



Calvin Presbyterian Church

The Courier

Volume 64, Issue 6

November /December 2016

Thanksgiving Potluck
Sunday, November 20
6 p.m. in Olleman Hall

Good food! Good friends! Grateful hearts! Join us for our annual potluck and a time of thankful prayer. If possible, bring your own plates and utensils. Hope to see you there!



Sunday Night Gatherings

We meet each Sunday evening at 6:30 p.m. Gatherings rotate between Dialogue, Missionary Support Group, and Pizza and Prayer. The schedule for the rest of the year is below.

- November 27 off for Thanksgiving weekend
- December 4 Missionary Support Group
- December 11 Dialogue
- December 18 Pizza & Prayer—bring a side to share and tableware, if you are able
- January 8 Gatherings will resume

Celebrate Christmas
at Calvin

Sunday December 4

11:30 a.m.



The Deacons will host our annual Christmas Tea immediately after worship. Free tickets can be picked up at church on November 20 and 27.

Friday, December 23

6:30 p.m.

Join us for our interactive pageant. All children help tell the story of Christmas through music and drama.



Saturday, December 24

7 p.m.

Christmas Eve candlelight service



Sunday, December 25

10 a.m.

Morning
worship
service



Women's Fall Brunch Food, Hospitality and Thankfulness

By Ineke Loux



"Who taught you how to cook? Your mother, or another relative, a friend or a teacher?" This was a question asked of the women at the Women's Brunch on Saturday, November 5. With a theme of Food, Hospitality and Thankfulness - we looked at some Scriptures and experiences as we enjoyed a delicious meal - organized by Marilyn, Debbie and Cathy including some recipes in the new cookbook; unveiled the *Calvin Cooks*

cookbook and heard Callie explain why she felt it was time for a new version; and Ineke rounded out the morning with some thoughts on the theme.



Ineke's friend, Mrs. Marion Jones, taught her how to bake bread and can fruits, jams and make soup from scratch. Mrs. Jones raised 6 children, baking 5 loaves of bread each weekday. By making sure the bread came out of the oven at the time school ended, she never wondered where her children were after school - or half the neighborhood kids either. She was a wonderful Christian now in the company of the Lord, who also shared philosophical gems like "Bread satisfies the body just as Christ satisfies the soul." (Little did she know that 40 years later Pastor Zach would preach a sermon on the same topic.)

We looked at the story of Mary & Martha who invited Jesus to their home. Martha was concerned about 'preparing food for the body' while Mary was concerned about hearing Jesus impart 'food for the soul.' The Jones' house being under construction for a long time did not stop them from having continual dinner guests, and her prayer was "let the spirit of the home transcend the physical."

We also considered fruit, the literal kind used for the original sin in Genesis, and also the product of our labors in Colossians 1 and Romans. And we ended with the fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5. As always, it was a joy to see some old friends and meet new guests. For those unable to attend, *Calvin Cooks* is available from the church office. A suggested donation of \$10 covers the printing costs.

Celebrating 70 Years of Marriage Congratulations, Glenn & Ruth Smouse!



Veteran Weds Altoona Girl was the headline about the 1946 wedding of Glenn and Ruth Smouse. It continues, *A lovely fall wedding was solemnized Friday afternoon, Oct. 25, at 4 o'clock at the house of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Wagner...when their daughter, Ruth Henrietta, became the bride of Mr. Glenn E. Smouse, son of Mrs. Ruth Smouse. Their pastor, Rev. Ralph Stott, officiated with the double ring ceremony before the fireplace banked with ferns and fall flowers. (Read the rest of the announcement on the bulletin board.)*

Calvin was honored to host a reception after church on October 23 celebrating their anniversary.

Friends of the Family
 Annual Community
 Christmas Concert
 Thursday, Dec. 1
 7 p.m. @ LaSells
 Stewart Center
 Free Admission
 Donations accepted
 Featuring Jeff
 Johnson, Brian Dunning,
 Wendy Goodman
 Commerford School
 of Irish Dance
 Special guest,
 Eric Miller

Christmas Poinsettias

By Maggie Polizzo



For the second year, the deacons are sponsoring an opportunity for anyone in the church to add to the already beautiful Christmas

decorations with the poinsettias. Each plant will be in honor and/or memory of loved ones. Our goal is to cover the front of the sanctuary with poinsettias! Plants in 6" pots will be sold for \$5.00 each. **This is not a fundraiser.**

You may order and pay for your poinsettia(s) through November 20. There

will be a table at the back of the sanctuary on Sundays to fill out your order form and pay, or you may come by the church office during the week. The order form will include your name, the name of the person(s) being honored or remembered, and whether your plant is to honor someone who is living or in memory of a loved one who has passed. This information will be in a bulletin insert on December 18th.

Poinsettias will be in place Sundays December 4—18. On December 18th poinsettia(s) may taken after the service by those who purchased them. Any that remain will be delivered to one of the many care facilities in Corvallis for residents to enjoy.

Quarterly Financial Update

By Janet Magedanz,
Elder & Treasurer

As of September 30, 3/4 of the way through the year, the pledged giving is \$173,032 and the budget at this point is \$192,750, a shortfall of nearly \$20,000. Fortunately, our actual expenditures have been less so we haven't had to dip into the reserves, and pledged giving usually increases the last three months of the year. Please consider this information as a gentle reminder that we want to end the year having completely funding our budget.

Asante Kids Fully Funded for 2017

We just finished collecting Asante Kids school fees for their 2017 school year. We now have 106 children in the program. All children were fully sponsored and a few more added!! Thank You for your faithful support and commitment for 14 years. Because of you, these children are able to continue their education with such encouragement and success. Many are on their way to University or Vocational School.

We will be collecting letters to send to the children through the month of November. Mailing materials and a Uganda mailbox are in the Narthex. We aim to send the letters by Christmas. So even a Christmas card/picture would be great.

If you have any friends or family that would like to be a part of this ministry, let us know; there are always more children waiting.

Praise be to our God and a heartfilled Thank You to you!

The Asante Team: Judy Kraft, Kim Oxsen, Vanessa Washburn

And the Steeple Comes Down...



As part of the roof repairs, the steeple was removed due to leakage and mold issues. Many thanks to Mel McCracken for coordinating the project.



Local Missions Opportunities for Christmas

The Missions Team wants you to know about two ways to share the love of Christ this season: **Love INC's Christmas Store** and **Garfield Elementary School's Winter's Warmth Packages**.

The Christmas Store is an opportunity for Love INC clients to earn vouchers to purchase gifts for their family. A printed list of suggested gifts is available at church or at this link: https://gallery.mailchimp.com/b1b716d58de8ae7ce81e26bd7/files/Gift_ideas.pdf.

Garfield is preparing Winter's Warmth packages for students whose families are experiencing rough times.

Items needed are new kid-size PJs, cozy blankets (new), books (Bilingual-Spanish and/or multicultural, new or gently used), stuffed animals (new condition), pillow cases (new condition), money (to buy supplies).

Drop off items at church by noon on Friday, December 9. Collection boxes are across from the office. Contact Vanessa Washburn if you'd like to help assemble the Winter's Warmth packages the week of December 12.



Iglesia Emanuel Celebrates 25 Years

Congratulations to our friends, Iglesia Emanuel, on their 25th anniversary.



This church has ministered faithfully to Hispanic families in our community. Our two churches have had many good times together over the years; block parties, delicious meals, and men's prayer fellowship.

We pray for God's blessings on Pastor Josue Gomez, who was also celebrating his 25th anniversary with the church, and the members.

Calvin Presbyterian Church
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Return Service Requested

Church Staff

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Pastor

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Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 8:30-1

Friday 8:30-noon

Sundays at Calvin

8:30 Prayer in the Prayer Room

9 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

10 a.m. Worship