



## Something Is Coming

I have to be honest with you, I am so ready for Easter.

Not just because of the flowers and the music and the full sanctuary, though I am genuinely here for all of that. But because this will be my first Easter at Calvary. My first Holy Week with you. And there is something about a first that makes you pay attention in a different way. Like you're seeing it all a little more clearly, through fresh eyes.

The trees along the streets of Frederick are already starting to bud. The air has that particular softness that only comes in April. You step outside and something in your body just knows, winter is done. Life is pushing back through. It doesn't ask permission. It just comes.

I've been sitting with John 11:25 lately. You probably know the first part by heart, "I am the resurrection and the life." We say it at funerals. We stitch it on banners. We know the resurrection part. We lean into it, and rightfully so.

But lately I keep getting stuck on the second half.

**And the life.**

We don't talk about that part as much, do we? Resurrection is the miracle, the dramatic pivot, the stone rolled away. But the life, that's what comes after. That's the living part. The breathing, showing up, loving your neighbor, sitting with the grieving, feeding the hungry, opening the door part. And Jesus doesn't separate the two. He holds them together in the same breath.

I am the resurrection, yes. And the life, us. Here. Now. Walking around Frederick with resurrection in our bones and life to give away.

That's what Holy Week is really asking of us, I think. Not just to receive the miracle, but to become it for someone else.

Continued on page 2

I have walked through many Holy Weeks as a pastor. But I genuinely cannot wait to walk through this one with Calvary, because I have already seen how much life is in this congregation. I have watched you show up for one another and for this community in ways that stopped me in my tracks. You are already living the second half of that verse, whether you knew it or not.

So come. Bring your whole self to Holy Week. Bring your grief and your hope and your doubts and your joy. Bring the people you love. Show up for Palm Sunday and Maundy Thursday and Good Friday and Easter morning. Because the full journey makes the arrival that much sweeter.

The tomb is still empty. It has been for two thousand years.

And we, you and I together, are the life.

Grace and peace,

Dr. Hutton

*Come celebrate with us...*

**Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service**  
Thursday, April 2 – 7 p.m.

**Community Easter Egg Hunt & Celebration**  
Saturday, April 4 – 2–4 p.m.  
Parish Hall & Memorial Park

**Easter Sunday – April 5**  
8 a.m. – “Women at the Tomb” Easter Vigil  
10 a.m. – Traditional Family-Friendly  
Easter Celebration

*He has Risen*

**Calvary**  
United Methodist  
Church

131 West Second Street  
Frederick, MD 21701  
calvaryumc.org • 301-662-1464



## Children's Ministry News

*Children's Sunday School* is for children in Preschool – 5<sup>th</sup> 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!



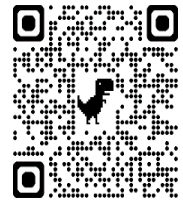
### Family Easter Celebration and Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 4

2:00 – 4:00 pm

In the Parish Hall and Memorial Park

**FOR ALL AGES!**



Registration Begins April 1<sup>st</sup> for...

***RAINFOREST FALLS VBS!***

June 22 – June 25, 2026

Monday - Thursday

9:00 am - Noon

Ages 3 – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

Registration Begins April 1st <https://calvaryfrederick.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/141/responses/new>

### VBS Volunteer Training and Information Meetings

will be held in the Conference Room.

Please plan to come for ONE of these meetings:

Monday, May 18 from 6:00 - 7:00 pm

Wednesday, May 27 from 6:00 - 7:00 pm

Sunday, June 7 from 11:15 am - 12:15 pm

### Portrait Dedication—April 26

We are pleased to announce the unveiling of a portrait honoring our retired pastor, Rev. Steve Larsen. The unveiling will take place on Sunday, April 26th, immediately following the worship service.

The portrait, painted by church member Mary Pfister, will join several others she has created to celebrate the history of our church and the leadership that has guided us over the years.

Please join us for this special occasion and for light refreshments. We are delighted that Pastor Steve and Wanda will be with us to share in this meaningful moment.



### Connecting for a Change — Will You Join Us?

One of the things I love most about being United Methodist is that we were never meant to do this alone. We are, at our very core, a connected people.

This spring, that connection is getting a little more tangible right here in Central Frederick.

Beginning soon, eight UMC congregations, Calvary, Asbury, Brook Hill, Centennial, Jackson Chapel, Mt. Pleasant, Trinity, and Walkersville, are coming together for a four-week online study called Connecting for a Change. The whole idea is beautifully simple: before we do all the big things together, let's get to know each other. Let's build some real relationships across our congregations and discover what God might be calling us to do as a community.

And I am especially excited to share that our very own Karen Gephart will be leading one of the sessions.

The study wraps up with an in-person celebration on May 17th at Brook Hill UMC, and I am already looking forward to that day.

Friends, this is one of those opportunities that is easy to let slip by. Don't let it. Register, show up, and see what happens when United Methodists in Frederick decide to truly find each other.

I promise it will be worth your time.

- Dr. Hutton

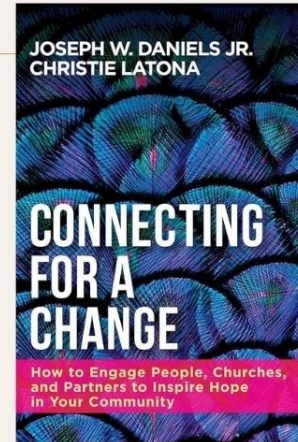


SPRING 2026 · LAY-LED STUDY

# Connecting for a Change

*How to Engage People, Churches, and Partners to Inspire Hope in Your Community*

by Joseph W. Daniels, Jr. & Christie Latona



FORMAT  
4 Sessions on Google Meet

DATES  
Sundays April 12 – May 3 7-8 pm

OPEN TO  
All Frederick UMCs

This spring, lay leaders from across the Central Frederick Hub are gathering to read and discuss a book that speaks directly to who we're called to be together. Written by two leaders in our own Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference, *Connecting for a Change* offers a practical, faith-grounded vision for how churches can connect with one another and their communities to inspire real, lasting hope.

This is a lay-led study, no clergy required. Just curious, committed people from our Hub congregations willing to learn, build relationships, and discover what God might be calling us to do together in Frederick.

Our final session "Inspire Hope" will be an in person celebration and worship!

### 4 ONLINE SESSIONS

- 1 April 12 Building Relationships
- 2 April 19 Organizing People
- 3 April 26 Utilize Assets
- 4 May 3 Liberate Congregations

- 5 May 17 In Person at Brook Hill UMC Celebration - Inspire Hope

*"The sky is the limit when pastors, church leaders, and laity begin emphasizing mission strategy in their neighborhoods and churches."*  
— DANIELS & LATONA, *CONNECTING FOR A CHANGE*

Register Here



### WHAT YOU'LL EXPLORE

#### Real Relationships

Build trust across congregations

#### Mission Strategy

Align your work with God's why

#### Community Assets

See gifts already around you

#### Lay Ownership

Lead without waiting for permission

### Ready to Join?

Grab a copy of the book (~\$15 at Amazon or Cokesbury) and register to receive your Google Meet link. No experience necessary — just come curious.



Calvary has developed a partnership with the Frederick County chapter of Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP), an all-volunteer organization that builds and delivers beds—free of charge—to children in need who do not have a bed of their own. Their motto says it all: “No kid sleeps on the floor in our town!”

This partnership creates meaningful, hands-on opportunities for our congregation to serve right here in our community. We are excited to sponsor our **5th Annual Bed Build on Thursday evening, June 18**—save the date! More details will be shared soon.

In addition, our delivery team, led by Dave and Pat Herber, takes a group of five volunteers on bed deliveries three to four times each month. They would love you to join them and see firsthand the impact of this ministry.

Interested in learning more? Contact Pat Herber at [Missions@calvaryumc.org](mailto:Missions@calvaryumc.org) or sign up to deliver beds with us. Come be part of ensuring that no child in our town sleeps on the floor.



### Greetings from the Calvary Weekday School

We are finally seeing signs of spring. Last month we held our spring conferences and this month we are getting ready for our end of the year school pictures. Due to the inclement weather, Kindergarten Graduation will be on Tuesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

I just finished unpacking all the new supplies we received utilizing funds from the MSDE Textbook Grant. We focused on purchasing new materials to support our block centers. The students are enjoying jumbo magnetic tiles, linking cubes, foam cinder blocks, and lumberjack logs. Building gross motor skills is the key to establishing fine motor skills so these materials will not only be fun but serve as an important part of developing the skills in our curriculum.

Before Spring Break, the classes will hold an Egg Hunt on the playground. On April 15, we will host another fundraiser at Café Bueno during lunch and dinner. The four-year-old classes will visit the Catoctin Nature Center at the end of the month to support their life cycle and plants unit. They are also observing caterpillar eggs and waiting patiently for them to transform into butterflies.

More to come as we wrap up another school year-

Patty Lockard, Director

## A sense of belonging

In a local Cracker Barrel restaurant with its corporate trademark antique replications, including old magazine covers and ads from the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century era and earlier, there is a framed ad for Coca-Cola. It features three young women of late teens or early twenties, facial expressions among whom suggest their being close friends (bff's in today's lingo), sharing conversation while sipping Cokes. The message of the ad is that "Coca-Cola *belongs*."

I thought about this recently in the context of the Lenten study through which Dr. Hutton is leading our congregation. Through Scripture, sermons, her pastor's weekly class, and Wednesday evening Lenten study fellowship, the broad theme of the study is *Impacting Lives for Good Through Christ-like Love*. A central concept in this study pertains to friendship and a sense of belonging. The Scriptures used in relation to these concepts were *John 15:12-15* and *Ecclesiastes 4:9-12*, attesting to the power of friendship with Christ and the bonding of two or three, in caring for one another.

Much attention has been given in public media and our conversations with others about the sense of isolation, loneliness, divisiveness and normlessness experienced by many in our society these days, conditions often attributed by sociologists to rapid technological, economic, political or other forms of change. In the late 19<sup>th</sup> century Emile Durkheim might have referred to such states of mind as a sense of "anomie," a lack of normative or moral centering. Half a century later David Riesman and colleagues wrote about "the lonely crowd," to reflect the fact that we were living in more crowded communities yet often feeling isolated and lonely.

Through the Easter experience of the new life in Christ, Calvary affords each of us an opportunity to reach out to those who seek meaning and connection with others in their lives. We do this through inviting, welcoming, affirming, and engaging all who seek the love of Jesus in worship, fellowship, and service to others, affording a sense of belonging within a community of faith.

Paul D. Nelson, Church & Society Ministries

I would like to thank Julie S. of the Family Life Committee, Calvary Church, those who bought the cookies and, the eaters for being the recipient of this year's "Bake-A-Batch" campaign.

For those that don't know, I was the Nursery Supervisor/Coordinator from 1986-2000. I spent many hours there, making sure the children would be safe, happy and, well taken care of. The funds have arrived at the PERFECT time. I started Speech, Occupational and, Physical therapies the second week of January' It lasts through March. We all know that medical help is expensive, even with insurance. Your donation will greatly help my new life learned skills.

Thank you all, again for the help. I am truly grateful.

Sincerely, Jenn Fischer Esler

## April Love Offering — Youth in Mission

This April, Calvary Frederick is investing in the next generation of servant leaders! Our April Love Offering will go entirely toward supporting our Youth as they prepare for their summer mission trip to the Henderson Settlement in Frakes, Kentucky.

Henderson Settlement is a Christ-centered ministry in the heart of Appalachia, dedicated to meeting people where they are with what they need, serving families through work camps, food assistance, prenatal and infant care, tutoring, and so much more. Our Youth will travel there to roll up their sleeves and put their faith into action alongside this remarkable community.

Throughout April, there are several ways you can be part of this mission:

**Love Offering** — Your financial gifts will help cover the costs of sending our Youth to Kentucky, equipping them for a life-changing week of service.

**Sleep In Heavenly Peace** — Our Youth will also partner with Sleep In Heavenly Peace to deliver beds and bedding (Twin Bed) this can also include, pillows and mattress protectors as well for the children in need while in Kentucky, ensuring that no child sleeps on the floor.

Every gift, whether financial or a pack of bedding sends our young people into the field prepared and sends a message to the communities they'll serve: you are seen, you are loved, and you are not alone.

Please prayerfully consider how you can support our Youth in Mission this April!

Rev. Dr. Beth Hutton



### A RECONCILING CELEBRATION - WITH BWARM

The reconciling movement is still growing! On Saturday April 25th at 10am at Calvary UMC in Frederick, gather with BWARM (the Baltimore-Washington Area Reconciling United Methodists) to give thanks for our local churches in the Baltimore-Washington Conference that have voted to become reconciling in the last year—Calvary UMC of Frederick, MD and Westminster UMC of Westminster, MD. We'll celebrate with a worship service and fellowship time. The worship will feature a sermon from Calvary's pastor, Rev. Beth Hutton, and some Mark Miller favorites accompanied by the Calvary choir. In this season in which we are being inundated with bad news, it is important to celebrate these milestones and experience the joy of gathered inclusive community together.



Youth Sunday  
2026

He is the *lighthouse* in our *storms*

April 19<sup>th</sup>  
10 am

A large graphic with a background image of a lighthouse on a rocky shore at sunset. The sky is a mix of dark blue, orange, and red. The lighthouse is white with a black top. The text is overlaid on the image in white and yellow fonts.

CALVARY YOUTH PRESENT

# SPAGHETTI DINNER



All proceeds  
go to the  
Youth Adult  
Mission Trip



**April 28<sup>th</sup> 6pm-7:30 pm**

Parish Hall

Calvary UMC 131 W 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Frederick

*Spaghetti, sauce, meatballs, salad, and garlic bread  
will be served.*

*Questions: Reach out to Miss Jenn or email [calvaryyouth@calvaryumc.org](mailto:calvaryyouth@calvaryumc.org)*

*Calvary United Methodist Church.:*

*A community of welcome, affirmation, and love for all.*

# 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](mailto:calvaryyouth@calvaryumc.org)

### *Mission Trip 2026 Information Session*

Have you ever considered taking a week away and joining a mission team? Each year, Calvary UMC sends two teams of volunteers traveling out of the area to help rebuild communities. This is often a transformative experience for both the volunteers and those they serve.

July x-x our youth will travel with skilled adult leaders to serve at Henderson Settlement in Frakes, Kentucky, an Appalachian community with many residents needing help.

October 18-24 a volunteers in Mission (VIM) team will be returning to northwestern NC to work repairing homes damaged by Hurricane Helene in September 2024.

Join us in the fellowship hall on Tuesday evening, April 28 during the youth spaghetti dinner to learn about the areas we are traveling, the work we do and how you may become involved. You too can be the heart and hands of Christ in one of these communities.

### **April 12, 2026, 3:00 p.m. “Simplicity and Turbulence”**

Duo Arpeggione Catherine Lan, pianist and Claudio Jaffé, cellist

Critically-acclaimed concert artists, chamber musicians, and soloists Catherine Lan and Claudio Jaffe have performed throughout the world And in notable venues such as Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center.

They will perform works by Bach, Beethoven, Grieg, and Foote and will bring These musical compositions to life with virtuosity, passion, humor, and sensitivity in a program you don't want to miss.

Cellist Claudio Jaffe` has been hailed by the New York Times as “as elegant and accomplished artist “taste, technique, musicianship, and contagious youthful enthusiasm.” His recitals and guest solo appearances with multiple orchestras have been across the U.S. and abroad. As recitalist and chamber musician, Jaffe` has concertized around the world.



### *Scholarships for Calvary Students*

Calvary United Methodist Church offers scholarships to students pursuing higher education. Applicants must show desire to engage in some sort of Christian service during their study program. Only students who are actively involved in church activities and hold a cumulative grade point average of 2.7 or higher will be considered.



For more information and an application please visit <https://calvaryumc.org/scholarships/>  
Applications will be live on April 20, 2026. All applications will be due by May 14, 2026.

## Trustees Report April 2026

*Note: This is the monthly update from the Trustees*

Here are some of the items that the Trustees were working on in March. The Calvary Bus that transports the Grateful Hearts class, batteries went dead. It was taken to Colonial Bus company in Monrovia, where the batteries were replaced, and the bus received a full safety inspection. Maintenance will be scheduled on a regular basis.

Thanks to Roy Schwarzenburg for his efforts in cleaning the kitchen areas around the stove and grill top. The city performed an inspection of the kitchen facilities, finding two minor deficiencies that were corrected within two hours. A contract cleaning company will be coming in after Easter to clean the vents and hood above the range. This was last done in 2019.

Finally, Greg Gray and Rob Summers have been working with our audio contractor to keep the system functioning. This 10 year old system, appears to be beyond repair. We will be exploring different options to maintain a high quality of audio both in the Sanctuary, Chapel and for the Streaming service

Fred Schumacher



## **Blood Drive**

**Calvary UMC  
Frederick  
Parish Hall**

131 W Second Street  
Frederick, MD 21701

**Wednesday, May 6, 2026  
8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.**



- 1, Owen Duthoy, Patricia Reynolds, Abigail Shankle
- 2, Rachael Bostian, Nancy Dobbs, Henry Maubert
- 3, Teri Kreitzer, Jeremy Leftwich
- 5, Aaron Burall, Scott Pearce, Mariah Williams
- 6, Becky Bostian, Jeff Dragan, Eryn Keyser
- 7, Adam Heller, Patty Keyser, Melissa Rust, Logan Sparks
- 8, Leo Daugherty, Melissa Gaeta
- 9, Marilyn Marshall, Patricia Sterling, Nancy Strine
- 10, Fran Haller, Nancy Huffman, Leslie Hutzell
- 11, Emma Cerrito, Katie Glock, Amy McGreevy, Douglas McKinnon, Magda Morales
- 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, Justin Perryman, Cristian Rojas, Judy Shickel
- 23, Shannon Kraham, Gabrielle Sloviksoky
- 24, Ryley Harper, Gabriel Lancione, Rachel Reading
- 25, Suzanne Nusbaum, Jason Ramsburg, Bonnie Strine
- 26, Ken Dunnington, Garth Phoebus
- 27, Elaina Souders
- 28, Valerie Proudfoot, Trisha Stouter
- 29, Richard Delauter, Elinor Eiker, Joshua Reading
- 30, Xavier Gaeta



### April Anniversaries

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

# April 2026



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 6 p.m. Men's Bible Study	2 7 p.m. Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service	3	4 Community Easter Egg Hunt & Celebration 2 p-4p
5 8 a.m. Women at the Tomb 10 a.m. Easter Celebration	6 6 p.m. SPRC	7 10 a.m. Bible Study 1:30 p.m. UMF Ex. Board 6:30 p.m. Handbells 7:30 p.m. Choir	8 6 p.m. Men's Bible Study	9	10	11 7:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast 9 a.m. Washington Ringers Society
12 9 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Joyful Voices 3 p.m. Concert 5:30 p.m. Youth Group	13 5 p.m. SHP Dinner 7 p.m. SHP Team Meeting	14 10 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Handbells 7:30 p.m. Choir	15 6 p.m. Men's Bible Study	16	17	18
19 Youth Sunday 9 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Joyful Voices	20 5 p.m. Mission Work Meeting	21 10 a.m. Bible Study 1:30 p.m. Wesleyan Circle 6:30 p.m. Handbells 7:30 p.m. Choir	22 2 p.m. Miriam's Circle 6p.m. Men's Bible Study	23	24	25 9:30 a.m. BWC Annual Conference
26 9 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Joyful Voices 11:15 a.m. Portrait Dedication 5:30 p.m. Youth Group	27	28 10 a.m. Bible Study 6 p.m. Youth Spaghetti Dinner 6:30 p.m. Handbells 7:30 p.m. Choir	29 6 p.m. Men's Bible Study	30		

**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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