

FROM OUR HILL

Vol. 156 | No.46| March 19, 2010

Pastor
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Minister of Discipleship
Libby Baxter

Music Ministry
Deborah Graham

Children's Ministry
Stephanie Baxter Dunn

Youth Ministry
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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.

March 21, 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

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Isaiah 43:16-21

Psalms 126

Philippians 3:4b-14

John 12:1-8

## Giving To One Great Hour of Sharing, March Madness, and Defending our Souls



My column today falls in the middle of March, a month that excites us in many ways. The return of daylight savings time and the arrival of spring come to mind. So too the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering! You might not have seen that coming, or maybe you did. This is the offering that underwrites the work of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), so that monies given for every emergency appeal (such as we have had following recent earthquakes in Haiti, Chile, and Turkey) go 100% for the stated purpose.

The work of UMCOR is so important, enabling us to be a caring, healing, and loving presence wherever any have need. When we see pictures of destruction and death caused by a hurricane hitting the

Gulf Coast or a tsunami hitting Thailand, it is easy to write a check. Praise the Lord that Calvary folks are so generous! Yet, we must remember that the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering keeps the structure and ministry of UMCOR in place and ready to respond. OGHS envelopes are in the sanctuary pew racks throughout March.

We are also full into March Madness with enough local teams involved to ramp up interest beyond the annual office pool. For what it is worth, I agree with President Obama and pick Kansas to win it all. For the worldwide Christian community, March Madness has its own distinct flavor. It is not uncommon to hear someone ask with utter disbelief, "You aren't eating chocolate for six weeks?" The season of Lent presents its own challenges for any soul committed to advancing in their spiritual lives.

Like basketball the Christian life is a team endeavor with rules that provide structure, a set time in which each of us play out our earthly participation, and measurable outcomes regarding how we have contributed. It is even complete with coaches to guide us, cheerleaders urging us to be the best we can be and a soundtrack of sacred music, hymns, and praise songs. "Dynamite" is not one of them, but you get the point.

The sports metaphor works at another level which I think we often overlook, participants must consider offense and defense. It is easy to concentrate on living offensively as Christians, it can feel and even sound more exciting. Yet, every coach and athlete knows the equal importance of defense. Our Lenten journeys often include intentional faithfulness to the spiritual disciplines that nourish and nurture. We act with purpose when we pray, read scripture, attend worship, and give time in service to others. It is often more challenging to defend the faith and to defend our souls from temptations swirling all around us.

How do we defend ourselves from the viral effect of hateful speech? How do we defend ourselves from the dehumanizing impact of a culture that objectifies women? How do we defend ourselves from the false security of power? The list goes on; and there are enough screens and picks and fouls by the forces that challenge God's Kingdom to make this a hard fought battle.

There is, however, the good news of Jesus Christ and his victory over sin and death. We do not really know at this point whether Kansas will win the NCAA tournament, but we do know already that Christ Jesus triumphed over sin and death, and of his Kingdom there will be no end.

Soon we will enter Holy Week and both retell and rehearse the passion of our Lord Jesus. I trust that you have been active in your observance of a Holy Lent, a sort of March Madness to the non-believer, by daily devotion and spiritual discipline. Let me invite you to live through Holy Week 2010 with hearts and minds seeking defensive strategies we might learn from Jesus. Meditate on how Jesus navigated his confrontations with power, violence, affluence, fears, injustice, disappointment, and death.

Peter van Eys, Senior Pastor



## CHURCH NEWS



### Even Eagles Need a Push

April 30 – May 2, 2010  
 - Beersheba Springs  
 17th Annual Church  
 Retreat  
 Led by Rev. Vin Walkup  
 Sign up forms located  
 In Masters Common

### Easter Lilies

If you would like to place a lily in the sanctuary in honor or in memory of someone, please call Betsy at the office (297-7562). The cost of each lily is \$12.

## CHURCH FAMILY

We extend our love and sympathy to the family of **June White** in her recent death.

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

### Sunday, March 21, 2010

8:15 a.m. CalvaryConnection  
 9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship  
 11:30 a.m. Communication Committee  
 3:00 p.m. K-2 Children's Choir  
 3:45 p.m. 3-6 Children's Choir  
 4:00 p.m. Youth Bells  
 4:30 p.m. The Way of Blessedness  
 5:00 p.m. *The Awkard Season* Small Group  
 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, March 22

12:00 p.m. Lenten Prayer Service  
 1:30 p.m. Adult Fitness  
 7:00 p.m. Open Gym  
 7:30 p.m. Brass Ensemble Rehearsal

### Tuesday, March 23

10:00 a.m. Book Circle  
 12:00 p.m. Lenten Prayer Service  
 5:30 p.m. Staff-Parish Committee  
 7:00 p.m. Church Council (Chapel)

### Wednesday, March 24

12:00 p.m. Lenten Prayer Service  
 1:30 p.m. Adult Fitness  
 5:30 p.m. WNL  
 6:15 p.m. Praise Team  
 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

### Thursday, March 25

12:00 p.m. Lenten Prayer Service

### Friday, March 26

12:00 p.m. Lenten Prayer Service  
 1:30 p.m. Adult Fitness  
 5:00 p.m. Room in the Inn

## Wednesday Nite Live

March 24- Worship at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. "The Torture and Humiliation of the King" (Mark 15:15b-23) is the theme and scripture of the worship. Worship leaders will be Libby Baxter, Kris Lott, Lauren Brooks, and the Calvary Youth. You are invited to experience fellowship around the table at the WNL meal at 5:30 p.m. prior to the worship service. The cost of the meal is \$7.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children, and reservations are required by the Monday before each Wednesday night. Make your reservation by calling the church at 297-7562.

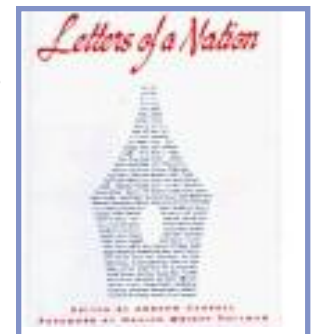


## Music City Bronze in Concert

Calvary United Methodist Church  
 Sunday, April 18, 2010 - 5:00 PM  
 Classics, Pop, Inspirational and Original  
 Selections by Middle Tennessee's Premier  
 Community Handbell Ensemble. See the  
 handbell instrument used to its fullest!  
 (Free Will Offering will be taken)

## Book Review

The Brook Group will meet **Tuesday, March 23**, at 10:00 am in room 309. Anne Gully will review the book *Letters of a Nation: A Collection of Extraordinary American Letters* edited by Andrew Carroll. The book contains nearly 200 letters covering more than 350 years of American history written by both powerful and ordinary persons. Please join us



## HOLY WEEK AT CALVARY

|                   |                 |                                                                                                            |
|-------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>March 28th</b> | <b>8:30 am</b>  | <b>Palm Sunday Connection Service</b> in Chapel                                                            |
|                   | <b>10:30 am</b> | <b>Palm Sunday Traditional Service</b> in Sanctuary<br><i>Children Process with Palms in 10:30 Service</i> |
|                   | <b>6:30 pm</b>  | <b>Prayer and Communion Service</b> in Chapel                                                              |
| <b>April 1st</b>  | <b>7:00 pm</b>  | <b>Holy Thursday</b><br>Communion, Foot/hand washing, Taize Music, Rev. Vin Walkup, preaching              |
| <b>April 2nd</b>  | <b>7:00 pm</b>  | <b>Good Friday</b><br>Scripture, Drama, Liturgy, Music                                                     |
| <b>April 4th</b>  | <b>6:30 am</b>  | <b>Easter Sunrise Service</b> in Chapel                                                                    |
|                   | <b>7:00 am</b>  | Breakfast served in Christian Life Center (until 9:15 am)                                                  |
|                   | <b>8:30 am</b>  | <b>Easter Sunday Connection Service</b> in Sanctuary                                                       |
|                   | <b>10:30 am</b> | <b>Easter Sunday Traditional Service</b> in Sanctuary                                                      |
|                   | <b>6:30 pm</b>  | <b>Prayer and Communion Service</b> in Chapel                                                              |

# Lenten Food Drive for Barth Vernon UMC Food Pantry

Once again we have been asked to help our partner church, Barth Vernon UMC, stock the shelves of the West Nashville Food Bank. This ministry serves poor, elderly and disabled people in our own city and is run by volunteers from Barth Vernon who give out monthly food boxes containing meat and dairy products as well as the staple items we contribute.

**March 21- Tuna and/or Tuna Helper**

**March 28- Soup and/or crackers**

Bring items to the Master's Common before Sunday school or church service. Calvary members have been very supportive in past years and have made a very big difference in the lives of the less fortunate.



## Learn about Haiti from UM journalists who were there

All church members are invited to get a personal and up-close view of the devastation in Haiti from two United Methodist journalists who traveled there nine days after the January 12 earthquake.

United Methodist journalists Mike DuBose and Kathy Gilbert will be sharing their experiences and dramatic photographs during the Sunday School hour Palm Sunday, March 28, in Fellowship Hall. All Sunday School classed are invited to participate as well as church members who do not normally attend Sunday School. *Note: the session will begin at 9:15, a bit earlier than the starting time for most classes.*

## Tennessee missionary Cherie White back at work in Mexico Seminary

Cherie White is back at work at the Methodist Seminary in Mexico City after taking a semester off to visit churches in Tennessee that provide her financial support as a United Methodist missionary. Calvary, one of those supporting churches, was privileged to have Cherie visit November 29.

In a recent letter, Cherie writes, "It is good to be back relating to students once again and helping them to visualize in practical ways what ministry is all about. Even though I am teaching Church History II and History of Methodism, we can dip deeply into the waters of the past to see how the Church understood and developed ministry over time."

As part of their preparation for ministry, her students recently completed workshops on "Christology from a Latin American Perspective," and "Evangelism from a Wesleyan Perspective." They also visited the "Give Ye Them to Eat" program of the Methodist Church in Mexico coordinated by missionaries Muriel and Terry Henderson.

"We learned about alternative, sustainable projects for rural areas," Cherie writes. "We built structures in eroded areas to recuperate land, made solar ovens, made gardens for small plots, milked goats and leaned about the care for worms to aerate the soil – all of this by hands-on doing." This annual experience is offered the students, she said, because most will be serving in rural communities at some time during their ministry.

Noting that Christians are on the verge of celebrating Jesus' passion, death and resurrection, she wrote: "We need the joy and good news of the resurrection and the promise of new life that it gives us today; but let us not forget that it was preceded by cruel suffering and death. As Christ gave his life for us, let us remember the many people throughout the world who suffer cruelly from hunger, war, lack of justice (loss of jobs, homes, schooling, etc.) and, above all, the lack of human dignity, especially that of women who continue to die and disappear unjustly."

"May we use our talents and gifts so that a 'new heaven and new earth' will be a reality for our world now," she wrote in closing. "I give thanks for your support as I serve in Mexico."

The seminary has 37 students this semester, a full-time staff of seven full-time administrative staff and 15 professors who work part-time. Cherie teaches two history courses and assists seniors with papers required for graduation. She is also working on the thesis for her own Doctor of Ministry Degree.

Calvary's missions budget includes \$2,500 in salary support for Cherie. Individuals who wish to support the training of clergy in Mexico may designate contributions to Advance Special projects recommended by Cherie and approved by the Board of Global Ministries: books and periodicals for the library (Advance #3020734) or student scholarships (Advance # 10528B).

# Yard Sale

**CALVARY UNITED METHODIST**  
**SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.**  
Your contributed items for the sale and your volunteer time the day of the sale and the preceding week will be needed. Watch for details.  
Money from the sale will support:  
• Habitat for Humanity  
• Lighthouse Children's Center, Tallinn, Estonia

# Yard Sale

www.calvaryumc.com



3701 Hillsboro Pike  
Nashville, TN 37215

Calvary United Methodist Church



## Sunday, March 28

Calvary's children, ages 3 through 6th grade, will gather with their Sunday School teachers in the Christian Life Center at 10:15 to process in with the palms. What a great opportunity to incorporate our children in worship in a meaningful way!

# Calvary's Easter Egg Hunt

**Saturday, April 10 ~ 3pm - 4pm ~ Ages 2-4th Grade**

Please note that this is the Saturday following Easter – to celebrate the season of Easter we have scheduled the Easter Egg Hunt for April 10th.

### Donations needed:

Donations of filled, plastic eggs are needed. Please use wrapped candy, stickers, etc. to fill the eggs. (No chocolate, please.) Please fill the "under 3s" plastic eggs with non-edible goodies only. Place your egg donations in the container outside Stephanie's office.

**Thanks for your help!**

