

The Calvary Connection

Volume II, Issue 6

OCTOBER 2010



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Divinely Human

We Christians, shaped by the Triune God, understand full humanity to comprise three characteristics: to create, to redeem, and to sustain. To create is to speak or fashion something into being whether a poem, a bridge, a meal, or a more productive way of organizing a group's efforts. To redeem is to heal, to reconcile, to re-member what has been dismembered, and to bring life where there was death. And to sustain is to nurture, challenge, discipline, and develop something or someone (perhaps oneself) to full potential. Think of a garden cultivated to bear abundant and succulent produce.

As Christians we are also very aware of all that stops us from creating, redeeming, and sustaining-what we call sin. Fear that we have nothing worthwhile to contribute, or that our efforts will only make things worse, keeps us from creating. Indifference to the pain and suffering of others keeps us from redeeming. And despair and hopelessness keeps us from investing ourselves in nurturing and sustaining anything that will outlive us.

Love, or what our spiritual forebears called charity, is the antidote to fear, indifference, and hopelessness. Charity says, "I have more than enough for myself; I can be liberally generous." Charity says, "I see the conditions of my fellow human beings and their pain and struggle moves me to be brother or sister to them." Charity says, "I would leave behind something that will give comfort, hope, joy, and beauty to those who come after me."

Sunday, November 14, we will all be invited to pledge our time, talents, and financial resources to our church. And on the two Sundays prior, we will hear from several of our members who will talk about their reasons for pledging and about the financial goals of our church. And, while it may not be possible to come to worship every Sunday, please try to schedule the next three Sundays, October 31, and November 7 and 14. We will share a potluck lunch following worship November 14 to celebrate the ministry of our church and to mark our commitment to continue and enhance that ministry.

Our charity makes us co-creators, co-redeemers, and co-sustainers with one another and with Christ. Together we can call into being ways of loving that have not been before. Together we can heal, reconcile, and restore what has been injured, broken, and lost. And together, we can sustain this sacred space to be a place of welcome, beauty, fellowship, and encounter with the sacred.

It is in charity that we are most divinely human.

"Love...is the antidote to fear, indifference and hopelessness."

Stewardship Schedule

The following Calvary folks are scheduled to speak to us about stewardship:

October 31: Bekki Schmit and Don Thomas

November 7: Anna Martin

November 14: Kelcey Kalumbula

On November 14, we will distribute time, talent and financial pledge forms during worship and then all gather after worship for a potluck lunch. There is a sign-up on the back table to coordinate our food offerings. Or, you may contact the church office to let us know what you like to bring to share.

New Member Inquirer's Class

The Session of Calvary Church is hosting an Inquirers' lunch Sunday, November 7, following worship. This is an opportunity to learn more about the life and ministry of the people of the Big Red Church. Several people have signed up to attend but there is room for more. If you would like to attend, please contact the church office or sign up on the sign up form on the back table after worship this Sunday. You are not obligated to join if you attend the inquirers' class, although you certainly



THANKSGIVING WORSHIP SERVICE

Join the congregations of Central City Churches for a Thanksgiving Worship Service on **Wednesday, November 24 at 7:00pm** at Our Savior's Lutheran (3022 W Wisconsin). Mark is officiating. Pie and coffee to follow—you may contribute pie if you wish!

Practicing Our Faith

Eight people have begun meeting weekly to attempt and discuss some of the practices in Dorothy Bass's enlightening book, "Practicing Our Faith." While each individual has chosen a particular practice for him/herself, the group decided to all try keeping Sabbath. The discussions about our attempts to keep Sabbath have been insightful, frequently humorous, and often poignant.

A number of members and friends of the church have indicated an interest in working with Bass's book but were not able to start in September. If you are interested in meeting with others to encourage one another in faith practices, I would be happy to form another group. Eight is really the limit for good, small group conversation and for fitting in most homes. Contact the church office or see me after worship if you would like to be part of another "Practicing Our Faith" Group.

-Mark

Stated Meeting of the Session, Calvary Presbyterian Church 9/26/2010

Present: Pat Delgado, Sue Martin, Mark McDonough, Derrick Regalia, Cindy Thomas, Don Thomas.

Absent: Larry Halter, Debby Peters. A quorum was present. The meeting was opened with prayer at 8:05am in the theatre lobby. Coffee and bagels were served.

Clerk Report:

- a. Minutes from stated meeting of 8/8/10 were approved.
- b. Elder communion servers for October 3: Sue Martin & Don Thomas.
- c. Sue advised against participating in MFS Class Action suit, not worth the few cents or dollars. .

Standing Reports:

Minister: Mark vacation: Sunday, October 3 (guest preacher Chris Dorn, liturgist Cindy Thomas) and Sunday, November 21 (pulpit supply TBD). Study leave October 4-7. Motion approved to begin process of changing terms of call from Stated Supply to Installed Pastor; Cindy to contact Committee on Ministry.

Building: First door replacement estimate is about \$3000 per door; two more coming in.

Finance: Current report attached. Cindy & Mark to meet with Steve about reporting monthly cash flow as well as clarification with budget numbers. Derrick to follow up with nursery care workers on pay schedule. Session approved \$15 hourly rate for Bekki Jankoviak (part time custodian). Mission pledge payments are due.

Other Business

- a. Derrick (a registered pharmacist) has offered to administer flu shots to the congregation at their expense. Derrick offered to facilitate insurance applications. Motion approved and date TBD.
- b. Grant check from Session Partnerships for new website was received.
- c. Partners for Sacred Places: Mark and Cindy met with Quorum Architects at Calvary on September 7 for initial consult. Next step is to apply for funding to Sacred Places (\$3600) and the Presbytery (\$2400).
- d. In Tandem lease extension on Presbytery consent agenda 9/28; Cindy to attend as Calvary representative.
- e. Robin Graham has offered to help with labyrinth hosting on Wednesdays along with Jeanne Dean. Don Richards' schedule is tentative due to family issues.
- f. Cindy to organize meals for Bosses (birth of twins) and Peters (while David recovers from back surgery).
- g. Brandon Ward from Faith Presbyterian invited to speak on *That All May Freely Serve* on October 10.
- h. Marquette class approached us to make a video for our website as a class project.
- i. Sue Martin was appointed chair of this year's Stewardship Campaign.
- j. Mark to start forming new members' classes. Session to help host with light lunch.
- k. Mark to schedule meeting with parents to discuss spiritual formation goals and objectives for their children.
- l. Election of new officers: Don Thomas appointed elder chair of Nomination Committee.

The current Calvary Session is as follows:

Elders

Patsy Delgado, Steward (Class of 2010)
 Larry Halter, Properties (Class of 2010)
 Sue Martin, Steward (Class of 2012)
 Debby Peters, Hospitality (Class of 2010)
 Cindy Thomas, Clerk (Class of 2011)
 Don Thomas, Properties (Class of 2012)

Deacons

Chris Boss (Class of 2010)
 Margaret McDonough (Class of 2010)

First term elders eligible for rotation: Pat Delgado, Larry Halter, Debby Peters.

First term deacons eligible for rotation: Chris Boss, Maggie McDonough.

There was discussion regarding whether to continue with having deacons or bring forth leaders from the congregation to handle church life responsibilities as needed. Discussion to continue with congregation.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 9:27 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Thomas, Clerk of Session

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

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
OCTOBER 31 WORSHIP 10 am Fellowship to follow In Tandem Theatre <i>Art of Murder</i> 2 pm and 7 pm	NOVEMBER 1	2 The Ave 8:30 pm	3 Midday Eucharist 12:10 pm Labyrinth 5:30-7:00 pm <i>Art of Murder</i> 7:30 pm	4 <i>Art of Murder</i> 7:30 pm	5 Wedding rehearsal 6 pm <i>Art of Murder</i> 8 pm	6 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS! Wedding 1 pm <i>Art of Murder</i> 4 pm and 8 pm
7 WORSHIP 10 am Fellowship to follow <i>Art of Murder</i> 2 pm	8	9 The Ave 8:30 pm	10 Midday Eucharist 12:10 pm Labyrinth 5:30-7:00 pm	11 Marquette A Cappella Fundraiser 7 pm Tenth Street Theatre	12 Wedding rehearsal 6 pm	13 Wedding 3:15 pm
14 WORSHIP 10 am STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY and POTLUCK	15	16 The Ave 8:30 pm	17 Midday Eucharist 12:10 pm Labyrinth 5:30-7:00 pm	18	19 Tenth Street Gallery Opening 6pm-9pm	20
21 WORSHIP 10 am Fellowship to follow (Rev. Kelly Talley, guest preacher)	22	23 Presbytery Meeting 4 pm The Ave 8:30 pm	24 Midday Eucharist 12:10 pm Labyrinth 5:30-7:00 pm Thanksgiving Worship 7pm (Our Saviors)	25 HAPPY THANKSGIVING!	26 Wedding rehearsal 4 pm	27 Wedding 2:30 pm
28 WORSHIP 10 am Fellowship to follow	29	30 The Ave 8:30 pm				

