

SPECIAL GIFTS

To United Methodist Student Sunday by Jae & Kim Lee, Ted & Brenda Alexander, and Ray & Marsha Smith.
To Calvary Flower Fund by Ray & Marsha Smith.
To UMC in honor of all the members of Calvary UMC by Gene Oliver.
To Society of St. Andrews by Ted & Brenda Alexander, Henry & Laretta Forrest, and Harding Shinn.
To R & R by Ted & Brenda Alexander, Lonnie Myers, and Jae & Kim Lee.
To CUMC in memory of my niece, Delores Foster by Harding Shinn.
To CUMC in memory of Tom & Mary Hoover, Barbara & Bill Pressley and Tommy Hoover by Pat & Herb Tesh.
To CUMC in memory of JB Spurrier by Marty Mulligan, Al & Suzette Leonard, Harding Shinn, and Rick & Kathy Combs.
To CUMC in memory of JB Spurrier & Kim Lee's father by Ray & Marsha Smith.
To CUMC in honor of Hazel Crump, Gene Lail, Marty Mulligan, and Ray Smith by Joe Black.
To CUMC in memory of our parents & in honor of our children & grandchildren by Rick & Kathy Combs.
To CUMC in memory of Tom & Mary Hoover family by Sally Hoover.
To CUMC in memory of Kim's father by Harding Shinn.

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CALVARY CURRENT

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JANUARY 2019

21st CENTURY MAGI

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem,... (Matthew 2:1)

The year of 2019 begins with an interesting story of three wise men in the Gospel of Matthew 2:1-12. As Matthew's community was consisted of Jewish Christians, it is surprising to include pagans –three wise men – in the story of Jesus' birth. It might emphasize the kingship of Jesus to whom even pagans have brought birth gifts and worshipped.

It may be a creative imagination for us to identify three wise men with today's Christians because we are also followers of the true light, Jesus Christ. If we identify ourselves with three magi, what does it speak to us?

First, leaving our comfort zone is a necessary step. Three wise men not only observed the star but also left their hometown, following it. There are many people who think that Christian lifestyle is meaningful. However, there are not many who move their thoughts into actions. Leaving our familiar life's condition is not easy because it requires us of courage and commitment. Can we leave from bad habits that hinder us from seeking Christ? What are they?

Second, there is no giving up in faith journey. We may imagine that there might be more than three travelers who have followed the star. During the tough journey of following the star, some travelers might have given up and returned their homes. However, three wise men made their journey to Jerusalem and finally to Bethlehem, finding the new born king! Today's Christian journey, we will confront various temptations and challenges, but we will continue our faith journey with the help of God's Spirit.

Yes, we are the 21st century magi who live our faith every day. Our guiding signal is Jesus Christ, the true light! Let us look for him only, become a companion for one another, and give our wholeness to Jesus Christ!

Blessings and love, Jae



JANUARY

Harley Lail	3	Rick Combs	3
Melanie Mills	13	Terry Frye	14
Kathy Combs	16	Kim Lee	16
Ellen Kim	17	Myra Lail	19
Dhe'Ommei Foxx	24	Eun Young Lee	25
Nancy Short	30		



PRAYERS FOR ALL

Calvary members: Henry Forrest, Annette James, Stella Schlagowsky, Shirley Weeks, Brenda Alexander, Kathleen Shaw, Daisy Dunlap, Margaret Bumgardner, Buck Bailes, Alice Jarrell, Betty Pinion, Henry McCannon, Preston Savage, Mason Butler, Faye Smith.

Friends of Calvary: Johnny Major, Donnie Smith, Suzanne Severs, Dean Edwards, Dina Faquin, Mary Stockton, Cheryl Rogers, Elliott and Louise Cramer, Laura Krown, Brian Dobbins, Brenda Markham, Merwin Foard, Paul Brackbill, Brendon Boxler, Dillon Webb, Dale and Dawn Hauser, Mary Anne Koon, Linda Baucom, Millie King, Joyce and Johnny Puckett, Tom and Lib Phillips.

Community and beyond: Those who are suffering from Hurricane Florence and from wildfires in California, and all those who serve for our community and country.

**If there is any change, please let church office know.*

WILMORE NEIGHBORS DINNER



Calvary's Vitality Team hosted Wilmore Neighbors Dinner on Dec. 3, 2018. We deeply appreciate all the volunteers. It was a great time for us to listen to the voices of our local community as well as to build our friendship.



Wednesday Bible Study will be resumed on Jan. 16th at 11am. Choir rehearsal will follow the lunch fellowship after Bible study. We are a learning community, and all are invited!



We are excited to announce that Benjamin Brock is our new Music Director! Ben is a graduate from UNC in Charlotte and is doing his apprenticeship at Cornel Zimmer Organ Builders. He will bring enthusiasm and passion for music ministry at Calvary. We will commission him at the service of Jan. 6th as he begins his new ministry with us. Please join me and welcome Ben!

Mike Pressley, SPRC Chairperson

FRESH EXPRESSION: DINNER CHURCH



"Side by Side" is a fresh expression church group based on Wesleyan small group movement. Calvary UMC confirms that small group setting works best among young and diverse people. We plan to launch "small dinner groups" in this new year. If you want to welcome neighbors and facilitate conversations while eating together, talk to Pastor Jae. Jae will include you in the pilot group of small dinner church.

2019 NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY



Calvary published a new church directory last month. If you need a copy for your family or if there is any change, please let church office know.

ALTAR FLOWERS

2019 Altar Flower Chart is placed on the wall of sanctuary entrance. Please write your name on the Sundays when you want to remember or honor your loved ones. If you have any questions on altar flowers, please contact Kathy Combs.



From the first Sunday of 2019, all children will stay in the sanctuary after children's time. As a safe sanctuary church, all people will worship together and remain in the sanctuary. For special children's activities, children's ministry director will coordinate and take children outside. Please support our safe sanctuary policy and make our church a safe place for all children of God!

2019 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Your 2019 Contribution Envelopes are ready to be used. **This envelope # is your account # for 2019.** All postings are done by the envelope number. Please do not use 2018 envelopes in 2019. Envelope numbers are changed each calendar year. It is very important that you use the envelopes assigned to you. This will help the finance team to ensure the accuracy of the financial source.

Wanda Grant, Financial Secretary

WESTERN NC CONFERENCE MLK CELEBRATION



WNCC MLK Celebration will be held on Jan. 19th, Saturday, at University City UMC from 10am to 2pm. The keynote speaker will be Bill Curry, a motivational and inspirational speaker and former Super Bowl champion. For your registration, please visit www.wnccumc.org/newsdetail/2019-mlk-celebration-12484029.

R & R LUNCH / CHURCH COUNCIL



There will be an R & R (Repair & Replace) Lunch on Jan. 27th following our worship service. The lunch is available at \$5, and your participation is crucial for keeping up with our church facilities. Church Council meeting will follow the lunch. All Church Council members are requested to attend the meeting.

REMOVING CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

Could you help us remove Christmas decorations on Jan. 12th, Saturday at 9am in the sanctuary? Your help will be deeply appreciated!

PREACHING RETREAT

Pastor Jae will attend a preaching retreat from Jan. 28 to 30 at Bethany Center in Lutz, Florida. He began to participate in the Institute of Preaching at Duke Divinity School last fall and will complete it by May. Calvary has also the congregational team who will give him honest feedbacks for his sermon development.

METRO DISTRICT ADDICTION SEMINAR

Hope, Health, Healing, and Wholeness: Core Competencies for Clergy Addressing Addiction Families and Faith Communities

Date: Jan. 17, 2019

Time: 10am to 2pm

Location: University City UMC

A WAY FORWARD IN THE UMC



As United Methodists look to the future, many of us have concerns about the work of the special General Conference in February 23-26, 2019. United Methodists should take this time to have meaningful conversations around the subject of human sexuality in preparation for the time ahead. We need to be guided toward healthy and respectful dialogue as all United Methodists seek the faithful way forward. Pastor Jae will be preaching this special topic in the month of February 2019.

METRO LEAD: LEADING, EQUIPPING, AND DISCIPLING



**Saturday, February 2, 2019 8am – 12pm
At University City UMC**

Metro District will provide an opportunity for lay and clergy to gather for learning and conversation around our sacred calling to lead, equip, and disciple God's people in "bringing the gospel in new ways to a changing world." The keynote speaker is Rev. Scott Osterberg who is the pastor at New Story Church. If you want to participate in this learning opportunity, please talk to Pastor Jae.