



N·O·V·E·M·B·E·R MESSENGER

“Light for the City”

Each year, as November arrives, the rhythm of the church shifts. The air grows crisp, the days a little shorter, and in the life of the church, we begin to turn our attention toward both gratitude and hope. For many congregations, this is stewardship season, a time when we reflect on how we will support the mission and ministry of the church in the year to come.

I know that for some, the word stewardship can sound like it's mostly about paying the bills or meeting a budget. But at its heart, stewardship is not a financial transaction, it's a spiritual practice. It is a faithful response to the generosity of God, who has entrusted us with so much. It's about saying, “God, we want to use what we have, our time, our talents, our gifts, our presence, to be part of what You are doing in the world.”

Our theme this year, “Light for the City,” captures that calling beautifully. God has placed Calvary UMC Frederick in the heart of this community to shine Christ's light, to offer welcome, to create sacred spaces of worship, to form disciples, to extend care, and to serve both near and far. This light isn't something we keep to ourselves. It's something we tend, share, and pass on.

This November will be a month full of meaningful moments that remind us of who we are and what we're called to be. We'll welcome new members into the life of the congregation, a powerful reminder that this is a living, growing church with a story still unfolding. We'll gather for our Annual Bazaar, a beloved tradition that reflects the joy of shared work, fellowship, and hospitality. We'll prepare for my first Advent and Christmas with you here at Calvary, a season when light breaks into the darkness and hope takes on flesh once again.

And woven through it all will be our annual stewardship campaign, not as a burden, but as an invitation. Over the coming weeks, I want to encourage each of you to pray intentionally about how you will support the mission and ministry of this church in 2026. Stewardship is not simply about giving; it's about partnering in what God is doing among us. Your commitment makes it possible for us to worship together, to care for one another, to teach and nurture faith, to open our doors to the community, and to share Christ's love with the world.

As we enter this new season, we also celebrate what God is doing in our music ministry. We look forward to welcoming Gunner Chancey as our new Director of Music in the new year, and we give thanks for the faithful service of Joyce Summers, who has carried the music program with grace and dedication these past six months. Their ministry, like so many others at Calvary, is one of the many ways our light shines brightly in this city.

Continues on page 2



My hope and prayer is that this stewardship season will not feel like “a campaign” but like a moment of recommitment, a reminder that God has entrusted this light to us, here and now. The saints who came before us tended it faithfully. And now, it’s our turn to do the same.

May this be a season of prayer, gratitude, and joyful generosity as we prepare to offer our pledges and commitments on Consecration Sunday, November 23. Together, may we shine for the city, and for the One who is the Light of the World.

Grace and Peace,
Dr. Hutton

November Worship Schedule

Nov. 1 Church Conference

at 2:30 p.m., at Damascus UMC, 9700 New Church St.

Nov. 2 All Saints Sunday

If you would like to include someone who has been lost to you in the last year, please make sure to contact the church office at office@calvaryumc.org or call 301-662-1464

Nov. 9 “Light That Welcomes”

God’s light gathers and welcomes all. We shine together through acceptance, hospitality, and worship.

New Member Reception to follow worship service in the parish hall.

Nov. 16 “Fuel for the Flame”

Generosity is the oil that keeps the light burning, the faithful giving of time, talent, and treasure.

Nov. 23 “Shining Together”

We dedicate our gifts and ourselves to God’s work, shining Christ’s light into Frederick & beyond.

Altar Committee Meeting & Training– immediately following worship

Nov. 30 “The Christmas Gift of Hope” First Sunday of Advent

God’s promises speak into fear, offering hope that changes how we wait.

Welcome, Gunner Chancey, Director of Music Ministry

We're excited to welcome Gunner Chancey as Calvary's new Director of Music Ministry, beginning January 1.

Gunner comes to us from Salisbury, Maryland, where he currently serves as Director of Music and Organist at Asbury UMC. Originally from Georgia, he brings a vibrant mix of Southern warmth and musical excellence. Gunner holds a Master of Music in Choral Conducting from Mercer University and a Bachelor of Music from Valdosta State University.



His career has spanned a variety of church and educational settings, leading choirs, directing handbell ensembles, collaborating with children and youth, and creating community concert series. At his current church, he grew the chancel choir from 6 to 29 members, revitalized the handbell program, and helped launch new opportunities for children and youth to participate in worship through music.

Gunner is already eager to get to know our congregation and share his passion for music as a powerful expression of faith. As he prepares to make Frederick his new home, he's actively searching for housing, so if you have leads or local wisdom to share, he'd be grateful.

Please join me in welcoming Gunner to beautiful downtown Frederick and to the Calvary family.

Advent Tea



Save the date!

Come and enjoy the beginning of the Advent Season on **Saturday December 6 at 2 p.m.** Share tea, cookies and cakes and join in the fellowship of singing hymns with the Calvary Women. Look for a sign up sheet at the Welcome Center in the Parish Hall.



Spaghetti **DINNER**



Donations
gladly
accepted

November 4th from 6 pm–7:30 pm

Calvary UMC Parish Hall

**All proceeds will fund
the Youth Mission Trip**



CALVARY UMC

Holiday BAZAAR

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15

9 AM TO 3 PM

SANTA'S FIRST STOP!

*Handmade Crafts - Vendors - Bake Sale
Silent Auction - White Elephant Room
Live Music - North Pole - Kids Crafts
Calvary's Famous Cheesballs*

131 W 2ND STREET, FREDERICK MD
LUNCHEON SERVED FROM 11 AM TO 1 PM

YOUTH MINISTRIES SCHEDULE

NOVEMBER

SUNDAY SCHOOL

NOV 2, 9, 16, AND 23- EDUCATION BUILDING 9 AM

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL NOV 30- HAPPY THANKSGIVING

**NOV 4TH
SPAGHETTI
DINNER**

YOUTH GROUP

NOV 2 CANDY MAKING NOV 9 CANDY MAKING

NOV 16 TRIP TO BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK

NOV 23 GAME NIGHT NOV 30 NO YOUTH GROUP

**NOV 15TH
HOLIDAY
BAZAAR**

DECEMBER

SUNDAY SCHOOL

DECEMBER 7 AND 21 EDUCATION BUILDING 9 AM

CHISTMAS PAGEANT DEC 14TH

YOUTH GROUP

DEC 7 CHRISTMAS COOKIES FOR BAKE-A-BATCH

DEC 14 TRIP TO BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK

DEC 21 CHRISTMAS PARTY

QUESTIONS: EMAIL MISS JENN AT CALVARYYOUTH@CALVARYUMC.ORG

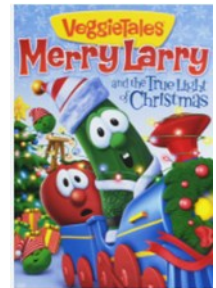


Children's Sunday School is for children in **Preschool – 5th Grade**. We meet every Sunday at 9:00 am in the Activities Room of the Education Building for Bible Learning, songs, games, crafts and more! Visitors are always welcome! Please register at <https://calvaryfrederick.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/116/responses/new>



Veggie Tale Movie Night will be held on **Friday, November 7** from **6:00 – 7:15 pm** in the Activities Room of the Education Building. Join us for pizza, a movie, discussion, a craft and more! Wear your pajamas and bring a blanket if you'd like! This month, we will be celebrating Christmas a little early with a showing of

Merry Larry and the True Meaning of Christmas! Please register at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0949ACAD2FABFBC61-48352788-veggie>.



**Kids Crafts and A Visit With Santa!
At Calvary's Holiday Bazaar!**

Visit the North Pole
Join us in the Memorial Room
for Kids' Crafts, snacks and a visit with Santa!

ALL AGES are WELCOME!

**Saturday, November 15
9:00 am - 3:00 pm**





Mission Possible Kids is for kids in Kindergarten through 5th Grade who want to help others and make a difference in the world! This month, **MPK** will meet on Sunday, November 23 from 5:30 – 7:00 pm in the Activities Room of the Education Building. Join us! **Bring a canned food item for our local food bank!** Please register at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0949ACAD2FABFBC61-48584528-mission> or contact AmyStone@calvaryumc.org for more information and to order a Mission Possible Kids t-shirt!



Christmas Pageant Weekend!

Friday, December 12 – Sunday, December 14

Calvary will be participating in ***Frederick's Kris Kringle Procession*** on **Friday, December 12**. Line-up begins at **5:30 pm** on South Carroll Street between East Patrick and East All Saints Street and ending at Calvary where we will enjoy cookies and hot cocoa in the Parish Hall! We will need ***children and adults*** to help us sing Christmas carols and to complete our mini Nativity Scene float, complete with Mary, Joseph, the angels and stable animals! Walking musicians are welcome and encouraged as well!

Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal is on

Saturday, December 13 from 10:00 am – Noon.

Calvary's Annual Children's Christmas Pageant will take place on **Sunday, Dec. 14** at **9:00 am** in the Parish Hall! *Children will meet in the Activities Room at 8:30 to put on costumes!*

Please let us know if your family will be participating in any or all of these exciting events at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0949ACAD2FABFBC61-52220851-christmas>

****Pageant parts will be given out in Sunday School on November 2 – please make sure to let Ms. Amy know if your child will be able to participate!**



Greetings from the Calvary Weekday School

We are off to a great start of the school year but I can't believe it is November!

This month we will hold two Coffee Chats for families. The first will take place on Monday, November 3rd at 9:30 in the school library. Mrs. Knauss, our kindergarten teacher, will share information about the benefits of attending our half-day program. Please pass this information along and RSVP to Olivia at calvaryweekdayschool@calvaryweekdayschool.com if you are planning to attend.

Our second Coffee Chat will be on Monday, November 10th at 9:30 in the church nursery and will be hosted by one of our parents. Jenn Hopley is a licensed clinical worker and certified sleep consultant who will discuss general sleep recommendations, amount of sleep, and when to start dropping naps. Jenn works with children birth to 5 years old. Join us if you need help getting your child to sleep!

We raised over \$200 from our Chick-fil-A fundraiser so thanks again to all who attended. Our next fundraiser will be November 17th at Texas Roadhouse located 5101 Pegasus Court in Frederick from 3:00 pm to 9:30 pm. More information to come about how to give credit to the school. Texas Roadhouse offers many opportunities to support families and the community and we are looking forward to starting this partnership with them.

The Calvary Weekday School would like to extend Thanksgiving Blessings to you and your family-

Patty Lockard, Director



“My Country, ‘Tis of Thee, Sweet Land of Liberty ...

...Of thee we sing. ... *Land of the pilgrims’ pride*,” remembering that first colony of immigrants who settled in what is now Massachusetts. They risked their lives crossing an ocean, seeking freedom of religion and expression as well as from fear of persecution and want. In our annual Thanksgiving remembrance of those early pilgrims, we thank God for the bountiful blessings of grace bestowed upon us, as did the pilgrims in 1621 for their deliverance to freedom and the harvest of their first crops in the new land. Yet in such thanksgiving, I suspect that most of us scarcely reflect on our own immigrant ancestry or the more recent immigrants in our communities today.

Despite being a nation of immigrants, or the words of our nation’s founding documents and the welcoming message engraved on the Statue of Liberty, as a nation we have struggled over the years with welcoming and being hospitable to “people different from us,” as documented by historian Erika Lee in *America for Americans* (2019). While many attempts have been made over the past century to write fair and equitable laws of immigration, I think it fair to say that our problem resides less in the written laws than in our hearts. Was this not God’s message through the prophet Jeremiah (31:31-33) to the ancient Israelites who failed to abide by their Law, including hospitality to migrants (Leviticus 19:33-34), just as Jesus’ teachings and example also speak to us today about God’s Kingdom?

As United Methodists our *Social Principles* (p. 54) have this to say: “We affirm the dignity, worth, and rights of migrants, immigrants, and refugees, including displaced and stateless people. ... We oppose all laws and policies that attempt to criminalize, de-humanize, or punish displaced individual and families based on their status as migrants, immigrants, or refugees....” Sadly, even as experienced by law-abiding citizens of particular ethnic or national backgrounds, actions being taken on behalf of our federal government today in some of our nation’s communities are inconsistent with these principles as with our understanding of God’s will set forth in scripture.

As we observe Thanksgiving this year, let us remember not only in prayer those of our communities who are not free from fear or want, but also to let our voices be heard, on behalf of God’s love for all people regardless of their status or identity, through the offices and prophetic voice of our UMC General Board of Church & Society (gbc@umcjustice.org) on these and any other matters of justice that preclude “sweet land of liberty” experience for all.

Paul D. Nelson, Church & Society Ministries

Angel Tree

The Calvary Angel tree will once again grace Parrish Hall with the goal of providing Christmas for others in our community. For the past 25 years, Sheila Howard has led a group of Calvary women in organizing this outreach program. She has decided to step away from this service project to focus on the Sleep in Heavenly Peace partnership. Although her organizational skills could never be duplicated nor could her shoes be filled, we will certainly try to continue with the program we love so much. Thank you Sheila for your service and leadership.

The Angel tree will be set up after the Holiday Bazaar and will be covered with ornaments... Each of the children's ornaments contain toys from their Christmas wish list, clothing needs of the children and grocery store gift cards for their Christmas dinner.

Participation is easy and instructions are included on the back of each ornament. Remember to sign out the ornaments you select in the white ring binder. All gifts need to be returned to the tree **no later than Sunday Dec. 7** we have sorting, packing, and tagging that has to be done before they can be delivered, and it is very time consuming.

If you choose to purchase a clothing item, it is very helpful if you include a gift receipt in the package. This helps to make exchanges easier for the family in case they need a different size.

We will be collecting gift cards (Target, Walmart, Kohls, Grocery Stores) and cash donations for those who are uncomfortable shopping. There is a box near the tree that you may drop your cash donations and gift cards in.

Please make checks out to Calvary United Methodist Church and reference "Angel Tree".

Questions, please contact: Julie Schwarzenberg at 240-626-7666



Thank You!

It is with full and grateful hearts that we want to thank the congregation for their prayers and support as we led the Volunteers in Mission (VIM) team to western North Carolina's Ashe County earlier this month. We had a team of 16 volunteers working to help rebuild after Hurricane Helene caused major damage in the area in late September 2024. We worked building ramps, laying flooring, repairing wall board and insulating campers for seven households. We also installed heated and insulated water hoses in four other camping trailers that folks will be living in this winter.

Your monetary donations made it possible for us to purchase and donate nearly \$2,000 of equipment and tools to help get the new Ashe County VIM site established. Your baked goods (yes, there were some leftovers that I stored in our freezer), were enjoyed in our packed lunches and made delicious brownie sundaes that we shared with another VIM team from NC. You were all there in spirit and your support made all of this possible. Thank you for blessing us, the people of Ashe County and this VIM team.

Dave and Pat Herber

To My Church Family at Calvary United Methodist,

My children Jennifer, Bert IV, and AJ, and I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone at Calvary for the beautiful memorial service for my husband, Bert III.

A special thank you to the ladies and gentlemen who prepared the wonderful luncheon, and to Pastor Beth and Pastor Ken for leading such a meaningful service in remembrance of Bert.

Bert and I first came to Frederick in early 1979 as a young family. Bert met Vince Hull in Masons, and he told him we were looking for a church home. Vince welcomed us to join him and his wife Gladys at their church, and the rest is history—from that moment, Calvary became our spiritual home. Our children loved Sunday School and especially Vacation Bible School, riding in the “Big Blue Bus”. Bert so much enjoyed helping to cook chicken for the mission trip fundraisers, and later being able to join the mission trip to South Dakota in the infamous old bus!

Over the years, Bert served on several church committees and cherished being part of Calvary’s ministry and fellowship.

Thank you all for the love, kindness, and wonderful memories we shared through the years.

With love and gratitude,

Virginia, Jennifer, Bert IV, and AJ

Attention all bakers...

a favorite Calvary event is just around the corner..

BAKE A BATCH cookie event for Jenn Esler. Jenn is a Calvary member and served as the Nursery Director before being diagnosed with a brain tumor years ago. Following surgery, she had extensive rehabilitation to improve her quality of life. Proceeds from Bake A Batch serve to help Jenn in her rehab and to remind her that she is not forgotten by her Calvary family.



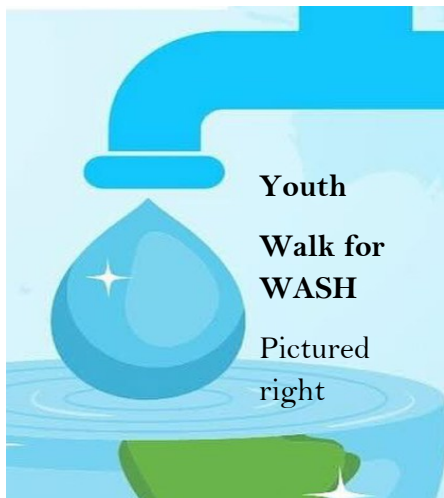
**All cookie donations can be dropped off in the kitchen or church office on
Friday, Dec. 12th or Saturday, Dec. 13th by 9:30AM.**

Cookie trays will be available for purchase Sunday, Dec. 14th.

Baking Cookies is a great activity to do with your children or grandchildren and for a great cause. All homemade cookies whether family favorites or holiday classics are welcomed.

So get those mixers moving!!!

Any questions please contact Julie Schwarzenberg at: 240-626-7666



1, David Dimock, Judith Eyler, Alexandra Kluttz, Anna Marshall, Rick Miller
2, Ezra Belgrave, Robert Hunter, Brian McKann, Oliver Miller, Abigail Ritterbusch
3, Christy Quigley, Larry Van Sant, **4**, Chaz Jones
5, Robert Bennett, Jenn Duthoy, Laura Miller, Alan Newcomer
6, Thelma Fischer, Delilah Richey, **7**, Michael Reilly,
8, John Bolyard, Greg Gray, **9**, Dean Calcagni, **10**, Mark Mayer
11, Jessica Chaney, Andrew Farmer, Riley MacDonald, Ezra Ritterbusch
12, Caroline Auth, Adelyn Melhorn, **13**, Elizabeth Krause, Lucy Vinar
14, Mary Crum, Teddy Miller, **15**, Cooper Gaeta, Nancy Slovikosky
17, Faye Cannon, Rev. Dr. Beth Hutton, Sally Meyers, David Shickel
18, Margery French, Tara Shoemaker, Dottie Stenner, **19**, Christina Kim, Adelynn Wilde
20, Catherine Duvall, Edith Edmonston, **21**, Sutton Hayes
23, Charlotte Richey, Connie Scoggins, **24**, Carl Reed, **25**, Marietta Anderson, Levi Brown
26, Indie Exline, Elizabeth Wyatt
27, Susan Baggette, Monica Campolongo, Jennifer Esler, Ivy Tang
28, Claire Moked, Bruce Seamans, Margie Wilde
30, Sylvie Duthoy, Michael Leftwich, Nathan Robinson, Didi Willard



Richard and Judy Delauter	November 2	Jeremy and Susan Leftwich	November 21
Eytan and Martha Moked	November 3	Brian and Peggy Krompasick	November 29
Charlie and Amy Jones	November 5		
Greg and Liz Selby	November 5		
Cleon and Diane Stull	November 9		
Stephen and Laura Miller	November 12		
Robin and Bonnie Duggan	November 15		
Kyle and Becky Bostian	November 18		
Chris and Amy Vinar	November 18		
Fred and Nance Wilson	November 20		





N·O·V·E·M·B·E·R

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 2:30 p.m. Church Conference Damascus
2 9 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship 11 :15 a.m. Prayer Shawl 11:15 a.m. Joyful Voices 5:30 p.m. Youth Group	3 7 p.m. SPRC	4 10 a.m. Pastor's Bible Study 1:30 p.m. UMF Ex. Comm. 5:30 p.m. Youth Spaghetti Dinner 6:30 p.m. Handbells 7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir	5 Making Cheese Balls 6 p.m. Men's Bible Study	6	7 6 p.m. Veggie Tale Movie Night	8 7:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast
9 9 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. New Members 11:15 a.m. Joyful Voices 5:30 p.m. Youth Group	10 7 p.m. SHP Team Meet 7 p.m. Trustees	11 10 a.m. Pastor's Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Handbells 7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir	12 Making Cheese Balls 10:30 a.m. Mission Trip Departure 6 p.m. Men's Bible Study	13	14	15 9 am-3 pm Holiday Bazaar
16 9 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship 3 p.m. Concert 5:30 p.m. Youth Group	17 7 p.m. Finance	18 10 a.m. Pastor's Bible Study 1:30 p.m. Wesleyan Circle 6:30 p.m. Handbells 7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir	19 6 p.m. Men's Bible Study 7 p.m. Education Meeting	20	21	22 9:30 a.m. WRS 11 a.m. Wedding
23 9 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Joyful Voices 5:30 p.m. Mission Possi- ble Kids/Youth Group	24 6 p.m. Church Council	25 10 a.m. Pastor's Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Handbells 7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir	26 2 p.m. Miriam's Circle 6 p.m. Men's Bible Study	27 Thanks- giving	28 9 a.m. Fluffing the Wreaths	29 9 a.m. Hanging of the Greens
30 9 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship						15

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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