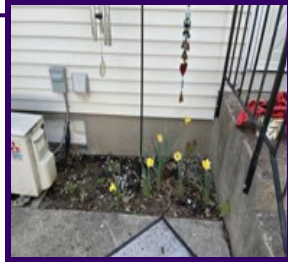


CALVARY
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM
REVEREND CHERYL KINCAID



My garden is blooming!!! Last summer I planted daffodils and tulip bulbs, along with some other plants that people in the church had given me, in a small plot of land in my back and front yard gardens. The next day, I was dismayed at all the small holes in my yard. It wasn't long before I realized that I was dealing with some thieving rodents of the trees: Squirrels!! For the next two months I battled with the squirrels. I tried sprays and garden poisons of all kinds but with all the holes in my yard, I was certain the squirrels had won. Apparently not! This spring the colorful heads of fragrant flowers have graced my garden.

In the cold winter months, I had admitted defeat but just under the surface of the earth, the seeds that I thought to be dormant were germinating. Growth was there, even though I did not see it. What a great metaphor for our faith!!

Remember how Jesus compared our faith to growing seeds.

He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all your seeds, when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and perch in its branches."

Matthew 13: 31-33 31

I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.

John 12:24

Out of small seeds come plants that can nourish us, give us shade, and show us great beauty. But unless that small seed gives up its hard outer shell, there can be no growth.

I really believe that God is in the process of growing and changing our church. Just as the seeds in the winter, we may not be able to immediately see the changes, but it doesn't mean that God is not at work. He may need to pierce our hard shells so new roots of devotion and love can grow. But make no mistake about it, He is at work. Let us yield ourselves to His gentle, molding hand.

"Being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." Philipians 1:6

Prayerful Practices for People of the Presence

Some years ago, I discovered a book by Phyllis Tickle called **The Divine Hours A Manual for Prayer**. Some of you may know I attended a (then) Episcopal seminary, which is where I was introduced to the idea of fixed hour prayer. As I continued my studies to be a Presbyterian pastor, I discovered that we Presbyterians also honor the tradition of praying at different times of the day – morning, noon, evening, end of the day - a resource found in the **Book of Common Worship**. (Still a good resource for ECO pastors.)

I used the manual for prayer created by Tickle's off and on for some time and found it a meaningful experience (although not always possible to do consistently due to my schedule). The one prayer time that really touched me was the end of the day prayers, in many traditions called compline.

One prayer particularly spoke to my heart. Tucked in after a prayer of confession and the Lord's Prayer, I found the following:

**Keep watch, dear Lord,
with those who work or watch
or weep this night,
and give your angels charge over those who sleep.
Tend the sick, Lord Christ;
give rest to the weary,
bless the dying,
soothe the suffering,
pity the afflicted,
shield the joyous;
and all for your love's sake.
Amen.**

Interestingly, I am now reading a book with a friend, based on this prayer. It is called **Prayers in the Night** by Tish Harrison Warren. We are moving through it slowly but anticipate some new insights as I ponder this prayer more deeply.

I share this prayer with you because it seems to encompass so many who may be entering the night with all kinds of needs. We can pray for those we know who are dealing with situations expressed so poignantly in this prayer. However we pray, we can trust God hears our hearts.

Rev. Donna Yanosy
Parish Associate

Mission Focus for May

Noonans with Frontier



PRAYER CHANGES THINGS

2023 Prayer Requests:

- Bible studies with locals: increase hunger for God & fellowship
- Noonan's business: good marketing strategies & increase in business
 - Job for daughter, Catherine, as software engineer
- Safe travel to the U.S. from late April through May for Catherine's college graduation & visiting with family & travel home
- More Christian workers for their needy city, including English teachers for the business
 - On-going spiritual impact of a Christian-run ship that was visiting

Worship Committee

The Worship Committee would like to thank all the volunteers that helped our Calvary Church family celebrate the Lenten and Easter season.

The five Wednesday evenings of March we started our celebration of Lent with a soup & salad supper. Thank you to those volunteers who prepared the soups & salads (Sue Harger, Sue & Mark Paradise, Cindy & George Bostick, Fred & Cyrilla Shaw, Bob & Lori Bourret, and Pastor Cheryl and I also enjoyed preparing soup & salad). We were blessed to have the largest attendance ever averaging 17+. What a blessing for the special time of fellowship with each other.

Thank you also to Will Gallacher, Len Kane, Larry Lipke and Tom Massetti for their assistance on Maundy Thursday Stripping of the Church by extinguishing all candles and removing all linens and symbols of worship from the worship space as Evans Farrell extinguished the sanctuary lights.

It was a blessing for me to work with Donna Hess and Donna Yanosy as we set up the Good Friday Prayer Station.

This was a meaningful Worship Journey for the community visitors and church members who attended.

A loving thank you to Robert and Abby Thoelen (brother & sister) who volunteered to distribute the palms for our Palm Sunday service

Thank you also to the members of our congregation who purchased Easter plants in Memory Of or Honor Of loved ones to display in the sanctuary on Easter. Many of those plants were requested to be delivered to our shut-ins by the Deacons—thank you.

Worship Committee Members: Lori Bourret, Evans Farrell, Donna Hess, Donna Yanosy, and chair, Janice Singer.



Music News

The Choir will sing on May 7, May 28, and for the last time this season on June 4.

There will be a rehearsal on May 21 at 11:30.

Lori Bourret



Dinner for 8 Picnic

Saturday June 10 at 4 PM

Yanosy home

3 Hemlock Ct

Broad Brook, CT

*Anyone who has attended any of the dinners is invited to the picnic!
(In case of inclement weather, the event will be held in the church gym!)*

Keep watch for more information!



Hugs 'n Hope

Support & Fellowship Group for Women who are
Widowed Divorced or Single

Girls just want to have fun, so come join us for a girl's night out for dinner at
99 Restaurant & Pub in Enfield.

When: Friday, May 19, 2023

Time: 5:30 PM

Meet at restaurant.

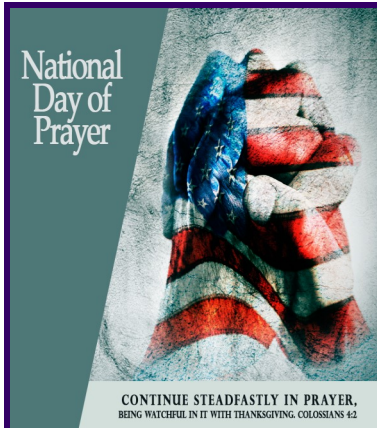
Contact Janice Singer if you have questions (860) 763-2936.



MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Jay Stradinger
- 4 Beth Gillette
- Kris Harger
- 9 Ruth DeBottis
- 15 Bob Clark
- andra Swab
- 20 Chris Ruoss
- 27 Dick Sterling
- 28 Jenn Clark

There are no May Anniversaries



NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

WHEN: Thursday - May 4, 2023

Time: 6:30PM

Where: Enfield Town Green



VENDOR & CRAFT FAIR

Where: Here at Calvary

When: Saturday - May 13, 2023

Time: 9:00 AM—3:00 PM

***Lunch Available * Kids Activities *Great Mother's Day Gift For
more information, Please call Church Office @ 860-745-5211**

Parking Lot



You may be wondering, what is the plan for the parking lot? As you know, we repaired and seal coated the visitor parking lot, the kitchen access road, and 1/3 of the main parking lot last year before the weather turned cold. Now that spring is here and the weather is warming up, we plan to resume the repair process soon.

We purchased the machinery and sufficient rubber to repair the major cracks last year. Depending on our actual start date and the frequency of inclement weather, it may be June or July before we finish that part of the process.

To complete the repairs, we will then need to hire our contractor to do the seal coating and line striping. The estimated cost last year was \$10,000. Continuing inflation of material costs may drive that number higher. Currently, we have \$1753 in the Parking Lot Fund. Please prayerfully consider contributing to the fund if you are able. We will move the repairs forward as far as we can with available funding.

Respectfully,
The Building and Grounds Team

GRIEF SHARE NEWS

This Sunday, April 30, 2023, will be the last Grief Share meeting and will Resume at a later date.

*Have you or someone you know lost a loved one?
No one should have to bear this alone!
Here at Calvary Presbyterian Church, there is a
Support Meeting every Saturday from 10:30 am—12 pm in Room UL 8.
This support Group meets for 13 weeks.
For more information, you may call the church office at:
860-745-5211
Or
see Linley Ruoss*

CALVARY CHURCH SERVICE AND BIBLE STUDIES**Sunday Church Service**

10:00 AM

Weekly Adult Sunday School & Bible Studies

The book study is called "Stay Salt" by Rebecca Manley Pippert

9:00 AM in UL8

Leaders: Janice Singer & Rene Cardona

Weekly "STAY SALT" ZOOM BIBLE STUDY**Ladies Monday Night Zoom Bible Study 7 PM****Thursday Morning Zoom Mixed Group 10:30 AM**

Sunday **Afternoon** Small Group Adult Bible Study**"Hinds' Feet On High Places"****by Hannah Hurnard**

3:30 PM

Meeting in Lounge (room behind Sanctuary)

Leader: Kathie Whitson

Kid's and Teen ConnectionMeets **after Church** in Lower Level

See Donna Yanosy for more information

Last day of Kids & Teen Connection is May 21, 2023 until Fall.

Weekly Prayer Meetings

9:00 AM Tuesday & Thursday - Zoom

7:00 PM Wednesday Evening in UL8