

## *“The Calvary Corner”*

### **THE RAMBLINGS OF PASTOR REPPA**



Dear Calvary Family and Friends,

January 6, 2021

Today is the 12<sup>th</sup> day of Christmas. That is right, 12 drummers drumming. Sometimes that is how I feel when this world is so loud. Sitting in my car at the pharmacy window yesterday, a car drove in behind me. The music was playing so loud and the base beat actually vibrated my car. There were at least 12 drummers drumming. ☺ In the song, the 12 drummers stand for the 12 beliefs in the Apostles creed. The ‘things’ we believe about the Christian faith.

Today, is also Epiphany. Epiphany is when we observe, remember or acknowledge the visit of the Wise Men, 3 Kings, or Magi to the home of the Christ child. We do not know for sure how long it took them to travel from the east to Bethlehem. Plus, we are not sure there were three. What we do know is, there were 3 gifts: gold, frankincense and myrrh.

These 3 gifts declared Jesus was King of kings, God & priest, (Priest means bridge. He is the bridge between God and us.) And Myrrh announced that he was a sacrifice. All of these ‘facts’ were announced when Jesus was 2 years old at the most. All the announcements and visits were in the quietness of a stable or in the privacy of the family’s home. God speaks in a whisper if we listen. If not, then God speaks with the voice louder than 112 drummers.

As the new year begins, I ask you to ponder with me what our gifts and the time we spend seeking the Christ Child announces about Jesus in our lives. Do our gifts tell about how we see the Lamb of God, the Light of the World, the Great Physician, the Living Water, the King of kings, Lord of lords, the Good Shepherd, Lord and Savior.???

Or do we just share some of our ‘spare’ time and offer the ‘left-overs’ to the Christ?

Once again, I am just pondering the big picture of Epiphany (the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles) seen through my narrow scope. So, I wonder.

Thinking of you. Praying for you. And loving you.

Pastor Reppa

**This Sunday Rev. Reppa will be offering the sermon entitled “New Beginnings” with the Scriptures being Genesis 1: 1 ~ 5; Matthew 3: 13 ~ 17.**



Continued thanks and praise to all who to help keep the church safe for services to be held in our building. Also to those who make it possible to watch using Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/revreppa/live>. You may view the service while it is live or any time after it is finished.

**Prayer Requests** ~ 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. Please keep the following in your thoughts and prayers:

**Shedrick and Martha Geyetay traveling mercies and they travel to Africa**

**Rick Robison's brother Donald in hospital in Kansas**

**Kevin Gould's uncle passed away.**

**Martha Buxton who will be undergoing medical tests this week.**

**Praise that June Allen is doing very well and is looking forward to attending worship as soon as possible.**

**Those who are currently unemployed and face financial difficulties due to the virus.**

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

***BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS DURING JANUARY***~ Manasse Payen (03); Julian Hansford (04); Carol Hall-Walker (06); Rodney Derogene (08); Dan Brown (12); Judy Akpan (14); Victoria Flowers (17); Steve Gaulin (21); Edgard Derogene (24); Judith Monnah (25); Franceska Payen (29)

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

**Pastoral Search Update ~**

**We have sent Rev Harris, the Interim Executive Minister of ABCORI, our search information and it soon will be advertised on their website. We wait for resumes/profiles to come to ABCORI who will screen and send them to the committee.**

**A Christmas tree is in the church Narthex for donations of men's, women's and children's White socks which will be given to Cross Roads. Socks are the #1 request at crossroads and our donations are always very, very appreciated. We will be collecting socks **until this Sunday.****



**EFPM ~ Next distribution will be on Saturday, January 16<sup>th</sup>.**

Donations of canned goods and non-perishable food items are always needed and welcomed! **Especially needed are: white rice, dry beans and boxes of cereal.** Additional volunteers are greatly needed and appreciated. All are asked to please be at the church by 9:30 a.m. and remember to wear your mask and gloves. We will continue to observe the social distancing requirements.



*“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in.”* Matthew 25: 35

The Servant Leader Team and Pastors continue to meet every other Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. Their next meeting will be on **January 13<sup>th</sup>**. If you have any news or concerns please share that with one of the Pastors or with Moderator Wendy Fox at [wfoxpt@gmail.com](mailto: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.

### Stewardship Moment ~

Dear Calvary,

As we begin a new year and fresh beginnings, please read Romans Chapter 12. Here is scripture that we are encouraged to read, understand and practice doing.

**Romans 12:10**, ESV: *"Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor."* **Romans 12:10**, KJV: *"Be kindly affectioned one to another ..."*

We can honor others in one of two ways. One involves ulterior motives. We honor our bosses so they will reward us, our employees so they will work harder, the wealthy so they will contribute to our cause, the powerful so they will use their power for us and not against us. God's other way involves love. As Christians, we honor people because they have been created to God's image, because they are our brothers and sisters in Christ, and because they have a unique contribution to make to Christ's church. Does God's way of honoring others sound too difficult for your competitive nature? Why not try to outdo one another in showing honor? Put others first!

As we move through 2021 let us be a shining light for the neighbors surrounding Calvary church. Please contribute to the church budget with your tithes, offerings and service to honor the Lord. You may submit a commitment card to make your yearly, monthly or weekly pledge which will help God's servants serve His people. Amen!

In His Service,  
Carol Hall-Walker  
Stewardship Chair



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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Update on Giving January 2021

Tithes and Offering received for the month of December: \$ 7,475.33  
Amount needed monthly to meet \$130,000 budget: \$10,833.33

Open Collections: \$ 55.00  
Per Budget through December: (\$ 3,358.00)

Year-to-date Per Budget: (\$30,384.04)

Salaries and Expenses Paid (December): \$ 14,220.43

Thank you to all, who have been able to remain faithful in their tithes and offering giving by dropping off their envelope, paying through bill pay and/or using PayPal. Please try to keep your offerings up-to-date and keep Calvary's finances in prayer. As of December 30<sup>th</sup>, we have received 26 Commitment Cards. We will be sending the Contribution Statements for 2020 within a week.

Betty Cady, Treasurer  
H 438-1441



~ Have a blessed rest of your week!



**Calvary Baptist Church**  
747 Broad Street, Providence, RI 02907  
Tel. 401-461-7507  
info@calbaptist.org; www.calbaptist.org

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