



Calvary United Methodist Church

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PARSON TO PERSON

A Message from Pastor Rob Carter

A Fish Story

(Luke 5:1-11)

(¹Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, ²he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. ³He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. ⁴When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, “Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.” ⁵Simon answered, “Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.” ⁶When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. ⁷So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. ⁸But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus’ knees, saying, “Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!” ⁹For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; ¹⁰and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, “Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.” ¹¹When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.)



Simon (soon to be renamed “Peter”) and his fishing companions experienced an amazing, totally unexpected, unbelievable catch of fish and all because they listened to Jesus when he said, “go fish the deep water.”

That’s the challenge for us today as people of faith isn’t it? Jesus says, “Fish the deep water.” But we’re a lot more comfortable staying in the nice, safe shallows. Jesus calls us to go out into the deep water, that’s where the fish are. That’s where growth happens. That’s where we can make surprising discoveries about ourselves and the world around us.

Jesus calls us to go into the deep water and we’re afraid. What if it is too deep? What if the boat leaks? What if the wind dies down? What if a storm comes? There are dangers abounding in the deep water. But that’s where Jesus sends us. Peter

Calvary's United Methodist Men Launch Strength for Service Drive

On Sunday, March 14, Calvary United Methodist Church, sponsored by the United Methodist Men, began its drive to, again this year, raise funds to purchase the Strength for Service devotionals which will be sent to members of the Armed Forces serving in Iraq and/or Afghanistan. The drive runs through Sunday, May 9.

Last year, with generous donations from Calvary United Methodist Women, the Friendship Club, Calvary United Methodist Men and members and friends of Calvary, the UMM raised \$1,625—enough to send 361 devotionals to two Army units stationed in Afghanistan; 30 copies were sent to Calvary to be distributed at the discretion of Pastor Rob, and 20 copies are still available, which we have decided to make available to any member of the church. Contact Pastor Rob if you are interested in receiving a copy.

We request your prayers and support for this year's Strength for Service drive, and pray that the Lord Jesus Christ will guide you in your giving.

God loves you and so do we!

*Calvary United Methodist Men
Doug Peters, President*

GOSPEL CONCERT

(Presented by the UMM)

March 20, 2010 - 7:00 pm

Featuring

The Jack Tippett Band

with Performances by

Chris Tenney & Riverside South

And

Edsel Bradbury & Friends

"A Free-will Offering will be accepted"

(see Doug Peters for more details)

What's on the Church Sign?

What was that on the Church Outdoor Sign? Did you see the most recent message? . . .

U & JC BFF
IF NOT
Y NOT

Does this make sense to you? If not, you probably don't text. The message is simple—translated into regular English it means:

"You and Jesus Christ, Best Friends Forever; If Not, Why Not?"

Does it make sense now? If you or anyone you know has a text message idea or any other suggestions for the outdoor sign, please leave it in the "Outdoor Sign" mailbox by the church office or email Dale Merkle at RDCEMERK01@aol.com. Remember to include the translation of your text language so Dale is aware of what the message means prior to putting it on the sign.

Thanks to those who submitted ideas in the past. Your contributions have helped in a very visible ministry of Calvary UMC.

Parson to Person *(con't from pg. 1)*

thought there were no fish out there, he had fished all night unsuccessfully but because Jesus said "go," he went. The boat didn't sink, a storm didn't come up, they just caught fish they wouldn't have caught anyplace else.

We fish the deep water when we share our faith. It doesn't have to be long or preachy, just let friends and neighbors know that you are a person of faith and then perhaps invite them to worship with you.

Jesus says, "Do not be afraid, from now on you will be catching people. That's what happens when we go out into the deep water and let down the nets. We start catching people.

So how about it? Feel like a little fishing?

Pastor Rob

OPERATION BLESSINGS—MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!

Over the last eight months, thirty-five (yes, 35) dedicated Operation Blessings (OB) pledgers have faithfully kept their promise to correspond and pray for their specific soldier during their current tour of duty in Afghanistan. But now I have to announce that this ‘first tour of duty’ for OB has now come to an end.

You see, these wonderful soldiers, to whom we have been steadily writing, will be deployed elsewhere in the next few months. God-willing, they will be returned state-side after such a long time away from their homes and families. Last month, each pledger sent a farewell note of encouragement and thanks to their soldier, and asked for God’s continued blessings upon them. And although we’re saddened to end our one-to-one correspondence with the soldiers, we are elated that they have been kept safe and will soon be deployed to a more peaceable location.

In the near future, we will be in contact with the new in-coming Army Chaplain in Afghanistan and



hope to begin a ‘second tour of duty’ for OB pledgers to begin corresponding with the new soldiers who have been deployed there. And although the names of the soldiers will change, the need for our compassion and love remains the same.

The first mission of OB has made a difference in the lives of 35 soldiers, and I wish to extend my sincere thanks to every pledger for

the support you gave to these brave, deserving soldiers. Your enthusiasm and inspiring spirit really has been encouraging to all the soldiers. You pledged to ‘make their day,’ and you did just that by graciously sending them a bit of home during a lonely, difficult time. I’m so very proud of every one of our pledgers. I said it before, and I’ll say it again . . . Calvary’s OB pledgers rock!

For now, we will file away the missions folder from our ‘first tour of duty’ for OB and will mark it a successful “Mission Accomplished.”

So, until our next mission, please remember that our country needs continual prayer for all of our soldiers who selflessly serve this great nation. Prayer is the most readily available and most powerful tool each of us has and it makes all the difference in this world. So let’s keep praying, our God is listening!

May God continue to bless you and yours.

Dawn Townsend
Operation Blessings Lead

Disaster Relief Efforts to Aid Earthquake Victims

Reports coming out of Chile’ after the recent earthquake reflect a growing sense of disaster. We as United Methodists have another opportunity to make a difference in the world through our church. The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is already working with Chilean organizations and churches providing emergency assistance. You can give to support these efforts by making a donation to the church for

Chile.” Simply place your gift (checks made out to Calvary) in one of the “Special Offering” envelopes (the ones with the red stripe in your box of envelopes), or any other envelope and make sure that it is marked clearly “Chile.”

You can also give directly at the U M C O R website (www.umcor.org) using your credit card (they even ask you if you want your church to get credit) and while you are there, you can see reports

about what UMCOR is doing around the world.

We shouldn’t forget that Haiti still is in the early stages of what will be a long recovery and they need our continued support too. You may continue to give to Haiti by either of the means above. Remember that by giving through UMCOR, 100% of your gift will go to the relief effort you designate.

Leadership Day

By Karen Smith

On Saturday, February 20, Susan Cunningham, Cheryl Merkle and I—along with approximately 400 others from the Annapolis/Southern Maryland area, had the opportunity to attend “Leadership Day” at St. Matthew United Methodist Church in Bowie, MD.

The morning began with worship and a keynote address from Rev. Olu Brown from Impact Church in Atlanta, GA.

After worship, we had the opportunity to choose from a variety of sessions including, “Rethink Church,” “Shalom Zone,” “Advice for Church Councils,” “Help for Reaching Youth and Young Adults” and “The Coach Approach to Church Leadership,” to name a few.

I chose to start the day with “Rethink Church” which was led by Rev. Brown. He discussed the success of Impact Church and some of the techniques his congregation used to grow from a small church plant in 2006 to a congregation of 500 plus today. He encouraged us to ask ourselves some hard questions... such as, “How is our church perceived in the community—not how we see ourselves but rather, if we went into the Food Lion around the corner and asked a few people what they thought or knew of Calvary UMC, what would be their answers?

“What is our vision/focus?” As a church in Waldorf, what is our primary goal and is what we are doing working toward that goal?

Are events and programs we have in place effective, or are we simply doing them because that’s what we have always done? At Impact Church, they never promise to do

something more than once. They always evaluate, study and discuss if the event met the need that it was intended to meet, did it work well, what could be improved, is this helping to further benefit the kingdom of God, etc.

My favorite quote from the session was “Do less, better.” The thought behind this statement is that often as individuals and churches we stretch ourselves so thin by trying to meet everyone’s needs, we aren’t doing our best at anything. What do we do well? If someone comes to us with a need our church can’t meet, do we know where to direct them so they can receive the help needed? Are we willing to just let them go? I thought of this as the “Miracle on 34th Street method.” If you remember, the Macy’s Santa was sending shoppers to other stores where they could get the same merchandise for cheaper. At first the management was horrified, but customers had so much more respect and appreciation for their store that everyone benefited in the end. Consider the scripture where Jesus tells us that some will prepare the ground, some will sow the seed and some will nurture the seed into fruition. What *are* we doing best?

For the afternoon session, I attended “Shalom Zone.” This session focused on a specific initiative of the United Methodist Church that was started over 20 years ago. The purpose of outreach is not just to bring people into the church, but to help change lives and communities. “Shalom Zones” or “Communities of Shalom” are structured to meet not only spiritual needs, but physical, economical and educational needs as well. The program encourages ecumenical and community involvement. Just as one person

can’t make great change alone, neither can one church. Yes, what each one does is important, but we can’t do it all.

My favorite aspect of this program’s structure, besides the fact that it has free training and support if our church is interested, is that it starts by looking at the positive aspects of the community and how these could be built upon rather than focusing on all the problems.

My concluding thought of the day was the reminder that our true purpose is to be furthering the kingdom of God. In order for that to happen, All Christians must work together; we can’t do it all, but we can do our part to the best of our abilities. After all, God gave His best to us when He sent Jesus, His one and only son, to save us; how can we give less than our best back to Him? ~

Thank You
So
& Much

Dear Family & Friends,

Many thanks for the thoughts, prayers and cards I received from you during my illness. I also want to thank you for the lovely basket filled with goodies. It truly is a blessing to be a part of a loving church family and that is what Calvary is.

I praise God for each one of you. I have never missed five Sundays from church in a row and it was truly good to be back.

Norma Bradbury

In Loving Memory of Ruby Lucille Hornbeak

“A GEM OF A LADY”

October 9, 1918 – March 4, 2010

Last September, when Calvary’s Prayer Shawl Ministry heard Ruby Hornbeak was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, an immediate effort began to crochet her a prayer shawl. As each stitch was created, prayers were incorporated for Ruby to have God’s comfort, mercy, healing, strength and love.

About four weeks later, Ruby’s prayer shawl was completed. It was brought to Calvary so the Pastor and Prayer Partners could add their prayers over the shawl, then it was blessed with an anointing of holy, healing oil.

The shawl was then personally delivered to Ruby in her home. Ruby was so surprised by this prayer gift and happily accepted the love given by her church family. As the shawl was draped around her, she said, “Now I really can feel His warmth and love around me...this feels really nice!” What a sweet lady she was. She just beamed, as you can see in this picture—but then again, Ruby always beamed. She always had a smile and a kind word for everyone...that’s our Ruby!

We were so blessed to have had Ruby in our lives. She walked with a tremendous faith in the Lord for 91 years on this earth and now continues her walks with Him—hand-in-hand—on those glorious streets of gold! God bless you, Ruby. We love you!



Ruby, wrapped in love!

Calvary Church Family

HAVE YOU TAKEN THE EMMAUS WALK?

If the answer to the above question is yes, then I’m writing to you!

Hi, I’m your Emmaus Primary Point of Contact (PPOC) for Calvary UMC. And that is simply to say that it’s my job to email Calvary church members who have previously walked on Emmaus, all communication pertaining to the Emmaus Community (northern, central and southern regions). The emails could be prayer requests, the monthly “On The Path” Emmaus Newsletter, Board of Directors voting, information about future Walks, etc. If it relates to Emmaus, you should be informed and ‘in the loop.’

So, are you in the loop? Have you been receiving my Emmaus emails? Well, here’s where I need your help in making sure my email distribution list for Calvary’s Emmaus folk is accurate.

If you have not been receiving Emmaus emails, I need to know so I can rectify this.

Also, let me say that as your Calvary Emmaus PPOC, I am to be your voice to the whole Emmaus Community when needed. So if ever you have information or specific prayer requests that you want relayed to the entire Emmaus Community, I’m here for you. Simply send your information to me at dawn5babe@gmail.com and I’ll forward your email to the entire Emmaus family (believe me, that’s a lot of family!). Emmaus has 32 churches throughout the regions with oodles of brothers and sisters in Christ ready to hear what you have to say and to join in and pray.

Did you know that every week Calvary Emmaus men and women meet at their own specific place and

time to hold their Emmaus Accountability Meetings? Calvary’s women meet on Wednesday evenings at 5:30 at Panera’s and the Calvary men meet at the church, in the old “pastor’s office,” on Tuesday evenings at 7pm. I love the fun, fellowship and accountability each meeting encourages. There’s nothing like these accountability meetings. Once you’ve attended one you’ll understand why. I hope you will make time to attend either the men or women’s weekly meetings. If you can’t attend every week, try every other week or once a month. You won’t be disappointed. Each meeting is unique. You will definitely feel closer in your walk with Christ and develop a deeper bond with your fellow brothers or sisters. For your convenience, the schedule of our weekly Emmaus Accountability

continued on pg. 6

Emmaus Walk *(con't from pg. 5)*

Meetings will be posted in Calvary's Horizons newsletter each month. We look forward to seeing your face at the meeting...so "come on down!"

Finally, let me mention a very important matter. Every year our Emmaus Community schedules weekend Pilgrim Walks in the spring and fall. During this time, members within each of the 32 Emmaus churches spend time in prayer about who in their respective churches is ready to take the Pilgrim Walk. This Walk immensely enhances one's relationship with God, as well as prepare participants to assist in future servanthood as a prospective leader within their church.

Currently, at Calvary, our weekly Emmaus Accountability groups are the only folk thinking and praying about possible candidates to attend future Walks. But is that fair? After all, you have previously walked on Emmaus and your input is valuable and should be heard as well, right? So let's prayerfully ponder this a bit. Who comes to your mind as possible candidates from Calvary to attend an upcoming Walk (male, female, or couple)? I'd love to hear from you. You can speak with me at church or email me anytime, or chat with any of Calvary's Emmaus brothers and sisters (Just ask anyone at church, I'm sure they can point you to a Calvary Emmaus guy or gal.).

Remember, Emmaus is all about having a closer relationship with God and lifting up our church through our service to Him. I know each of you remembers what an amazing experience it was when you went on your Pilgrim Walk. Wouldn't you want a close Calvary family member to experience the same? So, let's be in prayer about this. Christ is counting on us!

*Dawn Townsend
Calvary Emmaus PPOC*

A GREAT TIME FOR BARGAINS!

Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes

A reminder—post-holiday sales can be a great time to pick-up clearance items to help fill your Operation Christmas Child shoe box. Clearance items from Valentine, St. Patrick's Day and Easter are an inexpensive way to help fill a shoe box to share the love of Christ Jesus with needy children around the world. Look for age and gender appropriate items such as small stuffed animals, pencils, stickers, puzzles, balls and note pads. This is also a great time to find inexpensive, clearance clothing items such as t-shirts or socks.

Remember, you will decide whether each of your shoe boxes will be filled with gifts for either a boy or a girl and also the age of that child (2-4 years, 5-9 years or 10-14). You'd be amazed how inexpensive it is to fill a shoe box and help a child in need! In fact, you may decide to "share the love" and fill more shoe boxes than you originally planned! So get out there and shop for bargains! ~



March Birthdays

Jesse Turner	1
Ronald S. Talley	1
LeMoine Wilkerson	3
Trey Bradbury	4
Norma Bradbury	6
Royce Hemingway	6
Noah Drummond	7
Cindi Drummond	7
Herb Reigel	8
Brooke Stevenson	8
Sandra Schliep	10
Jacob Ronald Allard	12
Nicole Dietz	12
Shelby Lynn Starke	13
Shelbi Shauver	13
Rachel Drummond	14
Rick Phillips	14
Rusty Milheim	15
Connie Campbell	15
Roger Broadwater	15
Heather Gokee-Malkasian	16
Martha Robinson	17
Nick Finamore	17
Royce Hemingway	17
Elaine Short	17
Rayn Scott Talley	21
Rick Chuska	21
George Edwards	22
Jeff Keyser, Jr.	22
Perri Chuska	22
Sydney Morgan	25
Derek Leon Black	25
Ramona Black	25
Madison Fields	26
Lauren Rae Hurst	27
Hal Stultz	28
Shawna Hardesty	30
LaSage Mickinak	31
Janet Andrews	31

ANNIVERSARY

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Anderson, Jr.	18
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Children's Sunday School

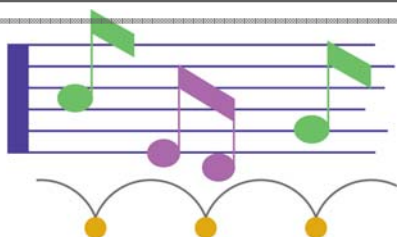
"SOMETHING SPECIAL" is happening for the Children's Sunday School! The second Sunday of each month has been designated for "special" events. March 14 was the kick-off of the first event; green sherbet and shamrock cookies were served in honor of all Jan., Feb., and Mar. birthdays! All the children had lots of fun and are anxiously awaiting the next special events day which is scheduled for April 11.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Sunday, March 28 at 12:00 pm

We're getting ready for our Annual Easter Egg Hunt. Festivities will begin with an egg hunt, immediately following Children's Sunday School (approx. 10:30 a.m.), and lunch will be served at 12:00 noon. The event is being held at the church and, as always, is open to the public.

Your support is needed to help make this a successful and fun event for the children. Donations of wrapped candy and/or monetary contributions are most appreciated. See Shirley Broadwater for more information and to make a donation.



MUSIC NOTES

By Karen Smith

Calvary's Choir and music department will be singing strong during the month of March as we celebrate the Lenten season through music. The choir will be singing on the 1st, 3rd and 4th Sundays this month. We have lots of special music planned for the coming weeks and invite you to join us Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m., 8:45 a.m. Sunday morning or immediately following Sunday worship to rehearse. We would also like to remind you that there are always openings for special music. If you have any vocal or instrumental talents you would or could share with the church please contact Karen Smith or any choir member.

A "Flash from the Past!"

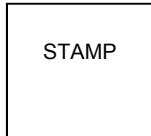
Can you guess who's the Calvary cutie is in this picture?



(see answer on back page)



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The Newsletter of
Calvary
HORIZONS

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A “Flash from the Past!”
Answer: Dawn Townsend

If you would like to be featured in the next section of **A “Flash from the Past,”** submit your childhood photo to the newsletter staff via email at: calvumc@calvumc.org or provide a hardcopy to Dawn.