

Calvary Chronicle



PASTOR KELLY'S PONDERINGS

Broken Windows

The book of Judges is named after an interesting collection of individuals who led Israel after Joshua's death until the rise of the monarchy under Samuel (up to about 1050 b.c.). In this time of national decline, despite their promise to keep the covenant (Josh. 24:16-18) the people turned from the Lord and began to worship other gods. There are 7 "cycles" in the book of Judges.

"Everyone did what was right in his own eyes" (17:6; 21:25). Seems to be the theme verse of a pattern that repeats throughout the book:

- 1) the people abandoned the Lord;
- 2) God punished them by raising up a foreign power to oppress them;
- 3) the people cried out to God for deliverance; and
- 4) God raised up a deliverer, or judge, for them.

There is a theory called "Broken Windows" that I first read about in a book called *The Tipping Point*. It is a theory specifically about the decline into lawlessness of communities when the "little things" aren't fixed. A Broken Window, leads to more vandalism, which leads to more crime, which leads to people fleeing and a whole area falling into despair.

I believe that the theory of "Broken Windows" can be seen in the Israelites cycles in the book of Judges. The people begin with the small sins, the little white lies, and when nothing is done, their Spiritual life falls in the end.

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"At The Crossroads"

Our Lenten series concludes this Wednesday evening at 7:00p.m. The last Soup Suppers begins at 5:45p.m.

Holy Week Worship

Palm Sunday - April 9th

Maundy Thursday - 13th
with Holy Communion

Good Friday Tenebrae – 14th
Candlelight Service

All evening services are at 7:00pm.

Resurrection Celebration

Please join us for a special time of worship on Easter Sunday at 9:00am.

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You may be able to see the concept of Broken Windows in your child's room! Clothes not put away leads to a messier and messier room, until you either shut the door or put down your foot. It also applies in our own lives as well! There was no bad effect from missing a day of exercise, or that extra piece of cake, until sometime later we can't make it up the stairs and our clothes don't fit.

"Broken Windows" can happen in our Church

The "Broken Windows" syndrome happens in our church, too. Letting the small things slip by with no sense of ownership creates an atmosphere that encourages people into believing that those small infractions aren't a big deal. Pretty soon, bigger infractions are committed and these too are not considered to be a big deal. "Broken Windows" suggests that stopping the little things will prevent the escalation, the acceptance of bigger and bigger infractions.

"Infractions" such as arriving late, neglecting clutter and tolerating sloppiness-signals a lack of respect for the Gospel and the very people we are serving. Our church and our campus are small, self-contained entities compared to a city, BUT we can avoid broken windows by paying attention—and understanding the subtle messages that we communicate to our guests and the atmosphere we are creating on Sunday mornings.

So let's learn from the lessons of "Broken Windows." Let's start sweating the small stuff and start fixing windows, together.

What broken windows do YOU know about?

What can YOU do to fix them?

Sunday Morning Worship Schedule

1st & 2nd Sundays are Traditional Worship – Organ Led

3rd & 4th Sundays are Praise Services – Band Led

Communion is celebrated on the 1st and 3rd Sundays

**Sunday Morning Bible Class
and Sunday School are at 10:15**

2nd Sunday of the Month is the Fellowship Brunch after the worship service. No Bible class on 2nd Sundays.



Calvary Prayer Quilt Ministry



The Prayer Quilt Ministry is still alive and well. We have 13 regular attending members, but not always at the same time. We meet every Wednesday, 9-12 Noon with various breaks for the holidays; however, we choose to continue meeting during the summer. Such fun to sew and solve the world's problems and then leave it at the door on our way out.

Out of the 13 members, 4 of our members attend churches other than Calvary. We have met them through other quilting circles that we attend and they wanted to join our Christian group of quilters and share the love of Jesus through their quilt making.

All quilts requested are free of charge and can be requested and sent to anyone. The only charge is a \$10.00 fee for mailing them.

Just to let you know, we keep a supply of quilts on hand for military, men, women, kids, 5-18 and babies. Also, I have just finished a "special" Alzheimer's quilt. Please ask for this one specifically as "Alzheimer's quilt. It is different than the others.

Anyone can join this group. All are welcome. We will teach you to quilt, however, there are many other jobs available to do for us if you do not wish to actually quilt. You just may get the "quilting bug".

"Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted." John 6:12

Blessings, Barbara Adams,
Facilitator of Prayer Quilt Ministry

EASTER LILY DONATIONS



There is a tradition which states that the Easter lily originated in the Garden of Eden by the teardrops of Eve that she spread while leaving the Garden of Eden. They were teardrops of repentance.

For the Christian, the Easter lily is representative of Christ's resurrection, it speaks of purity and innocence, being untainted by the world. The Easter lily also represents a new season, a new birth, such as when one comes to Christ.

If you would like to donate one or more Easter lily plants for Easter Sunday, please pick up a pink slip at the table in the narthex. You can place your slip and your check into the offering plate or bring to the church office. The cost is \$10.



SECRET SISTER'S LUNCH

Sunday, April 30th at 11 A.M. in the Parish Hall
This will be the time to “reveal” yourselves.
If you have questions, contact Cindy Schultz

LWML NEWS

Please jot these dates down in your calendar:

1 April 2017, 9:30am LWML meeting re Spring Tea

6 May 2017, 11:00am and 1:00pm – Spring Tea for Wittenberg

22-25 June 2017 – LWML Convention – Albuquerque, New Mexico

It's not too late to register! Information is in the Winter 2016 Quarterly or online at lwml.org.

25-27 August, 2017 – CNH Retreat – Silver Spurs Christian Retreat Center, information is online at lwmlcnh.org

27-29 April, 2018 - LWML CNH Convention – Our zone has been assigned the responsibility of the Altar/Communion at the Friday worship service. I will share details as I get them from our President, Jill Ellwanger. There are other volunteer opportunities – Registration, Hostess, Displays, Convention Packets, Banquet/Table Centerpieces. If you are interested, please email Jill (jille9@hotmail.com) or let me know, Barbara A. (greenododge@comcast.net) and it will be shared with the VP of Convention Planning.

The LWML CNH Nominating Committee is seeking individuals
who are interested in serving in the following offices:

President
VP of Convention Planning
VP Servant Resources
Secretary
Financial Secretary

The term of office is April 2018 to April 2022. Please email Jill the name and contact information of any individuals you would recommend. The information will be passed on to the Nominating Committee.

The suggested deadline is June 30.

Mission Grants for the Biennium 2016-2018 : Grants 1-6 have been paid! Keep up the good work.

All ladies of Calvary Lutheran Church are also members of LWML. We can use your help. Join us for helping with the Wittenberg Tea and any of the other Conventions or Retreat offered above. Meet some ladies that you haven't really gotten to know very well. We have fun in Christ.

Barbara Adams, Facilitator or LWML (510-278-7045)

Why your pastor won't let you sing "amazing grace" every Sunday and other disconcerting tales of woe

JANUARY 15, 2014 / ADRIANE HEINS *Former Lutheran Witness Editor* <https://letitstet.com/>

You pastors put up with a lot. We beat you up. We tear you down. We dump stuff on your plate. We cry to you. We babble. We tell you why you're wrong. We tell you why we're right. We dissect your sermons. We fall asleep during your sermons. We think you only work an hour every week. Yeah. We're pretty sure we could do your jobs a whooooooole lot better. Whoops. Forgot one. We also think your hymn choices are pretty ridiculous. That's because each of us, at best, has about four hymns that we really like. And those are basically the only four we ever want to sing. I know my four. And if we never sang another hymn other than those, I'd easily live the rest of my life in peace and contentment.

But my pastors don't let me wallow in what I like. That's not their job. Mostly their job is to tell me things I *don't* like: that I don't love my neighbor like I'm supposed to, that I despise God's Word, that I like setting up false gods because they seem to have more shine and more bling, that I don't believe my sins have consequences. It's also why they choose hymns that aren't on my Fab Four list. They choose hymns that I haven't sung before, that are hard for me to wrap my vocal chords around, that cause me to have to work at singing them.

They do that because the hymns are worth it, because they teach the faith in ways I haven't understood before, because those hymns confess what I believe even if I've never articulated it that way until now. And that's when their job of telling me what I *don't* like becomes exactly what faith in Christ *does* like, what it reaches out and grabs hold of with its sticky little hands: By grace I'm saved, grace free and boundless; My soul, believe and doubt it not. Why stagger at this word of promise? Has Scripture ever falsehood taught? No! Then this word must true remain: By grace you too will life obtain. (LSB 566:1)

God said to His beloved Son: "It's time to have compassion. Then go, bright jewel of My crown, And bring to all salvation. From sin and sorrow set them free; Slay bitter death for them that they May live with You forever." (LSB 556:5)

Christians, to the Paschal Victim Offer your thankful praises! The Lamb the sheep has ransomed: Christ, who only is sinless, Reconciling sinners to the Father. Death and life have contended In that combat stupendous: The Prince of life, who died, Reigns immortal. (LSB 461)

What punishment so strange is suffered yonder! The Shepherd dies for sheep that loved to wander; The Master pays the debt His servants owe Him, Who would not know Him. (LSB 439:3).

See? Four new awesome hymns. Right there. Aw, man. Now I'm already up to eight. My pastors could just let me sing the same four hymns every Sunday. But that would be the same as my husband telling me to eat Skittles every night for dinner. He could do that, but he knows there's more food out there and food that's good for me too, that there's steak and broccoli and milk and that each one of them is good for my health in a different way.

Pastors, I'm sorry we give you grief. I'm sorry we snark about your sermons and dump all the sin of our lives on your doorsteps. And I'm sorry that we give you a rough time when you introduce a new hymn simply because it's not something we're familiar with. Because while I love Skittles, I'm also a new, big fan of broccoli. And until now, I never even realized it.

School Facilities Leasing Committee

We are putting together a committee for the purpose of making recommendations to the congregation regarding the leasing of the school facilities.

If you are interested in serving on this committee, please sign up at the table in the Narthex - **A S A P**

Thank you.

Board of Governance Nominees

Please submit names for the BOG, even your own, as we will need to replace outgoing members Barbara Adams, Carole Adams and Rick English. Please give the names to Pastor. There will be a Voter's Meeting in August to vote on this.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

2nd Marlene Mueller

7th Al Naiman

9th Norma Blank

19 Daisy Smith



6th Steve & Anne Ellis

13th Steven & Karla Regnier

School Closing Update

On March 26th, the Congregation met and voted to approve the recommendation of the Board of Governance, the Pastor, and the Superintendent to close Calvary Christian School, formerly Calvary Lutheran School, at the end of the 2016-17 School year.

We would like to express our thanks to the Parents Group from the school who put together a proposal to try and save the school! They made a tremendous effort! They presented an option that the congregation appreciated, but did not adopt.

Let us join in thanking God for the many lives that have been impacted by Calvary School in the past 67 years! And let us also take comfort in the old adage, God never closes a door, without opening a window. Remember that God is ALWAYS in control.

