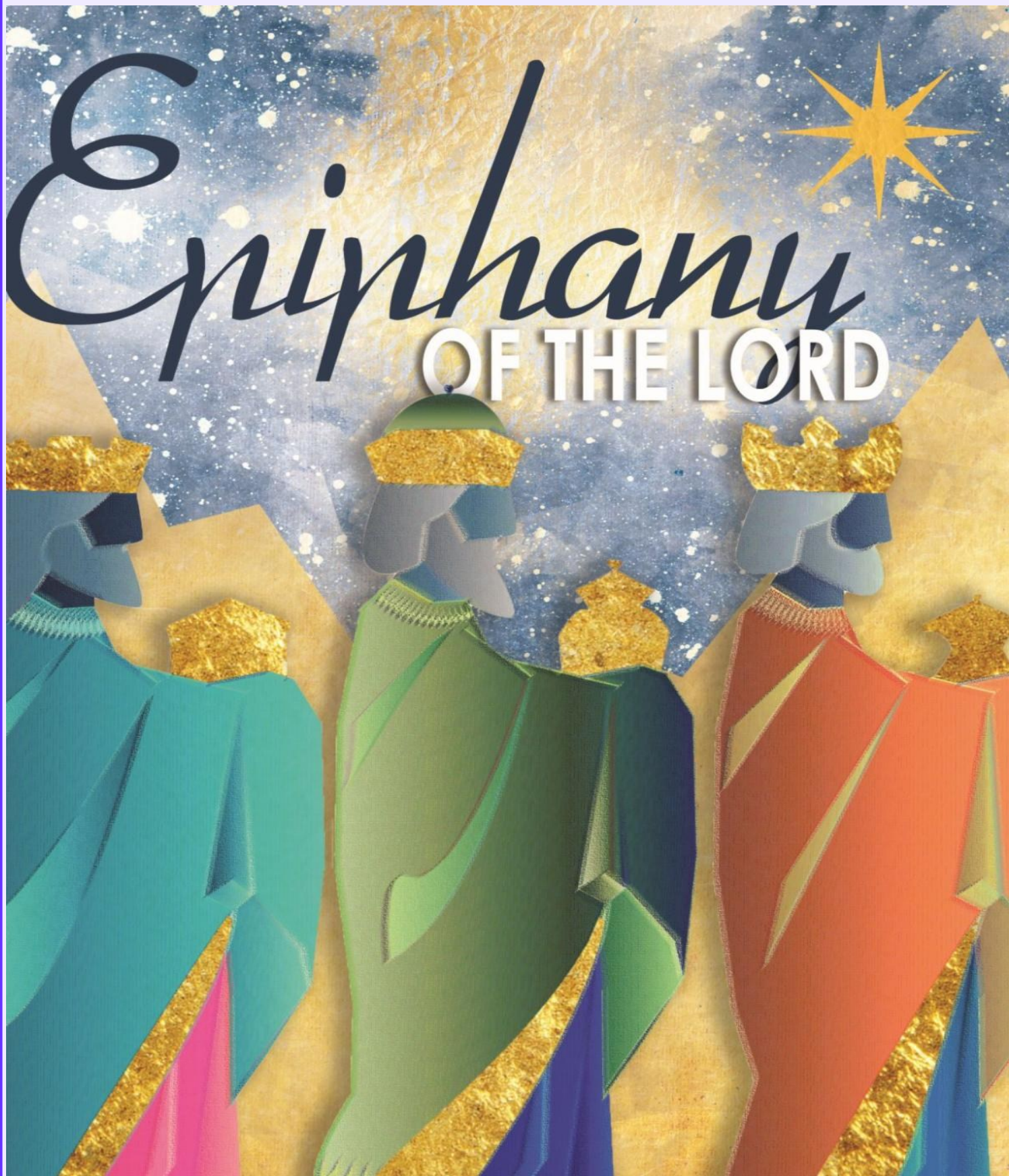


CALVARY CALLER

JANUARY 2025

Epiphany OF THE LORD





Clock Time and God's Time

The New Year draws our attention to the passage of time much in the same way as birthdays and anniversaries. The regularity of these observances is closely linked to natural cycles of the sun and the seasons. But something still feels arbitrary about celebrating the passage of another 365 days, such that I have friends whose birthday greetings often consist of “Congratulations on surviving another trip around the sun!”

The Bible uses two words for time: *chronos* (clock time) and *kairos* (the first syllable rhymes with pie), which means “the right time,” a critical moment. Theologian Robert Capon describes it as “high time” or “due season,” as in “it’s high time we get this show on the road!” *Chronos* is measurable, and marches ever onward, even while we sleep. *Kairos* is qualitative, focused not on quantity or duration, but on meaning, value and importance.

Anyone with a wristwatch, wall clock, smartphone or sundial can keep track of *chronos*, but *kairos* can be more difficult to discern. This may be one reason New Year's resolutions so often fail to produce meaningful, lasting change. The calendar cannot tell us when it’s time to start a good new habit or try to break an old bad one. The clock cannot tell us when we’re sufficiently dissatisfied with the present, with a clear vision of a better future and practical first steps in a new direction, sufficient to overcome our natural resistance to change, plus costs or pain associated with a particular change.

However, the turning of a New Year can draw our attention to dissatisfaction with what is and dreams for what could be. The downtime of the holidays can provide space to brainstorm practical steps in the right direction and muster the motivation to overcome both inertia and internal resistance to change.

About a year ago Sister Jennie and I decided to join the local YMCA – which for various reasons didn’t happen until February – and I launched myself into gym machine strength training. Right away I wondered why I had let six and a half years of clock time pass without it in my life. There’s no shortage of good reasons, of course. But since then I’ve slowly added walking, then swimming, and most recently, indoor cardio that I don’t totally hate. Combined with dietary changes forced by a health crisis this past June, everyone can see the difference.

What’s true about change in our personal life is true of change in the church. We must be sufficiently dissatisfied with what is, have a clear vision steeped in prayer and meditation for where God is leading us next, and build a list of concrete next steps. It’s still a little early in my time with you to start talking about any real changes – any real change is genuinely scary, and my family’s presence among you is a big change all on its own – but it’s never too early to start praying for God’s vision for where we’re supposed to be headed when the time is right!

- Pr. Jon

REFLECTIONS FROM SISTER JENNIE

Faith Formation at Camp Anyone?

Have you ever wanted a chance to continue forming your child's faith in an outdoor camp setting?

Does your child enjoy the outdoors and being around and getting to know other people their age? A week of summer camp at Camp Lutherwood Oregon (between Corvallis and Eugene) might be worth exploring. Right now, Camp Lutherwood Oregon is offering an early-bird special of \$50 off, if you register before February 28th!

For our youth: On the schedule there are multiple opportunities for middle and high school camp especially.

Camp is not just for the young. Check out the links below and you will see the possibilities. **There are family camps and adult retreat opportunities, too!** If you and a few others wanted to create your own retreat because you're thinking outside the box, you could even rent space at the camp for that purpose.

Camp schedule link!

Registration Link!

Do you have a heart for camp, being outdoors, and around kids, and are 18 years or older?

You might enjoy being at camp all summer, on staff, at Camp Lutherwood Oregon! We have opportunities for those interested in being cabin counselors, program support, site support, on the leadership team, kitchen assistants, life guards, and nurse/medics. So if you know of college-aged, young adults who want to have a fun summer and a great impact on kids, let them know to apply!

Check out the **application link** below. If you are curious about any of this, please talk to Sister Jennie or anyone on the Parish Education Committee. They would love to have a conversation with you about how to help get your child connected with camp this summer. On top of that, we have available funds to help make a week of summer camp possible for your family, your child, or even you. We'd love to help get you connected this summer. **Application Link!** You can also write to the following email for more information: **jobs@lutherwoodoregon.org**.

In Peace,
Sr. Jennie Myers



FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT, MATT EIDE

Dear Calvary Friends,

Happy New Year!!!

We are at the end of our calendar and fiscal year. There was tremendous generosity in the final weeks of the year, and we are so appreciative. While the results are not fully in (one more Sunday!), we may have come close to closing our budget gap. Thank you, thank you, thank you!!!

A very special Council thank you to Gary and Karen Blom. They have faithfully served for more than thirteen years. We all have **benefited** from the dedication they have given to Calvary.

And, what an incredible Parish Ed Christmas Show! It was wonderful to see so many children (and adults) partaking in the experience. Thank you to the volunteers for making it special for the kids and parishioners alike.


As we look forward to the new year, there will be lots of activities for everyone to take part in. Look at the weekly and monthly calendars for opportunities. Pastor/Council is looking for someone to head up a “task group” for next year’s Christmas Party/Gala. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Jon.

I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and has a blessed New Year.

Together in Christ,
Matt

THANKFUL
Hearts
BLESSED
Souls

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Calvary Lutheran Church	
Financial Bottom Line as of November 30, 2024	
	As of 9/30/24 <u>Actual</u>
Operating Income	\$340,923
Operating & Payroll Expenses	\$259,759
Net Operating Income	<u>(\$ 19, 645)</u>
2024 Benevolence Giving As of November 30, 2024	
Oregon Synod	\$13,499
Disaster Relief Budgeted/Designated	\$17,672
Local Benevolence Budgeted/Designated	\$22,976

PARISH ED NEWS / INVITES

Parish Ed Invites Kids, Youth & all who love to bowl!

Could that be you?!

PIZZA BOWL

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26
2:00-4:00 P.M.

Wild River
PIZZA
HANDCRAFTED FOOD & ALE

Brookings Harbor • Cave Junction • Grants Pass • Medford

Come to Caveman Bowl to bowl or watch the fun, then join us over at Wild River Pizza after at 4:30 p.m. for pizza, refreshments & fellowship!



Sign Up now to help us reserve lanes & pizza tables!

A big thank you to everyone who helped put on this year's Christmas Drama. The music both sung and instrumental was wonderful. Thank you to Laura Boldon and Debbie Steinbrenner for your gift of musical teaching and direction. Thank you to both kids and adults alike for the practices needed to know what you were doing and for putting on costumes to look the part. A big thank you to our middle school and high school youth for telling the story of Christ's birth according to the Gospel of Luke as our costumed characters moved through the sanctuary!

If you were present for this year's Drama and want to be in it next year or have ideas for next year, please come talk to anyone on the Parish Education Committee. We'd love to hear from you and find a way to involve more and different people.

Moving into the new year, on Sunday, January 26, we are excited to host a Pizza Bowl event for everyone at Calvary—kids, youth and anyone who loves to bowl themselves, or enjoy the fun of watching kids bowl. Then come eat pizza and enjoy more fellowship at Wild River afterwards. There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex to help us reserve lanes and pizza tables.

In peace,

Sister Jennie and the Parish Ed Committee

YOUTH HANGOUT

January High School Hangout

Come join in for warm drinks and games on Sunday, January 12th at 2:00 p.m. at Calvary. Bring your favorite board game or card game. We'll keep warm with hot apple cider, cocoa, and cookies!



Get your HAPPY on!!



Youth Christmas Party: We had goofy, silly holiday fun together this year!

CALVARY ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DRAMA



CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE



Calvary News & Invitations in January

**LUNCH WITH FRIENDS
WILL BE FRIDAY,
January 3rd
at NOON.
PLEASE JOIN US!**



The next Blood Drive at Calvary is scheduled for January 17th from 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. Blood donations save lives. Please consider making an appointment to give. The American Red Cross thanks you!



LOOKING FOR A LOW-IMPACT WAY TO IMPROVE YOUR HEALTH AND FLEXIBILITY IN 2025?

Consider attending one of Ria Cuyler's Healing Yoga classes! These classes are specifically designed to be low-impact, strengthening and healing classes. They are especially effective for those of us that have lost flexibility and/or are recovering from an injury or surgery.

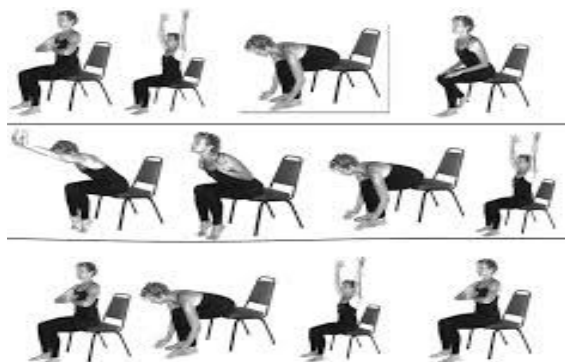
Classes are held at Calvary in the Upper Room every Monday and Friday (save for holidays).

Class schedules are: 11-11:45 Chair Yoga and
12:00-1:00 Floor Yoga.

(Please provide your own yoga matt for floor yoga.)

For more information, please TEXT message Ria directly at 541-218-1072.

There's plenty of space, so we hope to see you there!



Free Adjustable Beds!!

Terry Morrison has two twin XL-sized adjustable beds with mattresses, linens, etc. Together they are the same size as a regular king-size bed. You need to be able to arrange pickup and transportation. Contact the Church office or Terry directly.



Calvary News & Invitations in January ~ Pg. 2

COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY (CBS)

CBS resumes January 6th from 10:00—11:30 a.m. with an 8-week study of First, Second, and Third John. For inquiries or questions, please reach out to Babara Williams at 541-955-4595.



2025 Offering Envelopes were placed in your church mailboxes on December 29th. Please only use the 2025 envelopes, as your donation number may have changed. There will be a box in the narthex on January 6th to deposit your unused envelopes from prior years. We will repurpose these as pew envelopes. If you do not have a mailbox and would like one, please let Kim know. If you did not receive envelopes and would like a set, please let Kim know. If you choose not to use your envelopes, please return your new set to the office. Thank you.

Prayer Small Group

Our Prayer Small Group gathers the second Tuesday monthly at 10:00 a.m.. Join us and explore new ways to pray! If you have any questions, please talk to Sr. Jennie.

**Our next meeting will be Tuesday,
January 10th at 10:00 am.
Hope to see you there!**

Mid-Week Ephesians Bible Study Resumes

Ephesians Bible Study resumes on January 7th and 8th with the following schedule:

**4:00 p.m. Tuesdays and 1:30 p.m. on
Wednesdays at Calvary.**

Any time is a good time to join in, if interested!

Christmas Galas Past, Present and Future (?)

One of Calvary's longest running traditions, along with our annual Bazaar, has been the holiday bash long known as the Christmas Gala. I'm hardly an expert on the subject, but from what I've gathered, it has always been off-site, fancy, festive and a big draw. The implicit promise has been good food, pleasant company, seasonally-themed entertainment including music and an opportunity to dance, and overall, an occasion worth dressing up for.

The last few years we've run into a variety of challenges: the core crowd is aging and many do not want to be out driving after dark; the caterer required by the GP Golf Club has now let us down not once but twice; and almost any other venue requires a lot more setup, decoration and cleanup. There's something uniquely charming about the Golf Club this time of year, but as long as they require using their current caterer, we're firmly in "fool me twice" territory--it's a non-starter!

So we're looking for a few folks to think outside the box for next year. Council would love to see the tradition continue in renewed form. Two years ago we had a Sunday luncheon and sold approximately 120 tickets. Last year we had good food but the burden of setup and cleanup in a less festive atmosphere was the last straw for our Fellowship Committee--which is still hibernating! This year and the last having it late in the afternoon accommodated a sense that a "gala" should be later in the day--but ending times near or after dusk seem to have held down ticket sales.

We have a chance to re-invent this, but we need a few folks to take the bull by the horns, cast a vision, and try something new--maybe completely different! I've heard a few very different ideas already. One would be to combine the best of the last three years--find a more festive venue, book it early, and hire last year's caterers to do something earlier in the day. It's also been suggested that we book a room at a local restaurant and let everyone order what they want. Linda Johnson has already stepped up to say that she wants to see it happen again and will help plan one for next year, but she'll need some help!

Another option is to take a year off, and that's what will most likely happen if we don't pull together a Gala Planning Task Force in the next month or so. Some local holiday party venues are surely already booked a year in advance. How important is this tradition to you?

Pastor Jon



Hear Ye! Hear Ye!!

OUTREACH COMMITTEE NEWS

The Angel Tree for gifts for children in foster care was a huge success! Because of your generosity, 75 children were blessed on Christmas (2024).

Thank you!

Council Installation

On Sunday, July 12th we will be installing our new council for the Year 2025. Come join us and show your support for our newly elected Council members directly after service.

WINTER ADVENTURES UPDATE

As the holidays end, we are starting to get organized and sorting our varied schedules out. We have a crew signed up to do a snowshoe hike in mid-January. I'm sure there will be some skiing as well. If you're excited about snowshoe hikes or dusting off your ski equipment this is the group for you! We've been doing all of our planning through group texting. If you're interested be sure to connect with Sister Jennie so you can be added to the communication.



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Pastor Jon

JANUARY CELEBRATION TIME!!



Happy Anniversary

01/01 Richard Rice
01/01 Dan Rodriguez
01/03 Judy Gent
01/07 Richard Marsh
01/08 Sharla Coon
01/08 Kathie Renfro
01/09 Meredith Myerchin
01/09 Kjersti Wolter
01/11 Laura Acosta
01/12 Nadine Powers
01/13 Jennie Myers
01/13 Linda Wheeler
01/14 Candy Rentz
01/15 Jonathan Angstadt
01/15 Kay Hunziker
01/15 Crystal Zimmer
01/16 Alex Angstadt
01/18 Jackie Johnson
01/20 Bill Bianchi
01/25 Gary Blom
01/26 Marlo Zeller
01/29 Frank Damico
01/30 Sharon Emfinger

*01/11 JOHN & SHAWNA
HENDERSON*

*01/15 DALE & MARIE
WACHSMUTH*





*01/19 MARLO & MONTE
ZELLER*

*01/25 RON & JOANNE
SMITH*

*01/31 HERMAN & KAREN
BAERTSCHIGER*



JANUARY 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1  OFFICE CLOSED	2	3 12 pm LWF 11-11:45 am Chair Yoga 12-1:00 pm Yoga	4
			5 9:30 am Service Sunday School Adult Ed	6 10:00 am Community Bible Study 11-11:45 am Chair Yoga 12-1:00 pm Yoga	7 4:00 pm Ephesians Bible Study	8 9:30 am H & H 1:30 pm Ephesians Bible Study 3:30 pm Praise Team/Choir
12 9:30 am Service (Council Installation during service) Sunday School Adult Ed 2:00 p.m. High School Hangout	13 10:00 am Community Bible Study 11-11:45 am Chair Yoga 12-1:00 pm Yoga	14 10:00 am Prayer Group 4:00 pm Ephesians Bible Study 4:00 pm Grief Group	15 9:30 am H & H 1:30 PM Ephesians Bible Study 3:30 pm Praise Team/Choir	16	17 9:00– 2:00 pm Red Cross  11-11:45 am Chair Yoga 12-1:00 pm Yoga	18 2:00 pm Memorial Service for Lisa Spitler at Calvary 
19 9:30 am Service Sunday School Adult Ed	20 10:00 am Community Bible Study Holiday (MLK) OFFICE CLOSED (No Yoga)	21 4:00 pm Ephesians Bible Study	22 9:30 am H & H Outreach Mtg 1:30 pm Ephesians Bible Study 3:30 pm Praise Team/Choir	23	24 11-11:45 am Chair Yoga 12-1:00 pm Yoga	25
26 9:30 am Service Adult Ed No Sunday School 2:00—5:00 pm Pizza Bowl	27 10:00 am Community Bible Study 11-11:45 am Chair Yoga 12-1:00 pm Yoga	28 No Bible Study	29 9:30 am H & H No Bible Study 3:30 pm Praise Team/Choir	30	31 11-11:45 am Chair Yoga 12-1:00 pm Yoga	



909 NE "A" Street, Grants Pass, OR
97526

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E-Mail: calvluth@calvarylutherangp.org

www.calvarylutherangp.org

Jon Myers, Pastor

**Sister Jennie Myers, Director of Disci-
pleship**

Wendy Ross, Director of Choirs

Kimberly White, Administrative Assistant

Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship
10:45 a.m. Sunday School