

SPECIAL GIFTS

- To UMCOR One Great Hour of Sharing by June Severs, Jae and Kim Lee, and Harding Shinn.
To Calvary UMW by Harding Shinn.
To Society of St. Andrews by Stella Schlagowsky.
To CUMC in honor of Tom and Mary Hoover's Wedding anniversary on April 17 by Barbara Pressley.
To R and R in memory of Jack Worley, Conrad Furr, Maxene Black, John and Mot Black by Joe Black.
To R and R by Ted and Brenda Alexander, Harding Shinn, Ray and Marsha Smith.
To R and R in honor of the Hinson SS Class by Carl and Betty Pinion.
To CUMC in memory of Tom and Mary Hoover's wedding anniversary by Pat Hoover Tesh and Herb.
To Society of St. Andrew by Ted and Brenda Alexander, Ray and Marsha Smith.
To R and R in memory of Jane Saxon by June Severs, Ray and Marsha Smith.
To CUMC Video System by Mike Earnhardt, Zero Waste Recycling, LLC (Will Simmons), and Luke Selzer.

Calvary UMC
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CALVARY CURRENT

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A REFLECTION ON DIVERSITY

I was born and grew up in one dominant cultural environment in South Korea and came to the U.S. as an adult. As I had not experienced cultural and racial diversity in Korea, crossing a cultural boundary became a big challenge to me. In the U.S., I was a total stranger and had to re-learn everything from the basics. While I enjoyed new and diverse cultural experiences, I also perceived frustrations and often thought of my uncertain future.

Beyond burdens, fears, and frustrations, however, my cross-cultural experience has been a growth journey for me to expand and deepen my understanding on humanity (cultural awareness and human nature) and God (spiritual relationship with God and total dependence on grace). Crossing a cultural boundary has been not only a barrier but also an opportunity for me to rethink of solidarity, humility, and mutual acceptance.

Late May I will come to South Korea to attend Christian Forum in Jeju Island from May 29 to June 3. There will be about 60 Christian leaders from China, Hong Kong, Japan, Taiwan, South Korea, and the U.S. Out of historical and political complexities, church leaders will seek a more peaceable future, sharing their stories and visions and hoping God's reconciliation. As an Asian American, I will look into the depths of pain and conflict among those countries and learn how to build peaceable relationships among those diverse people.

Upon coming back to the U.S., I would like to meditate and rethink what I have learned from the Forum and apply some principles and methods to our local context: How to live together among diverse people? How to build our relationships with people outside the church? How to work together for common good? As I reflect on diversity, I imagine God's exceeding joy on the beauty of creation: "God saw *everything* that he had made, and indeed, it was very good" (Genesis 1:31a). When diverse people become one body of Christ, how much our God would be pleased!

Blessings and love, Jae

FOR URGENT PASTORAL SUPPORT

Our pastor will be out of the country (May 23 – June 10) to attend Christian Forum in Jeju Island (May 29 through June 3), South Korea and visit his family and Kim’s parents. He will be also preaching two Sundays (May 28 and June 4) at two different Korean Methodist churches in Seoul. The Rev. Karen Easter, senior pastor of Dilworth UMC, will take care of our members if church members have urgent pastoral support. Pastor Jae can be also reached through his email (jlee@wnccumc.net) while he is in South Korea.

CONGRATULATIONS, LAY SERVANTS



Calvary UMC is blessed with gifted and faithful lay leaders! In particular, we are blessed with Lay Servants. Becky Pinion and Justin Boyd successfully completed their trainings in April and will serve as Lay Servants in Metro District and Calvary UMC. Please support their ministries with your prayers!

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN CIRCLE MEETING

Circle #2 will meet following the worship service on May 7. Everyone is to bring a salad.

Brenda Alexander, Circle Chair

FLOWER CALENDAR

This year’s flower calendar has been posted in the side entrance of the church. Please sign the chart for the date you wish to place flowers to celebrate and remember your loved one’s birthdays and anniversaries. If you have questions, please feel free to talk to Kathy Combs.

WELCOME NEW MEMBER



Calvary welcomes June H. Kim who joined the church on Easter Sunday. June worked for UMCOR in GBGM, New York as a staff over 17 years and moved to Charlotte last year. She runs American Deli restaurant on South Blvd. She may bring enthusiasm for mission and outreach ministries to our church.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY



Every Wednesday at 11:00am, we meet in our fellowship hall and learn/grow together with the Word of God. Our motto is to “live the Word” in our daily lives. Currently we study *Hebrews* in the New Testament. After study, we have a bag lunch fellowship together. A choir rehearsal follows the lunch. All are invited and welcomed!

NURSERY WELCOMES LITTLE CHILDREN

Our church provides childcare during the Sunday School class and our worship service (10:00am to 12:10pm) at nursery. Taquea Aldamuy and one volunteer from our congregation will take care of your children so that young parents can fully participate in the Bible study and worship service. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Nursery Director, Sharyn Johnson



LOAVES AND FISHES MARCH REPORT

Calvary's Loaves and Fishes Pantry fed 71 people with 1491 meals. Our volunteers worked 96 hours. We open the pantry only on Tuesdays from 10 am to 1 pm. If you want to volunteer at Loaves and Fishes, please contact Ray Smith or Gene Lail.



Stuart Bertland, Betty Matthews, Annette James, Kathleen Shaw, Ruth Pettus, Brenda Markham, Melanie Mason, Delores Foster, Valerie Ware, Doug Hinson, Dina Faquin, Brenda Alexander, Merwin Foard, 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, 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.



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

MANY THANKS



We celebrated the Lord's Easter Day with 102 worshipers together. We give thanks to our adult choir, soloist, children's handbell choir, children's ministry team for Easter Egg Hunts, Holy Communion servers, and all worshipers who joyfully participated in the Easter celebration.



MAY BIRTHDAYS

Mike Earnhardt	2	Mike Keeter	3
Barbara Pressley	6	Skip Johnson	7
Marsha Smith	8	Joanna Lee	11
Lindsay Phillips	12	James Lee	20
Patty Pressley	22	Amy Raulerson	30

CALVARY FAMILY UPDATES

Jeffrey Springs, son of Debbie and Wayne Springs and grandson of Joe Black, is playing baseball in Kinston, NC. He is with the Texas Ranger Orig. He is a left handed pitcher.

MAY SERMON SERIES

As we celebrate the month of Christian family in May, Pastor Jae will be preaching a sermon series, *Easter People: Characters of Christian Community*, to renew our identity as the family of God.

May 7 – Christian Essentials (Deuteronomy 6:1-9)

May 14 – New Ways of Love (Hebrews 12:7-11)

May 21 – Restore! (Luke 15:25-32)

May 28 – Lay Servant, Becky Pinion preaching

UNITED METHODIST MEN'S SUNDAY

Calvary will have a special worship service of UMM Sunday on June 4th. Please come and join the United Methodist men to celebrate their mission and ministries at Calvary. Our monthly Holy Communion will be postponed to June 11th as our pastor comes back from South Korea on June 10.



EASTER CELEBRATION AT CALVARY

