urged Calvary to HOLD ON! HOLD ON to our Identities, to our Purpose, to Each Other, to Our God, and to our Commitments. After a mid-week Zoom BYO virtual "Soup and STEWARDship Dinner" in October, and the first ever "Drive Up Commitment Parade" on November 15, we were ready to celebrate Thanksgiving

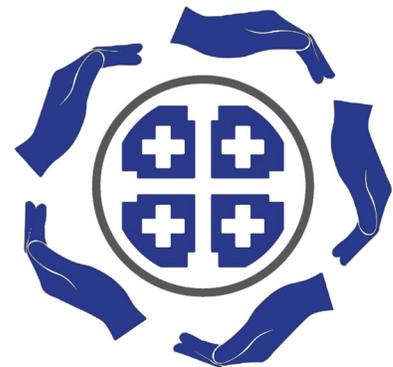
Sunday as Pastor Anne reminded us to HOLD ON for the Long Haul by HOLDING ON to Hope! That service also featured the first virtual Commitment Parade Video!

Stewardship Committee also did the following:

- included an opportunity to add the cost of processing to the online giving site.
- sent out "In Gratitude" cards to new pledgers and those who increased their pledges. (Thank you, Amy!)
- Continued to schedule speakers for our "Moment of Gratitude" series, shown on video most of this year, but including members from as far away as Baltimore, MD. (Thank you Christine Zeiler!)

As we look back on the year 2020, we won't miss it, but we will be grateful for the way Calvary, as always, came through IN RESPONSE to shifting realities and needs, and HELD ON to Hope for a bright and thriving future!

Submitted by  
John Kron,  
Chair



## Pastor Anne's Stewardship Letter for the Hold On! Campaign

October 24, 2020

Dear Calvary,

Last year when we made our financial commitments to Calvary for 2020, none of us knew that our stewardship theme of "I'm IN!" would take on a whole new meaning of being "IN"-side our homes rather than gathering together. Calvary, your resiliency and support has sustained us as we've adapted to the new realities of virtual ministry; because of your generosity in 2020, we are well-positioned to face the blessings and challenges of 2021. Thank you.

We spend years cultivating our faith not so much for the easy times in our lives but "for such a time as this," (Esther 4:14) – for times of challenge and uncertainty. Truly, God only knows what is to come in 2021, so we need to continue to do what we have been doing for 139 years – Calvary, we need to "Hold On!"

- We "Hold On – to Our Identity" as the people of God made in the image of God. Every time we join together in worship – virtually or in person – we name and celebrate our God-given identity as beloved and grace-filled.

continued on next page

- We “Hold On – to Our Purpose” as followers of Jesus who are called to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. We share the gospel message of inclusion and justice by assisting those experiencing homelessness and hunger; supporting missionaries; being a presence at PRIDE; and advocating for racial justice.
- We “Hold On – to Each Other” as the Spirit draws us together in new and different ways. We provide technology and training; send encouragement through cards, calls, and text messages; conduct virtual pastoral visits; celebrate graduates with car parades; host outdoor gatherings; and deliver seasonal gifts.
- We “Hold On – to God” as we take seriously our call to be life-long disciples by engaging in faith formation. We learn new spiritual practices in The Gathering; share our faith via Zoom in small groups; teach our children through virtual VBS; and on Calvary’s YouTube channels, we learn from professionals and are comforted by beloved hymns.
- We “Hold On – to Our Commitments” as we give generously to support the multi-faceted, ever-changing ministry of these times. Regular financial giving prioritizes our commitment to Christ and Calvary in a tangible, unmistakable way. Your financial gifts allow us to pay staff and contract workers, fulfill our commitments to missionaries and mission partners, and maintain the upkeep and cleaning of our building and property.
- When we “Hold On” to these essentials, we “Hold On – to Hope...for the Long Haul!” To follow Christ is to walk in the Way of the One whose very life and ministry reminds us that on the other side of suffering and death is resurrection and new life. We will get through this Calvary – together.

As you consider your giving for 2021, reflect on the enclosed handout of ministry highlights from 2020; God is at work through the people and ministries of Calvary. “Hold On” to these images and statistics as you consider your financial commitment for 2021. Even though we cannot know exactly what ministry will look like next year, this year has taught us that we can and WILL share in meaningful ministry together in 2021 no matter what comes our way.

I acknowledge these are difficult times for many. This is why we are a community. When we have abundance, we give. When we experience need, we receive. And we make sacrifices for those that mean the most to us. Calvary is a congregation-supported church; we depend upon the financial gifts that you and I give to fund our ministry. We need participation from every person who connects in any way with Calvary to fund our 2021 ministries. And as you are able, consider increasing your commitment for 2021 to help us maintain our ministries.

I invite you to join Damon and me in making a bold commitment to Calvary; please fill out the enclosed 2021 Commitment Card and return it to Calvary by one of the methods listed on Side C of the card.

Thank you for your commitment. Whether you are a faithful tither or a sporadic giver, a long-time member or new virtual worship attendee, your annual financial commitment for 2021 will ensure that Calvary continues to be a beloved community of Christ that is “Open to All, Closed to None” – through this coronavirus pandemic and beyond.

“Holding On” with you,  
Rev. Anne J. Scalfaro,  
Senior Pastor

# 2020 Church Council

## Report of the Co-Moderators

As I look back on the work done by the Calvary Council for last year, I am struck by the amount of thoughtful creativity and work that went into Calvary's planning and execution throughout 2020. COVID forced our pastoral team, church administration, and Council to think of a new 'rule book' on how we did everything, from cleaning our church building to conducting our meetings, to addressing the #1 concern: safeguarding the health and well-being of our congregation. Our old business as usual template was no longer useful, so there was a requirement of new ideas, new discussions, new ways of working and new ways of meeting. One of the most difficult hurdles was certainly the fact that in 2020, we could not be together face to face, to shake hands, hug, share a laugh or conversation, sing together, worship together, or even grieve together.

The Council sought ways from our pastoral staff to infuse faith formation into our meetings and our approach, so that we weren't only focused on "doing business" at our meetings. We discussed new and different ways to accommodate small group meetings, focused on using technological tools that we weren't previously used to, and worked through the inevitable hiccups ("hey you're on mute. No wait, you just muted yourself again! Can you hear me now??"). Council was called upon to make decisions relating to how long we felt we would need to keep our church building closed to in-person worship, and figure out new work-arounds. We received direction from the City of Denver, and relied on a wealth of information gathered by Lori Groskopf in our decision-making. Some wonderful creativity resulted from these efforts, as anyone who has watched a Calvary service online since the month of March knows; many people worked long and unpaid hours. We were able to have some great outdoor worship over the past summer, with wonderful music, communion, and spoken word. Small groups were able to have meetings and fellowship, observing the guidelines of masking and social distancing. The Calvary Choir was even able to do

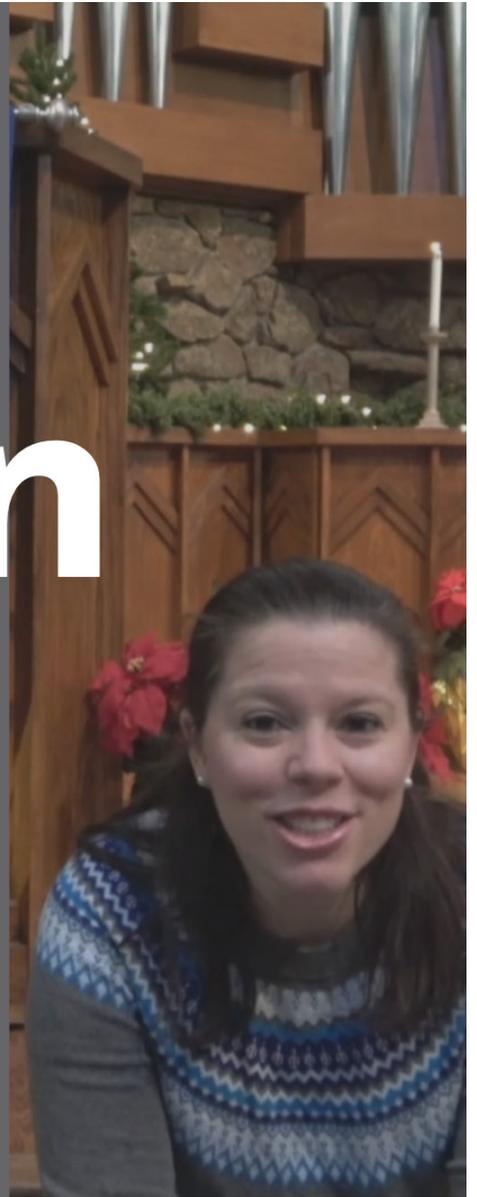
some singing at Bible Park during one of our summer gatherings. Not the same as being in front of the congregation, but it felt good just the same.

These things at least gave us a sense that there was continuity, that there were still ways we could worship and serve together, and move forward together in the midst of a global pandemic. Calvary's Council met in person only twice in 2020, and then used Zoom for the rest of our work every month, something we are now much more comfortable doing. We know 2021 will present some similar challenges as well as some new ones, but the team of congregation, pastoral and church staff, committees, and Council are the hands and feet of God, and together we are ready to tackle the challenge.

Thank you,  
Sharon Murphy  
Rick Breitenbecher



Learn



&  
Grow



## From Pastor Rev. Morgan C. Fletcher



Writing an annual report for 2020 feels discom-  
bulating and yet so vital. It feels hard to put  
into words what this year  
included and I hope the  
following provides you with a  
glimpse of the areas of minist-  
ry I had the privilege to sup-  
port.

### Faith Formation Ministry Team

Our first Faith Formation Min-  
istry Team (FFMT) was estab-  
lished in January of 2020 and  
began meeting in April via  
Zoom. The initial FFMT con-  
sisted of Krysta Baglien, Mike  
Burck, Cory Crile, Libby John-

son, and Estela Schweissing. This ministry team has  
only met virtually due to my parental leave and the  
start of COVID-19 safety measures. Over the course  
of eight months, we held listening sessions with the  
likes of Dr. David Farwig and Ms. Angela Leonard to  
learn how we might be able to support them in digi-  
tal ministry. Following our meetings with them we had  
to say goodbye to two of our team members, Krys-  
ta moved back to Idaho and sadly Mike transitioned  
from this life to the next. The remaining three mem-  
bers continued the work and began listening sessions  
with all of our Church School leaders to hear how we  
could support them, what they might need, and work  
together to clarify and solidify the mission and vision  
of the Church School ministry at Calvary. By year's  
end we identified key learning experiences for chil-  
dren, youth, and adult Church School.

### Figuring Life Out (FLO)



As a desire to connect with those going through var-  
ious life transitions and early adulthood milestones a  
group was formed – Figuring Life Out (FLO) – to have

a space to gather and connect. There were several  
gatherings in 2020, first in person and then on-line,  
until another zoom gathering was not helpful for this  
group of people. Hopefully when safety measures  
lift we will be able to gather again and see how we  
can support one another as we transition from safety  
measure ways of living.

### Youth Ministry

The Youth Ministry met in person for January and  
February, even holding a burrito fundraiser in Febru-  
ary. After safety measures were put in place, families  
and students were asked how they would like to en-  
gage. March and April connections with students were  
via Zoom, and in May, June, July, August, and Septem-  
ber we took part in safe, outdoor socially distanced  
activities once a month. October's increased safety  
measures meant we had to shift back to Zoom, where  
we continued to meet in November and December.

### Virtual Connections

Many of our Church School classes went to virtu-  
al meetings at least every six weeks, if not more fre-  
quently. Lenten Suppers went virtual for the first time  
and then shifted to our Midweek Gathering through-  
out 2020. The Midweek Gathering was an important  
way of checking in with folks during those early days  
of the safety measures and before our other groups  
had transitioned to being virtual. To all of our lead-  
ers who learned how to facilitate a group online and  
found creative ways of checking in with their people,  
thank you! You have been a key source of sustenance  
to these long months apart.



### Tokens of Unity

While we couldn't gather in our typical ways for  
Faith Formation, I wanted to make sure our congrega-  
tion knew they are in our hearts and greatly missed.  
Thanks to the creative minds on our staff, we were  
able to provide tokens of unity from afar; magnets,

continued on next page

yard signs and even face masks. And even though these items do not make up for being apart I hope they would bring a smile to our community and know that they remain on our minds. For the social distance delivery team that would rival UPS in spreading the magnets and yard signs across Colorado, many thanks to, Rick Breitenbecher, David Farwig, Deanna Geldons, Angela Leonard, Alice Horner Nelson, Lynda & Gordon Pelton, Anne J Scalfaro, Robyn & Bill Warren, & Denise Wylde.

### Home for the Holidays

Home for the Holidays (HFTH) was a way to make sure people felt connected and seen in November and December. Throughout HFTH, people were able to engage with the 30 Days of Thankfulness, the Men's Group No Food Thanksgiving Day Breakfast, virtual caroling with Dr. David Farwig, Do Not Be Afraid Advent devotionals, printable DIY ornaments, a congregationally sourced virtual Christmas card, and our first ever virtual Christmas pageant. In addition to these pieces, but still connected, were the efforts of Ms. Angela and her holiday baskets for children & their families and Pastor Mary with her personal deliveries of homemade goodies to our VIPs.



### Congregational Care Teams

The Congregational Care Teams were initiated by Pastor Anne and around July I offered to check in with them and be a resource to the team leads. Thanks to these amazing volunteers, people in our congregation received texts/calls/cards a least once or twice during the July to December months. Knowing we didn't have our usual channels of check-ins, these teams allowed the staff to know if we needed to touch base with someone, if there were trends happening with people that we might be able to help with and allowed for new ways of knowing how folks were doing.



### Virtual Conference

Since we couldn't meet in person for a conference and recognizing the toll that COVID-19 takes on all of us, I reached out to Rita Berglund and Jason Whitehead to film a series focused on relationships, personal and collective wellbeing, marking time, and how to process emotions during these times. They did a fantastic job and have been a resource folks can return to as

needed.

### Sabbath Curriculum

Something I almost forgot (because it happened before safety measures began and before I went on parental leave), Pastor Anne and I developed a church-wide curriculum on the narrative arc of Sabbath as seen throughout Scripture, the early church, and in current expressions. This study was used on Tuesday nights then shifted to our Lenten discussions. As a follow-up to this study, I created an examination of how one might use the practice of Sabbath as part of spiritual discernment. This study was made available to the congregation in September.

### Church Council

During Church Council meetings we began adding a Faith Formation piece each month. This portion of the meeting was often geared toward prayer, discernment, and helping us as church leadership center ourselves before discussing decisions that would serve the collective congregation.

It was a shift to be leading Faith Formation at Calvary, as my position changed officially at last year's annual meeting. Then before I could really settle into it, I went on parental leave for six weeks and would return to work full-time in the midst of COVID-19 safety measures at full force. This year would not have been possible without the Faith Formation Ministry Team, the amazing volunteers who called/emailed/texted or delivered items to their designated folks, a staff that is as creative, resourceful, and hopeful as ever, and a congregation that was willing to try new ways of doing ministry together. Thanks to each of you for weathering a year none of us could have imagined. And because we did it together, we weathered it better than we could have alone.

With a lot of love and deep appreciation,

Pastor Morgan

# 2020 Faith Formation

## Church School Classes

**Caritas** Caritas was fortunate to have Rev. Daniel Schweissing as our teacher this year. In January and February we finished *Six Degrees of Separation* by Alexis Donkin. Guest speakers came and talked about Buddhism, Baha'i, and Atheism. In March, Covid struck and our church building was closed. Daniel Schweissing was so knowledgeable, and thoughtful to set up Zoom for us so we could continue our study and fellowship together. In Spring Daniel taught a study on the Sermon-on-the-Mount—Beatitudes. In the Fall, we began a chapter-by-chapter study on the book of Acts, based on the commentary, "Acts: the Gospel of the Spirit," by Dr Justo L. Gonzalez. Two zoom guest speakers were: Pastor Kim Skattum talking about his "Bike Shop Church." Also, Rev. John White spoke about "The Modern House Church Movement." In December we were disappointed that we could not celebrate together at our Annual Christmas party at Norma Wick's Three Fountains Clubhouse. Our Caritas leadership team this year: President, Karen Pinkham; Sunshine person, Sara Sieker; and Treasurer, Ken Pinkham.

Submitted by Karen Pinkham, President



## Explorers Class

What can I say? The Explorers Class had a short season for 2020, all of 2 months, before the Covid-19 virus hit. For the safety of the congregation, it was decided to close the church for live services and events. Small events, such as Sunday school classes, could then hold classes virtually by Zoom. The Explorers class decided to suspend class until we could meet in person, but the class has not been canceled permanently.

Larry Davilá, our esteemed teacher is now considering what he wants to teach when class resumes. We are looking forward to meeting again.

Submitted by Judy Goldman, Treasurer



## Ribbons

We meet the first three Sundays of the month, discussion led by Charlotte Million. Or we did, until mid-March. Pre-pandemic days, we finished reading and discussing Anne Lamott's book *Almost Everything*. Our last meeting together was March 15. We spent April, May and most of June in disbelief, adjusting to worship via YouTube and meetings via zoom. On June 27 we as a class began having our own zoom meetings every three weeks (a month felt too long; 2 weeks too short). Should out to Margie Jonell, for hosting. We had nine Zoom Gatherings from July through December. One benefit: Jody and Bobslyn Kidd-Spence are part of the group, and keep us updated on their life in Dallas.

Included in those summer meetings was a reaffirmation of our goals and purpose, as part of Calvary's process to better articulate church school options to visitors:

Remembering our genesis as a group that prioritizes the heart-centered approach to church school:

- We seek to learn the contemplative practices of silence, song and meditation. Learning the practices means becoming comfortable with them.
- We want to learn to be vulnerable and able to take risks sharing in a safe space.
- We aren't so interested in study per se as in a topic, question, song or hymn that generates conversation to get to know each other better

Submitted by Charlotte Million.

## Voyagers Class

In early 2020 our class was still meeting. That was a long time ago. We studied Job and followed that with Harold Kushner's classic book, *When Bad Things Happen to Good People*. After that our pastors had put together a Churchwide Study of the Sabbath. We followed and discussed



continued on next page

each of those lessons as well.

During the summer break, in June, we had a social distance gathering in Rick's back yard. But the most significant event was Rick and Pam Chapman moving to Montrose in December! They now live on a golf course, so Rick's love of golf will be satiated.

### Koinonia

Koinonia began its 51st year of growing in faith, supporting Calvary and encouraging each other. Officers are co-presidents Janet Kerlin and Jim Dykes and treasurer Jack Hulst.



Led by teachers Libby Johnson and John Kron, we average 15 to 20 adult attendees, ranging in age from mid-30s to mid-70s. We met together from January 5 through March 8, studying Calvary's Sabbath curriculum. Then we began a Covid-19 sabbatical that continues today. In September, we began a series of continuing monthly Zoom get-togethers. It is our tradition to take offerings each Sunday as we meet in person. Normally, our offering proceeds support Bootstraps and Blessings, Calvary's youth, the Pastor's Emergency fund, and other needs as communicated to us. This year, we also made a Memorial Fund contribution in remembrance of our friend Mike Burck. We have missed our co-president Janet Kerlin during the pandemic closure and our recent Zoom meetings. Janet is a nurse at Parker Adventist Hospital, and we've kept her along with our other medical professionals in prayer. Libby Johnson expresses our hope for 2021: We look forward to a time when we can once again join hands in our circle of fellowship and love without fear. Let us never again take our time together for granted.

Submitted by Marie and Jim Dykes

## Little Free Library

Calvary's Little Free Library celebrated its 4-year anniversary in May 2020—without any fanfare this year. In fact, for most of the spring, the Little Library was not maintained or checked due to the pandemic. Throughout the pandemic, the library has been mostly self-sustaining and has received more use than ever from our neighborhood, perhaps because other public libraries were shut down or only offering limited services. If you have book donations for the Little Library, please put them directly in the library on Girard until the church reopens; the donation bin inside the church is not being monitored. Thank you for your support!

Submitted by Linnea Nigro, Calvary's Little Library Librarian



# Nursery & Children

Easter Sunday looked a bit different this year with not being able to gather. Easter Gift baskets were delivered to each Calvary child filled with candy eggs, games, coloring, and a scavenger hunt.

Vacation Bible School: Calvary hosted its first ever virtual Vacation Bible School with 17 kids participating from Calvary, thanks to 15 staff and volunteers for making this possible. This was a five day virtual curriculum including materials, snacks, messages, bible stories, yoga, music, and art- all from the comfort and safety of their homes.

Halloween/Thanksgiving Bags: I prepared 8 Halloween/Thanksgiving bags for the children to have some activities and treats through the Fall. Pumpkin piggy banks to paint were a hit as well as sand art, candy, and small little gadgets.

Christmas: 14 Christmas bags were given out to Calvary kids filled with all sorts of crafts and coloring pages, hot chocolate in mugs, and some goodies. We missed being able to have a Christmas reception to decorate cookies, but are grateful we can still reach our kids at Calvary.

Submitted by Angela Leonard,  
Children's Ministry Coordinator

Top right: Angela and Adelaide with Halloween/Thanksgiving bags. Middle left: Henry, Charles and Abigail Stanley wearing their VBS shirts. Right middle and bottom: Easter baskets. Bottom middle: Gavin Morel with his VBS shirt. Bottom left: the Stanley children follow a video lesson with Ms. Angela.





Bessey

# Care & Connect



## From Pastor Emerita & Pastoral Associate Rev. Mary Hulst

Mother Teresa, once said "Every time you smile at someone, it is an action of love, a gift to that person, a beautiful thing."

2020 was an impossibly hard year, seriously lacking in smiles. We have experienced a raging pandemic with so much death, grief and loss. Milestone events have been cancelled, churches closed, schools closed, jobs lost, families and friends separated and all of that accompanied by lockdown periods, social distance, and the wearing of masks: necessary during a pandemic in order to keep us safe. I have found myself deeply saddened at how that meaningful gift of love, about which Mother Teresa spoke, a smile, has been so severely limited.

It is my joy and privilege, at the request of our Senior Pastor, Anne

Scalfaro, and Staff Relations, to call on, care for and keep our VIP's (Very Inspiring People) connected to Calvary. These are folks that are homebound, in care facilities, have chronic health issues or are 90+ years of age. Oh, how I have missed their smiles. Instead of calling in person on these folks my contacts must be by phone, by mail and the occasional window visit that some care facilities arrange. These are times that in order to stay connected, demand for us to be flexible and creative and I have sought to be both.

April was the most intense month of phone contact during the year. As we were beginning to understand the dangers of the pandemic and the measures we could take for precaution against the virus, it felt important to me to be in regular contact with all 41 VIP's (there were a number of couples in this number). I quickly understood that many did not have access to or use a computer, therefore making updates from Calvary unavailable. Soon thereafter I began printing the pastoral letter from the ENews for all the VIPs each week and mailing it, plus a hand written note from me. That has continued, in addition to many phone calls..

It seemed, though, that more creativity was needed. Three times during the last 10 months, I have delighted in kitchen preparation of a treat for our

VIP's, knowing how isolated so many of them feel. In June it was Applesauce and Banana Muffins. In September, the treat was a Homemade Trail Mix with a Blessing and in November Hand Dipped Pretzels with the message of how Pretzels, originally created by a monk in the middle ages, were a symbol of prayer (arms drawn across the torso with fingers touching opposite shoulders). A small flat Christmas ornament was included in a December mailing.

The huge blessing of these treat drop offs has been the opportunity, where possible, to stand 6 feet away from a doorway and visit masked face to masked face. These folks, many whom I have known for many years, are dear friends. While a smile may not have been seen, the eyes do communicate that.

- Miles driven in 2020 in my Honda Civic - 2135
- In Person Visits Jan-Mar 16 - 65  
(also includes 6 face to face visits during pandemic that were window or outside visits arranged by a care facility)
- Three times of Drop off visits with treats to homes and residences - 114  
(I was able to make a personal visit to many on driveways or porches)
- Personal contacts made by phone-403
- Hand Written Notes - 1007 included with copied and enlarged Pastoral Letters

With every visit or call or note written there was a smile from me and I agree with Mother Teresa it is an action of love. These folks are a gift to me.

My deep appreciation to Anne Scalfaro and to Calvary for the privilege that is mine. Our VIPs are indeed inspiring people.

Blessings,  
Mary Armacost Hulst  
Pastor Emerita and Pastoral Associate



## Foot of the Cross Courtyard

Even though 2020 became Year One of the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Columbarium Committee was able to continue our ministry to the people of Calvary:

Together with Pastors Anne and Mary, we helped families deal with deaths as we:

1. Worked through contracts with them to provide for interment in either a Columbarium Niche or the Common Urn;
2. Discussed details and anticipated timing of cremation as it pertains to interment;
3. Understood the wishes of the family with respect to interment with some restrictions and/or a deferred larger Memorial Service;
4. Received and securely stored cremains until the interment service;
5. Introduced them to the opportunities in the Book of Remembrance.

For the 7 interments held during the pandemic, the Foot of the Cross Courtyard was groomed to its usual high standards and the distancing and comfort of those in attendance was given special attention. All of the usual steps such as engraving of faceplates were completed.

Several individuals and couples considering preneed contracts in the FOTCC were given complete preview information and, as always, we wait on their decisions. All routine gardening, watering and maintenance work was done to keep trees, shrubs and flowers beautiful, and healthy for seasons to come.

### 2020 by the numbers

1. 4 interments in Columbarium Niches: total number of people interred in Niches is now 38.
2. 4 niches purchased in the Columbarium. To date, 64 of the total 153 niches have been purchased. 58% of all niches remain available for purchase.
3. A total of 8 people have been interred in the Common Urn and, in the fullness of time, 5 more will be committed to the Common Urn.
4. As of December 31, 2020, 123 people have been or will be interred in the Foot of the Cross Courtyard.

### 2020 interments

#### In a Columbarium Niche:

- Don Worford
- Judith Ann Drury
- Michael William Burck

- Delores Jean Bowermaster

#### In the Common Urn

- John H. Pipe
- Armenia "Joe" Pipe Miller
- Janice Taylor

#### On the Wall of Remembrance

At the passing of Jane Doris Lehrmann, her year of birth 1922 and year of death 2020 were added to her inscription on the Wall of Remembrance.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the cremains of these people are being held, by either their families or by the Committee, until their committal services in the Columbarium can be scheduled:

- Sally Ann Finney Beckett
- Samuel Edward Baldrige
- Jack Newkirk Phillips, Sr.
- Carl Dean Foust
- Olga Ferhmin Ashworth
- Natalie Ferhmin
- George Ferhmin

#### Donations

Donations and memorial gifts help make possible annual professional maintenance, replacement of plants, repair and upkeep. Gifts also help build a reserve to provide for the Columbarium in the decades to come. This year gifts were given by Judy Griswold, Becky Worford, Carol Willard, Corry and Phil Doty, Dick Ashworth, Sue and Brent Siler in memory of Jack Phillips, and the Jane Doris Lehrmann Charitable Fund.

#### Virtual Observances, Part of Worship Services



Pastor Anne Scalfaro prepared two very special videos that were part of Virtual Worship Services, replacing events that could not be held in person because of COVID-19.

Sunday, May 24 – Memorial Day is usually observed with refreshments, an open house in the Courtyard and our American Flag flying. Virtually, we "remembered" with a narrative, photos from prior years, music, and the names of all 29 Veterans interred and remembered in the Courtyard.

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Sunday, November 22 – Celebrating the 15th Anniversary of the Foot of the Cross Courtyard. Pastor Anne shared the story of the founding of Calvary's FOTCC and honored those who worked from 2003 to the completion of the Courtyard in 2005. She explained how it has grown with the features it now offers, and with the significant acceptance, interest, work of volunteers, and investment of the members and friends of Calvary. And she spoke of the needs this space meets for the bereaved, and for everyone who needs a place for meditation and peace.



### Professional Support

John Paul Malik, Landscape Horticulturist, Bonsai Nursery, provides spring, autumn and as needed service to the Courtyard: all plants, irrigation system, water feature and lighting.

### Committee Service

Columbarium Committee members are active participants in all of the tasks needed to maintain Courtyard excellence and the professionalism of operation. Thanks go to Anne Michel, Carmelita Hammon, Corry and Phil Doty, Dave Crane, Judy Griswold and John Mikesell, Karen and Ken Pinkham, Larry Jenks, Lorry Burck, Marie Dykes, Mary Hulst, Susan and Kent Oakes, and Walter Rowell. The Committee thanks Bill Warren for his help troubleshooting and mitigating the impact of the roofing project on the FOTCC.

Columbarium Fund Financial Report for 2020 is available from Carm Hammon or Corry Doty. For more information, contact Corry 303.590.5878.

Submitted by Corry Doty

## 2020 Small Groups

### Calvary Book Group

The Calvary Book Group is Open to All and more are invited to join us. We meet, now on zoom, the third Monday evening of the month at 7:00 PM. We read novels, biographies, and historical fiction. This year we will meet January through May. Some of the titles are: Just Mercy, The Pioneers, The End of October, The Alice Network, Born a Crime, and more. If interested, text Gordon Kieft at 720-201-5212 or contact Judy Griswold at jgandjm@aol.com. Happy Reading. Submitted by Gordon Kieft

### Holy Envy Book Study

Beginning in September 2020, Diana McGahan facilitated a bi-weekly study group on Zoom in order to read and discuss the book Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others by Barbara Brown Taylor. Eight people of varying ages participated in the group. This study came out of a desire to reconnect with others during our social isolation and to grow spiritually in a short-term, small group similar to the GPS groups

of the past, utilizing Zoom as our venue. Last church school year Daniel Schweissing had led the Caritas class in learning about several world religions, including meeting and hearing practitioners of several of those religions. This opened my (Diana's) eyes to the spiritual faithfulness of many non-Christian religions and after reading Taylor's book over the summer, I wanted to explore this further with others. We met for seven sessions and the discussions were engaging and thoughtful as we shared our impressions of the book and our own faith journeys.

Submitted by Diana McGahan

### Men's Group

The Calvary Men's Group continued to operate in 2020 despite the obvious challenges of keeping on track and in touch considering COVID 19. Our programs were in person early in the year and migrated to both the parking lot and ZOOM over time. Our thanks to Pastor Morgan Fletcher for helping us be-

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come functional using the technology and to all the members of the group who stepped up and learned how to function with this new approach. My personal thanks to Pastor Alice Nelson for her guidance and creativity in helping market and communicate to our members during the year.

Here is our year in review:

January – Jim Comstock and Rick Chapman presented a Luncheon overview of our fall 2019 Minnesota Mission Trip.

February – The Men’s Group co-hosted with the Women’s Group a special dinner and a movie in Fellowship Hall.

March – Our March Madness Event was cancelled due to COVID

During this time of early adjustment to life in a new way, we decided to pole our members for relief money to support people in our congregation who might be in need. We developed a letter and conducted follow-up calls to raise over \$2,500.00. We distributed this money to support people who our steering committee believed could use funds during the pandemic. This was successful and we’re thankful for our members who contributed to the cause.

During the summer (June – July) we planned and held a food drive for Jewish Family Services. We conducted this event on a warm Saturday morning in early July and delivered 6 large carts of food along with \$176.00 to JFS. This event was both an all-church event and a neighborhood event thanks to Gordon Pelton coordinating with his neighborhood’s association. It provided Calvary with exposure to both the neighbors and staff at JFS as well as giving people who were



cooped up a chance to get out, drive by the church, and donate to those in need.

In September we began our ZOOM sessions by inviting a staff member of the Jefferson County Parks and Recreation Department to present a program highlighting the Jeffco Park System as well as their approach to forest fire management. It was well received by our membership.

October brought us Phil Doty’s program on ‘Car Talk’. Phil, with the help of Damon Scalfaro’s videography, walked us through a classic car garage Phil and his partner own, as Phil detailed the many attributes of their fine collection of classic cars. Once again, a great program was enjoyed by all who attended.

November presented us with the challenge of another Thanksgiving breakfast, although this time without food. The Great Turkey joined all the members of the Calvary Staff plus more to bring a smile to our faces. We enjoyed Jim Comstock as the MC for what was a memorable ZOOM event. Thanks to Damon Scalfaro, who once again stepped up to put the program together and to everyone who contributed their talents and blessings of what they were thankful for during 2020.

2021 starts tomorrow as I write this overview, and it can’t start soon enough for most of us as we put 2020 in the rear-view mirror. January and February programs are in the works. Look for more great events, education, and mission opportunities in the year ahead. As the Carpenters once sang, “We’ve Only Just Begun”.

Submitted by Rick Chapman

### Women’s Group -

The Women’s Group met a few times in-person before the pandemic hit. We had a whole year of scheduling and programming that had to be cancelled. We joined forces with the Men’s Group for an event in January 2021, and look forward to when we can resume programming!

-Leigh Bessey

### Monday Night Pub-

Calvary’s Pub group was alive and well in 2020, we’re gearing up for a great year in 2021.

We started our year with a program by Leigh Bessey at Piccolo’s on January 6th and continued on at the restaurant through March 9th with seven more programs. Our presenters during that period were Joyce and David Reed, Barbara Creswell, John Anduri, Emily Crile, Matt Nelson, Chuck Goertz, Bill Ponikvar, and Dave Crane. Topics ranged from theological matters through life skills and just having fun. Emily Crile had

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singers and non-singers alike making a joyful noise for the Lord!

We regrouped online through ZOOM meetings on September 14th, again with Leigh Bessey providing our kick-off program. Our online programs have been surprisingly successful, with most of our regular members taking part along with a nice group of new members who haven't been able to take part in Pub before we went online. Program topics have ranged from dipping our toes into privilege and Black Live Matter, through more theology, the Baby Boomer generation, and national parks, with the presenters being David Peterson, Dave Crane and Bill Ponikvar, Chuck Goertz, and Bill and Robyn Warren respectively.

Our 2021 sessions begin on our old Monday evening schedule with a program about Calvary's Bootstraps and Blessings program on January 14th. You are welcome to become a part of this fun group.



### Scrapbooking

Our scrapbooking group consists of 6 women, four are members of Calvary and two are not. We meet once a month on a Saturday from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. This year we met in January and February. We did not meet again until August where we met outside in the backyard of Becky Worford. We social distanced, wore masks and of course we enjoyed being together. We met again in September and October. In December we met virtually on Zoom. Hopefully we'll be able to get together again in 2021.

Submitted by Becky Worford

### Tuesday Bible Study

In January/February we studied Psalms. The plan was to have Mike Burck lead a study on 1 Peter and then work through a series from Work of the People called Transformed by Love. These two studies didn't get to happen due to Covid-19 safety measures. In the Fall we studied Micah and Esther. We meet on Tuesday

mornings on Zoom. -Submitted by Pastor Morgan C. Fletcher

### Tuesday Prayer & Study

Zoom has worked for our Tuesday Prayer & Study Group. We continued to add new members; tending to have 14 in attendance each week. More prayer warriors and those interested in discussing literature that expands our Christian knowledge are always sought. Twice a year the group decides which book/topic they'd like to discuss. Contact Judy Griswold, jgandjm@aol.com, if you'd like more information about joining the group.

Prayer continued to lead our time together, followed by Pastor Anne leading the discussion of 2 books in 2020:

\* The Universal Christ: How a Forgotten Reality Can Change Everything We See, Hope For, and Believe, by Richard Rohr.

\* Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents, by Isabel Wilkerson.

Submitted by Judy Griswold



## “Over and Above” Budgeted Missions Giving in 2020

### Denominational Offerings

America for Christ Offering:	\$1,957.00
One Great Hour of Sharing Offering:	\$3,300.00
World Mission Offering:	\$3,295.00
Retired Ministers & Missionaries Offering:	\$2,714.00
Sub-TOTAL	\$11,266.00

### Local Mission

Jewish Family Service:	\$1,430.00
Family Promise:	\$9,030.00
Habitat for Humanity:	\$2,950.00
Bootstraps and Blessings:	\$5,444.53
Sub-TOTAL	\$18,854.53

### Internal Mission

Calvary Family Emergency Fund:	\$10,845.00
Sub-TOTAL	\$10,845.00

### Non-Specific Mission

Local Missions Fund TRF:	\$1,025.04
Global Missions Fund TRF:	\$260.00
Sub-TOTAL	\$1,285.04

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GRAND TOTAL	\$42,250.57
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### Notes:

- These totals are in addition to what we give in operating to these mission partners, when applicable. So for example, we gave Family Promise \$6,000 in budget and then the total above for Family Promise was received above that.
- These totals also do not include the total number of quarters given to FP (around \$200 worth) and all the in-kind donations to Bootstraps, Jewish Family Service, Kentucky Circle Village, and Family Promise. These totals do not include extra giving to memorial funds or other special designations like FOTCC or youth or VIP ministry or webcast fund or the pastor’s fund...of which we got extra giving too. This is just missions.

### Missions Giving Supported in 2020 Operating Budget:

**Missionaries:** Joyce & David Reed, Dwight & Barbara Bolick, Lauran Bethell

**National Missions Support:** American Baptist Churches USA, American Baptist Women Love Gift

**Local Missions Support:** Family Promise of Greater Denver, Jewish Family Service, Kentucky Circle Village, Habitat Helpers, Bootstraps & Blessings

**National Justice & Advocacy Support:** New Baptist Covenant, Baptist Joint Committee, Association of Welcoming & Affirming Baptists

**Local Justice & Advocacy Support:** Colorado Faith Communities United to End Gun Violence, Colorado Council of Churches, Interfaith Alliance of Colorado, Calvary/New Hope Partnership – Racial Justice, Pridefest

**Mission Response:** ABC-USA churches in Nicaragua & Dominican Republic (COVID-relief), Day at the Legislature – TIA-CO, Family Promise of Greater Denver, Religious Freedom efforts (Baptist Joint Committee)

(See the 2020 Financial Plan for descriptions of these organizations)

## Bootstraps & Blessings

In December of 2018, I was honored to be asked by Mary Hulst to take over the coordination of Bootstraps and Blessings. 2019 was a banner year. We served 460 clients (355 served in 2018) 22 committed volunteers. The # of visits in 2019 totaled 2219 while we had 1470 in 2018. There were 614 showers and 428 loads of laundry done in 2019. The # of estimated bags given out is 1125 in 2019.

However during 2019, our major funding source, the use of King Soopers Cards by church members was drastically changed. The Community Rewards program which used to give organizations a straight percentage of usage capped the total amount they gave to charities, thus minimizing the \$ amount we received. For example, we used to get \$700 monthly. After the change, we were lucky to get \$700 quarterly. Due to the generosity of members and past reserves, we were able to continue funding our program but continued to search for other source of revenue, ie grants etc.

In December of 2019, we added Monday lunches which our guests really enjoyed. Volunteers baked, made soup, and served our guests. We had planned to continue doing one Monday a month in the future.

Unfortunately, Covid came in March and effectively closed Bootstraps down. However, we tried to offer a modified program leaving bags of peanut butter, crackers, water and King Sooper cards outside for guests to take as needed. Unfortunately one bad apple ruined it for the rest with one person taking all 20 bags and scattering trash in the parking lot. We then closed down until September.

In September, we opened on a limited basis from 10-1pm on Mondays, offering items on a cart placed outside the church entry, where 2 volunteers could monitor the usage and restock as needed. We added masks, Neosporin, sanitizer, tuna packs, suntan lotion, dry shampoo and more to the items available. Since we cannot allow our guests into the church, showers and laundry are not available.

If they feel comfortable, the volunteers can go out and see if there are other needs we can help them with, maintaining safe distancing and wearing masks. The usual items requested are sleeping bags, warm clothing and backpacks as well as King Sooper and RTD passes. Through the end of December, we have helped 32 clients which included 50 visits, and the giving out of 99 King Soopers Cards and 41 RTD passes.

Volunteers are always needed with compassion and a listening ear still being the number one and two requisites. Eventually we'd like to add a rolling refrigerator to the offering which would enable our guests

to have access to fresh fruit and vegetable and cold water.

I want to thank Calvary for the many gifts of money, donations of items and time, you've given over the past two years. It's truly made a difference. Thank you.

Submitted by Pat Hagen, B&B Coordinator

## Family Promise

The Family Promise hosting model changed this year with the pandemic. Instead of hosting families in our church building, families were hosted in motels and Calvary contributed monies for those costs.

Calvary showed stunning generosity for our families. \$6,000 was budgeted for Family Promise of Greater Denver, and then \$9,030 was given in over and above giving to help with housing and meal costs (with members from one of our hosting partners, First Plymouth UCC also contributing). Additionally, Calvary gave about \$200 in quarters that families could use for laundry services and collected toys for the families through our Virtual Giving Tree in December.

Submitted by Denise Wylde & Debbie Honeker Family Promise Coordinators



## Habitat Helpers

On March 3, 2020 Habitat for Humanity hosted a House Dedication for Donna and Christopher and their 3 children. The celebration was attended by Calvary members at 2770 W College Ave, Denver. It was a 2-story house with 1300 sq. ft.

The whole family had big radiant smiles, and were happy to have a stable and safe neighborhood. Donna said she can now have clean clothes for her children because she will have her own washer and dryer instead of the unreliable community one. They were excited about being able to plant their own vegetable garden. This was the 14th house Calvary's Habitat

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Helpers Coalition has built.

Because of the Covid pandemic our Habitat Helpers Coalition decided not to build a new house in 2020. Habitat Helpers will resume building in 2021 as soon as the pandemic is over and it is safe to do so. Thank you Calvary for your continued financial and volunteer support of building homes for the very deserving poor and disadvantaged people of Denver.

Submitted by Karen Pinkham, Habitat Volunteer Coordinator

### Missions Committee

The biggest change for 2020 is that, with the dissolution of Calvary's ABW circles, oversight of Calvary's international mission support is now handled by the Missions Committee, which is composed of Becky Worford, Gordon Kieft, Daniel Schweissing, and Rev. Anne Scalfaro.

During 2020, Calvary continued its monthly financial support for David and Joyce Reed (global consultants for spiritual formation) and Lauren Bethell (global consultant for human trafficking). Due to the resignation of Tom and Terry Myers from missionary service in Bulgaria, Calvary switched its support from the Myers to Dwight and Barb Bolick (Latin America) who are working in a similar ministry emphasizing economic development and ministries to at-risk women and children.

In addition to line-item monthly financial support, the Missions Committee voted to designate the 2020 World Missionary Offering to the Reeds and the Bolicks ministries (dividing it 50/50 between each missionary unit) in order to help them both meet their

fundraising goals for this year.

The highlight of our year was a missionary visit from Joyce and David Reed in January, which included speaking engagements during a special all-church Sunday school session, Monday Night Pub, and a missions moment during Sunday worship. In addition, the Reeds had separate meetings with the Missions Committee and Pastor Anne. The Missions Committee coordinated this visit with our ABCRM partners, thus enabling the Reeds to include a visit to the Region staff and a missions event hosted by Western Slope ABCRM churches at First Baptist Grand Junction during their ten days in Colorado.

During their visit to Calvary, the Reeds requested assistance in developing a new Missionary Partnership Team (MPT) around their current ministry. Specifically, they were looking to recruit volunteers to assist with communications and tracking their financial support. Pastor Anne has been working with the Reeds to connect them with Calvary members who have the appropriate skillset to assist in these areas. Additional discussions with the Reeds explored ways that Calvary might support their spiritual formation ministry and serve as a hub/resource for missionary retreats in Colorado or beyond. In particular, the Reeds felt that Calvary's spiritual formation ethos was consistent with their particular ministry focus and proposed that Calvary be known as "The Church the Cares for Missionaries," a designation that the Missions Committee hopes to grow into.

For 2021, the Missions Committee is planning to organize missionary visits—either virtual or in-person—from Dwight and Barb Bolick and Lauren Bethell.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Daniel M. Schweissing  
Missions Chair



Joyce & David Reed at their Calvary visit in January.

## 2021 Leadership Listed by Term

### Second Term Ends January 2022

#### At-Large Council Members

Lorene Walker

#### Finance Committee

Tom Waymire

#### Staff Relations Committee

Mick Davey, Chair

Tom Madden

Ken Pinkham

#### Nominating Committee

Bill Ponikvar

### First Term Ends January 2022

#### At-Large Council Members

Allie Hulst

David Peterson

Erin Gangloff

#### Finance Committee

Kevin Jonell

#### Stewardship Committee

Natalie Ralston

#### Resource Management

Bill Warren, Chair

Bill Leonard

#### Council/Church Officers

Sharon Murphy, Co-Moderator

Norma Wick, Secretary

#### Staff Relations

Linda Fischer

Nancy Johnson

### Term Ends January 2023 (Ballot for New Position or Person) Voted on at Annual Meeting 1/27/2021

#### At-Large Council Members

Becky Worford

Jim Armstrong

#### Second Term

#### Nominating Committee

Walter Rowell, Chair

Sara Sieker

#### Stewardship Committee

John Kron, Chair

Amy Kehew

#### Council Officers

Virgil Musil, Treasurer

#### Finance Committee

Beth Kieft, Memorials Coor.

#### Resource Management

Gordon Pelton, Property Coor.

Beth Dickinson

Carl Ramay

#### First Term

#### At-Large Council Members

David Ferguson

Christine Zeiler

#### Stewardship Committee

Mimi Leonard

Chuck Goertz

#### Finance Committee

Del Walker

Nancy Chick

#### Resource Management

Ken DeHate

Ian Fletcher

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# Term Ends January 2024

## Council/Church Officers

Rick Breitenbecher, Co-Moderator

The term for the position of Co-Moderator is four years, whereas the term for all other positions is two years.

## 2021 Elected Leadership Listed by Council and Committee

### Council List

#### At-Large Council Members

Jim Armstrong  
Allie Hulst  
David Ferguson  
David Peterson  
Erin Gangloff  
Lorene Walker  
Becky Worford  
Christine Zeiler

#### Specified Council Members

Mick Davy, Chair Staff Relations  
Bill Warren, Chair Resource Mngt  
John Kron, Chair Stewardship  
Walter Rowell, Chair Nominating

#### Council/Church Officers

Rick Breitenbecher, Co-Moderator  
Sharon Murphy, Co-Moderator  
Norma Wick, Church Secretary  
Virgil Musil, Church Treasurer

### Committees List

#### Nominating

Walter Rowell, Chair  
Bill Ponikvar  
Sara Sieker

#### Finance

Virgil Musil, Chair/Church Treasurer  
Kevin Jonell  
Del Walker  
Nancy Chick  
Tom Waymire  
Beth Kieft, Memorials Coor.

#### Stewardship

John Kron, Chair  
Natalie Ralston  
Amy Kehew  
Mimi Leonard  
Chuck Goertz

#### Resource Management

Bill Warren, Chair  
Gordon Pelton, Property Coor.  
Ken DeHate  
Bill Leonard  
Ian Fletcher  
Beth Dickinson  
Carl Ramay

#### Staff Relations

Mick Davey, Chair  
Linda Fischer  
Nancy Johnson  
Tom Madden  
Ken Pinkham

# Calvary 2020 Staff

## Pastors



Rev. Anne J. Scalfaro  
Senior Pastor



Rev. Morgan C.  
Fletcher  
Pastor



Rev. Alice Horner  
Nelson  
Pastor



Rev. Mary A. Hulst  
Pastoral Associate &  
Pastor Emerita

## Music Ministry



Dr. David Farwig  
Director of Music



Denise Lanning  
Organist



Rev. Matt Nelson  
Worship Leader at  
The Gathering

## Children's Ministry



Angela Leonard  
Children's Ministry Coordinator

## Operations



Lori Grohskopf  
Facilities & Operations Manager



Luwan Jones  
Accountant



Owen Honeycutt  
Set-up & Security