



The
United
Methodist
Church

The Beacon

CALVARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Volume 7, Issue 3

March 2016

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THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY

We are planning a new Bible study for Thursday afternoon, with classes at the church, beginning at 2PM. The study will start on March 3rd, and the material we will be using is a Short-Term DISCIPLINE Study, entitled INVITATION TO THE NEW TESTAMENT. The length of the study will be for approximately 7 weeks. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board outside of the church office, for registration. In addition, you may call Gene Clark at 904-264-2018 or the church office.

March's Upcoming Events Highlights

With Easter falling in March, it is looking to be a busy month. We have a lot of exciting events going on and this is only to highlight those. Please continue to read on for more in depth information on each of these and make plans to celebrate with us.

- 18th Spring Fling - Hat Parade and Potluck at 6:30PM
 - 24th Maundy Thursday Service at 7PM
 - 25th Cross Walk ending in a Good Friday Service at 6:45PM
 - 26th Easter Egg Hunt at 1PM
 - 27th Sunrise Service at 7AM with breakfast immediately following
- Sunday School Classes 9-10AM
- Easter Sunday Service featuring Cantata at 10:30AM

Sunday Worship

8:15 a.m. Blended

11:00 a.m. Traditional

9:30 Sunday School

Pennings by Pastor Esther



How's your vision?

One woman laughs about the time she took her 14-year-old daughter and her daughter's best friend to a Peter, Paul and Mary concert. They were all fans of "oldies" music from the 60's and 70's and felt lucky to get front row seats. When they returned home, her daughter said, "During the show, we looked back and saw hundreds of little lights swaying to the music. At first we thought the people were holding up cigarette lighters. Then we realized that the lights were the reflections off all the eyeglasses in the audience." (Thanks to Reader's Digest)

My eyesight isn't what it used to be, either. But as Helen Keller (who could neither hear nor see) said, "The greatest tragedy in life is people who have sight but no vision." Maybe I should be more concerned with my vision than with my eyesight.

There are numerous stories of people who lacked vision. Like Orville and Wilbur Wright. On December 17, 1903, they had finally succeeded in keeping their homemade airplane in the air for 59 seconds. Immediately, they rushed a telegram to their sister in Dayton, Ohio, telling of this great accomplishment. The telegram read, "First sustained flight today fifty-nine seconds. Hope to be home by Christmas."

Upon receiving the news of the successful flight, their sister was so excited that she rushed to the newspaper office and gave the telegram to the editor. The next morning the newspaper headed the story: "Popular Local Bicycle Merchants To Be Home For Holidays." The hapless editor saw what was obvious, but missed the real story.

Vision is never about seeing the obvious. It's about looking ahead; about seeing what is not there -- YET. It's often about seeing the potential behind the obvious.

Like the potential in people. Spotting the potential for success in a student who, as is obvious to everyone else, will likely fail.

Or recognizing the potential for something good to come from a situation others are writing off as lost.

If we want to see what is really going on, we will need to learn to spot what is not there, then act on it.

So... your eyesight may be perfect, but how's your vision?

Blessings and Peace,

Pastor Esther

What is Holy Week?

Holy Week is the last week of Lent, the week immediately preceding Easter or Resurrection Sunday. It is observed in many Christian churches as a time to commemorate and enact the suffering and death of Jesus through various observances and services of worship. While some church traditions focus specifically on the events of the last week of Jesus' life, many of the liturgies symbolize larger themes that marked Jesus' entire ministry. Observances during this week range from daily liturgical services in churches to informal meetings in homes to participate in a Christian version of the Passover Seder.

Evangelical churches are now realizing the value of Holy Week services, especially on Good Friday. This has a solid theological basis both in Scripture and in the traditions of the Faith. Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the German theologian who was executed by the Nazis, wrote of the Cost of Discipleship and warned of "cheap grace" that did not take seriously either the gravity of sin or the radical call to servanthood: "When Jesus bids a man come, he bids him come and die."

It is only in walking through the shadows and darkness of Holy Week and Good Friday, only in realizing the horror and magnitude of sin and its consequences in the world incarnated in the dying Jesus on the cross, only in contemplating the ending and despair that the disciples felt on Holy Saturday, that we can truly understand the light and hope of Sunday morning!

The entire week between Palm Sunday and Holy Saturday is included in Holy Week, and some church traditions have daily services during the week. However, usually only Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday are times of special observance in most churches.

Here at Calvary United Methodist Church, the opportunities to observe this powerful week is as follows:

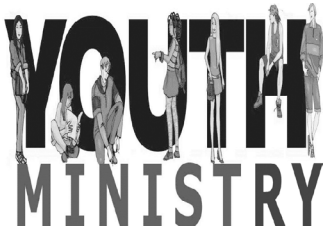
Holy week begins Sunday March 20th with Palm Sunday, remembering Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, the crowd waving Palm Branches and shouting "Hosanna!" We will worship at our regular times of 8:15 AM and 11 AM with Sunday school at 9:30 AM.

This will be followed by a Maundy Thursday service at 7 PM on March 24th, to remember Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples before his arrest and crucifixion. The youth will present a dramatic reading called "Two Faces in the Shadows" and there will be a foot washing for those interested.

Good Friday service and Cross Walk: On March 25, we have been invited to participate in Affirmation Church's Cross Walk in the community which will end up on Calvary's church grounds at 6:45 PM for a brief Good Friday Service. Time and place to gather for the walk is yet to be announced. We need interested people to help carry the cross (less than 2 miles), as Jesus would have done, as a testimony to the world about his sacrifice. Look for more details regarding where and when the walk will begin. Even if you can't participate in the walk, come out for the service on the grounds at 6:45 PM. Let Pastor Esther know if you have any questions.

Easter Day, March 27th, will begin with a sunrise service at 7 AM on the lawn followed by breakfast. Sunday school will be from 9-10 AM and worship will begin at 10:30 AM where the Chancel Choir will present the Cantata "He Is Risen Indeed," under the direction of Andy Haney.

Reference for this article is from The Voice website at <http://www.criveice.org/cyholyweek.html> specifically from an article written by Dennis Bratcher.



***** YOUTH NEWS *****

Here at Calvary we have a warm loving accepting youth group where all youth can be a part. This year on “Souper Bowl Sunday” We asked for all who could to bring a dollar and a can of soup that Sunday! We collected over 100 cans of soup and also over a hundred dollars in money. All of that goes to our food pantry here at Calvary. Thanks for all you did and for being so SOUPER !!

Also on Thursday, March 24, at 7 PM the youth will be performing “ Two Faces in the Shadows” for the Maundy Thursday service.

Our Youth Group is open to all ‘Rising’ Sixth Graders through High School seniors. We would love for any and all youth to come and share in Christian fellowship! Our regular meetings take place on Wednesday evenings 5:30 till 7:00. During that time we also enjoy pizza or tacos and hamburgers, and sometimes steamed lobster. And if we are real lucky, Burrito Brothers!!

If you have any questions, or need additional information, please speak with Youth Director Fran “The Man” Ronan or his PA, George Clooney. We hope to see you real soon!

Email FTMYD@hotmail.com 904-272-4210

Fran “The Man” Ronan

Hop Right Over For The Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 26th @ 1:00 PM

For Children Ages 11 & Under - Divided into Groups: Under 5, 5-7 & 8-11

The Easter Bunny will be here for photos

INVITE YOUR RELATIVES & NEIGHBOR CHILDREN

You need to RSVP by March 18th Church Office 272-4210

The Children ’ s Ministry needs your help with the following:

Individually wrapped cookies & crackers

Prepackaged candy

Juice boxes

Children’s Ministry Activities

June 18th

July 18th-22nd

August 6th

October 8th

December

Bike Rally Safety

Vacation Bible School

Back to School (Kids Style Show)

TBA (fall)

Christmas Program

HELP WANTED

Position Available:
Communion Steward

Male or Female 8:15 Service

No experience or references necessary

For more information,
see Worship Committee
Connie Lorey or Robin Stowers

Cookbooks are Finally Here!

We finally have cooks books! Please contact Sally Cook or Peggy Clark to purchase one for \$8.00 each, or if during office hours, you may contact Sue Mikell in the office for one. Start the New Year with new recipes.

Newsletter Contributions

Starting in March, we will be strictly adhering to the NEWSLETTER DEADLINE OF THE 15TH OF THE MONTH. We want to publish a newsletter that is professionally compiled, informative, and enjoyable, therefore, we cannot continue to accept items past the deadline.

If you need to get information out after the deadline, you will be able to use the Power Point or Pulpit announcements, the bulletin board, Facebook, the website and in some instances, the front marquee.

Communications Request Forms are available in the bottom row of the mailboxes, outside the office door. All communication requests, no matter when, will need to be submitted on the appropriate form. We ask that you attach a copy of the item you want published.



SPRING FLING

Friday, March 18 6:30 PM

Pot Luck Dinner

Share your best dish of meat, sides or dessert.

Bread & Drinks furnished.



PARADE OF HATS



Ladies & gentlemen, wear your finest hat creation. Winners will be judged by discreet, monetary contributions.

FYI

One of the goals of this year's Communications Committee is to help you become better informed, regarding the workings within Calvary United Methodist Church. People tell me they don't know what various committees do, or who is responsible for what. They don't know who to talk with when they have a question or a concern.

We're going to start with a general list of committees and the names of their chairpersons or representatives. In the months to follow, we will be giving more specific information about each committee, such as their responsibilities, goals, upcoming projects or events, etc. The people listed below comprise the Administrative Council.

Administrative Council Chairman: Bob Seymour

Finance: Deedee Dannelly

Trustees: Jamie Stowers

Staff Parish Relations: Ron Coleman

Nominations: Pastor Esther Robinson

Lay Leader: Ken Aymond

Lay Member Annual Conference/Apportionments: Ron Coleman

Spirit Team: Nancy Walker & Robin Stowers

Membership Secretary: Nancy Walker

Fellowship Coordinator: Diane Rood

Worship: Connie Lorey & Robin Stowers

Stewardship: Barbara Coleman

Outreach: Betty Koon

Care Ministry: Sharon Harris

Boy & Cub Scout Representative: Bryan Gernhard

Girl Scout & Brownie Representative: Beth Locke

Evangelism: Rev. Luis Ordonez

Children's Home Representative: Betty Koon

United Methodist Men: Larry Rood

Education: Annette Jeffery

Children's Ministry: Barbara Hoose

Youth Ministry: Tracy Zang

Youth Representative: Thomas Zang

Recording Secretary: Rhonda Barlow

If you have questions or need information or assistance, feel free to contact the responsible, listed person. We are all here to serve God and Calvary.

Nancy Walker, Communications Chairperson

Calvary's 50th Anniversary Celebration

Were you there? Did you feel it? It started with a low hum, on the evening of Friday, January 29, 2016. People started gathering around 6:30 PM, for the 7:00 PM service.

There were some recent members, some members who have been at Calvary for many years and others who were here years ago and returned for Calvary's 50th Anniversary Celebration. Impressive invitations designed by Sue Mikell, Sheri Federice and Deloris Landis had been sent to those from past years, as well as given to present attendees.

Friday's speakers were Gene Clark, Ron Carlberg and Andy Haney. They all shared personal feelings for Calvary, it's family and their experiences here. Rev. David McGaffic, our Pastor from 1967 - 1969, spoke about his memories of Calvary.

Judy Shuster sang a lovely rendition of one of our favorites, "El Shaddai."

After the service, refreshments were available and people mingled and reminisced, while they snacked. It was a lovely evening and a nice start to the weekend.

Saturday, January 30, 2016, held a much anticipated evening. Again, we had the crowd mixture of those who are no longer members, new and long standing members, as well as former ministers.

Rev. David Adams, our Pastor from 1976 - 1981, and his wife Carole, and Rev. Joe Jursa, our Pastor from 1987 - 1995, with his wife Linda, all joined us for that evening's service. Both men shared some of their experiences, here at Calvary and they too, spoke warmly and lovingly of our church family and past happenings. Rev. Tim Smiley, District Superintendent was also in attendance, with his wife Candy.

Special music was offered by sisters Pat Fleming and Betty McCarthy, who sang a beautiful rendition of "I Then Shall Live."

Andy Haney sang "Come As You Are" and during the last verse, the lights were dimmed and the congregation was invited to the communion rail for prayer. The feeling in the sanctuary was already one of love, warmth and togetherness, but during that time of prayer, with many at the rail, you could feel God, with His arms around us and we became one body. It was a spiritually, uplifting experience.

We had snacks & fellowship and you could hear people talking about how the evening had affected them and the hum continued to build.

Sunday, January 31, 2016, was the final day of our celebration and we were all looking forward to it. It too, turned out to be a very special day of love and fellowship and the hum blossomed into a full song, in our hearts.

Rev. Tim Smiley, gave the morning's message entitled, "It Is Your Destiny" which seemed to encompass the goals and hopes, not only for the weekend, but for Calvary's future.

Again, the music was outstanding. Andy Haney sang "Eternal Life" which everyone loves and Marlon Bennett sang a very impressive song, "The Anchor Holds." The music provided by the soloists and musicians, at all three services, played a large part in the impact of the whole weekend.

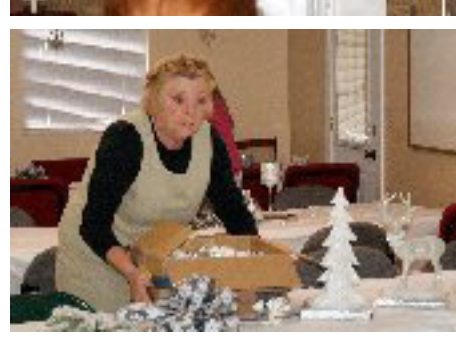
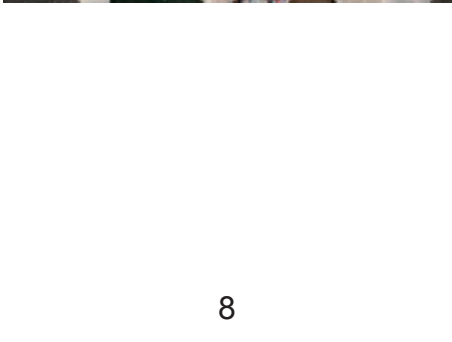
Before and after the services, the guests enjoyed looking at the scrapbooks, containing the history of Calvary United Methodist Church and assembled by Nancy Walker. Many found photos of themselves and friends and information about various events, that stimulated memories from long ago.

A delicious luncheon was provided, after the service on Sunday. The menu consisted of pulled pork, cooked by Andy Haney, Huey Dannelly and Larry Rood. Sides included mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans and corn, with fudgy brownies for dessert. Bobbie Allison and her crew did an outstanding job in preparing for, and serving the meal.

Calvary's 50th Anniversary Celebration con't

Attendees were seated in the Fellowship Hall, for dinner, as well as a tent outside. The unique decorations, created by Jan Seymour and her team, were fitting for a first rate banquet hall. The winter theme certainly added to the invigorated atmosphere of the weekend's activities.

We thank God, for the opportunity to honor Him by serving here at Calvary. We thank the returning ministers and friends and we especially appreciate the numerous, generous volunteers, for sharing their time and talents, to give us everything we needed, for an outstanding, spiritually satisfying and love filled weekend.





Continuing the 50th Anniversary Celebration

Hello everyone! I hope your year has started well and is filled with the Lord's many blessings. I just want to take a moment to remind everyone that we will be continuing our 50th Anniversary Celebration on April 30, 2016, from 10 AM-4PM. We will be having a Block Party with entertainers, face painting, and a health bus, for the event. This is a great way for us to celebrate the community, for supporting Calvary over the years.

With that being said, we will also be having hot dogs & hamburgers. This is where you come in, I am asking for your assistance. If you could donate any of the following items, I would greatly appreciate it:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| Hot Dog Buns | Chips (any kind) |
| Hamburger Buns | Condiments |
| Water Bottles (small ones are fine) | Baked Goods |

If you want to donate Hot Dogs & Hamburgers as well, that would be greatly appreciated, but the above items would be great. If you have any questions or would like to help with the event, please feel free to contact me : Tracy Zang 904-451-1065.

Thank you & God Bless!

Tracy Zang



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
Rae-Ann Tello
Ronald Mark Tello

U.S. Assignments

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

John Haney
Joseph Haney
Josh Haney
Mario Hernandez
Shannon (Hause) Kizer
Christopher Mills
Brian Perkins

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



March Birthdays

2nd Chuck Long
4th Eric Crabtree
9th Ana-Mae Gerrity
10th Marlene Stone, Nancy Walker
13th Kaitlind Bonner, Jennifer Mantone
16th John Bryant, Maggie Kaat
22nd James Bryant
27th Myra Nichols

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 April issue are due by **March 15th.**

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