

SPECIAL GIFTS

To R & R by Ted & Brenda Alexander.
To CUMC in memory of Hazel Crump by Skipper & Sharyn Johnson.
To CUMC in memory of Tommy Hoover and Joshua Holden Pressley by Herbert & Pat Tesh.
To CUMC Bereavement Fund in memory of Hazel Crump by Gene & Gaynell Lail and Henry & Laretta Forrest.
To CUMC in memory of Hazel Crump & Johnny Puckett by Ted & Brenda Alexander.
To R & R in memory of Hazel Crump & Johnny Puckett by Ray & Marsha Smith.
To R & R in memory of Hazel Crump by June Severs.
To CUMC in memory of Hazel Crump by Earl & Becky Beckham, Becky Pinion, Terry Frye, Betty Walters, Melissa Plyler & Tony Frick.
To CUMC in memory of Andrew Bradley Keeter, Margie Robertson Keeter and Richard Harold Keeter by David Michael Keeter.
To World Hunger in memory of Hazel Crump by Theresa McLendon.
To World Hunger by Harding Shinn.

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CALVARY CURRENT

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Does worship matter in your spiritual journey? Dr. James Howell, Senior Pastor at Myers Park UMC, shares his insight on the importance of sacred space to remind us of the house of God. Calvary desires to have passionate worship service for God's diverse people, and we love our church, a sacred space of God! Enjoy your reading and keep in cool!

Blessings and peace, Jae

WORSHIP MATTERS: SACRED SPACE

The obscure Israelite prophet Habakkuk declared "The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him." The Lord is everywhere, of course. But we have demarcated certain buildings and spaces as sacred. Not that other places aren't sacred. But perhaps if some place is sacred, we can discover the sacred in other places; and if no place is sacred, then no place is sacred.

I love it that the most beautiful buildings anywhere, in any culture, are the religious sanctuaries. Complaints inevitably are filed that money is spent on a church building. But isn't the glory, attention to detail, and lunge for majestic beauty profound ways to display our love for God above all other things we invest in? And isn't the church building a declaration to a cynical world that, at least on this corner, there still is a God?

I love the short little hymn, "Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place." Architecture for churches varies. My second parish out of seminary felt like a small school auditorium. My next church's sanctuary reminded a friend of mine of an International House of Pancakes. It's more what's in the room, who's there, and why they've come. There's usually a visible Bible - so we are people whose beliefs and values aren't random but fixed on a sacred book. There's a baptismal font - reminding us that we are baptized, that we are sealed by God's Spirit.

What we do in this space, even if other non-churchy things go on during the week, is different from anything else. We bow our heads. Where else do people *en masse* close their eyes and keep quiet. We hear somebody else tell us how to live in a world where it's normally up to us to decide. We listen to music, and make music - not for our own enjoyment so much as for God's pleasure.

Care for this building is up to those who enter. I love the Lincoln Memorial but I don't tithe my income for its upkeep. This building is for God. In little churches, the people do the sweeping, repairing, replacement of light bulbs and shrub trimming. It's care and love for God, isn't it? When we donate to keep the building in shape, the lights on, the AC running, it's our love for God, isn't it?

Sure, you can be attentive to God on a golf course or at the beach. But are you really? Are you challenged there? Is there a big Bible there? Are there other people there seeking God while you are? There your money goes to keep up the resort or the fairways, not for God.

We can be sure, any time we show up in the sacred space for worship, God is honored. I don't know about you, but I want to honor God as often as possible. So come this summer to some sacred place at least on the Lord's Day, with the Lord's people, and pray together, sing some songs, bow your heads and be still, and know in this place that there is still a God, that God is still God.

James Howell (james@mpumc.org)



JULY

| | | | |
|----------------|----|--------------------|----|
| Jim Shaw | 2 | Deborah James | 5 |
| Shannon Smith | 10 | Jessica Browning | 13 |
| Gwen Butler | 14 | Stella Schlagowsky | 19 |
| Kane Browning | 21 | Henry Forrest | 29 |
| Preston Savage | 30 | | |

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.



Calvary members: Gaynell Lail, Harding Shinn, June Severs, Ruby Vincent, Henry Forrest, Annette James, Stella Schlagowsky, Donnie Smith, Shirley Weeks, Brenda Alexander, Kathleen Shaw, Daisy Dunlap, Margaret Bumgardner, Buck Bailes, Alice Jarrell, Dale Harton, Betty Pinion, Henry McCannon, Preston Savage, Mason Butler, Faye Smith.

Friends of Calvary: Chuck Comer, Mary Arnold, Ray Crawford, Betty Bradley, Wade Cobb, William Hart, Michael Morgan, Marianne Sabo, Suzanne Severs, Danyel Healy, 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 Puckett, and Tom Phillips.

Community and beyond: Virginia Beach and UNC-Charlotte Communities, Wilmore Neighbors and all those who serve for our community and country. *(Please let church office know for any changes)*

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

SUMMER BREAK FOR WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY



During the months of July and August, we will have a break for Wednesday Bible Study. We will resume the Bible Study in September.

REPAIR & REPLACE (R & R) LUNCH



Calvary will have a quarterly R & R Lunch on July 21st following the worship service. This is a great opportunity to get to know each other at lunch fellowship and support our church to repair and replace our church facilities. The lunch is available at \$5. Please invite your loved ones and support our church with your generosity.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING



Church Council will meet right after R & R Lunch on July 21st. Council members are requested to attend the meeting.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT

Western North Carolina's Annual Conference was held on June 20-23 at Lake Junaluska. Pastor Jae, Brenda Alexander (Calvary's lay delegate), Kim Lee (Metro District at large delegate) attended. This year there was delegate election for General Conference in 2020. Our Pastor Jae will be beginning his 7th year service at Calvary from July 1st. While 23 United Methodist churches were closed last year, there were also new church starts through Fresh Expressions. Calvary's dinner church is a part of Fresh Expressions to reach out to diverse people of God through our Blessed Table.



Calvary will celebrate its 154th Homecoming on Oct. 13th, and our guest preacher is Rev. Bob Boggan, one of our beloved former pastors. Please mark this on your calendar and plan to attend with your family and friends.



Calvary's dinner church, "Blessed Table," had a meaningful success on June 30th with 38 participants. We deeply appreciate our working team for dinner meal, decoration, sound system, praise music, and your hospitality!

Next dinner church will be on July 28th at 5:30pm. Please invite your FRANKS (friends, relatives, associates, neighbors, and kids) to the Blessed Table!



We congratulated on our graduates' achievements and prayed for their continuing journey forward future on June 30th. This year we had two middle school graduates, Maddie and Dhe'Ommei, and one high school graduate, Joanna who will go to UNC-Chapel Hill in the fall.



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN GENERAL MEETING

UMW's General Meeting will be held after the worship service on July 14 with a salad luncheon.

Debbie Eudy, Metro District Mission Coordinator for Membership, Nurture and Outreach; and Calvary's District Nurturing Partner, will join us for our meeting.

As usual, husbands are invited to join us for the luncheon. Remember to bring donations for the Relatives.

Brenda Alexander, President



Calvary UMC is excited to welcome our new members!

Donnie Smith is transferring his membership from St. Andrew's UMC in Charlotte. Donnie is a brother of Ray Smith, and he grew up at Calvary. He resides at Aldersgate Retirement Community. Welcome back home, Donnie!

Julie Trent is transferring her membership from Mill Grove UMC in Indian Trail. Julie recently started a micro-transportation shuttle business with her fiancé, Curtis. Free Cart Ride offers rides in the Historic South End. Julie loves to cook and camp, and her kids are two loving dogs.

PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY

We extend our prayers and sympathy for the family of Hazel Crump who was received into God's eternal home on June 16th. Hazel was a faithful member, and we will miss her. Please keep the family in your prayers and loving thoughts.

SHOES FOR PROJECT AGAPE CHILDREN



Each fall we collect donations for Project Agape. One of the great needs is shoes for the children so that they can attend school. The Outreach Team is asking for donations to purchase new shoes for the children.

It is heartbreaking to hear that children who want to attend school in Armenia can't because they don't have a pair of shoes to wear. These children value an education as it is their only way out of poverty. All God's children should have at least one new pair of shoes in their lifetime. You could make that happen.

Would you give generously to Shoes for Project Agape Children. Donations will be accepted through **September 1** so that members of the Outreach Committee can purchase the shoes. You may make your check payable to the church and on the memo line write, **Project Agape Shoes**.

Nara Melkonyan, Project Agape Country Director, wrote in an email, "I wish I had time to personally thank every one of you who have been so supportive—please know that each and every one of your donations and prayers mean a world to the people served by Project Agape."

The Outreach Team appreciates your donations.

Brenda Alexander, Chair.