



THIS MONTH

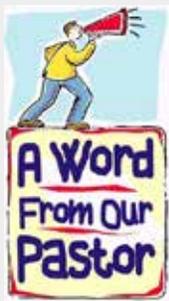
September/October 2018



The Calvary United Methodist Church Newsletter

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minister's message



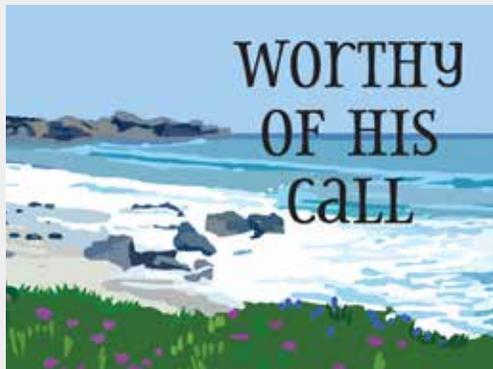
In May, a televangelist asked his followers to supply him with \$54 million dollars so that he could purchase a new jet. The request would be for his fourth plane. Unfortunately, this is not new or uncommon. There are several televangelists who have suc-

cessfully duped their followers into footing the bill for these kinds of luxury purchases. It hurts to read stories like this. I often wonder about the impact these kinds of stories have on the average person. Do readers mistakenly believe this is an accurate representation of Christianity in America? I certainly hope not.

While Calvary may not make any headlines this year, I want to remind you that we seek to do ministry with integrity. This fall, we will restart our free community breakfast that seeks to welcome all people. We continue the spaghetti dinners with all the proceeds benefitting Habitat for Humanity and its mission. This is no small thing. There are other churches that fundraise simply to boost their budget and serve themselves. Finally, in a passive way, we support several community groups that use our building on a discounted or

free basis. In short, we seek to freely give as God has given to us.

We may be small but I hope you take pride in the way we use our resources. In my view, it's better than some of these alternate ways of doing ministry. What's the point of having millions of dollars if only to spend it frivolously on multiple private jets? Thank you for your ministry. I am excited to have another year to do God's work.



As a concluding thought, allow me to leave you with the words of James 1:22-25

“Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does

not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.”

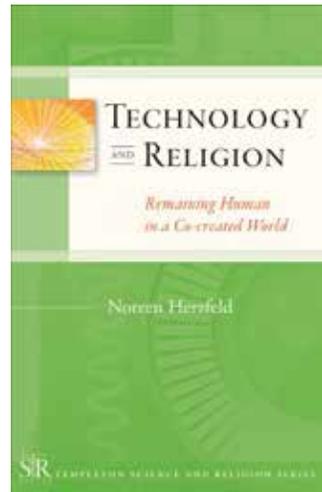
May we always be the kind of people who do the word of God. Peace be with you.

Your pastor,

Andy Lee

religion/technology series

Spanning from September to April, we will have a book based discussion after fellowship time on Religion in the Age of Technology. Join us every 3rd Sunday, starting September 16 for a discussion of chapter one of the resource book: *Of Morals and Machines*. Copies of the syllabus are available in the narthex.



The book which some sessions will be based on, *Technology and Religion: Remaining Human in a Co-created World* by Noreen Herzfeld, is available online at https://www.amazon.com/Technology-Religion-Remaining-CO-created-Templeton-ebook/dp/B005CKKFCG/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1532954720&sr=8-1&keywords=technology+and+religion+herzfeld.

Westside United Methodist Church is also carrying out a similar discussion series. We may hold a joint gathering to wrap up the series with Westside in May.

walk to fight hunger

Join the 44th Annual Ann Arbor CROP Hunger Walk on Sunday afternoon, September 30, 2018, at St Clare's Episcopal Church, 2309 Packard, Ann Arbor. Register from 1 pm; the 2k walk will start with a send-off service at 2 pm. We walk to help the hungry, locally in Washtenaw County and overseas through Church World Service. Many small gifts make a big difference!

Walkers will collect all donations before the walk and turn them in the day of the walk.

Check out the facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/annarborcrophungerwalk>--Kristin Olsen is featured in their profile picture!

More than 1,600 walks take place across the U.S. annually- this historic Ann Arbor 5K walk has happened annually since 1975 and has raised a total of over \$3 million. Last year, over 300 individuals walked and raised over \$25,000.

75% of funds raised will be granted to Church World Service and their partner agencies. The remaining 25% will be granted to various local hunger and poverty relief organizations. Additionally at the event, we will be collecting non-perishable food items. These items will be donated to a local food pantry.

This walk is great for individuals of all ages and philosophical or religious backgrounds. Post walk snacks will be provided during social hour, as well as fun activities for children.

Join the hundreds of individuals and organizations committed to community action, hunger relief, and poverty eradication! You can end hunger one step at a time by:

- Walking on the Calvary team or supporting a walker.
- Volunteering prior to and during the event.
- Donating non-perishable food items at the event.

To make a credit-card donation, join the team and collect funds online, or just find out more, you can "Walk on the Web". Visit the website <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/annarbormi/CalvaryCROPWalkers>

For more information, contact Karen Woollams. Calvary needs walkers and walkers need folks to make donations!

Together, we can help end hunger in our community and around the world. We can make zero hunger a reality!

church breakfast resumes

Calvary presents a free breakfast on each 2nd Sunday, starting September 9 from 9-9:45 am as an outreach and fellowship opportunity. Come enjoy a hot breakfast before church and help welcome special invited guests from Miller Manor and others throughout our neighborhood.

eat spaghetti and help habitat

The next community spaghetti dinner to benefit Habitat for Humanity will be Saturday, October 27 from 5-7 pm. Calvary continues to offer free dinners for Miller Manor residents.

Is there someone you could invite who would enjoy our next spaghetti dinner in October? This is also an opportunity for Calvary members to meet new and old friends who show up! Hope to see you and your friends and family on October 27!

congratulations

Congratulation to Zachary Hamilton for his promotion to sargent and to he and his wife who are expecting a child!

Congratulation to Daniel Roberts and Alison (Hendricks) Roberts who got married on August 25!



remembering our christian brothers

Calvary United Methodist Church(CUMC) mourns the loss of two individuals and servants of the Lord who died earlier this summer.

Richard “Dick” H. Fischer
June 20, 2018 at age 82

Reverend Douglas “Doug” K. Olsen
July 15, 2018 at age 71

Each is remembered for their spiritual journey, unique contributions and overall influence on others while being at CUMC. Reverend Olsen pastored here from 1996-2008. Richard Fischer was a long time member. Through their participation in important areas of the life of our church, whether as minister for 12 years as “Doug” was or as part of the service ministry through Trustee Board chairmanship, committee work, or Habitat for Humanity laborer as “Dick” was, each displayed their abiding faith and willing discipleship. They led full lives, were family men, and collectively left memories and an impact.

Our brothers in Christ, are resting now from all their labor. May God continue to bless the loved ones and friends that they have left behind as they mourn.

The full obituaries appeared in MLive and Monroe News and can be reviewed there.

responding to hate: 9/11 and the power of love

One of Jesus’ most difficult commands is to love our enemies. “Just as your heavenly Father is complete in showing love to everyone, so also you must be complete,” he says (Matthew 5:48 CEB).

Following the terror attacks of September 11, 2001, United Methodists in New York City have been finding ways to respond to an act of hate with love.

Each year, the United Methodist Church of St. Paul and St. Andrew in New York City holds an interfaith dinner. “We bring together 50 Christians, 50 Jews, and 50 Muslims,” the Rev. K Karpen, pastor of the congregation explains. “We gather for a meal we call a Peace Feast because we share readings from our different traditions about peace.”

“My favorite part is always in the beginning when we’re trying to mix up all the tables,” Karpen continues. “We always have people who are calling out, ‘Hey, we need another Muslim over here.’ Or, ‘we need some Jews over here.’ ‘Anybody got a Christian?’ ‘Do we have any Methodists wandering around? They can come and be with us.’”

One year, a rabbi noticed beauty in the chaos.

“This is paradise,” Karpen remembers the rabbi saying. “This is how it’s going to be. It’s not going to be like, ‘You’re not like me. Stay away.’ ... It’s going to be, ‘Hey, Jews, Muslims, Christians, come here together.’”

“I think he’s right,” the pastor concludes.

The United Methodist Church of St. Paul and St. Andrew is just six miles from the site of the World Trade Center. Karpen has been their pastor since 1984.

“It always seems like it’s very distant in the past,” he reflects. “It’s years and years ago until you get to that day. Then it seems like it just happened yesterday.”

Love triumphs over tragedy

The Rev. June Stitzinger-Clark was serving as pastor of the Atlantic Highlands and Navesink United Methodist churches in New Jersey on

Responding to Hate continued

September 11, 2001. When the morning news reported a fire at the World Trade Center, she and her husband went to the harbor to pray for the situation.

Later that morning, Stitzinger-Clark returned to do what she could to be helpful as people evacuating New York arrived at the harbor by ferry and private boat. She and “Father Bob,” the Rev. Robert Tynski the local Catholic priest, shuttled notes between loved ones, prayed with all who requested it, and “emptied out” the Catholic church’s thrift shop to provide clothes to those coming out of the decontamination showers.

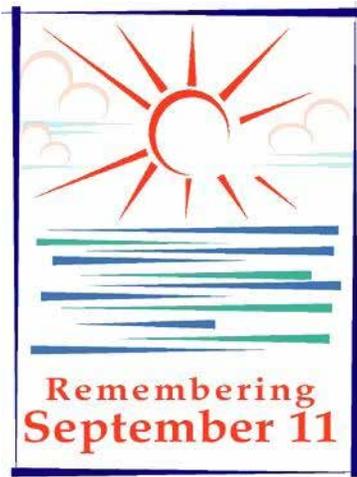
Stitzinger-Clark vividly remembers a pregnant woman who was worried that her husband didn’t know where she was. Later in the day, Stitzinger-Clark saw the woman walking down Main Street with her husband. When she saw the pastor, the woman smiled and lifted her husband’s hand.

“She was lifting up a sense of glory that God had intervened,” Stitzinger-Clark reports. “Love triumphed in the midst of all that tragedy.”

Paul Pillitteri and his then-fiancée Martha Chapman were finishing plans for their wedding scheduled for September 15, 2001, at Washington Square United Methodist Church, less than 2 miles from the site of the World Trade Center. In the days immediately following the attack, Chapman was determined to go ahead with the wedding.

“This was about hate,” she remembers thinking, “and our marriage is about love. We’re going to do this.”

Soon, however, the couple realized it would be impossible. They were married November 24, 2001.



Coming together

Chapman describes connections she felt to others. “I remember having naked soul eye-contact with complete strangers,” she says.

The Rev. Stephen Bauman, pastor of Christ Church United Methodist in New York City, also recalls a pervasive sense of unity.

“The city very quickly adopted a ‘we’re all in this together’ kind of attitude. It was quite stunning really. The differences people had just melted away.”

“I felt like God’s name had been co-opted by people who wanted to use it for evil,” Jennifer Rodia, Chief Communications Officer with United Methodist Communications, remembers. She was a member of Christ Church in 2001. “And in times like that it is so important for people of faith to do whatever they can to show that love is a much more powerful force than hate.”

Rodia was soon “mashing hundreds of pounds of potatoes” and helping feed volunteers working at the site of the World Trade Center.

“I remember the faces of the firefighters coming in from the work site, covered in that white-gray ash, sitting down at a table and sharing a meal with their colleagues and experiencing the kindness of strangers. And I realized how powerful love is.”

Moving forward

“It’s hard to look back on that day,” Karpen confesses. “I would like us to all be looking to the future, hopefully a good future and a peaceful future.”

A future that will connect people who are loving and serving both God and their neighbor.

The Rev. Jason Radmacher, pastor of John Street United Methodist Church whose building is located three blocks from the site of the World Trade Center, encourages his congregation to continue to share the power of love today.



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.

FREE CALVARY BREAKFAST — Sunday, September 9, 9-9:45 am
Join special invited guests and enjoy a hot breakfast before church!

DONATION COLLECTION — September 9 (and every 2nd Sunday)

NURTURE/OUTREACH/WORSHIP MTG — Thursday, Sept 13, 5:30 pm

RELIGION IN THE AGE OF TECHNOLOGY —
after fellowship on Sunday, September 16

Spanning from September to April, we will have a book based discussion on Religion in the Age of Technology. Join us every 3rd Sunday. Based on Chapter 1: Of Morals and Machines.

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD MEETING — Wednesday, Sept 19, 5:30 pm

CROP WALK — Sunday, September 30

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.

FREE CALVARY BREAKFAST — Sunday, October 14, 9-9:45 am
Join special invited guests and enjoy a hot breakfast before church!

DONATION COLLECTION — October 14 (and every 2nd Sunday)

RELIGION IN THE AGE OF TECHNOLOGY — after fellowship, October 21

Spanning from September to April, we will have a book based discussion on Religion in the Age of Technology. Join us every 3rd Sunday. Based on Chapter 2: Healing or Enhancing?

CALVARY COOKS SPAGHETTI DINNER — Saturday, October 27, 5-7 pm
Community spaghetti dinner to benefit Habitat for Humanity.

ELECTION DAY — Tuesday, November 6

FREE CALVARY BREAKFAST — Sunday, November 11, 9-9:45 am
Join special invited guests and enjoy a hot breakfast before church!

DONATION COLLECTION — November 11 (and every 2nd Sunday)

RELIGION IN THE AGE OF TECHNOLOGY — after fellowship, November 18

Spanning from September to April, we will have a book based discussion on Religion in the Age of Technology. Join us every 3rd Sunday. Based on Chapter 3: Cyberspace on Our Minds

DONATION COLLECTION — December 9 (and every 2nd Sunday)

RELIGION IN THE AGE OF TECHNOLOGY — after fellowship, Dec 16
Spanning from September to April, we will have a book based discussion on Religion in the Age of Technology. Join us every 3rd Sunday. Free Speech and the Internet--Democracy?



Responding to Hate continued

“I think the people of John Street Church are more empathetic having experienced the chaos of that day,” he says. “We remember what it was like to be running scared, not knowing where our loved ones were, and what was going to happen next. Living through that moment, you realize how many people around the world face terrible adversity every day. I think the Holy Spirit can use that awareness to *increase our ability to love one another.*”

“I often return to the Prayer of Saint Francis at this time of year,” Radmacher continues. “It reminds me that we all have a choice to make. Do we want to walk in the light or live in the dark?”

Whenever we choose to show love to everyone, as Jesus commands, we are choosing to walk in the light.

Joe Iovino, UMC.org

THE PRAYER OF SAINT FRANCIS

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace;
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
and where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master,
grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console;
to be understood, as to understand;
to be loved, as to love;
for it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

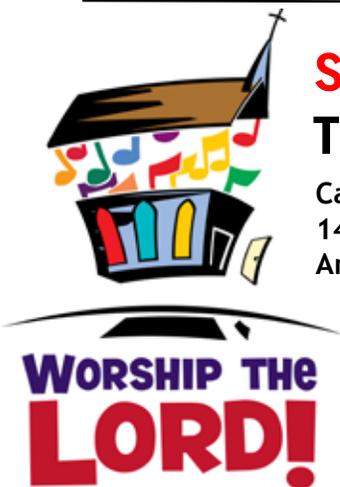
United Methodist Hymnal 481

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES:

HOLY YOGA – Tuesdays, 5:15 pm

Bottle/can drive by Aaron VonBargen for his Eagle Scout Project to build cabinets on the stage of the basement: **use the bin in the basement of the church to donate.**

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



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Ann Arbor, MI 48103

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

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Sunday Worship 10:00
Sunday School 11:15