

Crosspoints

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
MARCH 2019



CALVARY
BAPTIST CHURCH

531 Haywood Road
Asheville, NC 28806

Jim Burnett
Music Director

Aaron DeWeese
Custodian

Sam Hocking
Church Host

Guy Sayles
Transitional Pastor

Vicki Sorenson
Office Administrator

Butch Stillwell
Pastoral Care Minister

Phone: 828-253-7301
Fax: 828-253-4872
office@calvaryasheville.com

Find us at:
calvaryasheville.com

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FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

With Ash Wednesday on March 6, Lent begins, and we embark on our journey of preparation to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus on Easter (April 21).

The church I grew-up in I didn't pay much attention to the seasons of the church year, so the first time I heard the term "Lent" was when I attended, with a teammate from my junior high school football team, his Greek Orthodox Church (Frank was also an altar boy, something else I knew nothing about!). Over the years, though, the season of Lent has become richly meaningful to me, because it calls me to dig beneath the surface of my life and to pay attention to the roots of my faith and the soil/soul which nurtures them.

The word "lent" is a kind of contraction or abbreviation of an Old English word meaning "to lengthen"; originally, it simply referred to the lengthening of daylight hours as winter gives way to spring. Excluding Sundays, which are always "little Easters" (even during Lent), Lent lasts for forty days. Seasons of forty are significant in the Bible: Noah, his family, and the animals were in the ark for forty days and nights; the children of Israel wandered in the wilderness for forty years before they reached the Promised Land; and Jesus fasted for forty days and nights at the beginning of his active ministry.

The early church used the forty days of Lent to prepare new converts for baptism on Easter Sunday. Lent is also a period of deepened study, focused reflection, honest repentance, and disciplined prayer.

It's a serious, but not artificially somber, season. Serious because we are dealing with crucial matters of the heart and soul; but not somber, because liberation and joy grow in us as we admit our sins and receive forgiveness, give up whatever keeps us from being the people God has called us to be, and embrace new ways of living.

At our Bible Study on Ash Wednesday (6:00 PM in the Café), we'll explore some other ideas and practices related to meaningful preparation for Easter. During Holy Week, we'll share the Lord's Supper on Maundy Thursday (April 18, 6:00 PM). On the Second Sunday of Easter (April 28), during worship, we'll acknowledge our losses and griefs, remember cherished family and friends who have died, and seek the comfort and hope which are ours because death could not hold Jesus in the grave.

Grace and peace,
Guy

Dates to Remember

Sunday, March 3

Communion
"Share Love Freely"
Guy Sayles

Wednesday, March 6

Ash Wednesday
6:00 Bible Study & Snack Dinner

Sunday, March 10

"Worship God: The Heart of
the Church"
Guy Sayles

Monday, March 11

6:30 Leadership Team Meeting

Monday, March 18

6:00 Deacons Meeting

Saturday, March 16

10:00 Women's Breakfast @
Happy Hill Restaurant

Sunday, March 17

"Worship God: Living Beyond
Ourselves"
Guy Sayles

Sunday, March 24

"The God Movement"
Guy Sayles

Sunday, March 31

Communion
"Koinonia"
Guy Sayles

LEADERSHIP TEAM FEBRUARY MINUTES

Guy Sayles did our devotional, prayer requests were made for the sick. The January minutes were approved. Lennie presented the Treasurer Report and it was approved.

Steve Mills is setting up arrangements for landscaping and grass cutting and the removal of the overgrown holly bushes. Other shrubbery around the buildings will be trimmed with and the additional charge of about \$200.00 was approved.

Butch Stillwell had made 109 contacts this month, traveling about 555 miles. He reminded us to think about our missing faces, and let him know of any one he can contact.

One of the church vans will be sold with an offer made of \$850.00. The van we are selling needs a clear title, this is being checked out.

Missio Dei would like to place card holders on the chairs (these will hold pencils and cards for people).

We have been contacted about the Educational building lead paint. Lennie Thornton is working with the people in Waldorf school and the County people about the paint.

Waldorf would like to use the old fellowship hall, August 5-9 from 8:30-4:30 or 5:00. This is being looked at for their possible use.

New job descriptions are being looked at for Office, Bookkeeping and Custodian work.

Guy Sayles talked about the 3rd phase of things we need to talk about: Worship, Follow God, Explore our Mission Statement for the future.

Leadership Team meetings will continue to be the second Monday of the month.

The meeting was closed in prayer.

Respectfully, Jennie Dalton, Church Clerk

"Be strong, and let your
heart take courage, all you
who wait for the LORD!"
Psalm 31:24

Wednesdays at 7:15:
Choir Rehearsal

