

# CALVARY CURRENT

Calvary United Methodist Church

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## SPECIAL GIFTS

To UMCOR Louisiana Floods by Ted and Brenda Alexander.  
To Calvary's children's fund by Ted and Brenda Alexander.  
To UMCOR Louisiana floods by Harding Shinn and June Severs.  
To UMAR in honor of Gwen Butler & Kristen Hunter by Calvary UMW.  
To CUMC in memory of Jim Johnson by Randy King.  
To CUMC in honor of Peggy Cromer's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday by June Severs

## NEW CALVARY: VISION 2020

During my study leave in September, I read a few books, and one of them attracted my interest: *God Unbound: Wisdom from Galatians for the Anxious Church*, written by Elaine Heath, the new dean at Duke Divinity School. Through my reading, I have thought more on Calvary's current and future ministries.

Based on my reflections on the book, I will preach a sermon series in October to share a vision for Calvary. I call this "New Calvary: Vision 2020." What will happen to us in 2020, just four years later? What is God's purpose for Calvary, and where will you be in God's dream?

New Calvary: Vision 2020 is a spiritual renewal movement based on the Gospel. We will have three steps to make a renewal happen at Calvary: Listen, Organize, and Act. I will listen to our members and friends about your concerns and hopes, and I also encourage you to listen to one another. In this process, I invite you to focus on your individual and our communal strengths. What are my gifts and our assets to work for God's dream? By focusing on our strengths, we will pursue God's vision rather than worry about our scarcity and weakness. Based on our listening, we will organize and reorganize our teams for action.

As a Christian pastor, I believe that God is with us. I believe that God has a purpose for each one of us. I believe that God loves Calvary, a body of Christ Jesus. I believe that God will renew us and make us thrive for God's mission. Therefore, let us listen to God first with our attentive prayers. When you hear the voice of God, please share it with one another. I look forward to journeying with you for our new vision!

*Blessings and love, Jae*

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**10:00 AM Sunday School**  
**11:00 AM Worship Service**



**To attend our Church**  
**Calvary United Methodist**  
**512 West Blvd.**  
**Charlotte, NC 28203**

A special letter from our Bishop

## IT IS TIME TO BREAK NEW GROUND

A deadly police shooting in Charlotte, NC, of Keith Lamont Scott, has added to the narrative of death and violence reported daily throughout the nation. The news that this has happened in our community has shocked us. It is reported alongside an increasing numbness in which we are becoming apathetic to the horrible events that destroy lives and community. In an atmosphere of fear and anger we seem to be drifting into a disrespect and defiance of others which only contributes to an escalation of violence as witnessed last night when a peaceful protest turned violent. As social media shares videos of these events we quickly draw conclusions and make statements that are not necessarily helpful in resolving these frightful occurrences.

In light of this death and the destructive actions that have followed, Governor Pat McCrory declared a State of Emergency. In the midst of this increasing violence my thoughts are focused on the families who are grieving and impacted by these events; may they find mercy and understanding.

There will be many calls for prayer, which I know are already being lifted, and our prayers should lead to action. It is my prayer we might behave in such a way as to embrace Jesus' teaching, "Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy...Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." To be a peacemaker at this moment will require patient and persistent efforts to embrace and work with those who may not share our same life experiences and beliefs. It will require deliberate and measured steps of building trust within each community.

The Church reminds us the way in which we live in community with others is a spiritual issue. The way we treat others is a spiritual issue. The way in which we respond to others is a spiritual issue. Within each of our respective communities, with all our differences, we are called to relate to our neighbors as our brothers and sister, the family of God. Jesus responded to the question, "Who is my neighbor?," by telling a story of violence and concluded by asking a question of his own, "Which of these was a neighbor to the one who fell into" violence? The answer was clear, it was the one who risked assisting the one who had been beaten and attacked. Action is required.

I invite each of our churches to pause during their worship services this Sunday in prayer for those who have been impacted most directly by these acts of violence. Pray for the peace of our community and for those who work to protect public safety. I would also invite our congregations to consider how we might be engaged in conversation with our community leaders to encourage, support, and build trust as we become partners and peacemakers. Finally, as we remain immersed in the acts of grace, I would ask United Methodists to form small discussion groups within our congregations and intentional conversations between communities of faith, particularly those of different racial, ethnic make-up than your own for the purpose of entering into conversation about how our involvement can be expressed in acts of mercy within our own communities right now.

The prophet Hosea (10:12) called upon the faithful people of God to live in a different way by saying, "Sow righteousness (justice), reap the fruit of unending love, and to prepare new ground; for it is time to seek the Lord." This is such a time. May we lead our communities to live in this "different way."

Grace and Peace,

Bishop Paul L. Leeland



## 151<sup>ST</sup> HOMECOMING SUNDAY

Welcome home! We are grateful to celebrate our 151<sup>st</sup> Homecoming Sunday on October 9<sup>th</sup> with all of our families and friends. We are also grateful for our beloved former pastor, the Rev. Shirley Canty who is our guest preacher this year. As we count many blessings through our church history, we give thanks to God who has journeyed with us!

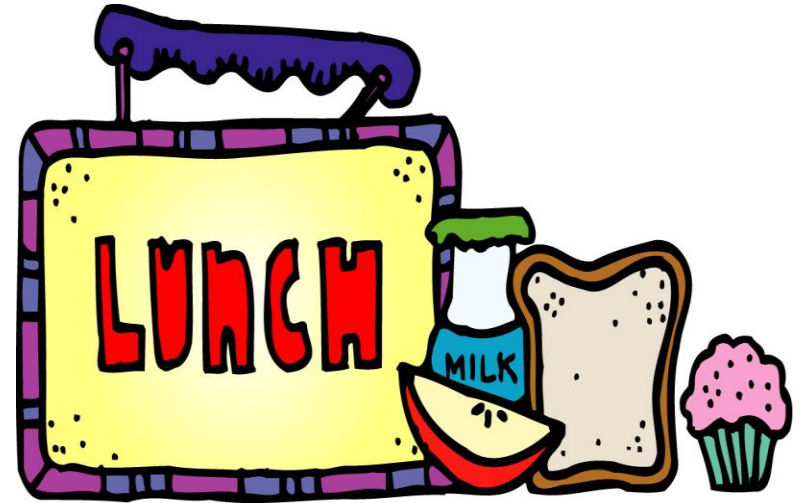


### **CROP WALK**

We will walk together to stop hunger on October 16<sup>th</sup> with other Christians and friends. Thanks to our children's carwash and CROP Walk lunch, we raised the fund for CROP WALK. Thank you for your generous support and participation!

### **LAITY SERVICE CELEBRATION**

We are happy to announce that Marsha Smith is the recipient of Laity Service Award this year at Calvary UMC. Marsha will be recognized with other recipients of Metro District at Assurance UMC on Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> at 3pm. Let us come together and honor Marsha for her laity service award. Calvary UMC has been blessed with so many faithful lay leaders and servants.



### **R & R LUNCH**

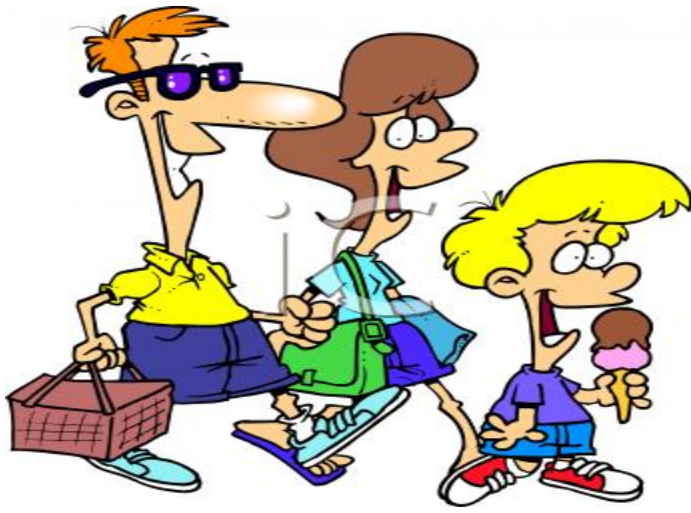
There will be a quarterly Repair & Replace (R & R) Lunch on October 23<sup>rd</sup> right after our Sunday worship service. R & R Lunch is a great time for fellowship and support to keep up with our church facilities. Please take part in and support our ministries.

### **CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**

We have a Church Council meeting on Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> following the R & R Lunch. As we prepare our Annual Charge Conference on Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>, we have to approve our church's apportionment, pastor's compensation, and lay leadership for 2017. If you are the members of Church Council, please plan to attend this important meeting.

### **ANNUAL CHARGE CONFERENCE**

There will be Annual Charge Conference on Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> right after our worship service in the sanctuary. All church members are requested to attend the Charge Conference. Our pastor Jae will be the presiding elder for the charge conference this year.

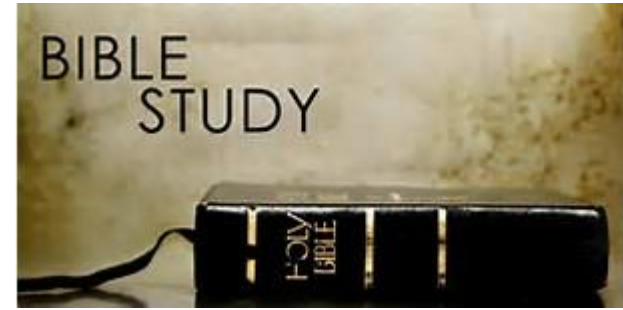


### **WILMORE COMMUNITY PICNIC**

Calvary has developed its relationship with Wilmore Community. On October 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:00am, there will be Community Picnic in our church parking lot, and our church members are invited to it as guests. If you are able, please come, eat, and get to know our community people. Our church will host a dinner for Wilmore Community in December. We hope to deepen our relationship with Wilmore Community and become a good neighboring church!

### **MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID**

Carolinas Healthcare System will provide a free training for mental health caregivers on Oct. 22, Saturday, 8am – 5pm at Central UMC (6030 Albemarle Rd, Charlotte, NC 28212). If you want to attend this training, you can register at 704-536-9157. If you have further questions, please talk to Pastor Jae.



### **WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY / CHOIR REHEARSAL**

You are invited to Calvary's Bible Study on Wednesdays at 11:00 am. Bring a sandwich and join us. Choir members will have rehearsal after the Bible Study at 12:45 pm.

### **LOAVES AND FISHES REPORT FOR AUGUST 2016**



Calvary's Loaves and Fishes Pantry fed 217 people with 4,557 meals. Our volunteers worked 237 hours. Thank you for your faithful service and support!

## LOUISIANA FLOODS

We all have watched the devastation left by the floods in Louisiana. We know that UMCOR along with work teams from Methodist churches will be working in this area for years. If you would like to make a donation to UMCOR, you can write your check to Calvary and on the memo line, write Louisiana Floods.

One couple was interviewed by the media. They could not afford flood insurance and had lost everything in this flood. They felt so hopeless, but we can give them hope through the work of UMCOR. As you know, 100% of your donation will help the people in this area. You can't get a better return on your money than this plus you can claim this donation on your taxes, and you are helping your neighbor.

Outreach Committee

## 10/10 SPIRITUAL CLUB

There are young Christians who have committed to meet Sundays at 10 am for learning and growing and to give God their 10 minutes every day. 10/10 SC will begin a study series, simply Christian, to learn and grow as the disciples of Christ. If you know any young people, please invite them to 10/10 SC at Calvary.



Annette James, Ruth Pettus, Brenda Markham, Kelsee Cox, Dina Faquin, Brenda Alexander, Henry McCannon, Paul Brackbill, Michael Gill, Vernell Dye, Robert Black, Preston Savage, The Edwards family, Dillon Webb, J.C. Witte, Dale and Dawn Hauser, Stella Schlagowsky, Beatrice Brown, Daisy Dunlap, Mary Anne Koon, Mason and Shirley Butler, Joyce Beyer, Faye Smith, Barbara Pressley, Noah Collins, Linda Baucom, Buck Bailes, Mary Brotherton, Mary Grace Covington, Alice Jarrell, Betty Pinion, Margaret Bumgardner, Millie King, Shannon Taylor, Joyce and Johnny Puckett, Tom and Lib Phillips, and all of our sick and shut-ins and those serving our country.



## HELPING HANDS

The Outreach Committee has decided to offer a service as part of Helping Hands to anyone in our congregation who may have a need for transportation to a doctor, etc. Marsha Smith will be the transportation contact, and her telephone number is 704-399-8569. Please try to give her a two-week notice before the medical appointment to make the transportation arrangement. If you can volunteer as a driver, please speak with Marsha.

*Brenda Alexander, Outreach Chair*



## OCTOBER

Annie Bailes	2	Daisy Dunlap	7
Faye Smith	14	Jim Jeffries	15
Shirley Weeks	18	Shea Johnson	24
Isabella Browning	24	Sharyn Johnson	25
Betty Pinion	27	Theresa McLendon	28
Marty Mulligan	29		



### KIDS COOK OFF

We had a great time for the Kid's Cook-off! I am so proud of my chefs!! Our first place team for the entree was James and Autumn. Our first place team for the dessert was Maddie and Erin. Grand prize went to James and Autumn. We had a 4 way tie between the rest of the teams for 2nd place. A huge thank you to my judges!!! We will be doing this again!



### KIDS BAKE SALE AND CAR WASH

The kids had a car wash and bake sale on September 18<sup>th</sup> to raise money for CROP Walk. They also had a Luncheon on Sunday Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>. They were very successful in their efforts and raised nearly a \$1,000 dollars. What a wonderful way to serve CROP WALK.

*Patty Pressley*



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



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