



THIS MONTH

January/February 2011



The Calvary United Methodist Church Newsletter

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pastor's ponderings



(Perhaps a better title for this column this month would be "Pastor's Confessions")

As we move deeper into the year 2011, now that the rush of the holidays

is over and slowly things are returning to even pace, sort of, I have been thinking about my work here at Calvary. When I came here two and half years ago now, (that has flown by), it was made clear to me that Calvary was looking for some changes. From the District Superintendent to members of the Staff-Parish Relations Committee, I heard we need a change, we need to be revitalized, we need to do something new. My response was to jump in with two feet and start working on change. I held meetings talking about it, I recruited others to support change, and I took several of you to trainings that centered on turning around churches that were losing members. I felt personally responsible for the turn-around of Calvary and I worked on it like it was my personal project.

But I have come to realize that it is not my personal project. It is your project! I am trained to lead and support this congregation has it grows and changes all the time. I can't change or "turn-around" Calvary, just because I want to, or just because I work hard. I need to be leading you, the congregation, to be living out the mission of the church.

I learned this most clearly as I was working on "The Gathering," the second service I am planning on starting here. Notice, I say "I" am

planning. I need to be able to say "we" are planning. I need to put energy in ministries that the congregation and members of Calvary will support and help with. I am hoping that there are people out there who will help make "The Gathering" a "we" project. I am excited about the potential to develop worship that touches the lives of people who might not be touched by traditional worship. However, if there is not anyone out there to join me in this project, then I need to be able to say this is not the right thing for Calvary.

I want you to start thinking about Calvary's ministries and how we can work together to build a faith community that continues to be involved in vital ministry that makes disciples and changes the world.

Grace and Peace,

Beth

P.S. I want to thank you all for the generous Christmas gift. I am thankful for all the support you offer me as your pastor. You are a blessing!

one-eighty - a turnaround church conference

The next "one-eighty" turn around church conference is scheduled for Thursday, March 24, 2011 at Redeemer United Methodist Church in DeWitt, MI. There are new workshops being planned for those of us who are returning participants. I also believe that hearing things more than once reminds of things that I have forgotten or may have missed the first time. If you are interested in going with Beth to this conference, please let her know.

The general sessions include:

- Hope for Struggling Churches
- Developing a Turnaround Strategy
- We've Started to Change - Now What?
- Leading a Vital Congregation

finance fun

Provided your authors are diligent, this will be the first in a short series of articles on church finances. While the subject matter is quite dry, we hope that you might find them interesting because of the importance of the subject. In this article we will focus on the "General Fund" which is the basic operating fund of the church. It pays for all the day-to-day church expenses and represents the lion's share of the funds we raise and expend. Part of the reason finances may seem boring is that they fundamentally boil down to three very simple amounts: how much money you have, your expenses (money out), and your revenue (money in). The money we have is represented by the general fund balance in our checking account. On December 31, 2010 this amount was \$3,442.31. Our monthly expenses go up and down,

but we expect these to average 11,000 per month. Although we do attempt to project our income, we do not

know what it will be because all our income is voluntary and, for the last few years, a personal confi-

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dential commitment. In 2010 the average income to the general fund was about \$8,000 month.

As a matter of good stewardship and planning, we would like to have a checking account balance that is at least equal to our monthly expenses. To help you keep up with how we are doing we are planning to publish our monthly average expense expectation (\$11,000 above), the checking account balance at the end of the prior month, and the income for the prior month on the bulletin board in the lobby and, perhaps, elsewhere as well.

We hope that you enjoyed this update and in the future we will have articles on additional finance subjects such as "pass through" contributions, apportionments, the Hap Sibert fund and other elements of the financial operation of our church community.

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The "Calvary Church Care Committee" (CCCC or C4) is off and running. We have over a dozen church members who have volunteered their services.

This committee of volunteers will reach out to members in our congregation who may need a service. They are: Home Visits, Transportation, Meals, Cards, Flowers, Errands, Funeral Details, Snow shoveling, Home Projects, Technology, and Other.

This will become an extension to our church "joy and concern" prayer time and the weekly prayer request list.

The committee can now lend a personal hand to those in need or just the courtesy of asking if they need assistance, while remembering to be sensitive but not overbearing. Many already do much of this without others knowing. Maybe the helpers could use some help! The committee will facilitate communication via email, phone, website and secretary/ pastor.

It is not too late to sign up for one or more of the above mission services. Just call Gerald Woolfolk 734-665-6682 or email him at gmwoolfolk@aol.com if you would like to help or have any ideas. Our list of volunteers will be posted on the bulletin board in narthex.



Ann Arbor District Leadership Training: Drawing Others to Worship, Unity, Productivity, Safety, Church and Christ

February 5, 2011

8:30a-12:30p

First UMC South Lyon, 640 S. Lafayette
South Lyon, MI 48178
(248) 437-0760

Free Registration!

2 Keynote Speakers:

Rev. Mike Norton

Rev. Matt Hook



6 Workshops to choose from:

- Breaking the Cultural Divide: Preparing for a Cross Cultural Appointment
- Meetings that Matter
- Creating Irresistible Worship
- Making Church a Safe Place for Children, Youth and Vulnerable Adults
- Reaching Out in the Virtual World: Cyber Evangelism
- Blessings of the Flock

Come and join us in learning better ways to reach out and share God's word with others.

See the Announcements Bulletin Board or Pastor Beth for more Details.

youth group scoop

Youth Group meets after church generally on the first and third Sundays. February 6 will be Youth Usher Sunday, Youth Group meeting and Craft Sunday. February 13 is also Youth Usher Sunday and we will celebrate Boy Scout Sunday. March 12th is the Birthday Potluck with our first fund-raising opportunity for mission projects. Watch for additional information Calvary's Got Talent: 2 will tentatively be scheduled on April 16. Get your voice warmed up and your tap shoes shined! Our youth Lock-In is being scheduled. Please check your calendars and let Judy Wier know your availability to join in the fun!

Planning is also in progress for the summer mission project. A week-long trip or shorter day trips may work out to join together youth and leaders in mission work in our neighboring area of need--Detroit. Pray for the selection process and how you can be involved. Lives were changed last summer and more can be done in 2011!

haiti report from ruth husung

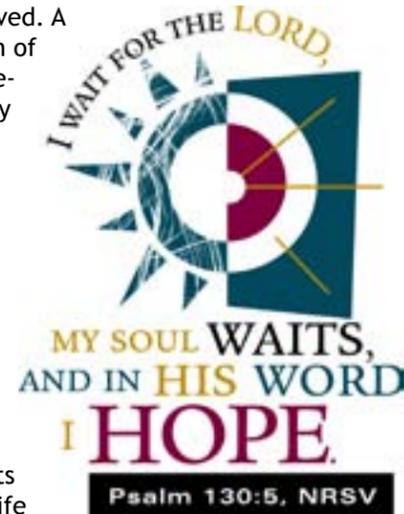
The Haiti Nursing Foundation report for January 2011 arrived. The senior nursing class in completed their studies against tremendous odds. Unfortunately, political unrest forced a postponement of the graduation ceremony. Violence has reached the school of nursing and in response to the November elections, trees were burned. The executive director and faculty of the nursing school have one primary goal, to insure that the graduates will be leaders in quality health care and delivery for the future.

good news abounds:

Recent research at the University of Michigan shows promise for effective treatment of Alzheimer's disease: copper and zinc



ions may be involved. A second generation of compounds was reported. These may provide therapeutic benefits. The research is being led by Mi Hee Lim and her assistants. The progress was recently reported in the National Academy of Science. Lim holds joint appointments at U of M in the Life Science Institute and the Department of Chemistry. Research will continue, and hope abides!



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.

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD MTG – Wednesday, January 26, 7:00 pm

CALVARY WEBSITE MTG – Sunday, January 30, 11:15 am
Have ideas or want to get involved in redesigning Calvary's website? Join us!

DISTRICT LEADERSHIP DAY – Saturday, February 5
It's free and you're invited! See <http://www.gb-gm-umc.org/annarbordist/>.

BIBLE STUDY Resumes – Tuesdays, 7:00 pm beginning February 8

PIZZA AND MOVIE NIGHT – February 18. Watch for details!

BOY SCOUT SUNDAY – February 13

TRUSTEES MTG – Tuesday, February 22, 7:00 pm

APPLEBEES DINE TO DONATE – Tuesday, March 1
Applebees will donate 15% of your bill to Calvary--you and your friends just bring a coupon!

FINANCE MTG – Wednesday, March 2, 4:30 pm

BIRTHDAY PARTY MISSION FUND-RAISER POTLUCK – Saturday, March 26, 7:00 pm

CALVARY'S GOT TALENT – Saturday, May 7



birthdays

january

- 3 Richard Totten
Jared Simpson
- 4 Val Losse
- 11 Helen Staebler
- 13 Karen Woollams
- 15 Doug Smith
- 16 Ruth Thompson
- 19 Sunyoung Shin
- 20 Yvonne Gillies
Tyler Leonard
- 27 David Gates
- 28 Jan Turner

february

- 2 Alyssa Miller
Corey Woolfolk
- 3 Frank Mueller
- 4 Betty Whiting
- 7 Steve Miller
- 8 Bob Talbot
Brock Burger
- 12 Barb Willey
- 19 Joanne Navarre
- 20 Gerald Navarre
- 23 Bob Leffler



anniversaries

january

- 2 Marilyn and Gerald Woolfolk
- 11 Betty and Bob Talbot
- 28 Kathy and Michael Sanders

february

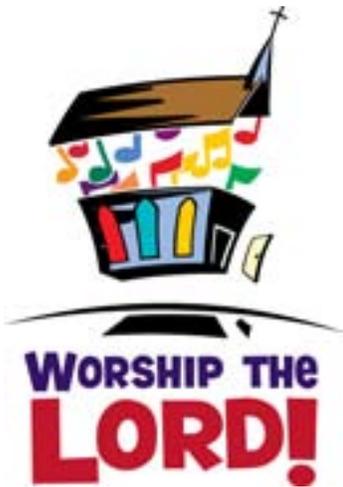
- 4 Pam and Paul Grob
- 24 Kim Kracman and Chris Skinner



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Please check and return to church office to cancel newsletter

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1415 Miller, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103

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Sunday Worship 10:00
Sunday School 11:15