

Calvary Call

The Newsletter of Calvary Baptist Church

A Church for All People

December 2012/January 2013

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Calvary Celebrates A Legacy of Faith in God

On Sunday, November 18th, Calvary Baptist Church celebrated its 115th Anniversary with a special worship experience and reception attended by over 200 people. The theme of the celebration was "A Legacy of Faith in God."

Calvary and its sister church, Iglesia Bautista Hispana el Calvario, held a joint service that included praise and worship in English and Spanish, sermons by former pastors Rev. Dr. Paul Schoonmaker and Rev. J. Francisco Litardo, and reflections by long-time Calvary members June Allen, Linda Gaulin and Virginia Bradley. Other



highlights included a historical slide show, mini organ concert by Calvary Organist and Adult Choir Director, Dorothy Yoreo, and a citation from the City of Providence which recognized our historic church. Praise God for His faithfulness to Calvary for 115 years!

Choosing Calvary – A Reflection by Virginia Bradley

"Behold, old things I bring forth, and new things I now declare." -Isaiah 42:9

In early spring 1974 I visited Calvary for the first time. I had been away from the Providence area for almost 20 years and was looking for a church home. I sought a church that would be faithful to Gospel truth and one alive with the Holy Spirit. On the Sunday I attended, the Rev. Marvin Marsh, Minister of Neighborhood Outreach, was sharing at the service. It was a typical New England early spring day – rather cold, damp, with little sign of new life to come. However, Marvin prayed about the new blades of grass that were already poking up from cracks in the sidewalk outside the church building – a symbol of what Christians at Calvary could be to a community that was often broken. I felt my heart stir. Afterwards I attended the large and vibrant adult Sunday school class

taught by Tom Buffum, Sr. and knew I had found my church home!

Over the next several years, as time permitted, I was active in the Christian education program, especially at the adult level. At that time, we had an adult education committee that planned seminars on various issues. We often had outside speakers and occasional Baptist missionaries, or mission films. Later the Journeymen adult class was formed and I was the teacher until a few years ago. Pat Halsall was then the Director of Christian education and instituted team teaching for our large Sunday school which was held year-round. In the late 80's a large number of Hmong arrived in Providence.



Continued on page 6

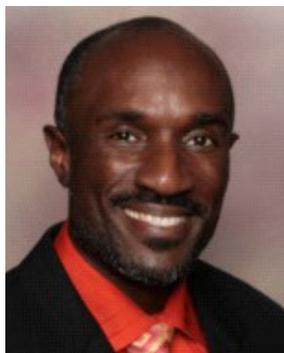
Jesus said:

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Matthew 28:19-20 (NRSV)

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From the Pastor to You



Hello Calvary family!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! We just celebrated our 115th year of ministry in Providence as Calvary Baptist Church with a great celebration, historical references and more. While it's great to remember our past, we also should be excited about the wonderful things that God is doing through us now, and anticipate a great future.

As we enter the Advent Season of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and look ahead to 2013, we embrace the full scope of God's love towards and God's love for people. God loved us before we loved Him (1 John 4:19). God's salvation for us through Jesus Christ reminds us that He was born to die that we might live. But Jesus rose from the dead that we might live forever. Praise God.

Until Christ returns or calls us home, we have a great privilege and responsibility to represent Him well by bearing much fruit that lasts beyond us (St. John 15:8, 16). One of the ways we do that is by creating new ministry opportunities to transform lives

such as:

- 1) Dec. 5, 12, and 19, 2012: Special Advent Mini-Series on Worship at Calvary.
- 2) Saturday, December 29, 2012 6-9 p.m.: Holiday Family Movie Night gives us an opportunity to spend time with our loved ones in a safe family-friendly environment.
- 3) Sunday, January 6, 2013 11:00-12:30 p.m.: Pastor Geneva Urquhart begins her new church plant called, "Christ is The Head of the Church" in our upstairs Chapel. This continues our rich tradition of partnering with other churches to spread God's Word.
- 4) Saturday, February 9, 2013: Married Couple's Ministry's Pre-Valentine's Day Brunch and Movie Matinee.

This is just to name a few. Calvary I encourage you to get involved and watch God move in your life in brand new ways!"

In Christ's service,
Pastor Jabulani McCalister

Family Celebrations



Steve Gaulin

Happy Birthday, Jesus! Our Lord and Savior's birthday is December 25th. Merry Christmas!

Thank you to Calvary's 115th Anniversary Planning Committee, the Technical Arts Ministry, Music Ministry, Social Ministry, Servant Leader Team, Worship Ministry, Building and Grounds Ministry and our other ministries for a wonderful celebration November 18th! We also thank **Iglesia Bautista Hispana el Calvario**, our sister church, for sharing in and contributing to the blessed time of worship and fellowship.

Congratulations Pastor Jabulani on your Second Anniversary as Senior Pastor at Calvary on Wednesday, January 16, 2013! God bless you as you lead our flock in the new year.

Congratulations Rev. Geneva Urquhart as you launch Christ is the Head of the Church,

a new church, which will meet in Calvary's upstairs Chapel, Sundays 11:00 am-12:30 pm!

Happy Birthday Calvary members with birthdays in December and January. May your new year be filled with blessing after blessing.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

Nicola Payne Free (1), **Louis Free** (4), **Oluwatoyin Akinnusotu** (12), **Stephen Akinnusotu** (15), **Mantiely Sayeh** (24), **Mac Langar** (27), **Maiker Khang** (30), **Nimisha Dahn** (31), **Nicholas Vo** (31).

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS:

Jonathan Vo (2), **Manasse Payen** (3), **Carol Hall-Walker**(6),**Rodney Derogene**(8), **Calvin K. Anderson** (9), **Dan Brown** (12), **Judy Akpan** (14), **Victoria Flowers** (17), **Briana Thomas** (17), **Steve Gaulin** (21), **Edgard Derogene** (24), **Victor Sayeh** (26), **Louis Sackie** (28), **Franceska Payen** (29).

Growing in Christ

2012 is almost over and new opportunities are ahead. Here are five ways to grow in our relationship with the Lord in the new year.

- 1 Attend Calvary Bible Institute classes throughout the year.
- 2 Actively serve in a Ministry (see page 6 for a list of Calvary Ministries).

- 3 Join our Wed. night (6:30 pm) or Thurs. afternoon (12 pm) Prayer Group or create one.
- 4 Host a Small Group Study in your home.
- 5 Make the necessary sacrifice to worship with us on Sundays and during the week.

You'll be surprised by how much you grow. The key? Consistency!



Sowing Seeds for Christ

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Whose name would come to mind if you were asked to name a person who was always giving? Who do you know whose life is characterized by giving? When we consider these questions, we need to decide what we mean by giving. Giving allows faith in Christ to express itself in acts of love and mercy.

Christ is our supreme example for giving. In Jesus' life, action is always linked to purpose. Christ turns the will of God into concrete action, including dying on the Cross as the greatest example of servanthood. Certainly Jesus' life on earth was a life characterized by giving. He makes it possible for everyone to live the giving life. That is where giving begins – in our relationship with Christ.

As part of *The Giving Life* emphasis, we have an opportunity to experience some of the giving life. How? We can express our love for Jesus and acknowledge that love by demonstrating our giving. On December 16, 2012 all of us are encouraged to bring a *Giving Life Offering*. It is special because of what it symbolizes – the giving life. It is natural because the offering will strengthen the ongoing ministries of Calvary Baptist Church.

God's guidance in directing us toward successful stewardship and increasing funds for our church is important and significant work. Jesus reminded us that it is our responsibility to give according to how He has blessed us (St. Luke 12:48). Likewise, through our contributions of time, talent, and treasure, we help make sure that we all have our needs met and often exceeded (2 Corinthians 8:8-14). Our challenge will be to help other Calvary members develop and maintain the awareness that God requires us to have a proper perspective and balance when it comes to being a good manager of all the resources we receive, which includes money (2 Corinthians 8:8-14).

Please prayerfully consider our stewardship and funding initiatives as part of your mission with Calvary Baptist Church. Motivating people to give to a cause, a ministry, and a future will be enriching and empowering for all of us. This journey together will be a blessing and we will learn much from each other but most importantly from God, "from whom all blessings flow."

In Christ's service,
Carol Hall-Walker
Stewardship Chair



Christ in Us



Keeping the Faith

Sisters and Brothers
The time has come to join together
All as one

We must gather our harvest of God's love
And all his blessing sent from above

We must sacrifice great and small
And pull together one and all
Work and pray, strive
With God's help, keep hope alive

Maintain our church
Alive and free
Nothing must close
The doors of Calvary

For it is a light of hope and good
That brings God's love to the neighborhood
These are tough times for all I know
With Christ's love full speed ahead we can go
So band together so nothing can shake it
Keep the faith, God's on our side
I know we will make it

*Written by Alice Hicks,
former Calvary member and grandmother
of Andrew Walker.*



*Alex Toro is a sophomore at
the University of Rhode Island*

I think one of the most important things someone can do to stay focused and for becoming our best selves is setting goals. At any given time I like to write up a to-do list of things I would like to get done and things I need to get accomplished. This list can be prioritized by time or relative importance to other people. My faith can also be like a to-do list. It is always good to stay organized and concentrated on doing a job well-done. With the new year approaching us we can be filled with regrets and reflect on the past, but it is good to look with hope into the future.

Looking ahead, I am very excited for the places and people God will bring me to. I pray all the time for His will to be made known to me and for a purpose-driven life. During a summer conference these words spoke aloud to me - "The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet."

This new year I will allow myself to lean on God's understanding and trust Him whole-heartedly, offering my life to Him, like Christ did 100% for me. I recently have felt called to participate in a mission trip opportunity in the Republic of Georgia. This is a large goal to meet in terms of fundraising and effort, but I believe the reward will be in the journey itself. Of course, with God's help when you're working to God's glory I know He is achieving the inconceivable. *Submitted by Alex Toro*

Technical Arts/ Newsletter Ministry Team:

Richard Akinnusotu
Trobel Bloe, Jr.
David Dromsky
John Egan
Carol Hall-Walker
Nathaniel Kwapo
Helen Nyanti
Shawna Southern
Kona Stewart
Min. Michelle Sullivan
Rev. Linda Watkins

Youth Connection



My spiritual goals for 2013 are to keep a prayer journal. I want to write not only about my prayer requests, but also how God touches me every day. Another goal is to build an even stronger relationship with my mom, dad, sister, and brothers. I want to make sure for 2013 that I start to read my little sister stories at night before she sleeps, from the Children's Bible we have. I know Shyla would love that.

Submitted by Justin Abney, 6th grader

In Touch

During the Christmas season please remember homebound members of Calvary. Let's share the love of Christ with them through cards, phone calls, and/or visits.

Madelyn Bell

Joyce Maxwell

Barbara Boutilier

William McCaughey

Eleanore Demers

Bertram Smith

Louise Kirkman

Marguerite Thomas



Spotlight

Joyce Maxwell

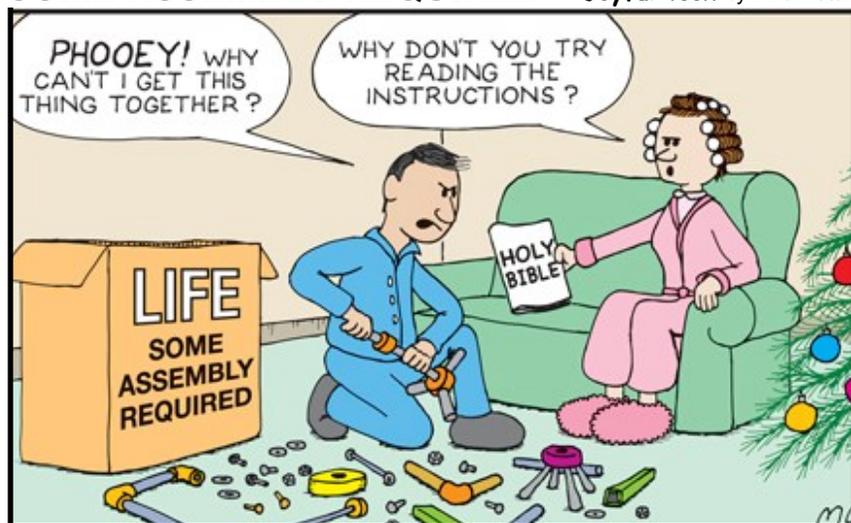


Joyce Maxwell has been a member of Calvary for 27 years and a Baptist all of her life. The 67-year-old Cranston resident looks forward to spending the holiday season with family members. One of her favorite Christmas memories is how her mother used to bake during this season.

"My mother used to do it up big. She baked like a fool," Joyce recalls, laughing. Her specialty was sugar cookies decorated with a Santa Claus face, using frosting for the beard and currants for the eyes. "I inherited that baking trait," she shared. "I've already made pumpkin pies this year!" During the holiday season she also used to donate many items to South Providence Neighborhood Ministries.

This Christmas Joyce requests prayers for her youngest son's healing from skin cancer surgery, for another son's brain tumor to not return, and for the pain in her back to go away. Thank you for praying.

SOME ASSEMBLY REQUIRED A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



www.joyfultoons.com © 2008 Michael D. Waters

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. - PROVERBS 3:5-6 NIV

Doris Randall

As many of you know, Doris Randall went to live with her daughter, Jean Dunn, nearly two years ago. Marty and I visited her on our way back from Kansas last October. We found her in much better health to the credit of the excellent care Jean has provided. Doris is as sharp as ever and had asked about many of you. We met them at a Denny's restaurant and had a nice lunch together. Jean is thankful for the support she received from Calvary in arranging for her mother to live with her and they are grateful for contacts that Pastor Jabulani has made to follow up. To contact Doris, send a note to her c/o Jean Dunn, 333 Englewood Ave., Zanesville, OH 43701. Jean's phone no. is 740-586-8618. Submitted by Rick Robison

Prayer Corner



Spread Christmas Cheer!

Calvary members and friends are invited to wish each other Christmas joy by placing Christmas cards on the decorative bulletin board located in the Narthex. Push pins will be available for your convenience.

There is so much to thank God for! He blessed Calvary in so many ways this year and we look forward to the Lord's continued blessings in 2013. This issue's Prayer Corner highlights testimonies of how God has answered many prayers in the last 12 months. We want to thank everyone who took time to pray for the needs of our church family, ministries, and facility. Here is a snapshot of what God did.

Souls were saved at Calvary, church membership grew, and new baptisms are coming!

New Ministries have been created, including Men's and Women's ministries.

More Calvary members are getting involved and using their spiritual gifts to the glory of God!

Every inch of Calvary is being used for ministry several nights of the week.

The New Elevator project is underway thanks to generous contributions from Calvary members and friends of Calvary in response to our Mini-Capital Campaign.

More members are committing to tithe.

We installed Hand Dryers in all SPNM bathrooms to help save on paper towel costs and eliminate our carbon footprint from landfills.

Calvary celebrated its 115th Anniversary on November 17th!

As we approach the new year, let us have an attitude of gratitude. During your prayer time, please remember to praise the Lord for all He has done!

Opportunities to Serve

In 1 Corinthians 12:7 the Apostle Paul wrote: *"A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other."* Let's use our God-given gifts in the coming year to build up the body of Christ and advance God's kingdom by serving in one of Calvary's ministries below.

Building & Grounds Ministry
 Christian Education Ministry
 Finance Ministry
 Health & Wellness Ministry
 Men's Ministry
 Ministry of Caring
 Music Ministry (includes choirs)
 Social Ministry
 South Providence Neighborhood Ministries
 Staff Relations Ministry
 Stewardship Ministry
 Technical Arts Ministry
 Women's Ministry
 Worship Ministry (includes ushers)

To learn more call the church office at 401-461-7507, Ext. 1.

Choosing continued from p. 1

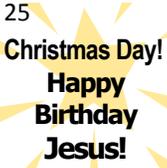
Our Outreach Board and others helped settle the families that came to Calvary. Two English classes were offered after church. Pat Halsall left the CE director position and headed up what became South Providence Neighborhood Ministries. We welcomed Rev. Paul Schoonmaker as pastor after Dick Brown. Calvary grew again as many families and individuals arrived from Liberia, Nigeria, Haiti, Jamaica, the Dominican Republic, and other countries. God was certainly doing a new thing!

Another verse that speaks about blending old things and new is in Matthew 13. Jesus says: *"Those who are trained to work in the Kingdom, (that is, disciples), are like a householder who goes into the storeroom and brings out old things and new."* Isn't that a good symbol for what happens at Calvary? We have not forgotten the old - we maintain many former traditions. We especially remain faithful to the Gospel message. But, the Holy Spirit is continually breaking in with something new! We are alive and well! Amen!



Calvary Ministry Fair October 14th

What's Up? December 2012 / January 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 December	3 	4	5 Prayer Mtg 6:30-7:15 PM Advent Bible Study Begins 7:15-8:30 PM	6 Prayer Meeting 12:00-1:00 PM Hirst Room	7	8
Advent Begins						
9 Worship Experience 10:00 AM	10	11	12 Prayer Mtg 6:30-7:15 PM Advent Bible Study 7:15-8:30 PM	13 Prayer Meeting 12:00-1:00 PM Hirst Room	14	15 
16 Worship Experience 10:00 AM Commitment Sunday	17	18	19 Prayer Mtg 6:30-7:15 PM Advent Bible Study 7:15-8:30 PM	20 Prayer Meeting 12:00-1:00 PM Hirst Room	21	22
23 Worship Experience 10:00 AM	24 Christmas Eve Service 7:00 PM	25  Christmas Day! Happy Birthday Jesus!	26 Church Office Closed in observance of Christmas	27 Prayer Meeting 12:00-1:00 PM Hirst Room	28	29 Holiday Family Movie Night @ Calvary "It's a Wonderful Life" 6:00-9:00 PM
30 Worship Experience 10:00 AM	31 ←	1 January →	2 Church Office Closed	3 Prayer Meeting 12:00-1:00 PM Hirst Room	4	5
6 Communion Sunday Worship Experience 10:00 AM	7	8	9 Prayer Mtg 6:30-7:15 PM Bible Study 7:15-8:30 PM	10 Prayer Meeting 12:00-1:00 PM Hirst Room	11 	12
13 Worship Experience 10:00 AM	14	15	16 Pastor's 2nd Anniversary Prayer Mtg 6:30 PM & Bible Study 7:15-8:30	17 Prayer Meeting 12:00-1:00 PM Hirst Room	18	19
20 Worship Experience with Baptisms 10:00 AM	21 Martin Luther King Scholarship Breakfast sponsored by Minister's Alliance Church Closed	22	23 Prayer Mtg 6:30-7:15 PM Bible Study 7:15-8:30 PM	24 Prayer Meeting 12:00-1:00 PM Hirst Room	25	26
27 Worship Experience 10:00 AM followed by Calvary Budget Mtg	28 SLT Meeting 6:30 PM Hirst Room	29 	30 Prayer Mtg 6:30-7:15 PM Bible Study 7:15-8:30 PM	31 Prayer Mtg 12:00-1:00 PM Hirst Room		



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Material is Time Sensitive
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Newsletter

BECOME A FAN OF
 CALVARY ON
 FACEBOOK!

Rev. Jabulani McCalister, M.Div.
 Senior Pastor

Just For Kids

Christmas Word Search

Can you find the words below
 in the table? Draw a circle
 around each word you find.

- | | |
|-----------|----------|
| ADORE | MARY |
| ADVENT | MANGER |
| AGE | NAZARETH |
| ANGEL | NEW |
| BETHLEHEM | PRAYER |
| DAVID | SAVE |
| DONKEY | SKY |
| HAIL | SONG |
| JOSEPH | STAR |
| LORD | TRAVEL |
| LOVE | WAIT |
| MAGI | WISE |

M	A	G	I	S	A	T	R	A	V	E	L
W	I	S	E	A	N	G	E	L	T	O	B
B	E	T	H	L	E	H	E	M	V	L	P
E	H	A	D	V	E	N	T	E	A	M	R
D	A	R	A	N	W	A	I	T	C	R	A
A	I	S	O	N	G	D	O	N	K	E	Y
V	L	O	R	D	J	O	S	E	P	H	E
I	M	A	N	G	E	R	N	W	D	L	R
D	N	A	Z	A	R	E	T	H	S	K	Y