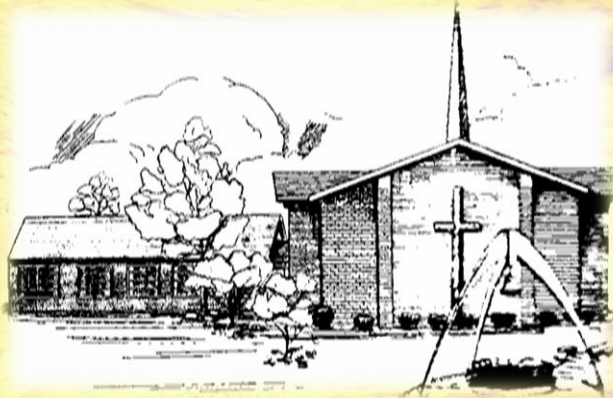


Calvary United Methodist Church Information **For May 29, 2024**



Calvary UMC's Mission Statement
*To Make Followers of Jesus Christ by Sharing God's Love
Through Worship, Learning and Service*

Annual Conference (REMINDER)

Pastor Robin will be attending Annual Conference in Williamsport from Wednesday, May 29-June 1, 2024. Harold Hill will be the Lay Delegate to this year's conference.

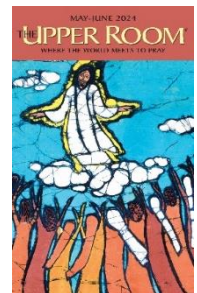


"Ladies Day Out" (NEW)

Calvary UMC's United Women in Faith (UWF) will be having their "Ladies Day Out" on Wednesday, June 12. The group will depart from the church at 11:00 AM followed by lunch at Sunrise Diner. Afterwards, the group will drive to the Heritage Center at 1:00 PM for a tour and video.

The Upper Room (May/June 2024) (NEW)

The May/June 2024 copy of The Upper Room will be available in the narthex on Sunday. NOTE: As of today, there are only "large print" editions available. The more compact version has not arrived in the mail due to an error with the subscription.



Eating Out Together (REMINDER)

This group will be gathering for lunch on Thursday, June 13, 2024, at the Capital Restaurant (412 N. 2nd Street, Chambersburg) beginning at 1:00 PM.

Church Directory

Pastor Robin and I are in the planning process of creating an updated church directory using the information gathered this past fall/winter (Getting to Know You Better questionnaire). In addition, we are reviewing past directories to decide if there are names that should/should not be included in this upcoming project.

If at any time you need an address, telephone number, etc., please call or email (churchofficecumc@gmail.com) the church office, and I will gladly provide you with the information if it is available to me.

Jeff

Continued Phone Issue

There remains an issue with leaving messages on the church office phone system. Incoming calls are received but when messages are prompted to be recorded that option is unavailable. You may hear a fax connection sound or you may hear silence. Phone messages are not being recorded or received at this time.

Yard Sale (REMINDER)

The yard sale at Calvary UMC will be held in August or September. More information will be shared when plans are finalized.

Upcoming June Meetings (REMINDER)

Upcoming May Committee Meetings - All Meetings Begin at 7:00 PM	
Monday, June 17	Board of Trustees
Tuesday, June 18	Committee on Finance
Tuesday, June 25	Administrative Council



Calvary UMC Mugs and Cutouts

The church has extra mugs and church cutouts that are on sale for a donation. The mugs and cutouts will be placed in the narthex. If you are interested in purchasing one or more of these items, please place your donation in the container.

Soups and Cans of Vegetables

The Blessing Box at the Fayetteville Food Pantry needs cans of soup and cans of vegetables. Remember, it is extra helpful if the cans have pull-top lids. Your donations can go on the Missions Shelves in the box marked 'FOOD PANTRY'.

Homebound Mailing List

Attached is a copy of the homebound individuals affiliated with Calvary. If you would like to mail a card or note, it would be greatly appreciated.

Upcoming Bracelet Workshops

The bracelet workshops will be held on the second Monday of the month from 1:00 PM-3:00 PM at the Grove Family Library. I appreciate your support in promoting the workshop.

Love to all,
Susan Snyder



Altar Flowers

If you are interested in providing altar flowers for Sunday worship services, please sign-up using the “Flower Chart” located on the bulletin board in the main entryway of the church.

Flowers are ordered through Everlasting Love Florists of Chambersburg at a cost of \$40.00.

During the week you choose to provide flowers, the church office will email or mail a letter reminding you of your choice. Flower envelopes are located on the church bulletin board that may be used for your check/cash. Please complete the information on the envelope and/or check so the money counters know your coverage of the cost of the flower arrangement. Your payment may be placed in the offering plate during the worship service or mailed to the church office.

A 2024 flower chart is posted on the bulletin board at the main entryway to the church.

Donations: Books, CDs/DVDs, Games, Puzzles, Sheet Music / Volunteering Sign-Ups

For the 38th year the Franklin County Legal Services is sponsoring a sale including books, CDs/DVDs, games, puzzles, etc. The sale will be held at Fayetteville Elementary School on June 7-9, 2024, with varying hours each day.

The group is looking for donations and volunteers to assist on these days.

If you are interested in donating items or volunteering, please review the information shared in the attachment.



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

June 3-7, 2024

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	8:00 AM-4:00 PM
Wednesday	8:00 AM-4:00 PM
Thursday	Closed
*Friday, June 7	*1:00 PM-5:00 PM

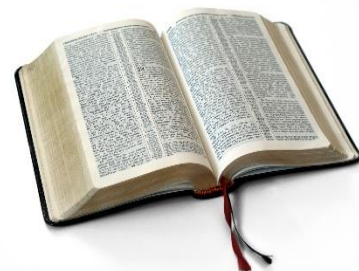
*There will be a change in office hours on Friday, June 7 due to a morning appointment.

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday Services @ Calvary UMC

8:00 AM – Contemporary Worship Service

10:00 AM – Traditional Worship Service with Live Streaming (YouTube.com Search: Calvary UMC Fayetteville); Weekly Services are Always Available on YouTube.com Using the Same Search Information



LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES



This Week's Children Message with Sara Nelson

Each Sunday morning "This Week's Children's Message with Sara Nelson" is posted on the church's website (cumcpa.org) at 8:00 AM. These children's messages are located under the "Latest Posts." In addition, these children's messages are also available on YouTube.com (Search: Calvary UMC Fayetteville PA).

Disciples in Training Sunday School Class @ 8:45

Beginning April 7, this Sunday school class will begin a study by Andy Stanley to discover what we can expect from God. The study is called "Faith, Hope and Luck."

Seekers Sunday School Class @ 9:00 AM

Come join Seekers at 9:00 every Sunday as we explore the book of James; after which we will do a Holy Week study and then in the future spiritual gifts. All ages are welcome.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES



Choir

The Calvary UMC choir under the direction of Linda Richters rehearses on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 PM-8:00 PM. If you would like to participate in the choir, please come to the sanctuary at the set time and join the group.

Liturgists Needed for Upcoming Months

If you would like to volunteer to serve as a monthly liturgist for the 10:00 A.M. Worship Service, please contact Karen Miley or the church office. Your help would be greatly appreciated! Thank you!



Hospitality Team

If you are interested in being part of the Hospitality Team, please contact Harriet Schurman or Barb Park. Volunteers are welcome to serve as a greeter for the 10:00 A.M. Worship Service or at the hospitality table (8:00 AM or 10:00 AM).

The Story Behind the Song *Near to the Heart of God*

Stanza 1

There is a place of quiet rest, near to the heart of God;
a place where sin cannot molest, near to the heart of God.

Refrain

O Jesus, blest Redeemer, sent from the heart of God;
Hold us who wait before thee near to the heart of God.

Stanza 2

There is a place of comfort sweet, near to the heart of; God
a place where we our Savior meet, near to the heart of God.

Stanza 3

There is a place of full release, near to the heart of God;
a place where all is joy and peace, near to the heart of God.

This hymn was born out of tragic circumstances. Cleland McAfee (1866-1944) suffered the loss of two infant nieces to diphtheria in 1903.

McAfee was preacher and choir director of the campus Presbyterian church at Park College, Parkville, Mo. His daughter described the account in her book, *Near to the Heart of God*. Hymnologist William J. Reynolds quotes the account:

“The family and town were stricken with grief. My father often told us how he sat long and late thinking of what could be said in word and song on the coming Sunday so he wrote the little song. The choir learned it at the regular Saturday night rehearsal, and afterward they went to Howard McAfee’s home and sang it as they stood under the sky outside the darkened, quarantined house. It was sung again on Sunday morning at the communion service.

UM Hymnal editor, the Rev. Carlton R. Young, suggests that the “stanzas affirm that near to God’s heart is a meeting place with the Savior, a place of ‘quiet rest,’ ‘comfort,’ ‘full release,’ and ‘joy and peace.’ The refrain petitions Jesus to sustain us near to God’s heart.”

A characteristic of gospel hymns of this era, especially those that employ an intimate language to express the relationship between the believer and God, is to repeat a short phrase several times, allowing the message to burrow deeper into the psyche of the singer and to plant a little kernel of truth. In this case the repeated phrase is “near to the heart of God,” which appears 12 times if all stanzas are sung and the refrain repeated after each stanza.

Uncharacteristic of gospel hymns, however, is that this hymn describes this “place of quiet rest” in the third person. Almost invariably, other hymn writers from this era in the United States and Great Britain express their relationship to God in the first person.

The unpretentious language is descriptive in the stanzas—painting a vivid picture (hypotyposis) of either the afterlife (heaven?) or a place where we can meet God face-to-face in prayer. The refrain finds its highest musical pitch on the word “Jesus”—invoking the “Redeemer” to “hold us . . . near to the heart of God.”

Cleland Boyd McAfee was a native of Missouri, graduating from Park College. He returned to his alma mater following study at Union Theological Seminary, New York, to teach and pastor the campus church as well as direct its choir.

After serving congregations in Chicago and Brooklyn (1901-1912), McAfee was appointed professor of systematic theology at McCormick Theological Seminary (1912-1930) and also served as secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions (1930-1936). He also served as moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States and authored the treatise, “The Greatest English Classic: A Study of the King James Version of the Bible and its Influence on Life and Literature.” This treatise was the result of lectures delivered in 1912 for the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences.

He also penned other hymns of lesser note, including “Christian Soldiers, on to Conflict,” a temperance song (1897), and “Let Us Watch and Pray in our Master’s Name” (1917), a song about the second coming.

“Near to the Heart of God,” a simple hymn, expresses in a profound way the admonition of James 4:8, “Draw nigh unto God and He will draw nigh unto you.”