

# Calvary Baptist Courier

## December 2012

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

### “GOD WILL PROVIDE” (YES ... AND NO)

How do you react to this announcement: “Although we appear to be ending our fiscal year in the black, we are facing some very expensive maintenance projects in the year ahead.” Are you like I used to be and just shrug your shoulders and say, “Oh, well, God will provide. He always does, somehow.” If so, read on.

The situation reminds me of a spring-break trip when two college roommates decided to tour the South—Civil War battlefields, natural sites—and were joined by three other friends. As the first day or two passed, the roommates realized that whenever they stopped to fill up the tank, they were the only ones pulling out a credit card. The three friends paid for their own meals and tickets to sites, but seemed oblivious to the idea of paying for a share of the gas. The impression seemed to be: “You two were going anyway so we’re just along for the ride.” That’s the way I used to think (or not think, to be more accurate) about the expenses of churches I attended. I always figured, “God will provide. Always has.”

Yes, God is the Provider. And scripture tells us how He provides. He provides by providing us with what it takes for us to put money in our pockets. It is then up to us to put a tenth (a “tithe”) of it where He intends. Or not. So many folks choose the “or not”, that the way the church ends up in the black is because some folks (and I know because I’m one of them now) put in far more than their fair share.

2013 will be an expensive trip for us together. Read Malachi 3: 6-12. If you have not yet begun following God’s plan (and receiving His promises for doing so!), make this your Christmas gift to Him.

Shalom,

*Peter Pice*

## **COUNCIL NOTES**

*By  
Jim Lewis*

The Calvary Baptist Church Council met on November 27, 2012. This is a synopsis of the minutes of that meeting. Our intake has exceeded our expenditures so that we now have a positive balance of \$7,365 as of the end of October. Since our last council notes, Pastor Pete, Duane Yeagle, Robin Turney, and Mark Mahserjian-Smith have gone to and returned from Haiti where they were helping to build rubble houses. Our kudos to them. They truly have hearts for the Lord. The recent memorial service for Vicki Lewis was well attended and very moving. Pastor Pete and I will be going to Louisiana for a memorial service for Vicki's family and friends down there on December 4th. The love of my life went to be with the Lord on November 18th. I will miss her greatly. My thanks to the organist who did a credible job on the music and the kitchen crew and everyone else who helped make this effort go off without a hitch. I love you all. Ben Mazzullo and Lynn Turney will be team teaching the adult Sunday School class with Duane Yeagle filling in when needed. The bake sale on Election Day netted \$161. A search committee will be out looking for replacements for four council members who will be cycling off the council this year. If you are asked to consider serving here, please give it prayerful consideration. The roof on the sanctuary went over budget by \$5000 due to additional repairs that were needed. Support is needed for the building fund as the roof in the Fellowship Hall needs work and there is brickwork that needs to be repointed, among other things. Please give generously to the building fund. If you wondered what the little tree in the lounge with the play money is about, it is the White Cross fundraiser for this year. Please take a look at the accompanying literature and support this project. Nineteen church members took part in the Life Chain this year. Jody Lantz's English as a Second Language and International groups celebrated Thanksgiving in the Fellowship Hall this year and a good time was had by all. We are tentatively planning to go Christmas carolling on December 9th with refreshments in the Fellowship Hall. We are also planning a carol festival on December 16th. Contact Pastor Pete for details if you would like to participate in these events. Pastor Pete plans on people from different ministries in the church to light the Advent candles this year. There will be a congregational business meeting at 7:30 P.M. on December 19th to vote on new members for the church council and to vote on the budget for 2013, among other things. Ken Bower will be the greeter for December. Jody Lantz and Lum Hpauda will coordinate the fellowship meal. The next council meeting will be December 18th. I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas!

## **MEET ARTHUR ERICKSON**

We welcome Arthur Erickson to our Calvary church family as organist/choir director. Arthur was born in Bulgaria and was adopted at age 8 by the family of a faculty member at Lycoming College. Arthur is a junior at Lycoming, majoring in Music and Business. We are delighted that the Lord has led you here, Arthur, and we look forward very much to seeing His good plans for this new relationship unfold!

*Choir and Music Committee*

## ***RETURNED TO CALVARY***

If you've noticed an old picture frame in the church lounge, here's the rest of the story.

The church was recently contacted by the widow of a Baltimore antique dealer. In closing out her husband's estate, she discovered the ornately carved frame. On its reverse is handwritten: "Isaac Kurtz — 1831-1921. Grandfather of Kathryn K. Gstalder. Isaac Kurtz — one of the Founders of Calvary Baptist Church, Williamsport, Pa. This picture, I will to Robert U. Burch upon my death. Robert Burch who is located in Baltimore, Md. Kathryn K. Gstalder." Kathryn Gstalder and the Burch family were also associated with this church, but, failing to find any members of the Kurtz or Burch families, the Baltimore widow called Calvary and offered to return the picture frame to us. Pastor Pete had been planning a trip to that area, so he picked up the heirloom and brought it home.

The stained glass window between the sanctuary and lounge, nearest the choir loft, was given in memory of Deacon and Mrs. Kurtz. Pictures of his two daughters, Mary and Susie, who were missionaries, are hanging in the lounge. A 1904 picture of women of this church including Mrs. Isaac Kurtz is also in the lounge.

The family home was on High Street. Turning onto High Street from Hepburn, there are some apartments in what was then their home, which is a large brick structure.

## **A SPECIAL SERVICE**

*By  
Jim Lewis*

While Pastor Pete was off building rubble houses in Haiti, we had a special message from retired pastor Adam Kittrell on October 21st. His message, essentially, was that we are all members of God's family, and as such, we have a responsibility to "help around the house". Statistics show that, on average, ten to twenty percent of the members of a congregation do all the work required to keep the church going. You may have noticed that some things aren't getting done, or aren't getting done often enough around our church. While it is true that works won't get you into heaven if your heart is not right, it is also true that we will be known by how we love the Lord and love each other. The Lord expects us to spread a little elbow grease as well as put our tithes in the offering plate. Here is a short list of areas in the church where volunteers are greatly appreciated: Sunday School teachers, Vacation Bible School helpers, AWANA helpers, fellowship meal coordinators, greeters, Mothers' Morning Out volunteers (this program is currently not functioning for lack of volunteers), English as a Second Language volunteers, volunteers to work with the international group(s), church council members, ABW volunteers, gardening helpers, people to take up the collection or serve communion, and talented people who would like to sing or play an instrument during services, or, better yet, join the choir. I'm sure there are numerous other areas I'm leaving out. There are also several missions that various members participate in—but there is always room for more. You will never know how blessed you can feel until you go on one of these trips, believe me. Additionally, we need to be fellowshiping with our fellow Christians. These opportunities include Games Night, fellowship meals, Christmas caroling, participating in the various church fundraisers (spaghetti dinners, white elephant auctions, church rummage sales, etc.). To paraphrase JFK, "Ask not what your church can do for you, ask what you can do for your church." If you find yourself living on the periphery of your church, I challenge you to become more involved. You will find you will be blessed for it.

**White Cross Christmas Project**  
**American Baptist Women, Calvary Baptist Church**

On Sunday, November 18, 2012, we began collecting money for our White Cross Christmas Project. Instead of collecting items for kits to send overseas, the American Baptist International Ministries have asked us to send money so that items may be purchased, organized and distributed at the site of need.

We are collecting the funds to be sent to the Philippines for their kits. The costs of the kits are as follows:

Sewing Material	\$2.00
Sewing Kit	4.00
School Kit	3.00
Health Kit	4.00
Baby Layette	8.00

Sue Green has organized a unique way for, not only the women, but also the men and children to be a blessing to those in need at the Christian Mission Centers in the Philippines.

Take play money from our Christmas tree in the lounge and place in an envelope provided, return envelope with real money to Sue, Penny or Karen, and mark on the envelope which kits you are purchasing. Checks can be made out to **Calvary Baptist Women**.

The collection will continue until December 16.

*Karen Mazzullo*  
*ABW Coordinator*

***A NOTE....***

To my family at Calvary, thank you first for your love, concern, and prayers. Thank you for your selfless efforts to make Vicki's memorial service a memorable occasion, and thank you also for the lovely flowers.

My love in Christ,  
Jim Lewis



**WOMEN'S AND STUDENTS  
INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS**

**THANKSGIVING 2012**



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 January 2013 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](mailto: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  
DECEMBER**

EACH WEDNESDAY:

EACH THURSDAY:

EACH SATURDAY:

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
			5-7 pm – AWANA Sparks and T & T Clubs 7 pm – Bible Study and Prayer 7-8:30 pm – Internat'l. Prog.	4-6 pm – International Women's Program 7 pm – Choir Rehearsal		9 am – Evangelism Team Prayer Meeting
<b>EACH SUNDAY:</b> 9:30 am – Kids Club, College Class and Adult Class 10:40 am – Worship Service	<b>EACH MONDAY:</b> Pastor's Day Off 4-6 pm – International Women's Program					1
<b>2 1<sup>st</sup> Sun. of Advent</b>  Fellowship Luncheon (pot luck) following the worship service	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>  B – Stanley Bower	<b>7</b> 7:00 p.m. – Family Games Night  B – Susan (Paulhamus) Betts	<b>8</b>
<b>9 2<sup>nd</sup> Sun. of Advent</b>  3:00 p.m. – Caroling Refreshments to follow in Fellowship Hall	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>  B – Marianne Hopkins	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16 3<sup>rd</sup> Sun. of Advent</b>  7 p.m. – Christmas Carol Festival here	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 7:30 p.m. – Church Council Meeting	<b>19</b> 7:00 p.m. – Prayer Mtg. followed by Congregational Business Meeting  B – Susan Mahserjian-Smith	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23 4th Sun. of Advent</b>  B – Melia Lantz	<b>24 Christmas Eve</b> 7 p.m. – Candlelight Service  NO ESL Classes	<b>25 CHRISTMAS</b>	<b>26</b>  NO Awana	<b>27</b>  B – Kevin Collins	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 10:40 a.m. – Retrospective Service	<b>31 New Year's Eve</b>  NO ESL Classes					Note: B – Birthday

**2012**