

FROM OUR HILL

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Pastor
Peter van Eys

Minister of Discipleship
Libby Baxter

Music Ministry
Deborah Graham

Children's Ministry
Stephanie Baxter Dunn

Youth Ministry
Kris Lott

CALVARY

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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 14, 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

Exodus 34:29-35

Psalms 99

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

Luke 9:28-36

Ash Wednesday and the Season of Lent



A clear benefit of the snow has been to render equal the appearance of property on Hoods Hill Road. It is a nice feeling. At the risk of bursting any illusions, I am not the most fastidious resident in 37215 when it comes to mowing and raking and weeding and picking up fallen limbs. I spend more time worrying about my clothing and appearance. Yet, on these snow days our yard looks absolutely beautiful!

My approach to yard care may be instrumental in providing the menagerie I am blessed to see from porch or window. However, it does not necessarily endear me to the neighbors. For instance, living at the top of the hill, the same rain that might tidy up my yard has an opposite effect down the road. Thus, there is incentive to be more

disciplined in the care of the yard.

February 17th is Ash Wednesday, which begins the Christian season of Lent. Lent is a forty day season, not counting Sundays, that will end on Holy Saturday, the day before Easter. Historically Lent was a period of preparation for those seeking baptism and membership in the Church; typically through fasting, prayer, and study. Today members of the body of Christ understand Lent as a season of penance and make corrective efforts to prioritize their lives around the means of grace. In other words, to be more disciplined in the care of our souls.

You might be interested to know that the date for Easter, which then in turn sets the date for Ash Wednesday, is determined by the moon. The First Council of Nicea in 325 AD established that Easter would be the first Sunday after the first full moon following the vernal equinox each year. Therefore, the date for Easter will vary between March 22nd and April 25th; this year on April 4th.

Lent is an important season in our faith development and spiritual growth. On the one hand, like the snow cover of recent days, it is a great equalizer. We are reminded that we are all sinners and we marvel at the grace of God that falls upon us all; praying and singing with confidence words from Psalm 51: "wash me and I shall be whiter than snow". On the other hand, observing a Holy Lent highlights the weeding and raking and mowing and picking up that need to happen in our personal lives. As forgiven people, we are called to live lives worthy of repentance.

You will find in these pages a number of ways for you to strengthen your relationship with God during the season of Lent; worship, fellowship, study, and opportunities for service. To begin, I encourage you to attend one of the two Ash Wednesday services, noon in the Chapel or 6:15 in the Sanctuary. Both will be a service of confession and repentance, acknowledging our sin and our mortality; an opportunity to have the sign of the cross etched with ashes on our forehead while hearing an invitation to "believe the good news". That God's grace is greater than our sin, God's love will empower us for Kingdom living, and God's gift through Christ Jesus is life eternal.

Peter van Eys, Senior Pastor

Ash Wednesday Services on February 17 Noon in the Chapel & 6:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary

The use of ashes as a sign of mortality and repentance has a long history in Jewish and Christian worship, and the Imposition of Ashes is a powerful nonverbal and experiential way of participating in the call to repentance and reconciliation. On Ash Wednesday, we will have the opportunity of being marked with the burned ashes of the palm branches from the previous Passion/Palm Sunday.

CHURCH AT A GLANCE

Blood Drive

Sunday, February 28th - 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Located in the CLC

Sign ups in the Master Commons

Communications Committee

The newly formed Communications Committee is looking for members. If you are interested in learning more or have ideas on how to better enhance communications at Calvary, please contact Shirley Drescher (shirleydrescher@yahoo.com or 615-376-2563).

CHURCH FAMILY

We extend our love and sympathy to **Brad, Jennifer and Sam Dillard** and their family in the death of Benjamin Dillard. His service will be Monday, February 15th at 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary, with visitation on Sunday, February 14th from 3 to 6 p.m. in Masters Common.

We extend our congratulations to **Richard Baxter, Jr. and Ann Haywood-Baxter** in the birth of their twins, Hannah Jane and Micah John. They were born October 26, 2009 in Boston, Massachusetts.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, February 14, 2010

8:30 a.m. CalvaryConnection

9:15 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship

12:00 p.m. Friends of Estonia Meeting (223)

3:00 p.m. K-2 Children's Choir

3:45 p.m. 3-6 Children's Choir

4:00 p.m. Youth Bells

5:00 p.m. Children's Snack Supper

5:00 p.m. Youth Choir

5:30 p.m. Children's Handbells

6:00 p.m. UMYF

6:15 p.m. Adult Handbells

6:30 p.m. Prayer & Holy Communion

Monday, February 15

YCS CLOSED

1:30 p.m. Adult Fitness

Tuesday, February 16

8:00 a.m. Covenant Group

4:00 p.m. Tutoring @ Cottage Cove

6:00 p.m. Finance Committee

6:30 p.m. Evangelism

Wednesday, February 17

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 19

1:30 p.m. Adult Fitness

5:00 p.m. Room in the Inn

Wednesday Nite Live ~ February 17

On Wednesday, February 17, there will be an Ash Wednesday worship service at 6:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary following the 5:30 p.m. meal in the Christian Life Center. There will be a nursery for pre-school children during the worship service. The menu for Feb. 17 is Beef Lasagna, Vegetable Lasagna, Caesar Salad, Garlic Bread, and Cheesecake. The cost of the meal is \$7.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children. Make your reservation for dinner by calling the church at 297-7562 by Monday, February 15 at noon.

Book Group

The Book Group will meet Tuesday, February 23, at 10:00 a.m. in room 309. Janet Bell will review *Enemies of the People* by Katie Marton. This book is the true story of the author's family during the communist reign of terror in Budapest. It details the imprisonment of her parents and the family's eventual move to America. Please join us.



Worship Opportunities During Lent February 17 – April 2, 2010

“The early Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord’s passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church that before the Easter celebration, there should be a forty-day season of spiritual preparation. In this way the whole congregation was reminded of the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel of Jesus Christ and the need we all have to renew our faith.” (The United Methodist Book of Worship)

Sunday mornings: 8:30 a.m. – Calvary Connection in the Chapel
10:30 a.m. – Traditional Service in the Sanctuary

Sunday evening: 6:30 p.m. – Communion in the Chapel

Wednesday evenings: 6:15 p.m. – Worship in the Sanctuary

Note: Childcare will be provided throughout Lent for the 6:15 service.

Weekdays: Noon to 12:15 -- Midday Prayers in the Chapel
Monday through Friday -- February 17 – April 2

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

Opportunities to Learn About Adoption

1)The Middle Tennessee Inter-Agency Adoption Coalition (IAC) is holding their annual adoption conference – Fundamentals of Adoption.

Sunday, February 21 from 1pm – 5pm at the Gordon Jewish Community Center (801 Percy Warner Blvd., Nashville); \$25 per person or \$40 per couple

For information, call: 269-5540 or contact Miriam’s Promise at 292-3500, ext. 206.

2)A representative from Children’s Home Society and Family Services will speak on how adoption of a child from another country can be a possibility for you. Monday, February 22 at 6pm at Tulip Street UMC (522 Russell St., Nashville); free - Contact Person: Susan Smith at 615-292-2500 or susans@miriamspromise.org

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 Flemming (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.

A Successful Alternative Gift Fair!

A big thank you to everyone who supported the Alternative Gift Fair during the season of Advent! We raised about \$5,000, on par with the level of giving the past few years. Calvary continues to be a community that gives generously to missions that make differences in people’s lives in Nashville and around the world.

The proceeds for each mission were as follows:

Renewal House	\$300
Rooftop Nashville	\$460
Barth Vernon UMC Food Pantry	\$505
Estonia Children’s Center Lighthouse	\$740
Georgian Youth Rescue	\$745
Heifer Project	\$1,400
Equal Exchange	\$724
Any Mission	\$280



Donations given for “Any Mission” and the profit margin for Equal Exchange items went to Renewal House, Rooftop, and Barth Vernon UMC.

Lots of thanks to:

- The Missions Council**, who offered guidance in planning the Fair!
 - The Children’s Council** and **Pastor Stephanie**, who also offered guidance in planning and helped prepare craft items and signs for the Fair!
 - All who helped set up, take down the tables for the Fair, and staff the check-out table each week!
 - The Confirmation class** for staffing the Equal Exchange table!
 - Jennifer Oakes** from the youth group, who made the beautiful friendship bracelets to support Georgian Youth Rescue!
 - The Children’s Sunday school classes**, who made ornaments for Heifer and Renewal House!
 - Those who helped to bring together other items, like the Estonia Lighthouse ornaments and groceries purchased for Barth Vernon UMC!
 - Kroger**, for a discount on bulk groceries and a donation of 20 reusable grocery bags!
 - Trader Joe’s**, for a donation of 100 reusable grocery bags!
 - Walker Lumber**, for a discount rate on compact fluorescent lightbulbs!
 - And especially all who purchased items and made donations to the Alternative Gift Fair missions!
- Thanks to everyone for making the 2009 Advent Alternative Gift Fair a success!

Jessica Bridges, Minister of Missions and Outreach

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The Time is Near

Participate in the Youth Auction/Luncheon March 7
You can help the biggest youth missions fundraiser of the year. We NEED YOU!

- **Contact your favorite restaurant or merchant** and see if they will donate a gift certificate to sell at the auction. Or you can just purchase a gift certificate yourself and donate it to the cause.
- 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, Saturdays, March 27, April 10, and April 24
- Let us watch your children, while you have a **Parents' Night Out** on Fridays, March 26 and April 9
- **Make your reservations** to attend the Luncheon and Auction supporting Calvary Youth Missions on March 7 following the 10:30 worship service.

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