

# Calvary Baptist Courier

## May 2014

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

### “Inactive member”

*“Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came.” - John 20:24*

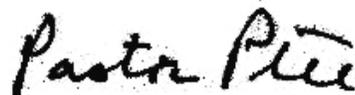
So begins one of the most important and dramatic story/lessons of Jesus’ post-resurrection ministry. As the story unfolds, you get to feel the frustration of Thomas’ friends (including John who leaves us this account) and the needless spiritual anguish of Thomas.

Pastors feel no constant anxiety more than the one they feel for the “inactive member” - those who are on the church roll but who have stopped participating, part of the church on paper but not in person. “Jesus is with me,” the shepherd (“pastor”) is told by the distanced sheep whenever they have contact. But somehow those sheep don’t listen to The Shepherd, Jesus. Jesus means something when he says, “Where two or more gather in my name, I am there” (Matthew 18:20). He means it when he speaks firmly in Hebrews 10:25. Jesus did not come to Thomas’s house.

The other disciples “kept telling” Thomas (the literal verb tense in John 20:25) but until he came back together with them, he was needlessly deprived—needlessly depriving himself—of the experiences Jesus was sharing with the group. And Thomas was depriving the others of his role with the “body” Jesus was making them and within its work for which Jesus had designed him and called him to it.

At the end of Jesus’ pre-crucifixion existence, he prayed for all of us—“for those who will believe in me through <the apostles’> message.” And what did he pray for us? “That all of them may be one, Father ... may they be brought to complete unity ...” (John 17:20, 21, 23). We pray to the Father, wanting Him to answer our prayers. This is one prayer Jesus prays to the Father that you can answer. What will your answer be? (Not to me, to Him.)

Shalom ,



## COUNCIL NOTES

*By Jim Lewis*

The Calvary Baptist Church Council met on April 21, 2014. This is a synopsis of the minutes of that meeting. As of March 31, 2014, our expenditures were \$6,844.92 more than we took in. Donations for the new parsonage fund grew by about \$4,000 in March. Sunday sermons will continue through the Old Testament prophets. Wednesday night Bible studies are currently in the book of James. The right hand of fellowship was extended to Elizabeth Koons by the congregation on March 23, 2014. The music committee is working on special music projects for the services during the summer while the choir is on hiatus. If you would like to participate, see Sue Green to arrange the details. Our church picnic is tentatively scheduled for August 9th at a park in either Montgomery or Montoursville; further details will be provided as they are firmed up. The title for Vacation Bible School this year will be, "Wilderness Escape: Where God Guides and Provides." There will be an initial planning meeting on May 6th at 7:00 PM for those who wish to assist with this project—see Duane Yeagle for details. The collection for "One Great Hour of Sharing" will be taken up beginning in mid-June. Please give generously. The Easter breakfast went well with between 40 and 50 attending. Our thanks to all the folks who made this possible. The Easter offering will be applied to current expenses as our collections have fallen behind this year. A new mirror has been installed in the men's room by an unknown benefactor; our thanks to this generous individual. The AWANA program will go on hiatus for the summer beginning in May. There will be an arts program led by Margie Hecker and Jody Lantz during this hiatus to support the neighborhood and AWANA children. It was decided that the men of this church should be responsible for the flowers for mothers/daughters/little future mothers this year, so Jim Lewis will be responsible for the event this year. Pastor Pete will be away on May 18th and 25th. Dave Fishel will fill in for him in the pulpit on May 18th; the Gideons will fill in on May 25th. Election Day is May 20th. As is our custom, there will be a bake sale that day. Doris Paulhamus is in charge of this event. Contact her if you are willing to help man the tables during this event or to provide baked goods. The greeter for May will be Doris Paulhamus; the counters will be Jim Lewis and Shirley Beyer; the fellowship meal coordinator will be Jody Lantz. May 4th will be Communion Sunday. Servers will be Duane Yeagle, Jim Lewis, Larry Green, and David Snyder Jr. Larry Green will offer the prayer for the bread; David Snyder Jr. will offer the prayer for the cup. The next council meeting is scheduled for May 12, 2014, at 7:00 PM.

## Calvary News

Plan to attend the American Baptist Women's Ministries of Pennsylvania and Delaware retreat for women and girls on June 6-8, 2014, at Shippensburg University. This year's theme is "A Time to Serve" - as Ephesians 6:7 says, "Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people." There will be programming: a mini-concert, a Christ-centered one-woman show, and the "Serenity Praise Dancers" featuring Mariah Mahserjian-Smith. Numerous activities are planned, including special workshops for girls with crafts, snacks, and games, and a missions project to benefit a church in Bulgaria. There are six speakers who represent both local and international ministries, and a total of 21 workshops. The cost is \$153 per person (double occupancy). The complete program can be found at <http://www.abcopad.com/abwm/Conference/2014CarolRegistration.pdf>, or get further information from Susan Mahserjian-Smith at (570) 435-0735 or [susan@mahserjian-smith.com](mailto:susan@mahserjian-smith.com).

Dear Friends,

“The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as **we are one**, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me” (John 17:22-23).

With his beloved disciples, Jesus prays for connection and unity. Perhaps he knew that understanding our oneness would be one of our greatest challenges as human beings, and that is why one of his very last acts was to pray for unity. When we understand that we are of God, created by none other than the Creator of all creation, and that we are thus beloved, we reconnect to ourselves, to one another, and to our Divine Parent.

For seven decades now, nine denominations in the U.S., united as one, have together been connecting people through One Great Hour of Sharing. Sisters and brothers living in poverty who would have been otherwise overlooked, or outright forgotten, have been empowered by our gifts to the offering. The woman who has been a victim of war, attempting on her own to raise her family without any access to long-term food security, education, or health care, is now self-sufficient because of assistance from One Great Hour of Sharing. Families across North America, still struggling to survive after a devastating storm took everything in its path, are accompanied for the long haul, thanks to funds from One Great Hour of Sharing.

Each time a gift is given, a connection is made. Every single offering builds another bridge and tears down another wall. Each donation to One Great Hour of Sharing, no matter how large or small, reveals our unity, that in Christ Jesus we are one family. When one of us—anywhere on earth—hurts, we all hurt. As long as there is need, we are all in need. One Great Hour of Sharing enables us to fulfill those needs, for they are our needs.

We are the hungry, the thirsty, the sick, the homeless, the hurting. We are one with our sisters and brothers, and we will answer Christ’s call until we *all* are fed. Until all are fed.

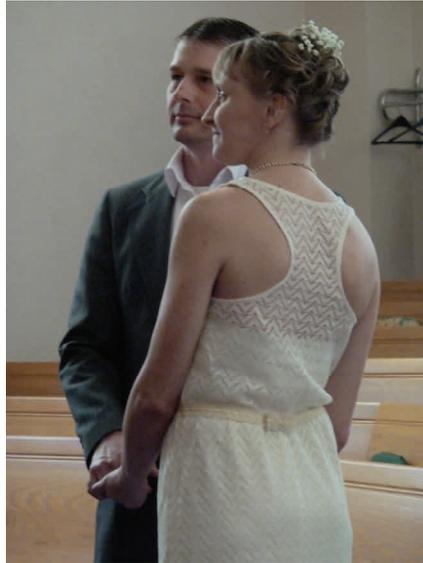
Give generously to this great connector of our shared faith, work, and witness in the world.

Sincerely,

Robin Turney  
Missions Chair, Offering Coordinator



# ***GOD HAS JOINED TOGETHER...***



**Duane and Tammy Yeagle, March 15, 2014**



Photo by Chris Rider

**Dottie and Jim Lewis, May 3, 2014**

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*God's house of worship on the hill since 1869*

<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 June 2014 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.

**2014 Church Council:** Larry Green, Sue Green, Dave Lantz, Jim Lewis (ex officio member and church clerk), Doris Paulhamus, David Snyder Jr., Sandy Snyder, Robin Turney, Pastor Peter Wilson (ex officio member and interim moderator), Duane Yeagle, Helen Yoas (treasurer)

**CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH  
MAY**

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<b><u>EACH SUNDAY:</u></b> 9:30 am – Kids Club, College Class and Adult Class 10:40 am – Worship Service 7 pm – Multi-language Bible Study	<b><u>EACH MONDAY:</u></b> Pastor's Day Off  7:15-8:15 pm - Middle School Spanish Class 7:30-9 pm – ESL Class B – Teresa Cramm	<b><u>EACH TUESDAY:</u></b> 7-8 pm - Adult Spanish Class	<b><u>EACH WEDNESDAY:</u></b> No AWANA Youth Clubs (K-12 grade) until Fall 7 pm – Bible Study and Prayer 7:30-9 pm – ESL Class	<b><u>EACH THURSDAY:</u></b> No Choir Rehearsal until Fall		
A – Steve & Penny Ohnmeiss (4-26-80)				1	2 Noon - CWU May Friendship Day @ Pine St. U.M.  7:00 p.m. – Family Games Night	3 3:00 p.m. – Dottie Blanchard & Jim Lewis wedding
4 Communion Service  Fellowship Luncheon (pot luck) following worship service	5	6 7:00 p.m. – VBS Meeting  A – Michael & Rachel Dance (5-6-06)	7	8	9	10  B – Betty Brown B – Allen Grimes
11 <b>MOTHER'S DAY</b>	12 7:00 p.m. – Church Council Meeting  B – Rob Wozniak	13	14	15	16  Pastor will be away→→→→→→→→	17
18 Guest Speaker: Dave Fishel  B – Mary Wozniak	19	20 <b>Election Day Bake Sale</b>	21	22	23  A – Dave & Jody Lantz (5-23-98)	24
25 Guest Speaker from the Gideons	26 <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b>	27  →→Pastor returns	28  B – Karen Mazzullo A – Lynn & Robin Turney (5-28-77)	29	30	31 A – Dan & Helen Yoas (5-31-86)

**2014**

Note: B – Birthday  
A - Anniversary