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747 Broad Street
Providence, RI 02907
401.461.7507 Phone
401.785.8275 Fax
www.calbaptist.org
info@calbaptist.org

Material is Time Sensitive

2015 Spring Issue

Breakfast by the Sea

On Saturday, March 21st 10:00 a.m. we host a special community outreach opportunity called Breakfast by the Sea featuring guest presenter Pastor Deborah L. Shumake, Ja'Phia, Pastor of Greater One Ministries, Detroit, MI. This outreach is based on Jesus' fellowship with His disciples in St. John 21 where He invited them to breakfast by providing fish and then alluding to their role in mentoring others disciples once He ascended to Heaven. This is not just another program or event. This outreach requires that you become fishers of people (St. Matthew 4:19). Many people need to get to know Jesus but they will not come unless you invite them to come and bring them with you! The catered breakfast is \$15.00 per person. (See Page 3 for flyer)



Hello Calvary Family! We were hit with an exceptionally challenging winter this year. So, we look forward to the blossoms of Spring. However, even in the most difficult storms, we have the opportunity to make the most of it. “What? Pastor I detest snowy weather,” some might say. Sure, I hear you. It can be very difficult. However, winter not only causes us to rearrange schedules but it gives us an opportunity to reassess our priorities and be creative about how to constructively move forward in a productive manner. That way, when “the weather breaks,” we can be prepared to launch out into new areas we never experience before. For example, during the winter months although outside activities are limited, this time could be used to reconnect with family and friends or reconnect with yourself and God’s purpose for your life. This may mean that you need to revisit and determine how you fit in the ministry of Calvary.

For example, many people ask me, “Pastor, what’s your vision for Calvary?” My reply has not changed. The mission of Calvary is the same as it was when Jesus gave the Great Commission and Great Commandment in the Gospels according to St. Matthew 28:18-20 and St. Mark 16:15. Basically, Jesus said, “Go, teach and preach the Gospel to all nations of the world and Baptism them into active faith in God through Jesus the Christ (my paraphrase).” A commission is a special assignment that must be completed by the one sent. To illustrate, when Jesus commissioned the first 12 disciples in St. Mark 3:13-15, He called them out of the crowd and they came. And when they came, He equipped them, sent them forth to preach, have the power to heal, and cast out demonic forces. But before they were ready to go, they first had to obey the call, get closer to Jesus and go when and where He sent them. I believe, historically, Calvary Baptist Church has been faithful to that mission. In fact, our mission statement embodies the Spirit of Jesus’ Commission and Commandment to us. It says, “Calvary Baptist Church welcomes all people and joyfully serves the Lord by ministering to its members and neighbors and sharing God’s Word through Worship, teaching, hospitality, and discipleship.” Each part of this mission statement says we are ready to teach, preach and serve others for Jesus Christ. Let’s move ahead and complete Christ’s mission for Calvary.

Even the seasons and calendars tell us to move ahead. “Spring” means move ahead or jump swiftly to action. “March” means moving forward in growth and protection. April means to open as in blossoming and bring forth new life. So, as the winter dissipates, let’s spring in to action, march ahead in faith and open ourselves to seeing what the Lord has next for our journey of faith. We must “Go” in order to grow!” I pray God richly blesses you.

Pastor Jabulani McCalister
Senior Pastor

FAMILY CELEBRATIONS

Cristobal and Latricia Soto will soon welcome their first child, a baby boy. There is a special baby shower being held on Saturday, March 14, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. in the Tomlin Room for the family. All are welcome but please RSVP through the church office so we may properly plan. Thank you.



“THANK YOU” to all Calvary family who prayed for Trudy Crowley’s healing from cancer (my mother). She is cancer free!

We are so grateful for all the prayers and we know that prayer works. It is God’s healing hand that sent my mother the doctors she needed to be healed. Praise Him, Praise Him, Praise Him. Thank You Jesus.

Carol Hall-Walker

PULPIT EXCHANGE



On Sunday, March 15, 2015, we welcome Pastor Nicole Yonkman, Co-Pastor of Beneficent Church as our Guest Preacher. Our Pastor will be preaching a dialogue sermon on Race with Pastor Todd Yonkman as a part of their Beneficent Church’s Annual “Tough Topics” pulpit exchange series on that day.

HOLY WEEK

The Minister’s Alliance Holy Week Revival (Monday, March 30-April 2, 7 PM nightly) and Seven Last Words Service (Friday, April 3 th12 Noon) will be at West Side Tabernacle, 134 Bridgham Street, Providence, RI 02909, (401) 453-2548.

*You are invited to break bread with Calvary Baptist
& Bethany Baptist Churches & the Ministries of
Deborah L. Shumake, Ja'Phia*

Jesus said, "Come and eat breakfast..." John 21:13a



Reverend Jabulani McCalister,
Sr. Pastor, Calvary Baptist Church



Deborah L. Shumake, Ja'Phia



Reverend Nikita G. McCalister,
Sr. Pastor, Bethany Baptist Church

Contact Info: R.S.V.P.
(401) 461-7507
www.calbaptist.org

*Simon Peter said to them,
"I am going fishing."
They said to him,
"We are going with you, also" John 21:3
Share & Bring 5 that are part of your NET
Receive Special gift!*

*"Breakfast By
The Sea"*

Saturday, March 21, 2015 ~ 10a.m.

**CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
747 BROAD ST. - PROVIDENCE, RI**

DONATION: \$15.00

Theme: The NET is WORKING!

*And He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat,
and you will find some." So they cast and now they were not able
to draw it in because of the multitude of fish.*

*Make M.O. Checks to:
Calvary Baptist Church*



CHILDREN, YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT CORNER

Challenge Grant Update

As of today, February 25th, we have received \$2,463.75 from the congregation towards our \$5,000 goal. In addition, we have a commitment from our benefactor's sister for an additional \$1,000. This leave us \$1,536.25 with only left to raise in order that we qualify to receive an additional \$5,000 towards the hiring of a part-time Youth Pastor.

I have no doubt that we will achieve our goal to support the youth of our church. I will give an update in church on Sunday, March 8th, and hopefully a final report on March 15th.

Stephen Gaulin



SENIOR CITIZEN'S MINISTRY

In 2015, we will continue our work aggressively towards debt-freedom both individually and as a church. This will not happen overnight so the Finance and Stewardship Ministries will be providing us with tools to get and stay financially free. Therefore, they will be hosting financial seminars throughout the year to help us towards that goal. The first of these workshops will be Saturday, April 11, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in the Tomlin Room for seniors called, "Fraud Alert." This workshop will teach us how to protect our identity and create wealth for generations to come. Our special guest presenters are The Links, Inc. (<http://www.linksinc.org/>) and AARP (www.aarp.org). Light refreshments will be served. This event is free and open to the public. Please RSVP so they will know how to plan.

MODERATOR

The Call to Serve

“You want me to do what?” Discerning the Lord’s will can be challenging, though often not nearly so challenging as delivering. I firmly believe, however, that the Lord never burdens us with more than we can handle. In fact, pushing our limits—going beyond what we think we can handle—is how we grow.

I’m writing this article from somewhere upwards of 30,000 feet, en route to my first venture outside the United States since 2008. I recall on that last trip, to Beijing and Dalian, I was introduced to the woman who is now my wife of five years, whom many of you know: Julia. On the seat beside me is a book by Professor Emeritus John M. Grandin, “Going the Extra Mile: University of Rhode Island Engineers in the Global Workplace”. URI’s motto: “Think Big, We Do.” It was after graduating from the URI International Engineering Program in 1998 that I started my professional career overseas in Germany. Many years later, I’m tending to systems of ‘high strategic value’ to the U.S. Navy, right here in Rhode Island. Somewhat ironically (or not), my most important responsibilities are matters of family and community.

The title above is drawn from the Navy’s discontinued ‘A Global Force for Good’ advertisement. Though the message had its power, and its place, Its time has passed. The truth of the matter is that our callings need not involve grandiose visions or exotic, faraway travel; but rather, a simple step or two outside our comfort zones. Calvary will soon need a new crop of leaders. Will you answer the call?

David Dromsky,
Moderator



STEWARDSHIP

We Are All Christ's Stewards

The Stewardship Ministry is prayerful and hopeful that God will touch your heart and mind to be "Spirit Led Giving" in your tithing and offering commitment. There are four areas where we want to grow to be Christ faithful stewards, 1) Growing as a Disciple, 2) Christ Centered Community, 3) Christ Like Compassion, and 4) Celebration of Christ.

The first way we are led by the Holy Spirit in our giving is to obey the Word. The Word tells us to give. Therefore, we obey the Word and we give. A thundering voice from Heaven to tell us to give is not necessary, although the way some Christians live it will probably take a thundering voice from Heaven to get them to do something. It is important for us as Christians to understand that the Pastor and our Church cannot do the work of the ministry without finances. When someone says they live by faith believing God to supply their needs, somehow in the minds of Christians they think are exempt from supporting the work of God with their substance. Pastor Jabulani announced this past Sunday, March 1st that we have \$3600 toward youth ministry! We only have \$1400 more to go to meet the match of a generous donor who has been led by God to match our \$5000. We will soon have \$15,000 to do youth ministry.

I believe that if our hearts are truly filled with the Love of God, our hearts will compel us to sow financially into the Kingdom of God.

God and His Word are One. The Word tells us that when we obey His Word, we love Him and He calls us His friends. Jesus goes so far as to say that when we obey Him He will manifest Himself to us. This means that by simply obeying Him in our giving, we are His friends and he will manifest Himself to us. This is even true when we yield our finances to Him because the Word tells us in Luke 16:11 that He will entrust us with the true riches of the Kingdom. May our tithes and offerings be pleasing to our Lord and expand His Word to the next generation and the one after that! While the Gospel itself is free, supporting the work of God is not.

Please be in prayer and consider growing as a disciple of Jesus Christ by giving your time, talent and treasure towards the work of God. Being stewards of what God has provided to us is indeed important!!!! God spoke about a willingness and joy to give. Share the joy and God's love. Please give generously and if you are led to give to the youth ministry just mark your check youth ministry and Calvary will be blessed again.

In Christ,

Carol Hall-Walker
Stewardship Ministry Chair



A MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER

God is watching over us even in troublesome times. As we all know this winter has been particularly difficult for our congregation members and also for Calvary Baptist Church. Besides the snow causing high plowing bills, we had ice damage to the sanctuary and both boilers broke down. We had to transfer \$10,000 from our invested funds to cover the boiler repairs and high utility bills. We are still behind in paying our monthly expenses.

We had to cancel February 15 worship service because the City of Providence imposed a parking ban due to the bad snow storm that weekend. Thank you to those who sent in their tithes and offerings the following week. Your faithfulness is very much appreciated. Praise God!

The Faith Jars that were brought forward during the worship service in January (\$1,600) helped towards our goal of raising \$5,000 for the Youth Challenge Grant. A very generous donor believes that we can have an awesome youth program and has challenged the congregation and youth to raise money to match his \$5,000 grant. So far we have raised \$2,600 so we are more than half way there! If you want to help be sure to note “youth grant” in the memo section of your check.

I trust that God will get us through the rest of the winter and brighter days are ahead for Calvary.

God bless you all.

Sue Colantonio,
Treasurer



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

A Planning Meeting will be held on Monday, March 30 at 7:00 p.m. for all those interested in helping with Vacation Bible School this year. VBS will be held from July 13 – 17. We need YOUR help to make this a success! Thanks.



Good Friday Walk for Hunger

Rhode Island

Friday, April 3 at 9 AM

Calvary Baptist Church
747 Broad Street, Providence

Join us at South Providence Neighborhood Ministries as we step out to stop hunger in Rhode Island. We will walk through the neighborhoods of South Providence and Elmwood as we make our way to the Rhode Island State House to join other walkers for a rally at 11 AM.

For more information and to get your sponsor sheet, visit spnm.org or call 401-461-7509.



Funds raised in the Good Friday Walk are distributed to small church-based projects here and abroad and to community nonprofits.

PRAYER CONCERNS (on-going and new)

Debt-Freedom

Men's Ministry

Women's Ministry

Bereaved Families

Homebound Members

Transportation Ministry

(Many of our members and potential members desire rides to church)

Community Outreach

Children, Youth and Young Adults

Married Couples Ministry

Singles Ministry

Overall Ministry of Calvary Baptist Church

Pastor and First Family

Calvary Leaders

Conflict Resolution

More committed and qualified teachers for Bible Study/Sunday School/Bible Institute

Increased attendance and participation in Bible Study, Sunday School, and Bible Institute

100% Tithing Church

AMERICA FOR CHRIST OFFERING

ABC-USA has 3 quarterly offerings which they ask each to contribute. During the month of March we will be collecting the America for Christ Offering. The Theme for 2015 is "Discipleship: A Journey of Grace" based on Titus 2:11-13. It is a wonderful reminder that Jesus' public ministry was all about connecting and caring for people in need. On each day of His journey, the compassion of Jesus was felt by someone somewhere.

How do we see the grace of Jesus Christ at work in our community? We are encouraged by this year's theme to come alongside people as they journey through life. Special offering envelopes are available at the church. Please give generously. Thank you.

ON-GOING OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

Opportunities to Serve

God is using Calvary Baptist Church to transform this community and the world, one family at a time. Therefore, it's imperative that every Disciple of Jesus Christ at Calvary participate in these ministry opportunities. Some of the areas where you can make an impact are:

- 1) Technical Arts Ministry
 - a. Calvary Call needs, Writers, Reporters, Editors, Lay-out experts, photographers and compilers.
 - b. The Web-site and Facebook pages needs technologically savvy persons to assist with the daily updates and new trends in web-design
 - c. TV Ministry
 - d. Audio/Visual needs (i.e. CD and DVD ministry)
- 2) Prayer Ministry
 - a. Prayer on-site
 1. Wednesday Night before Bible Study (6:45-7:15 p.m.).
 2. Thursday at 12 Noon
 3. Create new prayer cells in-home and on-site, so Calvary is praying 24/7
- 3) Event Planners to assist with Family Movie Nights and other outings, fellowships and events
- 4) Music Ministry: Musicians, Praise Team, Gospel, Adult, Youth, Children's, Men's, and Hand-bell Choirs to help lead worship.
- 5) Social Ministry (i.e. serving and donating food during fellowship after church and special events).
- 6) Ministry of Caring: Visiting Homebound Members and Serving Communion to Homebound Members.
- 7) Worship Ministry: Ushers, Greeters, Scripture Readers, etc.
- 8) Bible Study and Sunday School teachers.
- 9) Buildings and Ground Ministry helping to make sure God's house is in excellent working order.
- 10) Single's Ministry
- 11) Men's Ministry
- 12) Children's and Youth Ministry

Holy Week and Beyond

By Martha Buxton

“Hosanna to the King”
As palms are lifted high.
“Hosanna” they do sing
As onward You do ride.

Sharing that final meal
Disciples ~ “Is it I?”
Judas’ fate was sealed
It could not be denied.

Inside the garden gate
You bid Him “take this cup”
Afraid it is too late
He must be lifted up.

“Crucify, crucify”
Is shouted oh so loud
“Crucify, have Him die”
The angry mob does shout.

Wearing crown of thorns
And waiting now to die
As others speak of scorn
Believers start to cry.

Up on that rugged cross
Crucified with thieves
For sinners was the cost
A sinner, ‘twas for me.

Inside that tomb You laid
And rose on the third day
My sins You took away
A debt I can’t repay.

I’ll sing and praise to Thee
And tell all of Your grace
And hope that all can see
You shining through my face.