

# Calvary Baptist Courier

## January 2010

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 is with us"**

"... all this happened in order to make come true what the Lord had said through the prophet (Isaiah 7:14): 'a virgin will become pregnant and have a son, and he will be called Immanuel' (which means 'God is with us')" — Matthew 1:23.

This very familiar verse from the recent Christmas readings has several things to say to us at Calvary as we enter 2010.

First, it is a comfort that we go into an unknown year with God; in fact, LED by God! There are two things that people truly willing (and I mean WILLing) to follow God have always found along that journey: their faith being stretched and gracious surprises. Let's expect both.

Second, whether we are meeting in the sanctuary or in the Fellowship Hall, God is with US. He is just as present in either place. Although the sanctuary is now insulated (one of last year's blessings!), it is still a much larger volume of space to heat than Fellowship Hall. I hope that you will be like some folks I heard from after our first weeks in Fellowship Hall last winter: they enjoyed being closer to one another in that smaller space. Maybe that's an aspect of experiencing God in others whom He is also "with" — He's found WITH His PEOPLE, in ANY place. So maybe the closer we are to one another, the closer we are feeling Him. Plus, doesn't the Fellowship Hall just make us appreciate more the beautiful sanctuary and organ that are some of His blessings to us for most of the year?

Third, the fact that God is with us is an awesome responsibility. As we go out among people, we are carrying the very presence of God to them. Paul says it is like an odor on us (as if we'd picked up a God-scent in worship or our devotions) (Phils. 4:18). He says we are "living letters" from God to others (2 Cor 3:2). We have no less responsibility for the life of God with US than Mary and Joseph had for the life of God as it came to be with them. And, as with Mary and Joseph after that first Christmas, what are you going to do to nurture that life, that living presence, in you, so that it CAN grow and have favor with God and man?

Although Christmas comes at the end of every year, its meaning is the source of truly Christian living in the year ahead. May we as a congregation — and as individual disciples — be people for whom "God is with us" is very real in various ways in 2010.

Shalom,

*Peter P. Wilson*

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

B – Birthday A – Anniversary

# January

<i>Sun</i>	<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	<u>EACH MONDAY:</u> Pastor's Day Off				1 <i>New Year's Day</i>	2
3 Communion  Fellowship Luncheon (pot luck) following the worship service.	4	5  A – Michael & Gail Telesca (1-5-02)	6 9-11:30 a.m. – Mother's Morning Out  No AWANA	7	8 2:00 p.m. Planning Meeting	9
10 Worship Service in Fellowship Hall	11  Jim Lewis leaves for Dominican Republic Mission Trip	12	13 AWANA resumes	14	15  B – Sandy Snyder	16
17 Worship Service in Fellowship Hall <b>BROWN BAG SUN.</b> Bring a bag lunch and fellowship after the worship service.	18 <i>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</i>	19  7:00 p.m. – Church Council Meeting	20 9-11:30 a.m. – Mother's Morning Out  B – Brian Schearer	21	22  B – Melissa Cumberland B – Marie Green	23  Duane Yeagle and Jim Lewis return from D. R. Mission Trip
24 Worship Service in Fellowship Hall	25  B – Erica Bower	26  B – Donna Camp	27	28	29	30
31 Worship Service in Fellowship Hall  "Catch up" Offer.						

2010

## COUNCIL NOTES

*By Jim Lewis*

The Calvary Baptist Church council met on December 15, 2009. These are the highlights of that meeting. We wish you all a happy and joyous Christmas season. Our deficit seems to be going down, as we are presently \$4,778.65 in the red. The ads on our church web site bring in significant income for the church every month, so when you see Duane, thank him. Pastor Pete has been cleared to drive once again following a slow recovery from his knee operation. He has managed to get out to see some of our homebound members. We are all grieved by the passing of Greyor Turney. Our love and our thoughts are with the Turney family during a, for them, difficult holiday season. Alicia Koeb, one of the students from Lycoming College that has been attending services for some time, has come forward and indicated she would like to become a member through profession of faith. Alicia has been baptized and loves the Lord. She has met with the council and will be welcomed into the congregation when she returns from her holiday break (assuming congregational approval, which should not be a problem). If you didn't participate in the carol sing on December 13<sup>th</sup> and the refreshments afterward, you missed a good time. All who participated enjoyed themselves. Duane is looking for someone to fill in as teacher for the children's Sunday school class while he is in the Dominican Republic. If you would like to volunteer, let Duane know. Pastor Pete noted he is still holding prayer meetings on Saturday mornings. If you would like to participate, or would like prayer for yourself or others, contact Pastor Pete. Ken Bower, Ben Mazzullo, Donna Camp, and Larry Green have agreed to put their name in front of the congregation for membership on the council at the congregational business meeting on December 16<sup>th</sup>. Pending congregational approval, they will join the council in January as Sue Green and Helen Yoas leave the council. A property report and the draft budget for 2010 will also be discussed. Karaffa Construction has completed the insulation of the ceiling in the sanctuary. This should help with our utility bills. Sue Green announced that we will soon be looking for donations for the White Cross. She will have a placard up in the foyer soon to let you know what is needed for this effort. Those who can sing and would like to participate, we will be caroling to the homebound, followed by an open house at the parsonage on December 20<sup>th</sup>. There will be a photographic retrospective of our church for 2009 on December 27<sup>th</sup>. Helen Yoas is working on this. If you have pictures you would like to see included, contact Helen. Members are invited to participate in a meeting to plan activities of the church for next year on February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 4:00 P.M. Your input will be welcome. If you cannot attend but would like to make a suggestion, contact one of your council members. Helen Yoas will be counter for January; Vicki Lewis will be greeter. Vicki has also agreed to manage the fellowship meal for January (on the 3<sup>rd</sup>). There will be a games night here at the church on New Year's Eve followed by a New Year's Eve service if there is any interest from the congregation. Let Peter know if you would like to attend a service on New Year's Eve. The council will meet next on January 19, 2010 at 7:00 P.M.



## **American Baptist Women White Cross Mission Collection 2010**

The Women of Calvary Baptist Church are once again participating in the annual White Cross Mission Collection.

This year our quota is divided into three parts: Parts 1 and 2 require a monetary donation from our ABW chapter.

1. The Chaurjahari Hospital located in western Nepal where the missionaries Charles & Carole Sydnor have requested funds to be used for the purchasing of medications and for the continuing care of patients.
2. Purchase of health kits to be sent to the Philippines and we will be purchasing two of these.

Right now our Calvary Baptist Church ABW chapter's treasury is a little short on funds to cover these two quotas. Please see Sue Green if you wish to give a monetary gift.

Part three of our quota is clothing donations for the Overland Missions. This year we will be donating clothing and supplies for adults.

- men's underwear
- women's underwear
- men's sweatpants & sweatshirts
- adult toothbrushes
- deodorants
- large drawstring laundry bags
- single twin-sized quilts or comforters

Sign up & give items to Karen Mazzullo by January 24, 2010.

# Please Give!

# Don't Miss.....

## Planning for the New Year—you're invited!

The New Year is here! Two dates have been set so that interested folks can join in the planning for Calvary in 2010. Start thinking now about the events you've enjoyed this year and others you'd like to see included in the list. Bring a calendar and all your ideas and meet at the church on **January 8** at 2:00 p.m..

Another such meeting has been planned for **February 2—Groundhog day!** We'll meet from 4-6 p.m. and complete the planning for the year.

Anyone is invited to attend one or both of these meetings. Events that will be put onto the calendar are: communion, fellowship meals, brown bag lunches, congregational business meetings, picnic, Vacation Bible School, Easter activities, Christmas activities, garage sale, and many more.

## Sunday School in January 2010

Here is a summary of the Bible Study offerings for January. I hope you'll make a New Year's resolution to come to Sunday School!

January 3—Proclaimed in Baptism. John had made a name for himself, preaching and baptizing repentant sinners. What would characterize Jesus' ministry? The appearance of a dove and a voice from Heaven powerfully proclaimed Jesus as God's Son!

January 10—Strengthened in Temptation. Hebrews tells us that Jesus "has been tempted in every way, just as we are" (4:15). This lesson gives examples. In so doing it gives us help for facing temptations of our own. Could it be that the ministry of angels here is also relevant to us?

January 17—Demonstrated in Acts of Healing. Jesus' miracles were acts of tender compassion, but they were more. They were acts of power that declared him to be divine. For honest inquirers, like John, the evidence was sufficient. For scoffers, like the Pharisees, it was not.

January 24—Declared in Prayer. Listening in on the prayer of one who has a deep love for the Lord is a treat. How wonderful it must have been to hear Jesus pray! His prayer, his connection with the Father, and his invitation to join him are central to this lesson.

January 31—Revealed in Rejection. Jesus' identity is clearly revealed in his miracles, his teachings, his fulfillment of prophecy, and in other evidences. Yet there were many who rejected him. What wondrous blessings they missed! Are you missing something?

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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 29, 2010 for the February 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