



# Calvary *connections*

January & February 2012

## THE PASTOR'S PEN by Rev. Rick Tyson

Another New Year is upon us. The world makes resolutions; we will make more time for our family, be kinder to our neighbors, go on a diet, learn a foreign language, watch less TV or read more good books. We like the idea of a new beginning. We all get a fresh start on day one. The idea of making resolutions is not bad. There is Biblical warrant for wanting to see change in your life. This is the time to ask: what needs to change in my life? What bad habits need to be put off? What good graces need to be nurtured? Will this be the year I finally win my battle or defeat my dragon?

For the believer resolutions are more than making a good effort at self improvement. For the child of God change happens not by self effort but by God's grace. Biblical resolutions begin with the question: What does God want for my life? Do I trust a sovereign God to fulfill his purposes for me? Will I thank him in the year ahead for the unexpected blessings he brings and will I accept the trials he will surely bring with courage and patience? Biblical resolutions take up matters of godly character such as those Jesus addresses in the beatitudes. I desire to be poor in spirit, merciful, and hungry for righteousness. Godly resolutions aspire to God-honoring relationships with the help of the Holy Spirit. I will be quick to listen, I will not speak in anger and I will not gossip. I will put the interests of others ahead of my own.

In 1723, Jonathan Edwards, the great Puritan preacher in New England, wrote out 70 resolutions taking up matters of personal mission, time management, relationships, finances, suffering and character. "Being sensible that I am unable to do anything without God's help, I do humbly entreat him by his grace to enable me to keep these Resolutions, so far as they are agreeable to his will, for Christ's sake."

Here is a sampling of ten resolutions:

1. Resolved always to do that which I shall wish I had done when I see others do it.
2. Resolved to ask myself at the end of each day where I could have done better.
3. Resolved never to speak evil of anyone so that would tend to his dishonor.
4. Resolved never to do anything out of revenge.
5. Resolved to inquire after afflictions, how I am better for them and what good I got from them.
6. Resolved never to do anything that I hate to see in others, or to think meanly of him (who does it).
7. Resolved when I hear anything spoken in conversation of any person, if I deem it praiseworthy in me, to endeavor to imitate it.
8. Resolved to examine carefully what that one thing in me is which causes me to doubt the love of God and to direct all my forces against it.
9. Resolved never to slacken my fight with my corruptions, no matter how unsuccessful I may be.
10. Resolved to cast my soul on the Lord Jesus Christ, to trust and confide in him and consecrate myself wholly to him...knowing that I confide in my Redeemer.

Now it is my turn: I resolve to believe I am a well loved son of God no matter how I feel. I resolve to seek the comfort and help of the Holy Spirit when faced with temptation. And I resolve to cherish God's good gifts but not to love the gifts more than the giver.

Now it is your turn. What improvements do you need to make?

## MINISTRY UPDATES

### MISSIONS COMMISSION by Tom Keyser

We have been busy the past few months with missionary visits. In August we had Ron Bergey (France) and the Fitzpatrick's (Joe and Bev from Puerto Rico). At the end of October we had the pleasure of a visit from Elizabeth Mathias who ministers in Germany. Just recently David and Eleanor Fiols joined us during Sunday School and church to update us on the works in Bhogpur, India where they have been involved in three ministries. They are beginning to think about retirement possibly as soon as the end of 2012. In the meantime they have asked us to continue supporting them, as we fully intend to, and to consider a shift of support funds to Grace Educational Society. Calvary presently supports the seminary and the Children's Home.

We are considering including Grace Academy as a future ministry for support. Grace is a Christian day school and residence serving national missionaries from the Indian sub-continent. There is also great demand by local people in Dehra Dun where the school is located.

Let me share a bit from a recent newsletter from the Fiols (you have already read much of their latest letter in the December 18 Matthew 28 report – here is some more!):

*We are working on establishing our own home base in Hendersonville, NC., and we did clear a lot of accumulated stuff out of our home in India before we left so the house could be used for an office & for guests, but we expect to use it again also.*

*So please carry on as usual with your support and prayers.—for us and for Grace Academy and the Children's Home. As we travel we are representing both institutions as well as the c.p. and Seminary work in North India.*

*Please remember in your year-end giving that (1) Grace Academy is still in need of funds for what we hope will be its last building (MTW acct. #92695) and for sponsorship of Indian missionary children (contact David), and (2) the Bhogpur Home*

*needs extra gifts in order to give the children a special Christmas celebration as well as for general expenses (MTW acct. #82690).*

### **PLEASE PRAY:**

1. *For the Grace Academy family as the children travel to their homes for the Christmas break. Some of them go as far as Nepal and North East India.*
2. *For the Bhogpur home, that their Christmas celebration will be a time of physical and spiritual blessing for all.*
3. *For a group of 8 ladies, 6 of whom are Grace Academy teachers, who have started Book Two of the Taftee course with one of them leading. I had led them through Book One. They have taken a break for Christmas. Pray that when they resume their studies in January they will all be able to move ahead together with renewed dedication.*
4. *For all of the Grace Academy and Home Academy (the Children's Home school) teachers, that they will have a desire to study the Word and apply it to their lives and the hearts of the students.*
5. *For us as we continue to travel to visit you, our highly-valued prayer and financial partners, and as we set up our home in North Carolina between trips.*
6. *For the scheduling of our next return to India – perhaps in late spring and summer for board meetings of the institutions and other work.*

### **MUSIC NOTES** by Melissa Taggart

#### **Schedule for the New Year**

Handbell Choir resumes Thursday, January 5, 6:30 pm.

Sanctuary Choir resumes Thursday, January 12, 7:30 pm.

Concert Choir rehearsals for our Palm Sunday

Concert start on Sunday, February 12, 1:00 pm.

#### **SAVE THE DATE!**

Sunday, April 1, 5:30 pm - Fellowship Meal and Palm Sunday Concert. The theme of this year's concert will be God's work of redemption in time.

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**READ THIS IF YOU DON'T ALWAYS USE OFFERING ENVELOPES**

Each week teams of “counters” converge on the conference room to count the weekly offering. This process takes these volunteers anywhere from 45 minutes to two hours depending on a number of factors such as how much was collected, how many different funds are collected (general, capital, memorial, Christmas, etc.), and whether or not the donor used the offering envelopes provided.

Using offering envelopes reduces the work load on both our volunteers and our office manager whose task it is to record members’ offerings for tax recording purposes. When these envelopes are not used, the counting and recording process slows and the chance for error increases. The offering envelopes are color coded clarifying the process of dividing funds into general and special offerings.

The preprinted church envelope package includes an area to help the donor with budgeting their annual offering, record the value of gifts other than cash (for example the cost of food for weekly Sunday School classes or school supplies donated to the Homework Club), and remember if an offering was skipped due to vacation, snow closing or sickness. To use the envelopes record the date, fund and amount of the offering on the offering stub and carry the balance forward to the next week. Place your offering in the envelope and either fold over the flap or seal it. There is no need to write the amount of your offering on the outside of the envelope so that the amount of your offering may remain confidential. The dates on the outside of the envelope are to be used only as a guide for the donor. The counting teams ignore the dates on the envelopes so that multiple weeks of offering may be placed in any general fund envelope. If you would like to donate to a fund for which you have no envelope, you may use any unused envelope in the package and make it very clear on the outside of the envelope to which fund you would like the offering to go. Or you may use any plain envelope with your envelope number and a description of the designated fund printed clearly on the outside of the envelope.

If you have not been given offering envelopes, please contact Jessica in the church office or place a note in the offering plate with your name, home address and a notation that you would like envelopes.

Thank you for using your church envelopes!  
Penny Goodman

## THE ENCOURAGER’S CORNER

God loves a cheerful giver. The Encouragers are so grateful to all the “cheerful givers” at Calvary who lovingly donated financially or with the requested school supply items for the Homework Club children. We could not have done it all by ourselves. But together with you we were able to fill 30 Christmas bags with a large variety of school supplies – and candy – for the children. Thank you so much!

So, you see, you can be an “encourager” right where you are. You actually encouraged the Encouragers. Please prayerfully consider joining us on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm (Jan. 10 and Feb. 14). You can assist in filling gift bags for those who are struggling or who deserve some recognition, you can pray for the recipients, and then help deliver the bags with a smile and a reassuring word. We can serve the Lord by serving others

## EVANGELISM & OUTREACH

*by Jay Scharfenberg*

The first full year for the Evangelism Committee has taught us a great deal about where God is at work in the Willow Grove community. 2012 will be the year we put this knowledge into practice.

In 2011, we saw God work powerfully through relationships to spread the Gospel. We plan to capitalize on this fact through four outreaches to our neighbors immediately surrounding the church. During Easter, Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas, Calvary will reach out in friendly ways to our neighbors, especially targeting neighborhoods where congregants live. In the process, Calvary will take prayer requests from them, pray for them, and follow up by ministering to them in both word and deed.

We have also seen God at work in the 409 community through the Deacons, the Homework Club, and Pick-Up Basketball. We hope to build on this foundation by participating in and supporting a Bible Study with them.

Finally, we have seen God use discussion groups as an effective means to proclaim the Gospel. Because of this fact, we have been in talks with a local atheist chapter to start a regular discussion group with them. Please pray that God will open this door for us.

# JANUARY 2012

**Sun**

**Mon**

**Tue**

**Wed**

**Thu**

**Fri**

**Sat**

<b>1</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service 6:00 pm Youth Fellowship	<b>2</b> 7:30 p.m. Rogers Bible Study	<b>3</b> 7 p.m. Youth Small Group	<b>4</b> 7:00 am Men's Breakfast 7:30 pm Nor'wester Bible Study	<b>5</b> 9:30 am Women's Bible Study 5:00 pm HW Club 6:30 pm Handbell Choir 7:30 Sanctuary Choir 730 pm Regency Towers Study	<b>6</b> 7:30 am Coffee Outreach at Mall Bus Stop	<b>7</b> 9:00 am Evangelism for Scaredies
<b>8</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service 5:00 pm Christian ED Mtg 6:00 pm Youth Fellowship	<b>9</b> 6:30 p.m. Omega Bible Study 7:30 p.m. Finance Committee	<b>10</b> 6:00 p.m. Youth Choir 6:30 p.m. Session 7:00 p.m. Youth Small group	<b>11</b> 7:00 am Men's Breakfast 7:30 p.m. Hertzog Bible Study	<b>12</b> 9:30 am Women's Bible Study 5:00 pm HW Club 6:30 pm Handbell Choir 7:30 Sanctuary Choir 730 pm Regency Towers Study	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 9:00 am Evangelism for Scaredies 2:00 pm Willow Grove Pickup Basketball
<b>15</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service 12:30 pm Newcomer's Lunch 6:00 pm Youth Fellowship	<b>16</b> 7:30 p.m. Rogers Bible Study 7:30 p.m. Tyson Bible Study	<b>17</b> 7:00 p.m. Youth Small Group 7:30 p.m. Property Committee	<b>18</b> 7:00 am Men's Breakfast 7:30 pm Nor'wester Bible Study	<b>19</b> 9:30 am Women's Bible Study 5:00 pm HW Club 6:30 pm Handbell Choir 7:30 Sanctuary Choir 730 pm Regency Towers Study	<b>20</b> 7:30 am Coffee Outreach at Mall Bus Stop	<b>21</b> 9:00 am Evangelism for Scaredies
<b>22</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service 12:15 pm Youth Handbell 6:00 pm Youth Fellowship	<b>23</b> 6:30 p.m. Omega Bible Study 7:30 p.m. Deacon Meeting	<b>24</b> 6:00 pm Youth Choir 7:00 pm Youth Small Group 7:30 pm Women in the Church Bible Study	<b>25</b> 7:00 am Men's Breakfast 7:30 p.m. Hertzog Bible Study	<b>26</b> 9:30 am Women's Bible Study 5:00 pm HW Club 6:30 pm Handbell Choir 7:30 Sanctuary Choir 730 pm Regency Towers Study	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 9:00 am Evangelism for Scaredies 2:00 pm Willow Grove Pickup Basketball
<b>29</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service 12:30 pm Congregational Meeting 6:00 pm Youth Fellowship	<b>30</b> 7:30 pm Tyson Bible Study	<b>31</b> 7:00 pm Youth Small group				

# FEBRUARY 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> 7:00 am Men's Breakfast 7:30 pm Nor'wester Bible Study	<b>2</b> 9:30 am Women's Bible Study 5:00 pm HW Club 6:30 pm Handbell Choir 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir 7:30 pm Regency Towers Study	<b>3</b> 7:30 am Coffee Outreach at Mall Bus Stop	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service 12:15 pm Youth Handbell 6:00 pm Youth Fellowship	<b>6</b> 7:30 p.m. Rogers Bible Study	<b>7</b> 7 p.m. Youth Small Group	<b>8</b> 7:00 am Men's Breakfast 7:30 p.m. Hertzog Bible Study	<b>9</b> 9:30 am Women's Bible Study 5:00 pm HW Club 6:30 pm Handbell Choir 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir 7:30 pm Regency Towers Study	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 2:00 pm Willow Grove Pickup Basketball
<b>12</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service 1:00 pm Concert Choir 5:00 pm Christian ED mtg 6:00 pm Youth Fellowship	<b>13</b> 6:30 p.m. Omega Bible Study 7:30 p.m. Finance Committee	<b>14</b> 6:00 p.m. Youth Choir 6:30 p.m. Session 7:00 p.m. Youth Small group	<b>15</b> 7:00 am Men's Breakfast 7:30 pm Nor'wester Bible Study	<b>16</b> 9:30 am Women's Bible Study 5:00 pm HW Club 6:30 pm Handbell Choir 7:30 Sanctuary Choir 7:30 pm Regency Towers Study	<b>17</b> 7:30 am Coffee Outreach at Mall Bus Stop	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service 12:15 pm Youth Handbell 1:00 pm Concert Choir 6:00 pm Youth Fellowship	<b>20</b> 7:30 p.m. Rogers Bible Study 7:30 p.m. Tyson Bible Study	<b>21</b> 7:00 p.m. Youth Small Group 7:30 p.m. Property Committee	<b>22</b> 7:00 am Men's Breakfast 7:30 p.m. Hertzog Bible Study	<b>23</b> 9:30 am Women's Bible Study 5:00 pm HW Club 6:30 pm Handbell Choir 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir 7:30 pm Regency Towers Study	<b>24</b> 7:30pm The Grove Night at the Movies	<b>25</b> 2:00 pm Willow Grove Pickup Basketball
<b>26</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service 1:00 pm Concert Choir 6:00 pm Youth Fellowship	<b>27</b> 6:30 p.m. Omega Bible Study 7:30 p.m. Deacon Meeting	<b>28</b> 6:00 pm Youth Choir 7:00 pm Youth Small Group 7:30 pm Women in the Church Bible Study	<b>29</b>			

## 2012 WOMEN'S RETREAT

Change can be good – right? Well, there is a change coming regarding the annual Presbytery Women's Retreat. It has been decided to go to every other year for the overnight retreat. During the "off" year, there will be a one day conference instead.

Reasons? More women will be able to afford a one day conference. Some churches may want to do their own over-night retreat to enhance the fellowship within their local church. A large retreat every other year will give more time for planning and fund raising.

Theme: "The Heart of the Matter"

Speaker: Rosemary Green

Date: **April 21, 2012, 9 AM - 5 PM**

Music: Provided by Calvary...that's us!

This will be a ONE DAY RETREAT held at Providence PCA Church in Quakertown, PA. Please mark your calendars and plan to join with your sisters from area churches for this day of worship, teaching and fellowship...and of course lunch! Look for more details soon!

## CALVARY EVENTS

- **Newcomer's Luncheon** for visitors on Sunday, January 15th at 12:30 p.m.
- **Congregational Meeting** will be held on Sunday, January 29th at 12:30 p.m.
- **January/February Fellowship Meal.** The first Sunday Fellowship Meal is a combined one for January & February on January 29th. We will have the church business meeting at that time. Further details will follow, but note the change. The March Fellowship meal will be on March 6th & will be hosted by the Youth Group who will be doing this as a fund-raiser for their summer missions trip.
- **The Grove Night at the Movies** will be Friday, February 24, 2012 in the Fellowship Hall. We will be watching an Oscar nominated film. Bring friends, neighbors, and co-workers.

- **College Student Care Packages**—Bring packaged snacks for college student care packages. More details will follow. Contact Anne Smiley if you have any questions.
- **A new members class** during the Sunday School hour will run for 6 weeks starting on February 19th. It is open to anyone who is interested in becoming a member of Calvary. Contact Pastor Rick if you would like to attend: rick@calvary-wg.org.

## Thank you from the Staff

Dear Congregation of Calvary,

The church staff thanks you for your generous Christmas gifts to us. This tangible expression of your love and support deeply touched our hearts. May God's inexhaustible gifts be yours in the new year.

## Thank you for the Cantata!

Dear Melissa, Calvary Staff and Brothers and Sisters:

Thank you so much for making it possible for me to present my first Christmas Cantata! You all worked so hard: from the musicians to the singers to the ringers to the cooks to the cleaners to those who decorated, to those who set up and those who tore down, to the sound 'techies', to those who prayed and those who gave so generously of time and money...is that everyone?!? (BTW, my friends & neighbors, those who *know* words like 'fellowship,' all mentioned being blessed by the food and *fellowship*.) Your donations will greatly help record these songs. Your devotion has greatly encouraged my heart. It was so much fun! (And thank you for the flowers!)

God bless you!

With love and gratitude,  
Susan Piper

## Thank You from James A. Smith

Dear Church Members, Friends, and Officers:

You need no reminder, the presence of four different Presbyteries in your building no doubt made a big impression. This was certainly no small feat. We, one of those Presbyteries, wish to express our thanks for all of the graces you poured out on us all.

At lunch time each thanks committee was given opportunity to express gratitude and it was done but I as clerk of NJ Presbytery think it only right that a formal expression be made to the whole church. Your officers and volunteers did an extraordinary job and we appreciate it. THANK YOU!

In the bonds of Jesus' love,

James A. Smith  
PCA Stated Clerk of NJ

## Help Wanted

Janine Mitchell's roommate, Tia, is looking for someone to drive her to the Warminster Train station weekday mornings. They live behind Wegmans in Warrington, PA. Tia is willing to pay the driver. Please call Janine at 215-343-2353 if you are able to help. Thank you.

## Youth Update

- SNOW DAY with Covenant and Lansdale churches on January 28th. Skiing and snowtubing at Camelback followed by a fellowship service at Lansdale church in the evening. For tubing \$15 and Skiing and snowboarding \$45. Please RSVP to Andy ASAP if you are interested.
- Annual Missions Trip July 7-14 returning to Fairmont West Virginia. Please consider attending. This is a CHURCH-WIDE event. We would welcome folks of any age to attend. More details will be forthcoming.
- We can use YOUR HELP: Sunday evenings 6-8 PM. We would love your help and participation with Sunday evening youth group. All that is required is a desire to love the youth and a good dose of enthusiasm and fun. Please speak to Andy or Myriam if interested.

## Bible Reading

Jan 1: Gen 1-3; Matt 1  
Jan 2: Gen 4-6; Matt 2  
Jan 3: Gen 7-9; Matt 3  
Jan 4: Gen 10-12; Matt 4  
Jan 5: Gen 13-15; Matt 5:1-26  
Jan 6: Gen 16-17; Matt 5:27-48  
Jan 7: Gen 18-19; Matt 6:1-18  
Jan 8: Gen 20-22; Matt 6:19-34  
Jan 9: Gen 23-24; Matt 7  
Jan 10: Gen 25-26; Matt 8:1-17  
Jan 11: Gen 27-28; Matt 8:18-34  
Jan 12: Gen 29-30; Matt 9:1-17  
Jan 13: Gen 31-32; Matt 9:18-38  
Jan 14: Gen 33-35; Matt 10:1-20  
Jan 15: Gen 36-38; Matt 10:21-42  
Jan 16: Gen 39-40; Matt 11  
Jan 17: Gen 41-42; Matt 12:1-23  
Jan 18: Gen 43-45; Matt 12:24-50  
Jan 19: Gen 46-48; Matt 13:1-30  
Jan 20: Gen 49-50; Matt 13:31-58  
Jan 21: Ex 1-3; Matt 14:1-21  
Jan 22: Ex 4-6; Matt 14:22-36  
Jan 23: Ex 7-8; Matt 15:1-20  
Jan 24: Ex 9-11; Matt 15:21-39  
Jan 25: Ex 12-13; Matt 16  
Jan 26: Ex 14-15; Matt 17  
Jan 27: Ex 16-18; Matt 18:1-20  
Jan 28: Ex 19-20; Matt 18:21-35  
Jan 29: Ex 21-22; Matt 19  
Jan 30: Ex 23-24; Matt 20:1-16  
Jan 31: Ex 25-26; Matt 20:17-34  
Feb 1: Ex 27-28; Matt 21:1-22  
Feb 2: Ex 29-30; Matt 21:23-46  
Feb 3: Ex 31-33; Matt 22:1-22  
Feb 4: Ex 34-35; Matt 22:23-46  
Feb 5: Ex 36-38; Matt 23:1-22  
Feb 6: Ex 39-40; Matt 23:23-39  
Feb 7: Lev 1-3; Matt 24:1-28  
Feb 8: Lev 4-5; Matt 24:29-51  
Feb 9: Lev 6-7; Matt 25:1-30  
Feb 10: Lev 8-10; Matt 25:31-46  
Feb 11: Lev 11-12; Matt 26:1-25  
Feb 12: Lev 13; Matt 26:26-50  
Feb 13: Lev 14; Matt 26:51-75  
Feb 14: Lev 15-16; Matt 27:1-26  
Feb 15: Lev 17-18; Matt 27:27-50  
Feb 16: Lev 19-20; Matt 27:51-66  
Feb 17: Lev 21-22; Matt 28  
Feb 18: Lev 23-24; Mark 1:1-22  
Feb 19: Lev 25; Mark 1:23-45  
Feb 20: Lev 26-27; Mark 2  
Feb 21: Num 1-2; Mark 3:1-19  
Feb 22: Num 3-4; Mark 3:20-35  
Feb 23: Num 5-6; Mark 4:1-20  
Feb 24: Num 7-8; Mark 4:21-41  
Feb 25: Num 9-11; Mark 5:1-20  
Feb 26: Num 12-14; Mark 5:21-43  
Feb 27: Num 15-16; Mark 6:1-29  
Feb 28/29: Num 17-19; Mark 6:30-56