

The Calvary Crier

July-August 2022



When an expert of Law asked Jesus what was the greatest commandment in Luke 10:27-28 Jesus was answered him.

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind"; and likewise, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"

We love God with our intellect by allowing Him to change our minds. We love Him with our hearts by allowing Him to mold our passions into His passions for His Kingdom. We love God with our soul in surrendering our very essence to His redeeming love. But Jesus doesn't stop with loving God in this passage, He says "likewise" or in the same fashion, "love your neighbor as yourself."

The emphasis on love is what distinguishes Christianity from all other faiths. Christianity is not just a religion it is a loving relationship with the living God which overflows into love for others.

It's going to be a boy!

The church is hosting a time of refreshments and gift blessing on Sunday, Aug. 28, 2022, for the baby boy coming for Wes Whitson and fiancée Elizabeth Meyers. Wes is the son of Kathie Whitson, and grandson of Dick and Susan Sterling. Sebastian Scott Whitson is expected to arrive Oct. 1, 2022.

Wes and Elizabeth have registered at Walmart under their names.

The celebration will begin at 2 p.m. in Harvey Hall. All are welcome.

Words of Wisdom from Reverend Cheryl Kincaid

We love our neighbors with our minds when we seek to understand their perspective. We love them with our hearts when we practice empathy. We love them spiritually when we pray for them.

The stress of this pandemic and society's tensions seems to have set many people's teeth on edge. Our society has become more and more divided. Differing opinions that used to be tolerated, now seem devolve into screaming matches over television and social media. Oftentimes, I would settle for civility when good manners have been forgotten in social discourse.

But Christians have the ability to rise above this clatter. God loves us so we can love others. God empathizes with us, so we ought to empathize with others.

A few weeks ago, I quoted Plato in my sermon when I said, "Be kind to everyone you meet because everyone is fighting a battle."

I encourage you as you move out of your homes into society again, to practice kindness and courtesy on your vacations and when you are eating out. Recognize that the person who is serving you might be working more than one job and you don't know what battles they are fighting.

There is only one answer to the word's problem and that answer is within the Saving grace

See Words of Wisdom, page 3

Perfect love casts out fear!

Psalm 11

I've been learning to pray the scriptures, and especially the Psalms.

Today's Psalm was David's "song of the steadfast," as Charles Spurgeon names Psalm 11.

This is David's song during a crisis when all his friends and advisors tell him to run for his life, run for the hills.

David said no. He claimed his refuge was not in running away in fear, but in finding refuge completely in God.

We have all been in a fear mode this past two years. Some of us have been more fearful than others, but the crisis of the world and a serious pestilence has touched us all in some way.

So how do we move out of fear? Well, David's answer was to see God in the middle of the crisis, to look up, not out at circumstances. Looking up and expecting God to be there in the middle of our crises

takes some practice. And, if we start this practice and continue it, praying this Psalm with David, we just might find out, as David did, that God is there for us.

Perfect love casts out fear. And, don't we know in the depths of our souls that God is love.

Since that is true no matter the circumstance, then God Himself will cast out our fear as we take refuge in Him and Him alone. There is no other place to find perfect Love.

Brothers and sisters, please take a moment to open you Bible, find Psalm 11, and say it aloud as a prayer to God. Perhaps you can do this whenever you feel afraid. It really works—better than whistling a happy tune. :)

God loves you. He is a refuge and a strength in every trouble. Lean on Him.

*Marjorie Stradinger
Deacon Communications*



Calvary Financial Report for June 2022

The Finance Committee agreed that providing a monthly financial report would be a valuable tool to keep the congregation informed. The following is a summary of our accounts through the end of July. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ted Perrill or Paul Yanosy.

Working Budget:

Offerings: \$95,100 or 51.3% of the \$185,291 Budget which means we are on target for the year

Expenses: \$114,324 or 50.1% of the \$228,370 Budget which means we are on target for the year

Please recall that our budgeted income for the year did not match our budgeted expenses without the use of additional funds from the Howes fund (\$9,000) and the carryover funds (\$34,080) in the

checking account. So, as we progress through the year, we will be using more of our available funds to support the budget.

Expenses exceed income by \$19,224. Of this \$8,130 should be charged to the Howes account. Meaning that we are into our available funds by \$11,094. However, at this halfway point in the year we should have used \$21,540 of our available funds.

Building Budget:

Income: \$18,980 or 68.5% of the \$27,720 Budget

Expenses: \$14,028 of 42.4% of the \$33,091 Budget

Expenses under income by \$4,952 which is reserved for the Bodley Scholarship.



A picnic in the park for the single ladies

Hugs 'n Hope, a support & fellowship group for women who are widowed, divorced or single will hold its August gathering -- "Picnic in the Park" -- with a summer salad bar luncheon at noon, Saturday, Aug. 20, location to be announced.

A variety of salads, watermelon, desserts, ice cold lemonade and iced tea will be served. This will be a cool way to spend a summer afternoon with great fellowship, laughs, and guaranteed fun.

RSVP to Janice Singer at (860) 763-2936.

Words of Wisdom

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of Jesus Christ. Let's covenant together to present His love by our courtesy and kindness towards others!!

"Let me give you a new command: Love one another. In the same way I loved you, you love one another. This is how everyone will recognize that you are my disciples—when they see the love you have for each other."

John 13:35 The Message (MSG)



Prayer and Bible Study meetings

Prayer at Calvary

A morning worship and prayer gathering is held online every Tuesday and Thursday at 9 a.m. This service is adapted from an ancient pattern of worship known as the Daily Office and includes worship, scripture, and a time of corporate prayer. The Zoom code is 828 7739 1361.

An in-person prayer session is held every Wednesday from 1-8 p.m. in Room LL5. If you have a prayer request, please contact our prayer chain by

contacting Val Joseph.

Men's Bible Study

The Men's Bible Study meets on odd-numbered Thursdays (weeks 1,3,5) at 7 p.m.

in Room UL8 where they watch a video and have a discussion. See Larry Lipke or Evans Farrell for more information.



Birthdays

July

- 2 Jennifer Hamilton
- 6 David Marocchini
- 7 Gus Morales
- 12 Dave Cushman
- 17 Lori Beauchesne
Marjorie Stradinger
- 18 Hannah Cushman
- 20 Steve Thayer
- 23 Jason Lee

August

- 5 Gloria Walsh
- 8 Cyrilla Shaw
- 10 David Hansen
- 12 Peter duPlessis
- 14 Linley Ruoss
Janice Singer
- 15 Wayne Richmond
- 18 Sue Harger
Mickey Love
- 26 Brianna Lee
- 31 Shannah Zinkievich

Anniversaries

July

- 3 Angie & Tom Massetti
- 29 Beth & Doug Gillette

August

- 14 Cyrilla & Fred Shaw
- 20 Dot & John Cutter
- 21 Melissa & Steve Thayer
- 22 Valencia & David Joseph
- 25 Gail & Bob Clark.

HAPPY
Anniversary

Training held to ensure congregation's safety

Considering the recent news of church shootings, I have expressed my concern with the session that we have no emergency plan as to how we might respond to an active shooter within who is on our property. Below are some statistics you might not be aware of:

In the United States, there have been twenty-three active shooters in Churches between 2019 and 2022. Currently, around 4 in 5 Protestant pastors (80%) say their church has some type of security measure in place when they gather for worship. Sixty-two percent of protestant ministers state that they have a plan to respond to an active shooter.

In response to these statistics, the session approved an active shooter training that was held July 23 at the church. This training was attended by Elders, Deacons, church staff, and other covenant partners.

As a follow-up to this training the church will begin having fire drills, which will serve as both evacuation practice and as a determination whether further training is needed. The clip that was shown at the training can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5VcSwejU2D0>.

Jo Destro's life honored



Calvary came together last month to celebrate the life of Jo Destro, a long-time covenant partner of the church.

Jo was born Dec. 26, 1920, and went to be with her Lord on July 20, 2022. A service was held at the church on July 25. A remembrance of her life can be found at: <https://www.leetestevens.com/memorials/josephine-destro/4984914/>