

**Calvary Protestant  
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# CALVARY CHRONICLE

VOLUME 24, ISSUE 9

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## Live a Life of Love!

*“Live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.” - Ephesians 5:2*

As your Pastor for almost 17 years, if I could say one thing to you, I want to say this:

***Live a Life of Love!***

My aim in this letter is that each of us will learn to love one another and more deeply. (I only have a small amount of space to write to you, so I shortened it.)

Briefly ponder with me Paul’s words, “JUST AS CHRIST LOVED US.”

1. We understand the depth of someone’s love for us **by what it costs**: if someone sacrifices their life for us, it convinces us of deeper love than if he only sacrifices a few minor inconveniences. We see the depth of Christ’s love by the greatness of what it cost him.
2. Second, we know the depth of someone’s love for us **by how little we deserve it**. If we have treated him well all our lives, and have done all that he expects of us, then when he loves us, it will not prove as much love as it would if he loved us when we had offended him, shunned him, and despised him. The more undeserving we are, the more amazing and deeper his love for us. So, **we see the depth of Christ’s love by how undeserving are the objects of his love**. Loving as Christ loved oftentimes means loving those who do not deserve it.
3. Third, we know the depth of someone’s love for us **by the greatness of the benefits we receive in being loved**. If we are helped to pass an exam, we will feel loved in one way. If we are helped to get a job, we will feel loved another way. If we are rescued from eternal torment and given a place in the presence of God with the fullness of joy and pleasures forevermore, we will know a depth of love that surpasses all others (1 John 3:1-3). So, we will see the depth of Christ’s love by the greatness of the benefits we receive in being loved by him.
4. Fourth, we know the depth of someone’s love for us **by the freedom with which they love us**. If a person does good things for us because someone is making him, when he doesn’t want to, then we don’t think the love is very deep. Love is deep in proportion to its liberty. If someone makes meals for a month after another person’s loved one dies, and someone calls you every day and visits you every week, then you call it love, because they don’t have to do this. It is free and willing. So, we will see the depth of Christ’s love for us in his freedom: **“No one takes my life from me; I lay it down of my own accord”** (John 10:18).

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I believe as we grasp in just some small way how deeply loved we are by Christ, we can begin to live "A Life of Love." When we believe more and more deeply in the love of Christ for us, the Holy Spirit enables us to love more fully.

To make it as simple as possible, inject love into everything you do. Express love to everyone you encounter. How is that possible, some might say? To love as Christ loved us. Two reasons:

One: it's possible by regeneration. 2 Peter 1:4 says that **"when you were regenerated, you became a partaker of the divine nature."** You can be like God because God lives in you. You're a partaker of the divine nature by regeneration.

Two: by sanctification, as the Spirit of God works in the life of the believer to conform him to the image of God. **"And beloved,"** Paul is saying, **"You know, if you're going to call yourself a child of the King, then you need to act like it."** I was sitting in a restaurant two months ago, talking to someone, and he leaned over towards me and said, "You know, he claims to be a Christian, but you never see God in his life."

Maybe some of you are saying, well, Pastor Charlie, I already live a life of love. Ask yourself - are you sure about that? I'm not talking about loving your family and loving your friends. That's easy to do. Anybody, even an atheist, can do that. Loving your friends, loving your family, and loving those who are lovable doesn't require God's Spirit in your life. Anybody can do that. But living a life of love means you make the conscious effort to show love to anybody and everybody, with no exceptions, regardless of how they look, what they believe, how they vote, and every other difference that we see in our society.

Now, this is the call of God, and command of God, for every Christian to **live a life of love**, where we make love our top priority. Where love is your highest goal, your highest aim, your greatest ambition, for the rest of your life. If there is anything I can leave you with, it's this - "Live a Life of Love."

Farewell, my beloved church family and others.

It has been my privilege to love you, be loved by you, pray for you, serve alongside you, and have been at the bedside of many of you, in hospitals and your homes. Honored to have shared in your grief at the graveside of many of your beloved family members and friends. Counseling and encouraging each other, from early morning, to late at night. To have spent time together on the phone and face to face. We have studied the Word of God together and come together at prayer meetings to lift each other. Together we cared for those in need. We have made every effort to love each other well. It has been my highest honor to be called your Pastor. This is my final request of you - be ye imitators of God, by loving **JUST AS** Christ loved you.

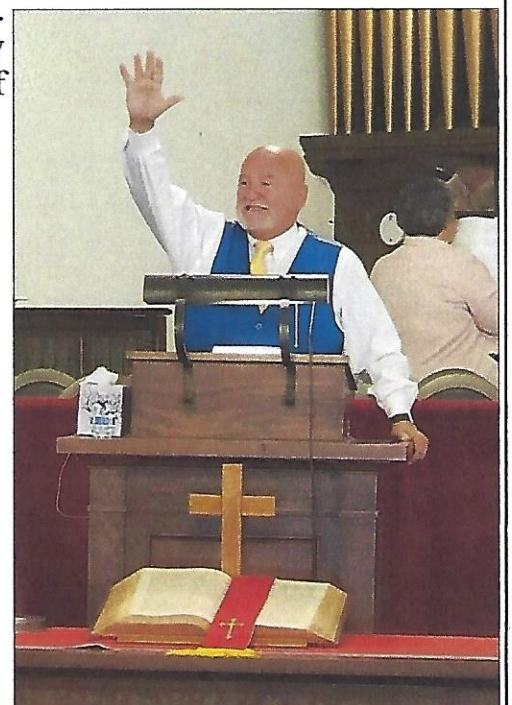
I Love You!

Pastor Charlie

**"Go in peace. Remember the poor, defend the widow and fatherless. Walk worthy of your high calling. You are children of the Great King.**

**And may God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit bless and keep you this day and always.**

**Amen."**





# **LOOKING AHEAD**

**Neighborhood Night** will be held **Saturday, September 10th**, starting at 5:00 p.m. We invite you to join us in the back yard for food and fellowship. The church will be providing hamburgers and hot dogs. If you can, we ask that you bring a salad, side dish, or dessert. Speak to Barbara Corcoran directly (516-223-4210) to see what is still needed. Music will be provided by our very own Ronnie Roddy and his band, ***Musically Inclined***. They will be playing gospel and jazzy hymns along with some of Ronnie's original composed songs. A flyer for the event is included in this newsletter. Use it to invite family, friends, or neighbors.

**Return to regular schedule** on **Sunday, September 11th**. Sunday School will begin at 9:45 a.m., followed by the worship service at 11:00 a.m.

The next **Seniors Luncheon** is scheduled for **Tuesday, October 4th**, starting at 12:00 noon. On the menu will be loin of pork, potatoes, vegetable, and a treat for dessert. Please let us know if you are attending. A sign-up sheet is available in the sanctuary, or call the church office and speak to Paty or leave a message (516-223-4070).

The **St. Francis Hospital Outreach Bus** is coming on **Tuesday, October 4th**, and will be parked on Church Street from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. They will be giving free health screenings including a brief cardiac history, blood pressure, and simple blood test for cholesterol and diabetes. Free flu shots will also be available. A flyer with complete details can be found in this newsletter.

## **Pastoral Candidate Weekend**

Eric and Caren Hoehn, a pastoral candidate and his wife, will be visiting Calvary September 9th thru the 12th. They will be joining us at Neighborhood Night on the 10th. On Sunday, September 11th, Pastor Eric will teach the Adult Sunday School Class at 9:45 a.m. and also preach during our 11:00 service so you can get a sample of his teaching and preaching styles. Directly after the service there will be a light luncheon downstairs for some additional meet and greet time.

Please consider coming to as many events as possible. You know there will be fun, good company, and good food!

Most importantly, we want to take these opportunities to get to know Eric and Caren and let them get to know us so we can move towards seeing if Eric might be a good fit as our next pastor.

For the most current information and updates, see the church's Friday email communication.



# **Celebrating Pastor Charlie & His Family**

On Saturday, August 27th, over 100 people from the church family, along with friends and neighbors of the Lucchesi's, gathered for a special appreciation dinner and service at the church to honor Pastor Charlie and his wife Barbara, and to thank them for their years of ministry at Calvary. Of course, Matthew and Joshua were by their side.

The fellowship room was beautifully decorated and everyone was talking and catching up with those who traveled from out of town. Some traveled hours from upstate New York and even from Pennsylvania.

The evening started with a delicious dinner with a variety of Italian food that was either purchased from a local restaurant or prepared by the great cooks from the church. After dinner, everyone joined together in the auditorium for a special service.



All the hymns that were sung, by either those who attended or from the choir, were some of Pastor Charlie's favorites. It was especially nice to hear the brass instruments being played during the songs. Pictured below holding their instruments are Barbara Lucchesi, David Manuel, Victoria Manuel, and Joe Waldvogel (pictured left to right).



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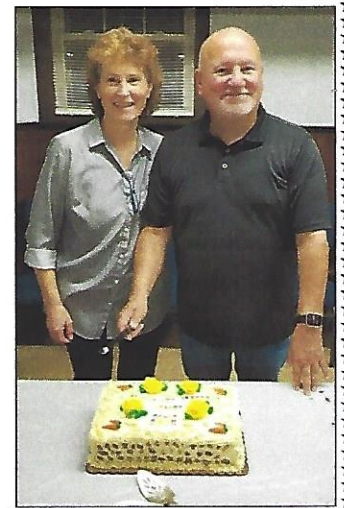
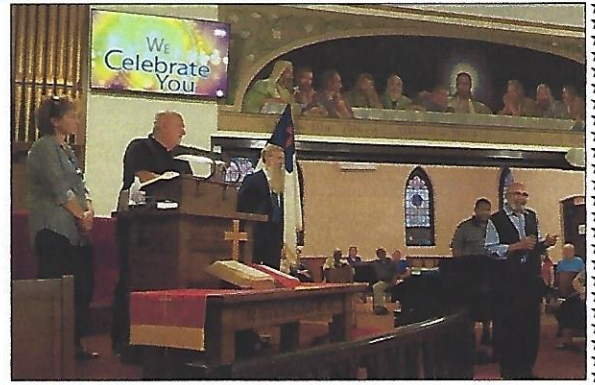
A video tribute was prepared which included pictures of special events and memories during the Lucchesi's time at Calvary. Thank you Victoria for preparing the video.

Time was given for anyone to express their thanks and appreciation for Pastor Charlie and Barbara. It was quite emotional as numerous people spoke with heart-felt words. People expressed their love and reiterated the same sentiments: beautiful, compassionate, genuine, loving people; model of patience, gentleness, and humility; and mentor and true friend who set an example for all. The Calvary family was blessed to have had you in our lives. The Spirit of God is in you and you are living God's Word.

The Lucchesi family stood up by the podium and gave sentiments to the church family - memories and a charge in moving forward. We need to continue to search and study the scriptures, and preach the Word of God. This will be a new chapter in the church's life.

After the service everyone went downstairs for dessert and more fellowship.

We will miss Pastor Charlie, Barbara, Matthew and Joshua. We thank you! You have touched our hearts! May the Lord bless you and direct your path!



## BIRTHDAYS

### SEPTEMBER

4th David Jones  
5th Denis Sandoval Vallejos  
6th Zoraida Rose  
7th Miki Hilburger  
7th Amanda Pink Hoffman  
9th William Hilburger  
10th Kathryn Chalavoutis  
13th Laura Hetzel  
14th Becky Carman  
14th Myrtle Glover  
19th Karen Dowling  
21st Fitz Alcindor (Jr.)  
24th Derek Watts  
26th Gabrielle Alcindor  
29th Pete Ekstrom  
29th Thalia Waldvogel

### OCTOBER

4th Samantha Hetzel  
6th Victoria Manuel  
10th Barbara Corcoran  
13th Vincent Elcock  
15th Robert Brown Jr.  
17th Stephanie Wong  
18th Eden Nembhard  
18th Brett Rose  
20th John Carman  
21st Connor Watts  
22nd Ellen (Verity) Heneghan  
23rd Barbara Jamison  
25th Vickie Mandato  
29th Ryan Waldvogel

## ANNIVERSARY

### September

7th Bob & Nancy Bennett  
8th Harold & Lois Verity  
18th Tom & Peg Corcoran  
19th Leigh & Barbara Grant  
24th Jeovanni & Daniele Nembhard  
26th Fitz & Magalie Alcindor  
27th Jimmy & Ellen Heneghan  
28th Mike & Rebecca Senita  
29th Jason & Dianne Miller

### October

2nd Howard & Maryann Brockway  
8th Vincent & Rosemary Rotolo  
10th Denis & Giselle Sandoval  
12th Wes & Becky Carman  
16th John & Lisa Conroy  
16th Tony & Sarabeth DiCostanzo



# Calvary Chronicle

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Baldwin, NY 11510

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## CHURCH UPDATES

**Adult Sunday School Class** meets Sunday @ 9:45 a.m. The group is watching "The Chosen" - followed by discussion. Please note that on September 11th the pastoral candidate will be leading the Adult Sunday School Class.

**The Sunday worship service** is at 11:00 a.m. The message will be recorded and posted on the church's website - [www.cpcbaldwin.com](http://www.cpcbaldwin.com) (click on YouTube), and also on "YouTube" at [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) (search for Calvary Church, Baldwin).

**Children's Church** is held on Sundays during the service. The children are dismissed before the sermon and meet in the fellowship room. On the first Sunday of each month (when Holy Communion is scheduled), Children's Church will not be in session.

**Bible Study/Prayer Meeting** is held Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m. at the church. There is prayer time followed by Bible Study. The men and women are studying the Book of Ephesians.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Neighborhood Night** - Saturday, September 10th, at 5:00 p.m.

**Return to regular schedule** - Sunday, September 11th.

**Pastoral Candidate's visit to Calvary** - Pastor Eric Hoehn will be with us September 9th thru the 11th.

**Seniors Luncheon** is scheduled for **Tuesday, October 4th**, at 12:00 noon.

**St. Francis Hospital Outreach Bus** will give free health screenings on **Tuesday, October 4th**.

## PUBLICATIONS

The September/October/November issue of *Our Daily Bread*, September issues of *Daily Walk* and *Today's Christian Living* are available at the church.

**Additional literature and devotional books are located in the hymnal rack at the back of the sanctuary.**