

# Calvary Protestant Evangelical Free Church

2801 Park Avenue, Baldwin, NY 11510

Pastor Charles Lucchesi 516-223-4070

E-mail: [calvarychurch@optonline.net](mailto:calvarychurch@optonline.net) Website: [www.cpcbaldwin.com](http://www.cpcbaldwin.com)



## CALVARY CHRONICLE

VOLUME 22, ISSUE 7

JULY 2020

I wrote this newsletter article in 2016 and think it is relevant to our times, so I am posting it once again. I hope it is helpful.  
Pastor Lucchesi

### What Is Your Perspective

One of the crazy things I remember doing when I was a young boy was to lie on the couch with my head touching the floor just to see how strange everyone looked. It was quite odd looking at people while being upside down, especially when they began to talk. How different it is when you begin to look at things upside down. Our perspective is everything - change the perspective, and everything appears to be so very different.

The same is true the very moment we come to faith in Christ. For until that moment the world and its value system appears to us to be quite natural. Our affections change when we come to faith in Christ and we begin to value things that we once despised. We may ask the question, "Why?"

The answer is simple. The world in its sinful condition exalts the creature and not the Creator. Romans 1:21-23 describes for us the condition of man outside of faith in Christ.

*"For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking and their foolish hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things."*

What had happened to this beautiful, perfect creation that God had made? By his fall into sin, Adam plunged the entire human race into an upside down perspective. In our sin, the creature appears to us to be the sovereign, while we try to make God in our image.

Yet there is a problem. All of those around us who do not know Christ, and who have never given their lives to him, see the world from the upside down vantage point. They will immediately think that we are strange and will endeavor tirelessly to persuade us on their foolery. Paul recognizes this and says of those who despise the cross that they are the fools, for they are perishing (I Corinthians 1). Yet we must never take our wisdom as an opportunity to boast to those who are perishing, but rather to speak to them as a means of showing them the Truth.

There is something else, though, that must continue to happen if we are to see things as they should be. We need to spend time in the Word, both privately and publicly. We need to have God's Word read, taught, and preached. We need to read it, meditate upon it, and pray over it so that, like the Psalmist in Psalm 119:11, we would hide His word in our hearts that we might not sin against God.

(continued on next page)

Because you know, don't you, that if you are being influenced by the world in all of your thinking, then your vision is impaired and your perspective is skewed. In order to begin to understand this vast universe and the greatness of the way in which God designed it, you have to spend time in the Word. If you are a Christian, you will not be satisfied to remain on a diet of milk. No, you need the meat of the Word so that you can begin to see a change in the way you are thinking. And when that occurs the world all of a sudden begins to appear quite odd; everything is upside down, and you are now looking from the right side up position. But don't think that this perspective completely changes over night. It requires feeding upon the Word and digesting it in order to see things as they should be. When that happens you will find that the things of this world on which you spent your time, your resources, your talents, are not important. What is important is to serve Jesus Christ our Redeemer and Lord.

I pray that the world will appear to you more strange every day, and that Christ and his body, the church, will have a greater appeal each day. For after all, if you belong to Christ by faith, you will be spending

but a short time in this world and eternity with Christ. To that end, Paul says:

***"I appeal to you therefore brothers by the mercies of God to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, BUT be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."***

Are you seeking to renew your mind? If so, you have to plant it in the Word in order for it to grow. And when it grows, you will see the world from a whole different, and proper, perspective. Christ and His Church will appear all the more glorious, and the world will appear all the more mournful and sad. God will be on the throne, and you will be in your rightful place in submission to Him. Remember, if you belong to Christ, this world is not your home. We are citizens of a heavenly kingdom and we belong to our heavenly King.

Pastor Charlie

## **Worship Service Has Resumed**

Praise God that restrictions are being lifted and the worship service can resume, although still under a limited capacity. On Sunday, June 21st, Calvary officially reopened. For your safety, precautions and guidelines will still need to be put in place. Attendance is limited to 25% of capacity, therefore two services will be held on Sunday mornings - at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

The following guidelines will be observed:

- The worship service is being held downstairs. Only use the Church Street door (by the handicap ramp) to enter and exit the building. No gatherings within the building or at the doorway.
- Wearing of a face mask is mandatory. If you do not have one, the church will provide you with one.
- Hand sanitizing stations will be available by the entrance door.
- For safe distancing, chairs will be placed six feet apart. Families are encouraged to sit together.
- The bathroom will be available for emergencies only.
- An offering plate/box will be placed at the back of the room.
- Sunday School, Nursery, and Meet & Greet are on hold. Children's Church will continue on-line for the time being.
- There will be no hand shaking or hugs.
- A disinfectant cleaning will be done between the services.

**It is good to be in the house of the Lord to worship together!**

To be sure there is no overcrowding at either of the services, we ask that you contact the church office to let us know which service you will be attending. For those who have already attended, you will be listed on an attendance sheet for the time you requested. If you have a change, please let us know.

Please note that the worship service is still being recorded and will be streamed on YouTube and the church website.

## Ladies Meet Thru "Zoom"

Even during the pandemic the Ladies Bible Study continued to meet via the internet.

Pictured right are the ladies during one of their Zoom meetings. Top row: Patti, Barbara L., and Rose (with Levi and Eden); middle row: Flo, Martha, and Bobbi; bottom row: Mary Jo and Kaia.

The ladies meet twice a month on Thursday evenings. Their study is on "The Women of Easter" by Liz Curtis Higgs. If you would like to join the Ladies Bible Study, please contact the church for more details.



## Children's Church Zoom Class

The virtual weekly Children's Church has been a wonderful experience for the children.

Here are a few pictures from our time that we have shared on Zoom. The Happy Mother's Day whiteboard was written by all of the children with ideas of what a mother is and what she does for them.

It has been a true blessing to serve the Lord during this time, spending time with the children, and to continue to learn and be together.



Love,  
Melissa

Contact the church if you would like to be included in the Children's Church lesson.



## Stay Strong

A while back a friend shared a story of a visiting pastor who attended a men's breakfast in the middle of a rural farming area of the country. The group had asked an older farmer, decked out in bib overalls, to say grace for the morning breakfast.

"Lord, I hate buttermilk," the farmer began. The visiting pastor opened one eye to glance at the farmer and wonder where this was going.

The farmer loudly proclaimed, "Lord, I hate lard." Now the pastor was growing concerned.

Without missing a beat, the farmer continued, "And Lord, you know I don't much care for raw white flour." The pastor once again opened an eye to glance around the room and saw

that he wasn't the only one to feel uncomfortable.

Then the farmer added, "But Lord, when you mix them all together and bake them, I do love warm fresh biscuits. So Lord, when things come up that we don't like, when life gets hard, when we don't understand what you're saying to us, help us to just relax and wait until you are done mixing. It will probably be even better than biscuits. Amen!"

Within that prayer there is great wisdom for all when it comes to complicated situations like we are experiencing in the world today.

Stay strong, my friends, because our LORD is mixing several things that we don't really care for, but something even better is going to come when HE is done with it.

# Calvary Chronicle

Calvary Protestant Church  
2801 Park Avenue  
Baldwin, NY 11510

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Baldwin, NY  
11510-4100  
Permit No. 192

## BIRTHDAYS

### JULY

2nd Kim Knoernschild  
6th Linda Boughton  
6th Tony (LT)  
DiCostanzo  
7th Anthony Ramos  
9th Suzanne Toussaint  
11th Sarabeth DiCostanzo  
12th Joanna Brewster  
13th Helene Wilson  
14th Adam Carman  
21st Levi Nembhard  
22nd Dana Elcock  
23rd Faith Dowling  
24th Lillian Tralongo

### AUGUST

1st Denis Sandoval (Sr.)  
7th Michael Nicolich (Sr.)  
8th Janet Wider  
9th Alex Richards  
15th Emma Jo Wong  
17th Tony DiCostanzo  
20th Ralph Rose  
25th Kaelyn Waldvogel  
27th Adam Hilburger  
28th Charles Barnes  
28th Michele Roman  
28th Colette Greene  
31st Charles Lucchesi

**Happy Birthday!**

## ANNIVERSARIES

### JULY

12th Kirk & Noelle Nehring  
22nd Ralph & Zoraida Rose  
27th Bill & Carol Chalavoutis  
31st Michael & Keri Syska

### AUGUST

15th Roy & Sharon Knoernschild  
23rd Michael & Laura Nicolich

## Sunday Worship

This is the day which the Lord has made. Worship is our opportunity to be glad and rejoice in the Lord's house on the Lord's Day. We come as the children of God, knowing that we are welcomed where all are meant to be one in the Lord. Let us lay down our burdens and rejoice in the Lord for the Lord is good, the Source of Love.