

Calvary Baptist Courier

October 2009

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

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

Here is an article that I want to share with you as part of our Invite-A-Friend emphasis.

Shalom,

Peter Pite

Which Direction Are You Paddling? A Life That Matters Blog - There for a Reason
Written by Phillip Taylor, Wednesday, 09 September 2009 00:00

On April 15, 1912, 1,517 people lost their lives when the mighty Titanic went down in the Atlantic Ocean. While this was no doubt one of the greatest tragedies of all time, many lives were lost because of something other than the sinking of the Titanic. When the funeral ships arrived at the site three days later, they found 328 men, women and children floating in the water with their life jackets on. They had frozen to death. And what was determined after further investigation is that those people lost their lives, not because the Titanic sank, but because the people who made it into the lifeboats failed to go back and get those who were not yet in.

Most of the lifeboats which were used that dreadful night left the site of the accident only half full of people. In fact, it was reported that the first lifeboat that launched only had 28 people in it, and yet it had the capacity to hold closer to 65. Could this scene describe the Church today? Does it describe your church? Does it describe you? What many of us don't realize is that we are often also guilty of paddling in a direction that takes us away from the people who need the lifeboat the most. There are people going down all around us and we are too busy singing our lifeboat songs and going to our lifeboat meetings to even notice the people around us who are crying out for help.

Somewhere along the way we bought into the belief that lost people are supposed to come to us if they need spiritual rescuing. Yet there has never been a person rescued from drowning while they stood at the door of the lifeguard station. Rescue swimmers have to go out to where the would-be victims are and give them the help they need so that they don't die.

And some of us have bought into the idea that our programs, styles of worship, and size of our gymnasium are really impressing people who are far from God and causing them to want to know our Jesus. While it is very important to have a facility that is welcoming and conducive to life change, a large percentage of lost people won't even step inside a church door no matter if we sing a hymn or the latest praise song, if we have a recreational building or traditional sanctuary, or if we use cool moving backgrounds in our MediaShout or if we just stick with good old Powerpoint.

Don't misunderstand me. These things in and of themselves are good things and are often necessary to enhance what we are seeking to accomplish in a quality worship experience. But they don't take the place of your personal contact with the lost world. As Ron Hutchcraft says, "The program of God, for the rescue work of God, is still the people of God." It's people like you who have been assigned a certain stretch of the beach that God is trusting you with as the spiritual rescuer of those around you. Some of us have family members, friends, and coworkers who are spending every day without a Savior. We've got to take time to evaluate how we are doing with our attempts to reach them.

October

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

B – Birthday

A - Anniversary

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|--|--|--|---|---|
| EACH SUNDAY: 9:00 am – Kids & Adults light breakfast 9:25 am – Kids Club, College Class and Adult Class 10:40 am – Worship Service | EACH MONDAY: Pastor's Day Off | | EACH WEDNESDAY: 5-7 pm – AWANA Sparks and T & T Clubs 7 pm – Bible Study and Prayer | EACH THURSDAY: 10 am-noon – Open Sanctuary & Library 7 pm – Choir Rehearsal | | EACH SATURDAY: 9 AM – Evangelism Team Prayer Meeting 8 AM-12:30 PM - CLI |
| | | | | 1 B – Ben Mazzullo | 2 7:00 p.m. – Family Games Night | 3 |
| 4 <i>World Communion Sunday</i> - Fellowship Luncheon (pot luck) following worship 2:30 p.m.- Life Chain A – Harvey & Louise Snyder (10-4-41) | 5 | 6 | 7 9-11:30 a.m. – Mother's Morning Out | 8 B – Pam Green | 9 | 10 Foust/Albitz Wedding |
| 11 3:00 p.m. – Assoc. Fall Fair at Hepburn Baptist Church | 12 <i>Columbus Day</i> Pastor's knee surgery | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 BROWN BAG SUN. Bring a bag lunch and fellowship after the worship service. | 19 . | 20 7:00 p.m. – Church Council Meeting | 21 9-11:30 a.m. – Mother's Morning Out | 22 | 23 B –Bill Snyder | 24 |
| 25 “Catch up” Offer. A – Michael & Shelby Long (10-25-97) | 26 | 27 A – Grover & Mary Updegraff (10-27-57) | 28 Healthy Small Church Seminar at Berwick | 29 | 30 B – Caden Lantz B – Steve Ohnmeiss | 31 <i>Reformation Day</i> B – Greyor Turney |

2009

COUNCIL NOTES

By Jim Lewis

The Calvary Baptist Church council met on September 15, 2009. These are the highlights of that meeting. As of the end of August, we were \$4,374.95 in the red. The Northumberland Association Fair will be held at Hepburn Baptist Church on October 11th. There will be lots of food and games. These fairs are always a good time and Pastor Pete would like to encourage everyone to attend. Pastor Pete will be going in for knee surgery (to replace his artificial knee) on October 12th. Jason Harris and David Lantz are now operating the sound system in the sanctuary during services. The choir is up and going again and we will be selecting and purchasing a new hymn to be dedicated in Lula Wolfe's honor and sung at a future service. We are looking for a volunteer to play the organ or piano for the Christmas service on December 23rd. If you are interested, or know someone who might be interested, contact Pastor Pete. We will be holding a Sunday School rally in a few weeks. All members are encouraged to attend. Sunday morning kid's club is still going and both adult Sunday School classes are meeting. We are still looking for a nursery attendant. Sarah Reid resigned from the church council at the August meeting. We are looking for individuals interested in serving on the missions committee. If you are interested, see Duane Yeagle. The personnel and nominating committee are currently looking for individuals interested in serving on the church council next year. If you are approached regarding this, please prayerfully consider before responding. Jack Hopkins is still in the ICU at Williamsport Hospital; however, he continues to slowly improve. Your prayers are appreciated. The gas company has locked out our hot water heater in the basement of the church due to a minor leak in the thermostat. This hot water heater is 21 years old and will need to be replaced as the thermostat for the unit is no longer available. Estimates for a new unit run from two to four thousand dollars. We are currently looking for a cheaper way to accomplish this since this water heater only services the two bathrooms and the baptismal pool and it doesn't appear that anyone waits long enough for the water to get hot when using the restrooms now (results of an informal poll). More information will be provided on this issue as details unfold. Jim Lewis will soon be painting the area above the baptismal pool where the small lighted stained-glass cross once hung. The AWANA program which just started up again on the first week of September is going very well. There were 27 children in attendance in its third week. We could use volunteers willing to listen to kids recite their Bible verses. See Duane or Peter if you are interested in helping. By the time you get this newsletter, the Baptist Women's Group will have held Baptist Women's Sunday. This group is also meeting (on November 7th) to plan a canned food drive. All ladies of the church are encouraged to attend. We will be holding a church garage sale in the near future. You can see Sue Green for details or to donate materials. The World Missions Offering is underway. Please give generously. Pastor Pete is considering the possibility of holding an outdoor baptism in the near future. We are also discussing (with Olan Mills) the possibility of developing a new church directory in the near future. This will be in a new loose-leaf format with each family having their own page with a biographical sketch and possibly informal pictures (of family pets, etc.). This loose-leaf format will allow us to add new members as they join the church instead of having to wait for a new directory to be published. This project may occur as early as next February. There will be a "commissioning" of our church members who will be going to the Dominican Republic on the biennial mission trip in December and January (prior to their departure). Helen Yoas will be counter in October; Penny Ohnmeiss will be greeter; and Sue Green and Penny Ohnmeiss will manage the fellowship meal for October. The fellowship meal for October will be on the 4th. There will be a special Thanksgiving fellowship meal on November 15th. The church council will meet again on October 20th.

RALLY DAY

The Susquehanna 500 Mini-Indy was not the only rally in Williamsport the last weekend in September. Sunday School Rally Day was held on September 27, and it was a very tasteful reminder that Sunday School is not just for kids. Country sausage casserole, biscuits, and fruit were only a few of the rewards of coming to church early that day. After breakfast, each of the Sunday School teachers present spoke briefly about the lessons they present in their classes. Below is a preview of Ben Mazzullo's upcoming classes.

Adult Sunday School Lessons for October

The adult Sunday school will be studying the following verses in the month of October:

- October 4 --- Deuteronomy Chapter 5: *The Ten Commandments*
- October 11--- Deuteronomy Chapter 16: *Celebrating God's Grace*
- October 18--- Leviticus Chapter 8: *Preparing for Service to the Lord*
- October 25--- Leviticus Chapter 25: *A Fresh Start*

Pastor Pete received an email following the sermon on Sunday School Sunday, excerpted below. "... we would not be where we are in our walk with Christ if we were not daily studying the Bible, reading Christian-based literature, Bible-based studies, and viewing Christian-based videos. And, yet, our efforts don't consume a great portion of a day; just a little effort goes a long way." So no matter what your age group, be assured that the time you spend in Sunday School will enrich your morning and your week.

WORDS FROM THE WEBSITE

From: Rachael Lagarde Bordelon

Subject: Love your website

To: admin@calvarywilliamsport.com

Date: Friday, September 25, 2009, 11:42 AM

Thank you so much for such a wonderful website. My son is gifted and we can never find critical thinking activities, like mazes that really challenge him. What a blessing to have tough, Christian mazes and worksheets. Thank you so much. We look forward to what ya'll add next!!!

In Him,
Rachael Bordelon

Northumberland Baptist Association 2009 FALL FESTIVAL

Come **CELEBRATE** our common
Mission, Values and Beliefs!



Sunday, October 11, 2009

3:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

at

Hepburn Baptist Church



3:00-4:30

**Indoor and Outdoor
Games**

Hayrides

Pie Tasting Contest

**Roll Bandages for
Missions**

Hot Dogs and Chili



4:30-5:30

Separate Programs

-- Children

Crafts for Missions

-- Teens

**Hear about Mission
Trips**

-- Adults

Visiting Missionaries

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<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 get this information to Helen Yoas by Friday, Oct. 30, 2009 for the November 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 with "subscribe" in the subject line.

2009 Church Council: Shirley Beyer, Sue Green, Jim Lewis, Vicki Lewis (Chair), Kathy Temple, Deb Titus, Emily Turney, Pastor Peter Wilson (ex officio member), Duane Yeagle, Helen Yoas