



THIS MONTH

February/March 2012

The Calvary United Methodist Church Newsletter

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



pastor's ponderings



I am really looking forward to the next couple of months.

HAITI

As I write this we are on countdown to the Haiti trip. Dale and I are looking forward to experiencing God's presence in a new way as we participate in this mission. We've spent months preparing, read some books, talked to other people who have gone, purchased tickets, collected things that are needed in that area. I think we are ready.... sort of.

I don't think anyone is ever completely prepared for this kind of journey. We are headed to a place of incredible poverty and need, yet there is a tremendous spirit in the people. I also don't think we can be prepared for what we think God will do while we are there. If it's true that we see Jesus in the face of people in need, we will see Jesus in every face. If it's true that when you feed, cloth, and care for the least of these you do it to me" then we will be in contact with Jesus. I'm excited about the possibilities. The experience is bound to change us. I think it will change me as a person, a parent and as your pastor. Please keep us in your prayers February 9-18.

LENT

Our Lenten series is called "Radical Renovation: Living a Cross-Shaped Life."

Each week we will discover a new aspect of what it means to live a life shaped by our faith. I am using a resource by James Harnish, which is described this way. "Radical Renovation is a powerful image of what can happen in our lives during that season of Lent. Just as a house can be rebuilt after it has fallen into disrepair or devastation, so God can enter in to our brokenness and completely rebuild our lives so that we can become the kind of people in who the living Christ can take up residence and through whom the loving purpose of God can become a tangible reality in this world." We will be following the same themes in Bible Study, The Gathering and Sunday Worship.

Personally, I really look forward to Lent. It's a time to think about our faith that doesn't come with too many parties or expectations of the season. It's a time when simplicity is encouraged, instead of bigger is better. When quiet and time alone is encouraged, instead of loud music, shopping and crowded parties. It's a good time to remember that Christmas is not the whole story. (even though some of us are still putting away our decorations.) It's a great time to get back into the habit of coming to church, if you've been away for awhile.

See you Sunday!

Grace and Peace,

Beth

bishop's day

Saturday, March 10, 2012

8:30-12:30 at Saline First United Methodist Church

Tackling one of the world's most challenging issues of our time HEALTHCARE.

Come meet two extraordinary women who believe that even with an issue as difficult as healthcare, with God, all things are possible! Hear their incredible stories and learn what steps your church can take that will make a difference too.

thanks from ruth

Many thanks to those who were able to give money to help those affected by dementia. To date over \$3,000 has been collected since the regular October Memory Walk, when I was unable to collect because of my arm injury. The Alzheimers Association gave me permission to do this. They, too, say thank you so much.

Good news abounds as reported in the annual edition of the National Alzheimers Association. With the money that has been collected, researchers, the government and the doctors are working together and success in early detection and therapy had been produced.

winter driving tips from our resident driver education instructor

Winter driving is one of the most difficult time of the year for most drivers. The possibility of a weather-related "accident" is much more than during the rest of the year. Here are a few tips to help you get to church safely and on time.

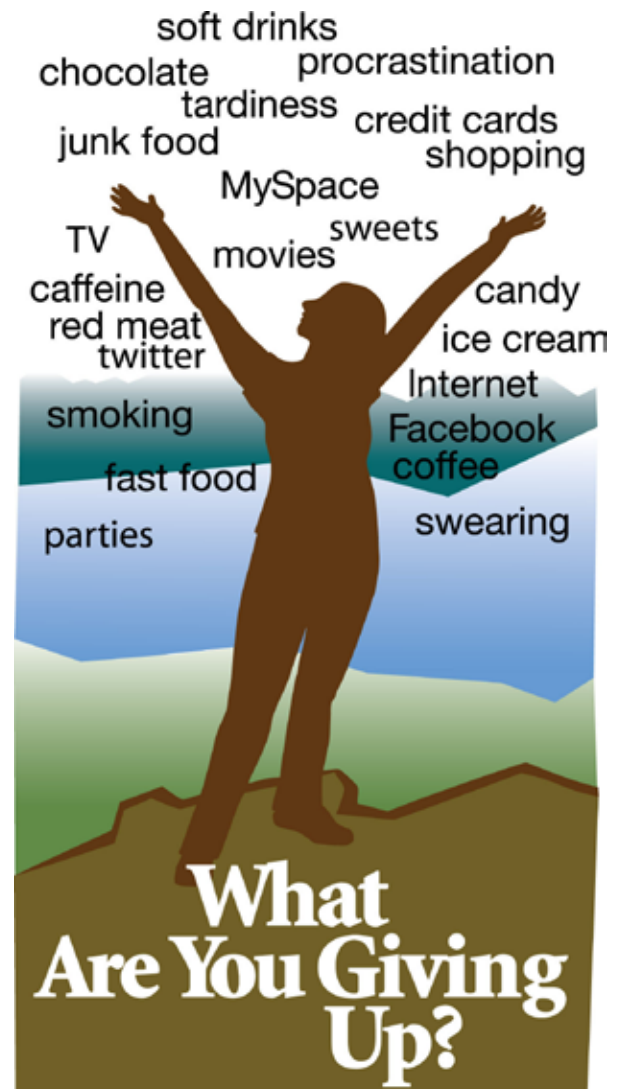
1. ABS brakes don NOT stop you any quicker than traditional brakes. They DO allow you to maintain some steering control. Press and hold the brake pedal down firmly. Do NOT pump these brakes.
2. Slow down when roads are, or may be, snowy or icy. Leave earlier if you must get somewhere.
3. Allow more space between your car and the car ahead. It will be YOUR fault if you rear end the other vehicle.
4. Be aware of all vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians all around you. They might be as well-prepared as you are.

5. Make sure your car and its tires are well-maintained.

6. Have I already mentioned, slow down!

eagle award sighted

Brian Pinsky, one of OUR Scouts, received his Eagle Award on Sunday, January 29 at the church. The Eagle award is Scouting's highest award. It is earned by less than 1% of Scouts. Friends, family, members of the troop, and honored guests attended.



what you've always wanted to know about habitat for humanity!



Calvary has participated in the Good News House since 1999! Even though we're small, Calvary provides important organizing help, funds, volunteers, and fabulous lunches in support of Good News renovations providing housing to new families every year. They count on us, and we come through for them year after year!

Over the last two years, we have seen foreclosures hit Washtenaw County in numbers we've never seen before. We have also seen more and more families denied an opportunity to own a home through the traditional housing market.

And Habitat is doing something about it.

They acted quickly to acquire foreclosed and abandoned properties and turn neighborhood eyesores into safe, decent, and affordable homes where families can thrive.

Two years ago, Habitat's leadership made a conscious decision to not just "weather the storm" of a tough economy. Instead, they crafted a Strategic Plan that responds to the opportunity and to the tremendous needs of our community in this economic crisis. Every property Habitat is working on right now was foreclosed and empty. Calvary and the Good News House are revitalizing our community by renovating these houses and turning them into homes for hardworking families. It's incredible to see the tangible difference we can make together!

GOOD NEWS HOMES - By the Numbers

1997	Year of GNH group's founding (United Methodist Churches - other churches joined over the years)
2	Good News homes renovated in 2011
2	Homes received 5 Star/5 Star+ Energy Star Rating
11	Total Good News homes with 5/5+ Star Energy Star Rating (all homes since 2005)
2	Good News Homes to be renovated in 2012
19	Total Good News Homes built/renovated by 2012
52	Children who have lived in Habitat homes
100%	Habitat families have an income
0%	Interest rate on Habitat mortgages
300	Hours of "sweat equity" each homeowner invests
4064	Recorded GNH site work volunteer hours in 2011
1200	Miles on site coordinator Bob Whitacre's truck logged picking up supplies and driving back and forth to work sites and HHHV offices! (THANKS Bob!)

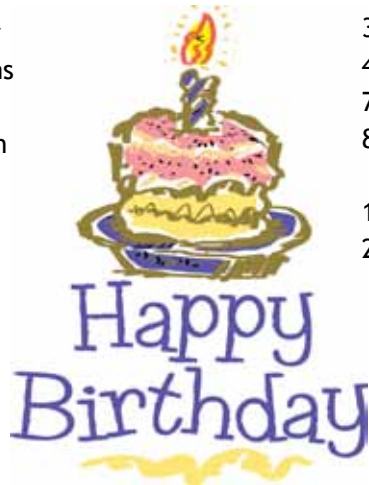
Habitat for Humanity Huron Valley

1989	Year of HHHV founding
13	Homes renovated in 2011
13	Homes received 5 Star/5 Star+ Energy Star Rating
106	Homes built/ renovated to date
225+	Children live in Habitat Huron Valley homes
300	Average number of volunteers per house
232,486	Hours volunteered in construction in 2011
1:1	Number of homes built abroad for each home built in Washtenaw County



birthdays**january**

3	Richard Totten
4	Val Losse
11	Helen Staebler
13	Karen Woollams
15	Doug Smith
16	Ruth Thompson
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
23	Bob Leffler

march

1	Mark Roberts
3	J.R. Leonard
5	Keith Jameson
8	Amanda Lowe
9	Elaine Roberts
11	Pam Grob
14	George Bigelow
15	Pam Totten
	Peter Smith
17	Abigail DeVee
	Ryleigh Lowe

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

march

12	Joann and Ken Huff
----	--------------------

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.

MOVIE NIGHT – Friday, February 3 at 7:00 pm
Watch *The Help*, and enjoy pizza, popcorn and good friends!

EAT FOR MISSIONS @ BANDITOS – Tuesday, February 7
Bandito's, 216 S. 4th Ave. all day on Tuesday. Just mention you're participating in the Calvary UMC fundraiser and Bandito's will donate a portion of your bill to our Missions projects.



HAITI MISSION TRIP – February 9-18
Pray for our Calvary participants Pastor Beth, Dale Titus, and Steve Reed and for those they meet in Haiti!

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE AT THE GATHERING – Thursday, February 23 at 6:30 pm

BOY SCOUT SUNDAY – February 26

BISHOP'S DAY – Saturday March 10
8:30-12:30 at Saline First United Methodist Church
This year's focus: Health care

NURTURE/OUTREACH COMMITTEE – Tuesday March 13 at 5:30 pm

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE – Sunday, March 25

BIRTHDAY BASH/TALENT SHOW – Saturday, March 24
Raise funds for Calvary missions, show your Calvary talent and eat your cake too!!

LIVING TRUTH 2 – Sunday April 22
Special treat for our worship service!

CHANGE THE WORLD – May 19-20
What if you could change the world, one choice at a time? Volunteer at Food Gatherer's 9-11 am on Saturday, May 19 and support our Habitat for Humanity house during Habitat Sunday in church!



Weekly Activities:

TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST at the Village Kitchen, , 7 am
Start one morning a week with a GOOD breakfast and GREAT fellowship at our NEW location.

BIBLE STUDY – Wednesdays, 7:00 pm

THE GATHERING AT CALVARY – Thursdays, 6:30 pm



February/March 2012

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. Beth D. Titus, Pastor
1415 Miller, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103

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

Sunday Worship 10:00
Sunday School 11:15