



THIS MONTH

April — May 2013

The Calvary United Methodist Church Newsletter

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pastor's ponderings



Spring is finally trying to push into our world. Spring bulbs are sprouting and the weather is warmer, I even put away my winter clothes during my vacation. (I know

I might need something warm a few more times but I'll manage.) The season is changing and in many ways so is our world.

We are listening to threats of nuclear war from a foolish leader in North Korea. We find ourselves wondering about 'marriage equality' as it is debated in Washington. We are watching our children and grandchildren go out into the world as young adults. Several of us are experiencing our empty nests, which is a big change in our lives. The economy is recovering but not quickly; it seems that our world is learning to live with a new financial reality. For some of us the changes in health care might seem scary. And of course, technology continues to change so fast that it seems impossible to keep up. And now, even our church is changing, again.

People don't like their church to change. It has been part of the problem with the church staying relevant in people's lives. Many people making decisions about the church's direction, church programming, including small groups, worship and finances are unable to see where change is needed. They like their church and fear that they might lose it. But in order for the church to be effective in contemporary society, we need to think beyond our own comfort

and our own wishes and needs. We need to proclaim Jesus in a way that the unchurched world will find meaning and relevance for their lives.

Here at Calvary, change is just around the corner. A new pastor, a young energetic pastor, with fresh ideas, who understands the young adults in our world, has been appointed to Calvary. He comes to this church fresh out of seminary. He has read the latest church leadership books, studied current theologians and debated the relevant topics of our world. I think it is very exciting that this young leader is coming to Calvary. He can relate to the generation that we are currently having trouble reaching and connecting with. Andrew Lee deserves your respect. I hope that you will listen to him and that you will let go of some of the ideas that you have been holding on to and let him lead you in new things and new directions.

The good news for us who fear change is that no matter how much the world changes, no matter how much our church changes, the love and grace of Jesus Christ will never change. Our risen Savior, in his final words before ascending into heaven, called us to follow him, to go into the world and proclaim the Good News, make disciples, baptize them, teach them. "And remember I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 18:20) This is a promise. No matter how much the world around us changes, no matter how much the church changes, no matter what happens, "I am with you always, to the end of the age." That will never change.

Grace and Peace,

Beth

christian resources shared

Sandra Jameson notes that 6 boxes of books and Bibles were taken to CRI (Christian Resources International) in Fowlerville in early April. Thank you for sharing with others!

spring cleaning at calvary!

The Church Spring Clean-up Day will be held this year on **Saturday, May 18 from 9 am -12 pm.** Come for a little work or for the whole time. Many hands make light work!!



help wanted

Heidi is moving on to another opportunity so our church secretary position is available. The work entails computer skills, some bookkeeping and other assorted office work for approximately 10-15 hours a week, paying \$12 per hour. Are you or do you know of anyone interested starting in June or July? Contact Beth or Heidi.

change the world

Calvary will participate in the United Methodist Church's Change the World activities May 11 and 19 this year. Change the World is a global movement of United Methodists doing what they can to improve lives and communities. *What if you could change the world, one choice at a time?* You cannot do everything, but you can do something.

Please look for the sign up in the narthex for these events:

Saturday, May 11, 9-11:30 am

Volunteer at Food Gatherers

1 Carrot Way (off Dhu Varren Rd)

Calvary provides 20+ workers (ages 8 and up, of all abilities!) to sort, pack or distribute food at the Food Gatherer's warehouse to help fight hunger in our community.

**CHANGE
THE WORLD**

Sunday, May 19 church service

Habitat Sunday

Learn about and support our Habitat for Humanity project, Good News House, during Habitat Sunday in church! Fundraising Goal: \$900.

Also: bring your change for the *Clatter Collection* for Habitat during the Sundays in May!

Find a way you can participate in Change the World! If we all work together – we can CHANGE THE WORLD!

may is habitat month

Work on the two Habitat for Humanity Good News Houses on Lester St. in Ypsilanti begins May 16. We need your participation for Calvary's work day on **Saturday, June 15.** We also want to gather a crew for a Thursday or Friday work day. Can you wield a paint brush or screwdriver or help with lunch? A sign up will be in the Narthex soon for you to participate and please offer your prayers for this summer's workers and the families who will move into the two houses across the street from each other in the Ford Lake area that the Good News group will renovate.

Calvary has pledged to raise \$900 to support the project. Each Sunday in May, we will be receiving our "Clatter Collection" to support the Good News Habitat House. Bring your "pocket" change and "make some noise" to fill our bucket for Habitat. You can make your "major" donation to support the Good News House on any Sunday or at Habitat Sunday on May 19. Make checks out to Calvary and write "Habitat" in the note section or put in an envelope noting "Habitat" and place in the Radical Renovation house mailbox!

Meet our Good News House families in their letters on the next page: Tanesha & Elijah Conner and Crystal, James-Timothy & Ignatius Kinard. We'll be working (together with them) on their future houses at 1244 and 1269 Lester Street in Ypsilanti this summer. More information about the Good News House group, the families etc. is available at <http://goodnewshouse.org/>



letters from our future habitat homeowners



Hi, My name is Tanesha. I have lived, attended U of M, and worked in the Ann Arbor area for the past 20 years. This is also what my 8-year-old son, Elijah knows as home. So I am pretty excited that we will be able to establish a permanent home in this area.

The idea of owning a home for my third-grade son has always revolved around, "...then I could just go outside" or "... then I could have a (dog/cat)." Now, he has become more focused on the details, like what color he'd like to have his room painted. I also know that I'll have a harder time making an argument against the drums that he's been asking for.

I personally, am looking forward to marking his growth changes on the wall and never having to remove it. The opportunity to be a part of a neighborhood is pretty exciting as well. As a child, I never experienced what it was like to live in a home that we owned. So I am ecstatic for both Elijah and myself.

Overall, I am very appreciative of the Habitat program, and thankful for the caring and supportive staff members and volunteers that I have encountered.



Hi. My name is Crystal Kinard and I am a 46 year old single parent with two boys. They are James-Timothy, 14 years old in the 91h grade at Ann Arbor Huron High School and Ignatius, 10 years old in the 5th grade at St. Thomas Ann Arbor.

I am originally from Akron, Ohio and moved to Ann Arbor when I was in the 11th grade. I graduated from Ann Arbor Huron and attended Morgan State University, graduating with a BS in Business Management. I have worked for the Ann Arbor Public Schools for the past 10 years. Currently I am a Community Assistant at Ann Arbor Tech High School. I am the vice president of my union, assistant den leader for Cub Scouts, and active with Boy Scouts.

James-Timothy plays water polo and is a Boy Scout in Troop 27. Ignatius is a swimmer and is a Cub Scout in Pack 8.

We are Roman Catholic and attend St Thomas Church in Ann Arbor. The boys are altar servers at our church.

I never thought I would have my own home in a million years because of my low income. We have been very blessed to live with my mother, Theresa Henderson, for the past 13 years but the time has come for my boys and I to have our own home. For the first time I will be able to say "this is my house." The boys will have their own space and a back yard to play in and run around. This is truly a blessing from God.

As my grandmother Thelma Henderson would say "It won't always be like this". She was so right!

Thank God for Habitat for Humanity. God Bless!

free acoustic jam

Join John Freeman, Linda Losse and many other friends and visitors from far and wide at the first Calvary Acoustic Jam on Saturday, April 20 from Noon 'til 6ish. All are welcome to come play, sing, or just listen. We also need Calvary members to bring refreshments for our guests and to be present in the church as hosts. A sign-up will be in the Narthex.

**birthdays****april**

- 2 George Thompson
- 4 Allison Wier
- 5 Richard Fischer
- 7 Derek DeVee
- 9 Ann Isbell
- 10 Renee Griffin
- 13 Kathy Sanders
- 16 Nub Turner
Steve Roberts
- 17 Jason Eystone
Melanie (Simpson) Malec
- 18 Jennie Viery
- 24 Dion Woolfolk
- 27 Betty Wier
- 30 Peggy Thompson

**may**

- 2 Nancy Roberts
- 3 Gerald Woolfolk
- 5 Christopher Griffin
- 10 Patrick Leonard
- 14 Margaret Storey
- 15 Hope Parow
Mary Ford
- 17 Julianne Roberts
- 19 Nick Navarre
- 21 Stephanie Thompson
- 27 Bobbie Smith
- 29 Carol Miller
- 31 Jennifer (Rosenbaum) Maiwurm
Ryleigh Lowe

anniversaries**april**

- 21 Peg and Jerry Leonard

*Celebrating an
Anniversary*

**may**

- 6 Linda and Val Losse
- 10 Jan and Nub Turner
- 28 Karen and Steve Roberts
- 30 Barbara and Chuck Willey

the refrigerator page

(you know, to hang on the frig door, so you don't miss anything)

Check your bulletin for details and dates and times that may change.

LUNCH AND A MOVIE – Sunday, April 14

Enjoy a potluck lunch after church and watch *The Line* which documents the stories of people across the country living at or below the poverty line. They have goals. They have children. They work hard. They are people like you and me. Across America, millions are struggling every day to make it above *The Line*.

ACOUSTIC JAM – Saturday, April 20, 12 noon-6 ish pm

All are welcome to this *free* Acoustic Jam Session! Come play, sing, or just listen.

CHANGE THE WORLD – May 11 and 19

What if you could change the world, one choice at a time? Opportunity #1: participate in Calvary's Food Gatherers volunteer work day on Saturday, May 11 from 9-11:30 am. Opportunity #2: learn about and support our participation in the Habitat Good News House during the Sunday service on May 19.



CHURCH SPRING CLEAN-UP DAY – May 18, 9-12 pm

Come for a little or for the whole time. Many hands make light work!!

HABITAT SUNDAY – May 19

Learn all about and then help out the Good News House project of Habitat for Humanity.



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE – Sunday, May 27

PROGRESSIVE DINNER – Friday, May 31, 6 pm

Mark you calendars and watch for more details! Contact Carol Miller if you would like to host and look out for a sign-up in the Narthex!



GRADUATION SUNDAY – Thursday, June 9

HABITAT VOLUNTEER WORK DAY – Saturday, June 15

Help out at the Good News House Habitat for Humanity houses!

PASTOR BETH'S LAST SUNDAY – June 23

PASTOR LEE'S FIRST SUNDAY – July 7

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD – Tuesday, July 16, 7 pm



Weekly Activities:

TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST at Bell's Diner, 2167 W. Stadium, 7:00 am
Start one morning a week with a GOOD breakfast and GREAT fellowship.

BOY SCOUT TROOP #5 MTG – Tuesday, 7:00 pm
at Calvary. Cub Scout Pack #22 meets at Abbott School at this time.

BIBLE STUDY – every other Wednesday, 7:00 pm
There is Bible Study every other Wednesday night, led by Dr. George Thompson.
(Jan 23, Feb 6, Feb 20, March 6)

THE GATHERING AT CALVARY – Thursdays, 6:30 pm



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Please check and return to church office to cancel newsletter

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Rev. Beth D. Titus, Pastor
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Sunday Worship 10:00
Sunday School 11:15