

September/October

THE CALLER

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Survey Three, and Living the Way of Holy Manners



The third Calvary congregational survey, *Who Will We Be?—A Congregational Envisioning of Calvary's Future*, is ready for you to access here—just click on the link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OurFutureAtCalvary>

The intent of the survey is a clear vision for Calvary's future that will provide: 1. direction to the congregation as we live into that future; 2. a foundation for the work of our Search Committee; and, 3. essential information for potential Senior Pastor candidates.

Please answer the survey—by September 21—based on your vision and desires for Calvary's future, being as specific as possible. All constructive comments will be summarized and shared with the congregation after worship September 27 in a *Calvary Conversation*. And, while it is not required, we would appreciate you including your name for this survey so that the Board can follow up, if needed, on your ideas and suggestions. Thanks for helping us identify concrete next steps as we continue our journey together as a community of faith.

Now, a word about our intention, as I said above, to share only helpful or “constructive” responses. In a little booklet entitled *Holy Manners: The Spiritual Politeness of Healthy Congregations*, Gilbert Rendle argues that many of our churches have defaulted to behaviors more characteristic of our culture than of what should be common to faith communities.

Rendle begins with Stephen Carter's observation of how in the past public transportation worked as well as it did because people understood their obligation to treat one another with regard as they traveled. “They purchased guides to proper behavior, like *Politeness on Railroads* by Isaac Peebles, and tried to follow its sensible rules, like: ‘Whispering, loud talking, immoderate laughing, and singing should not be indulged by any passenger.’”

Seeing oneself as a part of a group, comments Rendle, influences group behavior. In traveling together, each person adapts his or her behavior to meet the needs of the group. It is, Rendle says, quite civilized. Today, mostly, we travel alone, in our automobiles, accommodating only ourselves or, perhaps, the one or two in the car with us. Seeing ourselves as individuals, we seemingly practice civil behavior less and less.

The case Rendle makes is that, as faith communities, we are meant to be different. As a community of faith and as a people following Jesus all we do and say should be helpful and constructive. We must have manners and practice civil conversation if we are to travel well together. Our comments must be tempered by care for one another and our behavior molded by love and compassion. In his letter to the church at Rome (12:9-21), Paul gives a list of what we might call “Holy Manners”:

Let your love be genuine. Hate that which is evil and hold tight to everything that is good. Love each other as brothers and sisters, and honor others more than you do yourself.

Never give up. Eagerly follow the Holy Spirit and serve the Lord. Let your hope make you glad. Be patient in times of trouble and never stop praying. Take care of God's needy people and welcome strangers into your home.

Ask God to bless everyone who mistreats you. When others are happy, be happy with them; when they are sad, be sad. Be friendly with everyone. Don't be proud and feel you're smarter than others. Make friends with ordinary people.

Don't mistreat someone who's mistreated you. But try to earn the respect of others, and do your best to live at peace with everyone. Don't try to get even. Let God handle things God's way. In the Scriptures the Lord says, “I am the one to take revenge and to settle accounts.” The Scriptures also say, “If your enemies are hungry, give them something to eat. And if they are thirsty, give them something to drink. In this way you may appeal to their consciences.” Here's my point: don't let evil defeat you, but defeat evil with good.

Good advice for those at Rome—and, for us here at Calvary. Grace and Peace, Pastor Joe

A MISSION TRIP

Rev. Edgar Palacios

September 5-12 a delegation of Calvary will be in El Salvador to learn how our sister church of San Salvador Shalom fulfills its mission and meet with our Shalom Scholars in person. It will be an experience of immersion so we will get the chance to experience up close the reality of life in a Central American country. We will work with our brothers and sisters in an effort to rebuild a sanctuary for the Living Water Church Baptist and we will worship with them and Shalom Baptist Church, our other church partner. In addition, we will have interviews with religious, social and political leaders. The goal is to get as close as we can in a few days to the reality of a people struggling for peace and justice in the midst of situations of violence and poverty. That way we can better understand why the Shalom Church has spiritual achievements made by the various ministries. We will also understand better the importance of the Shalom Scholarship Project. But why this interest of Calvary to maintain a special relationship with the Shalom Church and our scholars from El Salvador? The reason is that Calvary is a living church in a dynamic and participatory process to deepen its response to the mission that Jesus crucified and risen has entrusted it.

The mission of the church is aimed at individuals, people groups, and the world at large. For each person, the will of God and His Son Jesus Christ, is the radical transformation our humanity so desperately needs. This experience is called regeneration or new birth. This transformation means to love God, Jesus Christ and his project of the kingdom of God above any other love we may have.

For people, given that their realities are structured socially, politically and economically, the mission of the church is to communicate the prophetic message of God to transform the states, to change the unjust structures so as to guarantee life, peace and human fulfillment in harmony with nature and the universe. Poverty and social inequalities are a human product. To God these inequalities should not exist!

The mission to the world is to realize that the path that is being followed with global economic systems that exploit natural resources and perpetuate immoral racial and religious discrimination is the wrong way; that road leads to self-destruction. So the mission for the world is its humanization, systemic transformation, political, economic, and cultural revival. It is a mission for humanity to walk the spiritual path of the universal culture of peace, coexistence of differences, solidarity with the deprived and impoverished, compassion, respect and love, as mediation in relations between nations.

As a Baptist congregation in Washington, DC, Calvary carries out its mission locally, internationally and globally. At the local level it does this through their ministries of proclamation and teaching of the gospel, and through their service and outreach programs. Internationally we fulfill our mission by supporting the mission of the Shalom Baptist Church, San Salvador and Salvadoran university scholars. Globally, we are also a part of ecumenical and Baptists efforts that affirm that another world is possible and work so that this world be transformed according to the vision and will of God.

The mission trip to El Salvador is to hear the voice of God from the poor, from women, from youth, and from the church committed for life so that the delegation comes back ready to share that message to the full church. This has two benefits, first, we will become aware of the need for the Gospel in that country and hence the importance of our relationship with the Shalom Church and the importance of supporting young people in college. Second, it will make us aware of the importance of walking a step forward, this to deepen our mission at the local level to be an embodied, pneumatic (spiritual in the Pauline sense), prophetic, Samaritan church. The Lord of the road leads us where we can see him.

Business Meeting Dates

Dates for the remaining Quarterly Business Meetings in 2015
and for the Annual Business Meeting in January 2016.

Sunday, September 13, 2015 (rescheduled Second Quarter meeting)

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

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



Resident Partners Spotlight: *BRAINFOOD*



Brainfood has just wrapped up another wonderful season of Summer Institute at Calvary! Brainfood Summer Institute is a day camp format of Brainfood's youth development programming, which uses food and cooking to teach and empower young people. We spent six amazing weeks in the kitchen cooking, learning and growing with a diverse group of DC public high school students. Highlights of this summer included making our own kombucha, a scavenger hunt field trip to the farmer's market, a storytelling workshop focused on food memories, and much more. Our students celebrated the end of summer by cooking a festive meal for family and friends, featuring their favorite Brainfood recipes: lasagna, potstickers, egg rolls, apple broccoli salad, red velvet cookies, and oatmeal chocolate chip cookies.

In the fall, Brainfood will resume Kitchen All Stars programming, which provides the same opportunities as Summer Institute in an after-school format. Brainfood Kitchen All Stars is a year-long program (October - May) that introduces participants to learning life skills and leadership skills through food and cooking. Participants have the opportunity to learn about food, nutrition, cooking, and jobs in the food industry through activities, games, field trips, cooking in our kitchen, and working with guest chefs.

If you are interested in volunteering at Brainfood, please consider joining us as a Weekly Classroom Assistant this fall! Classroom Assistants play an essential role in fostering participant growth, mentoring participants in the program, and creating a friendly community environment at Brainfood. Classroom Assistants attend Brainfood one day a week for the entire duration of the 8-month long program. They assist the staff with class preparation and work directly with our participants during the daily classroom activities. If you are interested in the WCA program, contact Nina at nina@brain-food.org.

Nina Bryce, Kitchen All Stars Program Coordinator
Brainfood
[202.615.6182](tel:202.615.6182)
www.facebook.com/brainfooddc and [@brainfooddc](https://www.instagram.com/brainfooddc)



Direct Debit and Recurring Credit Card Charge Options Available

Help support the work of Calvary's community of faith as we open our facilities to the community that surrounds us. If you would like to set up a regular automatic payment, contact Paul Rosstead in the Church Office. Contributions can still be made online using your credit card by visiting the Calvary website, www.calvarydc.org, or if you pay your bills online, consider instructing your bank to make a regular payment to Calvary Baptist Church.



Updated Calvary Officiary

Earlier this summer we lost some important members of our congregation who started new jobs, moved to new cities, and started new schools. Some of those folks were in leadership including Rachel Johnson and Drew Bongiovanni. Rachel resigned as Nominations Chair and now Jay Mayfield is the new Nominations Chair. Salima Appiah-Duffell is replacing Jay and will be the new Membership Development Chair. Drew Bongiovanni resigned as Missions Chair and Jackie Wright will be the new Missions Chair. We thank Drew and Rachel for all their service and wish them the best of luck in Nashville and NYC respectively. We welcome Jackie Wright to the board and thank Jay and Salima for being flexible and assuming new roles!

The Current listing of 2015 leadership as of August 16:

Board:

Moderator	Becky Vaughn
Secretary	Claudia Moore
Treasurer	Barbara Hoffer
Christian Formation	Daniel Alcazar
Diaconate	Abbey Ammerman
Facilities	Amy Shaw
Finance	Corina Lopez
Latino Fellowship and Vice Moderator	Eugenia Reyes
Membership Development	Salima Appiah-Duffell
Missions	Jackie Wright
Nominations	Jay Mayfield
Personnel	Eva Powell
Stewardship	Courtney Rice

Diaconate:

Marili Alvarado	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

WHAT IS HAPPENING AT CALVARY?

Stay in touch and learn the latest about Sunday School Classes, Small Groups and other programs and events at Calvary. Sign up on the Calvary website for Latest Happenings, Calvary Caller, and pastoral emails by clicking "sign up for updates" at the bottom of the home page. Check our calendar of events at www.calvarydc.org/events/ for a current listing, or stop by the church office for information about Sunday School classes and Small Group programs. And we're on Meetup.com—check it out and invite your friends to see Calvary events, <http://www.meetup.com/Calvary-Baptist-Church-Downtown-DC-Small-Groups>.

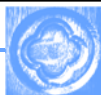
Willing Workers – Garden Team



In two hours Sandi Auman, Karla Fahey and Nancy Renrow transformed the flowerbeds at our sanctuary entrance into a beautiful garden. They picked up litter, pulled weeds and planted a perennial garden of hostas and liriopse. Many thanks to out to Bill Fahey for donating the hostas and to Sandi Auman for donating the liriopse and mulch. We also thank Al Jeter, Calvary's Supervisor of Maintenance, for providing muscle in hauling our materials and supplying the tools. Our flowerbeds will provide us with beautiful plants and lovely lavender blossoms for years to come.

You too can offer your time and talents to Calvary by joining a Willing Workers team.

There are plenty of tasks both large and small needing attention around our church. Please contact Tim Shaw at tshaw21@gmail.com for more information or to suggest a project.





We Are the Story

Fall Retreat 11/7/15

Church-wide Fall Retreat led by Calvary's Deacons *"We are the Story"*

Fall color, check. Walks in the wood, check. Food, games and laughter, double check. Time to learn, to grow, and to get to know one another a little better, triple check. The list is done; it must be time for the fall retreat at Camp Fraser.

Your deacons invite you, one and all, young and old and in-between, to join us for a day of fun and who-knows-what at Camp Fraser, Saturday November 7, from 9:00 a.m. until, well, until 5:00 p.m. or until the campfire burns low, whichever you choose.

This year's theme is *We Are the Story*. We'll spend time together worshipping and studying the story of the Syro-phenician woman as told in Mark 7:24-30 and then we'll spend the afternoon sharing our own stories, building, line by line, the next chapter in our life together as a community.

All you need to do is join us. After all, we are the story.

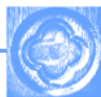


Snapshots

The Ordination of Elijah Robert Zehyoue on Sunday, July 26, 2015



Congratulations to Jodi and Roberto on the dedication of their son Jonathan Robert Ortiz Sunday, August 23, 2015



Remembering
Doris Vermilya

January 9, 1927– June 14, 2015



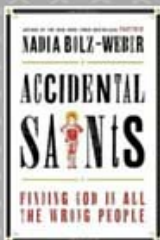
It is with great sadness that we remember our beloved friend and member Doris Vermilya. Doris died Sunday, June 14, 2015. Doris had been a member of Calvary for over 55 years and was truly devoted to our community and loved this church. On Sunday, August 16, we remembered her life during our Sunday morning worship service. Doris' longtime friend and fellow Calvary member, Al Nielson, offered remarks about her life and gave a powerful eulogy. We continue to remember and miss Doris each day and know that she now rests comfortably in the bosom of God.

5th Annual Yard Sale

The Yard Sale is quickly approaching and your help is needed.

The sale will be **Wednesday, September 16 through Friday, September 18**. We are collecting new and gently used items. We will be accepting almost anything except shoes, clothes, large furniture, large TVs, and computers. Most other items are welcomed. We are also in need of large boxes, bags, and tissue paper to help put on the event. We are still in need of many more items so this can be a success! There will be a sign-up sheet after worship to volunteer during the sale. Please bring your donations to Kendall 5 (the back room of Kendall Hall). All proceeds from the Yard Sale will go to the Shalom Scholarship Fund.

If you have any questions please see Gretchen.



Calvary Presents

Nadia Bolz-Weber

September 10, 2015; Free!

6:00 p.m. - doors open

7:00 p.m. - program begins

reception & book signing to follow

#NadiainDC

Calvary Baptist Church

755 8th St. NW, Washington, D.C.



Contact Pastor Erica
 (elea@calvarydc.org) if
 you are interested in



Thursday nights- 7pm
September 17-December 3



Queer for Christ & Revive DMV present:

Arise

A QUEER THEOLOGY
COLLABORATIVE



Song of Solomon 2:10-11

Contact Pastor Erica
(elea@calvarydc.org) if you
are interested in this new
small group.

ecumenical, Side A & Side B
spiritual, social, open, local

Calvary Baptist
Church Library
755 8th St. NW

Holistic Health Project, Yoga For Life

Everyone is invited to join us at 6:00 p.m. Thursdays in Shallenberger Hall for 8 weeks of Yoga and classes on various topics as we work to improve our physical, mental and spiritual health beginning August 13. All are invited! For more information and details, contact Pastor Edgar (epalacios@calvarydc.org).

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

Calvary Baptist Church
755 8th St NW Washington, DC 20001
202-347-8355; Fax: 202-347-6360 www.calvarydc.org