



The Messenger

Calvary Baptist Quarterly Newsletter • Fall 2018

1) Exposure & Decompression

2) Storytelling & Listening

3) Being Open & Making Space

4) Passion & Humility

6) Preparing & Improv-ing

5) Challenge & Celebration

Yes, And...



Gathering Sunday 2018

Welcome to Calvary's new quarterly newsletter, The Messenger! It's our chance to showcase the stories of Calvary: the members that make up our wonderful community, our leaders, our volunteers, and all of the opportunities for ministry. Have a story idea for the next issue of the Messenger in December? Have a photo from a church event? Email Pastor Alice (ahornernelson@calvarydenver.org)!



Senior Pastor Anne J. Scalfaro



A Word from Pastor Anne

On Gathering Sunday, we announced our theme for the year: “Yes, And....”. Improv comedy thrives on the idea of “Yes, and...”: taking whatever the present moment gives you, and adapting your responses and decisions accordingly. You say your own improvised line, and your partner can take it in any direction they choose. It requires trust, letting go of control, and guts.

Life is a lot like improv comedy. We can plan for some things, but we can't predict everything; having flexibility and a willingness to listen and learn is key. The more we are tuned in to one another, the richer our storyline and the more we grow. Life, and faith, is not a solo stand-up act; it needs an ensemble cast. And God is one of the greatest improvisers.

Throughout Scripture and our own lives, we experience God as a God of “Yes, and...”.

Yes, God is the divine creator...and God wants to create with us.

Yes, we sin in the world... and we are invited to practice confession and repentance.

Yes, we have our theological beliefs... and we are called to learn and grow throughout our lives.

Yes, Calvary has needs within our church community... and we are called to care for those not a part of our community.

Yes, we have ministries and programming... and we seek to have them support our spiritual practices.

Yes, we want to grow as a congregation... and we are grateful for all who are already present.

To live into the practice of “Yes, and...” is to free ourselves from programmatic demands while opening ourselves to the present needs of our spiritual health. It's easy to get stuck in our faith and in our relationships and conversations with others; by taking our cue from improv comedy and using the principal of “Yes, and...”, we learn how to move pass the barriers that can

feel like roadblocks, and navigate a new way.

Scripture is full of stories of people who are taken on journeys they did not expect. This year, in our worship services and in small group experiences and discussions, we are going to have some fun with our faith and engage the Spiritual Practices of “Yes, and...”. Taking improv as a spiritual practice allows us to live into the reality that God loves us where we are in life and will find ways to move us into further health and wholeness.

Spiritual Practice Dates:

Exposure & Decompression: Sept. 26, Oct. 3, Oct. 10 at 6:30 p.m. in the Youth Lounge

Sept. 26: What are our comfort zones?

Oct. 3: How do you decompress?

Oct. 10: Share our experiences of exposure and decompression.

Storytelling & Listening: October & November Dinners for Nine (sharing stories)- sign up with Mrs. Marlys Marshall in the office

September 9-October 14

"Exposure + Decompression"

Yes, you can step outside of your comfort zone...
and you can go back to it.

Stewardship Season

October 21 - November 18

"Storytelling + Listening"

Yes, your story is important...and you can learn from everyone's story.

Advent Season

December 2 - 24

"Being Open + Making Space"

Yes, you can be open to different ideas...
and you can create space for them within what you already know.

Epiphany/Winter Season

January 6 - March 3

"Passion + Humility"

Yes, you feel what you feel...and you can practice humility.

Lent Season

March 10 - April 14

"Challenge + Celebration"

Yes, life pushes you to your limits...and celebration can come
in unexpectedly places.

Eastertide

April 21 - June 2

"Preparing + Improv-ing"

Yes, you can stick to a plan...and you can improv(e) along the way.



Worship & Music

Don't Miss These Key Worship Dates!

- **Common Table, Common Life** – Third Sunday of the month, 8:30am, Chapel – Oct 21, Nov 18, Dec 16
- **Healing & Wholeness Service**– Tuesdays, 6:30pm – Chapel -- Oct. 9, Dec. 11
- **The Gathering: A Community Worship Experience (contemporary service)**– Saturdays, 5:00pm – Chapel -- Oct. 27, Nov. 17, Dec. 22
- **Blessing of the Animals** – Saturday, Oct 6 – 1:00 p.m. -- Parking Lot
- **World Communion Sunday & Pastor Anne's 10th Anniversary** – October 7 - 10:30 a.m.
- **All Saints' Day** – November 4– 10:30 a.m.
- **Commitment Sunday** – November 18 – 10:30 a.m.
- **Hanging of the Greens/First Sunday of Advent** – December 2 – 10:30 a.m.
- **Christmas Eve Family Service**– Monday, December 24 – 4 p.m.
- **Christmas Eve Candlelight & Communion Service**; Monday, December 24 – 11 p.m.

Join the Calvary Choir!

Greetings Calvary! I am thrilled to have begun my work here. I wanted to reach out to all of you who may have sung in the past or who may have thought about it



but couldn't muster up the courage, or to those of you who simply want to start singing and be part of the music ministry. My hope is to grow our choir as it continues to nourish the hearts and souls of our congregants. Knowledge of music notation is a plus but not required - just a good ear, a strong commitment, and a love of singing for the glory of God. And if you are not able to join the choir now but know of someone who may be interested, please let me know. We rehearse on Thursday evenings from 7-8:30 p.m. For more information, call the main office or email me at dfarwig@calvarydenver.org. Peace be with you!

-David Farwig, Director of Music

Save the Date!

*Annual Christmas Concert featuring
Calvary Choir and String Quartet*

Sunday, December 9 6 p.m. Sanctuary



Church School Classes and Year-Round Small Groups

To view more, simply go to the Church School classes page under the Learn tab on our website (www.calvarydenver.org), or grab a church brochure off of the Welcome Kiosk in the Narthex.

Name	Day	Time	Location	Contact
Calvary Book Club	3rd Monday	7:00 p.m.	Board Room	Gordon Kieft
Reed Circle	3rd Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Youth Lounge	Becky Worford
Bethell Circle	2nd Monday	10:00 a.m.	Youth Lounge	Norma Wick
Myers Circle	4th Monday	10:00 a.m.	Various Members' Homes	Cindy DeHate
Tuesday Prayer and Study Group	Tuesday	8 a.m. to 9 a.m.	Youth Lounge	Anne Scalfaro Judy Griswold
Tuesday Bible Study	Tuesday	9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.	Youth Lounge	Pastor Morgan Fletcher
Caritas Class	Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Room 146	Varies
Morning Blend	Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Room 111	Pastor Morgan and Pastor Anne
Koinonia Class	Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Room 119	John Kron & Libby Johnson
Explorers Class	Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Room 136	Larry Davila
Ribbons Class	Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Room 134	Charlotte Million
Voyagers Class	Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Room 154	Rick Chapman

Calvary Book Club

September 17: *Dark Money* by Jane Mayer

October 15: *America's First Daughter* by
Stephanie Dray

November 19: *Dark Waters* by Chris Goff

January 21: *Pachinko* by Min Jin Lee

February 18: *When Breath Becomes Air* by
Paul Kalanithi

March 18: *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho

April 15: *Before We Were Yours* by Lisa Wingate

May 20: *Small Great Things* by Jodi Picoult

A Sit-Down with Our Council Co-Moderators



Recently Pastor Alice got to sit down for an interview with Calvary's co-moderators of Council, **Larry Dávila and Sharon Murphy**. Larry is in his 3rd year as co-moderator, and Sharon is in her 2nd. Larry is one of the teachers for the Explorers Church School class, and is a retired teacher from Aurora Public Schools. He has also served as President of the Aurora Mental Health Center. Sharon has been a lawyer in estate planning for forty years, and she previously served as moderator in the late 1980s.

Describe your role as moderators:

S: It's part facilitator, part organizer, and part co-chairman of the board.

L: We are enabling the church to fulfill its mission, to care for each other, and trying to imitate what Jesus did.

What do you enjoy about being moderators?

S: Being on Council has given me an opportunity to see the broader picture of what's going on at Calvary and that's even more true as co-moderator.

L: My idea of leadership for a long time is that it's not from the top down, it's from the bottom up.

S: When you work on a project or a committee, you get to know people better and you begin to see what their skills and passions are. And it's rewarding that some are people that I didn't know before.

L: We all have our strengths and not-so-strong points. I'll be leading and Sharon will say, 'have you ever thought about it this way?' I like that we complement each other quite a bit.

What are some of the challenges of being moderators on Council?

S: One thing that was difficult was working on the budget reconciliation committee, the committee that addresses all the budget requests in light of information about

pledges and other income. There are things that we want to do, things we should be doing, that we can't afford to do.

L: Sometimes it is hard to find the balance between an efficient meeting and a team-building meeting. An efficient meeting works well to present the topics, questions to the point, decide, and move on. But that's not a team-building meeting with give and take.

How has your co-moderator role influenced your faith and relationship with God?

S: Being co-moderator has encouraged me to become more intentional about attending my church school class, and that has led me to ponder my relationship with God more than I probably did in some prior years. Concepts which are mentioned in Council meetings sometimes open my eyes to a different way of perceiving a situation, and that also helps me grow.

L: My relationship with God is a very private kind of thing. There may be a concern or a worry, but as I've gotten older, my faith has gotten deeper. My sense is that my God will see me through this.

What makes you excited about Calvary's future?

L: We're living in difficult times. Attendance has dwindled. All sociological studies show that it's just going to keep going down. We still have a faith to share, a mission to accomplish, and that's not going to disappear because a family or person left the church.

S: When things were in turmoil in the past, we realized how important it is to support one another and to support Calvary and to seek God's guidance. It is good to remember these learnings even when we are not in obvious turmoil. Also, the increasing emphasis that our mission is outside the church walls is something that we're growing into, and I think that will be important.

L: The inclusiveness that we have been stating and implementing, that it doesn't matter if you're black, white, gay, straight. No matter what, you are welcome. There is strength in that.

Council Meetings are take place the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Fireplace room. All are welcome to attend!



Are you craving a different worship experience than Sunday mornings? Or perhaps you can't make it on Sunday mornings because of other commitments? Join us for The Gathering, our monthly contemporary service that takes place on the fourth Saturday of the month at 5 p.m. in the Chapel (unless

otherwise noted). We sing praise music, reflect on Scripture, and worship together all in the intimate setting of the chapel.

Questions? Email Pastor Alice at ahornernelson@calvarydenver.org.



Upcoming Services

- Saturday, October 27th at 5 p.m.
Saturday, November 17th at 5 p.m. (Saturday before Thanksgiving)
- Saturday, December 22nd at 5 p.m.
- Saturday, January 26, 2019 at 5 p.m.

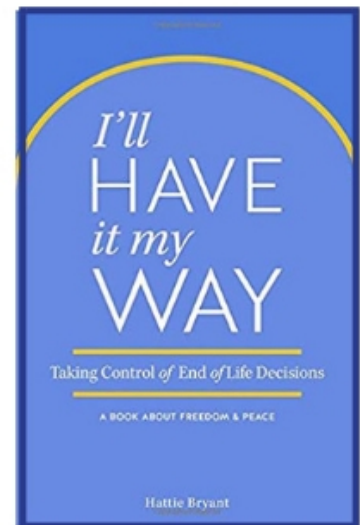
The Gift of Pre-Planning: The Wisdom and Courage of End-of-Life Decisions

A Workshop Led By Hattie Bryant, Author of *I'll Have It My Way: Taking Control of End-of-Life Decisions*

November 11th at 2 p.m., Fellowship Hall
Calvary Baptist Church (6500 E. Girard Ave)

- \$20 a person
- \$30 per couple

Register by Nov. 1st by emailing Mary Hulst (revmhulst@gmail.com) and get a \$5 discount. Cost includes 1 workbook. If you attend without RSVP, \$5 will be added to the cost.





Chili Cook-Off & Pumpkin Carving!

Sunday, October 28th
11:45 a.m.
Fellowship Hall

Bring your best chili recipe in a
crockpot to be judged!

Sign up to carve a pumpkin for
\$10 (includes pumpkin and
tools) with Angela
aleonard@calvarydenver.org



Angela Leonard, Children's Ministry Coordinator
& Becky Porter, Nursery Coordinator

We are so excited to share with you the plans for the 2018-2019 Sunday School Season! Children and Families that attend Calvary are welcomed with love. Calvary is a place of trust where families are able to let their children begin to explore their faith on their own amongst other children. This is the

start of their journey of faith!

Children birth through pre-kindergarten have their own curriculum with the leadership of Becky Porter (Nursery Coordinator). We have several qualified volunteers that are wonderful teachers for our young children. Children K-5th grade are led by Angela and a wonderful group of Sunday School Teachers. Our curriculum this year is based off of the Bible *Growing in God's Love, A Story Bible*, by Elizabeth F. Caldwell and Carol A. Wehrheim.

This Bible was chosen by Calvary Pastors due to its diversity and beautiful illustrations. We have planned curriculum based on Worship Sermons (thanks to Pastor Morgan). A focus in these Bibles is to SEE, HEAR, and ACT. Every Sunday we will focus on a different story, followed by crafts, games, snacks, music, and prayer that fits the curriculum.

Children's Sunday Schedule

Sunday School: 9AM-10AM
(Children K through 5th picked up)

Fellowship Time: 10AM-10:30AM

Worship: 10:30 AM
(K-5th sit in church with family.)

Worship bags available)

Birth through Pre-K are able to stay in the Children's Wing from 8:45 AM until the service is over

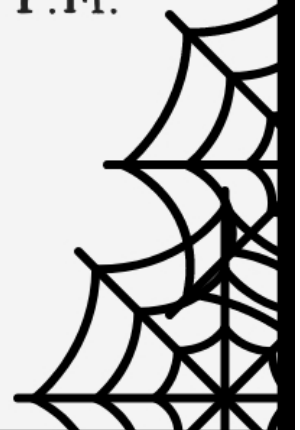
TRUNK OR TREAT!

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31ST 5:00-7:00 P.M.

CALVARY PARKING LOT

Sign Up to Decorate Your Car Trunk!
Candy & Small Prize Donations Needed
(No Nuts Please)

Contact Angela Leonard
aleonard@calvarydenver.org





One of the best ways to get involved with missions at Calvary is to join a Circle! Read more about our Circles below.

Reed Circle

Time: 3rd Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

Location: Youth Lounge

Leader: Becky Worford (beckygene@comcast.net)

Reed Circle is a part of American Baptist Women. The circle is named after missionaries David and Joyce Reed. Joyce and David serve as regional consultants alongside partner Baptist conventions in Iberoamerica and the Caribbean with a focus on spiritual renewal, spiritual formation and vocational calling. We have various interesting programs and we also have time for fellowship. We welcome all women of Calvary who would be interested in joining us.

Bethell Circle

Time: 2nd Monday of the month, 10:00 a.m.

Location: Youth Lounge

Leader: Norma Wick (normawick@comcast.net)

Bethell Circle helps support Lauran Bethell, who lives in the Netherlands, and is a Global Consultant for International Ministries (ABC-USA). Lauran is a global consultant for human trafficking. Her main goal is to encourage new grassroots projects addressing the exploitation and abuse of women and children, many of whom are victims of trafficking. Based in the Netherlands, she trav-

els extensively throughout Europe, Asia, Africa and the Americas to teach, train and consult. At each meeting we enjoy fellowship together and receive an offering to help support Lauran's ministries and items for American Baptist Women Ministries White Cross.

At our September meeting we will decide on a theme together and then plan our programs for the year around that theme. Last year our theme was "A Gift of Hope." All women are welcome to join us.

Myers Circle

Time: 4th Monday of the month, 10:00 a.m.

Location: Various Members' Homes

Leader: Cindy DeHate (303-368-8208)

Myers Circle is a group of women who help to support Terry and Tom Myers, missionaries working with the Baptist Union of Bulgaria. Tom works primarily in development and in job and small business creation, using these as a means to address the issues of poverty and trafficking. Terry's work includes managing a literacy program with Roma children, working with victims of human trafficking, coordinating the Union's partnership with International Ministries and providing support to short-term mission teams.

Myers Circle also supports White Cross which provides practical ways for individuals and churches to help the most vulnerable in our world. Focusing on the small, everyday things that people need, like diapers, baby gowns and blankets, bandages and vitamins, White Cross supplies hundreds of items to dozens of different ministries.

We enjoy fellowship and personal growth time at our meetings, in addition to supporting the Myers and White Cross. All women are welcome. Please contact Cindy DeHate for more information.

Upcoming Family Promise Hosting Week:
November 11th-17th, 2018

www.familypromiseofgreaterdenver.org





The youth ministry at Calvary Denver strives to create an environment for our junior and senior high students where they can build community together as they engage their local communities around Denver. As our youth learn the stories of our ancestors in faith, they are encouraged to reflect on how their own faith stories add to the Christian narrative. Our students are invited to ask tough questions as they begin to take ownership of their faith journey and grow into young adults capable of articulating their own beliefs.



Pastor Morgan C. Fletcher
mfletcher@calvarydenver.org

Special Fall Youth Activities

October 5th: 6:00-10:00pm – Corn Maze

November 10th: 9:00am-6:00pm – Day Retreat

December 8th: 10:00am-1:00pm – Spider Monkey & Ice Cream

First Sunday

Coco & Sara are youth leaders for Church School. Students will explore how Scripture applies to life today.



Second Sunday

Morgan & a rotation of youth leaders will join students for activities that connect us as a community and remind us that God is one of humor and play.



Third Sunday

Church School leaders Coco & Sara will lead students on an exploration of characters throughout Scripture and compare them to current leaders.



Fourth Sunday

Youth Group will consist of games and activities that help us learn about ourselves and each other, reminding us that community is key to our wellbeing.



Sundays
Youth Lounge
9:00-10:00am

5th Sundays
Doughnuts in Fellowship Hall



Calvary Volunteer Profile



One of the opportunities we offer at Calvary are GPS (God-People-Service) Small Groups. These are often semester-based classes, although some are offered year-round. You might think this is coordinated by pastoral staff, but it's organized by a volunteer, **Deanna Geldens**. Learn more about her in this issue's Volunteer Profile!

What motivated you to become Calvary's GPS/Small Group Coordinator and how and when did that come about?

I have been involved with Calvary's Scrapbooking GPS group since it started four or five years ago. That group was a non-threatening way for me to get involved at a time when my life was crazy. I went through at least one registration cycle wondering if Andrew needed any help with that process - but at the time, I didn't follow up. When I learned months later that Pastor Andrew was leaving Calvary, I immediately wondered about the small group ministry. During a service on Sunday morning a few weeks later, I really felt an urgent need to volunteer in some way, no matter how small. I thought Anne and Morgan must be feeling

overwhelmed and I thought that the GPS ministry was important to keep going. When I approached Anne after service and volunteered, the look on her face confirmed that God had been speaking. She told me that she and Morgan had just been wondering what to do about the GPS groups. I'm glad I didn't wait and I haven't regretted that decision.

What is the most rewarding thing about being the GPS Coordinator?

Since becoming the GPS coordinator, I have met a ton of people at Calvary. I would recognize their faces, but I'm finally getting to know some names.

What is the most difficult or stressful part of your volunteer position?

I worry about my group leaders. They make a commitment and get excited about doing a group. Sometimes we don't get enough registrations for that group to come to fruition. I don't want them to get discouraged. I wish that there were more people coming to Calvary, so everyone who volunteered to do a group would get the registrations they need.

What is your favorite thing about Calvary?

I love that Calvary is open to everyone. It's great having diversity in our community and I wish we had more. I grew up in a very judgmental denomination. I know I can invite anyone to Calvary. If they are so conservative that they feel uncomfortable here, well...I'm okay with that. I think Jesus would be too.

What do you do for your day job, and how does that help you in your coordinator volunteer position?

Right now, I run my own marketing communications business - a company of one. I really like the flexibility and I get to do a variety of projects for different companies and nonprofits. That flexibility allows

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New Member Profiles

Daniel and Estela Schweissing

Daniel is a native-Coloradan, born and raised in the Denver-area. Estela is from La Roman in the Dominican Republic.

Estela is a bilingual substitute teacher for Denver Public Schools. Daniel teaches English as a Second Language at the Community College of Aurora. Their interests include gardening, bicycling, hiking, snowshoeing, camping, and making trips back home to the Dominican Republic.

Daniel and Estela are former American Baptist missionaries, having previously served in the Bahamas (2000-10) and, subsequently, with Karen refugees in Aurora (2010-15).

Daniel and Estela were looking to reconnect with their American Baptist family. Calvary was one of their supporting churches during their years of missionary service, and they already have longstanding relationships with many of the folks here, so in many ways Calvary feels like home. Welcome home Daniel and Estela!



Janet Silva

Janet is from El Paso, TX. She loves hiking, exploring nature and helping others. One fun fact about her is that she went on vacation to Cancun in 2011 and ended up staying for almost 2 years. Janet decided to join Calvary because it is a welcoming small community of all ages that makes anyone feel welcome. "I joined because I feel I will be able to learn from others who are not only in my age group," she said. Welcome to the Calvary family, Janet!

Volunteer Profile, Continued

me to coordinate GPS groups. Everything I do for GPS - coordinating, communicating, organizing, editing/proofreading, promotion - I've done dozens of times for employers and clients. Because of my work experience, I wasn't intimidated by the idea of taking on this volunteer position. I just needed to step up when I felt called to do so.

How long have you lived in Denver?

I moved to Denver in 1993 to start a graduate program in communications at the University of Denver. I had planned to move back to Kansas City after graduation, but fell in love with Colorado and never looked back.

What are your hobbies and interests?

I've been making jewelry since first attending the YMCA camp in Estes Park with my church sometime in the 1980s. I also like scrapbooking, making jam ("jamming") and other crafts. My husband and I moved last year and created a hydroponic garden at our new house this year. I'd like to learn more about canning to preserve those veggies. We also love hiking and camping with our dogs, and visiting little towns in rural Colorado.



Calvary Baptist Church

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Denver, CO 80224

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In This Issue:

- Our Year's Theme of "Yes, And...." pg. 2
- Key Worship Dates, pg. 3
- Annual Christmas Concert featuring Calvary Choir and String Quartet, pg. 3
- Check Out Our Church School Classes and Year-Round Small Groups
- A Sit-Down with our Council Co-Moderators, pg. 5
- The Gift of Pre-Planning: The Wisdom and Courage of End-of-Life Decisions Workshop, pg. 6
- Join Us for The Gathering, our monthly contemporary service! pg. 6
- Chili Cook-Off and Pumpkin Carving! pg. 7
- Trunk Or Treat, pg. 7
- Want to Get Involved with Missions? Join A Circle! pg. 8
- Special Fall Youth Activities, pg. 9
- Calvary Volunteer Profile: Deanna Geldens, pg. 10
- New Member Profiles, pg. 11

Calvary Baptist Church
6500 E. Girard Ave
Denver, CO 80231

Church Office Hours
staffed by volunteers
Mon-Thurs, 9:00am - 4:30pm
(lunch hour, 12:30-1:30pm)

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