

Calvary Baptist Courier

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January 2009

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

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

HAVE A BLESSED NEW YEAR

*I am your constant companion
I am your greatest asset or heaviest burden.
I will push you up to success or down to disappointment.
I am at your command.
Half the things you do might just as well be turned over to me,
For I can do them quickly, correctly, and profitably.
I am easily managed, just be firm with me.
Those who are great, I have made great.
Those who are failures, I have made failures.
I am not a machine, though I work
with the precision of a machine
And the intelligence of a person.*

*You can run me for profit, or you can run me for ruin.
Show me how you want it done. Educate me. Train me.
Lead me. Reward me.
And I will then ... do it automatically.
I am your servant. Who am I?
I am a habit.*

—from *Simple Truths* newsletter

This little poem arrived in my email the other day. Very appropriately, it did so just after Caroline Kennedy Schlossberg's infamous TV interview. She was making her case to be appointed to Hillary Clinton's Senate seat but, as you may recall, any subsequent discussion of the interview's content was swamped by people's reaction to her amazingly excessive use of the phrase, "you know." How true is line 3 of this poem!

Experience tells us that New Year's resolutions to break our bad habits are mostly doomed to failure. Let me suggest (as is my New Year habit!) that, instead, you focus on starting a new good habit. If you do not already have one, start a 15-minute Daily Quiet Time with God. For help, devotional guides are available at Christian Light Bookstore, or for free in the Church library. Reread this little poem, seeing Daily Quiet Time (really, God) as the one speaking to you. Then read Psalm One as a first DQT — you'll see what I mean, and hope for you, by saying, "Have a Blessed New Year."

Shalom,

Peter Wilson

Council Notes

by Jim Lewis

The Calvary Baptist Church council met on December 16, 2008. These are the highlights of that meeting. The treasurer's report for November shows that we were \$1709.79 in the black. Generous donations over the past several weeks have enabled us to pay off the bill for the plumbing work at the parsonage. The ending balance noted above from the treasurer's report, however, does not reflect the effects of the recent expenses. These expenses instead were reflected as a negative balance in the Ogden Fund entry which is unrealistic since a "fund" cannot, by definition, have a negative balance. This will be corrected in next month's report. Peter said that the senior care facilities were all discouraging visitors in order to control winter illnesses. On a happy note, Keith Oliver came forward this month to join the congregation. Council members met with him during the fellowship meeting and are happy to recommend his inclusion into the membership. Carol Goodman, whom some of our older members may remember, has moved her membership to Faith United Methodist Church. Our choir members participated in the Community Carol Festival recently. This festival was a blessing to all who attended. Turnout at the Fellowship Meals has been so good recently that the council has decided that we need to plan to use seven tables instead of the normal six for future Fellowship Meals. Twenty-two dollars was raised (from the basket on the food table) toward meeting expenses for paper plates, bowls, utensils, etc. We will continue to collect funds each month for this purpose. Pastor Pete noted that Saturday morning prayer meetings are continuing. If you would like to have prayer for someone, contact Pastor Pete. Also, all members are invited to participate. Emily Turney, Kathy Temple, Deb Titus and Jim Lewis were approved for nomination for the church council (and approved at the congregational business meeting on December 17th). Vicki Lewis, Jim Lewis, Shirley Beyer and Sandy Snyder were approved for nomination for moderator, church clerk, treasurer and assistant treasurer respectively (and subsequently approved at the congregational business meeting). The proposed budget for 2009 was discussed and subsequently approved at the congregational business meeting. Jack Hopkins is working with Chris Coakley to get the lights in the sanctuary working properly (some have not been working properly since the knob and tube wiring was replaced recently). The AWANA members participated in a "Happy Birthday Jesus" birthday party on December 17th. Sue Green advised that the layettes put together for the White Cross program have been completed and mailed. The Christmas offering has been designated to go into the building fund to help defray the cost of our recent building expenses. The council voted and approved the use of women members to assist in serving communion. Sandy Snyder will be the counter for January; Sue Green will be greeter; and Helen Yoas will manage the Fellowship Meal. The council will meet again on January 20th. In order to conserve funds, Fellowship Meals and communion will be held on the same Sundays and services will be held in the Fellowship Hall EXCEPT on Fellowship Meal Sundays until the weather warms up again. Joel Reid has purchased a personal projector which he has agreed to make available for our use with the screen in the Fellowship Hall during services. This will get the congregation used to using this capability until we can make up the funds to purchase our own system.

BROUGHT TO YOU BY CALVARY KIDS PAGES

Calvary reaches out to Mexico ...

Re: Printing

Hi! I'm Johanna DH and I printed off the Manger Scene picture to use for a VBS I hope to be doing next week in Mexico for Mexican children. I just wanted to make sure that I could print and use this picture for the VBS. ... Have a great Christmas!

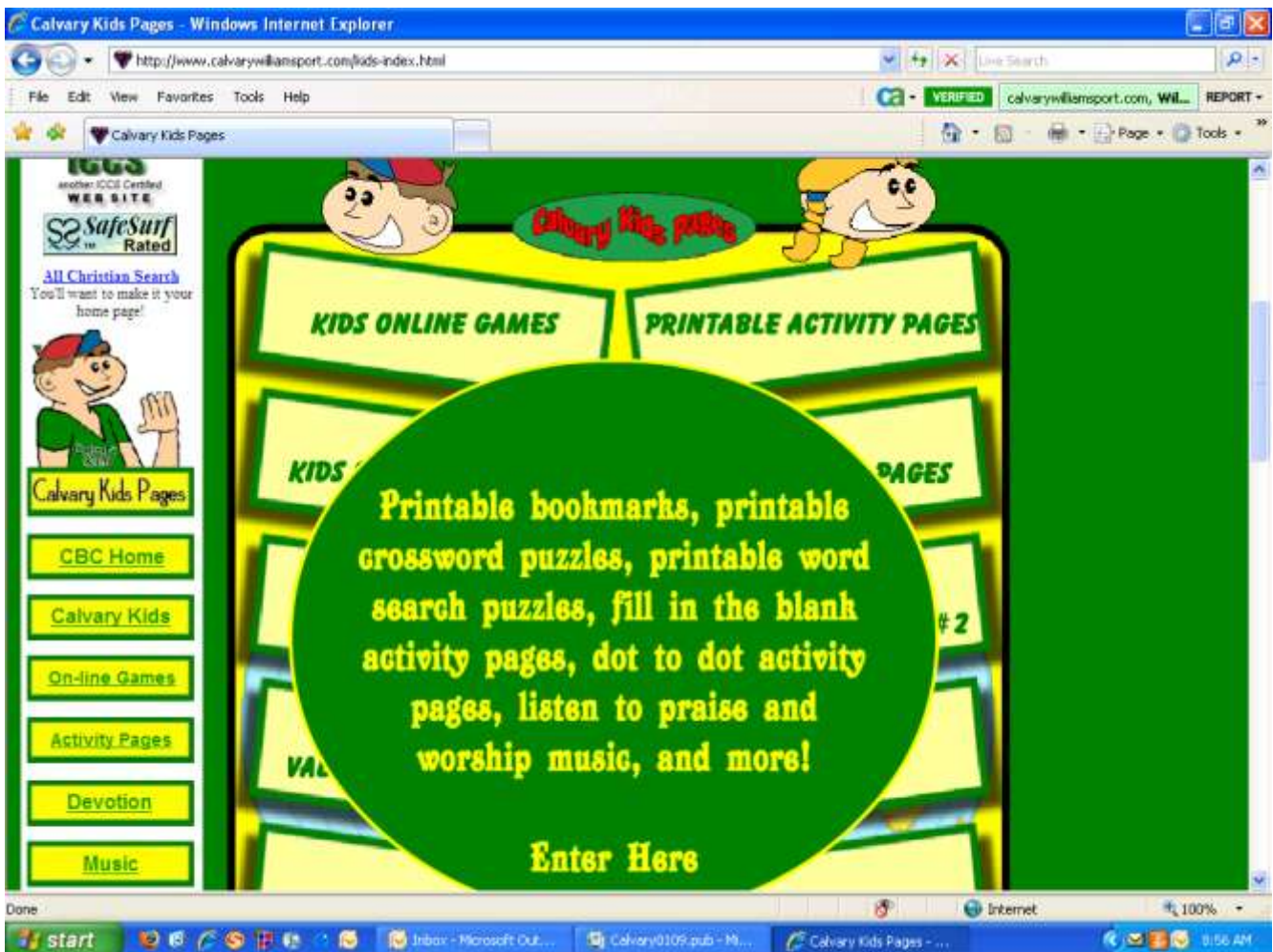
And to Kentucky!

Hi Fellow Believer,

I am a member of a small, newborn church plant in Kentucky — we just started meeting in October. I have been putting together little activity books (“children’s bulletins”) each week for the kids to use during services and I came across your website while looking for ideas and things I could use online. Wow! Your website has great coloring pages and activities. ... thank you for your time and for putting such great material out there! At the least you have given me some good ideas.

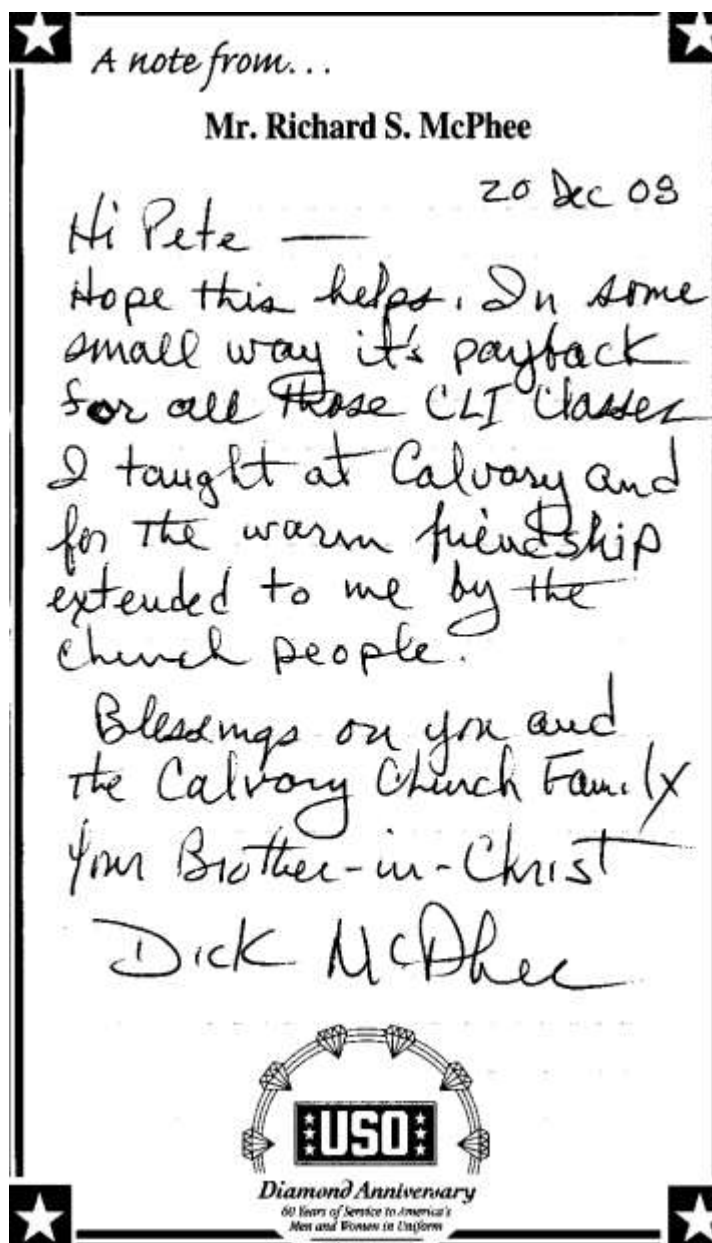
Your sister in Christ,
Marisa

P.S. If you are curious, our church’s website is <http://www.graceandpeacepca.org>.



THANK YOU, MARK — THANK YOU, DICK

Mark Mahserjian-Smith, our Area Minister, included a short article on Calvary's financial situation in last month's regional American Baptist newsletter. A week before Christmas we received a phone call from Dick McPhee, a retired Air Force Lt.-Col. And American Baptist pastor, who teaches at our Church Leadership Institute here at Calvary. A few days later, this note and a check to Calvary for \$1,000 arrived in the mail.



Thank you, Dick!.... And Thank you, Mark!

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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, January 30, 2009 for the February issue of the *Calvary Baptist Courier* (to be distributed February 1.)

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.

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

January

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

B – Birthday

A – Anniversary

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<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 <i>Sat</i>
<u>EACH SUNDAY:</u> 9:10 am – Sun. School Open 9:30 am – S.S. Classes 10:40 am – Worship Service	<u>EACH MONDAY:</u> Pastor's Day Off		<u>EACH WEDNESDAY:</u> 5-7 pm – AWANA Sparks and T & T Clubs 7 pm – Bible Study and Prayer	1 <i>New Year's Day</i> B – Arianna Lantz	2 7 p.m. – EVERYONE is invited to help un- decorate and stay for Family Games Night	3
4 10:40 a.m. – Communion Service Fellowship Luncheon (pot luck) following worship service	5 A – Michael & Gail Telesca (1-5-02)	6 <i>Epiphany</i>	7 9-11:30 a.m. – Mother's Morning Out	8	9	10
11 10:40 a.m. – Worship in Fellowship Hall	12	13	14 ANNUAL REPORTS ARE DUE	15 B – Sandy Snyder	16 Pastoral Relations Committee Mtg.	17 9 a.m. – ABW of Calvary breakfast at Montandon Baptist
18 10:40 a.m. – Worship in Fellowship Hall B – Craig Koons	19 <i>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</i>	20 6:30 p.m. – Church Council Meeting B – Brian Schearer	21 9-11:30 a.m. – Mother's Morning Out	22 3 p.m. – Planning Committee Meeting B – Marie Green B – Melissa Cumberland	23	24
25 10:40 a.m. – Worship in Fellowship Hall "catch up" Offering B – Erica Bower	26 Association Board Meeting B – Donna Camp	27	28	29	30	31

2009