

From the Pastor

Francis Collins is a scientist and physician who was the head of the Human Genome Project and served as the director of NIH, the National Institutes of Health, from 2009 to 2021. He is an evangelical Christian and has written about the intersection of science and religion in *The Language of God, A Scientist Presents Evidence for Belief*. He has a new book out called *The Road to Wisdom: On Truth, Science, Faith, and Trust* which I plan to read soon.

I heard Collins recently in a podcast interview. He had some helpful advice about how to weigh the truth and value of what we come across in social media and news outlets. Not everything that is out there is true or helpful! Collin offered some principles to follow when we are presented with claims and information. First, we should consider where the claim comes from. Who is making this claim? And if it is a claim is particularly upsetting or makes you fear angry or fearful, then you should be skeptical. Don't just accept it on face value. Someone who is making that claim or passing on that bit of information may be trying to manipulate you. They may have an agenda at odds with your well-being or the well-being of the community.

Collins says it is appropriate to ask a few questions: "Is this a source that has a history of integrity? Whether it's a person or an institution, what's the track record here? What's their level of competence? Is this actually an expert who's done the work to dig deeply into an issue? What's their level of humility? Are they giving you the whole story or just getting your worried and upset? All these things ought to factor in to how you evaluate the truth of what you are hearing. But that takes time.

United Methodists have often used four questions to help discern what is true and helpful. We start by considering what Scripture has to say. Then we go on to consider any claim in light of Experience, Tradition and Reason. That is a helpful place to start. When we take in news and stories and various claims, we may not be able to weigh and evaluate all that we hear and see. But, we can give more weight to trusted sources, be open to hearing alternative points of view, and recognize that our own views may need to be revised in light of new information. I find that to be a helpful guide to use when we are presented with an endless stream of news and information.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Steve

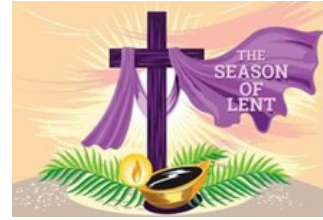


Worship in April

April 6 THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Righteousness & Mercy

Luke 19:1-10 (Zacchaeus greets Jesus)



April 13 PALM / PASSION SUNDAY

Shouting & Silence

Luke 19:29-40 (Jesus enters Jerusalem)

April 17 MAUNDY (Holy) THURSDAY, 7 PM

Power & Humility

Luke 22:1-27 (Last Supper)

April 18 GOOD FRIDAY

Noon and 7 pm

Acceptance & Resistance

Luke 23:32-49 (Jesus dies alongside a penitent thief)

April 20 EASTER Sunday

9:00 and 11:00 AM Worship Services

Grief & Hope

Luke 24:1-12 (The women grieve and Peter runs to the tomb)

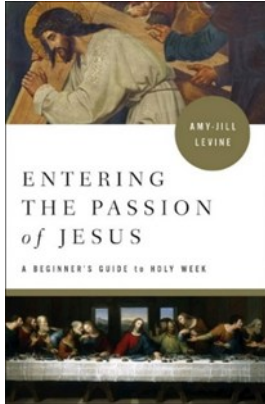
April 27 Creation Care Sunday

Psalm 148

Matthew 6:26

The Every Member in Ministry survey—a simple but powerful way for each of us to discern how we can serve within our church community. Just as Jesus humbled Himself to serve others, we are called to use our time and talents to uplift those around us. Whether it's through hospitality, missions, teaching, or outreach, there is a place for everyone to give back.

You will find the survey (and Ministry Guide) in the pews, Narthex, and Welcome Center. Please return your surveys at your earliest convenience.

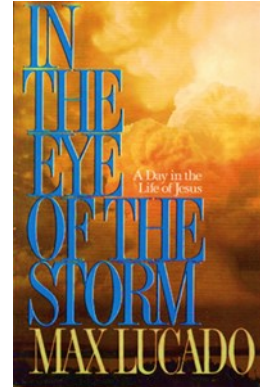


119 BOOKS. That's how many titles you can read in our mobile library. Check out the new titles for APRIL.

THE PASSION OF CHRIST

Entering the Passion of Jesus-
By Amy-Jill Levine

The Eye of the Storm-
By Max Lucado



Pictures by John Mitchell



SAVE the DATE! Saturday, May 31 at 2 p.m. – Pastor Steve's Retirement tribute and reception.

The reception committee for Pastor Steve's Retirement Celebration is asking for "covered dishes" to "complement" what we are providing. Look for a sign-up sheet at the information desk starting Sun., March 30. Your dish will need to be plated and ready to serve. If you would rather write a check to help cover expenses, put it in the collection plate, and put retirement celebration on the memo line.

Kareem Abdelmoneim
Tenor
John A. Widmann
Organist and Choirmaster, St. Francis Episcopal Church, Potomac, Maryland, USA
Calvary United Methodist Church
Frederick, MD 2 April, 2025
5:30 pm

A Lenten Recital

Organ: Toccata in d-dorian BWV 538 – Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Panis Angelicus - César Franck (1822-1890)

Translation from Latin:

The angel's bread becomes the bread of men

The heavenly bread ends all symbols

Oh, miraculous thing! The body of the Lord will nourish

The poor, poor, and humble servant

The Vagabond – Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Widmung (Dedication), op. 25, no. 1 – Robert Schumann (1810-1856)

Wayfaring Stranger – arr. John Jacob Niles (1892-1980)

Hymn # 189: Fairest Lord Jesus

This hymn is appropriate for this coming Sunday's Gospel reading, John 12:1-8.

Please join in for verses 2-4 after Kareem sings verse one.

The Lord's Prayer – Albert Hay Malotte (1895-1964)

Kareem Ali Abdelmoneim is a professional Tenor that studied at James Madison University from 2018-2022. With a concentration in Vocal Music Education, Kareem has experienced the joy of singing and sharing moments of song with many individuals. He has had extensive experience performing with a range of different vocal conglomerates such as choirs, a cappella groups, community theaters, and orchestras. He is professionally recorded on streaming services for multiple songs and continues expanding his craft to this day. Kareem has currently also founded a DMV based a cappella group called "Quadrality" and can't wait to begin performances in the near future! He currently lives in Greenbelt, Maryland with his two cats.

John Widmann is the City Carillonneur for the City of Frederick, Maryland, where he plays recitals every Sunday at 12:30, year round, on the Joseph Dill Baker Carillon in Baker Park. He has now held that position for thirty-three years. Mr. Widmann graduated with a degree in Organ and Voice from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, and completed his Master of Music degree from Towson University in 2011. In 2021-2022, Mr. Widmann studied for his diploma at the Royal Carillon School "Jef Denyn" in Mechelen, Belgium. In addition to his Sunday recitals, he retired four years ago from Frederick County Public Schools where he was a General/Vocal Music teacher. He is also the Organist and Choirmaster at St. Francis Episcopal Church in Potomac, Maryland. Mr. Widmann is a past Dean of both the Potomac and Central Maryland Chapters of the American Guild of Organists. He maintains an active concert schedule, and has played frequently in the US, along with recitals in Belgium, France, Germany, Switzerland, Spain, Portugal, the Netherlands, England, Canada, and the Netherlands Antilles. He lives in Frederick with his wife and sometimes their two grown children.



Greetings from Calvary Weekday School!

Spring is finally here!

We had a visit from Soccer Shots last month. Soccer Shots is a children's soccer program that focuses on character development as well as teaching soccer skills. It is a wonderful program and many families go on to participate after the demonstration.

We also held our spring conferences in March. I can't believe how quickly the school year is going. Having a senior in high school myself, I am holding on to each and every day!

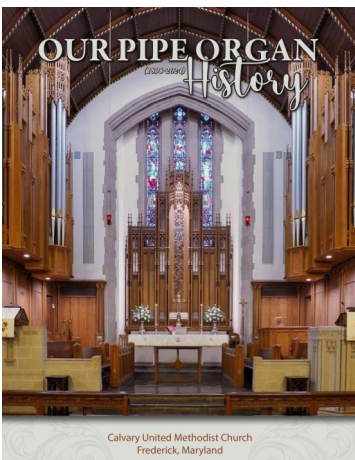
This month the Kindergarten class is headed to Rocky Point Creamery to learn how ice cream is made. At the end of the trip, the students get to enjoy a free ice cream. Yum!

Starting April 7th, through the end of the school year, our school will be collecting hygiene items such as regular and ethnic shampoo and conditioner, and body wash for the Homeless Shelter. If you wish to participate, bins are located near the elevator door for your items.

Our staff will be renewing CPR & First Aid on April 9 @1:00. If anyone is interested in participating in this training, please contact me at: director@calvaryweekdayschool.com.

Looking forward to some sunny days-

Patty Lockard



It's here! Our Pipe Organ History book preserves the stories of Calvary UMC's pipe organs since 1895. It also includes an extensive color pictorial of our new Zimmer organ. A sample copy will be available at the Welcome Desk in the Parish Hall. If you would like to purchase a copy, contact Cathy in the church office. The cost is \$15.



Children's Ministry News

Children's Sunday School is for children in **Preschool – 5th Grade**. We meet every Sunday at 9:00 am in the Activities Room of the Education Building for Bible Learning, songs, games, crafts and more! Visitors are always welcome!



Children's Church News



A new format to **Children's Church** has recently started and the kids are super excited about it! 😊

We are structuring our time together to follow the format of traditional worship. We will focus on learning the **Lord's Prayer** and the **Doxology**, as well as reading scripture and collecting offering. Each week, there is also time for a short lesson/sermon related to the scriptures in worship that week. Seeing the excitement in the kids as they pick their role for the weekly service is proof that God is working within them.

Children's Church has acolytes, ushers, lay readers, music leaders, and even Pastors, in the making. The children are truly a Blessing to our church family and I am honored to work with them.
~Beth Stitely

Children's Church takes place in the Chapel during our 10:00 Worship Service, immediately following the Time With the Children.

Children's Sunday School Lenten Mission Project

From March 9 – April 20, The Children's Sunday School Classes will be collecting the items below to benefit the Emergency Shelter at Heartly House in Frederick. Please look for the donation box in the Activities Room of the Education Building.



ITEMS NEEDED

For Our Emergency Shelter

PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

- Deodorant
- Body wash
- Lotion
- Toothpaste
- Shampoo and Conditioner
- Natural hair products
- Children's and baby shampoo
- Bottled hand soaps

HOUSEHOLD ESSENTIALS

- Laundry detergent pods
- Paper towels
- Toilet paper
- Clorox wipes
- Trash bags
- Dish soap





Please join us for our **Family Easter Celebration!**

Where: Parish Hall and Memorial Park

When: Saturday, April 19

2:00 – 3:30 pm!

Games! Crafts! Snacks! Easter Egg Hunt! A Visit from Ms. Bunny!

Please sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0949ACAD2FABFBC61-48405082-calvarys>

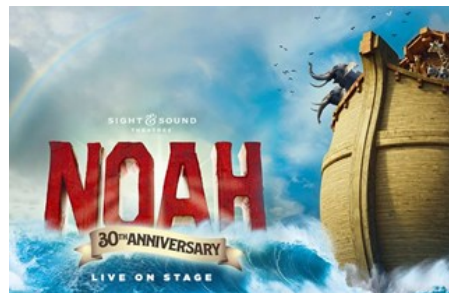
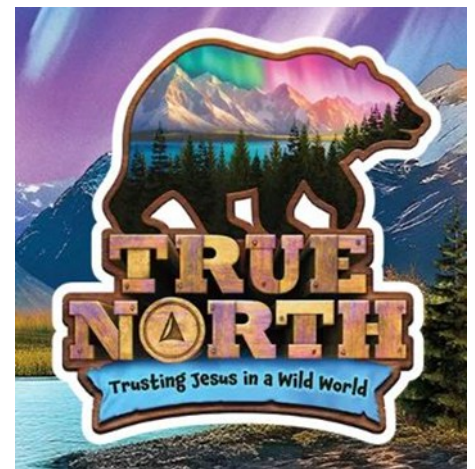
Donations of Easter candies and small toys and stickers for our Easter Egg Hunt will be collected from March 9 through April 12! Look for a collection box in Parish Hall. Thank you!

Mark your calendars for this summer's!

TRUE NORTH VBS! June 23 –June 26, 2025

Online registration begins April 1 at calvaryumc.org.

If you are available to **volunteer** for this fun and amazing ministry, please contact AmyStone@calvaryumc.org.



We are taking a church trip to see the live onstage performance of

NOAH at *Sight and Sound Theater* in Lancaster PA!

August 9, 2025 at 11:00 am (Leaving Frederick at 7:45 am)

A block of tickets has already been reserved. Please contact AmyStone@calvaryumc.org if your family would like to join us!

Tickets: Adults \$89, Children 12 and under \$39

Payment will be due at a later date.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s_aBh_fCKwY

The cost of discipleship

As this newsletter is circulated during our Lenten spiritual journey with Jesus, it is the 80th anniversary of Pastor Dietrich Bonhoeffer's death by hanging as a Christian martyr standing up for God's love against the tyranny of the Nazi regime. In this and his ministry, he enacted the call of Jesus for those who wish to be his disciples to take up their cross and follow him (Mt 16:24-25).

In his classic book on discipleship, by the title of this article, Bonhoeffer reminds us, as Jesus did his followers, that to take up our cross is not merely to endure the normal challenges of this life. Rather, it is an intentional act to sacrifice our life, even suffering persecution from others, through our adherence to Jesus in pursuit of God's Kingdom here on earth. In his Sermon on the Mount, Jesus had said: "Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (Mt 5:10).

It was just 60 years ago at this time of year also that the late Congressman John L. Lewis as a young man and other Christian followers of The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. were assaulted by authorities of the state as they marched and prayed for the civil rights of Black Americans in Alabama. In their non-violent protests of injustice, they had taken up their cross to follow Jesus.

In his foreword *Memoire to Bonhoeffer's The Cost of Discipleship*, jurist Gerhard Leibholz makes the following point: "What Dietrich Bonhoeffer and others did cannot be expected of the many. The future in modern society depends much more on the quiet heroism of the very few who are inspired by God ...who will be prepared to stand for the dignity of man and true freedom, and to keep the law of God ..."

In the baptism of our children into the Christian faith, we vowed to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves. I pray this Lenten season that we at Calvary may be among those few who will take up our cross and follow Jesus in pursuit of justice in this world according to God's law as taught and modeled by Jesus in his journey to the Roman cross.

Paul D. Nelson, Church & Society Ministry

Calvary's Heartly House Pajama Drive a Huge Success

Thank you to everyone at Calvary who donated pajamas for Heartly House. Initiated by the United Women in Faith Executive Committee, our two-month pajama drive finished this week. We donated over 130 pajamas for women, youth, toddlers and babies. A special addition was several handmade baby quilts donated by Laura Hunter and Cathleen Gough. Susan Baggette also donated a large number of brand-new hair scrunchies for young girls.

Laura Hunter and Karen Gebhart made the final delivery and received a grateful thank you from the staff. The mission of Heartly House is to end domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, and child abuse and to provide victims with safety, shelter, and supportive services. Many arrive with nothing in hand seeking safe shelter, so brand new pajamas will be a welcome gift to those in great need of personal care.

For more information about Heartly House go to www.Heartlyhouse.org



heartlyhouse • Follow
Frederick County, Maryland

heartlyhouse 🌟 A huge THANK YOU to our friends at Calvary United Methodist Church for kicking off our Emergency Shelter Needs Drive with such incredible support!

Your generosity helps provide essential items and comfort to those in our community who need it most.

Together, we are making a difference—one act of kindness at a time.

👉 You can join us in this mission! Our Emergency Shelter Needs Drive is happening this February, and every contribution makes a meaningful impact.

Drop your donations off at 324 W. Patrick Street on Fridays in February between 11:00 am – 1:00 pm.

Let's show our community what compassion looks like in action!

1w

lakelinganorepsychiatry Awesome!! 🌟
1w 1 like Reply
View replies (1)

healingresourcesfredmd ❤️❤️❤️
1w 1 like Reply ...
View replies (1)

cindywarfield_777 Looking good, Lindsey.
1w 1 like Reply
View replies (1)

71 likes
February 17

Add a comment...



April Birthdays

- April 1, Owen Duthoy, Patricia Reynolds, Abigail Shankle
- 2, Rachael Bostian, Nancy Dobbs, Henry Maubert
- 3, Teri Kreitzer, Jeremy Leftwich
- 5, Aaron Burall, Scott Pearce
- 6, Becky Bostian, Jeff Dragan, Eryn Keyser
- 7, Adam Heller, Patty Keyser, Melissa Rust, Logan Sparks
- 8, Leo Daugherty, Melissa Gaeta
- 9, Rev. Steve Larsen, Marilyn Marshall, Patricia Sterling, Nancy Strine
- 10, Fran Haller, Nancy Huffman, Leslie Hutzell
- 11, Emma Cerrito, Amy McGreevy, Douglas McKinnon, Magda Morales, Norie Shipley (90)
- 13, Kaleb Bordner, Lori Leber, Martha Long
- 14, Becky Isaacs, Katherine Ruth Marshall
- 15, Mandy Mossburg
- 17, Nathan Benson, Gina Calcagni, Rachel Jones, Charlotte Pasquerette, James Shoemaker
- 18, Stephanie Whitmarsh
- 19, Angela Metz
- 21, Ruth Ann Burgener, Juanita Pard
- 22, Jacob Mayer, Benjamin Moked, Cristian Rojas, Judy Shickel
- 23, Shannon Kraham
- 24, Ryley Harper, Gabriel Lancione, Rachel Reading
- 25, Suzanne Nusbaum, Bonnie Strine
- 26, Garth Phoebus
- 27, Elaina Souders
- 28, Michele Lopez, Valerie Proudfoot, Trisha Stouter
- 29, Harry C. Cole, Richard Delauter, Elinor Eiker, Joshua Reading
- 30, Xavier Gaeta

April Anniversaries

- Bill and Amy Lyon April 6
- Martin and Melissa Rowley April 6
- Robert and Linda Bennett April 8
- Brett and Sandy Chaney April 8
- Andy and Cheryl Radcliffe April 19
- Ben and Marilyn Marshall April 24
- Mark and Angela Mayer April 28

A · P · R · I · L

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|---|---|----------------------------|---|--|
|  | | 1 10 a.m. Bible Study 1:30 p.m. UM Faith Ex. 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:30 p.m. Sanctuary | 2 5:30 p.m. Lenten Recital 6 p.m. Lenten Study | 3 | 4 | 5 Norie Shipley's 90th Birthday |
| 6 9 a.m. Sunday School 9 a.m. Confirmation 10 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Prayer Shawl 11:15 a.m. Children's Choir 5:30 p.m. Youth Group | 7 | 8 10 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir | 9 5:30 p.m. Lenten Recital 6 p.m. Lenten Study | 10 | 11 | 12 7:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast |
| Palm Sunday 13 9 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Children's Choir 4 p.m. Concert | 14 7 p.m. SHP Team Meeting | 15 1:30 p.m. Wesleyan Circle 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:30 p.m. Sanctuary | 16 6:30 p.m. Men's Bible Study | 17 7 p.m. Holy Thursday | 18 Noon & 7 p.m. Good Friday Service | 19 2 p.m. Family Easter Celebration |
| Easter Sunday 20 9 a.m. Worship 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship | 21 Easter Monday Church Office Closed | 22 10 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir | 23 2 p.m. Miriam's Circle 6:30 p.m. Men's Bible Study | 24 | 25 | 26 9:30 a.m. WRS |
| 27 9 a.m. Sunday School 9 a.m. Confirmation 10 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Children's Choir 5:30 p.m. Youth Group | 28 | 29 10 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise 7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir | 30 6:30 p.m. Men's Bible Study | | | |

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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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