

May & June 2018



CALVARYConnections

The Pastor's Pen by Rev. Jon Bonomo

Dear Calvary Family,

The month of May is the time when we open nominations for men to serve in the offices of elder and deacon. With that in mind, here are some things to consider as you pray and think about the men among us whom you may nominate to serve in these offices.

ELDERS

The Presbyterian Church derives its name from the Greek word for elder, *Presbyter* (*presbuteros*). Elected elders serve on a board called the Session. It is of vital importance that elders be men of mature Christian faith, because the elders are the ones whom God has entrusted the spiritual government and oversight of the church (1 Peter 5:1-4). The pastors who serve as ministers of the Word, are called Teaching Elders. The men chosen from within the church body to shepherd alongside the pastors are called Ruling Elders.

In their calling as shepherds, the elders of the church are entrusted with the responsibility to lead, feed, and protect the flock. This means that they are called to labor for the spiritual care of the congregation, both in terms of the individual members and families of the church, as well as general oversight of the worship and ministries of the church. In their personal care for the congregation, the elders seek to counsel, guide, and pray for the people and families of the church, toward their personal growth in the grace and knowledge of Jesus. In their general oversight, the elders have supervision of the ministries of the church, including worship and prayer, Christian education, fellowship and hospitality, evangelistic outreach, and local and world missions

The qualifications for Elder are spelled out in Timothy 3:1-7, and Titus 1:5-9. The Elder must

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have a knowledgeable and personally appropriated understanding of the doctrines of the Scriptures, as represented in the doctrinal standards of our denomination (the Westminster Confession of Faith and Larger and Shorter Catechisms). He must be teachable, humble, respectable, hospitable, approachable, and joyful. A member of the church for at least one year, he should lead by example as well as by word. An elder should attend the stated meetings of the church as far as possible, and support the ministry and programs of Calvary.

DEACONS

The word Deacon means "servant." The office of deacon is one of sympathy, service, and leadership in the mercy ministry and material care of the church, both within the congregation and in the community. Deacons, as elders, are called to live and serve after the example of Christ, who came "not to be served, but to serve..." (Matthew 20:28).

The qualifications for deacons are found in Acts 6 and in 1 Timothy 3:8-13. The responsibilities of deacons fall under two main categories:

MERCY MINISTRY

- ministering to those with material needs, visiting the sick, and helping those who are in distress
- encouraging liberality among the members of the church, collecting and distributing the gifts of the people
- encouraging the church in acts of service and mercy by their own energetic example

CARE FOR THE PROPERTY AND FACILITIES

- maintaining and beautifying our church buildings and grounds (cont. p. 4)

ENCOURAGERS' CORNER by Kathy Walker

During the months of May and June, people start getting out their picnic blankets and tables. We love what we do so much that it seems like a “picnic” – a “picnic of encouraging”. We’d love to have you join us on **May 8 and June 12** at 7:30pm in the Fellowship Hall area.

What will be on the “table”? There will be items for special projects for each of those months. Do you have to bring anything? Just come with a desire to uplift, care about and love people. We think you’ll enjoy the spirit of fellowship as we enthusiastically fill the gift bags and serve as the hands and feet of Jesus to others. What else is on the “menu”? There’s a time for devotion and prayer.

We have a spacious “picnic-of-encouraging” table with lots of room for you. Come out and “sample” the joy!

WOMEN’S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

The new women’s Sunday school class has had a good start through the months of March and April. This class is for women of all ages, from college students through seniors. We meet in the conference room upstairs in the office suite. Currently, we are using a book called, “Good News for Weary Women,” by Elyse Fitzpatrick. By mid-May we plan to finish that book and move to “Choosing Gratitude: Your Journey to Joy” by Nancy Leigh DeMoss Wolgemuth.

As always, you do NOT have to buy the book to participate. This will be a time for friendship, praying, and carrying each other's burdens. Feel free to come when you can, as this will be an open class, allowing for latecomers, or those who cannot attend regularly. Questions? Contact the facilitator of the group, Heather Wilson, 423-802-1497, scrapnsew@gmail.com

BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN FOR ALPHACARE

Are you filling up your baby bottles? You may fill them with your pocket change, foldable bills, or a check! The return dates are May 27 or June 3. All money raised will help Alphacare fulfill its mission “to empower pregnant women and families by providing health and social services and serving as a bridge to community resources.” See Susan Fitzwater if you have any questions.

WOMEN IN THE WORD: A Workshop would like to help YOU develop your Bible study skills Oct. 12-13.

Women in the Word is:

For women of all ages at Calvary -- with Study Groups that focus on strengthening personal Bible study skills or on developing women who teach the Bible to others

A workshop that serves the church by helping women study Scripture in a way that is informed, reasoned, and reverent

Large group sessions and small Study Groups are interspersed so that women experience and practice good Bible handling skills. [2 Tim. 2:15]

The 2018 speakers for large group sessions are Kim Monroe on “The Good News about God’s Judgment” and Paige Britton on “A Scepter of Righteousness.”

An annual event that is now in its thirteenth year of teaching women to interpret, apply, and present the Bible to others

A ministry of The World Reformed Fellowship (www.wrffnet.org)

The 2018 *Workshop* will be held at Calvary on October 12-13. Pick up a brochure at the Welcome Table or Ed. Bldg. Atrium. Registration begins May 1!

For more information visit our website at: www.womeninthewordworkshop.org

CHILDREN’S MINISTRY

NURSERY by April Stainback

We are in need of some additional volunteers for our nursery ministry. Our covenant family is growing and help is needed to care for the little ones during Sunday school and Worship. When you volunteer once every month or two during one of the time slots, the duties will include; showing the love of Jesus through holding babies and through playing with or reading to the young children. Changing diapers is done only by specific volunteers. At the end of the session there is also a clean up procedure. Full training on the duties and our "Safe Church" policy will be provided. Contact April Stainback stainbackzoo@gmail.com for more information.

SAFE CHURCH TRAINING by Bethany Tyson

If you would like to serve within Children's or Youth Ministry, we invite you to attend our next training on **Sunday, June 10th @ 12:30pm, light lunch provided.** We will meet in classroom #201/203 on the 2nd floor of the Education Building. Please RSVP by email: cpcsafechurch@gmail.com OR sign up at the Welcome Table.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL by Becky McKay

The King Is Coming!

July 23-27

9:30 am—12:30 pm

For children age 4 yrs - entering 6th grade

Volunteer needs include:

Before VBS:

Prayer Partners: Everyone, please pray generally, and prayer partners will be given specific needs for prayer.

Decorations: Help to make theme-related decorations to add a medieval flare to our building, especially for the Fellowship Hall

Set up: **Sat, July 21 - Church-wide help needed!**

During VBS Week:

Guides: lead a group of children from activity to activity, assisting as needed.

Craft leader and assistants: prepare and lead the craft projects for the five age groups each day

Possible separate craft teacher for the older kids: prepare and lead a special, more involved, craft or crafts for 10 and 11-year olds

Preschool teacher(s) and assistants

Nursery worker: come for 1 or up to all 5 days to care for children of volunteers

Registration Assistant for Monday, July 23

After VBS:

Clean up: Fri., July 27 and/or Sat., July 28: put the building back to normal!

We will provide a nursery and/or a younger class for children of volunteers, as needed.

This year we have a medieval castle theme, complete with dragon! And the daily Bible stories follow the redemptive-historical biblical overview of Creation, Fall, Covenant, Salvation, and Glory.

Contact Becky McKay, bmckay@calvary-wg.org, with questions or to volunteer.

UPCOMING HOUSE CONCERT

by Pennye Goodman

Jason Harrod House Concert

Saturday, May 26, 2018 7:00

116 Magnolia Street, Dresher, PA

Phil and I are planning to host Jason Harrod for an evening of music, at our home. We saw him play many years ago at a Calvary concert event called, "The Mad Donkey," and have been following him ever since.

Jason Harrod is a Brooklyn-based performing songwriter known for generous melodies and poetic, image-rich lyrics. Over years of constant writing, recording, and touring, Jason has garnered a devoted fan base which has steadily grown over time. Harrod often begins performances by stating that he sings of "God, Women, and Geography." He also sings of yearning to be set free, to take to the skies, and to be known, both by a warm human body, and by God almighty.

We are asking \$25 per person. ALL OF THE MONEY GOES TO THE ARTIST.

Arrive around 7:00 pm, bring some food and beverage to share and mingle for a bit. Jason will begin to play around 8:00. After a while we will take a break to chat and refill, followed by a second set. Jason will have CD's available for purchase.

Please RSVP as soon as possible to guarantee your seat. Payment instructions will be made available when you confirm. Friend Phil Goodman for up-to-date details on the concert. Contact Pennye at 267-304-4016 or Pennye.goodman@comcast.net

ANNUAL JUNE PICNIC by Ellen Gustafson

The Annual Church Picnic will be held on **Sunday, June 10 at Fort Washington State Park, pavilion #3 immediately after the Worship Service.** Each family should bring their lunch, including any utensils, plates, napkins, beverages and cups. We also ask for a side or dessert to share. There will be a grill ready for anyone wishing to cook burgers, hot dogs, etc. There is a playground, large open field for softball, kickball, or games. Directions will be available the week before and on the day of the picnic at the Welcome Table.

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.

CALENDAR

May

Church Officer nomination month

- 5 2:00—4:00 Meeting For Better Understanding
- 8 7:30 pm Encouragers
- 10 5:30 pm Session Meeting
- 11 6:00 pm Kids' Club
- 13 4:30 pm Christian Ed. Comm. Mtg
- 17 9:45 am Women's Bible Study Sharing Brunch
- 22 7:30 pm Women's Evening Bible Study
- 24 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
- 24-28 Pastor Jon in Indiana to preach for an ordination service
- 27 Return Baby Bottle for Alphacare
- 28 7:30 pm Deacon & Deaconess Meeting
- 31 12:30 pm Session Prayer Meeting

June

- 3 Return Baby Bottle for Alphacare
- 10 12:30pm All Church Picnic in Fort Washington
- 12 5:30 pm Session Meeting
7:30 pm Encouragers Meeting
- 18—July 3 Pastor Jon's vacation
- 25 7:30 pm Deacon & Deaconess Meeting

SOFTBALL SCHEDULE 2018

Come on out to enjoy an evening activity, usually Friday, and to cheer on Calvary's team!

- 05/01/2018, 6:30 PM, at @ Cheltenham, Mondauk #1
- 05/04/2018, 6:30 PM, vs. New Life, Mondauk #2
- 05/09/2018, 6:30 PM, at @Glenside, Mondauk#2
- 05/18/2018, 6:30 PM, vs. Jarrettown, Mondauk #2
- 05/21/2018, 6:30 PM, at @ Trinity, Mondauk #5
- 06/01/2018, 6:30 PM, vs. Trinity, Mondauk #2
- 06/08/2018, 6:30 PM, vs. Calvary AOG, Mon #2
- 06/12/2018, 6:30 PM, @ Jarrettown, Mondauk #2
- 06/13/2018, 6:30 PM, at @ Cheltenham United, Mon #1
- 06/22/2018, 6:30 PM, vs. Cheltenham United, Mon #2

Mondauk Park Address:

1451 Dillon Rd, Ambler, PA 19002

(The Pastor's Pen, continued from p. 1)

The Deacons have two main committees, the Mercy Ministry Committee, and the Property Committee. The Deacons suggest names of godly men and women (called deaconesses) to assist them on these committees. The Session then appoints these godly people to assist the Deacons.

Anyone nominated to the office of deacon must be in agreement with our church standards, must be a member of Calvary for at least one year, and must display a servant's heart, by "being one who does good to all people and especially to those who belong to the family of believers" (Gal. 6:10).

OFFICER NOMINATION PROCEDURE:

Members of Calvary may submit nominations for church officers anytime during May. If you would like to place the name of someone in nomination:

Read the relevant scripture passages with the person in mind.

Ask these questions of anyone you would nominate. Is this person **spiritual**, showing evidence of the presence and control of the Holy Spirit? Is this person **visible**, supporting the services and programs of the church? Is this person **gifted**, with the spiritual ability to do the job? Is the person **committed**, supportive of the direction of the church, and ready to be a part of the solution rather than a part of the problem?

Please speak to that person first to see if there is a willingness to serve!

Those nominees eligible for election will be trained by the Session through the summer and fall. The candidates approved for office by the Session will be presented for election at the Congregational Meeting held in January.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

We recently had light fixtures throughout the fellowship hall, the office suite, and even outside replaced with new LED fixtures. These lights are brighter and they are more cost efficient.