

Passion for Jesus • Community of Joy • Hope for the World

Calvary Connection



Advent is the opening season of the new Church Year in which we anticipate with joy and expectation the birth of Jesus, who was fully human and fully God. With the birth of Jesus, humanity entered into a new chapter, for now, we could know God as one of us and could gain a direct line to God the Father—the crooked was made straight and the rough places plain. Advent, therefore, is a season of quiet anticipation and reflection.

Our Advent worship services reflect this dual nature of the season. The alleluias continue but the doxology at the time of the offertory is deleted and the service music is quieter. The flower vases remain, but adorned with evergreens. The liturgical color is blue, the color of repentance or the expectant Virgin Mary.

The challenge for Christians during Advent is the commercially pumped culture around us. Christmas is not about consumption but redemption. Christmas is a wonderful time to give gifts, but ultimately it is about the Gift. Maintaining a healthy perspective during the “Holiday” rush is difficult.

If you did not complete your shopping already, get it done as soon as possible so that you will be free to spend the week just before Christmas in joyful expectation of Jesus being born anew in your life.

Below is a schedule of special services marking our Advent and Christmas celebrations.

Blessings upon all of you as we begin contemplating once again the mighty acts of God, who loves us so much that He sent His only Son to deliver us from sin and death and bring us life in its fullness!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18. Advent Lessons and Carols. 5 pm in the Historic Church. Soup supper following.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17. Calvary will again this year join in the 11 am parade in Golden and will be presenting a **Live Nativity** complete with a manger in a wagon and live animals. Those wishing to walk in the parade need to be at the staging area on 10th St. at 10:30. All are welcome!!! After the parade there will be hot chocolate and cookies at the church.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23

10 am-1 pm **Christingle making party** in the Ministry Center.

CHRISTMAS EVE, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

- 3:30 pm Family Christmas Celebration—Great Hall (nursery care)
- 5 pm Family Christmas Celebration—Great Hall (nursery care)
- 6 pm Traditional Christmas Celebration—Historic Church (nursery care)
- 7:30 pm Traditional Christmas Celebration—Historic Church
- 9 pm Traditional Christmas Celebration with Readings & Carols—Historic Church
- 11 pm Traditional Christmas Celebration with Readings & Carols—Historic Church (with incense)

CHRISTMAS DAY, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

10:30 am Christmas Morning Celebration in the Historic Church (with incense)

New Year's Eve & Day, Saturday & Sunday

We will be having all of our normally scheduled weekend services



Senior Pastor's Report

From now until Sunday, December 18, Calvary's Wardens will be receiving nominations for the two positions opening on the Vestry in 2012. Nominees must be members of the Parish in good standing, regular in their worship participation, regular in their prayer and financial support of Calvary, and willing to make the significant commitment of time and energy expected of our Vestry members. All nominees must subscribe to the *Vestry Expectations*, copies of which will be available in the foyer of the Great Hall and in the Parish Hall of the Historic Church. Nominees are considered by the Vestry Nominating Committee who will then present a slate of candidates for election at the January Annual Meeting.

If you wish to nominate a person to serve on the Vestry, please give the person's name to one of our Wardens, either Ron Miller or Susan Wachter. They will, in turn, take the names to the Nominating Committee.

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A Financial Update

Thank you to everyone who has given to Calvary's financial needs this past year. In addition to our General Fund, there have been a number of special needs put before the congregation. Your generous response has been gratefully received with a renewed commitment to be prayerful stewards of your gifts to the mission and ministry God has given us.

Thank you to those households who have contributed most generously toward the new organ in the Historic Church. It is truly a magnificent instrument that will serve the musical needs of Calvary for many, many years to come. We are still accepting financial gifts towards the organ. The final payment is due at Dec. 25th. Please call me if you have any questions.

Year-end giving has traditionally been an important element in ending the year on the positive side of the balance sheet. It is even more so this year. As we prepare to celebrate the birth of the Christ child, consider giving Him a gift by making a special gift for His work in and through Calvary.

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New Year's Eve and Day at Calvary

On this weekend, we will be having all of our normally scheduled services. What a wonderful way to ring out the old year and ring in the new year by gathering with our brothers and sisters in Christ at Calvary in worship and praise! This is an excellent opportunity to invite friends and neighbors to join you in our celebrations. I look forward to being with you New Year' Eve and New Year's Day!

Blessings upon you all!

—John Wengrovius, Senior Pastor

Calvary Episcopal Church

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303.279.2188 (voice)
303.271.0940 (fax)
Email: office@calvarygolden.net
Web: www.calvarygolden.net

Church Office Hours:

Mon—Thurs, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Friday, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Staff

The Rev. John Wengrovius, Senior Pastor

Fr.John@calvarygolden.net

The Rev. Tim Phenna,

Pastor for Ministry Development

Tim.Phenna@calvarygolden.net

The Rev. Bethany Thomas,

Pastor for Outreach & Care

Deacon.Bethany@calvarygolden.net

The Rev. Cathy Hitch,

Pastor for Adult Formation

& Women's Ministries

cathy.hitch@calvarygolden.net

Gwen Blumenschein, Music Facilitator

gblumenschein@calvarygolden.net

MariAnne Lounsbury, Harpist & Organist

Alli Coffey, Contemporary Music

Sarah Ferdig, Director of Children

& Family Ministries

Sarah.Ferdig@calvarygolden.net

Kathleen Sally, Nursery Director

Holly Wood, Nursery Assistant

David Christenson, Financial Manager

David.Christenson@calvarygolden.net

Laura Pierce, Office Manager

Laura.pierce@calvarygolden.net

Susan Gibbs, Receptionist

Ron Gee, Facilities Manager

Vestry

Ron Miller, Rector's Warden

rlmiller@mines.edu

Susan Wachter, People's Warden

mom4luke@msn.net

Mike Powers, Treasurer

Doyle Roberts & Nancy Walker, Asst. Treasurer

Fritz Bart, Clerk

Chris Reid

Kate Felix

Tom Rice

Beth Lee

Jamie Sheridan

Jeanine Spellman

Becky Buckley

John Gibbs

Kids

FAMILY ADVENT NIGHT AND GOLDEN CANDLELIGHT WALK

All are invited to participate in the Family Advent Night & Golden Candlelight Walk on Friday, December 2nd. We will start in the Ministry Center at 4:30 pm with Advent crafts for the whole family, enjoy a pot-luck dinner at 5:00 pm, and then walk to 15th/Washington to join in on the walk by 6:00 pm. At 8:00 pm, we will gather back together at Calvary for hot beverages and cookies.

Advent Night has been a tradition at Calvary for many years. It is an opportunity for families to focus on the Advent season by gathering together for fellowship and make crafts that help prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus. Crafts are geared for children ages 3yrs and up.

Following the Advent activities, we will be joining in on the Golden Candlelight Walk together. The walk has been a tradition in Golden for many years, with entertainment and refreshments to enjoy while walking in candlelight.

Please bring a pot of soup and/or a side dish to share before the walk. Beverages and cookies will be provided. If you are unable to join us for crafts, come at 5:00 pm for the pot-luck soup dinner and Candlelight Walk. RSVP to Sarah Ferdig at 303-279-2188 or sarah.ferdig@calvarygolden.net.



DON'T FORGET!

KORNER

Join us for a Christingle Making Party & Pot-luck!

What is a Christingle, you ask? The Christingle has its origins in a Moravian children's service held in a castle in Germany on Christmas Eve in 1747. The bishop conducting the informal service gave each child a lighted candle, tied with a red ribbon, in memory of the Savior's coming which he said has kindled a flame in each heart which keeps burning "to His joy, and our happiness". Much later, this simple candle was replaced by a more elaborate Christingle, pictured here, which is rich in symbolism. Come to the **3:30 pm** or the **5:00 pm** service to find out what each piece of the Christingle means!



Details:

When: Friday, December 23rd

Where: Ministry Center

Time: 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

What to bring: Pot-luck lunch item to share, drinks will be provided

Youth Matters

Sunday night Youth Group is now for 7th-12th graders!

That's right - Middle Schoolers will join their High School buddies Sunday at Calvary, 6-8:30pm.



There will be time for both groups to meet together and separately. www.theascentonline.com

No more Wednesday Night group for Middle School.

BRING YOUR FRIENDS!

For details, contact Hilary at hilary@theascentonline.com or 303-358-5757.

Adult Ministries & Opportunities

MINES MINISTRY



Student Lunch & Bible Study

Blessings as you take your finals and enjoy the Christmas holidays! We'll see you back in January, starting the first day of classes, January 11th. If you have any questions, contact Daniel Coffey at daniel.coffey77@gmail.com or 303.994.4510.



WOMEN'S MINISTRY

It's always a great time to join the Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study

Even if you haven't come to our Hebrews study this fall, please join us for our Advent Brunch on December 13th. This is a great group of prayerful, caring women, and we are always looking for new people to join us. We meet from 9:30-11:30 in the Ministry Center Classroom. If you have any questions, contact Cathy Hitch at cathy.hitch@calvarygolden.net or 303-278-4436. We will begin in January on the 4th with a brand new study, so watch the Weekly Connection for more information!

Calvary Women's Literary Society

All women are welcome to join our book club! We have a wonderful group of women who enjoy a relaxed evening with dinner and a great discussion of an interesting book. Any and all women are welcome to join us at any time. In December we won't meet, but trust that the Lord will bless your Advent and Christmas seasons.

Because we have two months to read for our January meeting, we have chosen a longer book, *The Book Thief* by Marcus Zusak. Join us on January 27th at 6:00 optional potluck dinner, 7:00-8:30 discussion. We'll meet at Betty III's home, 222 Yank Court in Lakewood, 303-237-4490. Hope to see you then!

February 24 - *The End of the Affair* by Graham Greene, location tbd

March 30 - *Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother* by Amy Chua, location tbd

wednesday night LIVE!

Wednesday Night Live returns in January! Start the new year right by going deeper into your Christian faith and life with others here at Calvary. Our Wednesday Night Live program is designed to give you a mid-week opportunity for friendship, learning and spiritual growth.

We have four groups meeting this term, so choose one that looks right for you!

Dinner starts at 6:00, and the program starts at 6:45. The cost of dinner is \$5 per person, \$10 per family, Mines students eat free.

Nursery care is available at Calvary for infants through four years of age. Three year olds through the sixth grade are encouraged to go to Awana at First Baptist Church on Washington St. It starts at 6:30, which gives you time to get back to Calvary by our 6:45 start time!

Our Christian Identity and Life – the Basics

Join Cathy Hitch and John Wengrovius for an overview of our faith and life as Christians. We'll cover the basic beliefs of the Christian faith, how God has gifted each one of us for particular work and ministry, and look into the Episcopal/Anglican tradition that Calvary is a part of. At the end of the class, anyone who wants to can be confirmed by the Bishop of Colorado in May. There will be lots of opportunity for questions and discussion! Let Cathy know if you have any questions – cathy.hitch@calvarygolden.net or 303-278-4436.

Where On Earth Did the Bible Come From?

Ever wondered how the Bible came to be the way it is? Why were these books chosen and not others? When was it written down? Why are English translations sometimes so different? What does it mean to say the Bible is "inerrant" or even authoritative? Join Lisa Batzle as she takes us through the story of how the Bible came to be the way it is and what the implications are for our faith. Lisa has done a great deal of research preparing for this class so you are sure to learn a lot. Contact her if you have any questions - lisa.batzle@comcast.net or 303-274-5251.

Women's Group

The Women's Group will be studying John Trent and Gary Smalley's book *The Blessing*, concentrating on how to give and receive the gift of God's unconditional love. It's a wonderful group of prayerful, caring women who are always looking for new women to join them. If you have questions, contact Julie Sheridan at jsl_p2@sheridanlaw.com or 303-279-5376.

Men's Group

The Men's Group hasn't quite decided what their focus will be for the January term yet, but stay tuned for more information!

Adult Formation

—SUNDAY MORNING ADULT FORMATION—

Sunday morning is a great time for adults to get together for fellowship and learning as we live into our discipleship of Christ. We meet in the Ministry Center community rooms from 10:15 to 10:55, between the 9:00 and 11:05 services.

Through December 18 - Love, faith and now... hope. Isaiah writes that those who hope in the Lord will not be disappointed (Is. 49:23). As we look at the last of Christianity's great ideals, we examine what our hope looks like and what difference it can make in our lives. Especially during the Advent season, which looks to the second coming of Christ as we remember his first coming, hope is a vital part of our faith. Join Cathy Hitch for an engaging discussion in the Ministry Center classroom.

Young
Adults



YOUNG ADULT SNOWSHOEING TRIP

Get ready for a great day of fresh air, fun and exercise in Colorado's

gorgeous mountains. We're headed to the North Ten-mile trail near Frisco on Saturday, Dec. 3rd. Meet at Calvary at 8:00am with a pair of snowshoes and a sack lunch. Snowshoes can be rented at Larson's (\$12), REI or other places. Contact Amy Snow if you have any questions: 720-470-8055.



CALVARY SINGERS rehearse regularly on Thursday evenings from 7:30-9 pm in the ministry center (the room with the piano in it). This group of adult singers is currently working on music for the **Advent Lessons and Carols** service to be held in the Historic Church, Sunday, December 18 at 5 pm. We have two Thursday night rehearsals left, December 1 and 15. If you would like an opportunity to prepare for Christmas in song, consider joining this group. CALVARY SINGERS will take a holiday break after the Advent Lessons and Carols service. Rehearsals will resume on Thursday, January 12, 2012. Twelve, twelve--easy to remember.

CALVARY RINGERS: This new group of hand bell ringers will begin regular rehearsals on Wednesday, January 11, 2012 at 5 pm in the ministry center. If you are interested in ringing hand bells in a hand bell choir and have not yet been to an organizational workshop, contact Gwen Blumenschein, 303-279-2188 ext 14.

CALVARY YOUNG VOICES: a musical educational experience is now being offered for Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd graders. Contact Gwen, 303-279-2188 ext 14.

Special Event



Sunday, December 18

Advent Lessons and Carols
(5 pm Historic Church)

Followed by a Soup Supper

In preparation for the Christmas celebration, we begin in darkness and move to the coming of the Light of Christ. Here is an opportunity to reflect on seven Biblical lessons and respond by singing and listening to the beloved music of the season of Advent. No worries about cooking or doing dishes THIS Sunday night--just stay for a simple soup supper afterwards.

WANTED: Volunteers to make soup for the soup supper. Contact the church office.



DURING THIS BUSY HOLIDAY SEASON
here are some hymns to sing if you are
speeding down the highway:

45 mph.....God Will Take Care of You
65 mph.....Nearer My God To Thee
85 mph.....This World Is Not My Home
95 mph.....Lord, I'm Coming Home

Outreach Ministry



BELL CAMPAIGN 2011

The Golden Service Extension Unit of The Salvation Army will once again be ringing bells at Safeway and King Soppers to raise funds used to assist individuals and families in our community. All of the money raised stays in the community to assist residents with prescriptions, rent and utilities. Our goal for this year is to raise \$36,000 by December 24th. We had a great turn-out of ringers in 2010, and need the same for this year. Sign-up sheets are available in each church building or you can call the church office. Ringing slots for Calvary are primarily at King Soppers this year. It is *GUARANTEED* that you will experience many blessings during that time!!! Questions? Speak with Craig Moseley or Bethany Thomas.

A BIG THANK YOU...

... goes to all who provided Thanksgiving dinners through Calvary last month. Calvary members donated \$5,000 and Golden Rotary Club contributed \$1,000 toward the food. We had a great time putting the boxes together – many volunteers gave of their time to make this event happen. Because of your generosity, **150** families in our community had a complete meal to share on Thanksgiving!!!

BIG THANK YOU...

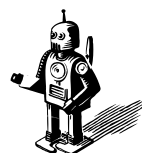
...goes to all who participated in the Operation Christmas Child effort in November. Over 182 boxes were filled during our all-age Christian Ed time on November 13th. The boxes of toys and gifts will bring much joy to children outside our borders. Lynda Staab and Sarah Ferdig worked hard to coordinate this event for Calvary.

ST. NICHOLAS (BISHOP OF MYRA) TOY INGATHERING DECEMBER 3/4 AND 10/11

This month, we will once again recognize the feast day of St. Nicholas (Bishop of Myra) by holding our annual ingathering of toys for children in Golden who might not otherwise receive gifts on Christmas.

Very little is known about the life of St. Nicholas. He is thought to be one of the bishops who attended the First Ecumenical Council of Nicaea in 325, and he was honored as a saint in Constantinople in the sixth century by the Emperor Justinian. Famed as the traditional patron of seafarers and sailors, and, more especially, of children to whom he bore gifts, his name was brought to America by the Dutch colonists in New York. He is popularly known today as Santa Claus.

Please consider giving a new toy or other items for children of all ages, *including teens*. **These gifts will be distributed through the Christian Action Guild Santa Thrift Shop being held on December 17th.** Baskets for the toys will be available in the historic church Parish Hall and the narthex of the Great Hall. Questions? Speak with Bethany Thomas.



What's happening in Golden? A few of the upcoming events in our community...

Dec 2 —
First Friday

Dec 2 —
Christmas Candlelight Walk

Dec 3, 10, 17 —
Olde Golden Christmas on Parade

Calvary Calendar

Friday, December 2
Family Advent Night & Golden
Candlelight Walk

Saturday, December 3
Young Adult Snowshoe Trip

**Saturday/Sunday, Dec 3/4,
10/11**
St. Nicholas Toy Ingathering

Friday, December 9
OPUS Christmas Potluck

Tuesday, December 13
Tuesday Morning Women's Bible
Study Holiday Brunch

Saturday, December 17
Live Nativity in the Olde Golden
Christmas Parade

Sunday, December 18
Advent Lessons and Carols

Friday, December 23
Christingle Making Party

Saturday, January 14
Women's Luncheon

Friday, January 27
Women's Literary Society

Calvary's Live Nativity to feature in the Olde Golden Christmas Parade

Saturday, December 17th



The Live Nativity will consist of: a manger a-top a hand-pulled cart, Mary & Joseph, Shepherds, Wise Men, assorted Angels and, last but not least, *real live Live-stock*, Goats, Sheep, etc. The parade will begin at 11:00 am at the Golden Visitors center at 10th & Washington. We will march down Washington to 13th where we will turn west ending up right at the bottom of the steps to Calvary's Historic Church.

As we march, we will hand out candy and invitations to Christmas Eve Services. Once we arrive back at the Church, Cookies & Hot Chocolate will be served and there'll be a chance to pet the animals.

This Live Nativity needs you! We need those who will march in the parade in costume (young and old), we need folks experienced in handling (and cleaning up after) animals, we need a Hot Chocolate Chef, we need cookies and folks to serve them.

Please do contact me at the Church Office if you would like to be involved. 303-279-2188 or tim.phenna@calvarygolden.net

—Tim Phenna

CALVARY DANCE NEWS

Thank you to the students and adults who are dancing at services during December. We will begin dance preparations for Lent/Easter on Thursday, Jan 19. Children K and up are welcome to join. We will meet from 4:45-5:45 with everyone. Students from middle school, high school and adults wishing to dance would rehearse additionally from 5:45-6:30.



Middle school students are welcome to participate with both groups if they would like. Their leadership would be appreciated to assist with the

younger students at the earlier time. Please call Stephanie Hobbs at 303-567-4986 in the evening or email jandshobbs@msn.com.

STASI ELDREDGE TO SPEAK AT WOMEN'S LUNCHEON!



We have an amazing speaker coming to our Women's Luncheon this year. Stasi Eldredge, author of the book *Captivating* and wife and ministry partner of John Eldredge (*The Sacred Romance*, *Wild at Heart*) will give us her insights into the core desires of women, and how God, who gave us those desires, seeks to fulfill them. It's truly an honor to have her with us – you won't want to miss it! **Saturday, January 14th** at the Fossil Trace Golf Course clubhouse. \$20 for lunch with scholarships available. Put it on your calendar!



Calvary Episcopal Church

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Weekly Service Schedule

Morning Prayer

9:00 am **Monday—Thursday**

Holy Eucharist

9:00 am **Wednesday**

(with healing prayer)

Weekend Service Schedule

SATURDAY

5:00 pm **Traditional Service**
Historic Church

SUNDAY

8:00 am **Said Service**
Historic Church

9:00 am **Blended Service**
Great Hall

9:00 am **Traditional Service**
Historic Church

10:10-11:00 am **Christian Education Hour**

11:05 am **Informal Service**
Great Hall

11:05 am **Traditional Service**
Historic Church

*Nursery available on Sunday from
8:45 am to 12:30 pm*

Calvary Church invites you to join us for Christmas Worship



Christmas Eve — December 24

3:30 & 5:00 pm All-age Christmas Worship
Great Hall (*nursery*)
6:00 pm Festive Christmas Worship
Historic Church (*nursery*)
7:30 pm Festive Christmas Worship
Historic Church
9:00 & 11:00 pm Festive Christmas Worship
with Lessons & Carols
Historic Church

Christmas Day — December 25

10:30 am Festive Christmas Worship with Hymns
Historic Church

