



Calvary Baptist Church Weekly Newsletter

November 29, 2017

A Word from the pastor

Corey Fields

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Last Sunday, I issued a challenge to consider. It is only that - something to consider - and I urge you to do what you feel God leads you to do. But here is my challenge.

You may remember that in the 2016 Advent season, I preached on “Advent Conspiracy.” It’s a movement with four tenets. It encourages Christians to (1) “worship fully,” making the season a reverent celebration of what God did in Jesus; (2) “spend less” and (3) “give more,” paring down one’s spending on material things and focus on giving gifts that are meaningful and relational, like making things together or giving gifts that connect us personally; and finally, to (4) “love all” by taking the money they didn’t spend on gifts and giving it to people truly in need.

One of the populations truly in need this year is Puerto Rico. The data is incomprehensible: Puerto Rico’s actual death toll, estimated by media contact with funeral homes, is many times higher than the official count. Millions remain without water and electricity. According to one report, doctors are having to perform surgery with light from their cellphones and children are screaming from hunger.

That is why, this year, I’m going to conspire during Advent for Puerto Rico. My wife and I are not getting each other a Christmas gift and will instead donate to the rebuilding campaign of American Baptist Home Mission Societies. I am challenging you to consider if you are led to do this as well. We will be providing wooden blocks (symbolizing rebuilding) with a message about the project as something tangible that you can give to others explaining that a gift was given in their honor.

Sure, there are many other worthy causes and needs that could be the object of our Advent generosity, but I call out Puerto Rico this year because of their connection to our country and their dire situation. If you were to point out that this campaign will only be a very small piece of the puzzle, you would be right.

I am also mindful that we don’t want to overshadow other giving opportunities like the Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering which we also receive in December, as well as many other causes we may support in our community. But I am hopeful that this falls into a different category by focusing on redirecting some of our Christmas spending.

Regardless, we will celebrate in this upcoming season that God came to us in a dark corner of the world, in lowly circumstances, and in a desperate situation. I believe He is still to be found there. I believe the church is called to be found there.

I’ve given a gift to those in need in your honor.

You are now part of “Rebuilding, Restoring, Renewing Puerto Rico” to support rebuilding the homes, churches and lives in the hurricane ravaged island through One Great Hour of Sharing and American Baptist Home Mission Societies.



Read more and get updates: <http://abhms.org/mission/themes/puerto-rico-relief/>
Learn more about what motivated me to do this: <http://bit.ly/AdventConspiracyStory>

Church Members



Members and Friends at Home

Each week a member or friend of the church at home will be highlighted. Greeting cards are always appreciated.



Lee McDonley

64 Welsh Tract Rd. #108, Newark, DE 19713

Lee McDonley has been a member of Calvary for several years. She was very active in the Women's Group. She was also a member of the V-Team when it was active and visited our many shut-ins in those days. Some of you may not know it, but Lee had costumes and routines dressed as a clown and visited Newark Manor Nursing Home to entertain the residents there every week for a long time. If you missed it, you certainly missed a treat with a good laugh. Lee has been unable to attend service for some time and is unable to drive. She enjoys hearing from the Calvary family through cards and phone calls.



"Dear Calvary,
Thank you for your prayers and get well cards for my surgery. They are greatly appreciated."
Maureen Koeller

"To my church family -
Thank you so much for the thoughts and prayers sent my way and the beautiful cards with sustaining Bible verses and get well wishes. Your support has meant so much to me and to Pete - Thank you!"
Nancy Widdoes



DECEMBER

3	Tara Walker	12	Sarah (Missy) Small
3	Sophia Lim	13	Robin Elliott
4	Pauline Moulton	18	Faith Nicole Boothe
5	Rose Barton	19	Pete Widdoes
5	Daniel Smith Jr.	23	Lilian Josephson
6	Bill John	24	Martha Hollomon
7	Ruth Dowell	24	Carol S. Kidwell
7	Ian Chadick	26	Andrew Dowell
7	Ken Walker	27	Charles Deibert
9	Carmen Companiony	27	Kaitlin E. Walker
11	Alan Williamson	29	Audrey C. Hopkins
11	Tamela McMurray	29	Dolores Hunt
		30	Jerry Reynolds



Christmas Gifts for Mothers at New Expectations



We hope to give Christmas gifts to families that a mother has had to leave while she is in the New Expectations program. Jesus himself pointed out how much we all want to give good gifts to our children. This is a wonderful opportunity to reach out to the women who do not choose to attend our weekly Bible Study as well as to support those who do. Since the program turns over every six months or so, we need to keep reaching out to newcomers. Miriam Ramer and Annette Carter go every week for the Bible Study. Lynda Parkins is organizing the gifts again this year. We'll have a chance to sign up for a requested gift (\$20 to \$30) this Sunday, Dec. 3. Gifts can be brought to the church on Dec. 10 or 17 and we will have a party to distribute them on Tuesday, Dec 19 at our regular Bible Study time. That way, the mothers will have the gifts in time to give them to children during visits on Christmas weekend. Please do not wrap your gift; mothers wrapping gifts for their own children will feel more ownership of what they are giving.

Attention all church members: volunteers are needed!

The Trustees are asking your help in cleaning our church during this interim time while we are looking for a replacement for Scott. Volunteers have been working to take care of cleaning our Home Base and we need additional assistance. Responsibilities include vacuuming the Sanctuary, the Narthex, and classrooms; cleaning the restrooms, emptying trash cans; washing table tops in classrooms as needed and dusting surface areas throughout. Dates where we need help are Saturday, December 2 following the holiday decorating, Friday, December 8, Thursday, December 14, Friday, December 22, and Saturday December 30. **A sign-up will be in the Narthex.** Some of the dates are negotiable depending on what is happening in the church. Please see Judy Pendleton or Alan Williamson if you have questions.

Thanks in advance for your help.



40 ditty boxes for Seamen's Center of Wilmington DE were packed on Nov. 15 for the "Christmas At Sea" program.



They were unusually glad to see our boxes; contributions have been slow coming in this year, but ship traffic has been up, now that they are serving three docking areas.

Dear ABCOPAD Family,

Over seven years ago, the LORD brought the Rev. Dr. Kevin Walden to be a part of our ABCOPAD Regional Staff. Within a few months of his arrival, we launched out on a totally new regional ministry design built around our regional vision, with Kevin becoming our Regional Pastor with Pastoral Leaders. During these years Kevin has been a critical part of our regional staff team, helping us to pioneer the development of numerous ministry initiatives, not the least of which was our Leadership Learning Communities and the *Refirement* Interim Ministry program.



These experiences have blessed us as a regional family and further prepared Kevin for continued work in God's Kingdom, and so today we announce that Kevin has been called to become the Associate General Secretary for Congregational and Pastoral Effectiveness, effective January 1, 2018. While we will certainly miss his ministry in our midst as a part of our regional staff, we do celebrate and rejoice with him in this new and challenging call upon his life. In the coming days, I hope each of you have an opportunity to express your thanks to our brother for his faithful service, as well as to remember him in prayer as he prepares for this new work with our wider ABCUSA Family.

Below you will find Kevin's letter announcing this new call on his life.

Trusting in God's Provision and Presence as we move forward into the future

Frank

Frank Frischkorn
Regional Executive Pastor
American Baptist Churches of Pennsylvania and Delaware

November 12, 2017

Dear ABCOPAD family,

God's richest blessings, my brothers and sisters, in the precious and matchless name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

This is how everyone will recognize that you are my disciples—when they see the love you have for each other. John 13:35 MSG

I have been so deeply humbled to serve you as one of your Regional Pastors for over seven years. I have learned so much about discipleship and love in that time, and it has been such an honor to work alongside so many wonderful pastoral leaders and congregations! You have taught me so much! Thank you for sharing your lives and Ministries with me. It is my prayer that I have been of encouragement to you as well.

The reason for this letter is to share with you that I have accepted the call to join the staff of ABCUSA as the Associate General Secretary for Congregational and Pastoral Effectiveness on January 1, 2018.

It has been an incredibly deep joy to serve alongside such a wonderful team of servant leaders (regional missionaries) on the regional staff! Frank, Jeff, Mark, Eric, Denise, Caryl and Carol all treated us as if we were family, and that has been such a blessing! Thank you for the ministry we have traveled together! You have made me better.

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In this next journey with the Office of the General Secretary, it is my prayer that our friendships and mutual support will remain strong and grow stronger. I remain a strong advocate for healthy and effective pastors and congregations. I also remain a strong advocate for the support of our regional ministries.

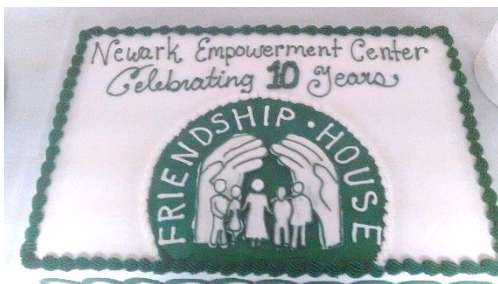
Lastly, I love our denominational family. We were founded on the core belief that the local church and pastor are the primary missional outpost for ministry. But we were also founded on the belief that we are better together, and so pastors and congregations need each other.

I didn't learn these things on my own. As I have researched other members of my own family who served in the ABC family as pastors and missionaries, I saw they valued similar things: A strong trust in Jesus and His Word, a trust to follow Jesus wherever He calls and a strong desire to help others have a saving relationship with Jesus Christ.

As always, you remain on my mind and heart and faithfully in my prayers...

Lovingly, Yours in Christ,

Rev. Dr. Kevin Walden
ABCOPAD Regional Pastor with Pastoral Leaders



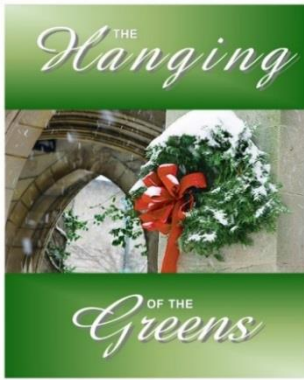
On Nov. 16, Calvary was delighted to host a festive evening celebrating the 10th anniversary of Newark Empowerment Center and Code Purple. There was lots of good food, and many great memories. Mayor Polly was attending a conference, but sent a proclamation. We also had Proclamations from the House and Senate of Delaware. A number of the original members of those first meetings were present and the old story of the beginning was shared. Kim Eppehimer, the Executive Director of Friendship House brought greetings and words of encouragement. Richard Waibel was honored for his dedicated service.



When Is the Holiday Food Drive?

This year the Holiday Food Drive is in February, the Valentine Holiday, *Share the Love*. Why February? It seems that many organizations do a Holiday Food drive in November-December and the shelves are full. But as winter moves in, the shelves turn bare. We hope to help make a difference during those long dark days of winter. Stay tuned for further details.





Hanging of the Greens
followed by a simple soup luncheon
THIS SATURDAY, December 2
10am - 12noon
Come help us decorate the church
for Advent and Christmas!

**Join the "Calvary Clompers" at the
Reindeer Run & Romp 5K**

to benefit Delaware Special Olympics on Friday, Dec. 1 at
7:00pm. We have a Santa - we just need some elves and
reindeer to go along! Wear a reindeer or elf costume or
your ugly Christmas sweater. Online registration is closed,
but you can still attend and register onsite.



Join UD collections manager and former Calvary
Member Jan Broske for an up-close look at the
clothing that the WWI era necessitated or made
popular. We'll grab a quick lunch after church and
then drive (or walk) to Old College together.

Sunday, December 3, 1:00 to 2:00

Let Lois know if you are interested.
ladiet05@gmail.com or 992-9120. She will also try
to arrange a tour of Winterthur during the
Yuletide season for anyone interested. Stay tuned
for details!

***The congregation is invited to a
Christmas Open House at the Fields'***

Saturday, December 9th, 2-4pm,
2727 Barnsley Rd., Wilmington

This is come-and-go; stop in briefly or for the whole two hours at the
Fields house for some refreshments, fellowship and Christmas cheer. 😊





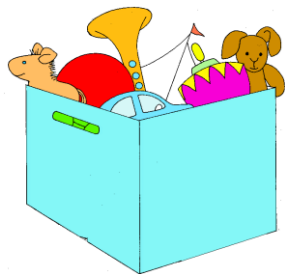
Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Bell ringing for the Salvation Army Kettle drive is Saturday Dec 9 from 9AM - 5PM. We will be at Acme College Square. Sign up in the Narthex. A great opportunity to invite your friends.

Choir will perform their Christmas Cantata, "Night of the Father's Love," during worship on December 10.



Toy Drive



Looking for a good excuse to clean out your child's toy box?

Your gently-used toys and books for kids of all ages could make someone else merry this Christmas!

Drop-off between Dec. 4 and Dec. 15, 9am - 1pm
Distribution: Sat., Dec. 16, 1-4pm (or as supplies last)

Friday, Dec. 15: Evening help needed with cleaning and sorting

Saturday, Dec. 16: Morning and afternoon help needed with sorting and with gift-wrapping

Cocoa & Caroling on Main !



Spread good cheer with Calvary by caroling and handing out
Hot Chocolate & Candy Canes @
Academy & Main on Wed., December 13th 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Wilmington Handbell Ensemble Concert

Friday, Dec. 15 at 7:30pm
Calvary Baptist Church

Calvary Members are asked to park in other locations
and leave our spots open for guests.



Calvary Baptist Youth Group Students and Parents,



It is only November, but it's time to introduce our **winter youth retreat**. This year we will be going to **High Point** (the same place where many of our students attended camp this summer), the weekend of **March 2-4th**. I hope you will join us for this popular retreat for students from **grades 6-12** that will combine enriching preaching with fun winter sports and a variety of

indoor activities. You'll be able to enjoy singing, skits, group games, basketball, foosball, carpetball, ping pong, tubing, & more. A pizza snack will be provided on Friday night and all meals the rest of the weekend. Lodging will be provided in camp cabins. The cost will be \$115 per person (**\$100 if registered before 12/15/17**). Please register early, space is limited. **Families must register themselves on High Point's website and pay the full retreat fee at the time of registration.** If full payment cannot be completed or a scholarship is needed please contact Kyle. Make sure you choose Teen Retreat and the March 2018 date, and if your student is in 6th grade and there is no option for that please choose 7th grade. After registration is completed please forward the confirmation email to Kyle at kyle@calvarynewark.org.



Registration is now open here... <https://highpointcamp.campbrainregistration.com/>

Calendar

November

Wed. 29 6:00pm Dinner (SPECIAL MEAL - RUNZA)
 6:45pm Small groups
 8:00pm Choir rehearsal
 Thur. 30 7:00pm Band practice

December

Fri. 1 7:00pm Reindeer Run & Romp, Academy St. and Delaware Ave.
Sat. 2 10:00am Hanging of the Greens & Soup Luncheon
 Tues. 5 1:30pm "Duck In"
 6:30pm Finance Committee
 Wed. 6 6:00pm Dinner (Beef Stew)
 6:45pm Small groups
 8:00pm Choir rehearsal
 Thurs. 7 12:00pm Office Closes at Noon
Fri. 8 Office Closed
 7:00pm Youth Group Ice Skating
Sat. 9 9:00am Salvation Army Bell Ringing, ACME College Square
 9:30am American Baptist Women Meeting and Pot Luck Luncheon
 2:00pm Open House at the Fields', 2727 Barnsley Rd., Wilm., DE 19808
Sun. 10 Choir Cantata during Worship
 12:00pm Diaconate
 12:00pm Christian Ed board
 Tues. 12 1:30pm "Duck In"
Wed. 13 6:00pm Dinner (Ham)
 6:30pm Cocoa and Caroling on Main
 6:45pm Small groups
 8:00pm Choir rehearsal
Fri. 15 7:30pm Wilmington Handbell Ensemble Concert, Calvary Baptist Church
Sat. 16 1:00pm Toy giveaway
Sun. 17 Christmas Pageant during Worship
 Cookie Exchange following Worship
 New Expectations toys collected
 11:30am Trustee and mission boards
Tues. 19 3:30pm New Expectations Christmas Party
 Wed. 20 6:00pm Dinner (Spaghetti)
 6:45pm Small groups
 8:00pm Choir rehearsal
 Thur. 21 9:00am Hope Dining Room
 Fri. 22-Tues. 26 Office closed
Sun. 24 6:00pm Silent communion
 7:00pm Candlelight Christmas Eve Service
Mon. 25 Christmas Day
Sun. 31 New Year's Eve



January

Mon. 1-Tues. 2 Office closed
Sun. 7 11:30am Quarterly Business Meeting