



For Everything There Is a Season

March always feels like a turning point. The light lingers a little longer. The ground softens. Tiny hints of green start pushing their way through soil that looked lifeless just weeks before. Spring doesn't arrive all at once, it comes slowly, gently, almost stubbornly, reminding us that new life often begins quietly.

Scripture tells us in Ecclesiastes that “For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven...” A time to plant. A time to heal. A time to weep. A time to laugh. A time to embrace.



This month is also my mom's birthday month, and this year that season feels especially tender for our family. As many of you know, my mom is continuing her journey with pancreatic cancer and recent rounds of chemo. Pancreatic cancer is, frankly, a tough pill to swallow. It's one of those realities that forces you to look life straight in the face and acknowledge how precious, and fragile, our time together really is.

I suppose this is also the season of life when I can officially say I'm a proud member of what people call the Sandwich Generation. Many of us find ourselves here eventually, still caring for our children while also beginning to care, in new ways, for the parents who once cared for us.



Now, let me be clear: my parents are still very much taking care of me and my two older brothers. That hasn't changed. But we are all living into a new reality together, learning what love and support look like in this season.

My mom would never want to be in the spotlight. She's not one for fuss or attention. But I also don't want one important word to go unsaid. So, **Mom**: I love you. And I am so very glad you are my mom!

Continues on page 2

Our family has never been overly affectionate. And because of that upbringing, I'm not much of a hugger (unless you're one of my kids, then I absolutely want the hug). But a couple of years ago, my mom and I had a conversation about this. WE decided that every time we got off the phone, we would say " I LOVE YOU" in the most obnoxious, over-the-top way possible. Loud. Dramatic. Impossible to miss. It started as a joke.

But over time, it became something deeper, a small, joyful ritual that made sure nothing important was left unsaid. And maybe that's part of what this season of spring, and this season of life, is teaching me again.

To all my Calvary "mom and dad in-laws," and to everyone reading this: don't let the important words wait for another season. Make the call. Make the trip. Ring the doorbell. Send the text. Say the thing. Tell the people you love that you love them. Because Ecclesiastes reminds us that life is made up of many seasons, and one of the holiest things we can do is recognize the season we're in, and love well within it.

This March, as the earth begins to thaw and new life quietly emerges, may we embrace the season of gratitude, the season of presence, and the season of saying what matters most. And maybe...say it a little louder than usual.

I Love You.

Grace and peace,

Dr. Hutton

March Worship

March 1	Helping the Targeted Luke 10:25-37; Matthew 25:35-40	March 29 Palm Sunday Luke 19:28-40
March 8	The Power of Friendship John 15:12-15; Ecclesiastes 4:9-12	
March 15	Being "Popular" vs. Being Faithful Psalm 15:1-3, Proverbs 21:2-3, Matthew 6:1	
March 22	Defying Gravity: Embracing Resurrection Hope John 11:17-27; 1 Corinthians 15:54-57	



Children's Ministry News

Veggie Tale Movie Night!

Friday, March 13

6:00 – 7:15 pm

Ages Preschool 3's through 5th Grade



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! Please register at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0949ACAD2FABFBC61-48352788-veggie> or by scanning the QR Code above, or by contacting AmyStone@calvaryumc.org.

Mission Possible Kids!

Sunday, March 22

5:30 – 7:00 pm

Grades K - 5th Grade



In the Activities Room of the Education Building

Join us to shine God's light in the world and to make a difference! We work hard but we have fun! Please contact AmyStone@calvaryumc.org for more information and to order a Mission Possible Kids t-shirt, or register at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0949ACAD2FABFBC61-48584528-mission> or scan the QR Code.



Family Easter Celebration and Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 4, 2:00 – 4:00 pm

In the Parish Hall and Memorial Park

FOR ALL AGES!



Mark your calendars for this summer's

RAINFOREST FALLS VBS!

June 22 – June 25, 2026

Registration Begins April 1!

Volunteers Needed!





Greetings from Calvary Weekday School!

Happy Saint Patrick's Day!

We welcomed about 25 baby chicks from our Embryology Program. Very exciting for all of us! Kudos to the teachers for taking home the incubators during the snow storm and all the extra care they provided to make sure the program was a success.

Mr. Jon & Friends visited our three year old classes last month. He is a former parent from our school who provides energetic family music, movement, dancing, and laughter. There was certainly many smiles that day.

This month we welcome back Batman. Batman is the Dad of one of our current families. He is a volunteer for Foundation 4 Heroes. He will teach the children the 5 rules to be a hero; always do the right thing, never give up, listen to your parents, make healthy choices and never be a bully.

Just a reminder, we will have another fundraiser on Monday, March 9 from 5-8 at the Chick-fil-A located at 2401 Monocacy Blvd. in Frederick. Please mention our name at the time of purchase.

More next month-

Patty Lockard, Director

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!



Thank you so much to everyone who helped out with this year's **LOVE BAGS!**

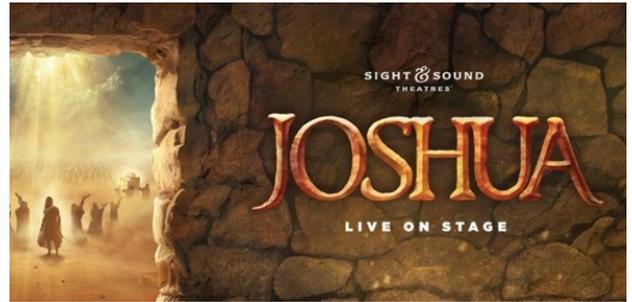
A special thank you to **Susan Bagette** and also to **The Friendly Circle Class** and many others for their generous donations! Your thoughtful gifts brightened someone's day and brought love and cheer from Calvary!

At *Sight and Sound Theater* in Lancaster PA!

Saturday, August 8 11:00 am

(leaving Frederick at 7:45 am)

Tickets have already been reserved – please contact AmyStone@calvaryumc.org if you and your family would like to join us!
(Adults \$89, Children 12 and under \$39)



March Love Offering — UMCOR

In March, our Love Offering supports the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), the humanitarian relief and development arm of The United Methodist Church. UMCOR responds to disasters, conflicts, and humanitarian crises around the world, offering relief, recovery, and hope to communities facing some of their most difficult moments.

Why This Offering Matters: One of the things that makes UMCOR unique is its commitment to stewardship and transparency. The funds we give through this Love Offering help cover UMCOR's administrative and operating costs. Because of this, when disasters strike, whether through hurricanes, floods, fires, earthquakes, or humanitarian emergencies, 100% of the disaster-specific donations collected in those moments can go directly to the communities affected, not to overhead.

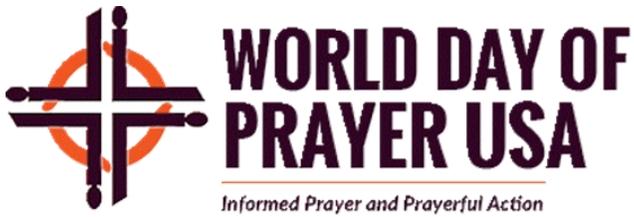
This means our March giving makes it possible for UMCOR to respond quickly, effectively, and with integrity, anywhere in the world, whenever the need arises.

Calvary's Connection to UMCOR: Our congregation has a strong and ongoing relationship with UMCOR's work. Through Volunteers in Mission, many of our members have served hands-on in disaster response and recovery efforts. This month, members of Calvary will also be traveling to Mission Central, a key UMCOR partner that supplies disaster relief kits and mission resources used across the globe.

These connections remind us that UMCOR is not distant work, it is ministry we are already part of, extending our reach far beyond our own community.

How Your Gift Helps: Your Love Offering ensures that when the next disaster strikes, near or far, UMCOR is ready to respond with compassion, efficiency, and hope. Together, we help make certain that relief arrives swiftly and that generosity given in moments of crisis goes exactly where it is needed most.

Thank you for standing with UMCOR and for being part of a church that lives out its faith through service, generosity, and global connection.



World Day of Prayer

2 p.m. Friday, March 6 in the Chapel

Mission Central Mission Trip, Wednesday, March 11

Departure time: 11:30 a.m.

Please locate the sign up list at the Welcome Center



Homemade Easter Eggs Are Coming!



The Lydia Group—who brought you the Holiday Bazaar and those unforgettable cheeseballs—is excited to introduce a *brand-new* fundraiser: **homemade Easter eggs**, made using the **beloved recipe of the late John Slovikosky**.

Choose from **buttercream, peanut butter, chocolate cream, or coconut**—each egg is \$3 and individually made with love.

Pre-orders are encouraged (order forms available at the Welcome Center in Parish Hall) and are **due by Sunday, March 22**. A **limited number** of eggs will also be available for purchase on **Sunday, March 29**, while supplies last.

Don't miss this sweet way to celebrate Easter and support the work of the Lydia Group! Any questions? Contact Beth Strakonsky at beth.strakonsky@gmail.com or 301-471-1822

Trustees Report March 2026

Note: Update from the Trustees, . Fred Schumacher Trustee Chair.

We made it through a very difficult period of snow, ice and very low temperatures. Fortunately our double boiler system was able to maintain comfortable temperatures in the Parish Hall and Sanctuary. However, for the heating season of 2026-27, we will need to make some substantial repairs to this system in the summer.



Thanks to the efforts of Greg Gray, the sound system was rebalanced, improving the sound quality in the back section of the church. We also identified a fix to the audio system that will play CDs through the audio system. We hope this repair is made by Easter.

CALVARY COMMUNITY CONCERT SERIES 2025-2026 SEASON



March 1, 3:00 p.m., with seating beginning at 2:15 p.m.

Brian Ganz, pianist. "Extreme Chopin - the final installment."

Mr. Ganz's quest to perform all the works of Chopin is coming to a successful close. Calvary UMC has been honored to support this endeavor nearly every year since 2011. This concert, which will be performed on Chopin's 216th birthday, is an interactive and highly energetic performance.



March 15 - 3:00 p.m., with seating beginning at 2:30 p.m.

Peter DuBois, concert organist.

This concert is being dedicated in loving memory of Frank and Bobbie Parsons, long-time members of Calvary UMC and Mr. DuBois' in-laws. Mr. DuBois is director of music/organist emeritus at Third Presbyterian Church in Rochester, NY. He has performed throughout the U.S. and abroad, including St. Paul's Cathedral in London, the Cathedral Notre Dame de Paris, and more. Don't miss this opportunity to hear Mr. DuBois perform on Calvary UMC's magnificent Zimmer organ.



Where is the good news?”

This question was asked by the child of a journalist whose editorial appeared in a recent issue of the *Frederick News Post*. It is likely one that has been asked by many these days when exposed to media publications or broadcasts. I know of people who refuse to even listen to the news due to its nature these days. Beyond verification of the truth of what is reported, the nature of news at a global or national, occasionally local, level of events is so often such that many have also asked ‘where is God in times such as these?’

These two questions brought to mind writings of distinguished theologian and former Anglican bishop N. T Wright, two of whose books published a decade ago, *Simply Good News* (2015) and *God in Public* (2016), remind us of the newsworthiness of our faith in God through Christ Jesus. That faith affords us hope in challenging times such as these ... the nature of which in one form or another is historical through centuries past as well. Bishop Wright reminds us that “good news” was the original meaning of the Old English word “gospel;” and that the Apostle Paul, whose letters to the early church in Asia Minor were the earliest writings of the New Testament, intended the proclamation of his faith to be good news to Gentiles and Jews alike under the harsh rule of the Roman Empire and amidst quarrels, prejudice and persecution within their local communities.

So often it seems that the news reported has the qualities the Apostle Paul described as “noisy gongs” or “clanging symbols.” Less often, if reported at all, are events characterized by the nature of God’s love, qualities of patience and kindness, not boastfulness, pride, or rudeness.” (1 Cor. 13: 1-5). Examples at the global level of such good news are cited by Rev. Dr. Levi Bautista, Assistant General Secretary for the United Nations in his recent article “Love as Statecraft: Faith at Work in the Halls of Nations” (gbc@umcjustice.org). Closer to home, the good news of God in public, is sometimes reported in local news, as when peaceful protests or prayer vigils for justice occur in public space. But less reported in public media are the many more instances of neighbor helping neighbor, as in the likes of Calvary’s many forms of outreach to those in need within our community, instances of God in public.

My prayer though Lent is that of each of us reflect and act upon how we might be an instrument of the good news of God’s love with someone in need, even in the form of offering hopeful reassurance of God’s presence in these times.

Paul D. Nelson, Church & Society Ministries

ARE YOU *Handy?*

2026 YOUTH ADULT
MISSION TRIP

JOIN US

**HENDERSON
SETTLEMENT**



**HOME REPAIR AND BED BUILDING
OPPORTUNITIES**



**WE ARE LOOKING FOR
ADULT AND YOUTH
VOLUNTEERS**

JULY 19-25

**ACCOMODATIONS IN A CABIN
WITH 3 HOT MEALS DAILY**

Questions: Ask Miss Jenn or email calvaryyouth@calvaryumc.org

1, William Grove, Rev. Ken Humbert,
 Mary Sue Krause, Mason Leber, Fred Wilson
 2, Finley Melhorn, 3, Blake Rust, Taylor Selby
 4, Rebecca Acklin, Taylor MacDonald,
 Franklin McKnight, Luke Riegel
 5, Daniel Brown, Jeff Rosen, 6, Emily Harris
 7, Casper Cline, Doug Manger, Shannon Rust, 8, Lou Finneyfrock
 9, Anna Bidinger, Tom Burall, Mari Beth Schmersahl
 10, Ethan Mueller, Emily Sewell, Lori Summers, Franklin Tang
 12, Dr. Ray Moreland, Amela Mueller, Gregory Pfister
 13, Erin Edwards, 15, Matthew Cline, Steve Loss, Grace Riegel
 16, Reed Keirn, Nancy Manthey, Lauren Reilly, Abigail Waskey
 17, Raymond Crum, 18, Zachary Heller, 19, Seth Kraham, Brady Pond
 20, Aiden Rankin, 22, Samuel Kraham, Randy Paugh, Jeffrey Ramsburg
 23, Thomas Kellam
 24, Catharine Chapman, Patrick Chapman, Constance Mason, Bradley Stone
 25, Marjorie Johnson, 26, Gail Colby, Paul Muehl, 27, Jennifer Kinsey
 29, Linda English, Paige Willard
 31, Molly Anderson, Lorraine Davis, Aubrey Greaves, Sharon Green, William Harris,
 Carrie Pure



March Anniversaries

Gary and Paula Coffman	March 3
Jeff and Brandy Adam	March 11
Robert and Cynthia Wilson	March 12
Gary and Sharon Brown	March 22
Shane Wickline and Monica Capolongo	March 24
Bill and Beth Waskey	March 25

March 2026



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 9 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Joyful Voices 11:15 a.m. Prayer Shawl 3 p.m. Brian Gantz Concert	2	3 1:30 p.m. UMF Ex. Comm 6:30 p.m. Joyful Handbells 7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir	4 6 p.m. Lenten Dinner 6:45 p.m. Lenten Study	5	6 2 p.m. World Day of Prayer 6 p.m. Lydia Circle	7 9 a.m. WRS
8 9 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Joyful Voices 5:30 p.m. Youth Group	9	10 10 a.m. Pastor's Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Joyful Handbells 7:30 p.m.	11 11:30 a.m. Mission Central Trip 6 p.m. Lenten Dinner/Study	12	13 6 p.m. Veggie Tale Movie Night	14 7:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast
15 9 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Joyful Voices 11:30 a.m. Trustees 3 p.m. Concert	16 7 p.m. Finance	17 10 a.m. Pastor's Bible Study 1:30 p.m. Wesleyan Circle 6:30 p.m. Joyful	18 6 p.m. Lenten Dinner/Study	19	20	21
22 9 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Joyful Voices/ New Members Class 5:30 p.m. Mission Possible Kids/ Youth Group	23 7 p.m. Admin. Council	24 10 a.m. Pastor's Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Joyful Handbells 7:30 p.m. Sanctuary	25 2 p.m. Miriam Circle 6 p.m. Lenten Dinner/Study	26	27	28
Palm/Passion Sunday 29 9 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Joyful Voice 5:30 p.m. Youth Group	30	31 10 a.m. Pastor's Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Joyful Handbells 7:30 p.m.				

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

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

US POSTAGE PAID

FREDERICK, MD 21701

PERMIT No. 52

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

Table of Contents.....

For Everything There Is A Season..1-2
Children's Ministry/WDS.....3-4
March Love Offering.....5
Prayer/Mission Trip/Easter Eggs.....6
March Concerts.....7
Church and Society.....8
Youth Mission Trip.....9
March Birthdays/Anniversaries.....10
March Calendar.....11

