



FROM OUR HILL

an edition of

The United Methodist Reporter

Two Sections, Section A | 054715 | Vol. 154 | No. 49 | April 11, 2008

Pastor
Peter van Eys

Associate Pastor
Susan Spieth

Children's Ministry
Jule Nyhuis

Adult Ministry
Libby Baxter

Music Ministry
Deborah Graham

Youth Ministry
Kris Lott

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United Methodist Church
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April 13, 2008

8:15 a.m.
Celebration Service in the Sanctuary

9:15 a.m.
Adult, Youth and Children's
Sunday School

10:30 a.m.
Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary

10:30 a.m.
CalvaryConnection in the CLC

6:30 p.m. – Service of Prayer
and Communion in the Chapel

Acts 2:42-47;
Psalm 23;
1 Peter 2:19-25;
John 10:1-10

Calvary Cares Line: 385-1600

For an update on the joys and concerns of the church, please call the above Calvary Cares Line number.

2008 Church Budget

\$1,593,000

Monthly receipts needed
for the 2008 Budget:
\$132,750

Receipts to 2/29/2008	\$ 170,938
Disbursements to 2/29/2008	248,051

INSIDE

8A

Third Annual
Parents' Institute
to be held at Calvary

Tennessee
Conference Camp
dates announced for
children and youth

Giving to the Church

Over the years I have acquired many possessions. I have closets, an attic and a basement to prove it. I bet most people reading this column are in the same boat; actually, I own a canoe, but you know what I mean. I was thinking about all my stuff while switching summer and winter wardrobes in my day to day closet. It only looks like I wear the



same thing everyday.

Imagine that, I need more than one closet for my clothes, not to mention the dresser with socks, etc. Then there is still another closet with my coats. The whole family shares that one; occasionally outer-wear finds its way to the locker outside, based on wetness and degree of dirt. We each have multiple coats for varying temperatures and weather conditions.

My clothes have primarily come to me as gifts, although I still have the suit I bought to escort Patti to a wedding reception, our first date. Clothes are standard fare at Christmas and birthdays, though even churches have seen fit to outfit me. I am more likely now to receive shoe polish.

I have other possessions beyond clothes, lots of them. Consequently I live a very comfortable life. I am thankful, but I also know it comes with some danger to my soul. It would be easy for me to lose

sight of my dependence upon God because I feel so secure in my own circumstance. Likewise, I must guard against the notion that I have generated my quality of life by my power alone.

I read and hear that we are entering very difficult financial times in the United States. I have experienced rising costs of groceries and gas, but I know the matter is much bigger than that. There is a palpable sense of anxiety about the economy across the nation that we can feel within the Calvary community.

To some segments of society that may sound strange, for by and large we are a well to do lot. Some have more closets than me and others fewer, but on average we live comfortably none the less. Yet, I am sure that every Calvary family is facing decisions concerning their household budget. Let me be so bold as to say, maybe we should welcome this as a time to re-evaluate our priorities; I can assure you they are reflected in what we do with our money.

It has been noted that challenges often bring out the best in people. I would like to think that the downward economy will bring out the best in people of faith, specifically Calvary folks. Concern over the economy should lead Christians to the biblical principles addressing possessions. God is creator of all and all belongs to God. We are not in control of our possessions and must be vigilant not to let them control us. The life worth living is realized through sacrificial giving,

and God has provided a minimum benchmark of the tithe to help us move toward that abundant life.

I would like to think that if all Calvary members prayerfully consider their giving to the church in light of a tightening household budget, giving to the operating budget might actually increase. Giving first to God is what God expects of us. The patterns of giving at Calvary over the past two decades have been developed in a comfort zone that has taken the church for granted.

A recession forces all of us to look at where our money goes. I submit to you that an honest assessment by Calvary members, intent on living as God instructs, will lead to a deeper commitment to the church. It will remind us what really holds value, it will redefine our relationship to our possessions, and it will prompt us to act according to our profession of faith.

Moving clothes from one closet to another does not help to establish God's kingdom nor share the good news of Christ Jesus. It does not even bring me joy, much less abundant joy. Ah, but giving to God through Calvary..."You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity...you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others." (2 Corinthians 9:11a, 13b)

Peter van Eys, Senior Pastor

Lunch and tour at the Belmont Mansion

On Thursday, April 24, Adult Fellowship will sponsor a tour of historic Belmont Mansion with curator Mark Brown preceded by lunch in the elegant Grand Salon. The cost of the tour and the lunch (including tip) is \$23.75 per person. The menu for the day will be a buffet lunch of fried chicken, slow roasted sliced sirloin with au jus, marinated cucumber salad, buttermilk mashed potatoes, yellow squash and tomato au gratin, fresh green beans with almond butter, fresh fruit cobbler, rolls and butter, and a choice of beverage. Lunch is served in round tables on china with linen tablecloths and napkins in the mansion's Grand Salon. Following lunch, curator Mark Brown will take us on a one hour tour of the mansion.

We will meet at Calvary at 11:00 a.m. to travel over to the Belmont Mansion. Lunch will be at 11:30 a.m., followed by the tour at 12:30 p.m. There is a twenty person minimum for us to have this experience, so call and sign up today! Call Carol Stedman at the church at 297-7562 to make your reservation.



Reelika Tigane
One of the youth coming to Nashville from Estonia

CALVARY AT A GLANCE



American Red Cross

The Red Cross will be in Fellowship Hall this Sunday, April 13, from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. for blood donations. Please take time to give the gift of life.

Visit Calvary's web site:
www.calvaryumc.com

Origin and Meaning of the Cross and Flame

The cross and flame emblem is the United Methodist denomination's official insignia. The duality of the flame represents the 1968 merger of the Methodist Church with the Evangelical United Brethren Church. The cross linked with a flame reflects how the Church is united to God through Christ (the cross) and the Holy Spirit (the flame.) The flame is also reminiscent of the Pentecost, when witnesses saw "tongues as of fire."



Adult Fellowship future programs:

Thursday, May 22—The Frist Center
"From Monet to Dali" and "Tiffany Lamps"

Thursday, June 26—Connie Sue Davenport,
Antiques and Personal Property Appraiser

CHURCH FAMILY

Sympathy

We extend our love and sympathy to the family of **Judy Haston** whose funeral was held on Wednesday, April 2nd in Sparta, Tenn.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, April 13

- 11:30 a.m. Estonia Planning Meeting
- 3:00 p.m. Brass Ensemble
- 3:00 p.m. Youth Praise Band
- 3:30 p.m. K-6 Choir
- 4:00 p.m. Wesley Study Group
- 4:00 p.m. Youth Handbells
- 4:30 p.m. Dave Ramsey Financial Peace
- 4:30 p.m. Spiritual Formation Group
- 5:00 p.m. K-6 Snack Supper
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Choir
- 5:30 p.m. 3-6 Handbells
- 6:00 p.m. UMYF
- 6:15 p.m. Adult Handbells

Monday, April 14

- 1:30 p.m. Adult Fitness
- 4:30 p.m. Yoga Class

Tuesday, April 15

- 8:00 a.m. Covenant Group
- 1:00 p.m. Knitting Group
- 7:00 p.m. YCS Board

Wednesday, April 16

- 9:30 a.m. Bible Study
- 1:30 p.m. Adult Fitness
- 5:30 p.m. WNL Dinner
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Programs
- 6:10 p.m. Kingdom Kids
- 6:15 p.m. Praise Team
- 6:15 p.m. WNL Program
- 6:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

Friday, April 18

- 1:30 p.m. Adult Fitness

May Friendship Day

May Friendship Day, sponsored by Church Women United, will be Friday, May 2 at 9:30 a.m. at Woodmont Christian Church (Calvary's next door neighbor!). This year's theme follows the World Day of Prayer (God's Wisdom Provides New Understanding) by celebrating how "God's Wisdom Inspires Hospitality."

May Friendship Day is always celebrated on the first Friday of May with women of different Christian denominations coming together to nurture their friendships and spirits. Bring a luncheon dish to share with others. Childcare is available only with an advance registration. For childcare, call Rosemary Brown at 383-2686 by April 29 with a request for childcare. For more information about May Friendship Day, call Brenda Leach, Calvary's representative to Church Women United.

Tennessee Conference schedule of summer camps

ELEMENTARY CAMP

(Graduated 3rd–6th graders)

Elementary camp provides an outdoor setting in which graduated 3rd–6th graders are given the opportunity to explore God's creation, experience living in a small faith community that challenges social and personal skills, and explore their faith as it relates to life experiences.

Each camper will be assigned a small group with two counselors. Camp activities include morning and evening devotionals, Bible study, arts and crafts, games, nature studies, swimming, canoeing, creek stumping, cook-outs, and other camp wide activities. The cost is \$170.

Week 1 ~ June 2–6

Week 2 ~ June 16–20

Week 3 ~ June 23–27

Week 4 ~ July 7–11

Week 5 ~ July 14–18

Week 6 ~ July 21–25

YOUTH CAMP

(Graduated 6th–9th graders)

Through small groups, under the guidance of counselors who are equipped for leadership in this setting, the campers will enjoy varied experiences that will better develop a sense of security in their love of God. Campers are provided quiet time and are incorporated in worship experiences. Cost: \$200.

Week 1 ~ June 2–6

Week 2 ~ June 16–20 (Rustic Camp Week)

Week 3 ~ June 23–27

Week 4 ~ July 7–11

Week 5 ~ July 14–18

Week 6 ~ July 21–21 (Senior High Week)

(Graduated 9th–12th grade only)

To register, go online at www.tnumc.org and click on camping to register online or mail to: 7900 Cedar Crest Camp Rd., Lyles, TN 37098. Make checks payable to Tennessee Annual Conference.

Cedar Crest Camp is located off exit 172 on I-40W. It is about a 45 minute drive from Nashville.

A selection of pictures from last year's camps are on the conference web site at www.tnumc.org.



The Beach Party
is coming to Calvary
July 21-25, 2008

during
Vacation Bible School
Look for more information in
the near future!

Third Annual Parents' Institute at Calvary UMC *Living Faithfully in a Consumer Culture*

Sunday, April 20, 2008

9:15–10:15 a.m.

in the Christian Life Center

"Protecting our Children from the
Onslaught of a Consumer Culture"
(Lecture by Jule Nyhuis)

For her doctoral work, Jule completed a year-long practicum with Calvary families that examined cultural influences on their lives. For her doctoral final project, Jule led a small group of Calvary children in an intentional practice of meeting with children of a different socio-economic background to see how gospel principles might be deepened in all those involved. In "Protecting our Children from the Onslaught of a Consumer Culture," she will explore some of the findings of her work.

and

Sunday, April 27, 2008

9:15–10:15 a.m.

in the Christian Life Center

"Questions and Answers
for Conscientious Christian Living"
(A discussion with a Panel of Parents)

CalvaryConnection
bringing God and people together in worship

Each Sunday at 10:30 a.m.
in the Christian Life Center

April in CalvaryConnection

April 13 — Youth Sunday
in CalvaryConnection

April 20 — "Show Us the Father"
Susan Spieth Preaching

April 27 — Peter van Eys Preaching

WNL Explores "Other Religions"

The topic for Wednesday Nite Live on April 16 will be Part 2 of "Other Religions," a segment of the "Serious Answers to Hard Questions" series. Part 2 of the DVD on other religions will be shown followed by a discussion led by Libby Baxter. The WNL meal begins at 5:30 p.m. in the Christian Life Center, and the program begins at 6:15 in the Remnant Classroom. The menu for the meal on April 16 will be chicken spaghetti, sugar snap peas, seven layer salad, rolls, and frozen lemonade pie. The cost of the meal is \$7.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children with a family maximum cost of \$18.00. To make your reservation for dinner, call the church at 297-7562 by Monday, April 14 at noon.