



Calvary Baptist Church Weekly Newsletter

December 13, 2017

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A Word from the pastor

Corey Fields

In 2014, artist Everett Patterson drew this picture that depicts Joseph and Mary in a modern setting. They're depicted as a young Latino couple huddled up next to a convenience store with the strong impression that they're in need and trying to figure out where to go. They're both dressed like modern young people. Pregnant Mary ("Maria") is wearing jeans and a hoodie, and Joseph ("Jose") has a name badge on his shirt suggesting that he does some kind of blue collar work.

I love this illustration for two reasons. The first is all the hidden messages and biblical references crammed into it. I've been able to identify more than a dozen – see what you can find.

The second reason I'm drawn to this illustration is the way in which it tries to strip away the many, thick layers of sanitization that the Christmas story has undergone. So many iconic illustrations of that first Christmas include halos, clean white sheets, shining faces, animals acting like well-behaved humans, etc. But this modern portrayal not only helps us get more of a feel of that original setting, but also can make many of us realize that we might have passed on Mary and Joseph too. A poor, dirty, even "suspicious" looking couple. The artist himself said it best: "I have a small hope that this Christmas image will come to mind when we see other 'down and out' people huddling outside of gas stations, reminding us that our Savior's parents (and indeed, Jesus himself) were at one time similarly troubled."

To view a larger image online:

<http://www.everettpatterson.com/?p=1835>



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.

Bob Loyd
1202 Old Cooch's Bridge Road
Newark, DE 19711
302-368-8669



Bob and Mabel Loyd have been members of Calvary since not long after Calvary was formed. Sadly, Mabel passed away in January, but Bob still lives in Newark. He served in many capacities and offices when he was able to attend service regularly. They were a big part of the building of Calvary. Church Picnics were held in their back yard when they lived on Academy Street and, let me tell you, a fun time was had by all. Bob's grandson lives with him now and he doesn't get out much anymore. Cards and visits are still appreciated.



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



Prayer Ribbons

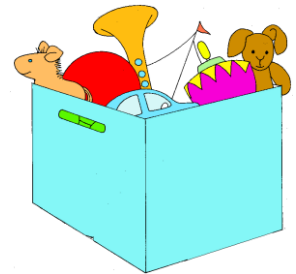
What would you tell Santa for Christmas? What would you tell God for Christmas? Write a prayer to God about Christmas and hang it on our prayer tree for Christmas. Don't have time to write a prayer in church? Take it home, write it and bring it back. You are not limited to one ribbon. Write 2 or 3 or more prayers. A ball point pen works fine. What's a Christmas prayer? How about a prayer of Hope, Peace, Love, Joy or whatever you want to say to God if you were sitting on his lap before Christmas. And it does not matter if you were naughty or nice.

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 is now until THIS FRIDAY Dec. 15, 9am - 1pm
Distribution: Sat., Dec. 16, 1-4pm (or as supplies last)

Toy Drive



Friday, Dec. 15: Evening help needed with cleaning and sorting
Saturday, Dec. 16: Morning and afternoon help needed with sorting and with gift-wrapping



Generous Congregations

The roots of RMMO go back to the mid-1930s, when American Baptist congregations received a Communion Fellowship Offering on the first Sunday of each month to support retired ministers, missionaries, their widowed spouses and elderly clergy within their churches. In 1977, American Baptist Churches USA launched the Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering (RMMO) to continue this appreciation of God's service. The offering supports those who have dedicated their lives to God's service by providing emergency assistance in times of need and a thank you check at the end of each year.

We hope congregations will be inspired by the theme this year, *Generous Congregations*. The verse is taken from Isaiah 32:8, 'But generous people plan to do what is generous, and they stand firm in their generosity'. Generosity is central to our faith. As Christians, we are called to serve and care for others, and RMMO aligns with the collective spirit of love that inspires us all to honor the devotion of ministers and their families for their service to the church.

Please join us in honoring God's committed servants by donating to RMMO. *(Checks made out to Calvary Baptist with RMMO in the memo line or placed in the marked envelopes in the pews.)*

Thank you for your support.

Wilmington Handbell Ensemble Concert

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

Calvary Members are asked to park in the UD lot on Haines Street to leave our spots open for guests and members with mobility limitations.



Pageant will be performed during worship this Sunday.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17TH

I JUST WANNA BE A SHEEP!



3rd Annual
Christmas Cookie
Exchange!
Sunday, December 17th

After the Pageant!!



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.



Duck In Continues to Amaze

Duck In continues to amaze us with surprises. It's exam week and we provided "the best thing to happen today" to a few students. Bill McMurray showed up with his guitar by the fire sharing music with a passerby. Pastor Corey stoked the flames of Advent. And then BAM a rear end collision right in front of us. Nobody hurt but it made a mess for a bit. We were there to offer support and prayers. Aetna and Newark PD turned down our offers of Duck Donuts however. - Tom Parkins



Christmas For All



"Christmas For All" is the new name for Code Purple Christmas. We hope to open up to all folks not just Code Purple Clients. Calvary will again open our doors to the homeless and hungry of Newark. The program has not changed. Doors open at 4PM Christmas Eve, Feast at 5, Worship, overnight, Christmas morning breakfast, Santa, lunch.

We need your help to make this happen. Food, gifts, serving.

Food

Dinner - Ham, turkey, beef, sides and desserts for the feast, canned sodas

Breakfast - Egg Casserole, nice pastries

Lunch - Lunch meat, rolls, individual chip bags.

Gifts \$10 gift cards for Wawa, McDonalds; insulated gloves; warm socks; handwarmers; new underwear (all sizes, all types); LED flashlights

Workers You tell me when you can come - 1 hour...4 hours...12 hours...We are grateful for any hours that you serve.

If you have something else to donate, let me know. It's probably a good chance that we can use it.

PLEASE SIGN UP TO HELP OUT!!!

FOOD, GIFTS, HELPERS. <http://bit.ly/CalvaryChristmas>

Questions? See Santa

302-731-8193 home 302-465-2070 cell



Calvary Baptist Youth Group Students and Parents,



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

December

Wed. 13	6:00pm	Dinner (Ham)
	6:30pm	Cocoa and Caroling on Main (cancelled due to cold temperatures)
	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	Mission board
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	4:00pm	Christmas for All begins
	5:00pm	Dinner
	6:00pm	Silent communion
	7:00pm	Candlelight Christmas Eve Service
Mon. 25		Christmas Day
Wed. 27		<i>No Wednesday night activities</i>



January

Mon. 1-Tues. 2		Office closed
Wed. 3		<i>No Wednesday night activities</i>
Sun. 7	11:30am	Quarterly Business Meeting
Tues. 9	1:30pm	“Duck In”
Wed. 10	6:00pm	Dinner
	6:45pm	Small groups
	8:00pm	Choir rehearsal
Sat. 13	9:30am	American Baptist Women - White Cross Project
Sun. 14	12:00pm	Christian Ed board
Mon. 15		Martin Luther King Jr. Day, office closed
Tues. 16	1:30pm	“Duck In”

