



# THIS MONTH

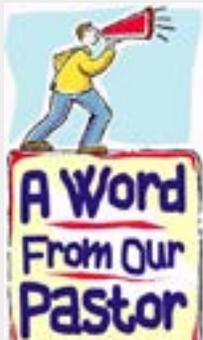
Jan/Feb 2016



## The Calvary United Methodist Church Newsletter

1415 Miller, Ann Arbor, MI 48103 • (734) 769-0869 • calvary1415@att.net • <http://a2calvary.org>

### minister's message



“But it is good for me to draw near to God: I have put my trust in the Lord GOD, that I may declare all thy works. “ Psalm 73:28 (KJV)

I have a few friends who park outside the U of M hospital every Thursday and proceed to run up

and down the 8 flight stairs located next to the helicopter pad. A few weeks ago, on a warm winter evening, I joined them. While the first 4 trips up and down the stairs were manageable, I almost threw-up upon completing my 7th trip. It was exhausting. My friends asked if I'd return the next week. I told them I would think about it; I haven't been back since.

Even when it snows, this small group of 3 still returns back to the stairs on a weekly basis. Apparently, the hospital keeps the sidewalk well salted. It's difficult me to understand why anyone would willingly do this to him/herself in the middle of winter, but I realize we all have our own preferences. We are all built differently. Although I feel like running those stairs is an exhausting, miserable experience, my friends, in contrast, are energized

by participating in such an activity. I am reminded what makes one person feel alive and recharged might be a chore for another and vice versa.

My hope for you this year is to draw closer to God. There are several established means of grace that allow God's presence into our lives: prayer, searching the scriptures, fasting, conferencing, visiting the sick, feeding the poor, or seeking justice. As we participate in any of these activities, we are brought closer to God. Instead of forcing yourself to commit to a spiritual practice that is draining for you, I suggest you participate in an activity that makes you feel alive. Then, as you feel renewed and refreshed, use that energy to grow in a spiritual practice that might otherwise be difficult.

This year I know we will find new worship joyfully, grow in Christ, and serve our community in love. May our momentum start with our own personal, vibrant spiritual life that spills into the world.

Grace and Peace,

*Andy*

## movie night

Join us for fun at the Quality 16 for the ~7 pm showing of *Concussion* followed by dessert at Grand Traverse Pie Company on Saturday, January 23. Contact Judy Wier with questions. Sign up in the narthex, including if you need a ride or want to carpool!

## clothing success

Sandra Jameson reports that five more bags of clothes were delivered to House by the Side of the Road to help out our neighbors. Thanks for your contributions!

## leadership training day

Consider attending the next Ann Arbor District Leadership Training Day titled "At the Intersection of Ministry and Need," taking place at First UMC of Howell on Saturday, February 27. The featured keynote speaker is Rev. Melanie Carey, Assistant to the Bishop. Workshops offered are: 1: Exploring Why People Would Join Your Church (Rev. Taek Kim, Carleton UMC), 2: Ministry with the Elderly (Chaplain Cathy Rafferty, Chelsea Retirement Community), 3: Building Bridges of Discipleship (Rev. Ray McGee, Metropolitan UMC), 4: Engaging Parents in Children's Ministry (Beth Pascoe, Director of Children's Ministries, FUMC Ann Arbor), 5: The Church and Persons with Disabilities (Mary McCully, UMW Mission U Study Leader, Plymouth FUMC), and 6: Extravagant Hospitality (Dr. Matt Hook, Dexter UMC). Registration and more information is available at <https://fumca2.wufoo.com/forms/ann-arbor-district-leadership-training-day/>

We plan on a lunch following the training with the Calvary group and then on to fun on go carts in Howell for those interested!! More information to come...



Sandra Jameson celebrating 40 years as Calvary organist

## timeless talent, endless energy

In the life of the church there are important pillars that anchor each Sunday morning worship service, each special event or occasion, be it wedding, memorial service, Christmas Eve, Easter Sunrise, or other significant ceremony such as a baptism or christening. One of these pillars is the music that resonates from the organ or piano!! Sometimes this music is purely background, as the prelude one hears most Sundays at Calvary Methodist Church before the worship service begins. Sometimes this music is more prominently featured as when solos are performed during service or accompaniment pours forth for various choral numbers. And sometimes the music is the sentimental thread that heralds a big event and precedes a ritual of walking down the aisle to say "I Do". Where, in fact, would we be without the majestic chords and streams of notes that announce "Here Comes the Bride" from Wagner's Bridal Chorus! To play that piece or any other with elegance and skill, one has to have a huge repertoire of classical music and training to draw on and the ability to perform without nervousness. All of these assets can be easily taken for granted and so it should be! However, when

there are special milestones in the life of the music ministry, they must be acknowledged!!

There is a person in our midst that has served as our organist for 40 years. On December 27, 2015 Pastor Andy Lee and the congregation paid tribute to **Sandra Jameson** as the person with the timeless talent and endless energy to accomplish this outstanding milestone. This article gives us another opportunity to recognize and thank Sandra for her faithful service.

The music that you hear and appreciate on the surface is merely the finished product. What you don't see is the many planning steps/layers in the process underneath the surface that are also handled by Sandra. There are many, sometimes invisible, responsibilities inherent in the role that our organist assumes without fanfare or need for applause. Consider all the input to Worship Committee meetings, the countless hours of preparation and practice, the rehearsals that are necessary, the music literature that is culled for new material, the music that is then ordered, sorted, and subsequently filed as part of our song library. The sermon each Sunday has a theme and the music that supports it has to be coordinated, submitted for the weekly bulletin, and in some cases taught to the Praise Leaders. Then there is the role the organist has in shaping and aligning the musical portions of the worship experience with the wishes and styles of the various pastors. And have I mentioned calling instrumentalists to participate in special performances, writing special parts for their instrument if necessary, and distributing the music appropriately!! Wow, how many hats can one person wear? I am sure I have left out a few items that are buried in the job!

We have had many organists in Calvary's existence, including Gertrude Thompson, mother of our current member Dr. George Thompson. According to George, Gertrude was the pianist in the early 1940s in the old church and then the organist in the new church until about 1955. There were other organists that preceded Sandra but perhaps no other organist has served as

long as she has held the position. Sandra offers this account of how she first started in the music ministry at Calvary.

"My first Sunday was in July 1975 when I was asked to play for CUMC. At that time Ruth Kline had been organist, however, since she and her husband, Frank, were leaving for an extended mission trip, I was asked to fill in. Upon their return she decided that she would not continue with the position since they had "work" to do elsewhere. For a year I accompanied both choir and the Living Circle, the latter of which sang at least once a month during church and presented programs in the community, especially at retirement centers and during the Lenten Season. Since I had played the organ for several services at Dixboro UMC and one summer, in 1963, at the Chelsea UMC,

I was delighted to be able to play regularly. I have, during the past 40 years, worked with 7 ministers at CUMC, beginning with Rev. Griger-eit."

When asked about a memorable moment, Sandra responded, "Sometimes the services and weddings are 'Interesting.' One I recall is as I was playing the prelude music for a wedding, the minister came up from the back hall and told me I was going to need to play longer since one of the groomsmen had left his shoes in a motel in Ypsilanti and he was on his way to retrieve them. Needless to say, some of the selections that I had played earlier were repeated. We were, however, able to complete the service and the couple was happily married!"

Reflecting on her 40 years, Sandra also relayed: "I very much appreciate the opportunity to accompany worship services and especially to work



Sandra Jameson and Rev. Gary Glanville

with others who share their faith through music.”

On many occasions I have heard Sandra thank her parents, Mildred and Dwight Ballinger, who were the ones who invested in piano lessons for her in her youth. Indeed, it is an investment that has allowed us at CUMC to reap musical dividends for years and we are indebted to her parents as well. For all of her dedication to leading the music ministry at Calvary United Methodist Church for so many years and for the wonderful music that has been performed and enjoyed throughout those years, we salute Sandra with trumpeting salutations. I dare say that Sandra’s musical gift is one of the best things that the State of Ohio, that state from which Buckeyes hail, could have contributed to a Michigan legacy we treasure with so much pride!!

Submitted with great admiration, Marilyn Woolfolk

note from sandra

I want to thank the congregation of CUMC for honoring me Dec. 27, '15, for serving as organist/pianist for 40 years. Needless to say it has been a real pleasure to accompany both vocal and instrumental groups during the worship services and to assist musicians to make music and worship joyfully. The special gift, an attache' case decorated with musical symbols and my initials is quite handy and has been used already a couple of times. And then, of course, there was a beautiful cake AND roses! Thank you again for your thoughtfulness.

Sandra

birthdays

january

- 4 Val Losse
11 Helen Staebler
13 Karen Woollams
14 Priscilla Woollams
15 Doug Smith
16 Ruth Thompson
20 Yvonne Gillies & Tyler Leonard
25 Emily Schildhouse
27 David Gates & Andy Lee
30 Roger Miller



february

- 2 Alyssa Miller & Corey Woolfolk
4 Betty Whiting
6 David Wooten
7 Steve Miller
8 Bob Talbot
14 Justin Wooten
16 Jada Wooten
23 Bob Leffler

anniversaries

january

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



february

- 24 Kim Kracman and Chris Skinner

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.

DONATION COLLECTION - January 10 (and every 2nd Sunday) Dial Soap and Socks Ministry for the homeless, Canned and Dry Good for Faith in Action, Clothes and Housewares for House by the Side of the Road.

TRUSTEE MEETING - Tuesday, January 12, 5:30 pm

BIBLE STUDY - Wednesday, January 13, 7 pm led by George Thompson

NURTURE/OUTREACH/WORSHIP MEETING - Thursday, January 14, 5:30 pm

FINANCE MEETING - Wednesday, January 18, 7 pm

CALVARY MOVIE NIGHT - January 23 Join us for fun at the Quality 16 for the ~7 pm showing of Concussion followed by dessert at Grand Traverse Pie Company.

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD MEETING - Sunday, January 24, after church

BIBLE STUDY - Wednesday, January 27, 7 pm led by George Thompson

BOY SCOUT SUNDAY - Sunday, February 7

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE - February 10, 5:30 pm

DONATION COLLECTION - February 14 (and every 2nd Sunday)

LEADERSHIP TRAINING DAY - Saturday, February 27, 8:30 am-12:15 pm At First UMC of Howell plus, for those interested, followed by lunch with the Calvary group and fun on go carts in Howell!! More information to come...

PI DAY PIE CELEBRATION - Sunday March 13 Enjoy pies during fellowship following church in honor or Pi Day on 3.14

EASTER CELEBRATION - Sunday, March 27 Easter service followed by Easter Egg Hunt for kids!

Weekly Activities:

HOLY YOGA - Tuesdays, 5:15 pm Enjoy a weekly yoga class with scripture and praise music to heal the body and soul! Open to all--walk ins welcome at \$10/class.

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY - contact Pastor Andy for new schedule

Dial Soap Collection for the Delonis Shelter continuous donations accepted in basket in the narthex!



**Jan/Feb 2016**

**THIS MONTH**

Calvary United Methodist Church  
1415 Miller  
Ann Arbor, MI 48103



Please check and return to church office to cancel newsletter

**The Calvary United Methodist Church Newsletter**

Rev. Andy Lee, Pastor  
1415 Miller, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103

(734) 769-0869  
calvary1415@att.net  
<http://a2calvary.org>

Sunday Worship 10:00  
Sunday School 11:15

**Still want a printed newsletter?**

Calvary has transitioned to a primarily digital newsletter. *If you would like to continue to receive a printed newsletter, let us know by calling or writing Calvary (see contact information above). Thanks!*

To make sure you get the digital newsletter, send your email address to Karen Woollams <woollams@umich.edu> or check out our website at <http://a2calvary.org/>