

The Calvary Connection

Volume II, Issue 5

AUGUST 2010



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The Acolytes Are Coming! The Acolytes Are Coming!

Acolytes, usually older children and young adults, assist the minister and liturgist in worship. We have two children who have reached double-digit age and are ready for more age-appropriate participation in worship. Samantha Regalia and Anna Martin have turned 10 this year and, beginning after Labor Day, will take turns serving as acolytes. I know you will join me in welcoming their participation in our worship.

~Mark

Habitat Volunteers Stay at Camp Calvary

Eleven youth and seven adult leaders from Laurel United Methodist Church in Springfield, Illinois, were in Milwaukee the week of August 9 to build two houses with Habitat for Humanity. A group from this church has been volunteering for Habitat for many years and wherever they go, they try to find another church to put them up for the week while they work to eliminate the cost of staying in hotels. The Laurel folks found us through Maggie McDonough's father, Rev. Bill Johnstone, who has worked closely with our local Habitat organization for many years.

The group has everything down to a science. They arrive with inflatable beds, bedding, linens, toiletries, kitchen supplies, food for the week, fans, and even their own tools for the job site. Three meals a day were prepared in the Calvary kitchen and served up in the lobby by three wonderful ladies who also slept in the lobby and theatre hallway. The rest of the crew bunked in the kid's classroom and nursery...a few even slept in the sanctuary!

You might be saying to yourself, "Hmmm...did they take tiny baths in the bathroom sinks?" The answer is: showers are generously provided at no charge by the Rec Plex next door in the Marquette Straz tower!

It was a pleasure to host the Laurel UMC group. Kudos for surviving the hottest week of the year with no air conditioning and thanks to all of them for leaving Milwaukee a little better place than when they arrived.

BEGIN WHAT WE DO ~ INFORM WHAT WE SAY ~ REDEEM WHO WE ARE

Caring for Our Next Generation

Not long ago we had many infants who would sleep in their parents' arms or in a car seat, or roll about on the carpet. And, if a child needed tending, a parent could slip out of the back of the worship area to one of the nurseries. But children grow quickly and infants have turned into toddlers who like to be busy and on the go. To accommodate our toddlers, the Session has decided to staff one of our nursery rooms with a baby sitter during worship. Our plan is to have at least two people to take turns in the nursery as paid staff, and for parents and other members of the congregation to take turns as needed to provide extra care. We want to be attentive to maintaining the proper ratio of childcare providers to children. As I write this, we have one young adult who is very interested and who is checking to see if a friend will take turns with her. We are also collecting names of others who would be willing to be called to fill in when needed.

If you think you will use the nursery and/or you are willing to help in the nursery, please contact the church office. It will be helpful if we can anticipate the number of children we might have on any given Sunday.

Also, if you would be willing to help go through the toys in the nursery to make sure they are all clean, in good repair, and age appropriate, please contact the church office

ATTENTION CALVARY PARK EXPLORERS!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2010

SOUTH SHORE PARK

2900 South Shore Drive, Bay View

10:00 am - Noon

Home of the South Shore Farmer's Market

www.southshorefarmersmarket.com

Meet at 10:00 am at the play area

Visit the Farmer's Market which opens at 8:00 am

Explore the park afterwards!

For more information, call Kelcey or Kasongo: 414-906-4535

Practicing Our Faith

Let's imagine you are interested in having a romantic relationship. You would, of course, be yourself -- but your best self. And suppose you arranged to meet someone for lunch. You might likely give a little more attention to how you look. And, as you talked, you might remind yourself to ask questions about the other person, listen attentively, and not interrupt to start talking about yourself.

Now let's imagine the lunch turns into a relationship. You would likely continue the same practices of interest and attentive listening you practiced to help the relationship form in the first place.

Of course, the practices are not the point; the relationship is. But the practices of making time for the other, being interested, and listening attentively serve both to help start the relationship and to sustain and nurture it.

So with the Christian faith: the practices are not the main point; our relationship with the risen Christ is. But the practices of keeping the Lord's Day, prayer, bible study, and practicing compassion, help us both invite and sustain and nurture a dynamic relationship with Christ. The Spirit of God comes to those who listen attentively and abides with those who act on the Spirit's urgings.

In a few weeks we will begin forming groups to discuss the book, "Practicing Our Faith." If you have not yet picked up a copy of the book, I encourage you to do so. And if you have started reading, I hope you have also started trying some of the practices. Trying faith practices is like trying new foods--we open ourselves to new discoveries.

If you are willing to host or co-host a small group, please let me know. Three to seven people is ideal for small groups so I imagine most of us could host that many in our homes or apartments. I hope to have enough groups meeting at different times and places to accommodate all the schedule permutations of our busy congregation.

Acolytes, nursery care, and a book study: three excellent additions to our life together.

*Bless the Lord, O my soul.
I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God while I have being.*

(Psalm 104)

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

CALVARY CHURCH

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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

JULY/AUGUST 2010

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|---------|---|---|---|---|
| JULY 25 WORSHIP 9:00 am Wedding 3:00 pm | JULY 26 Ulster Project Labyrinth Gathering 7:00 pm | JULY 27 | JULY 28 Midday Eucharist 12:10 pm Labyrinth 5:30-7:00 pm In Tandem Sneak Peek 5:30-8:30 | JULY 29 Calvary Fellowship Park Explorers Enderis Park 6:00 pm | JULY 30 World's Stage Theatre Tenth Street Theatre 8:00 pm | JULY 31 World's Stage Theatre Tenth Street Theatre 4:00 pm & 8:00 pm |
| AUGUST 1 WORSHIP 9:00 am COMMUNION SUNDAY | 2 | 3 | 4 Midday Eucharist 12:10 pm Labyrinth 5:30-7:00 pm | 5 | 6 Wedding rehearsal 6:00 pm | 7 Wedding 4:00 pm |
| 8 WORSHIP 9:00 am Royal UMC Habitat for Humanity volunteers arrive to stay for the week | 9 | 10 | 11 Midday Eucharist 12:10 pm Labyrinth 5:30-7:00 pm | 12 | 13 Wedding rehearsal 7:00 pm | 14 Wedding 3:00 pm |
| 15 WORSHIP 9:00 am | 16 | 17 | 18 Midday Eucharist 12:10 pm Labyrinth 5:30-7:00 pm | 19 | 20 Wedding rehearsal 6:00 pm | 21 Wedding 3:00 pm |
| 22 WORSHIP 9:00 am | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 Session Minutes Review 7:00 pm | 27 <i>Playdaters</i> Tenth Street Theatre 8:00 pm | 29 <i>Playdaters</i> Tenth Street Theatre 8:00 pm |
| 29 WORSHIP 9:00 am | 30 | 31 | | <i>Playdaters</i> Tenth Street Theatre 7:30 pm | | |

