

# Calvary Baptist Courier

## February 2010

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH  
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Williamsport, PA 17701  
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[www.calvarywilliamsport.com](http://www.calvarywilliamsport.com)

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

### Spiritual Therapy

Ever since undergoing my knee replacement surgery in October, I have been undergoing physical therapy sessions week after week after week. Even though my operation was the "big event," it would have all been a big waste of time and money if it hadn't been followed up by the long work of therapy. Like birth (or rebirth: conversion), the surgery was necessary but it was only the beginning of the process to make my right leg right ("righteous"). Like the surgeon who put in my new knee while I was asleep, God gives us new life in a mysterious way, known only to Him. But then we are responsible to nurture that new life. As Jesus said, we do not live on bread alone but on God's word - and if I am not taking in God's word daily, like manna, that life in me is never going to grow and be healthy and functional. If I skip my physical therapy sessions, my leg might have a new knee but it will stay bound up by all the tight tendons and knotted up muscles (adhesions) that it developed before the new knee was put in.

Working on those adhesions can be very painful. The therapist finds them by massaging my leg. When he hits one, I about jump off the table. Sometimes I feel like kicking him in the head. (Does this sound like when God's word contacts some spiritual adhesions in you?) And then once he finds one, he has to keep massaging it (ow! ow! OW!) until it loosens up. Some loosen up in one session. It looks like one they found last week is going to take at least three. When the adhesion is first located (and it may have been in my leg muscle for 25 years!), the first sign that I have that it's there is a jolt of pain like walking into an electric fence. Then there's lots more pain in working it out. But then, once it loosens up, not only does it not hurt any more, but the whole leg is much more flexible and my whole body is much more able to function properly. So it is with God's word, probing each of us as a part of the body, searching out the hard unconverted lumps inside. Once His word has done its work though, you are freed up to do yours, and so is the whole larger body (the church) of which you are a part.

God's word brings us lots of comfort in life's difficulties, doesn't it? But it is also a sharp scalpel at times - and a physical therapist's trained deep massaging hands. Don't give up on your therapy. If the Great Physician has done His work, now the Great Spiritual Therapist needs to be doing His. And the more we understand that and let Him do his job, the more even those pains become joys as we spiritual patients, full of sin's adhesions, become the spiritually functional and healthy disciples God wants us to be.

Shalom,

*Peter P. C.*

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

B – Birthday A – Anniversary

# February

<i>Sun</i>	<u>EACH MONDAY:</u> Pastor's Day Off <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	1 <i>Black History Month</i>	2 4:00 p.m. – Planning Meeting	3 9-11:30 a.m. – Mother's Morning Out  B – Rev. Tom Wilcox	4	5 7:00 p.m. – Family Games Night	6 C.L.I. Spring Term starts
7 Fellowship Luncheon (pot luck) following the worship service.	8	9 7:00 p.m. Christian Ed. Mtg.	10  B – Steffanie Wilson	11	12  B – Jean Snyder	13
14 Worship Service in Fellowship Hall	15 <i>President's Day</i>	16 <b>HOSS'S DAY</b>  Finance Comm. Mtg.  7:00 p.m. – Church Council Meeting	17 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> 9-11:30 a.m. – Mother's Morning Out  B – Candy Clark B – Sue Green	18	19  Youth Lock-In	20 Church Life Cycles Workshop at Moreland  at YMCA  B – Benjamin Green
21 <i>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent</i> Worship Service in Fellowship Hall <b>BROWN BAG SUN.</b> Bring a bag lunch and stay after church. 3-6 p.m. – Area Youth Gathering at Calvary  B – Wanda Reid	22	23  B – Tiffanie Wilson	24	25	26  B – Wendi Sterner	27  B – Jennifer Hoover
28 <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent</i> Worship Service in Fellowship Hall  "Catch up" Offering						

2010

## Council Notes

*By Vicki Lewis*

The great news is that we were over \$500 in the black financially at the end of 2009! God is good, all the time! We know that heating bills and other expenses might hit hard this winter, but for now we are grateful for this good gift!

Peter finished with his Advent sermon series and is now preaching from John. Bible study has resumed in earnest on Wednesday nights. He is teaching New Testament for CLI on Saturdays during February, March, and part of April. There's still time for interested people to catch most of his lectures, happening from 8-10 a.m.

Ben Mazzullo teaches adults in Sunday School in February. We collected White Cross items and money and they are on their way to meet needs of people. We will have a congregational business meeting on February 24 to officially elect officers and discuss changes to the covenant. Deb Titus has been visiting the homebound but will be "off the clock" in February as she will be recuperating from carpal tunnel surgery. Greens and Ohnmeiss families went to visit with Jack and Marianne Hopkins and family in January and had a nice outing.

Property report is that the boiler is working properly, according to Steam Specialists, who came to check on it. Pastoral Relations committee had a meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of January. In Youth Ministry, it was reported that AWANA got started up again after the holidays, and Mother's Morning Out is on a regular schedule. Baptist Women sponsored the hygiene kits for Haiti. In New Business, we are looking for someone to put captions on the signs on Packer and Washington sides of the building. Jack Brown has retired from this position. Larry Green, Kathy Temple, and Peter are working on the new version of the church covenant. It is available for review now.

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### *Adult Sunday School Lessons for February 2010*

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*February 7 - Recognized in Gentile Territory (Matthew 15:21-31)*

*February 14 - Declared by Peter (Matthew 16:13-27)*

*February 21 - Witnessed by Disciples (Matthew 17:1-13)*

*February 28 - Anointed in Bethany (Matthew 26:3-16)*

## **Plans for 2010**

The planning group has met a couple of times now and wanted to share the dates that have been planned for the first half of the year.

### **February**

7-Fellowship Meal  
16-Hoss's Fundraiser, Church Council Meeting  
21-Brown Bag Lunch  
24-Congregational Business Meeting  
Every Saturday-Church Leadership Institute

### **March**

7-Fellowship Meal  
14-Daylight Savings Time  
16-Church Council  
20-Spring begins  
Every Saturday-Church Leadership Institute

### **April**

1-Maundy Thursday, Foot-washing service  
2-Good Friday services, to be arranged  
4-Easter  
11-Fellowship Meal (note this is a change from the first Sunday)  
16-Pastoral Relations committee  
18-Brown Bag Lunch  
20-Church Council  
24-Spaghetti Dinner, Chinese Auction

### **May**

1-Clean-Up Day at Calvary  
4-Election Day/Baked goods at polling place  
7-Games Night  
9-Mother's Day (Muffins)  
15-Yard Sale  
22-ABW Work Day

### **June**

4-Games Night  
6-Fellowship Meal  
15-Church Council  
20-Father's Day (Donuts)  
27-Northumberland Association Spring Fair

As you put these dates on your calendar, be thinking and praying about how you can help.  
Happy 2010!

## **MY 2009-10 MISSION TRIP TO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

*By Duane Yeagle*

There were many wonderful experiences that I brought back with me from the Dominican Republic mission trip, as I stayed for an extra 12 days this time. In total I spent 25 days there. So, I was able to see more of how a Dominican lives each day. I will share some of the things that touched my heart this time and the ones that got my attention. As I share my experiences with you, I want you to reflect on the abundance of wealth that God has given to you. Because, if a poor Haitian Dominican were to see all you have, they would say that you were fairly wealthy.

One of my experiences on this trip was after a couple of days being there. First I want to explain how they figure how much our trip will cost. Part of the package is that they add into our cost the room and board. It costs each member of the team something like \$40 a day, which includes 3 meals. Well, some of the members were not eating all of the food on their plates. So, we were reprimanded by Mother Hen (Peg Thomas, the organizer and leader of the groups). She told the group that the ladies who prepare our meals and the people of Las Colinas only receive one meal a day, if that. So, don't waste the food. Some of the even poorer people who have no means of providing for their families go days without a meal. So, this was something new to me, which I didn't realize from the last time that I was there.

The next thing I want to share is the day I went with the medical team to a betay. A betay is a small village on the farmer's sugar cane field where the Haitian immigrants live. They work for the farmer who owns the sugar cane. The farmer has a store in the village where the Haitians purchase food., etc., for their families. But, because they do not make enough money from the farmer to provide for their families, the farmer gives them a line of credit, which the Haitian will never be able to repay. So, in turn they become slaves to the farmer. But anyway, as we were there on the betay providing medical exams and handing out prescriptions, a little girl about 7 or 8 years old was standing outside the window, going like this (brushing her teeth with her finger). Because she did not speak English she could not just holler and say, can I get some toothpaste and some hygiene items? This was her only way of communicating with us. After we were done for the day, we did hand out the remainder of the hygiene items to the children. So, that was something special for me. We take all of those kinds of things here for granted; in fact, we even store up these items in our closets.

The last thing that struck me that I didn't see the last time, were 2 children about age 12 and 14, digging through the garbage dump. I mean they were literally opening the bags of garbage and looking through everything that was in the bags. I don't know what they were looking for, but it is a part of their survival and it was heart-wrenching to watch. So, the needs are great. We can only do so much as a small group to help the church and the people of Las Colinas. But, the impact that we are having is eternal. In 2 years, Lord willing, we will return to Las Colinas. Will you consider being part of the team?

# Notes and Thanks

## White Cross Overland Project

Karen Mazzullo reports that we have received the following thank you from Nancy Guthridge, the area coordinator/distributor of the clothing, etc. donations which we sent to the Overland White Cross Project.

*“The Overland White Cross items you sent have been received and are very much appreciated. Thank you for sharing with our ministry of helping homeless teens gain the skills to live a successful life. Your support helps tremendously. We appreciate you.”*



## *ABW Hygiene Kits for Haiti*

THANK YOU to all who generously gave money to purchase hygiene kits for the earthquake victims in Haiti. We will be sending \$275.00. — Sue Green

## Words about the Website

Subject: Your web site

To: [admin@calvarywilliamsport.com](mailto:admin@calvarywilliamsport.com)

Date: Tuesday, January 26, 2010, 3:02 PM

Just wanted to let you know, I love this web site. Every time I come here I always find what I need for my class. I teach 4 & 5 year olds on Wednesday night. So far everything I've seen is very good and it has so many ideas. May the Lord continue to bless you. Starr Hubbs, Dayton, Oh

## Where is Yesterday?

Some time ago, Sue Green found a copy of a privately-printed booklet called "Christian Rhymes that Comfort and Challenge", written by Rev. John R. MacGorman, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church from 1948 until 1955. Sue's copy was given by Rev. MacGorman to his "prayer partners" — and Sue's parents— Ken and Olive Waltz. A poem called, "We Walk by Faith" appeared in the February 2009 *Courier*. We thank Sue again for sharing and take this opportunity to present another selection.

### WHERE IS YESTERDAY?

You don't get rid of yesterday by giving the calendar a tear.  
One new leaf torn off in January and another month by month until  
there  
Is not one more leaf left on the old year pad to throw away.  
You can get rid of the paper on which the days are marked but you  
don't get rid of yesterday.

Your yesterday is more than a date on a calendar that you can throw  
away,  
Yesterday's thoughts and acts and habits make up the character that  
is your's today.  
If you think that with those calendar leaves thrown away your  
yesterdays are gone for aye and aye,  
You take one good look in the mirror and you will see that your  
yesterdays are with you today.

Tearing a leaf from a calendar pad is an easy thing to do,  
A child with all his weakness can do that as well as you.  
But to take the days as God sends them and use them to do His will,  
Man has always found that a harder task and that experience is with  
men still.

But if the yesterdays we cannot lose are to give us strength today,  
We must not treat them merely as leaves on a calendar pad easy to  
throw away.  
They must be accepted by us as gifts from God to be used as His  
Word does say,  
Thus all our yesterdays lived according to His plans will bring us  
our greatest happiness today.

For the will of God is best for you and me,  
And the longer we live the clearer this is to see.  
This truth is written in history of old and is just as true today,  
You'll make your yesterdays serve you best if daily you seek God's  
will to know and obey.

J. R. M. 12/29/69

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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, March 5, 2010 for the March 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](mailto: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