



Calvin Presbyterian Church

# The Courier

Volume 63, Issue 3

March 2015

## Marc My Words: Why I Love Calvin Presbyterian Church Calvin is a Barnabas Church

By Pastor Marc Andresen

For a long time I've had a theory (that I can't prove) that God has nicknames for churches, based on the personality and character of the given church. For more than two decades, I've thought God's other name for Calvin Church is **Barnabas**.

Barnabas means something like "Son of Encouragement."

In the book of Acts, it's Barnabas who risks his own reputation and life to bring the newly converted Saul/Paul to the church leaders in Jerusalem, trying to convince them that Paul is the real deal: converted and trustworthy. This seems to be a pattern in Barnabas' life: coming alongside to encourage.

In **Acts 11:23, 24** we read of Barnabas, "*Then when he arrived and witnessed the grace of God, he rejoiced and began to encourage them all with resolute heart to remain true to the Lord; for he was a good man, and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And considerable numbers were brought to the Lord.*"

We are a church family of encouragement, with many people finding this community of believers to be a place and a people of healing and uplifting. Through the years there have been a number of folks who have begun participating in the life of Calvin, having been beat up by life. Over time, with no program or strategy, these folks have been healed.

We are a church family that welcomes and encourages children and youth participation in the full life of the church. Isn't it a priceless gift for a child or teenager to receive opportunity and affirmation in a community comprised mostly of adults? Isn't it great that our kids grow up with multiple sets of grandparents who love them?

I think part of encouragement rests in a lack of contentiousness. Is anyone encouraged by the division and contentiousness we see in Congress? In contrast, we don't have power-pockets or behind-the-scenes lobbying and deal-making in the Calvin community. Our people enjoy being together and supporting one another.

The Lord has simply given us a family of faith filled with up-building and encouragement. In His grace-filled plan, our Lord has breathed into Barnabas Church the gifting to be a community of encouragement.

Who can doubt the need in our culture today for encouragement? Other than the 'grab your kleenex' stories that occasionally conclude the evening news, one hardly views today's world events and feels uplifted. In a world not following the Lordship of Jesus, life is filled with the ills of evil. But we have treasure in our lives, including the priceless encouragement of the Holy Spirit of our Lord who is called "the Paraclete" - or "The One Who Comes Along Side."

So, Barnabas, thank God for what He has breathed into us and ask Him to help us BE Barnabas for one another and for those not yet walking with Jesus.

Barnabas, it's so easy to love this Church.

## Holy Week at Calvin



**Palm Sunday**

March 29

10 a.m.

Worship

**Maundy Thursday**

April 2

5:45 Soup Supper

7 Worship



**Easter Sunday**

April 5

10 a.m.

Worship



# Children's Ministry

## The Village

By Rachel Eby,  
Children's Ministry Director

When I was young, there was a man at church we called "The Candy Man." He was an elder in the church, and his real name was Mr. VanDyke, but none of us kids ever called him that. We knew that after church, if we sought him out, he would procure from his pockets a roll or bag of something desirable: Mentos, Lifesavers, Dutch peppermints, or some other sweet treat. He knew us each by name, and he would look us in the eye, and with a wink, he would smile at us and speak to us in a way that made us feel as important to him as any a grown-up.

I could tell you countless stories about Sunday school teachers I loved who told me stories about Jesus and taught me songs to learn the books of the Bible; children's choir directors who cultivated in me a love for music that glorifies God; and adult women I had the privilege of getting to know when they chaperoned beach trips for the young girls' group (which was actually called the "Calvinettes"—not kidding!); and I remember feeling like they all cared about who I would eventually become. I think these experiences with the adults at my church where I grew up made me feel like I was a part of the Christian community, and that the decisions I would make as I grew older, whether admirable or disappointing, would matter to them. And that mattered to me.

Calvin's children need YOU! I cannot begin to express how meaningful it is to me and my husband, Tim, as parents, to see our kids building relationships with the adults here at Calvin. We have several wonderful people who have served all the kids here in various ways, and the children recognize them, know them by name, and look up to them as mentors and models of Christian faith. This is what

it means when they say, "It takes a village to raise a child." You, the people of Calvin Presbyterian Church, are our village. An important part of that village is our kids, many of whom were baptized or dedicated into the church as infants, in the presence of many of you who vowed to help raise and nurture them in the knowledge of faith and love of Jesus Christ. They need your guidance and care now.

In Mark 10:14, Jesus states, "*Permit the children to come to Me; do not hinder them; for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.*" Scripture then says, "*He took them in His arms and began blessing them, laying His hands on them.*" Now that's a leading example of hands-on involvement!

There are numerous ways you can assist in the Children's Ministry programs at Calvin. We currently have the biggest need in the nursery and children's church, during the Sunday School and normal worship service time, when you are already at church. There is such a variety of need that each person, young or old, man or woman, could assist with whatever activity level with which they are comfortable. The more hands we have available to help, the lighter the load, so if many are willing to help just 2 to 3 times a year, the task seems less overwhelming.

Below are many of the tangible ways you can help in a manner that gets our kids in relationship with you, their village. (And it's certainly not limited to these—if you feel God calling you to reach out to children in some other way, akin to the "Candy Man," I'd love to hear about it!) Please talk to me if you'd like to be part of any of these programs.

**Calvin's kids are your closest and most receptive mission field!**

### Nursery

9-9:45 a.m. (Sunday School); age 0-4; currently 2 preschool boys. Need 1 person each week.

10-11:15 a.m. (worship); age 0-2; currently 1-3 kids ages 1 and under. Need 1 person in nursery + one backup person with a pager to be summoned as needed each week.

### Sunday School, 9-9:45 a.m.

We currently have elementary and middle school Sunday School; next year we will need to have 2 elementary classes.

### Children's Church, 10:30-11:15 a.m.

K-5<sup>th</sup> graders; currently 6-10 kids.

There is a curriculum that requires a small amount of preparation ahead of time.

3-5 years old; currently 3 kids. They will have a short lesson and activity provided.

### Pioneer Club, Wednesdays,

#### 6:30-8 p.m.

K-5<sup>th</sup> graders/Pioneers+ 6-12<sup>th</sup> grade.

We are always looking for additional staff and folks to occasionally serve as backup. If you have a special skill, hobby or lesson you would like to share, this is an excellent venue.

### Vacation Bible School

This is always an 'all-hands-on-deck' event. Tentatively planned for August 10-14 this year.

### PRAY!

Here is a list of all the regularly attending children at Calvin and their approximate ages. Please pray for them by name and take time to interact with them on Sunday mornings.

Baby boy Velasco (due April); Sammy DeGarmo (1); Kinley Zuidema (1); Cole Zuidema (3); Caleb Eby (3); Deacon Watkins (4); Kasey Zuidema (5); Dani Aithwaite (6); Asher Watkins (7); Libby Aithwaite (8); Benjamin Eby (9); Sam Aithwaite (10); Johanna Mote (10); Anna Eby (12); Elizabeth Miller (14); Janae Miller (16); Daniel Park (16); Katherine Leavengood (16); Isaac Kulonis (18); Abby Leavengood (18).

## Craig's Corner

# Praying Scripture Together as a Church for Lent

By Pastor Craig Kulonis

I hope you are all enjoying praying from the scripture each day. If you do not have the book *Face to Face*, we are listing a daily scripture in the Sunday bulletin. What a great opportunity this is for us to be blessed together as a church family.

Don't feel rushed each day as you pray, with someone or by yourself. Sit and allow the Lord to quiet your heart and mind. Psalm 23:2 says "he lets me rest in green meadows" (NLT). Prayer is a spiritual discipline that will truly enrich your walk with God, and as you pray His Word you will be praying the will of God! Allow this to be a time where you receive the invitation of Jesus, who says, "Come to me, all

you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest..."  
Matthew 11:28, NKJ

I want to remind you of our **weekly times of corporate prayer** here at Calvin in our prayer room. Please consider joining us at any of these times.

- Tuesdays, noon-1 p.m.
- Wednesdays, noon-1 p.m.
- Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 a.m.  
(Men's prayer & share gathering)
- Sundays 8:30-9 a.m.

In addition to these regular prayer times, we will have **three special gatherings** over Lent Season:

**Saturday, February 28, 9-10 a.m.**  
Hour of prayer in the sanctuary to

specifically pray with and for the pastor search team, for wisdom and discernment about who God is directing to be our next pastor. The pastoral search team is inviting anyone from our church to fast and pray on this date.

**Sunday, March 15 4:30-5:30 p.m.**

Hour of prayer in the sanctuary for specific needs and other areas that the Lord leads us in.

**Thursday, April 2 5:45-6:45 p.m.**

Maundy Thursday Soup Supper in Olleman Hall. Share a simple meal of soup and bread and hear how God has been working in our lives through faithfully praying the Scriptures. Then stay for our Maundy Thursday Worship Service.

## A Prayer of Renewal: Psalm 86:11

"Teach me Your way, O Lord; I will walk in Your truth;  
unite my heart to fear Your name."

## Leadership Training

On January 31 about 25 church members gathered for a leadership training time led by Joel Martin, Oregon coordinator for InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, and Michael DeGarmo. The group studied Luke 9:1-17, which includes the feeding of the 5000, and talked about apprenticeship and how to reproduce kingdom leaders. We were reminded that *ministry is relationships* and discussed ways to build deeper relationships. Participants enjoyed a delicious soup lunch and fellowship as well as the study and teaching.



## Marriage Workshop

On February 15 several people enjoyed lunch together and a time of teaching on making their marriage better. Speaker was Dave Jackson with Marriage Works, Family Matters.



# March 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>8:30 Prayer 9 Sunday School 10 Worship</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>12 Prayer 1 Women's Bible Study 4 SSYO Dinner</p>	<p>4</p> <p>12 Prayer 6:30 Pioneer Club</p>	<p>5</p> <p>6:30 Men's Prayer Gathering</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>7 Women's Precepts Bible Study</p> 
<p>8 Daylight Saving Time Begins</p> <p>8:30 Prayer 9 Sunday School 10 Worship</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>12 Prayer 1 Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>11</p> <p>12 Prayer 6:30 Pioneer Club</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7 Women's Bible Study</p>
<p>15</p> <p>8:30 Prayer 9 Sunday School 10 Worship</p> <p>4:30 Hour of Prayer</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>12 Prayer 1 Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>18</p> <p>12 Prayer 6:30 Pioneer Club</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>7 Women's Bible Study</p>
<p>22</p> <p>8:30 Prayer 9 Sunday School 10 Worship</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>12 Prayer</p>	<p>25</p> <p>12 Prayer</p>	<p>26</p> <p>6:30 Men's Prayer Gathering</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>7 Women's Bible Study</p>
<p>29 Palm Sunday</p> <p>8:30 Prayer 9 Sunday School 10 Worship</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>12 Prayer 1 Women's Bible Study 5:30 Session</p>	<p>1</p> <p>12 Prayer 6:30 Pioneer Club</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6:30 Men's Prayer Gathering 5:45 Soup Supper 7 Maundy Thursday Worship</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>7 Women's Bible Study</p>

# Outreach Partner Update

## Sabbatical Year for Davies

By Chrissy Davies

Our family is on sabbatical for the year of 2015. We are spending the first 3 months in George South Africa, where Trev's mom has a house. Then we will travel to the states for the rest of the year. Our home base will be in Seattle, but we will take different trips around the west coast. The focus of our sabbatical is rest, reflection and vision for the next season. We are being guided by our member care staff in Servant Partners, and are taking care to create rhythms for our family. During our time in the states we also look forward to opportunities to further our education. Thank you so much for your prayers and financial support. We are overwhelmed with thanks and the provision of our Father; your partnership is so valuable to us.

Some prayer requests for this time:

*\* Pray for guidance and patience with homeschooling; it can be difficult to meet each child's needs with just two of us.*

*\* Please pray for stillness and deep connection, clarity and vision in our times with the Lord.*

*\* Pray for our finances! With the large cost of travel to the states and our insurance tripling while in the states, we have depleted much of our reserves. Please pray for provision.*

# Sunday School

## The Resurrection Life

Our Holy Week Sunday School classes on March 29<sup>th</sup> and April 5<sup>th</sup> will focus on Jesus' resurrection. We will study the apostle Paul's exposition on the resurrection



and its ramifications for mankind. Scott Leavengood will teach 1 Corinthians 15:1-29 and Rebecca Walker will teach 1 Corinthians 15:30-58. This is a great opportunity to dig into God's Word together as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. Join us in Olleman Hall D from 9-9:45 a.m.

## Save the Date!

Grab your calendar and make a note of these dates:  
Tuesday, April 7, Velasco Baby Shower  
Saturday, April 25, Women's Spring Brunch  
Saturday, June 27, Andresen Farewell Party  
Sunday, June 28, Pastor Marc's last Sunday

**Calvin Presbyterian Church**  
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## Return Service Requested

### Church Staff

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### Sundays at Calvin

8:30 Prayer in the Prayer Room

9 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

10 a.m. Worship