

Calvary Baptist Courier

April 2010

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
42 Washington Blvd.
Williamsport, PA 17701
(570) 322-7256
www.calvarywilliamsport.com

Rev. Peter C. Wilson, Pastor
Sandra L. Snyder, Secretary

Insider Information

Back when I was in campus ministry, one of my University of Texas students approached me with "insider information" about shares in a new oil and gas field on his family's ranch. I didn't go for it, but I've wondered at times if those who did go for it got rich or if they lost what they invested.

As April arrives and I pull out records to fill in my income tax returns, I've thought about being a citizen of two kingdoms and how our church giving is like the IRS taxes we pay but that is equally our responsibility as citizens of Christ's wonderful kingdom on earth. That is certainly a fair and Biblical view. But it is only part of the reality.

Jesus tells us to view our financial giving - as well as the giving of our time and talents - as guaranteed investments towards our personal home and role in the new heavens and the new earth (Matt. 6:19-20). He says he has the insider information ("If it were not so, I would have told you" - John 14:2) and he urges you and me to invest heavily there by investing heavily in His work here.

There is an old story about a wealthy fellow who died and was welcomed at the Pearly Gates by St. Peter who said he'd escort him to his new heavenly home. As they went down a street of lovely homes, the fellow recognized one of poorer people from his town back on earth. This neighbor was sitting on the porch of a mansion with an acre of lawn and lovely gardens and waved to him as he passed by. "Wow," thought the new arrival. "If his house is like that, mine must be spectacular!" At the end of the street there was a little bungalow with no lawn. "Here we are," said St. Peter. "What!?", said the man. "There must be some mistake. Look at all these nice homes - and my old neighbor living like a king!" "Nope," said St. Peter. "No mistake. This is your place. We can only build with what people send on ahead."

May you and I be good citizens, giving our time, talent and treasure for the earthly work of our eternal spiritual kingdom - and knowing that that is really being sent on ahead; that your giving is really an investment guaranteed by Jesus and that one day we will see it all again when His kingdom finally comes for good.

Shalom,

Peter C. Wilson

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

B – Birthday A - Anniversary

April

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<u>EACH WEDNESDAY:</u> 5-7 pm – AWANA Sparks and T & T Clubs 7 pm – Bible Study and <i>Wed</i>	<u>EACH THURSDAY:</u> 10 am-noon – Open Sanctuary & Library 7 pm – Choir Rehearsal <i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<u>EACH SATURDAY:</u> 9 AM – Evangelism Team Prayer Meeting 8 AM-12:30 PM - CLI <i>Sat</i>
<u>EACH SUNDAY:</u> 9:00 am – Kids & Adults light breakfast 9:25 am – Kids Club, College Class and Adult Class 10:40 am – Worship Service	<u>EACH MONDAY:</u> Pastor’s Day Off			1 <i>Maundy Thursday</i> Association Pastors meet at Calvary 7:00 p.m. – Foot Washing and Communion Service	2 <i>Good Friday</i> 12-1:15 p.m. – Good Friday Services at Redeemer Lutheran Church (Calvary’s part is Word 1)	3 B – Tim Clark
4 <i>EASTER SUNDAY</i>	5 B – Yvonne Bower	6	7 9-11:30 a.m. – Mother’s Morning Out B – Rachel Dance B – May McLaughlin	8	9 7:00 p.m. – Family Games Night	10
11 Fellowship Luncheon (pot luck) following the worship service.	12 3:00 p.m. – Finance Meeting B – Penny Ohnmeiss	13 7:00 p.m. – Missions Meeting B – Malvern Bower	14 B – Ron Cramm	15	16 3:00 p.m. – Pastoral Relations Meeting	17
18 BROWN BAG SUN. Bring a bag lunch and stay after church.	19	20 7:00 p.m. – Church Council Meeting B – Ken Bower	21 9-11:30 a.m. – Mother’s Morning Out	22	23	24 5:00 p.m. – Spaghetti Dinner and White Elephant Sale B – Joanne Kiehl
25 Gideons’ Sunday “Catch up” Offering	26 B – Teresa Cramm A – Steve & Penny Ohnmeiss (4-26-80)	27	28 Last day for AWANA until Fall.	29	30	

2010

Council Notes

by Jim Lewis

The Calvary Baptist Church council met on March 16, 2010. These are excerpts of the minutes of that meeting. Well, our budget is still in the red to the tune of \$4,119.66, but this is an improvement of about \$750 from last month. Pastor Pete invited members to drop in on the CLI classes on Saturday morning (8 A.M.) to see what it is all about. Just a reminder, we will be celebrating Maundy Thursday with a foot-washing ceremony. Good Friday services, as always, will be at Redeemer Lutheran. Our choir (such as it is) will be singing. Pastor Pete advised us that he will be attending a conference in Wisconsin in April. This shouldn't affect Sunday services, although he won't be available for a few days during the week. Sad note: We are losing an old friend. Doris Updegrave has requested a letter of transfer to her new church home in Norcross, GA. If you have ever considered (or would consider) be on the church choir, please consider signing up now. Your talents are needed. Also, if you would like to perform during services over the summer while the choir is in hiatus, see Pastor Pete. Vacation Bible school will be the week of the 16th of August this year. Duane has tentatively settled on an Egyptian-themed program. If you would like to help with the program this year, contact Duane to sign up. Pastor Pete is hoping to organize an Easter egg hunt for next year. We haven't had one the last few years because the city had preempted our efforts with a hunt of their own. But they didn't schedule a hunt this year, so Peter would like to reactivate our program. We are currently working on estimates for installation of tankless water heaters for the two bathrooms and the baptismal pool. Peter is planning on doing baptisms soon and would like to preclude the possibility of frostbite for the participants. Our American Baptist Women's group has a work day schedule for May 22nd. Council members noted that responses to the new church covenant have been generally positive. Pastor Pete asked for prayer for our regional area ministers program. That program is in jeopardy due to lack of funds at ABCOPAD. Jim Lewis will be the counter for April. Sue Green will be greeter in April. Kathy Temple has volunteered to manage the fellowship meal in April. By the way, if you would like to try your hand at this duty, we still have openings in October and December (please).... Games night will be on April 9th (not the first Friday as normal because of the Easter holiday). We are considering have the Ministerium Carol Festival here at Calvary again this year (either December 5th or 12th). Kathy Temple has volunteered to head up this project. Shirley Beyer has indicated she may be able to get the Gatehouse Singers to participate. The next council meeting will be April 19, 2010.

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If you have any news, updates, articles of interest, or upcoming events that you would like others to know about, please get this information to Helen Yoas by Friday, April 30, 2010 for the May 2010 issue of the *Calvary Baptist Courier*.

PLEASE NOTE: In an effort to cut expenses, the Church Council has decided to change the way we send our newsletters. Previously, the church paid an annual "Bulk Mail" fee of \$150 plus approximately \$35 for each mailing. We are now handing out the newsletter to those attending the worship service and mailing only to those unable to attend. If you'd prefer to receive the newsletter by email, please email CalvaryCourier@gmail.com with "subscribe" in the subject line.

2010 Church Council: Shirley Beyer, Ken Bower, Donna Camp, Larry Green, Jim Lewis, Vicki Lewis (Chair), Ben Mazzullo, Kathy Temple, Deb Titus, Emily Turney, Pastor Peter Wilson (ex officio member), Duane Yeagle