

# 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 21, ISSUE 6

JUNE 2019

### You Are Who God Says You Are

*While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.” (Luke 15:20)*

He sat alone with pigs.

Not long ago, he dressed in fine clothing, drank the finest wine, and laughed with what he called his friends. He smiled at women who smiled back, before he learned that friends could be bought and love could be rented. When the money was gone, so were they. When he needed them, they gave him nothing (Luke 15:16). Now, he sat covered in mud.

If you would have joked that he, a Jew, would be working as a pig-feeder, he would have said he preferred death first. But here he was, envious of what the unclean swine ate. He wondered how much longer he could take it. He missed home.

He grimaced. How shamefully he had treated his father. He asked for his inheritance before his father died — slapping him in pursuit of his pleasures. As he saw his father’s house disappear upon the horizon, he had smiled. He thought he was heading into freedom, into joy, into pleasure. Now, he lived to feed pigs. He reasoned, *“How many of my father’s hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger!”* (Luke 15:17).

#### A Son Appears on the Horizon

There it was, just as he had left it. He rehearses his lines in his mind, *“Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants”* (Luke 15:18-19). But as doubts begin to cloud his mind, a figure appears from the house. There his father is, just as he had left him.

But something happens that he doesn’t expect: his father begins to run to him. Had he ever seen his father run? He always composed himself with such dignity, but here he is, an elderly Jewish man, running to him. *Is he coming to chase me away?*

The wayward son braces himself for a slap, but receives an embrace. He expects banishment, but is met with kisses. His mumbling apology and thoughts of unworthiness are swallowed up by the love of a Father who will not call his starving son a servant. A ring is placed on his finger; the best robe is placed upon his back. Sandals adorn his dirty feet. The fattened calf is slaughtered, and the celebration begins. The son who was dead, has come alive again; he was lost, and is found (Luke 15:24).

Life is where this Father is.

#### A Son Died on the Horizon

You may wonder, given all your past and remaining sin, *Who am I that the highest King would welcome me?* You recite your unworthiness to yourself, you sit in the pigsty of an old sin, and not only wonder how you got there, but how your King can receive you. The answer is not found in your inherent worthlessness, nor in God’s neediness for you. You are celebrated, crowned, kissed, and loved because your true elder brother, the one who does not moan when you are welcomed home, went into the city after you, and paid off your debts with his own life. He suffered for our sin, and purchased our acceptance.

(continued on next page)

The ring you wear is his. The best robe that now covers you is his. His sandals, which John the Baptist was unworthy to untie, now rest upon your feet. God isn't so cheaply sentimental as to forget all your crimes, but he is so loving as to sacrifice himself for all of them.

### **I Am a Child of God**

If you have been reborn, if you are repenting of your sin and believing the gospel, you are a child of God. And this status comes with authority: *"To all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave authority to become children of God, who were born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God"* (John 1:12-13).

You may not feel particularly childlike, you may not be enjoying his word every morning, but do not let

the Liar convince you that you are not a child of the King. The question can never be, "Who are you to go to God in prayer?" The question now is, "Who are you to stay away when the King has invited you?"

You are chosen, not forsaken. You are free, not a slave. He is for you, not against you. You are his child, not an orphan. That is who you are. Because that is who he says you are. And that is who he died for you to become.

He loves you. He embraces you. He crowns you. Never settle for living in the mud, feeding pigs.

Article by Greg Morse (Desiring God Ministries)

## **June Seniors Luncheon**

**We invite our Seniors to the next luncheon scheduled for Tuesday, June 4th, starting promptly at **12:00 noon.****

To kick off the summer season, the menu will consist of a variety of barbecue-style foods.

Please let us know you are coming by calling the church office (516-223-4070) or sign the sign-up sheet available at the church.

## **Honoring Our Graduates**



The end of the school year is nearing, and colleges have already finished their spring semester. Many students will be graduating in 2019.

During the worship service on **Sunday, June 9th**, Calvary Church will be honoring graduates from the church family. Following the service there will be a time of refreshments where you can personally congratulate each graduate on their accomplishment.

We would not want to leave anyone out, so if you know of someone graduating (from high school, college, career school, etc.), please contact the church office and let us know.

## **Congregational Meeting**

Calvary's Annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, June 19th**, at 7:30 p.m. This is a business meeting for the church where members will be voting on the 2019-2020 Proposed Budget and those to serve on the Church Board. Two major projects to discuss will be on the agenda: the restoration of the large stained glass window in the auditorium, and repair work to the bell tower.

## **SUMMER SCHEDULE**

July is just a few weeks away, which means Calvary will be going into it's summer schedule on **Sunday, July 7th.**

Bible Study - 9:00 a.m.  
Worship Service - 10:00 a.m.

Nursery, Children's Church, and Meet & Greet will continue throughout the summer months.



# MY DAD

By Jim Galloway

When I was just a little boy  
no more than just a lad,  
I met a lot of special men  
but none quite like my dad.

Though other men would often hear  
the things I'd have to say,  
None could listen with their heart  
in Dad's very special way.

I love to think of all the things  
he used to say and do,  
And how I felt down in my heart  
I want to be like you.

If I could be just half the man  
my father was to me,  
What a great example I would be  
for all the world to see.

The world would see a man who tried  
to never fail the test,  
Who never faltered in his quest  
to always do his best.

They'd see a man who loved his God  
through times both good and bad,  
What a man I'd be if I could live  
my life just like my dad.

**Happy Father's Day - Sunday, June 16th**



## **A stampede of fun at VBS this summer!**

Join us for Yee-Haw V.B.S. where we will  
celebrate God's Greatest Gifts!

July 1st, 2nd and 3rd at Calvary Protestant Church  
2801 Park Avenue Baldwin N.Y. 11510

The program runs from 9:30 to 11:45 each day  
for children age 4 (entering Kindergarten) to 5th grade.  
Older students can volunteer as helpers.

Please register to ensure your child a spot  
and let us know if there is a friend your child  
would like to be grouped with.

Call 516-223-4070

E-mail: [Calvaryvbs24@gmail.com](mailto:Calvaryvbs24@gmail.com)

Hope to see you in JULY!

# 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

### JUNE

1st Sharon Knoernschild  
3rd Joel Sandoval-Vallejos  
4th Mike Tralongo Jr.  
5th Gina Chalavoutis  
5th Ian Waldvogel  
10th Melissa Watts  
12th Janet Abrams  
12th Charlie Hetzel  
16th Trudy Hetzel  
17th Oliver Miller  
18th Angeline Alcindor  
18th Justin Rose  
20th Kyle Knoernschild  
22nd Sarabeth (LaLa)  
DiCostanzo  
22nd Elsie Ramos  
24th Jacqueline Santanello  
25th Keri Syska  
29th Melissa Rose

### 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  
14th June Donaldson  
21st Levi Nembhard  
22nd Dana Elcock  
23rd Faith Dowling  
24th Lillian Tralongo

**Happy  
Birthday!**

## ANNIVERSARIES

### JUNE

5th Anthony & Elsie Ramos  
8th David & Melinda Jones  
22nd Barry & Patti Senita  
29th Larry & Paula Kulla  
29th Tim & Kaia Waldvogel

### JULY

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

God has a work to do with us, that will not be done without us.

You can accomplish more in one hour with God, than in a lifetime without him.