

the Messenger

† March 2021



REND YOUR HEARTS: CLAIMING THE PROMISE
Lent Worship Series

Lenten Worship Series *Rend Your Hearts/Claim the Promise*

We continue to move this month through the holy season of Lent. It involves putting some things away so that we can fully claim all that God offers.

March 7	Third Sunday in Lent	Rev. Shannon Sullivan
	Exodus 20:1-17	
	All These Words	
March 14	Fourth Sunday in Lent	Rev. Steve Larsen
	Numbers 21:4-9	
	Look Up and Live	
March 21	Fifty Sunday in Lent	Rev. Steve Larsen
	Jeremiah 31:31-34	
	Written on the Heart	
March 28	Palm/Passion Sunday	Rev. Shannon Sullivan
	Mark 11:1-11 & Mark 14:1-15:47	
	Isaiah 50:4-9	
	The One Who Comes	



Holy Vessels is the theme for this year's Lenten Program. We will examine various ways that Christ offers healing and wholeness. This includes not just healing of the body but also the restoration of the spirit, the emotional life, the community, and even the environment. We will be looking at the Gospel of Matthew and using material provided by Worship Design Studio.

Week 2 Wednesday, March 3

Safe Keeping (Community Health) Matthew 8: 5-13

Week 3 Wednesday, March 10.

Healing our Stories (Mental and emotional health)

Matthew 9:27-33

Week 4 Wednesday, March 17

Different Pictures (Healing in our thought life and ways of thinking)

Matthew 9:18-26

Week 5 Wednesday, March 24

Restoration (environmental health) Matthew 8:18-27

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86927791056?
pwd=cFILUGpZM0gzUVQ5QnJEQVpxSyt4Zz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86927791056?pwd=cFILUGpZM0gzUVQ5QnJEQVpxSyt4Zz09)

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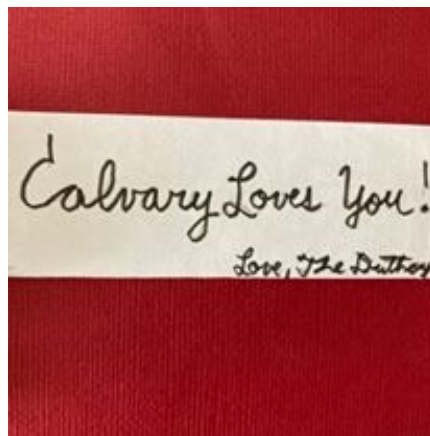
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We will be offering the study on Zoom at 7 pm each Wednesday for 5 weeks. Zoom will allow us to see each other (if you wish) and also have some conversation around the theme and the scripture lessons. We will also be recording each session and making these available on YouTube and Facebook so that people can view the session at a different time or without having to use ZOOM.



Love Bag Success!

Thank you for everyone that participated in our Love Bag Adoption Project! We had **37 families deliver 95 love bags to church members** that may be struggling with loneliness or other challenges. It was a beautiful way to show how much we care for our neighbors. For more pictures, check out our photo album on our Facebook page.





Calvary Church Family,

Thank you for the Valentine wishes and the gifts. Both are appreciated and welcome. God Bless,
Betty Rollins

Please pass on my appreciation of the Love Bag to all of the helpers that put them together. It was a great surprise filled with goodies and other useful treats. Thanks to all for the time involved and being so very thoughtful. **Kern Thornton**

I want to THANK whole-heartedly, for the Love Bag I was given yesterday. I have not been involved with the Church Nursery for quite 'some time but, it is always nice to be remembered.

I may never know who remembered me but, Thank You. **Jennifer Fischer Esler**

Please thank my Calvary Church Family and the Marshalls for the love bag and for all the prayers for my family this past year. **Doris Keeney**

Thank you to who sent me a love bag, I so enjoyed it. **Marietta Anderson**

Thank you so much for the Love bag, I really appreciate being remembered that way, I am enjoying the goodies and have been trying to make them last. **Janie Hahn**

Ronda Dudley

Thank you for thinking of my Dad! I really appreciate it! And delivered by one of my students from Sunday school makes it even more special! Thanks Abigail!

Ron Dudley

Thanks for the goodies. Appreciate your thoughtfulness

Marilyn Moyers

Had a nice visit Saturday from these young ladies who delivered a Love Bag. Thank you very much!

From Pastor Shannon

I love to walk. I have not been able to do much walking with the ice and the snow, especially because I usually take the dog and the baby with me. But we did get one nice day in between snows when the dog was whining in my face and the baby was terrorizing her. I threw my phone down and stopped working and said, "Ok, everyone needs to get out of the house!" We walked around the neighborhood in circles. First one loop --- are we tired yet? Nope. So another and another and eventually the baby was asleep on my back and the dog was slowing down and my head finally felt clear and I felt at peace. Even with the cold, I needed the sun to be shining on my face and my body to be moving so I could focus not on my mounting annoyance at my "housemates" or my mounting anxiety about getting work done, but on God's presence here and now.

Lent is a time when we seek to draw closer to God. We should always be seeking God, of course, but the rhythms and seasons of life show us that sometimes we let that connection get away from us. We need to be called back to try again. Our whole Biblical story as a people of faith is this call and response kind of dance, where God calls us to love and we respond, often missing the point or veering totally away, so God calls us again and again and we try to inch back. Lent is one of the liturgical season's tools to help us inch back to God. To clear our minds and find God's presence walking beside us through all our annoyances and anxieties, as well as our griefs and fears.

Pastor Steve shared his prayer practice for this Lent in his Ash Wednesday sermon. My prayer practice is to walk. Every day we can get outside, I need to feel the sun on my face, get my body moving, and clear my head so I can perceive God walking with me. I hope you join us in a practice that helps you feel closer to God--- for God is beside you, calling you back to God's loving embrace. We need that embrace more than ever these days. So let us journey toward God together.

-Pastor Shannon



Youth Group Mission Trip Update

At the end of January, Pastor Shannon and Jenn Duthoy led the youth in a discussion about our mission trip this year. Mission trips are a sacred time for our youth group where so many of us experience the power of God's love as we serve our neighbors, but last year most organizations canceled trips because of the virus. This year, many mission hosting organizations are stepping up masking and social distancing efforts---but our youth decided it wouldn't be enough. Our youth have such hearts for people who are vulnerable and did not think that traveling distances and being unvaccinated would keep the people they hoped to serve safe in this pandemic. While we hope by the summer that things are looking a little more normal, we know we will still have to be careful. But we still want to serve.

Pastor Shannon is looking to create a mission experience here in Frederick over our mission week where we can serve our community in a more controlled way than we could on a mission trip. If you have suggestions for projects or partner organizations, or if you or someone you know is in need of help working on outdoor house projects, please contact Pastor Shannon at revshannon@calvaryumc.org or 410-937-8835. Please pray for us in the meantime. It is hard to lose a second mission trip opportunity in a row, but we are hopeful that serving at home this year will also help us deepen our commitment to God!

Easter Pageant

We had so much fun with our Traditional Christmas Pageant Version 2.020 that we've decided we're doing an Easter Pageant this year. Watch for details and if you'd like to be involved, contact Pastor Shannon or Christy Mossburg.

Keep your eyes on our weekly e-news for more activities and updates on other fun Easter surprises we have in store.



EASTER PAGEANT



Greetings from Calvary Weekday School

We hope you have survived all the snow. There is something peaceful about watching fresh, fallen snow.

The school continues to remain busy with interest and our kindergarten class is full. Olivia continues to do an amazing job navigating the registration process during these challenging times.

We will continue to work with the Health Department and have been able to get some of our staff vaccinated. The Health Department is doing the best that they can, but unfortunately supply doesn't equal demand. We remain hopeful and will take it one staff member at a time!

This month we are working on updating our family handbook along with creating a supplemental document that helps families understand all the current Covid-19 guidelines and new school policies. This is an on-going process but MSDE has created a tool-kit that has been helpful to create what we will need for our school.

Olivia and I would like to thank Paul Metcalf for always lending a hand with any projects that arise at our school. He is always willing to help and we truly appreciate all the time he puts in at the school.

Hopefully spring is on its way! Stay well-

Patty Lockard, Director

Stewardship

“People who have wealth but lack understanding are like the beasts that perish.”

Psalm 49: 20

Harsh! Who wants to be compared to a beast, an animal of the field or one living in the wild. Lions and wild animals were always associated with strength, but were always feared. Animals of burden and for working the land were considered without intelligence and to be used. Even dogs in biblical times were not the pets of the home as they are today. Dogs were the town scavengers, animals of low value and something used in scorn.

“Wealth” is another matter. In biblical times, wealth was considered an indicator of a person’s righteousness in the law and before God. It was an establishment of social standing and intelligence. A wealthy person knew what they were doing in managing their life. It was also looked at as a blessing from God for their righteousness. They were the ones who were obeying the Law of Moses and should be emulated by the common man. This attitude still exists today as we value wealth in our lives and view those who appear to have it.

From the above verse, we should focus on “understanding”. What does the psalmist mean and what does he want us to understand? Jesus spoke often of wealth – he never condemned the person who had it. When he spoke of wealth, it was always – always in reference to how the rich employed or used their material possessions. A person’s industry and spiritual health are of Jesus’ concern.

Jesus, as the psalmist, was pointing to the wealthy person’s “understanding” of God’s will and how the Christian disciple is to follow God’s calling to live a righteous and holy life. God does not want his adopted children to be ignorant in his ways and particularly our living with others, to treat justly those who are lesser.

Because God is God, in his grace and mercy to us, he has blessed us with the ability to work and improve ourselves materially and spiritually. Those two blessings are not dependent upon the other. However, when both are prominent in your life you have a great ability to respond to God’s opportunities to live a holy life. The link is strengthened by knowing what God calls us to do and to be and in knowing how to respond to that call.

Wealth is one of God’s blessings. It should not be used in a self-centered way. It should be used in God-centered ways; to enhance Him and not your own person. This is something I do, I imagine taking invisible ink, only seen visible to me, and write on my hand: “Give to God”. So that each time I reach out it can be seen. Eventually if you do this it will be written upon your heart.

Announcements

A memorial service is planned for Dottie Mitchell on Saturday, March 6 at 1:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Please wear a mask and practice social distancing.

Need some helping hands

There are two classrooms that need some sprucing up in the Calvary Weekday School/Education Center. We need volunteers to help do some painting. Saturday, March 20. If you are interested in giving a hour or two to help, please let Pastor Steve know at RevSteve@calvaryumc.org or call the church office at 301-662-1464.

Soup Kitchen

Please contact Bob Jacobs if you are interested in volunteering for the Soup Kitchen on Saturday, March 20.

bobjacobs@calvaryumc.org

Wesleyan Circle will meet: Tuesday, March 16 at 1:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

Bryan Louis Chaney Memorial Golf Tournament

In memory of Bryan Chaney for the benefit of **American Sleep Apnea Association** – www.sleepapnea.org

Friday, May 21, 2021 at Glade Valley Golf Course, Walkersville, MD. 9am Shotgun start, 4 person scramble. Golfers & Sponsors wanted. \$300.00 per foursome. Sponsorship opportunities still available or if you are not a golfer, we are accepting donations as well.

FB Event:

[Bryan Louis Chaney Memorial Golf Tournament | Facebook](#)



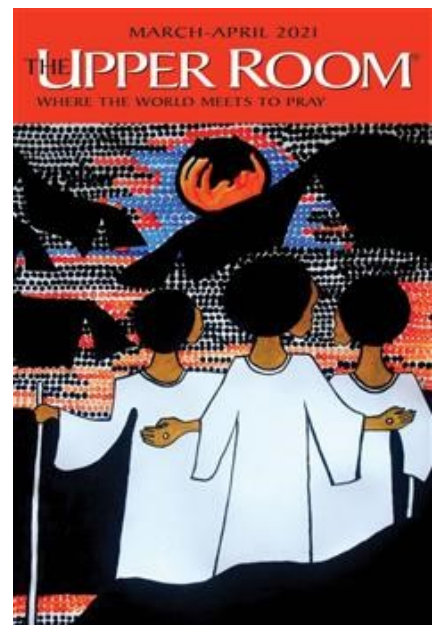
Or, email Sandy & Brett Chaney for more information – bschaney6@comcast.net or phone -301-639-2692

MARCH Anniversaries

Gary and Paula Coffman	March 3
Tom and Linda Mullineaux	March 7
Jeff and Brandy Adam	March 11
Gerald and Sandra Palmer	March 12
Cynthia and Robert Wilson	March 12
Ronald and Melissa Shipley	March 22
Shane Wickline and Monica Campolongo	March 24
Bill and Beth Waskey	March 25
Edward and Angela Milum	March 30

March/ April 2021

Upper Room are available for pick up or mail.
Please contact the church office for your latest copy.



- 1, Rev. Ken Humbert, Mason Leber Grant Weedon
- 2, Rebecca Hall, Finley Melhorn
- 3, Georgina Engler, Blake Rust, Taylor Selby, Susan Witmer
- 4, Rebecca Acklin, Taylor MacDonald, Franklin McKnight
- 5, Jeff Rosen
- 6, Emily Harris
- 7, Casper Cline, Doug Manger, Shannon Rust
- 8, Louis Finneyfrock, Linda Warehime
- 9, Anna Bidinger, Tom Burall, Mari Beth Schmersahl
- 10, Ethan Mueller, Emily Sewell, Franklin Tang
- 12, Betty Brewer, Rev. Ray Moreland, Amelia Mueller, Gregory Pfister, Patrick Stalnaker, Angela Milum
- 14, Amy Kulesa
- 15, Matthew Cline, Steve Loss
- 16, Reed Keirn, Nancy Manthey, Lauren Reilly, Abigail Waskey
- 17, Raymond Crum
- 18, Zachary Heller
- 19, Seth Kraham, Brady Pond, Amanda Stokes
- 20, Aiden Rankin, Lu Stewart
- 22, Samuel Kahan, David (Randy) Paugh, Jeffry Ramsburg, Stephanie Schmersahi
- 23, Carroll Doggett (98), Thomas Kellam
- 24, Catharine Chapman, Patrick Chapman, Constance Mason, Bradley Stone
- 25, Marjorie Johnson, Bobbie Parsons, Donald Shipley
- 26, Gail Colby, Cassie Kraham, Paul Muehl
- 27, Judy Finneyfrock, Jennifer Kinsey
- 28, Sarah McGarity
- 29, Linda English, Paige Willard
- 31, Molly Anderson, Lorraine Davis, Aubrey Greaves, Sharon Green, William Harris, Carrie Pure



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*Calvary United Methodist Church seeks and invites all to become disciples of Jesus
Christ for the transformation of our community and our world.*

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