

Calvary Baptist Courier

April 2012

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

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

Easter vs. Christmas

“Don’t let the world press you into its mold,” is the vivid warning of the Apostle Paul in Romans 12. Unfortunately, one of the ways we have let that happen, to our own great detriment in our witness and in our own spiritual development, is how we Christians treat Easter vs. Christmas.

The world sees a bonanza in Christmas: a warm, cozy glow in the bleak mid-winter; a baby at the focal point; cute barnyard animals. So appealing! And GIFT-giving!!! The commercial potential is fantastic! (Even though the gift-giving in the Bible story takes place after Christmas – weeks or perhaps months later – but never mind, we’ll just wrap the Wise Men in at the manger and let the buying and advertising flow!)

Easter is different. A grown man with nail holes in his hands and feet? Not very appealing. Maybe invent a cute animal and turn those eggs (a symbol of new life the early Christians used) into candy.

From the world to the Bible: how does the Bible handle the two days? Only two of the four gospel-writers ever record the Christmas story. In telling about Jesus’ life and ministry, one-quarter of the gospel of Matthew tells about His last week; over a third of Mark; over a fifth of Luke; ten of John’s 21 chapters deal with Jesus’ last week and seven of those are an account of the last 24 hours before Jesus’ death.

One of the highlights of the year for me since I’ve been in Williamsport has been the neighborhood ministerium’s Good Friday service. I’ve always enjoyed hearing my fellow pastors preach and listening to the other choirs. We won’t be having the service this year but I hope you can be at our meditative Upper Room service on Thursday and that you will set aside an hour or so this Good Friday to read some good devotional material on Jesus’ last 24 hours – or just read a gospel account verse by verse. Let’s make Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter become at least as big as Christmas. It’s the pattern, the soul-shaping mold, God has given us.

Shalom,

Peter C. Wilson

Council Notes

by Jim Lewis

The Calvary Baptist Church council met on March 20, 2012. This is a synopsis of the minutes of that meeting. As of February 29, 2012, our expenses were \$4,929.39 in excess of the amount collected. Wednesday night Bible study is currently in Colossians. Our condolences go out to the Sterner/ Cramm families on the recent death of Wendy's husband James. There will be no joint churches Good Friday services this year. There will be an Upper Room service, including a foot washing ceremony, on Maundy Thursday here at Calvary. The Vacation Bible School (VBS) program for this year is titled, "Go Fish Praise: Where Kids Get Down and Lift God High". The Sunday school program beginning April 22nd is titled, "Fruit of the Spirit". As part of the English as a Second Language program run by Jody Lantz, several members prepared meals for a young couple from Saudi Arabia, Sami Al Anazi and his wife Rasha, following the birth of their third child. Sami is attending the plastics program at Penn College, and the members who took meals to them very much enjoyed meeting the family. Dan Yoas is currently looking into estimates to repair the roof on the sanctuary. We have already contracted for repairs of the roof and other exterior elements of the parsonage, to take place this summer. There will be a mother/daughter tea on May 12th. The political primary will be April 24th this year. Penny Ohnmeiss and Shirley Beyer are heading up our customary bake sale for this event. We recently had several visitors from Clinton Baptist Church in Montgomery at Sunday services. They are considering a pastor-sharing program where Pastor Wilson will hold services there (as well as here) and be available several days a week in exchange for compensation that will be applied against our budgetary deficit. This would continue until they were able to hire a permanent pastor for their church. Vicki Lewis is currently in the process of updating the prayer chain. If you are not currently on the prayer chain but would like to be, contact Vicki to let her know. Our completed church directory has finally been sent to Olan Mills for publication. We will let you know when they come in. The greeter for April will be Ken Bower. The counters for April will be Jim Lewis and Shirley Beyer. The fellowship meal coordinators for April will be Jody and Melia Lantz. The next council meeting will be April 24, 2012.

Calvary News

Mother and Daughter Tea

Come join the celebration of all mothers and daughters on Saturday, May 12th, at 2:00 p.m. in Fellowship Halls. Please give your reservation, with payment of \$8.50, by April 29th to Penny Ohnmeiss or Sue Green.

1869-2012
Calvary Baptist Church
42 Washington Blvd.
Williamsport, PA 17701
570-322-7256



1869-2012

<http://www.calvarywilliamsport.com>

If you have any news, updates, articles of interest, or upcoming events that you would like others to know about, please submit this information to Helen Yoas for the May 2012 issue of the *Calvary Baptist Courier*.

PLEASE NOTE: We hand out as many newsletters as possible to those attending the worship service in an effort to cut mailing costs. You may, if you wish, receive the newsletter by email, by emailing CalvaryCourier@gmail.com with “subscribe” in the subject line.

2012 Church Council: Shirley Beyer, Ken Bower, Donna Camp, Larry Green, Jim Lewis (church clerk), Vicki Lewis (council moderator), Ben Mazzullo, Penny Ohnmeiss, Lynn Turney, Pastor Peter Wilson (ex officio member), Duane Yeagle, Dan Yoas, Helen Yoas (treasurer, ex officio member)

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
APRIL

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH APRIL				EACH WEDNESDAY:	EACH THURSDAY:	EACH SATURDAY:
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>		1-3 pm – International Women’s Program 5-7 pm – AWANA Sparks and T & T Clubs 7 pm – Bible Study and Prayer <i>Wed</i>	7:30 pm – Choir Rehearsal <i>Thu</i>	9 am – Evangelism Team Prayer Meeting <i>Sat</i>
EACH SUNDAY: 9:30 am – Kids Club, College Class and Adult Class 10:40 am – Worship Service	EACH MONDAY: Pastor’s Day Off					
1 PALM SUNDAY Fellowship Luncheon (pot luck) following worship service	2	3 B – Abigail Betts B – Timothy Clark	4	5 MAUNDY THURSDAY 7:30 p.m. – Upper Room Service	6 GOOD FRIDAY	7
8 EASTER	9 B – Teddy Collins	10	11	12 A – Stan & Joyce Bower (4-12-69) B – Penny Ohnmeiss B – Hailey Phillips	13 7:00 p.m. – Family Games Night (changed this month due to Good Friday)	14 B – Ron Cramm
15	16	17	18	19	20 B – Ken Bower	21
22	23	24 ELECTION DAY Food & Bake Sale 7:30 p.m. – Church Council Meeting B – Joanne Kiehl	25 Last AWANA until Fall	26 A – Steve & Penny Ohnmeiss (4-26-80) B – Teresa Cramm	27 2:00 p.m. – Christian Ed. Mtg. 3:00 p.m. – Pastoral Relations Mtg.	28
29 “Catch Up” Offering	30					Note: B- Birthday A - Anniversary

2012