



# The Beacon

## CALVARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Volume 6, Issue 5

May 2015

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### *The Bible and Money*

You might be surprised to learn just how much the Bible says about finances. There are more than 2,350 verses on how to handle money and possessions, and Jesus Christ said more about money than almost any other subject. In Luke 16:11 He says, "Therefore if you have not been faithful in the use of worldly wealth, who will entrust the true riches to you?" Our Lord consistently addressed the issue of money for three reasons:

1. *How We Handle Our Money Influences Our Fellowship with the Lord.*
2. *Possessions Compete with the Lord for First Place in our Lives*
3. *Much of Life Revolves Around the Use of Money*

So, as we "cut to the chase," all of that leads me to this: historically here at Calvary, weekly giving (offerings and tithes) is greatly reduced during the summer months. That is mostly due to families and individuals on vacations, increased personal spending, and/or more frequent absences from Sunday worship services for personal reasons. We have a responsibility to continue supporting our church, with our tithes and offerings, even when we are away or unable to attend as frequently as we might like, or are accustomed to.

There are several options available to keep your contributions current during any absences. You can mail it in, leave post-dated checks with the Finance Committee Chairman or use Bill Payer at your local bank. You may also discuss arrangements with Pastor Esther or Sally Cook or Barbara Coleman.

The journey towards sound financial management (stewardship) is a journey that takes time. When we learn God's responsibilities and do ours faithfully, we can experience contentment, hope, and confidence about our own financial future and that of our church, as well. We can begin (or continue) the journey by adhering to the following principles: Live for Eternity, Avoid Debt, Seek Counsel, Practice Honesty, Give Generously, Work Hard, Save Consistently, and Spend Wisely. Let the journey begin!

*Ron Coleman*

### Sunday Worship

**8:15 a.m. Blended**

**11:00 a.m. Traditional**

**9:30 Sunday School**

# Pennings by Pastor Esther



This article, which we have broken into 3 segments, from ChurchLeaders.com, written by Rev. Carey Nieuwhof, was given to me by Larry Rood. I thought it was very interesting and wanted to share it with you and see what you thought.

## ***9 Surefire Ways to Make Your Church Completely Ineffective***

Very few leaders go into church leadership as pastors, staff, board members or volunteers hoping to be ineffective.

And yet so many churches and church leaders end up that way — ineffective.

You might be stuck in a church like that right now. Or even if you would say your church is ‘effective’ overall, there’s a very good chance there are areas of your ministry that aren’t. Or maybe you realize you’ve become less effective than you used to be.

Why is that?

Sometimes it’s not because people have lost faith or lost their faithfulness.

I see many churches populated with people who love God but have become completely ineffective.

And often the issues behind that are practical, and fixable.

If you are willing to go where most leaders don’t go, that is.

### ***Nine Ways to Make Your Church Ineffective***

What do I mean by ‘ineffectiveness’? Great question.

I simply mean not accomplishing what you set out to accomplish.

For most of us in church world, that means something like leading people into a growing relationship with Jesus and growing by becoming a church unchurched people love to attend. At least that’s what we’ve set out to accomplish (it’s kind of the universal mission of the church). I imagine you are not that far off.

#### **1. Don’t dream.**

The church should be the place where dreams are born and where dreams soar.

In far too many cases, churches have become the place where dreams die.

People with imagination, hope and optimism get squashed enough times that they stop dreaming.

And eventually, an ineffective church is marked as a place where people have long since abandoned thriving and are focused on merely surviving.

Want to be ineffective? Kill dreams.

#### **2. Focus on yourself.**

Ineffective churches are almost always self-focused.

The natural mission of the church (and almost every healthy organization for that matter) has an outward thrust to it.

But many unhealthy organizations lose their focus on outsiders and instead focus on the insiders.

I realize you might be pushing back on this and thinking, *Well, we can’t just ignore our insiders ... we can’t ignore ourselves.*

### ***Pennings con't***

Change gears for a second. Do you know any people who focus exclusively on themselves?

That's right. We call them self-absorbed, or selfish. And nobody really thinks hanging out with them is fun.

Why would anyone feel differently about a church that behaves that way?

### **3. Try to keep everybody happy.**

Trying to keep everyone happy is a recipe for misery. Yet so many churches serve dinner from that cookbook everyday.

You can't keep everybody happy. You won't keep everyone happy.

In fact, you will do the opposite: You will make everyone miserable. It doesn't work in your family, so why would it work in your church?

Operating out of your convictions with some empathy and sensitivity for those who see differently, is a far better approach.

Still not convinced?

I wrote more about why your church isn't for everyone in this post.

I honestly wish more churches would just get on with trying to reach a certain group of people, realizing that in the process they will reach far more than that.

Blessings and Peace,

*Pastor Esther*

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### **Question & Answer**

*How are we doing on our Imagine No Malaria project?*

We are over half way to our goal so don't let up now. We had a successful pancake Breakfast on World Malaria Day which adds to our total. I think we can easily double our goal of \$1000 and make it \$2000, after all we have 9 more months to go! **Thank you to everyone who is making Imagine No Malaria a priority in their giving.**

#### **THANK YOU**

A VERY BIG THANK YOU to all the people at Calvary, who pitched in with our March 29th Pot Luck Dinner, making it a great success. The outpouring of help was very much appreciated. I hope no one went hungry.

Our next Pot Luck Dinner will be on **May 31, 2015.**

*Bobbie Allison  
Fellowship Coordinator*

### **Church Calendar Reminder**

We love having a calendar full of events to offer our members, however we do ask that you contact Sue in the office instead of writing on the calendar. It causes confusion when new things are added and old removed without her knowledge, and it also makes it very difficult to provide an updated calendar to our newsletter readers. Thank you

## ***May Spotlight: Susan Crabtree***

Susan Locke Crabtree, was born to parents Beth and Charles Locke, in San Diego, CA. She has two brothers; Mike lives in Orange Park and Steve lives in Jacksonville.

In 1974, Susan moved to Orange Park, when the Navy base was closed in Quonset Point, RI and her dad was transferred to Jacksonville.

She attended Orange Park High School and studied Business at FCCJ.

She worked for McDonalds for 8 years, starting out with the regular crew, then moved into management. McDonalds actually sent her to Chicago, to attend Hamburger University, for advanced training. For the last 25 years, Susan has worked for BCD Travel, a company that manages international travel for corporate accounts.

Susan married her husband, Eric, in 1985 and they have two children. Victoria is 26 and lives in Jacksonville. Tyler is 22, is in the Army and lives in Clarksville, TN. He recently returned from Afghanistan and is currently attending school to advance to Sergeant and will then go to Airborne School.

Susan joined Calvary in 1975 and has fond memories of various events. She remembers youth activities, with her children, teaching little ones about Jesus, the Pumpkin Patch and Christmas Caroling.

She has served as Vacation Bible School director, Sunday School teacher and currently is the Nursery Supervisor.

Her hobbies are reading, camping and playing with her grandson, Declan.

Although, Susan is usually “behind the scenes” she plays a very important role here at Calvary. It’s comforting for us all to know that our little ones are being cared for, in a safe and loving manner, when they’re in the nursery. Thank you, and Bless you, Susan, for the role you play, in support of our Calvary family.



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## ***Friendship Club***

The Friendship Club met at the church, on April 9th, at 12 noon, for a potluck dinner. We had 18 in attendance. It was necessary to cancel our planned picnic outing to Green Cove Springs, for that meeting.

Mike Zieman opened with a prayer blessing the food. Following the meal, Rose Marie Gougler, presided over our meeting, in the absence of our president. The minutes of the March meeting were read.

We’re looking forward to seeing everyone at the May gathering, which will be another covered dish dinner, at the church. At that time, we will decide the schedule for meetings during the summer months.

Gene Clark



\*\*\*\*\* YOUTH NEWS \*\*\*\*\*

Thank you to the congregation, for all your support for the youth leading the Maundy Thursday service during Easter Week. I believe it was a truly spiritual moment for all involved and present.

Confirmation Classes are now in session, for the youth of the church, as they prepare to become the future leaders of our congregation. Please keep them in your prayers and thoughts as they journey down the path closer to God. If you have any questions please see Annette Jeffery, Pastor Esther or Fran Ronan.

We have GREAT news for Calvary. We have been chosen to be the host site of the National Connect 4 tournament! The tournament will be held all summer with the championship culminating in August! More info to follow.

Our Youth Group is open to all 'Rising' Sixth Graders through High School seniors. We would love for all youth to come and share in Christian fellowship! Our regular meetings take place on Wednesday evenings 5:30 till 7:00.

If you have any questions, or need additional information, please speak with Youth Director George Clooney or his PA, Brad Pitt.

*Fran The Man Ronan*

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## ***Education at Calvary***

Calvary UMC offers a number of opportunities and services in the area of Christian Education. You and/or your children may be interested in one of the following.

Children 8 - 12 years: Taught by Lois Carlberg and Sue Mikell

Youth 6th grade to graduation (including college students): Taught by Fran Ronan

Adults: Taught by Jean Storey. This group is open to all adults and studies a variety of topics, using the Bible for reference. The current topic is "Growing Older and Wiser."

Adults: Taught by Gene Clark and Marlene Stone: This class is known as the Bodybuilders/ Pathfinders, and is open to all adults. The United Methodist Bible Study material, which follows the Lectionary, covering both the Old and New Testaments, is used. The topic of study changes each quarter.

Adults: Taught by Jamie Stowers: The Seekers Class meets in a room in the Educational Building. They are currently using material from Dr. David Jeremiah. A few of the topics to be studied are, Angels, God's will, Crowns, Marriage, Grace, The fruit of the spirit, The rapture, Gratitude, Purpose & Growth. They extend an open invitation to all who may not be involved in a class, to join them, as they grow in His Wisdom and Grace.

Nursery and pre-school children: Supervised and taught by Susan Crabtree and Sheri Federici. This area is available for all services and numerous activities.

If you are interested in a class, please feel free to visit one or all, from 9:30 - 10:30 AM, each Sunday morning. You may also contact Annette Jeffery, Education Chairperson, for specifics.



“O God in Heaven” Words and Music by Elena G. Maquiso, 1961

This hymn from the Philippines appears as No. 119 in The United Methodist Hymnal. It was first listed as an offertory hymn in the 1962 hymnal *Awitan Ta Ang Dyos* with the Philippines Cebuano language text “Panalangini ang mong halad” (“Bless Our Offering”).

Maquiso was educated in the Philippines and the USA, earning a Doctor of Religious Education in 1960 from the Hartford Theological Foundation. She taught at Silliman University in the Philippines.

“O God in heaven, grant to thy children mercy and blessing, songs never ceasing, love to unite us, grace to redeem us, O God in heaven, dear Lord, our God.

Jesus, Redeemer, may we remember thy gracious passion, thy resurrection. Worship we bring thee, praise we shall sing thee, Jesus, Redeemer, Jesus, our Lord.

Spirit descending, whose is the blessing, strength for the weary, help for the needy, sealed in our kinship, thine be our worship, Spirit descending, Spirit adored.”

This reminds us that the UMC is a world wide church and we join our brothers and sisters across the globe, in worship and praise, of the triune God and in discipleship to His call.

### ***Resurrection Easter Egg Hunt***

On Saturday, April 4, 2015, Calvary hosted a Resurrection Easter Egg Hunt, for approximately 25 children. The theme of this event was the resurrection of Jesus and the children traveled to different stations, to learn the story.

The stations consisted of a coloring station, a play dough station, and a craft station. After the egg hunt, the children went to a station that explained the resurrection eggs. Face painting and refreshments were also provided.

The Children’s Ministry wishes to thank the congregation for the amazing number of donations provided for this event. It was a real blessing. Another *Thank You* goes to the individuals that volunteered their time to decorate, make refreshments, manage the different stations and do the face painting. *A Very Special Thank You* to our Youth Group, who hid the Easter Eggs and took pictures of the Easter Egg Hunt.



# ***United Methodist Family Night at the Ballpark***



***Jacksonville Suns vs. Montgomery Biscuits***

**Friday, June 5 7:05 pm at The Baseball Grounds of Jacksonville**

***Please bring canned food items that will be distributed by  
our Boy Scout Troops to Jacksonville-area Food Banks***

**Our own Bishop Ken Carter is throwing the opening pitch!**

***Mandarin UMC's Kayla Lodge singing the National Anthem***

**Following the last out enjoy the best fireworks show in town!**

***Wonderful fellowship opportunity to show Northeast Florida  
nobody has more fun than the United Methodists***

**More information on tickets coming soon!**

***proudly brought to you by the United Methodist Men of the Northeast Florida District***



## ***Worship***

**Pentecost is May 24th, the fiftieth and last day of the Easter season when the church received the gift of the Holy Spirit as found in Acts 2. To commemorate and celebrate the 'tongues of fire' which appeared on them, **we are asking you to wear RED to church on May 24th.** It is a visual reminder of the empowered church sent into the world to make disciples of Jesus Christ.**

## Mother ' s Day - May 10, 2015

Mothers are everything for us, when we are small...our lives revolve around them. For everything we need, we call our mother. To protect us from all perceivable dangers, we want her around us. To kiss away our wounds, we run to her and for a warm hug and love, we look for her. She is the focal point of our lives, the greatest human being in the world or should we say, divinity on earth.

When we were growing up, our mothers were our rock and the soft shoulder we could nestle up to, when our spirits were low or our fever was high. It was a way of life for most of us, to have the milk and cookies waiting for us, when we came home from a hard day at school.

In 1999, I retired from 25 years of teaching in Clay County schools. As I was getting ready to leave for work, on my last day, the doorbell rang. When I opened the door, I found my mother standing there, with a baggie full of her delicious chocolate chip cookies. She said, "Fifty seven years ago, I sent you off to your first day of school, with a bag of chocolate chip cookies, for your snack. Now, I ' m sending you off to your last day of school, with another bag of chocolate chip cookies, for your snack. "

Nancy Walker



### *A Child's Prayer*

*Dear God,*

*Thank you for giving me a wonderful mother,  
Thank you for making her healthy so she can  
look after me,*

*Thank you for loving her so that I am loved,  
Thank you for all her hard work so I will grow  
up strong,*

*Thank you for making her patient when I am  
naughty,*

*Thank you for my mummy teaching me how to read  
the Bible,*

*Thank you for being a wonderful God who makes  
wonderful mothers.*

*In Jesus' Name I pray,  
Amen*

*Author: Unknown*

### *A Mother's Prayer*

*Lord, give me strength just for today  
To lead my children in your way,  
Oh, give me wisdom, Lord, and grace  
To show to them your precious face.  
And help me, Lord, to teach them, too, The  
things of Christ so rich and true.  
Just let them see in me, dear lord,  
Your holiness in life and word.*

*Keep me from sinning with my tongue,  
From harsh, quick words that might have  
stung*

*Their tender hearts that trust me so  
And watch to see which way I go.  
Dear Father, keep my thoughts so pure  
That they will always know for sure  
My Lord has lead me all the way,  
Lord, grant my prayer just for today.*

*Author: Unknown*

## ***THE MEN OF CALVARY AND THE BUTTONS & BEAUX FASHION SHOW***

When the Spirit Team learned that money was needed for Andy Haney, our Choir Director, to attend the Music & Worship Arts Week 2015, at Lake Junaluska, NC. we thought that would be a good opportunity for us to assist, as it will be expensive.

After some deliberation and shuffling of ideas, the decision was made to host a fashion show. Now, this can't be just any fashion show, it has to be something special.

We decided to have The Men of Calvary as models and invited several of them to "volunteer" for those positions. The response was amazing and it continues, in that vein. We have 10 men and their wives, who are so enthusiastic and cooperative, that it's a joy for us to work with them and they are certainly making our responsibilities much lighter. Each model, with a little help from his wife, we suspect, is assembling his own clothing ensemble and as we listen to comments, those clothes seem to be evolving, by the day.

### ***Recipe of the Month***

#### **Peanut Butter Pie**

*anonymous submission*

#### **Ingredients**

*1 baked pie shell*

*3/4 cup confectioners' sugar*

*1/3 cup crunchy peanut butter*

**FILLING:**

*2/3 cup sugar*

*1/4 cup cornstarch*

*1 tablespoon all-purpose flour*

*1/2 teaspoon salt*

*3 cups milk*

*3 egg yolks*

*1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla*

*2 tablespoons butter, melted*

**TOPPING:**

*3 egg whites*

#### **Instructions**

*Combine confectioners' sugar and peanut butter with fingers until crumbs are formed. Sprinkle mixture over bottom of pie shell, reserving 2 tablespoons for the top of the pie.*

*Make filling: Combine sugar, cornstarch, flour and salt in the top of a double boiler. Add milk and cook over boiling water till thick enough to mound. Beat often with a wire whisk.*

*Add a little of the hot mixture to egg yolks and whisk. Add to hot mixture. Add vanilla and butter and mix well.*

*Cool over ice, beating with a whisk to prevent crusting. Pour into pie shell.*

*Make topping: Beat egg whites till stiff. Spoon on top of custard. Sprinkle with reserved crumb mixture. Bake in a 400° oven on lower rack 5 minutes.*

If you would like to share one of your favorite recipes, please put it in the "newsletter" box by the office or email it to [newsletter@calvaryumcop.org](mailto:newsletter@calvaryumcop.org) and we will do our best to feature it in next month's Recipe of the Month section.

Sisters and brothers of Calvary UMC,  
you are invited to a fabulous,  
fun - filled evening, with The Men of Calvary.

Date: Friday, June 19, 2015

Time: 7:00 PM

Finger foods, snacks & drinks will be available.

Ticket cost: There is no set price for a ticket.

We're asking you for a donation of  
"WHATEVER YOUR HEART TELLS YOU"

For tickets: See Robin Stowers, Nancy Walker, Jeanene Ward or Sue Mikell in the Office.

The Spirit Team sincerely appreciates these men and we thank each of them for being willing to put themselves in a position, that will make this the event we pray it will be.

Bless you guys, you're great.

Robin Stowers & Nancy Walker



# Calvary United Methodist

112 Blanding Blvd  
Orange Park, FL 32073-2621



Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8AM - 12PM  
Phone: 904-272-4210 Fax: 904-276-1367  
Email: calvaryumcop@att.net  
Web address: www.calvaryumcop.org



**We support our family and friends in the military with prayer.**

### **Over Seas Assignments**

Aaron Ermer  
Alex Fogel  
Bobby Price

Daniel Richardson  
Ronald Mark Tello

### **U.S. Assignments**

David Chapman  
Tyler Crabtree  
Christine Davies  
Matt Ellison  
Jonathan Emler  
James Ferguson  
Brian Fuller

John Haney  
Josh Haney  
Mario Hernandez  
Shannon (Hause) Kizer  
Christopher Mills  
Mark Neil Natividad  
Brian Perkins

Gene Register  
Maverick Stowers  
Robbie Taylor  
Ali Varong-Ellison  
Aaron Williams



### **May Birthdays**

- 6th Abygail Ferguson, Barbara Hoose
- 10th Lura Law
- 11th Bob Porterfield
- 12th Bill Cook, Fran Ronan
- 13th Ceres Hernaez
- 16th Donna Dyszel
- 17th June Holden
- 20th Jan Seymour
- 21st Autumn Magee Zang  
Karen Mantone
- 24th Cedric Richards
- 27th Arthur Bedee
- 28th Doris Reedy
- 30th Joshua Haney
- 31st Keira Hernandez

*The Beacon* is published monthly by Calvary United Methodist Church.

To submit items, please e-mail to newsletter@calvaryumcop.org, or leave in the office marked "newsletter", or leave your submission in the slot marked NEWSLETTER outside the office door.

Items for the June issue are due by **May 15th.**

**Check your email for a copy of *The Beacon*. Let us know if you would like to be included in the email listing.**