

the Messenger

† March 2022

Lenten Study, 2022

Wednesday evenings

March 9, 16, 23, 30, April 6 and April 13. 7 – 8 pm.

Calvary United Methodist Church

This year we are planning to reintroduce an in-person study during the Lenten season. We will not be providing a meal, but we will have a chance for people to learn and have conversations together each Wednesday designed to help us grow in our understanding and practice of our Christian faith.

Our Lenten Study this year will be based on *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis a classic work in Christian literature. It is a sly and ironic portrayal of human life from the vantage point of Screwtape, a highly placed assistant to "Our Father Below." C.S. Lewis gives us the advice and instructions of senior tempter/devil to his nephew Wormwood, a novice devil who is still learning how to corrupt and lead persons astray. Filled with sharp insights into temptation, repentance, and grace, this wonderful tale explores what it means to live a good, honest life.

Dr. Jerry Root is a retired professor of evangelism at Wheaton College and an expert in the study of C.S. Lewis and his writings. He offered a series of lectures at the C.S. Lewis Institute which give an overview of the work and a way to understand its meaning for readers. Join us each Wednesday evening we will meet to watch the lecture and have some time for conversation about it.

There are many different editions of *The Screwtape Letters* available in print at Curious Iguana in Frederick, Barnes and Noble, Amazon.com, Cokesbury.com and other booksellers. We will have some copies available for purchase at the church as well. It's not required that you read the book or make all the sessions to participate, but many will want to do so.

-Pastor Steve

March Worship

This month we begin the holy season of Lent, a time of penitence and preparation leading up to Holy Week and Easter. We begin with ashes and the reminder of our mortality. We will move through the Sundays of Lent looking at “Moments in the Messiah’s Life” as found in the Gospel of Luke

Mar. 02 Ash Wednesday

Service in the chapel at noon and at 7 pm.

The imposition of ashes

Matthew 6:1-6 and 16-21 and Psalm 51:1-17

The Love of God



March 6 First Sunday of Lent ; Holy Communion

Luke 4:1-13.

Jesus In the Wilderness

March 13 Second Sunday of Lent

Luke 13:31-35

Jesus Sets His Eye on Jerusalem

March 20 Third Sunday of Lent

Luke 9:18-27

What Kind of Messiah is this?

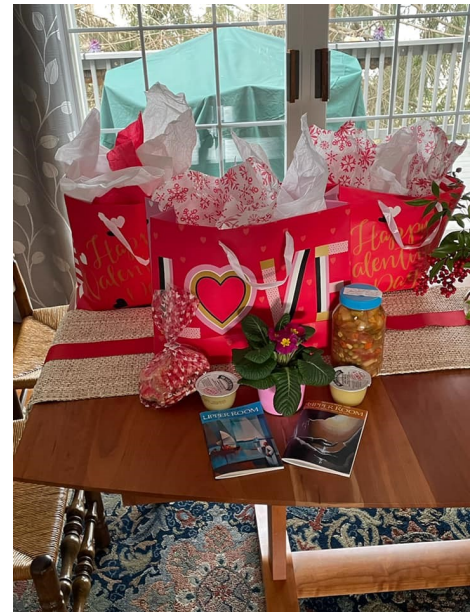
March 27 Forth Sunday of Lent

Luke 10:1-11 and 16-20



Calvary members have adopted and delivered Love Bags to 93 church members on Valentine's Day.

Thank you for caring for your neighbors so beautifully!



Children's Church will resume in the Chapel beginning 2/27. Children in K - 3rd grade are invited to join the Children's Church leaders in the chapel after the Time with Children portion of the worship service. For any questions, or to find out how you can help, contact [Christy Mossburg](#) or [Amy Stone](#)

The Sunday School classes will start collecting for *Sleep in Heavenly Peace*, on March 6 and continue through Easter Sunday.

<https://www.shpbeds.org/chapter/md-frederick-co.>



VBS 2022 is coming!! We're still firming up details, but we will be hosting an in-person VBS this summer. Mark your calendar for the last week of June. The format will be a little bit different, but it will have your favorite VBS elements that you all know and love!

Stewardship

Genesis 33:11 "...for God has been gracious to me and I have all I need." How many of us can speak from our heart as Jacob did to his estranged brother, Esau? Jacob left some 20 years earlier with only the blessing of his father, Isaac. During his self-exile, Jacob worked for his uncle Laban, married two of Laban's daughters, had children and grew in material wealth. Jacob counted these as blessings from God. While these blessings were many, Jacob never lost the understanding that it was God who did all this for him. So it was easy for Jacob to acknowledge to Esau that God had given him all that he needed and a third of what he had was his gift to Esau. It may have been a way to assuage any anger that Esau held from the actions of Jacob 20 years earlier.

This gift of material goods could be considered, in a way, a thank offering to God for all God had blessed him with, but given to Esau to make peace. Jacob's thank offering was to atone for the ill that he gave to Esau, usurping Esau's birth right and gaining Isaac's final blessing to his first born (Esau) to Jacob (second born).

"I have all I need" is a recognition of God's blessings to us. Few of today's Christians live that way. We keep working in this world to amass as much wealth as we can – how much is enough? When we cling to this world's values and try to live to its standards, we are living to ourselves and not living for God and relying upon his care.

God blesses us with what we need. He promised to do it, as proves his word is true when he met to the Israelites needs in the wilderness with manna, quail and water from stone. But we do not live today as if what God has given us is the thing that meets our need. We live as if we have decided that we need more than what we have. We live like there is never enough.

This does not mean that we are to discard the idea of working hard to strive to attain a better standard of living. Hard work allows us to not rely solely on the grace and generosity of others. We are not to depend on others but to rely upon God to provide the means by which we better ourselves.

God never intended us to be idlers and dependent upon our neighbor. We need to reverse the weak path for a greater Christian way of working to meet our needs, with a little more than "enough" to meet the needs of other less fortunate neighbors. God's blessing to us are to be our blessing to others. When do we have enough?

Our Altar Call to the Cross ...

In the first chapter of the Gospel of Mark, first by John the Baptist and subsequently by Jesus, we are admonished to repent and give up old ways, for the Kingdom of God is at hand. Sounds easy enough, we might think; but how challenging that calling is if we understand what God is really calling us to do. Such repentance and challenge to change our lives is our calling during the season of Lent, a period of serious reflection on our life's journey in relation to God and our neighbor, a journey that takes us from Jesus' human temptations in the desert to his sacrificial death on a cross for us and our salvation. It is a journey during which we are invited, time and again, to become disciples of Christ. In the parlance of church practices, it is in a sense a time for altar call before God, a period of reflection, repentance, and commitment!

It was about 60 years ago this spring, while stationed with the Navy in San Diego, that I experienced my first public altar call. I was with a group of Methodist men from the church in which my late wife Martha and I were active at the time, attending a spiritual revival in the city's professional football stadium. We and the tens of thousands of others had gone to hear the preaching of an increasingly popular young evangelist by the name of Billy Graham. At the end of his message, as he did in each of his evangelistic missions, he held an altar call ... to which many thousands responded by publicly going forth to commit their lives to Christ Jesus.

For some reason I did not go forth with others that day. I had been baptized, confirmed and raised in a rather conservative culture of the Episcopal church, had been a regular attendee of chapel services throughout my college years (when such was not mandatory), and, though I had become inactive in the life of a church for a few years thereafter, I had married a woman who was a director of Christian education in the Methodist Church, within which we both were subsequently quite active. With this as background, I guess I assumed that because I was already a faithful church member I did not need to go forward that day. I now believe that I was wrong in that assumption, one that was challenged many times over the years whenever I would listen to the Rev. Billy Graham preach on television. He always made a point to emphasize that simply being a church member did not necessarily mean that one had committed his or her life to Christ.

Continued on page 6



ATTENTION: All Downsizers, Declutters, and Relocates!

The UMW Indoor Yard Sale is Back!

Saturday, June 11, 7:00 a.m.– 1:00 p.m.

Donations may be deposited on the stage beginning May 1.
No Computers, TV's, or large exercise equipment please!

If it's dirty or broken, please throw it out yourself.

Any helping hands will be gratefully accepted from June 6th
through the day of sale (June 11).

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Our call to become disciples of Jesus, of course, is far more than an altar call. But that is a beginning! What follows is of even greater importance as we acknowledge with the prayerful hope that we practice in our lives what we profess with our lips. In so doing, our walk with Jesus more than likely will be by little steps at a time, learning from His teaching and observing his acts of mercy and justice, then practicing what we have learned and observed with others in small groups of disciples, much as the earliest disciples did themselves. Most of them were likely a bit like most of us, lovingly attentive to Jesus, observant of his many miraculous acts, and even trying to learn about God's Kingdom from his teaching. But as Peter discovered about himself in the courtyard of Jesus' trial, most of us are likely not prepared to totally commit our lives to Jesus' discipleship ... even though professing to do so.

Through His love and grace, however, God did not give up on Peter or the other earliest followers of Jesus who denied or abandoned him during his hours of trial; nor does God give up on us. Rather, He continues to call us to commitment in discipleship with Jesus today. During Holy Week this year, let each of us prayerfully reflect upon what Jesus is calling us to do when he states: *"If anyone wants to come with me, he must forget himself, carry his cross, and follow me. For whoever wants to save his own life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it."* (Mark 8: 34-35) What will our response be to this altar call to the cross?

Paul D. Nelson, Church & Society Ministries

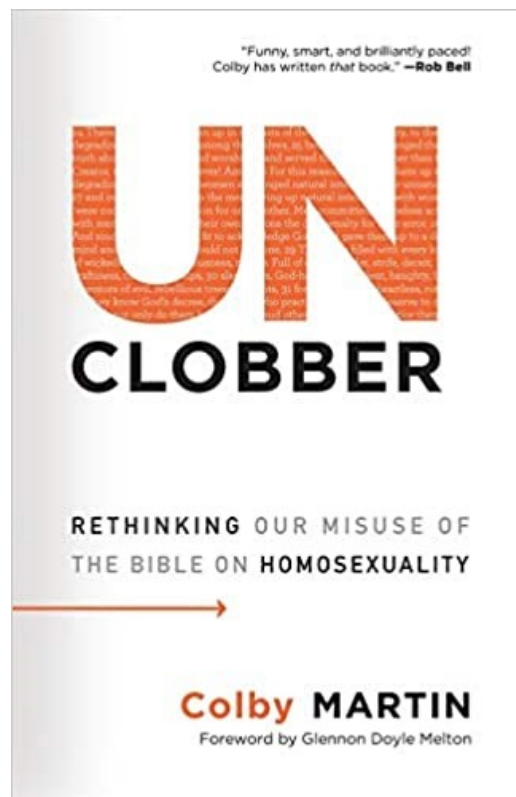
Unclobber –

a Book Study on Rethinking what the Bible says about Homosexuality

- If you feel the church has been wrong to demonize and reject the LGBTQ community, but you're still pretty confident the Bible condemns homosexuality
- If you feel drawn to a more inclusive Christian faith but are held back by what you've been taught about the Bible.
- If you have close friends or family members who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender or queer and you love them with your whole heart, but your view of the Bible prevents you from fully celebrating them
- If you're an already affirming Christian but are still struggling to articulate what you believe about the clobber passages
- If you are LGBT or Q and you grew up in a Christian home or are drawn toward faith in Christ, but you have been told and maybe believe that God sees you as less-than, or despises you, or expects you to remain celibate or try and become straight

THEN Unclobber is for you

We hope you'll join us in a 5 week study of Colby Martin's book Unclobber, beginning Tuesday April 26 at 6:30 p.m. Led by Rev. Vicky Starnes and Paul Nelson.





Greetings from Calvary Weekday School!

Happy Saint Patrick's Day! The last couple of months have been tricky but we are feeling lucky to only have endured minimal closures at the school. Our families and staff continue to monitor and communicate any health concerns. It certainly takes a village!

Last month we were contacted by Frederick Memorial Hospital to create posters in support of the frontline workers. The entire school participated. The students made cards and posters. The kindergarten class even got dressed up as superheroes to show their support. It was a wonderful learning experience and it was a nice way to give back to the community.

We only have a few open spots in kindergarten and the 3 year old program for the 2022-2023 school year so if you know any interested families please have them contact Olivia at calvaryweekdayschool@calvaryweekdayschool.com or call 301-662-6783 for a tour.

Hopefully spring is on its way!

Patty Lockard, Director



March 6, 2022- Meraki

Meraki, a clarinet and piano duo, is dedicated to promoting diversity and bringing cultural awareness through music by presenting programs heavily rooted in the folk styles of the composers' native countries. They are a 2018 awardee of Chamber Music America's Classical Commissioning Program for their collaboration with Chickasaw composer Jerod Tate. The ensemble will feature Jerod Tate's "Heloha Okchamali," Anthony R. Green's "Be Still My Child," and Jaime Wind Whitmarsh's "No Progress Without Loss, Every New Beginning" for their Calvary Concert program.

March Anniversaries

Gary and Paula Coffman	March 3
Jeff and Brandy Adam	March 11
Gerald and Sandra Palmer	March 12
Cindy and Robert Wilson	March 12
Shane Wickline & Monica Campolongo	March 24
Bill and Beth Waskey	March 25
Edward and Angela Milum	March 30



March Musings Director of Discipleship

Are you ready for spring? I think I am. I like the change of seasons. But we had cold, and snow. I love seeing the bulbs come up and the trees budding. I love cherry blossoms. This year with Easter falling towards the end of April. I am hoping for a beautiful spring. I see a trip to Longwood Gardens in my future.

I wanted to bring your attention to a few things coming up to put on your calendar.

March 2 is **Ash Wednesday** Noon and 7:00 pm

March 4 **World Day of Prayer** in Chapel 2:00 pm

March 6 11:00 am in Wesley Room **New Member information Session**. Are you new to Calvary? Please grab a donut and coffee and join us.

March 9 Pastor Steve leading Bible study **Screwtape Letters**

March 13 **Day Light Savings Time** Begins Spring Forward

April 16 **Easter Egg Hunt** 1:00



March Birthdays



- 1, Rev. Ken Humbert, Mason Leber
- 2, Rebecca Hall, Finley Melhorn
- 3, Georgian Engler, Blake Rust, Taylor Selby
- 4, Rebecca Acklin, Taylor MacDonald, Franklin McKnight
- 5, Jeff Rosen, 6, Emily Harris
- 7, Casper Cline, Doug Manger, Shannon Rust
- 8, Lou Finneyfrock, Linda Warehime
- 9, Anna Bidinger, Tom Burall, Mari Beth Schmersahl
- 10, Ethan Mueller, Emily Sewell, Franklin Tang
- 12, Betty Brewer, Angela Meadows-Milum, Dr. Ray Moreland, Amelia Mueller
Greg Pfister, Patrick Stalnaker
- 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
- 22, Samuel Kahan, Randy Paugh, Jeff Ramsburg, Stephanie Schmersahl
- 23, Carroll Doggett, Thomas Kellam
- 24, Catherine and Patrick Chapman, Constance Mason, Bradley Stone
- 25, Marjorie Johnson, Bobbie Parsons, Donald Shipley
- 26, 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



March 2022 Calendar

March 1

10:00 a.m.

Pastor's Bible Study

1:30 p.m. UMW Ex.

7:00 p.m. Choir

March 2 Ash Wednesday

12:00 p.m. Worship Service

7:00 p.m. Worship Service

March 3

6:00 p.m. AGAPE

March 4

2:00 p.m.

World Day of Prayer

March 6

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship

3:00 p.m. Meraki Concert

5:30 p.m. Youth Group

March 7

7:00 p.m. SPRC

March 8

10:00 a.m.

Pastor's Bible Study

7:00 p.m. Choir

March 9

7:00 p.m. Lenten Study

March 10

6:00 p.m. AGAPE

March 13

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship

5:30 p.m. Youth Group

March 14

7:00 p.m. Trustee's

March 15

10:00 a.m.

Pastor's Bible Study

1:30 p.m.

Wesleyan Circle

7:00 p.m. Choir

March 16

7:00 p.m. Lenten Study

March 17

6:00 p.m. AGAPE

March 20

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship

5:30 p.m. Youth Group

March 21

7:00 p.m. Finance

March 22

10:00 a.m.

Pastor's Bible Study

7:00 p.m. Choir

March 23

2:00 p.m. Miriam's Circle

6:30 p.m.

Men's Bible Study

March 24

6:00 p.m. AGAPE

March 27

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship

5:30 p.m. Youth Group

March 28

7:00 p.m. Church Council

March 29

10:00 a.m.

Pastor's Bible Study

7:00 p.m. Choir

March 30

7:00 p.m. Lenten Study

March 31

6:00 p.m. AGAPE

Calvary United Methodist Church
131 W. Second Street
Frederick, MD 21701
301-662-1464

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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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Wesleyans
Circle Meeting
March 15
1:30 p.m.