

“The Calvary Corner”

November 18, 2020

THE RAMBLINGS OF PASTOR REPPA

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ

Dear Members and Friends,

The passage that I share with you this week comes from Ecclesiastes 3. It is entitled **“A Time for Everything”** *“There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, ... a time to keep and a time to throw away,.. a time to be silent and a time to speak...”* Ecclesiastes verses 1, 2, 6b, & 7b

With this coronavirus it appears there should be plenty of time to do all types of adventures. With extra time from not traveling, time off of work, not having to be at the school building or be under the demand of social gatherings.

Of course, with all this ‘extra’ time, you are now doing home schooling, learning how to use zoom, figuring out how to get groceries without going to the store, how to stay in touch with your elderly friends and family members who do not have technology. The time we have ‘saved’ with other circumstances is being drained by new situations. Plus, there is the isolation, depression and stress.

I never dreamed in March that we would still be dealing with this virus in November and questioning what we are going to do for Thanksgiving and Christmas. In it all, scripture tells us **there is a time for everything** and I think with all that is going on this is a great **TIME to give thanks**.

Yes, that may sound crazy to some. But if you are reading this then you know how to read, you have a computer or some device to get the email, or you are still receiving mail, you are alive, your mind is still in tacked, you are connected to a great group of people known as Calvary Baptist Church and to list goes on.

AS for the holidays, remember we are to give thanks everyday not just on Thanksgiving. SO, if it is saver for everyone to eat at home instead of joining with the larger family, you can still call, write and perhaps communicate more than when the all family is together.

Think about what is the Lord sharing with you about **“a Time for Everything”**? Is it about how you can study the scriptures with a friend? Are you needing to help with the Food Pantry ministry? Are you ready to help record the worship service so others who cannot attend in person can still be connected? Perhaps it is time for you to write an article for the Corner and share your faith, your situation, your thanksgiving. Is it time to fix Thanksgiving meal and take it to your family or friends that cannot join with you in person? Perhaps it is about planning a celebration when we can all be back together again.

It is difficult at times to think about **“A time for everything”** when we can see no end to this virus. There is fear that life will never be the same as before. And that is true! We are reminded that no matter how often we desire it or how often we meet – **it will never be the same. BUT Christ’s love is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow.** In **Lamentations 3** – we read, ²² *Because of the LORD’s great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail.* ²³ *They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.* ²⁴ *I say to myself, “The LORD is my portion; therefore I will wait for him.”* ²⁵ *The LORD is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him;⁶ it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD.*

The Lord brings a new thing to life. It is time to think of all the blessings we have and **give thanks in all situations.**

In Christ’s Service, Pastor Reppa



This Sunday Rev. Dan will be offering the sermon entitled: “Eyes of the Heart” with the Scripture being Ephesians 1: 15 ~ 23.

The service may be watched on FaceBook at <https://www.facebook.com/revreppa/live> while it is live or any time after it is finished.

Prayer Requests ~ To help keep each other safe a Pastoral Prayer is lifted up each Sunday morning with the needs of ALL rather than specific requests being shared by individuals during the worship service. Prayer request papers are available at the door upon entering the Sanctuary along with the Order of Worship papers. Please place prayer requests in the appropriate basket when leaving worship.

For those who have lost loved ones, especially during the holiday seasons.

Continued prayers for our SLT, Pastoral Search Committee and Stewardship Ministry.

Worship in the building - Opening team has done a great job. You are safe. Please join us.



BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS DURING NOVEMBER ~ Darthula “Quita” Hansford (02); Virginia Bradley (03); Raquel Garcia (03); Joan Schoonmaker (03); Lawrence Askie (09); Bassey Inyang (11); Rev. Dr. Daniel Cottrell (12); Rev. Dr. Paul Schoonmaker, (15); Martha Robison (15); Seun Akinnusotu (21); Timi Akinnusotu (26); Elizabeth Lawson (29); Moziah Mathews (29); Napoleon Askie (30)

Do you or someone you know have an upcoming birthday and/or anniversary? Please let us know. Thanks!

Emergency Food Pantry Ministry Needs Your Help



Tomorrow, **November 19** there will be a truck delivery of food for distribution of the Emergency Food Pantry Ministry. Volunteers are needed at **11:00 a.m.** to assist with unloading, sorting and organizing the food for distribution on Saturday, November 21.

PS – *The Emergency Food Pantry Ministry* also needs food donations, money to buy gift cards for the Christmas food distribution, and always **your prayers**. Please help in any way you can.

Thank you!
Rachel M. Bloe
EFPM Coordinator



Members of the Calvary Search Team, CAN YOU MEET MONDAY November 23rd at 7:00 PM? Please contact Pastor Reppa with yes or no. revreppa@verizon.net or text (401)529-6607

The Servant Leader Team and Pastors continue to meet every other Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. If you have any news or concerns please share that with one of the Pastors or with Moderator Wendy Fox at wfoxpt@gmail.com SLT members ~ Moderator, Wendy Fox; Clerk, Carol Hall-Walker; Treasurer, Betty Cady; Rick & Martha Robison; Gabby Kpawoe; Rachel Bloe, Erica Traub and Archibald Yaidoo.
Transitional Team members ~ Wendy Fox, Betty Cady, Gabby Kpawoe and Erica Traub.

Calvary's Annual Meeting will be planned for **May of 2021. All the Officers and Committee members are asked to please remain in their positions until the corona virus crisis is over. Thank you.**

CHURCH OFFICE ~ Our Administrative Assistant, Martha Buxton is in the church office from 9:15 am – 1:15 pm. daily. Please be advised that Martha will be working remotely on Monday, December 14 and out of the office on Tuesday and Wednesday, December 15th and 16th. Thank you.

SERVANT LEADER TEAM SHEPHERD GROUPS

The SLT has established a **Shepherd Group**. The purpose of this group is to contact members and friends of the church monthly to help improve communication for all. The SLT members will share any specific needs such as spiritual, health, financial, transportation, meals, etc. with the pastors. Each SLT member or **Shepherd**, will try to stay in contact with you at church, by phone, mail, text, card, or a note. Please feel free to contact your Shepherd, the pastors, or other SLT members.

Even with this program each church member is encouraged to always contact the pastors directly if a need arises. We look forward to serving as your Shepherds.

Shepherd Groups Contacts ~

A, B, C & H ~ Rick Robison (419-8070), Martha Robison (952-5559)
D, E, F ~ Carol Hall-Walker (263-5313) G ~ Erica Traub (454-9715)
I, J, K, L ~ Gabby Kpawoe (663-5933) M, N ~ Archibald Yaidoo (585-1869)
R, S ~ Wendy Fox (263-2312) T, U, V, W ~ Rachel Bloe (230-6299)
O, P, Q, X, Y, Z ~ Betty Cady (527-6278)

Our Home Bound members would love to hear from you ~ especially at this time of year!
In these difficult times of isolation it is even more important to reach out to those who are homebound.

Cards are available on the bookcase in the church office.

June Allen
c/o Dennis Allen
233 Miantonomo Drive
Warwick, RI 02888

Trobel Bloe, Sr.
14 Maclaine Drive
North Providence, RI 02904
353-3095

Walter Hundley
Victoria Court Assisted Living Center
55 Oaklawn Avenue
Cranston, RI 02920
941-1989

Bassey Inyang
94 Orlando Drive
North Providence, RI 02904
725-5144

Marguerite Thomas
c/o Marvin Marsh
20232 Valley Forge Circle
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Andrew Wright
3 Grotto Avenue
Warwick, RI 02888
516-7719 (nephew Josh's number)

Stewardship Campaign 2020

Faithful Generosity

Commitment Sunday ~ November 22

The Stewardship Ministry and the SLT have shared the *“Faithful Generosity”* Campaign with you through scripture, personal testimonies in-person and in the Calvary Corner, Stewardship Petition read in-person and included in the church bulletin, and shared examples of God as our most faithful example of giving. Jesus’ life on earth was a life characterized by giving. He makes it possible for everyone to be “faithful and generous givers”. That is where the Stewardship Campaign begins, in our relationship with Christ.

Remember we have a responsibility to show our love for Jesus and acknowledge that love by demonstrating our giving. **On Sunday, November 22, 2020**, all of us are encouraged to return our commitment card. Please use the enclosed commitment card to make your pledge for 2021 support. This will help us maintain and expand the ministries of Calvary Baptist Church.

The Stewardship Campaign focused on the most important commandments which are Matthew 22:37 “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.” The second most important commandment is Mark 12:31 “Love your neighbor as yourself.” No other commandments are greater than these.

To continue the great ministry work of Calvary, we must support our church staff, Transitional Pastors, pay the bills to keep our building open and maintained. Together as God’s people we can do this. If everyone gives consistently throughout the year, we will be able to sustain and grow the church.

Please be in prayer and read these scriptures to help prepare your heart, mind, and soul so together we reflect the biblical truths about giving. Scriptures include: *2 Samuel 24:24, Matthew 25:15, 2 Matthew 25:34-36, and Mark 12:41-44.*

Join us for a special time of offering on Sunday, November 22, 2020 or mail your commitment card to the church office: Calvary Baptist Church, 747 Broad St., Providence, RI 02907. God loves each of us and only ask for the first fruits.

November 22 – (Mark 12: 41-44) “Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a fraction of a penny. Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, ‘I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty, put in everything – all she had to live on.’”

Message: In the Lord’s eyes, this poor widow gave more than all the others put together though her gift was by far the smallest. The value of a gift is not determined by its amount, but by the spirit in which it is given. A gift given grudgingly or for recognition loses its value. When you give, remember - gifts of any size are pleasing to God when they are given out of gratitude and a spirit of generosity. Scripture reading and testimony by: **Rev. Erica Traub**

Be open to teachings about giving. Reflect on some of the Bible’s great truths about giving noted in the following verses: (2 Cor.8:7); (2 Cor. 8:9); (Luke 10:29-37); (2 Cor. 9:6-15); (Phil. 4:18);(1 Cor. 6:20); and (2 Cor. 8:8 24).

In His Service,
Carol Hall-Walker
Stewardship Ministry Lead





The Refugee Dream Center's Founder and Executive Director, Omar Bah, has recently received his doctoral degree in Organizational and Leadership Psychology from William James College in Boston, Massachusetts!

His dissertation centers on the Neuroscience of Labeling Trauma and its Relationship with Psychological Characteristics and Leadership, in which he elaborates on the multitude of links between leadership condition, neurophysiological response to recollection of trauma, resiliency, and well-being and that speaking on trauma can be part of the process of healing for survivors.

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Omar Bah in the completion of his doctorate!



Last week's Trivia Question: Which of the following items was once banned by the U.S federal government?

Choices were: Bananas, Cotton Candy, Brussels sprouts or Sliced bread

Answer: On January 18, 1943, in the midst of World War II, **sliced bread** was banned as a wartime conservation measure. The goal was to try to conserve wheat and to lower bread and flour prices. The thought was that by banning pre-sliced bread, the amount of bread consumed would go down. This would reduce the demand for flour and wheat, thus decreasing prices of those products while simultaneously increasing stockpiles of wheat. As you might imagine, banning pre-sliced bread didn't go over very well with the public. Within about three months of the ban being introduced, on March 8, 1943, it was rescinded.

This week's Trivia Question: Before striking it rich with his famous invention, which man made his living as a portrait artist?

Choices: a) Samuel Morse b) Thomas Edison c) Eli Whitney d) Alexander Graham Bell

Think you know the correct answer? Email or call it in!

~ Have a blessed rest of your week!



CHRISTMAS GIFT BOXES FOR OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD MAY BE BROUGHT TO THE CHURCH ON SUNDAY OR MONDAY, **NOVEMBER 22 OR 23.** AN ORDINARY SHOE BOX MAY BE USED!

GIFT SUGGESTIONS:

- ✓ **SOMETHING TO WEAR:** T-shirt, polo shirt, shorts, skirt, cap, beanie, sandals, etc.
- ✓ **SOMETHING TO LOVE:** teddy bear, doll, soft toy, etc.
- ✓ **SOMETHING SPECIAL:** carry bag, sunglasses, bangles, stickers, necklaces, craft kits, wind-up torch, a personal note, a photo of yourself, etc.
- ✓ **SOMETHING FOR SCHOOL:** exercise book, pencil case, pens, pencils, colouring pencils, sharpener, eraser, chalk, etc.
- ✓ **SOMETHING TO PLAY WITH:** tennis ball, cars, skipping rope, marbles, musical instrument, yo-yo, slinky, finger puppets, etc.
- ✓ **SOMETHING FOR PERSONAL HYGIENE:** soap and face washer, toothbrush, hairbrush, comb, scrunchies, hair-clips, etc.

DO NOT INCLUDE:

- ✗ **ITEMS THAT LEAK OR MELT:** (these can spoil boxes) including toothpaste, shampoo, bubbles, crayons and plasticine/play dough
- ✗ **FOOD OR LOLLIES OF ANY KIND:** (due to customs regulations) including medicines and vitamins
- ✗ **USED OR DAMAGED ITEMS:** (due to customs regulations) including worn clothing and old toys
- ✗ **BREAKABLE ITEMS:** including glass, porcelain and mirrors
- ✗ **ITEMS THAT CAN SCARE OR HARM A CHILD:** including Halloween, war or pirate-related items such as toy guns, knives, military figures or skull and crossbones
- ✗ **GAMBLING-RELATED ITEMS:** including play money, playing cards and dominoes
- ✗ **RELIGIOUS LITERATURE:** including tracts and Bibles (every child is given an Operation Christmas Child evangelistic book at an outreach event)

Remember to pray for the child who will receive your shoebox!



These items are prohibited to protect children or to comply with overseas government and customs restraints.