

Calvary Baptist Courier

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

November 2013

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

“Making your list and checking it twice”

It feels awkward to be writing about Christmas (Christmas gift-giving, no less!) during Halloween week, with a month yet to go even before Thanksgiving. I feel like I’m succumbing to (and maybe adding to) our culture’s commercializing rush. But ...! There is a reason I am jumping the season (rhyme intended!). And that is to head off our congregation before we get ambushed and swept up in the busy-ness and pressure that Christmas gift-planning and purchasing will soon bring upon us – and maybe do things differently and better this year.

What I am talking about is all those people on your gift list for whom you can think of no special, personally meaningful gift to give. You know the ones I’m talking about: maybe you’re thinking, “They’ll probably give us something” or “He already has everything” or “I’d like to let her know I care, but what to give, how expensive?”, etc., etc. Worry, worry! Waste, waste!

Let me suggest giving a significant donation to a Christian ministry or two. There are ones who will provide a needy family with a cow or goat or bees; ones that will dig a village well; ones that will give a local pastor in a Third World country a bicycle to reach scattered congregations. All these gifts last a long time (some even reproduce!), so that people are on- goingly reminded of the loving, life-changing care of followers of Jesus. Many of these ministries do little publicizing; if you would like to know more, ask me.

Doing this, you can send a Christmas card to relatives and acquaintances, telling them about the gift you gave to needy people in their honor and in honor of Jesus whose birth we are celebrating. I have done this for years and have gotten good responses (even from some who aren’t believers in Jesus) – and some have asked me how they can do the same thing next Christmas. Think about it.

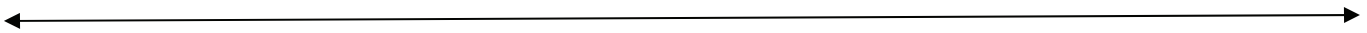
Shalom,



COUNCIL NOTES

By Jim Lewis

The Calvary Baptist Church Council met on October 15, 2013. This is a synopsis of the minutes of that meeting. As of the end of September, our current expense expenditures were \$979.00 less than we took in. Pastor Pete had a busy month: visiting at the hospital (Donna Camp and Zack Mahserjian-Smith), participating in the Life Chain beside twenty-some of our church members, and, along with several other members of the congregation, meeting and having lunch with Tanis and Esther Derolus. They are the minister and his wife that Jim and Duane work with in the Dominican Republic. In addition, Pastor Pete and several others attended the Northumberland Baptist Association Fall Fair. If you missed this event, you missed out on a good time—free eats, a pie judging contest, games, music, and more. Frank Frischkorn presented the *Respectable Sins* workshop here in early October; it was well attended by the churches of the association. Operation Christmas Child boxes need to be at the church by November 17—if you need one of the Christmas Child brochures, they can be found in the back of the sanctuary. We will be having a bake sale on Election Day, Nov. 5. If you would like to volunteer to help with this (either with baked goods or volunteer hours), contact Penny Ohnmeiss. Plan to attend the semi-annual congregational business meeting in December. We will be voting on the 2014 budget that the finance committee will be presenting. Please note: if you leave the church after the doors are locked, check to ensure that the door closes securely behind you. We have had some problems with doors not closing properly, but if you hit the crash bar, that will usually take care of the issue. The English as a second language (ESL) program is going all out with 20 students, and the Spanish classes (one for students, one for adults) have a total of 42 participants. The international group is a lively bunch—taking hikes, carving pumpkins, etc. If you would like to join this group as a volunteer, see Jody Lantz. The Baptist women's group made pillowcase dresses on October 19th. They are planning another workday to continue this worthwhile effort in the near future. Pastor Pete plans to hold a short business meeting for members after the Fellowship Luncheon in November to discuss the possible purchase of the house next door to the parsonage. There has been discussion about installing a home theater screen near the door at the entrance to the sanctuary so that the choir/pastor can see what the congregation is seeing on the screen over the sanctuary stage. Helen Yoas is looking for church-related pictures for the annual pictorial retrospective; if you have such photos, contact Helen. The greeter for November will be Jody Lantz. The counters for November will be Jim Lewis and Shirley Beyer. The fellowship meal coordinator will be Elizabeth Koons. Communion servers will be Jim Lewis, Dave Lantz, and Helen & Dan Yoas. The next council meeting will be November 19th at 7:30 p.m.



A man died and went to heaven where he was met at the Pearly Gates by St. Peter. Peter said, “You need 1000 points to get into heaven. Tell me all the good things you’ve done and I’ll give you a certain number of points for each item. When you reach 1000 points, you get in.” “Okay,” the man said, “I was happily married to the same woman for fifty years and never cheated on her, not even in my mind.” “That’s wonderful,” said Peter, “That’s worth two points!” “Two points?” the man said, “Well, I attended church all my life and gave my ten percent tithe faithfully.” “Terrific!” said Peter. “That’s definitely worth a point.” “One point? My goodness! Well, what about this: I started a soup kitchen in my city and worked in a shelter for the homeless?” “Fantastic, that’s good for two more points,” said Peter. “TWO POINTS!” the man cried. “At this rate the only way I can get into heaven is by the grace of God!” “Now that’s what we’re looking for!” said Peter. “Come on in!”

Calvary News

A **Christmas tea** has been planned for all women, girls, and friends of Calvary Baptist Church, Saturday, December 7, 2:00-4:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Reservations and \$10 (\$6 for children under 6) are due Sunday, December 1. Please bring a \$5 wrapped gift - this will be part of the program. Any proceeds beyond the cost of the tea will go to the American Baptist Women's Love Gift. For questions, see Sue Green.

The **ESL program** here at Calvary would welcome additional volunteers for teachers or classroom assistants. Classes are from 7:30-9:00 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays. No experience is required – just a heart to welcome students and a willingness to learn.

HAITI MISSION TRIP – Building rubble homes for those still living in tents since the earthquake of January 2010 - January 18-27, 2014 – Cost \$1,475.00 If you would like more information, please speak with Pastor Pete.

A donation has been made and a fund set up for **air-conditioning the Fellowship Hall**. If you would like to contribute to this project, please designate that on your check or envelope.

CALVARY COOKBOOK “FEEDING THE FLOCK” is still available at the new low price of \$6.00 for almost 500 recipes in a 3-ring binder that is easy to use and to add recipes to. See Sue Green or Helen Yoas.

Editor's note: It's always great to know that former members who have moved away haven't forgotten us. We received a nice note from Kathy Temple when she sent in her address change. Her new address is: 100 Cedar Ridge Dr., Apt. 210, Canton PA 17724.

October 14—Dear church family & friends,

Well! I think I finally have all of the boxes unpacked and most everything put away where I want it. I am really enjoying this larger apartment. Amazing, what a difference it is! I have only moved about 6 blocks, but it seems like 6 miles or more, like moving from Williamsport to rural Hughesville: can't believe the difference. Flower is also enjoying the difference; she spends a lot of time in the window “bird-watching”, although the last couple of days it's been the lady bugs that have been entertaining her. I take her for a walk on a leash every day for about half an hour. We have made many friends here in the apartment building.

I have been busy with the Boy Scout troop. They had a stand at the Apple Cheese Festival. They sold soup & baked potatoes; that was the first weekend of October. This last weekend was up to Camp Brulé to the Fall Camporee. I think next weekend is the only free weekend this month. Of course, the last weekend is the Halloween parade that the boys always walk in.

Hope this finds everyone well. Keeping all at Calvary in my prayers. God bless,

Kathy

“Operation Christmas Child” shoeboxes must be at the church by November 17th.
See the next-to-last page for instructions on “How to pack your shoebox”.

Calvary Baptist Church
42 Washington Blvd.
Williamsport, PA 17701
570-322-7256



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 December 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 with "subscribe" in the subject line.

2013 Church Council: Shirley Beyer, Dave Lantz, Jim Lewis (church clerk), Penny Ohnmeiss, Sandy Snyder, Lynn Turney, Robin Turney, Pastor Peter Wilson (ex officio member and interim moderator), Duane Yeagle, Dan Yoas, Helen Yoas (treasurer)



how to pack your shoebox

1 SHOEBOX

Use an empty cardboard or plastic shoebox (average size). You can wrap the box, lid separately, but wrapping is not required.

2 BOY OR GIRL

Determine whether your gift will be for a boy or a girl, and the child's age category: 2-4, 5-9, or 10-14. Print and cut out the appropriate boy/girl label on page 2 of this guide. Mark the correct age category on the label, and tape it to the top of your box.

3 FILL WITH GIFTS

Fill the box with a variety of gifts that will bring joy to a child. To get you started we've listed some great gift suggestions to the right, but you can include any child-appropriate items that are not on the "do not include" list.

4 INCLUDE \$7 DONATION PER BOX

Help cover shipping and other costs related to delivering your shoeboxes to children overseas by donating \$7 for each box you prepare. You can give online to discover the destination of your box. Or, you can write a check to Samaritan's Purse; note "OCC" on the memo line and place it in an envelope on top of the items inside your shoebox. If you are preparing multiple shoeboxes, please make one combined donation.

Remember to Pray

for the children who will receive your shoebox gifts.

5 DROP OFF

Place a rubber band around each closed shoebox and drop off at the Collection Center nearest you during National Collection Week, the third week of November. For locations near you and hours of collection, visit our website and enter your ZIP code in our online locator.

You can also send your shoebox gift to:
Samaritan's Purse, 801 Bamboo Road,
Boone, NC 28607

GIFT SUGGESTIONS

TOYS: Include items that children will immediately embrace such as dolls, toy trucks, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, balls, toys that light up and make noise (with extra batteries), etc.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES: Pens, pencils and sharpeners, crayons or markers, stamps and ink pad sets, writing pads or paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.

HYGIENE ITEMS: Toothbrush, mild bar soap (in a plastic bag), comb, washcloth, etc.

ACCESSORIES: T-shirts, socks, ball caps, sunglasses, hair clips, toy jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries).

A PERSONAL NOTE: You may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself or your family. (If you include your name and address, the child may write back.)

DO NOT INCLUDE

used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures; chocolate or food; out-of-date candy; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snowglobes or glass containers; aerosol cans.



Samaritan's Purse[®]
INTERNATIONAL RELIEF

Operation Christmas Child[®] is a project of Samaritan's Purse,[®] Franklin Graham, President.
1-800-353-5949 | samaritanspurse.org

**CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
NOVEMBER**

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<u>EACH SUNDAY:</u> 9:30 am – Kids Club, College Class and Adult Class 10:40 am – Worship Service 7 pm – International Bible Study	<u>EACH MONDAY:</u> Pastor's Day Off 7:15-8:15 pm - Middle School Spanish Class 7:30-9 pm – International Program	<u>EACH TUESDAY:</u> 7-8 pm - Adult Spanish Class	<u>EACH WEDNESDAY:</u> 5-7 pm – AWANA Youth Clubs (K-12 grade) 7 pm – Bible Study and Prayer 7:30-9 pm – International Program	<u>EACH THURSDAY:</u> 7:15 pm – Choir Rehearsal		<u>EACH SATURDAY:</u> 9 am – Evangelism Team Prayer Meeting
					1 1 pm – CWU World Com. Day @ Albright Life 7 pm - Family Games Night	2
3 Communion Service Fellowship Luncheon (pot luck) following worship serv. <u>Following Luncheon</u> – Special Congregation Mtg. to discuss purchase of house @ 30 Washington Blvd.	4	5 <i>Election Day</i> Bake Sale	6 B – Scott Hecker B – LumNyoi Hpauda	7	8 9 am - ? – Sewing day to complete the pillowcase dresses (bring a bag lunch, trim and scissors)	9 A – Keith & Melissa Cumberland (11-09-02)
10	11 <i>Veteran's Day</i> B – Dave Lantz	12	13 B – Larry Green	14	15 B – Chris Traugh	16
17 Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes due A – Tim & Candy Clark (11-17-01)	18	19 7:30 pm – Church Council Meeting	20	21	22	23
24 B – David Snyder, Jr.	25 B – Chris Clark A – Ben & Karen Mazzullo (11-25-65)	26	27	28 <i>Thanksgiving</i>	29	30

2013

Note: B – Birthday
A - Anniversary