

THE CALLER

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

March/April 2015

Calvary's Interim Journey: We Have a Plan!



The one question perhaps most asked during an interim time is: How quickly can we get a new permanent minister? That's easy enough to answer: just put out the word, sort through the names that pour in, and call someone from the list.

But that's not the most helpful question. We need to ask the right questions—questions that, while often difficult and hard and which take time and effort, can lead us down incredible paths of discovery. Right questions can be the first step in breaking unhelpful patterns, moving past stagnation, and finding answers that are not merely quick, but hopeful and helpful, and useful for creating a good future.

Right questions are everything. Like: Who are we as a church, what brought us to this place, why do we exist? What does faithfulness to God in our context look like? What is the future we want to create? What are the resources we will need to achieve that future? How do we move toward that future together, with unity, purpose and joy? Where do we need to change in order to grow? These are some of the right questions that need to be asked before the process of calling a minister begins. These are the things we must ask *now*—and, which you, not I, must answer.

A small interim planning committee—composed of Eva Powell, Amy Dale, Rick Goodman, Jay Mayfield, and me—has met and proposes that we begin answering these questions through three congregational surveys. The surveys will be distributed by paper and by computer/*Survey Monkey*—soliciting opinions regarding Calvary's past, present, and future.

We want as many as possible to complete each survey. Our intent is to give two months, more or less, to each survey: sending out, time for response, time for assembling the responses, and for congregational meetings to hear and reflect on the responses.

The link to the first survey is below, and paper copies will be available this Sunday, March 15; the second will be in May; the third, sometime late summer for a conversation in mid-September.

From these surveys we'll gather answers—and with this we'll be well along in clarity about who we are and where we want to go. With this done, a search committee could be called by late October/early November. A new pastor could be in place by summer or fall of 2016, the first of 2017 at the latest. A one-and-a-half to two year time frame for an intentional interim is fairly standard.

Well, that's the plan. Let's do it—and, in so doing let's discover how good it is to be a part of Calvary.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Joe

Link to Calvary Survey #1: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ReflectingOnCalvary>

Please note: All responses are anonymous—so be candid and truthful. Be thorough—your response may be as long as you need. And, the deadline for responding is Sunday, March 29. Paper surveys will be available this Sunday, March 15, and can be mailed to you, if requested.

New Members Spotlight



Amaka Anku joined Calvary in October. Amaka is originally from Nigeria, but Amaka and her sister Nkem, split time between their birth home and in New York growing up. Amaka is lawyer by training but now runs the DC office for a Nigerian based development think tank. Amaka is married to Carl and they are the proud parents of Seli, who was dedicated at Calvary in October.



Hannah McMahan joined Calvary in October. Hannah hails from North Carolina, having lived in several different places, including Mississippi where she studied race relations and lynching. Currently, Hannah works as the coordinator for the New Baptist Covenant. One of her passions is supporting young ministers.



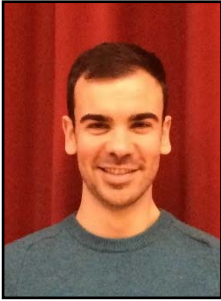
Nkem Megwalu is originally from Nigeria but also split her time growing up in New York like her sister Amaka. Nkem joined Calvary in October and works for a non-profit focused on education. Her passions include development and social justice. Nkem is the proud mother of 6 year old Remy.



Seun Obaro is originally from Nigeria but grew up in Prince George's County. Seun joined Calvary in November. A graduate student in counseling, Seun was drawn to Calvary because of its hospitality and warmth.



New Members Spotlight



Taylor Patton is from Birmingham, Alabama but moved to DC for work. Taylor is drawn to Calvary because of its openness, friendliness, and how it reminds him of his old church. Taylor joined Calvary in December.



Britany Riley joined Calvary in February. Currently Britany works for the Supreme Court as a paralegal. She is really passionate about justice and hopes to be able to use her experience and passion as a lawyer. In addition to her work, Britany is deeply committed to the church and is very happy that she has finally found a church home in DC.



Dan Ritter is from Birmingham, Alabama and moved to DC for work. He is the wholesale director for a Tea company. Dan joined Calvary in October particularly because it was highly recommended by folks from his home church in Birmingham.



James Rust is from North Carolina, and attended school in South Carolina . He also attended law school out here in DC and is currently a practicing attorney. James is fluent in Spanish and one of his passions is teaching English as second language to native Spanish speakers. James joined Calvary in October .



Music Programs

Dr. Cheryl Branham, Director of Music

Easter Festival Choir

Love to sing but just can't keep the weekly commitment to Sanctuary Choir? Festival Choir is for you! Rehearsals began on Feb 22, First Sunday in Lent, and will continue through the Lenten season. Join us as we prepare a wonderful program of music for Easter Day! Here's the remaining schedule—there's plenty of time to get onboard, so come sing with us!

Sundays, March 8, 15 and 22, 12:30–2:30 p.m. in the Music Suite

Thursday, March 19, 7:30–9:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

(No rehearsal March 29; attend the Passion concert at 2:15 p.m. in the Chapel!)

Holy Thursday, April 2, 8:00–9:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary (following Maundy Thursday worship)

Easter Day, April 5, 9:30 a.m. Call in the Sanctuary for rehearsal; 11:00 a.m. Worship



Calvary Children Lead our Hosannas on Palm Sunday!

Parents and teachers, on **March 29** be sure all our Calvary Children are here to participate in Palm Sunday worship. Children's Choir meets at 10:15 a.m. in Sanctuary for rehearsal with the Sanctuary Choir. Then, all ages from Nursery through 'Teens are invited to meet in the Narthex at 11:45 a.m. to get organized as we lead our procession to open worship. We wave palm branches and sing hosannas to greet the day and to begin Holy Week at Calvary. YOU are invited to participate!

Special Concert: Reflections on the Passion

Palm Sunday, March 29, 2015, 2:15 p.m. in the Chapel, Music of the Baroque, featuring Calvary's Amelia Taylor, soprano; Teresa Ferrara, mezzo-soprano, Dwayne Pinkney, tenor; Zain Shariff, baritone, and the Calvary Chamber Singers, in collaboration with Ensemble 2015 and conductor Tomás Fajardo. Don't miss this opportunity to hear the *Stabat Mater* setting of Caldara, the iconic scene of Mary at the cross, plus excerpts from Bach's *St. Matthew Passion*. This concert is open to the public and admission is free; donations are appreciated. Invite family and friends to church on Palm Sunday, have lunch in the Penn Quarter, and come back for a fantastic Passion Day concert!

Come Hear the Music: Johansen International String Competition

Our Resident Partner, the Friday Morning Music Club, invites everyone to hear 13–17 year old musicians from around the world compete in the Johansen Competition. Join us in Woodward Hall for some amazing music! **Thursday and Friday, March 19-20**, 9:00 a.m.— 5:00 p.m. and **Saturday, March 21**, 9:00 a.m.– 4:30 p.m. All events are free and open to the public.

Organ Insights

Patrick Kabanda brought us a wonderful program Saturday evening, February 28, along with a discussion on his paper *The Creative Wealth of Nations: How the Performing Arts can Advance Development and Human Progress*. Join us for the next Organ Insights **Sunday, March 15**, immediately following worship. We'll gather at the front of the Sanctuary to hear about the history of the Calvary organ. As always, you are invited to become a Calvary Organ Donor! Gifts of any size help us to rebuild our Organ Fund. Thanks for your generous participation!

Come Hear the Music: Heritage Worldstrides Choral Festival at Calvary

Here's another opportunity to hear some amazing music in our Sanctuary. High school choirs from all over America sing **Friday and Saturday, May 1 and 2** throughout the day, in 30-minute rotation, for a panel of judges. All are invited to attend and create an audience! Calvary's Sanctuary is a special home for music in DC—come and listen, and you'll understand why!

For more information on these opportunities or to talk further about how to participate in Music at Calvary, contact Cheryl Branham, Director of Music, cbranham@calvarydc.org.



Snapshots



Teresa singing for the Shalom Lunch



Cheryl leading the children in music



Jackie Wright moderating WIN event with DC Mayor Bowser



Global Christmas Weekend Concert



Calvary members protesting police brutality



Jodi, Roberto, and baby Jonathon in our Christmas nativity



LENTEN AND HOLY WEEK OPPORTUNITIES

PRAYERS FOR PEACE, MARCH 22. Join Pastor Edgar in the Chapel at 5:00 p.m.

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY, MARCH 29. Calvary Children's Choir leads in worship as we wave palm branches and sing Hosannas! After worship, Calvary Presents *Reflections on the Passion*, 2:15 p.m. in Chapel. Free community concert features Calvary Soloists in collaboration with Ensemble 2015, conducted by Tomás Fajardo.

EASTER LILY ORDER FORMS are available in Narthex or church office. Order lilies online; see the Donations page of our website. Lilies are \$12 each and deadline for ordering is **Monday, March 30.**

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 2. Soup supper at 6:30 p.m., worship with communion at 7:15 p.m., Chapel.

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 3. Tenebrae service of darkness and remembrance, 7:30 p.m. in Sanctuary.

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5. Invite friends and family to celebrate Easter at Calvary! All are invited to Latino Community breakfast at 9:30 a.m. in Woodward Hall. Festival Choir leads in worship at 11:00 a.m. After worship, potluck lunch in Woodward Hall—a Calvary tradition!

SMALL GROUPS

LATINO FELLOWSHIP @ 9:30 a.m. Sundays (Calvary chapel)

ENGLISH ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL @ 9:45 a.m. Sundays (Butler Hall)

THEOLOGY ON DRAFT @ 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays (Butler Hall)

LECTIONARY LUNCH @ 12:15 p.m. Wednesdays. (Calvary library)

WEDNESDAY NIGHT WORDS @ 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays (Senior Pastor's Office)

ZUMBA @ 6:00 p.m. Fridays (Butler Hall)

DIRECTORY PHOTOS



Calvary is updating its directory to include a picture of you! Karla Fahey is available to take a snap shot of you during Coffee Hour over the next few Sundays. Photos will be made in family groups and individually. We'll also ask you to confirm your contact information. Contact Paul in the church office or Karla for more details. Be sure to participate in this important project!

If you are not able to have your picture taken during Coffee and would like to submit a photo please email a high resolution jpg file to Paul Rosstead (prosstead@calvarydc.org).



ALLIANCE ANNUAL GATHERING IN ATLANTA

By: Carol Blythe

Zachary Bay, chair of the planning committee for this year's Annual Gathering for the Alliance of Baptists wrote about the theme of this year's gathering, "We've a Story to *Hear* From the Nations." Zachary said, "I like it because it both asks and answers the question: 'Who gets to tell the story?'" The Annual Gathering this year will be at Northside Drive Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia, April 17 to 19, 2015.

This year's gathering will feature preaching by Francisco "Paco" Rodés from our Baptist partners in Cuba, Rusudan Gotsiridze from our Baptist partners in the Republic of Georgia, and Mahan Siler, former pastor at Pullen Memorial Baptist Church in Raleigh, NC and one of the founders of the Alliance of Baptists. The Racial Justice and Multiculturalism Community will craft another multicultural training session. But more importantly for Calvary folks -- workshops this year include one focused on immigration; Lorena Pereira will share her story of immigration in this workshop. We are grateful the Alliance of Baptists gives space for people to tell and to hear immigrant stories.

Calvary is again planning to take a van to the Annual Gathering. We will leave early on Thursday, April 16, and return late on Sunday, April 19. If you are interested in going in the van, please contact Carol Blythe at blythe-goodman@comcast.net. The church will cover the van costs and your registration fee. You will need to pay for a hotel room and some meals.

Zach's conclusion – "We've a Story to *Hear* — from our ministry partners — about racial and social justice for all persons, about drones, homelessness, the death penalty, education, classism, hunger, poverty and abuse of all kinds. We've a Story to *Hear*—a story of God's love and light. You're invited to be a part of that story." Please plan to join Calvary Baptist in being part of the story in 2015! You can also register online at: <https://app.etapestry.com/hosted/AllianceofBaptists/OnlineRegistration.html>

CALVARY'S OFFICIARY 2015

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 Barbara Hoffer, *Treasurer*
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 Abby Ammerman, *Diaconate*
 Salima Appiah-Duffell, *Facilities*
 Corina Lopez, *Finance*
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 Rachel Johnson, *Nominations*
 Eva Powell, *Personnel*
 Courtney Rice, *Stewardship*

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 John Appiah-Duffell
 Yolanda Appiah-Kubi
 Ashley Becker
 Jose Gonzalez-Alfaro
 Amparo Palacios-Lopez
 Nancy Renfrow
 Susan Sevier
 Lu Shan
 Tim Shaw
 John Taylor
 Jackie Wright





The Season of Lent
 A Journey with Jesus
 February 22—March 22

Prayers for Peace

Join us Sunday, March 22, at 5:00 p.m. in the Chapel as we remember the 35th anniversary of the assassination of Archbishop Oscar Arnulfo Romero and speak about the struggle in El Salvador to prevent the privatization of the nation's water supply. Water is the spring of life and a right of the people as a gift of God. We hope you will come! If you would like more information, please contact Rev. Edgar Palacios (epalacios@calvarydc.org)

Mission Trip to El Salvador

Are you interested in joining us as we travel to El Salvador in August or September? Would you like to meet our Shalom Scholarship scholars, help rebuild a church destroyed by flooding, learn about the struggles and triumphs of the Salvadorians as we worship and break bread together? If you are interested in going let Pastor Elijah (ezehyoue@cavarydc.org) know, we plan to meet in early April and would like to include you in the planning process.

Business Meeting Dates

The Church Board has set the following dates for Quarterly Business Meetings in 2015 and for the Annual Business Meeting in January 2016.

Sunday, April 26, 2015 12:30 p.m.

Sunday, July 26, 2015 12:30 p.m.

Sunday, October 25, 2015 12:30 p.m.

Sunday, January 24, 2016 12:30 p.m.

Easter Lilies



Easter Lilies displayed in the sanctuary will enhance our Easter worship services. These plants may be ordered in memory or honor of the person(s) of your choice. Our Easter worship bulletin will include a listing of the donors and the persons being honored. Please fill out the form below and attach your payment (with the notation Lily on the memo line). The form may be mailed to the church office, or placed in the offering plate on or before **Monday, March 30**.

I / We would like to order _____ Lily(ies) at \$12.00 each. Total enclosed \$ _____

After worship I/we would like to: donate the Lily(ies) deliver the Lily(ies) to a shut-in take the Lily(ies) home

Donor's Name(s): _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Rev. Dr. Joseph Glaze Pastor During the Interim
 Rev. Edgar Palacios, Associate Pastor Erica Lea, Pastoral Resident Elijah Zehyoue, Pastoral Resident
 Cheryl Branham, Director of Music Harold L. Ritchie, Editor Emeritus Paul Rosstead, Church Administrator

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