

The Clarion
July
2021

Calvary Presbyterian Church

A community worshipping, growing, and service together




Upcoming Events

In-Person Worship
10:30am at the Rose Garden

Vacation Bible School
July 12-16th
12-1:30 pm on Zoom

Birthdays & Anniversaries



Janet Douglas	7/2
Kristen Dubé	7/2
Erin O'Malley	7/6
Nana Ananeh-Firempong	7/8
Barbara England	7/17
Alexis Garcia	7/18
♥ Walter & May Smith	7/21
Margaret von Bibra	7/25
Dawn Freeman	7/25
Carol Hyland	7/25
Linda Kopperud	7/26



CALVARY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Welcomes Everyone, Deepens Faith, Sends All... to love and serve as Jesus

Dear Friends,

On June 15th, a day that for many of us as Californians, we have been eagerly awaiting. Like we anticipated, restrictions were lifted throughout the state. So how does this affect Calvary?

Effective immediately, you no longer need to register for worship, and you do not need to practice social distancing (hello, Passing the Peace and warm hugs!). We will continue to worship outdoors for the time-being and having our temperatures checked upon arriving at the Rose Garden entrance.

Since we are continuing to worship outside, masks for those who are vaccinated is still strongly encouraged but not required. Those who are not fully vaccinated must still wear masks.

On Sunday, Session gathered and voted on what to do concerning other events at Calvary. It was unanimously passed that all Calvary small groups (Choir, Bible Studies, fellowship groups, committees, etc.) can call the Main Office and schedule their regular gathering times at the church beginning July 1st.

Session decided that in order to participate in any of the various small groups, attendees must present a copy of their vaccination card to show that they have been fully immunized. Each small group will have a self-appointed contact person who will be collecting copies of vaccination cards. Masks will still be required indoors, and all groups will be encouraged to vacate their indoor room every thirty minutes to allow the air to recirculate before once again entering the room.

We look forward to seeing everyone!

The Session of Calvary Presbyterian Church

Presbyterian Corner Our faith, our practice, and our roots.



Must we be baptized in order to be saved?

Christians baptism is ordinarily a part of Christian salvation. Baptism is a sign of salvation, of the incorporation of believers into Jesus Christ through faith. This union with Christ by faith is testified to by our baptism, which points to the spiritual reality of our being identified with Jesus Christ (Rom. 6:1-4). The rite of baptism is the important outward expression of this inward reality.

There are two extremes to avoid in answering whether or not we must be baptized in order to be saved. One is thinking that by participating in a ceremony of baptism, we are automatically guaranteed to be saved (or to experience “regeneration”). This is the view of Roman Catholics, Orthodox, and some Lutherans and Anglicans. The emphasis is on the rite administered by the church rather than on the characteristic of faith in those who are baptized.

The other extreme is the view that baptism is a dispensable act that has no role to play in salvation. Here, one does not need to be committed to the church or its sacraments. Salvation is seen as a wholly private activity. The life of faith may be lived apart from the community of faith in the church.

A Presbyterian perspective stresses, the need for baptism as a key part of salvation and the life of faith, but stresses the need for personal faith as the crucial ingredient for the sacrament of baptism to have effect. Participating in the sacrament alone is no guarantee of salvation. We are saved solely by our personal faith in Jesus Christ (Rom. 1:16; 1 Pet. 1:9). Yet true faith in Christ propels us into the church to seek baptism as an outward expression of this genuine faith. Baptism is a sign for the world to see, indicating we belong to Christ, are identified with him, and are committed to live as Christ’s followers and disciples. It is God’s sign to us of God’s electing love, which has brought us to faith. In baptism we acknowledge our election and commit ourselves to repentances and living lives of faith and obedience. So baptism is vital part of our salvation experience. It is the crucial expression of our response to God’s loving grace. It set us on a life of discipleship as we are “baptized into one body” in the “one Spirit” (1cor. 12:13) as we move towards the “unity of the faith” (Eph. 4:13).

-from Donald K. McKim, Presbyterian Questions, Presbyterian Answers

If They're Really Hungry...

By: Reece Lemmon



(Photo:tracewellness.com)

Have you ever been given something that you simply did not want or have any use for? Or even worse, you've been given something that was used, worn out or broken. Oftentimes, in such a situation, we sense an expectation from the giver that we should be grateful. Yet, we might find it hard to ignore the feeling that the gift was given with very little thought or regard for us. Comedian Mitch Hedberg used to say that when someone on the street would hand him a flyer, he felt that they were really saying, "Here, you throw this away." Sadly, this happens all the time when donations are given for those in need. It feels like the giver is saying, "here, you throw this away."

Last week someone left several grocery bags on my front porch as donations for our Community Sharing Table. I was excited to begin unpacking the bags and restocking the table. Unfortunately, the first bag I opened was filled with rancid potatoes, which if eaten, could potentially kill someone. Among the remaining bags were half used items, Mother's Day cards and expired canned goods. I was offended. It felt like someone dropped off their trash for me to throw away.

As I reflected I wondered how I might be able to reframe the experience and turn it into a positive learning opportunity. I understand that many times it is difficult for people to throw things away that they think someone else might be able to use. Over the years many people who have donated questionable items have expressed the idea that if someone is really hungry or really in need, they should be happy for whatever they receive. I wondered how I could help someone rethink this approach to giving, without simply expressing my own frustrations.

First as Christians, it is important to remember that Jesus did not simply command his disciples to give, he commanded them to be generous. Still, what seems generous to one, might not seem generous to another. Thankfully Jesus simplifies any confusing internal deliberations we might have when deciding how to give generously. He reminded us to love our neighbor, as we love ourselves. In the context of giving, we can ask ourselves if we would feel loved if given the kind of gift we are giving. In this way we can better show respect, grace and most importantly, love for our neighbors.

Keep Shining,
Reece
Director of Spiritual Formation and Service

School Supply Collection

For Monte Vista Street Elementary School

Monte Vista Street
Elementary School
basic supplies

- Pencils
- Pens: Blue, Black, Red
- Erasers
- Spiral notebooks
- colored pencils
- pencil case
- highlighters

NO crayons Please

We have so many left
over from last year!!!

- chap stick
- pencil sharpener
- facial tissues (individual
packs)
- child safe scissors

AND Backpacks!

Please NO sharpies



We do not know what school will 'look like' for fall 2021. Many things are up in the air. But we would like to support students whose families may have been impacted by the Corona Virus Pandemic.

Please bring items to church throughout the summer or use this link to send directly from Amazon to Liz's home:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1AOQ4V0F2NEZW?ref=wl_fv_le

Teach What Is Good

By Ashley Lynn Hengst

My grandmother has four grandchildren, of which I am the oldest. Dulce Maria likes dancing to Merengue in the kitchen and wears her beautiful black hair like a crown. She also drinks espresso (Café Cubano) at night to go to sleep. My grandmother came to this country when she was in her early 20s. She came with my dad, her sister and her sister's three children. They were a party of 5. She and her sister left their men in Cuba and gave up everything for a life in a different country. The 5 of them traveled to Nicaragua before coming up through Mexico into the United States. This was in the early 70s. Immigration was different in the 1970s.

When I was growing up, she often took care of us on the weekends. Every time she saw me, she told me the story about the day I was born. My dad put me in her arms, and she immediately claimed me as her own. She called me her "*Princesa.*" I am 33 and she still calls me her *princesa*. My grandmother made us *ropa vieja* and brought us to her friend's backyard parties and took us on fishing trips with her husband. Eugenio made his living by catching yellowtail in his boat off the Florida Keys. Every few months he would kindly take a weekend off work to bring the three of us on his boat for a fishing adventure. His face was calloused but his gaze, warm. He often woke up early and began catching fish before the sun kissed our cheeks to awaken us. She never made him feel bad for working so hard and often gave him the space to sit outside in the evenings when he was home to drink cold lagers and read his 99 cent Spanish cowboy novellas.

My grandmother taught me, from a very early age, how to cultivate joy. I can't imagine the courage it took to leave everything she knew for a life in a completely different world. Never once did I hear her complain about life in the U.S. or hear regrets that she left Cuba. She never had a lot of money, making her way through life as a beautician. Nothing – not heart break, nor politics, nor family drama could keep her from dancing and singing and forming bonds that lasted a lifetime.

In Titus chapter 2, Paul encourages older women "teach what is good" to the younger women in their community. My grandmother did just that. She taught me to value my brownness and to look upon my Cuban heritage with pride. She often encouraged me to go my own way and to explore the world instead of being afraid of it. She also taught me the importance of community. Whenever I fret about how much it costs to have children, she reminds me that I don't need money, I need community. Even though I can barely speak Spanish she always treats me like I can understand her, like I am kindred spirit on the same journey she is on.



In these summer months, as the world opens back up again, make time to talk with and nourish the younger people around. Whether they are 9 or 49, affirm the good you see in them. Teach them what is good by modeling for them a life full of joy. These days I only get to talk to my grandmother on FaceTime and it's often very hard for her to understand what's going on. She is well into Alzheimer's. But when she catches a glimpse that it's me, even on Zoom, her eyes light up and her smile widens and she lets out "Ah, mi princessa" and I remember all over again what it felt like to be in her arms.

Ashley's Book Club

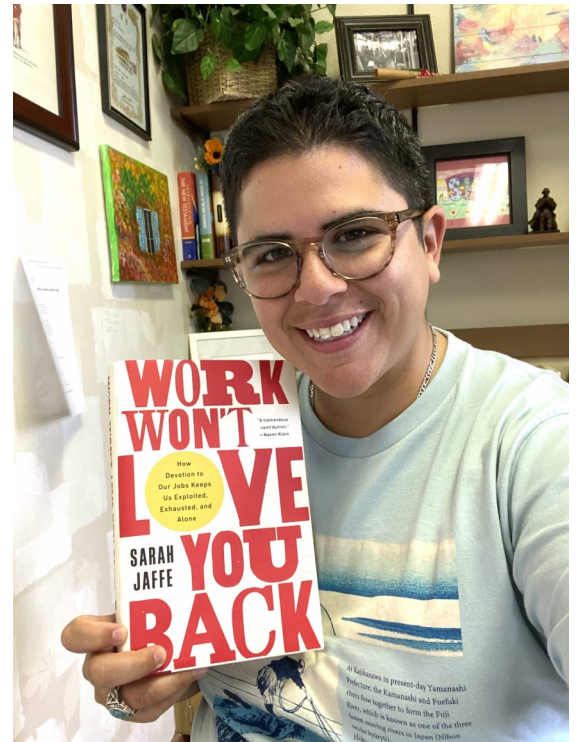
Work Won't Love You Back

By Sarah Jaffe

The title says it all: "Work Won't Love You Back." It's a hard reality but a truth that many of us experience.

Have you ever heard of someone say "love what you do and you'll never work a day in your life"? In her book, Jaffe deconstructs the concept of a "labor of love." She talks about how employers use the ideology of "love what you do" to exploit workers who are never truly off the clock. For anyone experiencing burn out or exhaustion at work or anyone who is questioning whether work is benefiting your health and well-being, this book will be especially helpful for you. Even if you are retired, this book can help you mentor younger adults and help guide them towards healthy decisions about what they should tolerate from their jobs. If we are honest, we are answering work texts and emails at home, on dates, at family gatherings. We spend more time being consumed by what we do, especially if we are teachers, nurses, or work retail or for non-profits. Many of us have been sold the notion that freedom comes from working harder, not having a life separate from work. But true freedom comes from when we actually have personal lives to enjoy and when we can freely experience the fruit of our labor.

Jaffe helps us to see that work won't love us back by walking us through various cultural shifts in history. In the 1950s and 60s, Jaffe explains, our American culture held an "industrial work ethic" where the man of the house *was* the organization by which a family was provided for and held together. Therefore, everything was about supporting the husband and making his life easy so he could go out and make a living. This paradigm often devalued the work women did at home housekeeping and raising



children. What men did in the office deserved a pay check. Homemaking and raising children should be done for the love of it – not for monetary compensation. This kind of thinking affects how we compensate nanny’s and teachers and those who do traditionally “feminine” work. These days, our culture has moved away from an industrial work ethic to a “labor of love work ethic” where we are often expected to forfeit time off with our friends and families to do a job we are encouraged to love. Globalization, or the move of industrial work outside of the US meant that jobs today require more headspace, making us attached to our email and phones. She even debunks the myth of the “work/life balance,” by showing us how often our success at work is threatened by our need for personal and social lives. Jaffe believes *“that it is all too often in stories of women trying to find time outside of the office to spend with their families. The family, in other words, is presented as being in competition with the demands of capitalism.”* (pg. 26).

The demands of capitalism are real. We should take time to reflect upon our lives to discern how we are responding to the work ethic of our culture. Psalm 90:12 says, “So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.” This book will help you apply your heart to wisdom as you consider your relationship to work. I highly recommend it.



Join us this summer for our free Vacation Bible School on the powerful story of Esther. VBS is open to anyone in grades k-5th grade and each participant will receive a VBS packet with snacks, arts and crafts and a t-shirt.

VBS will take place on Zoom from 12-1:30 pm during July 12-16th and will be donation based. Please reach out to Ashley if you have any questions.

pastorhengst@gmail.com

You can register today at: <https://vbspro.events/p/events/esthervbs>



Angel INTERFAITH NETWORK News

 JULY 2021 

Summer! There's nothing like enjoying the beautiful Sunlight! We hope your Summer is off to a wonderful start as our communities continue moving forward towards a sense of normalcy. Despite these dog days of Summer, our mission continues and it is your continued support and generous donations of funds and goods that make our work feel like a cool breeze.

Network Partners

Thank you **First Presbyterian Church Santa Monica!** They donated hygiene kits for the LAC+USC emergency ward and the homeless patients we serve. We are truly grateful for their generous contributions.



To our Anonymous Donor, Thank you—you know who you are and we appreciate you for blessing us and kicking off our new fiscal year like this! We received your \$2,000 donation and we will make sure that it is used for food cards exactly as you requested.

Those We Serve:

Twelve year old **Irene** arrived at the LAC+USC in need of medical attention after having been held hostage for ransom in Mexico with her Mom and 8 year old brother. They arrived with only the clothes on their backs. Through St. Camillus Spiritual Care Department, Chaplain Arely immediately contacted Angel Interfaith Network and requested clothing, hygiene kits and shoes for the family. Thanks to your support, we were able to help meet the immediate needs of this family. The family was very appreciative and is recovering from their trauma.

Francisco a, 71-year-old man battling Cancer and sole support of his wife , had been unable to go out and sell his sweets and candies in the streets causing him to not have enough money to cover his rent. Thanks to his social worker, she reached out to Angel Interfaith and requested rental assistance and food gift cards to help the couple. Angel Interfaith Network was able to help fill these needs, thanks to our team effort.

Urgent Needs: Food Gift Cards and Financial Support

We are in need of food gift cards and financial support as the problem of food and housing insecurity continues. Your donation and assistance will ensure that a family doesn't have to worry about their next meal or stress about past due rent knowing that rental assistance or food cards have been provided.

Do you know of any funding opportunities available for general operations? Angel Interfaith is in need of information to locate a foundation where AIN can apply for a financial grant assistance, your suggestions can be emailed to info@stcamillus.org



Become a Sustaining Angel: <http://angelinterfaith.net/sustainers.html>

Sustaining Angels are donors who donate weekly, monthly, or annually, with automatic payments from their credit cards

Follow us on Social Media:  

For further information about Angel Interfaith Network, contact: office@angelinterfaith.net



THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Every Sunday this summer



June Financials

June Budgeted Income \$16,066.67
June Actual Income \$9,385.00
June Budgeted Expense \$37,293.15
June Actual Expense \$41,492.51
June Food Bank Expenses: \$137.33

*These amounts reflect the operating budget only. Income numbers are purely from offerings. Investment and property numbers are not included. We received a first round of the Payroll Protection loan in May 2020 and received a second round in February 2021. We have submitted the paperwork to have the first round loan forgiven and are awaiting notice. We are also looking into other credits from the government to help with payroll costs.

Join your church
family online each
Sunday at 10:30 am here:

<http://calvarypres.online.church/>

To see more of Rev. Millason Dailey's
sermons check out on
our [Messages page](#).

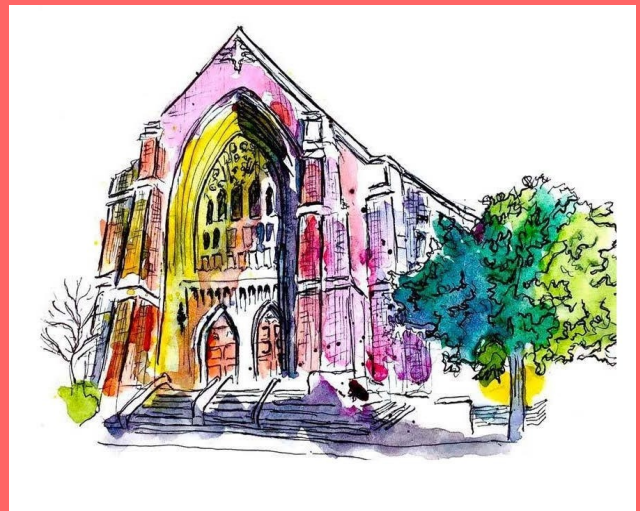
You can also subscribe to our
[YouTube page](#) for all of the latest
from our church.

Calvary Presbyterian
Church

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Praise The LORD with us!

Join us for In-Person Worship
Sunday 10:30 am
at the Rose Garden