

FROM OUR HILL

Vol. 156 | No.40 | February 5, 2010

Pastor
Peter van Eys

Minister of Discipleship
Libby Baxter

Music Ministry
Deborah Graham

Children's Ministry
Stephanie Baxter Dunn

Youth Ministry
Kris Lott

CALVARY

United Methodist Church
3701 Hillsboro Pike
Nashville, Tennessee 37215
615.297-7562
www.calvaryumc.com

Calvary Cares Line: 385-1600

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

February 7, 2010

8:30 a.m.

CalvaryConnection in the Chapel

9:15 a.m.

Sunday School

10:30 a.m.

Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary

6:30 p.m.

Service of Prayer & Holy Communion

in the Chapel

~~~~

Isaiah 6:1-8

Psalms 138

I Corinthians 15:1-11

Luke 5:1-11

## Markers to God's Kingdom



The recent snowfall opened my world to many lovely sights. There was the beauty of it coming down and blanketing the landscape. There was the joy of seeing rabbits bound across the white covered yard. I smiled while watching children and youth sled down the street, heartened by their laughter filled play. I marveled at the midnight brightness the snow created, and enjoyed the holy stillness of the Warner woods on an afternoon hike with Patti, Tari, and Jim.

I also witnessed the beautiful in acts of kindness by Calvary members. We are a Friday night host community through the Room in the Inn ministry. In anticipation of the severe weather (cold and snow), we had been asked to receive extra guests. The class responsible for the night responded with a spirit filled eagerness to honor that request. In fact, it prompted one individual to inquire how many persons are turned away each night by the Room in the Inn ministry because there are not enough beds. I asked; up to 80 was the answer. May God forgive me for not having ever sought that information before.

Calvary also has responsibility for the noon meal at Community Care Fellowship every fifth Sunday of a month. January 31st was one of those Sundays. I was privileged to behold our members joyfully living out that commitment in spite of the challenges of getting the food to Calvary for delivery across town. How wonderful that we have been able to share in this ministry.

I might add that it warmed the heart to greet brothers and sisters in Christ in worship and Sunday school. One of our youngest members responded to my hello with "I am going to build a snowman!" Maybe some folks were simply glad to be out of the house, even if that meant going to church, but everyone seemed in an upbeat mood. Like I said, I glimpsed many lovely sights.

I write today with snow nearly gone, Metro schools back in session, and local groceries stores restocking milk. Have you ever wondered why we all seem to want milk in the house when a snow storm is coming? Casual conversation on a hospital elevator made clear that people are ready for warmer days. They will come when they come. More striking was the statement by one fellow passenger, "I just want everything to get back to normal."

With our attention still drawn to developments in Haiti, the power of nature and the effects of weather cycles are front and center. Normal will be a long time coming there. In the meantime the same lovely has emerged in acts of compassion, and where faith, family, and community are celebrated. However, big questions, eternal questions, existential questions hang in the air. Why such loss of life and destruction?

*The skies can't keep their secret! They tell it to the hills-  
The hills just tell the orchards - and they the daffodils!*

*A bird, by chance, that goes that way, soft overheard the whole.  
If I should bribe the little bird, who knows what it would tell?*

*I think I won't however; it's finer not to know;  
If summer were an axiom, what sorcery had snow?*

*So keep your secret, Father! I would not, if I could.  
Know what the sapphire fellows do, in your new fashioned world!*

*Continued on next page*

## CHURCH AT A GLANCE

### ESL Volunteers Needed!

Anyone interested in teaching English to non-native speakers on a weekly basis, please contact Jessica Bridges (jessica@calvaryumc.com). The first step toward teaching ESL at Calvary is to attend Training with the Nashville Adult Literacy Council on Sat., Feb. 27. Please let Jessica know if you can attend the training.

### Haiti Health Kits

Thank you for your support. We received and delivered over 200 completed kits last week to the conference office. We are still accepting kits.

## CHURCH FAMILY

We extend our love and sympathy to **Terry and Anne Carty** and their children **James** and **Rebecca** in the death of Terry's father, Jack Carty, Sr. We also extend our love to **Jonathan and Julie Wilburn**; Jonathan was the grandson of Jack Carty.

We extend our congratulations to **Matt and Leila Eads** in the birth of their daughter, Elizabeth Lucile.

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

### Sunday, February 7, 2010

- 8:30 a.m. CalvaryConnection
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
- 11:30 a.m. Youth Choir
- 12:00 p.m. Mission Committee
- 12:30 p.m. Youth Bells
- 3:00 p.m. Coaches meeting (CLC)
- 5:00 p.m. UMYF - offsite
- 6:30 p.m. Prayer & Holy Communion

### Monday, February 8

- 5:30 p.m. Jr. High Basketball
- 6:30 p.m. Girls Basketball
- 6:30 p.m. Weaving Reading Group

### Tuesday, February 9

- 8:00 a.m. Covenant Group
- 11:30 a.m. Communication Committee (223)
- 1:00 p.m. Needle Arts (223)
- 4:00 p.m. Tutoring @ Cottage Cove
- 6:00 p.m. Sr. High Boys Basketball Practice
- 7:00 p.m. Children Committee (204)
- 7:00 p.m. Trustees (223)

### Wednesday, February 10

- 1:30 p.m. Adult Fitness
- 5:30 p.m. WNL
- 6:15 p.m. Praise Team
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

### Friday, February 12

- 1:30 p.m. Adult Fitness
- 5:00 p.m. Room in the Inn

### Pastor's Article Continued

Emily Dickinson wrote that poem, most likely looking out her bedroom window. I know she is correct, that spring and summer will come; and I believe she is right to opt for the mystery of it all. Our daily lives were impacted by the snow, but the familiar routine of my days has returned. The ground in Haiti may have stopped moving, but a new familiar has taken hold. There are some questions I am comfortable leaving unanswered, confident that the lovely in our midst provides markers for living into God's Kingdom.

Peter van Eys, Senior Pastor

## A Small Group Gathering in Lent: *The Awkward Season*

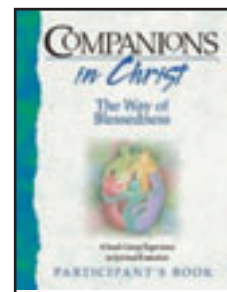
On Sunday, February 21, a six-session small group experience will begin at Calvary. The Reverend Pam Hawkins will lead this group through the Scriptures, prayers, and guided reflection on the season, using her new book, *The Awkward Season: Prayers for Lent*.

Each session will last from 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. on Sundays. To sign up for this small group, contact Libby Baxter at 297-7562 or libby@calvaryumc.com

## Study of "The Beatitudes" Begins February 21

The Way of Blessedness is a small-group resource that explores Jesus' first teachings from The Sermon on the Mount commonly referred to as the Beatitudes. These teachings hold within them the key to realizing God's joy-filled intent for us – to live the soul-deep gladness and satisfaction of our faith. The path to which Christ calls us is certainly challenging. These teachings may first strike us as strange or confusing. But as we move forward on this journey of exploration of the Beatitudes, the hope is that you will discover for yourself and as a group how the way of blessedness calls us into the very life of God's kingdom.

This small group experience led by Libby Baxter will begin on Sunday, February 21 and conclude on Sunday, April 25. Commitment to the class involves daily reading of short pieces of Scripture, reflection on the daily Scripture, and one reading per week from the class book. The time frame for the class will be Sunday evenings 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. To sign up for the class, contact Libby at 297-7562 or at libby@calvaryumc.com.



## Souper Bowl of Caring

Our youth will hold soup pots at church doors on Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday, February 7, 2010. They will join young people in churches across the country to collect money for those who are hungry and hurting. In 2009, over 13,000 groups participated in the Souper Bowl of Caring generating over \$10 million. All of the money collected is donated to a charity selected by the participant. None of the money is sent to the Souper Bowl of Caring headquarters. Organizers only ask that each participant report their collection so national totals can be determined and announced. Since the Souper Bowl of Caring began in 1990, more than \$60 million has gone to help people in need. Please support the youth of our church in this effort to "love our neighbors" by dropping your dollar in the soup pot on February 7th. **This year, all money received will go to the Bethlehem Center.**



## Adult Fellowship to share “*Life Among the Lutherans*”

We may not have Garrison Keillor in person, but we have the next best thing – George Koehler! On Thursday, February 25, at 11:00 a.m., George will share with Adult Fellowship stories from Garrison Keillor’s new book, *Life Among the Lutherans*. For fans of Keillor’s mythical town, Lake Wobegon, “where all the women are strong, all the men are good-looking, and all the children are above average,” this will be a special treat.

Based on Garrison Keillor’s Lake Wobegon monologues, *Life Among the Lutherans* is a collection of stories about the struggles of ordinary people in an imperfect world, the life and work of the pastor who leads them, and the church to whose high standards they aspire in the small town they call home. And who better to bring these stories to life than our own Reverend George Koehler?

The Adult Fellowship program will begin at 11:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall, and lunch will follow. The cost of the lunch is \$7.00 per person. To make your reservation, call the church at 297-7562 by Tuesday, February 23.



## Trip to Chaffin’s Barn

On Thursday, March 25, the Older Adult Council will sponsor a trip to Chaffin’s Barn to see “Frankly, My Dear.” The cost of the brown bag matinee is \$19.00 per person. You will bring your own brown bag lunch, and the beverages will be supplied by Chaffin’s. Lunch is at 11:00 a.m., and the play begins at noon.

“Frankly, My Dear” is hilarious ... and mostly true! It is 1939 and David O. Selznick has already begun filming “Gone With the Wind” but needs a new script. There is only one writer up to the task: the legendary Ben Hecht. The only problem is that Hecht has never read the book, and they have only one week to write. So, Selznick locks himself, Hecht, and the director Victor Fleming (on a short hiatus from “The Wizard of Oz”) in his office to get the job done. If laughter feeds the soul, the antics which produce one of the classic movies of all time will ensure you’ll “never go hungry again!”

We have twenty tickets reserved for the play, so get your reservation in early. The deadline for both reservations and payments is Thursday, February 25. Reservations cancelled before February 25 will receive a refund of your money; reservations cancelled after February 25 will not receive a refund. Call the church at 297-7562 to reserve your ticket, and come by the church before February 25 to make your payment and secure your ticket. If you have questions, call Libby Baxter at the church.

## WNL Concludes “Looking at Literature Through the Eyes of Faith”

On Wednesday night, February 10, we will have the final session of the series on Literature and Faith. Many thanks to the persons that have shared how certain pieces of literature have shaped their faith journeys: Peter van Eys, Stephanie Baxter Dunn, Jan van Eys, and Libby Baxter. The presenter for February 10 will be Tom McAnally; thank you, Tom.

The Wednesday Nite Live meal begins at 5:30 p.m., and the program begins at 6:15 and ends at 7:00. The menu for February 10 will be Chicken Marabella, Cinderella Potatoes, Mixed Greens, Rolls, and Triple Fudge Cake. The cost of the meal is \$7.00 for adult and \$4.00 for children. To make your reservation for the meal, call the church at 297-7562 by Monday, February 8 at noon.

### Youth Auction / Luncheon - Sunday - March 7 -We NEED YOU!

Please help with the biggest youth missions fundraiser of the year

- Donate art or other such items to the auction that showcase your talents
- Contact your favorite restaurant or merchant. See if they will donate/or you can purchase a gift certificate to sell at the auction.
  - Donate new items to sell at the auction.
- Classes or Individuals can sponsor a van for the trip for \$500 and/or a counselor for \$200.
  - Purchase youth to work for you in three-hour blocks.
- Make your reservations to attend the Luncheon and Auction on Sunday, March 7 following the 10:30 worship service.

Please contact Kris Lott at Calvary  
Martha Lott at 371-1751  
with Donations or Questions



Choir Tour



www.calvaryumc.com



3701 Hillsboro Pike  
Nashville, TN 37215

Calvary United Methodist Church

## Support our youth basketball teams!

The regular season is winding down and the seeding will be set for the tournament brackets next week. This **Saturday, February 6** is the last day of the regular season. Here is the schedule:

|                      |       |                     |
|----------------------|-------|---------------------|
| Jr. High Boys        | 11:00 | at Calvary UMC      |
| Girls                | 12:00 | at West End UMC     |
| Sr. High Boys ~ Lott | 2:00  | at Westminster Pres |
| Sr. High Boys ~ Dunn | 2:00  | at Calvary UMC      |

There is a coaches meeting on Sunday, February 7 to get our tournament schedule. The games will be played on Feb. 8, 9, 11, 15, 16, 18. We will post the schedule on the calendar page on the church website.

