



THIS MONTH

June/July 2009



The Calvary United Methodist Church Newsletter

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

pastor's ponderings



We are entering into the liturgical season of Pentecost. Pentecost is about the movement of the Holy Spirit. I love the Holy Spirit! When we

think we are doing all we can for God, the Spirit blows in and challenges us to do more. When we think that we can't give anymore, the Spirit enters in and shows us how to give beyond our wildest dreams. When we think that we have accomplished the task set before us, the Spirit rushes in and shows how much more we can accomplish. I think most Christians underestimate the power of the Spirit. It is the empowering force of God, and when we claim the power of the Spirit for God's purposes amazing things will happen.

Rev Tom Macauley, the Ann Arbor District Superintendent, gave the Dean of the Cabinet's speech at Annual Conference last week and he quoted Bishop Thomas Bickerton of Western Pennsylvania who talks about what might happen if we allowed God to really work in us and with us.

"Are we ready for the change God wants us to be? You better be careful what you pray for; you

might actually get it and when you do, it might not be what you thought it would be. To prepare itself, the church needs to stop limiting God by attempting to control God's

Word or putting the Church's potential in a tidy and manageable box. When the Church is truly ready to be the change God wants us to be, it will need to replace the hymnal racks with airbags because God's going to shake us up when we do." Or, the Bishop speculated, "maybe there's another issue. Maybe it's not that

we don't know the power of the Word or depth of the possibilities before us; it's that we do know the power of God and we're terrified that God might actually wake up and call our name in the night."

Whether we just don't know the power of God or we're terrified of the power of God, it's hard to say. But I know that when we let God lead us and when we allow the Holy Spirit to move, amazing things will happen. The Spirit has called us each into ministry, God is speaking and moving and when we quit trying to hold back the power of God, the Spirit is going to move and there will be no holding us back!

Beth

the new “rethink church” campaign

“The people of The United Methodist Church, Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors”

What if we rethink church? Not in terms of what it is, but what it could be. What would it look like? What would it feel like? What if all our churches were vibrant, active, places where people wanted to be, not just on Sundays but all week long? What if church were not just a place we go, but something we do? What if we were to go beyond the doors of the church to serve those in the world who are in need? What if we were able to engage the world through our faith?

And what if we could offer the world a dramatically new vision of church, a vision that inspires hope, faith and action? The word “open” in “Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.” would no longer be an adjective that describes but a verb that directs - so that together we open hearts, open minds, and open doors.

Rethinking church is about taking action. It is a wake-up call reminding is of the many needs of human beings, both in our own backyards and around the world. It is a call to action for United Methodists to become involved together in a world bigger than one individual's reach.

A new generation of both seekers and believers is yearning for something more, something deeper, something relevant. It is a generation that believes actions speak louder than words.

In the first century, Jesus' ministry made his world rethink faith beyond the walls and doors of the Temple and synagogues. In the 18th century, John Wesley called people to rethink church and make the whole world our parish. Today we are challenging United Methodists to do the same - to rethink the way our church makes contact with the world.

Check out rethinkchurch.org and/or 10thousanddoors.org for more information.

the trustees are up to something...

The trustees have had their plates full this past month.

Following the approval of the Administrative Board to offer the use of the parsonage to Kathy and

Michael Sanders, appropriate bids were obtained and many repairs and upgrades have been completed. The bedroom floors were refinished, plumbing repairs were made, kitchen cabinets cleaned and painted with the help of several volunteers and new lights, counter tops, sink and floor covering installed in the kitchen. The Sanders have moved in, and the remaining work to be done in the basement of the parsonage will be completed during the summer months.



Bids were obtained to repair the heating system in the church and this work will be done prior to the need for heat in the fall.

We had a cleanup day and several church members came to wash windows, trim bushes, weed and help with other jobs at the church and parsonage. Thank you to all who helped. We especially appreciated the assistance of the scouts and their leaders who were there in force and accomplished many tasks including trimming shrubs, pulling weeds from the pavers and digging a ditch to bury drainage pipes at the parsonage.

The trustees welcome all members of the congregation to attend their meetings - the next one is scheduled for June 9th at 7:00 pm - or to provide input on building problems that may need attention.

if — improvement fund

A number of years ago the finance committee, under the leadership of Al Storey, established a special fund to pay for improvements around the church beyond what was provided in the regular budget. This was called the Improvement Fund, or “IF.” *If* we had the money, we could take care of one or another building concern. Over the years the IF fund has been used for many necessary projects such as the roof, interior and exterior painting, etc. It is a place where people can give beyond their usual tithes and offerings. If you are interested in supporting Calvary out in this way, please designate “IF” on your check or envelope.



many thanks

— to everyone who has contributed used eyeglasses and/or the metal tabs. Please continue to contribute these items, which can be left on the counter

in the narthex, helping those with special needs.
-Ruth Husung

bouncing baby girl

Laura Turner Hayden, daughter of Jan and Nub Turner, and Brian Hayden gave birth to their second child, a daughter, on May 1, 2009. Signe Erin Hayden weighed 8 pounds. Laura has also just completed her MBA at Harvard, graduating this June. Quite an accomplishment, having 2 children while enrolled in Harvard Business School! Laura, Brian, Luke, and Signe live in Cambridge, Massachusetts.



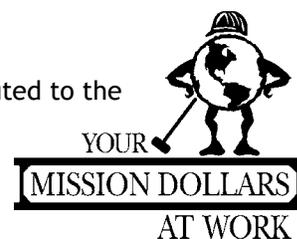
hands

A basketball in my hands is worth about \$19;
A basketball in Michael Jordan's hands is worth about \$33 million.
It depends whose hands it's in.
A tennis racket is useless in my hands;
A tennis racket in Pete Sampras' hands is a Wimbledon Championship.
It depends on whose hands it is in.
A rod in my hands will keep away a wild animal;
A rod in Moses' hands will part the mighty sea.
It depends on whose hands it is in.
Two fish and 5 loaves in my hands is a couple of fish sandwiches;
Two fish and 5 loaves of bread in God's hands will feed thousands.
It depends on whose hands it is in.
Nails in my hands might produce a birdhouse;
Nails in Jesus Christ's hands will produce salvation for the entire world.
It depends on whose hands it is in.
As you see now it depends whose hands it's in.
So put your concerns, your worries, your fears, your hopes, your dreams, your families, and your relationships in God's hands because
It depends on whose hands it is in.
-submitted by Ruth Husung



haiti

Thank you for all who contributed to the Haiti Health Kit Project. we collected 23 Health Kits, enough to fill one plastic tub very full. A total of 475 Tubs were collected at Annual Conference to help the people of Haiti. Also thank you for donations to the Covenant Offering that will help the children of Haiti receive a good meal once a day and the children of Bishop Craig Children's Home in Liberia. Calvary Church donated \$345 to this offering.



a cold ember

A member of a certain church, who previously had been attending services regularly, stopped going. After a few weeks, the preacher decided to visit him.
It was a chilly evening. The preacher found the man at home alone, sitting before a blazing fire. Guessing the reason for his preachers visit, the man welcomed him, led him to a comfortable chair near the fireplace and waited.
The preacher made himself at home but said nothing. In the grave silence, he contemplated the dance of the flames around the burning logs. After some minutes, the preacher took the fire tongs, carefully picked up a brightly burning ember and placed it to one side of the hearth all alone then he sat back in his chair, still silent.
The host watched all this in quiet contemplation. As the one lone ember's flame flickered and diminished, there was a momentary glow and then its fire was no more. Soon it was cold and dead. (This is what happens when we stop fellowshiping with believers)
Not a word had been spoken since the initial greeting. The preacher glanced at his watch and realized it was time to leave. He slowly stood up, picked up the cold, dead ember and placed it back in the middle of the fire. Immediately it began to glow, once more with the light and warmth of the burning coals around it. (and when we get back into fellowship with believers)
As the preacher reached the door to leave, his host said with a tear running down his cheek, 'Thank you so much for your visit and especially for the fiery sermon. I shall be back in church next Sunday.'
Submitted by Ruth Husung



birthdays**june**

- 3 Donna Reed
- 6 Raegan Barnes
- 8 Dale Titus
- 10 Emma Parow
- 10 Laura Hayden
- 14 Caroline Roberts
- 15 Al Storey
- 16 Pat Fischer
- 16 Bev Sanders
- 24 Marilyn Acheson
- 24 Rev. Beth Titus
- 25 Stacy DeVee
- 27 Connie Nichols
- 28 Jim Simpson
- 29 Linda Losse



Wish These Friends a
"Happy Birthday!"

july

- 8 Frances Sweet
- 9 Jackie Goerke
- 13 Lynn Storey
- 13 Kelly Wier
- 16 Peg Leonard
- 18 Dottie Jameson
- 19 Sandra Jameson
- 23 Erin Lin
- 26 Betty Brewer
- 31 Lena Lowe

anniversaries**june**

- 5 Nancy and Mark Roberts
- 7 Karen Woollams and Doug Smith
- 9 Erin and Frank Lin
- 18 Julie and Jim Simpson
- 28 Peggy and David Thompson
- 29 Renee and Chris Griffin

**july**

- 5 Bobbie and Phil Smith
- 12 Pat and Dick Fischer
- 12 Pam and Dick Totten
- 29 Bonnie and Milt Andrews

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.

mark your calendars now

Sunday, June 7, 2009 - Graduate and Teacher Recognition Sunday

During worship we will recognize several people who have been working hard during the year. Those people who have recently graduated from high school, college, or graduate school and those who have been teaching our classes, our faith growth continues through-out our life time and good teachers help us along the way.



Also Sunday, June 7, 2009 - Planting Sunday

After worship we will be going outside to plant our gardens. The gardens are a beautiful statement of our church to the people who go by: if we have gardens that are full of life, then life must be found on the inside as well.

June 22-25 - Camp E.D.G.E. at Westside United Methodist Church

Camp E.D.G.E. (Experiencing & Discovering God Everywhere) takes place each morning 9am - 12 noon. Please contact Westside Church (734-663-4164) if you would like to volunteer or if you know a child who would like to attend.



August 3-7 - W.A.C. (Worship Arts Camp) at Westside United Methodist Church

Camp W.A.C. is for youth grades 6-12. Experience God through worship band, dance, food, video, hand bells, public speaking, choir, drama, and more. All youth are welcome. To volunteer or register please contact Westside (734-663-4164).



Sunday, September 13, 2009 - "Our Life Together" All-Church Retreat

Many of us have read and studied the book "5 Practices for Fruitful Congregations" and some of us attended "The 180 Turn-Around Church Conference." So what's next? Where are we going? These questions will be discussed and plans will be started to lead Calvary forward in ministry. Don't miss this! Plan on being in church and staying for the day!

Wednesday, October 21, 2009 - Annual Charge Conference

The Staff Parish Relations Committee will meet at 6:45 and the all church conference will start at 7:30.

the summer in worship

Rev. Titus will be out of town a few Sundays this summer to spend important time with her family, just having fun and enjoying each other's company. Rev. Tom Burdette, the chaplain will be on call and will preach on two Sundays and Brad Hamilton will also preach.

Sunday, June 21 - Rev. Tom Burdette

Sunday, June 28 - Brad Hamilton

Sunday, August 9 - Tom Burdette



Also if you have a talent that would be appropriate to share in worship, singing, drama, dancing, playing an instrument and you would like to be part of worship, please contact Pastor Beth or Sandra Jameson.

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DON'T TAKE A
VACATION
FROM CHURCH

Please check and return to church office to cancel newsletter

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Sunday Worship 10:00
Sunday School 11:15