

Messenger

Calvary Baptist Church of Denver



Vol. 71 • No. 2 • Jan. 24, 2012

Calvary's mission is to be a Christ-like community that experiences and shares God's love.

Calvary welcomes and affirms all people as children of God from every cultural and religious background, sexual orientation, family composition, physical and mental ability, economic means, race, age and gender.

Come and see Sunday schedule

8:15 am worship in the chapel
9:30 am church school for all ages
10:30 am coffee fellowship
10:55 am worship in the sanctuary

Jan. 29

The "It" Factor

Mark 1:21-28

Anne Jernberg preaching

The Undertaking, movie screening, noon

Feb. 5

Haven't You Heard?

Isaiah 40:21-31

Ashley Whitaker preaching

Upcoming Jan. 29–Feb. 11

Jan. 31, MOMentum, 9 am

Feb. 2, 9, JuBellation rehearsal, 7 pm

Feb. 4, AWA—cross-country skiing

Feb. 6, Men's Bible study, 7 pm

Feb. 11, Modern Matures, noon

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner, 4 pm

Weekly

Sundays, Children/youth choir rehearsals

Taizé at The Threshold, 5 pm

Tuesdays, Prayer breakfast, 8 am

Women's Bible study, 9:30 am

Wednesdays Together, 5:15 pm

Saturdays, International sewing group, 2 pm

Nuer language class, 2 pm

Valentine alert!
Sweethearts gather
Feb. 11

Guess Who's
Coming to Dinner
event details p. 2

reflections

Plan to live in the present

A little over a year ago I was traveling and missed church. I came home, and Jordan gave me a copy of Pastor Anne's sermon from the previous Sunday and told me that I had "missed a good one." I promptly placed it in a pile with all the other things I needed to get to later.

At the time I had no idea that Anne's sermon was about "getting to things later." I distinctly remember one particular sentence in her sermon, "Some of us dwell on dreams of the past or dreams of the future and forget to live in the present." When I think about it, we are pulled in so many different directions at any given time: family, work, church, volunteering, education, pets, cooking, cleaning, driving, appointments, sports, shopping, vacations, etc. The list can be endless. If we get caught up on focusing solely what happened in the past, or planning for the future, the present can become lost.

This is why a strategic plan is so important. Last fall, 250 Calvary

youth and adults took the opportunity to complete a survey and participate in input sessions about what was necessary for us to address at Calvary. We took a look at the past, considered the future and compiled that information to construct our current strategic plan, which was presented at our annual meeting.

Hans Hofmann, legendary teacher and abstract expressionist painter, famously said, "The ability to simplify means to eliminate the unnecessary so that the necessary may speak." In that spirit, I believe the guideposts, goals, priorities and pathways for Calvary's present have been set. Now, it's time to "live in the present" and implement the plan.

As we move through the process of implementing our strategic plan, let's focus on making the journey rich and meaningful by embracing the challenges that lie before us, and celebrating our accomplishments together!

—Lori Grohskopf, Moderator





FAMILY NOTES

Be brave! Share your faith journey

in prose, poetry or picture for Calvary's upcoming *Lenten Devotionals* book. The theme is Pilgrimage: a journey to a sacred place as an action of intentional spiritual pursuit. Kids and youth are encouraged to participate. Find, study and include a pertinent scripture. Word count max: 250 words. Submission deadline: Jan. 24 to jackie@sage-creative.net. Questions or guidance? Contact Ingrid Dvirnak, prairiepineys@lpbroadband.net or 303.810.9310.

If you were unable to attend the

Jan. 18 Annual Meeting, you missed a pivotal hour examining Calvary's future. Copies of the approved leadership roster, *Annual Report*, Strategic Plan and minutes can be retrieved from the church office or at www.calvarydenver.org. The "It's Alive!" video wrap-up can also be accessed from Calvary's home page.

The Staff Relations Committee

has approved time off for Pastor Brian Henderson effective Jan. 29 through March 15. The committee recognizes that the demands of full-time ministry require a 24/7 level of commitment above and beyond that of other professions, and believes that, from time to time, it is important to provide our pastors with a period of rest, renewal and an opportunity for family time.

Due to tough budget cuts,

Calvary *Messenger* publications will be reduced in frequency. Watch for the Revised *Messenger* schedule at www.calvarydenver.org/newsletter.html

Kudos to Bennie Williams, one of

four Peace Award honorees at the 21st Annual MLK Peace Breakfast at Metropolitan State College of Denver, Friday, Jan. 13.

Proud great grandparents Karen

and Ken Pinkham announce the Jan. 6 birth of Nevaeh Raeanne in Pennsylvania.

Congratulations to Lilly Natarajan

and John Kirubakaran on the Dec. 28 birth of son Ethan.

The love and sympathy of the

Calvary family are extended to ... Decarious Wang and family on the unexpected Dec. 17 death of her nephew Gatmaic Khor in Washington, D.C. ... Earlie Dellie on the Dec. 20 death of her son-in-law Luther Strong ... Tom Madden and family on the Dec. 26 death of Tom's father Thomas Madden

To the Calvary family, Thank you

for your prayers and many expressions of concern and kindness during my son-in-law Luther Strong's illness and death. Special thanks to Brian, Corry and Carm.

—Earlie Delley

FAMILY HAPPENINGS

The Jan. 25 Wednesdays Together

program (6:30 pm in fellowship hall) offers a rare opportunity to explore the powerful health resource Maximized Living with Dr. Randy Gilkay. Become a good steward of your health—whether your challenge is energy, weight, nutrition or chronic disease—via this holistic healthcare delivery system.

The Undertaking—a documentary



memoir film based on the life and writings of Thomas Lynch will be shown Sunday, **Jan. 29** at noon in fellowship hall. Cost is \$3 for lunch. Make reservations by Jan. 25 in the church office. Lynch is part

of a multigenerational family of Michigan undertakers who recently visited Calvary as part of the *Good Death, Good Grief, Good Funerals* conference. This screening includes a discussion facilitated by Jen McBride, president of HeartLight Center, a local grief support center.

Cross country ski, snowshoe and

play around the Frisco Nordic Center in Summit County Saturday, **Feb. 4** with leader Terri Dunn on the next Adventure

with Anne. Get details, equipment rental info and make reservations now at cbc@calvarydenver.org.



And a dog shall lead them ... 2011 AWA snow adventurers and 4-legged friend.

Surprises and challenges ahead!

Beginning Tuesday, **Feb. 7**, American Baptist scholar Gil Rosenberg leads the prayer breakfast group through a series studying scriptures often part of homosexuality discussions. All are invited to come for a home-prepared meal (\$1 donation accepted), to share in prayer concerns and engage in thought-provoking conversation.

This spring Gil will lead an adult Wednesdays Together series titled: *Gender in Judges and Ruth*.

Rosenberg is a PhD student at Iliff and DU, concentrating on the Hebrew Bible's literary interpretations. He earned his MDiv from Harvard Divinity School. While interested in just about everything having to do with the Bible, his work focuses on reading the Bible through the lens of contemporary philosophy and politics. His passion for the Bible comes from the way that it continues to surprise and challenge.



Don't miss the Valentine's Day

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner event at 4 pm, Saturday, **Feb. 11**. Meet in Calvary's fellowship hall to find out who your dinner hosts are, then carpool to the feast! \$5 adults/\$3 children. To be a dinner host or make dinner reservations (by Jan. 31), contact cbc@calvarydenver.org or 303.757.8421.





Country gospel comes to

Modern Matures at noon, Saturday, **Feb. 11**. Author, singer, songwriter Mel Berg has recorded 11 albums and had five #1 songs on God's Country Music chart. Come join the fun! Lunch is \$9. Call the church office at 303.757.8421 by Feb. 8 for reservations.

Four score—Love Gift turns

80 years old this year! ABWomen have raised more than \$53 million since the 1932 Depression for missions. Show your gratitude for God's love **Feb. 12** with this over-and-above-giving contribution. Thankful

hearts give generously. Your reward—home-baked cookies during coffee time!

The Women's Winter Retreat

will be held **Feb. 17–19** at the Franciscan Retreat Center in Colorado Springs. Enjoy a relaxing weekend of worship and study at this serene facility—and recharge your spiritual batteries with other American Baptist women from around the state! Contact Marj Musil or Sharon Murphy for more information or get registration form at www.abcrm.org (ministries tab).

We're headed for Chiapas,

Mexico, July 5–14 for a mission/work trip—teaming up with FBC Loveland, ABC-USA missionary Chuck Shawver and the local community. Missions Committee will host an informational meeting about the trip with Pastors Anne Jernberg and John Turnage (FBC Loveland) Sunday, **Feb. 19** at 12:15 pm in the boardroom. If you or someone you know is interested in this opportunity—join us! RSVP to the church office (cbc@calvarydenver.org).

What's new in the library?

This week's new arrivals and brief summaries:

Stories with Intent by Klyne Snodgrass. The author takes Jesus' parables, details their context, gives us Jesus' purpose in the telling and shows us an expanse of opinions and interpretations on the parable. Take a deeper look at the parables about the Kingdom, discipleship and prayer and many other issues.

Money, Possessions and Eternity by Randy Alcorn. Have you ever asked yourself any of these questions? Is "prosperity-gospel" thinking right or wrong? How much does God want me to give? What about investments, savings, inheritance? Why is money so important to God? Do we see ourselves as owners or caretakers of the wealth we hold? These and other questions will challenge you as you think about your stewardship in the church. What does it mean to belong to God?

Can You Drink the Cup? by Henri J. M. Nouwen. Nouwen penned this small volume while living in the L'Arche Daybreak Community in Toronto. It was written just a few months before his untimely death in 1996. He expands and shares his thinking about the Lord's Supper in three segments: Holding the Cup, Lifting the Cup, Drinking the Cup. A great read as you contemplate coming to communion. In Nouwen's own words: "Together when we drink that cup as Jesus drank it, we are transformed into the one body of the living Christ, always dying, always rising for the salvation of the world." May it ever be so!

—Beth Kieft

FAMILY PHOTOS



Many hands make music a rich experience at Calvary.



Kevin Padworski bows in supplication to receive his present from 12th night party queen Charlotte Million.



Austina Lee was shocked to receive a gift of "more money than I've ever seen!"



Natty nonagenarians

Calvary celebrated seniors with 55 present (13 of them family of Marge Connole!). Honorees received cards handmade by Calvary children, and some shared their secret of a long life. Bob Cheatham

attributed his longevity to peanut butter. Nelson Cox swears by a classic French diet: cheese, chocolate and wine!



Nonagenarians: (Back-front, left-right) Tom Moss, Gene Packer, Nelson Cox, Bob Cheatham, Wanda Bosselman, Marge Connole, Muriel Israelske, Corrine Poxson



Next *Messenger* deadline is **Jan. 31**. This advent issue covers Feb. 12–25, 2012.

Please include name/phone when submitting items.

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