

March & April 2018



CALVARYConnections

The Pastor's Pen by Rev. Jon Bonomo

A Meditation for Easter

The following is from an Easter Sermon, preached by Gregory of Nyssa (335-395 AD), reflecting on the Day of Resurrection.

The reign of life has begun, the tyranny of death is ended. A new birth has taken place, a new life has come, a new order of existence has appeared, our very nature has been transformed! This birth is not brought about by human generation, by the will of man, or by the desire of the flesh, but by God...

This is the day the Lord has made – a day far different from those made when the world was first created and which are measured by the passage of time. This is the beginning of a new creation. On this day, as the prophet says, God makes a new heaven and a new earth. What is this new heaven? you may ask. It is the firmament of our faith in Christ. What is the new earth? A good heart, a heart like the earth, which drinks up the rain that falls on it and yields a rich harvest.

In this new creation, purity of life is the sun, the virtues are the stars, transparent goodness is the air, and the depths of the riches of wisdom and knowledge, the sea. Sound doctrine, the divine teachings are the grass and plants that feed God's flock, the people whom he shepherds; the keeping of the commandments is the fruit borne by the trees.

On this day is created the true man, the man made in the image and likeness of God. For this day the Lord has made is the beginning of this new world. Of this day the prophet says that it is not like other days, nor is this night like other nights. But still we have not spoken of the greatest gift it has brought us. This day destroyed the pangs of death and brought to birth the firstborn of the dead.

"I ascend to my Father and to your Father, to my God and to your God." O what wonderful good news! He who for our sake became like us in order to make us his brothers, now presents to his true Father his own humanity in order to draw all his kindred up after him.

ENCOURAGERS' CORNER by Kathy Walker

Daylight Savings Time begins on March 11th. That means the Encouragers gatherings on **March 13 and April 10 at 7:30 pm** will begin way before it gets dark. That means there's good reason for you to prayerfully consider attending and helping with the monthly projects. We don't take attendance, so come when you have the second Tuesday of the month open on your calendar. We have a long table with plenty of room and a warm greeting!

In January we enthusiastically welcomed Carolyn Vighetti. However, we are sad to have to say goodbye to Janice Sharrett. Her desire to serve the Lord by serving others with her many gifts was a blessing. She will be missed!

We always need you to be our eyes and ears to let us know of someone who is facing a difficult situation or who deserves a "thank you" for their servanthood in the Lord.

Hope to see you, ladies, on March 13 and April 10 at 7:30pm in the Educational Building. We love what we do and you will too.

Hebrews 10:24-25 "Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another – and all the more as you see the day approaching."

DINNER HONORING THE SHARRETTES

We plan to say a special "Thank you!" and "God Bless You!" to Mike and Janice Sharrett at dinner on Friday evening, March 23 beginning at 6:00 pm. \$10 reservations per person are necessary to attend this special event. Please RSVP to Lynne Brown, Susan Rickers, or Becky in the church office by March 9. *Child care is not provided.*

WOMEN'S TEA

Ladies of all ages, bring your favorite tea cup and join us for our annual Calvary Church Tea Party! Remember your (used or new) wrapped item to exchange, and be sure to dress in your favorite TEA PARTY inspired attire!

The details:

Date: Saturday, March 24, 2018

Time: 11:00 am—2:00 pm

Place: Home of Penny Goodman

RSVP: by Sunday March 19th to Penny: at:

267-818-6617 or penny.goodman@comcast.net

CHILDREN'S EASTER CELEBRATION

The Children's Easter Celebration will take place again this year on March 31 at 10:30 am. We are collecting **donations of plastic eggs and wrapped candy** in the box in the narthex from now through March 25. We are also collecting **donations of pennies** that we plan to use for the craft. There will be a jar in the Narthex for penny contributions.

NIGHT OF CELEBRATION

Whosoever Gospel Mission invites Calvary Presbyterian Church to the fourth annual *Night of Celebration* on Saturday, April 8 at 6:30 p.m. Once again it will be held here at Calvary with refreshments served afterwards.

Come for an evening of singing, testimonies and sharing with the men their monthly recognition of achievements.

MEETING FOR BETTER UNDERSTANDING

May 5 at 2:00—4:00 we will host our new neighbors from the Islamic Cultural Center across the street for an MBU. Pastor Jon Bonomo will present the theme, "Loving Your Neighbor" from the Bible, and the Muslim speaker will present the same theme from the Qur'an. Please pray for this event, and consider whether you can attend and participate.

To our dear Calvary family,

Andy and I and the boys want to express sincere gratitude to you for your help during our recent move in January. We had been at our previous home for almost 8 years. It was a bit daunting for us to have to uproot (even if only 6-7 minutes across town).

Some of you came on move day and worked for hours. Some of you made meals. Some of you have come by the house for a visit and a few of you were part of the noble cleaning crew at our old house. We cannot express well how much our hearts rejoice at the love of Christ's church outpoured. We feel so thankful for all of you. As we have now returned to Calvary, we are grateful for the church's warm and special welcome to us. You are all a tangible expression of the deep love of Jesus.

Our new address is:
2148 Mt. Carmel Ave
Glenside, PA 19038

Please come by to see us and the new place :)

In Him with deeply grateful hearts!
Myriam, for the Hertzog Family

MNA SecondCareer Seeking Regional Specialists

Individuals are needed to represent Mission to North America's SecondCareer Ministry in geographic regions across the continent. Established in 2012, the purpose of the ministry is to match PCA church plants, churches, and other PCA ministries that have a need for skilled help with PCA adult volunteers of all ages who have the needed skills and the time to contribute. Regional Specialists promote the ministry of MNA SecondCareer, seek out church planters and ministries that would benefit from volunteer help, assist in recruiting volunteers, and inspire a spirit of volunteerism in local churches. They should be active members of a PCA congregation (preferably an Elder or Deacon), have strong management experience, and be detail oriented. The position is paid by support-raising. For more information, please contact Barbara Campbell, MNA SecondCareer Facilitator, bcampbell@pcanet.org or 804-339-5005.

Dear Calvary Family,

Even though this letter is long overdue, I want to express my appreciation to you all for the many prayers and acts of kindness over the last 5 years. During that time it has been a struggle battling the rarest kind of lymphoma (stage 3). The Lord has been merciful and now I am in a period of remission. Many of you have been continual reminders of God's presence with me in your acts of kindness when needed most. Although I am still battling serious health problems, I am grateful for each day.

The past two years Jack has been having progressive memory problems. God has provided me strength each day to care for him. It is a severe mercy and becoming more heart-breaking each day. In spite of all that, the Lord has allowed me opportunity to share my faith with many here at Rydal Park who ask how I "do it."

May we all take time in our very busy lives to reach out to others. Behind the makeup or smiles there may be loneliness, fear, heartbreak, illness, sadness, joblessness, etc. You never know what heart you may have touched with your concern — giving hope to someone with seemingly insurmountable problems. Seek out these people so that you can truly model the love of Christ. To those very special people who have done that for me, and even continue to do so, may God bless you in a special way. May Calvary continue to be a unique community of God's love.

Thank you, dear church family. You have been my place of refuge and joy for over 50 years.

Love in Christ,
Nancy MacDougall



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CALENDAR

March

- 18: Pastor Mike's last Sunday with us
- 23: 6:00 pm Dinner honoring Mike & Janice
- 24: 11:00 am Women's Tea Party
- 25: Palm Sunday
- 29: 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service
- 31: 10:30 am Children's Easter Celebration

April

- 1: Easter Sunday
- 22: Fellowship Lunch following the worship service
- 29: 11:30 am Christ the King church plant official launch