



THIS MONTH

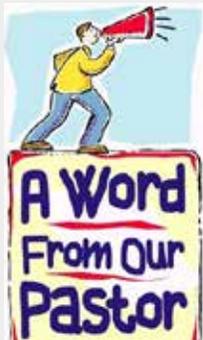
July/August 2017



The Calvary United Methodist Church Newsletter

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minister's message



As Methodists and more broadly as Christians, our mission is “to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.” The process starts with an invitation: an invitation

to church, to baptism, to confirmation, to an altar call, to membership. There’s always an invitation at play in the dynamic journey of faith. For quite some time now, we have tinkered with different ways of inviting our neighbors to make first contact with Christ’s church: a block party, a movie night, spaghetti dinners, game nights, flyers and good old personal invitations. While the results are not always encouraging, we persist because we are on a mission and we will not be deterred.

Every year our district approves connectional grants to local churches for new and innovative programs. It is true that your pastor has come

up with many ideas, but we can also agree that not all of them were good! This is my invitation to you to take a moment to brainstorm, be creative, and most importantly, allow the spirit to convict your heart for the world



that needs but does not know God. The deadline for connectional grants is September 11, 2017. If you have any ideas or want more information, I am here to assist you. I have a feeling our grant would be approved, because I know someone on the approving board. His name is... Andy Lee. (That’s me)

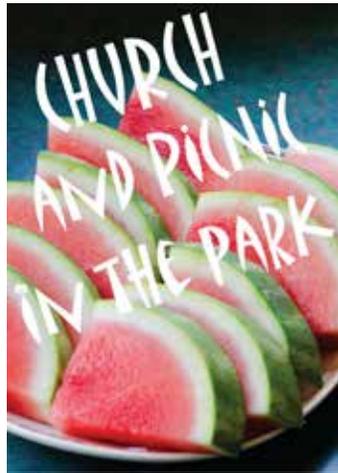
I thank and praise you for your work in our shared ministry.

In Christ,

Andy

worship in the park + church picnic

Join us for the Calvary Church Service and Picnic at Island Park on Sunday, July 16. We'll worship at the park starting at 10:30 am. A potluck picnic will follow--all are invited!



Come out and enjoy a day of worship and fellowship at the beautiful, riverside Island Park! We'll be at the first shelter, right next to the parking lot.

stork news

Pastor Andy announced Sunday, July 9 that he and Grace are pregnant and the baby is due in January!

more graduates

Congratulations to Tyler Griffin on his graduation from high school. Tyler is the middle son of Renee and Chris Griffin and second oldest grandson of Karen and David Gates!



Congratulations to Hannah Gately on her college graduation. Hannah is the daughter of Lynn Storey and oldest granddaughter of Al and Margaret Storey! Hannah has accepted a job in Portland, Oregon.

good news work

Enjoy some pictures from Calvary's great work day with Bethel AME Church members at the Good News houses at 1509 and 1513 Harvest Lane in Ypsilanti on Saturday, June 17.

Thanks to Pastor Andy, Ed Wier, Tom and Sandra Jameson, Judy Pasich, Karen Woollams, and our guest Daniela Morar, a graduate student at UM.

Our next work day is Friday, July 21!

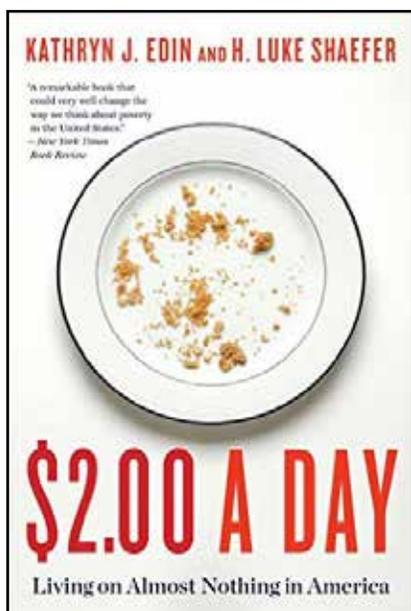


calvary reads \$2 a day

This is your chance to read the Washtenaw Reads book of 2017--*\$2 a Day: Living on Almost Nothing in America* written by local, leading national poverty experts. The Calvary book group will discuss the book after fellowship time on **Sunday, September 17**.

This compelling (only 240 page) read tells the story of a kind of poverty in America so deep that we, as a country, don't even think exists. Edin and Shaefer tell the stories of eight families who live on what is almost unimaginable—an income that falls below the World Bank definition of poverty in the developing world. We have made great steps toward eliminating poverty around the world—extreme poverty has declined significantly and seems on track to continue to do so in the next decades.

This is clearly cause for celebration. However, this good news can make us oblivious to the fact that there are, in the United States, a significant and growing number of families who live on less than \$2.00 per person, per day.



As Edin and Shaefer illuminate through incisive analysis and indelible human stories, the combination of a government safety net built on the ability to work and a low-wage labor market increasingly designed not to deliver a living wage has delivered a vicious one-two punch to the would-be working poor. More than a powerful expose of a troubling trend, \$2.00 a Day delivers new evidence and new ideas to our central national debate on work, income inequality, and what to do about it.

Join us in this fascinating discussion Sept. 17!

ten fascinating facts

History is more than facts and figures. It is full of real people with real stories. Here are some interesting, and maybe even surprising, facts about John Wesley.

1. John Wesley wrote one of the all-time bestselling medical texts.

Wesley was deeply convicted that God is concerned about our earthly life as well as our heavenly one. To that end, he wrote a medical text for the everyday person titled *Primitive Physick*. Check out Global Ministries' summary or read the full version. The book detailed the current knowledge about home remedies and went through 32 editions, making it one of the most widely read books in England.

Many of Wesley's cures and tips on healthy living remain widely accepted. While some of his advice was wishful thinking, the most important part of his philosophy was his insistence on continual observation to support hypotheses. Wesley boldly questioned modern doctors — how they sometimes treated humans like machines; that much of their “medicine” lacked merit and they lacked evidence to support its efficacy. By the same token, some of Wesley's beliefs certainly needed more supportive evidence. For instance, Wesley recommended holding a puppy against the stomach to cure stomach pain. He offered dried and powdered toad pills for asthma. He also enjoyed regular dips in cold bathwater, thought to be a near panacea. It sounds strange to us, but many leading minds during Wesley's time, espoused these sorts of folk remedies. And honestly, who doesn't feel better after holding a puppy? The point is, like David — who had the heart of God and still fell short — even the greatest leaders with the biggest hearts are fallible.

2. John Wesley coined the term “agree to disagree.”

Over the years, Wesley had serious theological differences with another popular pastor named George Whitefield. Though they both argued passionately, Wesley reflected on these differences in a memorial sermon for Whitefield by saying: “There are many doctrines of a less essential nature. ... In these, we may think

and let think; we may 'agree to disagree.' But, meantime, let us hold fast the essentials. ...” This appears to be the first recorded use of the term. It was a hallmark of Wesley’s way of holding to his convictions while remaining in connection with those with whom he disagreed.

3. John Wesley rode far enough on horse-back to circle the earth 10 times.

Wesley rode 250,000 miles! He was convinced that it was important for him personally to spread the gospel through relationships and continue to grow closer to God in those relationships. Asked if he would consider walking instead of riding, he replied, “Nay.”

4. Wesley had serious doubts about his faith.

Questioning one’s faith should not be disparaged. Doubts are essential to making any belief system one’s own. They do not mean that one will let it go. In fact, even as Wesley struggled with deep doubts about faith, he followed the wise instruction of a mentor who told him to “preach faith till you have it; and then, because you have it, you will preach faith.” Even as we struggle, we can maintain our hold on the truths we question until we can settle all of our doubts.

5. “Methodist” was originally a derogatory term.

Though the origins of the term “methodist” are in dispute, it is clear that it was originally used by outsiders to mock John Wesley and his early societies because of their dedication to following a method for growing closer to God. They ended up accepting the term, considering it a positive descriptor of their movement. Way to own it, Methodists!

6. Wesley counseled people to “eat a little less than you desire.”

Staying slim was far from Wesley’s goal, though he did weigh in around 128 pounds. This was not the result of dieting, but rather of a practice to ensure that people were not ruled by their natural desires, but exercising control over them.

7. Wesley never intended to split from the Church of England.

However, when the revolution happened in the American colonies, most of the Anglican priests returned home. Faced with the fact that none of the Methodists in the colonies could receive the sacraments, Wesley ordained ministers whom he sent to do the same in America (he was practical even when it caused problems). That act was the beginning of

the separation that formed the Methodist Church in America. The Methodist Church in England did not officially form until after Wesley’s death.

8. Wesley never said this famous quote attributed to him.

It has been on the back of more than one United Methodist youth camp T-shirt: “Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all

the times you can, as long as ever you can.” Though the quote is often attributed to John Wesley and is consistent with his perspective on life, many historians have confirmed there is no record of Wesley ever saying that.

9. Wesley believed you could not be a Christian on your own.

He said that we needed to be involved in “social holiness.” Though some often think this term is synonymous with “social justice,” its meaning is quite different. Wesley believed we could only grow as Christians in community. In his preface to the 1739 hymnal, he was adamant that “the gospel of Christ knows of no religion but social; no holiness but social holiness.”

10. Methodism grew from four to 132,000 members in Wesley’s lifetime.

The beginning of Methodism (3) was a group of four who called themselves the “holy club” at Oxford. When Wesley died in 1791, he left behind a movement with 72,000 members in the British Isles and 60,000 in America.

by Jeremy Steele, United Methodist Communications



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.

COMMUNITY GAME NIGHT – Wednesday, July 5, 7 pm

DONATION COLLECTION – July 9 (and every 2nd Sunday)

NURTURE/OUTREACH/WORSHIP MTG – Thursday, July 13, 5:30 pm

CHURCH PICNIC AND WORSHIP –

Sunday, July 16 at Island Park, 10:30 am

Worship at the park at 10:30 am with potluck lunch to follow. Come out and enjoy a day of worship and fellowship at the beautiful riverside location!

HABITAT VOLUNTEER WORK DAY – Friday, July 21

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

COMMUNITY GAME NIGHT – Wednesday, August 2, 7 pm

Games, snacks, and fellowship at our monthly game night!

DONATION COLLECTION – August 13 (and every 2nd Sunday)

BOOK SIGNING – Sunday, Aug 20, 11 am

Two Strikes And Not Out author Larry Simotes and WWII vet and Calvary member George Bigelow will sign this new book of the story of George Bigelow and the sinking of the SS Leopoldville.

COMMUNITY GAME NIGHT – Wednesday, September 6, 7 pm

Monthly Calvary Community Game Night.

BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY and SUNDAE SUNDAY – Sunday, Sept 10

Come to Calvary for this special day and invite your friends, neighbors, and co-workers. We'll enjoy Ice Cream Sundaes during fellowship time!

DONATION COLLECTION –

September 10 (and every 2nd Sunday)

BOOK GROUP: \$2 a Day: Living on Almost Nothing in America –

Sunday, September 17, 11:30 am

Get together to discuss our next book group selection following fellowship time.

CALVARY COOKS SPAGHETTI DINNER – Saturday, September 30, 5-7 pm

Community spaghetti dinner to benefit Habitat for Humanity.

CROP WALK – Sunday, October 15

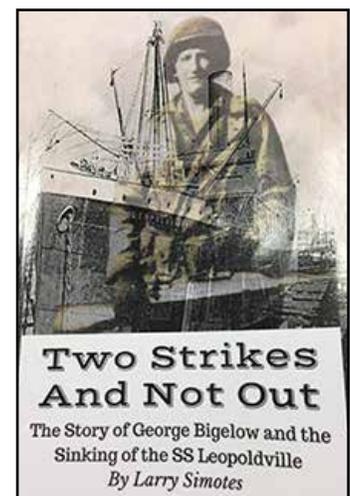
The annual Washtenaw County CROP Hunger Walk is an interfaith response to local and world hunger. Funds raised support local, national and international organizations and efforts to end hunger.

PROGRESSIVE DINNER – Friday, October 21, 5:30 pm

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 \$15/class and the first class is free!



July/August 2017

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Calvary United Methodist Church
1415 Miller
Ann Arbor, MI 48103



DON'T TAKE A
VACATION
FROM CHURCH

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
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<http://a2calvary.org>

Sunday Worship 10:00
Sunday School 11:15

birthdays

July

- 4 Ben Wallace
- 13 Lynn Storey
Kelley Wier
- 16 Peg Leonard
- 18 Dottie Jameson
- 19 Sandra Jameson
- 31 Lena Lowe



August

- 2 Betty Talbot
- 5 Phoebe Schildhouse
Ben Wier
- 11 Neil Gates
- 12 Kristin Titus
Milt Andrews
- 16 DuWaine Hoy
- 17 Allie Jameson
- 18 Lynn Wooten

anniversaries

July

- 12 Pat and Dick Fischer



August

- 2 Karen and David Gates
- 11 Carol and Steve Miller
- 16 Sandra and Tom Jameson
- 27 Margaret and Al Storey