



Calvary Baptist Church Weekly Newsletter

January 17, 2018

A Word from the pastor

Corey Fields

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Lindy West is a writer who says that she is trolled constantly. “Trolling” is the practice of posting online in a deliberately offensive or provocative way to elicit an angry response. For West, nasty tweets and emails are a daily part of her job, with comments ranging from making fun of her for her weight to wishing for her death.

Her worst trolling experience was so bad that the story ended up making news. In 2013, one and a half years after her dad had passed away, West got a message on Twitter from someone who had created a fake account with her deceased father’s name and picture, purely to be as mean as possible. He was using the account to post derogatory things about West. The account’s bio read, “Embarrassed father of an idiot.”

In the midst of the pain this must have caused, West made a risky move: she reached out to the troll who did this. The radio show “This American Life” told their story and played a recording of their conversation. West attempted to understand this person who did this horrible thing. Because she extended grace and forgiveness, they connected with each other. West learned more about how easily our internal insecurities can cause us to do harm, and the unnamed man who trolled her was able to repent, and committed to “go and sin no more” – at least with respect to trolling.

In one sense, West’s story is a special case. She was the victim of psychological abuse, and most such victims are not in a position to try to connect with their offender, nor should they be expected to. To be clear, when abuse is taking place, victim protection comes first. But still, her story is one of the more powerful examples of how things can work differently. Our culture is very focused on punitive approaches to wrongdoing, but there is a different path that, when it’s possible, is much more transformative.

This is the power of love. Martin Luther King, Jr. talked about this in a seldom quoted speech from August 1967 at the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. He said that this kind of love is not “emotional bosh,” but rather a “strong and demanding” love that is only possible through knowing the God who 1 John said “is love.”

We reach the end of our current worship series this Sunday, including the revealing of our new logo and identity statement. We will read from 1 Corinthians 13 and talk about love. The kind of love to which God calls us is not for the faint of heart, but it is the only thing that can turn a heart.



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.



Rose Barton
1228 Stinsford Road
Newark, DE 19711
302-737-0408

Rose Barton is a long time member of Calvary and attended faithfully until she became caretaker of her beloved husband, Dennis. After Dennis passed, her health began to decline and she is unable to attend service. Rose was quite active in previous years. Rose made drapes for the Fellowship Hall, taught Sunday School, was Vacation Bible School director, etc. All of her children attended Calvary as a family. For those of you not familiar, Rose is the mother of Beth Duncan. Rose's sister, Lib Crotty, lives with her and they are great comfort to each other. Visits, phone calls and cards are always welcome. Rose does keep up with activities at Calvary through our weekly mailings.



1	Sarah Hickman	16	Rev Dan Mac Donald
1	Janice Miller	16	Ralph Bush
3	Gabriel Wedgewood	17	Paul Larson
5	Radovan Jovic	17	Peyton Marie Rash
5	John Gordon	19	Elisha "Eli" Carter
8	Kathryn Grace Hollomon	23	Gracelyn McLeod
8	Tom Parkins	23	Jessica Lewis
8	Alan Wedgewood	23	Natalie Chadick-Pierce
7	Aaliyah Alley	28	Aaron Hickman
11	Adam Chadick	28	Judy Pendleton
14	Rosemarie McDonald	28	John Elliott, Jr.
15	Mickey Small	30	Janice Carter
16	Cynthia Wedgewood		

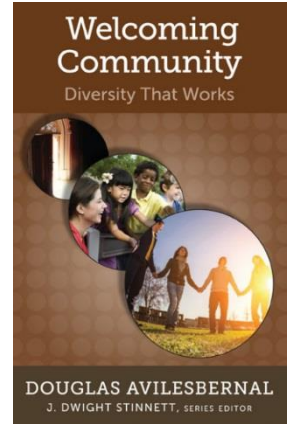


2017-2018 ABC Reads

Each year, American Baptist Churches USA features a book for congregations to read and discuss in small group settings. Their pick for this year is “Welcoming Community: Diversity That Works” by pastor and popular speaker Douglas Avilesbernal. New in the “Living Church” series, this volume offers a creative approach to fostering true diversity:

- Recognizing changing realities in church’s neighborhood and region
- Learning the unique concerns of the community
- Standing in solidarity for matters of justice and mercy
- Transforming the community through the unique gifts each member brings to life and ministry together

Here at Calvary, we will be reading and discussing this book on Wednesday nights after Thanksgiving. You are encouraged to purchase and read this book. It is available as an eBook on Kindle or you can get a physical copy for 20% off at judsonpress.com.



It's not too late to join us or read the book!

We're returning to the book this Wednesday



THIS FRIDAY January 19th
6:00pm to 9:00pm

Board games, card games, video games, all kinds of games... Join Calvary members and friends alike for this “all ages” event. Forget the cooking and come Friday night and enjoy a free meal on us! Bring a snack or dessert to share and your favorite group game and come on down to Calvary’s fellowship hall for an evening of fun, food, and games.

Come join the American Baptist Women’s Ministries meeting this month which will be held **THIS SATURDAY** January 20th. This is a change from our usual second Saturday and it is just for THIS MONTH ONLY. Brunch will be at 9:30 followed by working diligently on our White Cross project. The items we make will be used to help keep medical practices more sanitary. Our efforts will eventually be combined with items made in other ABCOPAD churches and end up in Africa. See Miriam Ramer if you have any questions.





From the Seamen's Center of Wilmington, January 8, 2018:

“Ditty box delivery began on November 27 to the Sol do Brasil. This ship brings us orange juice and apple juice from Brazil and we see this ship and crew several times each year. As of this date we have “gifted” 40 ships, delivering 886 ditty boxes. There are another 118 boxes awaiting delivery to ships due to arrive in the next few days. We are always pleased when the supply goes past the

December 25th date, knowing that there are many that weren't in port during the holiday and they too will need the warm hat, scarf, toiletries and best wishes as well.

Delivering the gifts never fails to make a volunteer swell with pride as they pull up to the gangway with the presents. Once the crew realizes just what is in the back of our vans, they smile from ear to ear with the words ‘thank you’ being said over and over. This year we received several notes of appreciation.

There are many worthwhile causes during the holiday season. We at SCW are particularly grateful that you have chosen to help us remember the seafarers. They truly are an invisible society of workers, so far from those they love at this holiday time. Thank you for making this tradition such a success!”

Youth Group Wednesdays in January BETTER THAN ONE Lesson Series by Dhati Lewis



Growing up, we started friendships with a game of tag or hide-and-go-seek. But in high school, things get complicated. Cliques can feel like the real-life version of getting picked last for dodgeball—the cool kids pick each other, and the rest slump in the corner, forgotten. Even worse, social media rules the hallways. Our popularity depends on the amount of “likes” our latest picture earned, the number of retweets we get, and how many people viewed our Snapchat story. People crowd around us online and at school, but many of us still feel lonely. Depressed, even. Some of us feel so excluded that we don't see the need for friends at all. It's time for a reality check: we need friends. Not just hang-out friends, but good friends who love, encourage, and challenge us.

In this 4-part series, pastor Dhati Lewis unpacks true biblical friendship. He teaches students how God created us to need people and challenges students to choose Godly friends. You'll also watch real-life stories of other teens who struggle with the realities of friendship. This study will empower teens to build solid friendships, to show kindness to nonbelievers, and to be a good friend.



Youth Group Night Out: Dinner and a Movie Friday, February 9th - 6:00pm to 11:00pm

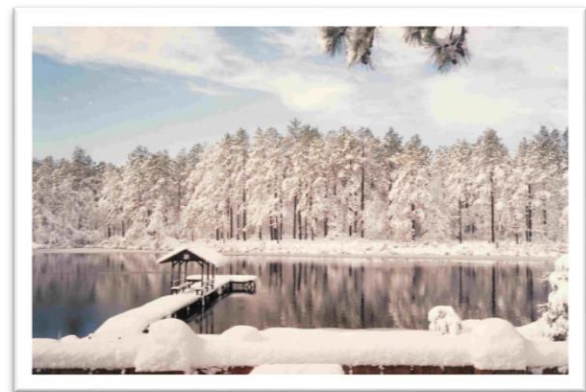
Is winter dragging on and you want to get out of the house? Then come join the Youth Group for a night out on the town! We'll meet at the church at 6:00pm and head to the Hibachi Grill & Supreme Buffet in People's Plaza for an all-you-can-eat dinner. Then we'll check out a new theatrical release at the Regal Cinemas 17. We won't know the exact movie or show time until a few days before, but it will be rated PG-13 or under. We should be back at Calvary around 11:00pm for pick up. Bring \$20 cash to go towards the cost of food and the movie (scholarships are available, talk to Kyle) and invite a friend to come along, the more the merrier.

Calendar and Financial Statement

January



Wed. 17	6:00pm	Dinner (meatball subs)
	6:45pm	Small groups
	8:00pm	Choir rehearsal
Thur. 18	9am-1pm	Hope Dining Room
Fri. 19	6pm-9pm	Game Night
Sat. 20	9:30am	American Baptist Women - White Cross Project
Sun. 21	12:00pm	Trustee board
	12:00pm	Mission board
	12:00pm	Diaconate
	7:00pm	Search committee
Wed. 24	6:00pm	Dinner (hot turkey sandwiches)
	6:45pm	Small groups
	8:00pm	Choir rehearsal
Fri. 26		Office closed
Wed. 31	6:00pm	Dinner (BBQ chicken)
	6:45pm	Small groups
	8:00pm	Choir rehearsal



February

Tues. 6	1:30pm	“Duck In”
	6:30pm	Finance team
Wed. 7	6:00pm	Dinner (tacos)
	6:45pm	Small groups
	8:00pm	Choir rehearsal
Fri. 9	6:00pm	Youth Group Dinner and a Movie
Sat. 10	9:30am	American Baptist Women
Sun. 11	12:00pm	Diaconate
	12:00pm	Christian Education Board

