

CALVARY UCC NEWSLETTER

Vol. 69 No. 4

April 20, 2012



Dear Friends,

You probably know by now that our church is in a discernment phase about possibly becoming what is called in the United Church of Christ an "Open & Affirming" congregation, or ONA. This initiative was started by our evangelism committee, and I want to commend them for the process that has been set up for education and prayerful consideration around this issue. It is very important that every member of our congregation be given an opportunity to learn about ONA, ask questions, and even challenge the process. We are the church of Jesus Christ, and every member is valued.

In a nutshell, an ONA church states that it accepts people of all sexual orientations, and that all people are welcome regardless of how God created them. The only exception I make is any person who is a predator of children - legally and morally, anyone fitting that description should never be allowed anywhere near children, and that includes our church. An ONA congregation is one that welcomes people no matter where they are on their spiritual journeys, and I believe that we at Calvary are that kind of church. Unlike many other denominations, the UCC welcomes divorced people into the full life of the church. We welcome single parents, ex-convicts, recovering addicts - I hope you get the picture.

It is very important for each and every member to take the time to learn about ONA. I will make this promise - no matter what decision is made, Calvary will be the same church - the building will not change, nor will our worship. The love we have for each other will still be there. The big difference is this - if we choose to be ONA, it will be designated on the National UCC, Penn SE Conference, and Calvary websites. This way, anyone looking for an ONA church in Berks County will be able to see the designation and feel assured that they, and/or their friends and loved ones, will be welcome in our congregation. Since most people find churches through the internet, this will be a great advantage for us.

I look forward to seeing you in church - the Lord is risen!

Peace - Pastor Steve

OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Moderator</u>
Thursday, May 3	7:00pm	Janet McElwee
Sunday, May 20	12:00noon	Barb Peronteau

✕ ✕ ✕ ✕ ✕

TO MY CALVARY CHURCH FAMILY

I want to thank you again for your prayers, cards, phone calls, visits, food, books, and Shirley Batdorf's beef barley soup (which I think has healing powers) during my recovery from total knee replacement surgery.

Our Calvary Church family, community of faith, and the fellowship we share as I mentioned before is very, very special. We truly care for one another, we share our Christian love for one another, and even when we don't agree on everything, at the end of the day we come together because we care so much about this ministry we love and share.

When looking through our 2010 Church Directory, I love reading our mission at Calvary. I especially like the sentence, "We love one another because Christ first loved us, and we abide in faith, hope and love."

I thank my Calvary Church family for your kindness and caring. Let us continue to reach out and find even more ways to invite more people into this very special ministry and church family that we have at Calvary.

Thank you again,

Don Miller

✕ ✕ ✕ ✕ ✕

REMEMBER to continue saving your glossy magazines and soda can tabs for Ronald McDonald House at Hershey.

WE ARE CLEANING OUT!

**PLEASE SEE IF YOU CAN USE ANY OF THE
“CLEANED OUT” MATERIALS IN THE PINE
LOUNGE – BUT CHECK WITH PASTOR STEVE
FIRST! WE WOULD LIKE TO DISPOSE OF
ALL UNWANTED OBJECTS.**

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

NEWS TO USE ...

Rachel Ohnsman is in the cast of the Wyomissing High School musical “Footloose”. The shows are April 27 and 28 at 7:30pm, and tickets are \$10. If you would like to attend, please see Rachel about tickets.

Tuesday Bible Study - We continue to meet at 7:30pm in the Pine Room. Join us on May 1, 8, 15 and 29 as we continue our study of the book of Proverbs. (May 22 is the last Spirit on Tap until the Fall).

Did you attend NW Middle School in Reading? Or are you interested in helping our church thank the faculty and staff of that school? The churches of NW Reading are providing lunch on May 16th and we could use some help setting up, serving and cleaning up. If you would like to help in some way - even an hour would be great - then please contact Pastor Steve.

For your calendar - our schedule will change on June 17 (Father’s Day). We will continue to have our 8am service in the chapel and our 10:30 service will move to 9:30 in the Sanctuary. Sunday School will take a break until September 9 (but don’t forget Vacation Bible School - June 18-22 in the evening!). *Remember - we installed air conditioning in the Sanctuary last year, so worship at 9:30 will be cool and comfortable!*

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**REMINDER FOR THE FOOD PANTRY-
NO GLASS CONTAINERS
PLEASE**



WALK A MILE IN HER SHOES is a national program to raise awareness about domestic violence. There will be a pancake breakfast fundraiser on April 28th from 8-10am at the Applebee's in Wyomissing to raise money for the Walk that will be held on June 16th. Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$4 for children under 12, and free for children under 3. See Pastor Steve for tickets - and if you would like to help serve on April 28th or walk in June. Help support a great cause!



Want to make someone's day?

Please consider preparing and serving a meal for the clients of Opportunity House on Sunday, April 29th. It only takes about 5 to 6 people and you can cook at home or at Calvary. Dinner typically includes a meat, vegetable, bread and drinks and a dessert. Calvary will reimburse you for the cost of the meal. Dinner is served at 7:00p.m. Please contact Lori Mattern if you are interested in participating in this very necessary and rewarding outreach. lorimattern@comcast.net or 610-781-3429 (We will also be preparing and serving a meal on the following Sundays: June 3rd, July 29th, September 30th and November 25th).

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

The Church Women United will meet on Tuesday, May 8, 2012 at 1pm. The meeting will be held at Holy Cross United Methodist Church located at 329 North 5th Street in Reading. The program is "Sights and Sounds of Harmony". This will be the last meeting until October.



2012 VBS Calvary and Bausman Memorial UCC

What: Cokesbury's Operation Overboard-Dare To Go Deep With God

When: June 18-22, 2012

Dinner 5:15 pm (reservation required) 6:00-8:30 pm
Program

Who: Childcare through age 2

Classes for age 3 through children who have completed
6th Grade

Class for Adults

There is still time to volunteer to be part of this exciting adventure! Contact Betsy Majewski to volunteer (phone 610-921-8595, email bmajewski10@aol.caom, join our facebook page "Bausman & Calvary UCC VBS 2012").

✕ ✕ ✕ ✕ ✕

Spirit on Tap - Reading

7:00pm - April 24, 2012

Reading Crowne Plaza, Wyomissing

Rev. Matthew Thomas, ULC, SGC, AO

"Witch One Am I" - The Wicca Way

✕ ✕ ✕ ✕ ✕



**Tuesday,
May 8, 2012**

Berks Classical Children's Chorus Presents Free Concert as Twentieth Anniversary Season Ends

Berks Classical Children's Chorus (BCCC) ends its twentieth anniversary season on Sunday, May 6, at the Sovereign Performing Arts Center, 136 N. 6th Street, Reading, PA, with collaborations and world premieres – open FREE to the public!

The event begins at 3 pm with the BCCC Chorale collaborating with the Reading Symphony Orchestra and the Berks Opera Workshop in a production of the one act opera for children, Brundibar.

The 40-minute opera was originally performed by the children of the Theresienstadt concentration camp in occupied Czechoslovakia during World War II. The opera was used for propaganda purposes by the Nazis to hide the atrocities of the holocaust. The upcoming performance of the opera is part of "The Theresienstadt Project" which is sponsored by the Oritsky/Skiast Family Fund of the Jewish Federation of Reading.

Following Brundibar will be the BCCC Twentieth Anniversary Celebration Concert from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. The concert will include performances by the Training Chorus, third- and fourth-grade singers, the Choristers, fourth through sixth-grade singers, the Chorale, middle school singers, and the MasterSingers, high school singers. The ensembles will premiere commissioned works by world-renowned Stephen Hatfield and Berks County's own David Himes. Alumni are invited back to sing BCCC's signature song, "Blessing" under the direction of BCCC Founder, Donald Hinkle.

Formed in 1992, Berks Classical Children's Chorus is a professionally trained and rigorously educated music ensemble consisting of young people ages 8-18. The group enriches the community by fostering and promoting choral excellence in young people through music education and quality performances.



ADULT FORUM

The study of the book of Job, led by Elliot Werner, will continue until May 6 (excluding April 29).

✕ ✕ ✕ ✕ ✕

HELP WANTED

- LAY READERS May 27, June 17, and 24
- GREETERS beginning April 29 - if you can smile, shake hands, and say good morning, this is the job for you!
- FELLOWSHIP SPONSORS for the month of May - easy to do.

✕ ✕ ✕ ✕ ✕

The **Youth Group** will have a short meeting after the 10:30 service on May 6 to assemble gift bags.

✕ ✕ ✕ ✕ ✕

At Calvary, we are always trying to enhance our life as a community by fostering a safe and secure place to worship and study. In light of this, security cameras have been strategically placed to monitor who enters and exits the building. These will be used only if there is some kind of concern, like a robbery or vandalism.

This Newsletter is published monthly by: <i>Calvary United Church of Christ</i>	
Church Office hours.....	(Monday-Friday) 8:30am - 12pm & 1-3:30pm
Office Phone: 610-374-2109	Office Fax: 610-374-2100
Web Page	www.calvaryreformeducc.org
E-mail.....	church@calvaryreformeducc.org
Pastor ..	The Rev. Dr. Stephen Ohnsman
Home Phone: 610-670-6732...E-mail:	steve@calvaryreformeducc.org
Director of Music.....	Dr. Dennis Williams
Home Phone: 610-406-9090	E-mail: d.wms@hotmail.com
Organist.....	Dr. Steven P. Katzenmoyer
Home Phone: 610-743-5289	
Director of Pied Piper School	Jacqueline L. Yeich
Director of Calvary Chimes	Karen Humphrey
Church Bookkeeper, Janet Faust.....	Monday-Friday 9:00am to 12:00pm
Church Secretary, Joyce Martin.....	Monday-Friday 8:30am to 3:30pm
Seminary Intern.....	Ann Bolek

The Arts at Calvary

presents a

Coffee House

with



**Saturday, May 5, 2011 - 7:00
pm**

Childcare provided.

Calvary United Church of Christ

Centre Avenue and Oley Street, Reading, PA

610.374.2109

Dr. Dennis Williams, Director of Music

The Arts at Calvary will present a **Coffee House** on May 5 at 7:00 pm featuring renowned local guitarist *Ken Gehret and Irish Mist*. The group performs a full spectrum of Celtic music, including traditional pub songs, reels, airs, jigs, and contemporary Celtic arrangements as well as original tunes. The group has performed widely throughout the tri-state region, and their shows are characterized with style, personality, and energy. This will be an exciting show! There is no admission, and childcare will be provided.

Greeters:

5/6	SIGN UP
5/13	SHEETS
5/20	ARE IN THE
5/27	NARTHEX*

Attendance at Worship:

	<u>First</u>	<u>Second</u>
3/25	13	91
4/1	9	132
4/5	27	50
4/6	24	72
4/8	55	205
4/15	13	90

Ushers:

The members of Usher Group 1 will serve for the month of May-

B.J. & Charles Geiger
 Shirley & Bob Batdorf
 Cindy & Don Miller
 Cathy & Al Readinger
 Jane & Elliot Werner

Flower Delivery:

5/6 Marcia & Mark Reed
 5/13 Louise & Art Grim
 5/20 Pat Huyett & Bob Laibe
 5/27 Mary & John Shollenberger

Fellowship in the Pine Room:

5/6	SIGN UP
5/13	SHEETS
5/20	ARE IN THE
5/27	NARTHEX*

Lay Readers:

5/6 Barbara Peronteau
 5/13 Jack Rothermel
 5/20 Kendra Reber
 5/27

Rail Communion:

Sunday, May 6

*** Or call the Church Office at 610-375-2109**

If you use an offering envelope that does not have a designated number, please write your name on it for our records and your credit.

- - - - -

Have you or a family member changed your address? Please let us know by mail or e-mail so that we can update our information.

Coming Events

- April 22 8:00am & 10:30am - Worship - New Members
 Join at both Services
 9:00am - Sunday School, Adult Forum
 10:00am - Fellowship in the Pine Room
 11:45am - Chimes Rehearsal
 12:00N - Open & Affirming Meeting
 6:00pm - Reading Association Spring Meeting -
 Wyomissing (Gouglersville) UCC
- April 24 7:00pm - Spirit on Tap, Reading Crowne Plaza
- April 25 7:00pm - Bells / 8:00pm - Choir
- April 28 8-10am - Walk a Mile in Her Shoes Pancake
 Breakfast Fundraiser @ Applebee's
 in Wyomissing - *SEE PASTOR STEVE FOR*
 TICKETS
- April 29 8:00am & 10:30am - Worship
 9:00am - Sunday School, Adult Forum
 10:00am - Fellowship in the Pine Room
 11:45am - Chimes Rehearsal
 11:45am - Evangelism Committee Meeting
- May 1 7:30pm - Bible Study in the Pine Room
- May 2 7:00pm - Bells / 8:00pm - Choir
- May 3 7:00pm - Open & Affirming Meeting
- May 5 7:00pm - *The Arts at Calvary* - Coffee House
 with Ken Gehret and Irish Mist
- May 6 8:00am & 10:30am - Worship
 9:00am - Sunday School, Adult Forum
 11:45am - Chimes Rehearsal
 11:45am - Youth Group
- May 7 9:30am - Coffee & Conversation, Pine Room
 7:00pm - Covenant Meeting at Bausman
 Memorial UCC, Wyomissing
- May 8 10:00am - Phoebe Communion
 7:30pm - Bible Study in the Pine Room
 NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DEADLINE
- May 9 7:00pm - Bells / 8:00pm - Choir
- May 13 8:00am & 10:30am - Worship
 9:00am - Sunday School, Adult Forum
 11:45am - Chimes Rehearsal
- May 15 7:30pm - Bible Study in the Pine Room
- May 16 8am-2pm - NW Middle School Teachers BBQ
 7:00pm - Bells / 8:00pm - Choir
- May 17 7:00pm - Consistory

10th Annual Souper Bowl

Receive a handmade ceramic bowl and light meal of soup and bread



www.opphouse.org
610-374-4696

Monday, May 7, 2012

5:30 PM to 7:00 PM

Preview Party 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM

Donor of the Year Award presented to Kelly-Buckley Family

Event Location:

Body Zone

Sports & Wellness Complex

3103 PaperMill Road—Wyomissing



Advanced Tickets \$25—Day of \$30

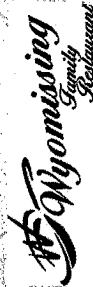
Tickets available at: Boscoy's

Buy on-line: www.opphouse.org

(Souper Bowl and Preview Tickets)



Doing what counts.™ | Susquehanna Bank



THE LAW FIRM OF
LEISAWITZ HELLER

Experience. Commitment.

Good Lawyers. Good People.



OUTLET



Printed courtesy of EnerSys

READING EAGLE

Look what's in it for you



Reminds me of Psalm 91:4

**He will cover you with His feathers.
He will shelter you with His wings. His faithful
promises are your
Armor and protection.**

**There is absolutely nothing to fear about
tomorrow;
For God is already there.**