

# Calvary Baptist Courier

## April 2009

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

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

### KNOWING GOD

Working our way through Lent, we focus on the approaching Good Friday and the Cross. We are reminded that the answer to the “I wonder as I wander” question raised at Christmas, “Why did Jesus come?” is that He came to save us from our sins. But that is only half the answer. “Why did He come to save us from our sins?” is the next question that comes to mind as we consider the costliness to Him in every way of His becoming a human being and going through the agony of the Passion events. The answer to this second question is that He died for our sins so that we could once again know and walk with God. “No one comes to the Father but by me,” He said.

On the other side of Easter morning, the curtain is torn, the door open, to getting to know the Father our sins had kept us from before – the awesome, majestic, holy God – immortal, invisible – omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent – revealed to the Jews for centuries and revered by them indirectly and from afar. Jesus died so that people could know this God as the Father – and yet so many Christians feel that they have very little knowledge of or intimacy with this vast being. We stick close to our friend and savior, Jesus – but have done little exploring of the vast spiritual being He died for us to know and come to.

After Easter this spring, we will be looking at God Himself in the sermons and I hope that that will stir you up, and others around you, to want to pursue this further in the video/**discussion series we will start in a few weeks. Opening up to the Bible’s full teaching about** God leads to deeper and broader faith, the peace and joy Jesus promised us that so many of us have yet to obtain, and to a motivation to live a life that counts more and more for Him.

May the grace and truth of God burn brighter here at Calvary and in your heart and mind and spirit as a result of this journey together this spring.

Shalom,

*Peter P. Lee*

# Council Notes

*By Jim Lewis*

The Calvary Baptist Church council met on March 17, 2009. These are the highlights of that meeting. As of the end of February, the church was \$15,896.11 in the red. The Stations of the Cross will be presented here on Palm Sunday. On Maundy Thursday, we will have a Seder meal. There will be a camping open house weekend at His Thousand Hills for families on May 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. Families not interested in camping out but interested in learning more about the program may come on the 16<sup>th</sup> for a day trip. See Pastor Pete for details. The Northumberland Association Summer Fair will be on June 28<sup>th</sup>. CLI will be starting up here in September. Pastor Pete encourages all to consider participating in this program. The courses can be audited for a reduced price. On April 5<sup>th</sup>, services will return to the sanctuary. There will be an ice cream social here at the church on May 21<sup>st</sup>. Our choir will perform their Easter cantata here on Easter Sunday. For those who would like a preview, the program will be presented at the Baptist church in Nisbet on Palm Sunday. Duane announced that "Crocodile Doc" is the theme for VBS this year. There will be an initial planning meeting in the near future. If you would like to participate, contact Duane. The America for Christ offering is being taken up this month. Those interested in participating in the Dominican Republic mission trip will be meeting in Wellsboro on March 29<sup>th</sup>. If you have ever considered going on a mission trip, I personally believe one trip to the DR will make a confirmed believer out of you. This program is like Lays potato chips - you can't just go on one trip. Our fundraiser dinner and white elephant sale raised in excess of \$400 this month. The council is planning a brown bag fundraiser in the near future (tentatively, April 19.) Everyone will bring their own lunch and donate the amount they would have spent going out to eat toward helping to deal with our deficit. I encourage everyone to attend. Pastor Pete sent a note to Cedar Run thanking them for the pew cushions. The women's committee plans to have a (garden) plant exchange on May 23<sup>rd</sup> from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. The next installment of the human trafficking program will be presented on April 25<sup>th</sup>. This program has been very educational so far. Everyone is encouraged to attend. The Gideons will be with us on April 26<sup>th</sup>. The counter for April will be Jack Hopkins; Marianne Hopkins will be the greeter. Sarah Reid will manage the fellowship meal. The council will meet next on April 21<sup>st</sup>.

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I NEED YOUR HELP!!! Mother's Morning Out is growing and needs your help. Another adult is needed from 10-11:30 a.m. (first and third Wednesday of each school month) to help watch the children. Without your help, we may have to turn some children away. Please contact Sue Green.

# NEWS.....

FAMILIES!!

Mark your calendars for Friday night and Saturday, May 15 & 16. There will be a one-night Family Camp at Camp His Thousand Hills; you can bring your own tent or camper or stay in camp housing. On Saturday afternoon, youth groups from different churches will come for the Open House summer camp kick-off and tour of the facilities.

**BROWN BAG SUNDAYS** Starting in April, the third Sunday of each month will be Brown Bag Sunday. Bring your own lunch and plan to stay after church for fellowship. Those who normally would be eating out can donate to the church all or part of what they would have spent in a restaurant.

**FOOD PANTRY & SHEPHERD OF THE STREETS** - Please bring canned goods and toiletry items every Sunday to help supply the United Churches Food Pantry and Shepherd of the Streets.

**ASSOCIATION SPRING FAIR** - June 28 (Sunday) - 3-5:30 at Milton. Lots of food. Fun for all ages and fellowship among our Association churches.

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## **A NOTE OF THANKS...**

Calvary Church Family,

3/09

I would like to express my sincere thanks to each and everyone of you, for your prayers, expressions of sympathy, and your friendship during this time of loss of my stepfather, Edward Kellander. You will never realize how much it all means to me to have such a wonderful church family.

*Kathy Temple*

...books for this spring – recommended by Pastor Pete

Here are some books that you might like to get at the bookstore or online or from the church library. They will be good preparation for our series on God –

By A. W. Tozer: *The Pursuit of God / The Knowledge of the Holy*—Someone started me on Tozer just after I came to Christ as a teenager. I'm so glad they did.

By John Piper: *Desiring God* – Very popular in recent years. *A Hunger for God* – If you'd like to add fasting and prayer to the journey this spring. *The Pleasures of God* – God's delight in Who and What He is and does (!)

By J. I. Packer: *Knowing God* – A 1970's classic, solid theology; it was a best-seller for people hungry for these truths and launched a lot of the current revival of interest in this.

By Chuck Colson: *Loving God* – Same topics dealt with in vivid stories. Colson underwent a total mid-life makeover.

## 25 RANDOM THINGS ABOUT.....

1. **Vicki Lewis.**
2. She is the youngest of five children.
3. Her given name is "Ellen Victoria."
4. One of her favorite books is *McTeague* by Frank Norris.
5. She could do without: her cell phone.
6. She couldn't do without: her calendar.
7. She likes to collect cookbooks.
8. She reads the Wall Street Journal on Friday.
9. One thing she likes: jigsaw puzzles.
10. She has a recent current interest in human trafficking.
11. Her favorite TV show is CSI (the original.)
12. Recent movies: *Amazing Grace* and *The Bucket List*.
13. She is employed by Penn State Cooperative Extension.
14. She enjoys trying new recipes.
15. She is the mother of one child: Lee Ellen.
16. She is a Louisiana native, born in Vivian.
17. She has been married to her husband Jim since July 1990.
18. She is owned by three cats.
19. She was born Dec. 8, 1949, and born again in August, 1959.
20. She was baptized at the age of 10 by a young evangelist .. Jim Lewis (go figure!)
21. The Lewises moved to PA in July 1998.
22. She has a collection of cobalt blue glassware vases.
23. She is currently reading *Redeeming Love* by Francine Rivers.
24. She is the interim County Extension Director for Union County.
25. She has a Masters' Degree in Home Economics.

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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, May 1, 2009 for the May issue of the *Calvary Baptist Courier* (to be distributed May 3.)

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](mailto:CalvaryCourier@gmail.com) with "subscribe" in the subject line.

**2009 Church Council:** Shirley Beyer, Sue Green, Jack Hopkins, Jim Lewis, Vicki Lewis (Chair), Sarah Reid, Wanda Reid, Sandy Snyder, Kathy Temple, Deb Titus, Emily Turney, Pastor Peter Wilson (ex officio member), Duane Yeagle, Helen Yoas

# April

## CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

B – Birthday

A - Anniversary

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<b>EACH SUNDAY:</b> 9:10 am – Sun. School Open 9:30 am – S.S. Classes 10:40 am – Worship Service	<b>EACH MONDAY:</b> Pastor's Day Off		<b>EACH WEDNESDAY:</b> 5-7 pm – AWANA Sparks and T & T Clubs 7 pm – Bible Study and Prayer	<b>EACH THURSDAY:</b> 10 am-noon – Open Sanctuary & Library 7 pm – Choir Rehearsal		<b>EACH SATURDAY:</b> 9 am – Evangelism Team Prayer Meeting
			<b>1</b> 9-11:30 a.m. – Mother's Morning Out	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 7:00 p.m. – Family Games Night  B – Tim Clark	<b>4</b>
<b>5 Palm Sunday</b> Fellowship Luncheon (pot luck) following worship service  B – Yvonne Bower	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>  B – Rachel Dance B – May McLaughlin B – Doug Sutliff	<b>8</b>	<b>9 Maundy Thursday</b> 6:00 p.m. – Christian Seder Meal	<b>10 Good Friday</b> 12:00-3:00 p.m. Services at Redeemer Lutheran Church (Calvary is Word 3 from 12:55-1:20 p.m.)	<b>11</b>
<b>12 EASTER SUNDAY</b> 10:40 a.m. – Worship and Easter Cantata  B – Penny Ohnmeiss	<b>13</b>  B – Malvern Bower	<b>14</b>  B – Ron Cramm	<b>15</b> 9-11:30 a.m. – Mother's Morning Out	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 3:00 p.m. – Pastoral Relations Comm.	<b>18</b>
<b>19 BROWN BAG SUN.</b> Bring a bag lunch and fellowship after the worship service	<b>20</b>  B – Ken Bower	<b>21</b> 7:00 p.m. – Church Council Meeting	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 10:00 a.m. – Human Trafficking Series
<b>26</b> Gideons Speaker  A – Steve & Penny Ohnmeiss (4-26-80) B – Teresa Cramm	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 6:30 p.m. – Northumberland Men	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 7:00 p.m. – Association Spring Business Meeting		

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