

# The Calvary Connection

Volume II, Issue 3

May 2010



## The Merry Month of Women

May is the month with Mother's Day, so the men on the session have proposed that the men of the church prepare and serve lunch for all the women and girls, **May 23**, for our next **Second Table**.

For this festive feast, we need two things. First, reservations from all the women and girls who plan to attend. And, ladies, please feel free to invite your mothers, sisters, grandmothers, aunts, etc. Second, we need all the men and boys who are willing to help to let us know. The menu is to be determined. The first suggestion was something involving grills, fire, and lots of meat. But we'll see.

To make a reservation (ladies) or to sign up to help cook (gentlemen), please email or call the church office, or sign the sign up form that will be in the back of the sanctuary for the next few Sundays.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

May 1 **Norma Maxwell**  
May 2 **Michael Regalia**  
May 4 **Samantha Regalia**  
May 15 **Larry Dobrinska**  
May 17 **Jeff Jackson**

*If you haven't already, please let us know  
when YOUR special day is!*

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## Fellowship Opportunities

"**Letters to God**" is a new film about a young boy's fight against cancer. The letters he writes touch the lives of the people in his community, especially a lonely mail carrier. This is the story of what happens when a boy's faith crosses paths with a man's search for the meaning in life.

Rated PG. Runs 110 minutes. All seats just \$5  
Times Cinema ([www.timescinema.com](http://www.timescinema.com))  
Through May 5

### SATURDAY, MAY 15 CALVARY SPRING CLEANING DAY!

Arrive at 9:00 am, grab a bucket, a mop, or a dust rag and join in the fun! Somehow at Calvary we always manage to turn work into a good time.

Coffee and snacks will be provided. Bring your fellowship spirit and some elbow grease so we can make this place shine for the upcoming weddings.

See you on the 15th !

## The Sounds of Silence

Well, I've written, I've announced, and I've asked, and though many of you have said it is a good idea, only two have responded. Yes, I'm talking about your sacred music. I'm considering walking around after worship with paper and pencil and buttonholing all ya'll to get your suggestions. But, I'd rather not put anyone on the spot. So, please send your suggestions for music to the church office, drop a list of suggestions in the offering plate, or talk to me after worship. I am eager to give expression to everyone's sacred music. And while I like drums, bagpipes, and opera arias, if you want more variety, now's your chance help shape the music of our worship.

— Mark

## A New Angle on Worship

Worship has been described as a dance. In the basic pattern, we step around the baptismal font, enter the worship circle, face the table, turn to greet our neighbors, process to the table for communion or anointing, reach out to one another and the world with our prayers and offering, and turn, renewed and refreshed, to re-engage the world.

I have proposed, and the session has agreed, to try a change to our worship dance. The basic movement outlined above will remain the same, but instead of facing what was once the chancel, we will rotate our worship set-up 90 degrees to the right, clockwise. The arrangement of chairs, table, pulpit, piano and organ will remain the same but you, the congregation, will face the west transept window making the east wall the back of the worship area. Additionally the carpeted area, now used by those with young children, will be moved to the area near the door of the sanctuary that leads to the restrooms and nursery.

Why the change? Primarily to make it easier to exit and enter the sanctuary during worship. Now, those with young children who want to go to a quiet place have no where to go but out to the entry way, which is rather cool during the winter months, and there are no changing tables or rocking chairs there. By changing the orientation of worship 90 degrees, we create a back aisle that gives ready access to the restrooms and nursery. And, as there is a closed-circuit television in the upper classroom, those attending to the needs of children can still see and hear all that is happening in the sanctuary.

What can you do? Try it; come often enough to give the change a fair assessment, and participate in a discussion group to offer feedback. Nothing is cast in stone at this point. Rotating the worship set-up 90 degrees sounds simple. But there will be the unexpected and we will have to tweak things as we go.

When will this happen and how long will we try this new arrangement before we gather to evaluate? We didn't set a date at our last session meeting, but I am considering May 23, Pentecost Sunday. And studies show that two to three months is the minimum for trying a change. As this change will be over much of the summer when attendance is less regular, we want to give everyone plenty of opportunity to try this before we make any decisions.

As is our custom at Calvary, we are always stretching into better ways of being. I'm looking forward to our experiment and the conversations that will follow.

~Mark

### SUMMER WORSHIP POLL

In past summers, we have moved the time of Sunday worship to 9:00 am. Why? The earlier hour means that the sanctuary is cooler, and it leaves everyone a little more time to enjoy summer weekend activities.

Should we move worship time to 9:00 am for this summer? Please email or call the office by May 17 to register your vote!

### GET YOUR KUDOS HERE!

If you, or someone in your family is graduating this spring, or has graduated recently, we would like to acknowledge that achievement. Please contact the church office with the news including what certificate, diploma, or degree the student has earned, and plans for the future, i.e. college, graduate studies, employment, etc.

## **Makes Me Think of Our Church** –submitted by Pam Halter

Now this is The Living Bible:

His name is Bill. He has wild hair, wears a T-shirt with holes in it, jeans, and no shoes. This was literally his wardrobe for his entire four years of college. He is brilliant. Kind of profound and very, very bright. He became a Christian while attending college.

Across the street from the campus is a well-dressed, very conservative church. They want to develop a ministry to the students but are not sure how to go about it. One day Bill decides to go there. He walks in with no shoes, jeans, his T-shirt, and wild hair. The service has already started and so Bill starts down the aisle looking for a seat. The church is completely packed and he can't find a seat. By now, people are really looking a bit uncomfortable, but no one says anything.

Bill gets closer and closer and closer to the pulpit, and when he realizes there are no seats, he just squats down right on the carpet. By now the people are really uptight, and the tension in the air is thick.

About this time, the minister realizes that from way at the back of the church, a deacon is slowly making his way toward Bill. Now the deacon is in his eighties, has silver-gray hair, and a three-piece suit. A godly man, very elegant, very dignified, very courtly. He walks with a cane and, as he starts walking toward this boy, everyone is saying to themselves that you can't blame him for what he's going to do. How can you expect a man of his age and of his background to understand some college kid on the floor?

It takes a long time for the man to reach the boy. The church is utterly silent except for the clicking of the man's cane. All eyes are focused on him. You can't even hear anyone breathing. The minister can't even preach the sermon until the deacon does what he has to do.

And now they see this elderly man drop his cane on the floor. With great difficulty, he lowers himself and sits down next to Bill and worships with him so he won't be alone.

Everyone chokes up with emotion.

When the minister gains control, he says, "What I'm about to preach, you will never remember. What you have just seen, you will never forget. Be careful how you live. You may be the only Bible some people will ever read!"

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## **Keeping Up With the Stewards** –by Don Thomas

One of the tasks of being a good steward is leaving things better than you find them. Or at the least as good as you find it. It touches every aspect of our lives, if you let it. Reducing our 'carbon footprint', for example, is something a good steward, such as myself, would rally behind. My full size Dodge Ram V-8, 4X4 truck may carry a bumper sticker between the dual exhaust that reads "What's Your Carbon Footprint?" to raise awareness. As individuals we need to pick our battles.

Being a good steward also comes into play when replacing a window air conditioner in the church office. Obviously replacing a vintage unit for a modern high efficiency model is a good step in regards to energy reduction but this task offered another challenge. A good steward also needs to take care of the craftsmanship of the original unit's installation. Larry Halter and I were briefly (as time is a relative thing) baffled as to how the old A/C unit was going to be removed without taking the window with it. After some debate that included a lot of poking, prodding, wiggling inside and out, the use of larger and larger tools and coffee we managed to remove the old appliance and, just as important, maintained the integrity of the old framework. It was easy to see that a lot of thought, time and care went into making the frame. And it was meant to last far longer than the appliance it held. Keeping it and reusing it is a nod to the craftsman that made it, the caretaker who came before us and for the use of those who come after us.

The church office will be a comfortable place this summer and hopefully the utility bill will show a seasonal improvement.

With a little bit of paint it will appear as though there never was an appliance swap. And, if I may say, that is a little bit of craftsmanship in itself.

**Practicing scandalous hospitality in the heart of Milwaukee for nearly 140 years.**

## CALVARY CHURCH

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Located on the corner of 10th  
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Calvary Church is a Christian Community organized around three words:  
gathering, shaping and sending.

**GATHERING** is more than getting everyone in one place; it is also an attitude of welcome and hospitality. It means noticing one another and taking time to learn each other's names and stories. It also means removing barriers: in our building and in our personalities.

**SHAPING** is our word for intentionally striving to grow in the image of Christ. Through worship, education opportunities for all ages, active participation in the mission of the church, and fellowship, we hope to make our lives more like Christ's.

**SENDING** means just that; we believe God gather and shapes us to send us out to love as God loves. In our homes, our work, our communities, and our world, we try to make life on earth as it is in Heaven.

Whether you are looking for a Christian community or just passing through...  
please visit us - you are welcome here!

Visit us on the web!  
[www.bigredchurch.com](http://www.bigredchurch.com)

## MAY 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 <b>WORSHIP</b> 10:00 am COMMUNION SUNDAY	3	4 The Ave 8:30 pm	5 Midday Eucharist 12:10 pm  Labyrinth 5:30-7:00 pm	6 Apple Tree 7:30 pm	7 Apple Tree 8:00 pm	8 Apple Tree 4:00 pm / 8:00 pm
9 <b>WORSHIP</b> 10:00 am MOTHER'S DAY  Apple Tree 2:00 pm  TST Cabaret 7:00 pm	10	11 The Ave 8:30 pm	12 Midday Eucharist 12:10 pm  Labyrinth 5:30-7:00 pm  Apple Tree 7:30 pm	13 Apple Tree 7:30 pm	14 Apple Tree 8:00 pm (CCC Benefit Show)	15 Calvary Spring Cleaning Day 9:00 am - ?  Apple Tree 4:00 pm / 8:00 pm
16 Session meeting 8 am <b>WORSHIP</b> 10:00 am  Apple Tree 2:00 pm	17	18	19 Midday Eucharist 12:10 pm  Labyrinth 5:30-7:00 pm	20	21 Wedding rehearsal 6:00 pm	22 Wedding 3:00 pm
23 <b>WORSHIP</b> 10:00 am Second Table to follow (Calvary Men to host)  Covenant Kingdom 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm	24	25 Presbytery Meeting 4:30 pm	26 Midday Eucharist 12:10 pm  Labyrinth 5:30-7:00 pm	27	28 Wedding rehearsal 6:30 pm	29 Wedding rehearsal 9:00 - 11:30 am  Wedding 2:00 pm
30 <b>WORSHIP</b> 10:00 am  Wedding 3:00 pm	31					

