



1 W. Wyomissing Ave., Mohnton, PA 19540

August 25th, 2024 – August 31st, 2024

www.calvaryumcmohnton.org
Summer Worship: 9AM

*Connect with God.
Connect with each other.
Connect with the community.*



**Sunday, September 8th
at 10:30AM**

THEME: INVITE OTHERS TO CHURCH!

This will be the time when we **ALL** gather back together to:

- worship and give praise to God as a
- community of believers...
- personally invite someone to church...
- and kick-off a new Sunday school season.

**INVITE A FRIEND...A MEMBER YOU'VE MISSED...
OR A NEIGHBOR...**

Please plan to stay after the service for a time of
refreshments and fellowship.



August 25th, 2024

9:00AM

**Special Music by
Reading A cappella Voices**

**A New Sermon Series:
PLUGGED IN
Week #3**

Plugged in for Others

Worship services are also available
via livestream from our home page
at www.calvaryumcmohnton.org or
click below.

**SUNDAY LIVESTREAM
CTRL + CLICK HERE**

Plugged Into Jesus

8/18/24 Sermon by Pastor Nova; Scripture: Ephesians 3:14-21
Plugged in for Strength, Plugged in for Love, Plugged in for Fulfillment

Plugged In means:

1. **Informed or Involved:** Figuratively, it means being well-informed, connected, or involved in a particular group, community, or activity. For example, "She's really plugged into the local music scene," meaning she is well-connected and aware of what's happening in that area.
2. **Engaged or Integrated:** It can also refer to being actively engaged or integrated into a system or process. For example, "He's plugged into the company's workflow," meaning he is actively participating in and contributing to the company's operations.

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The IGNITE Youth Conference will be held Oct. 11-13 at the New Jersey Wildwood Convention Center. The deadline to register any 6th-12th grader is September 8th. Justin Thomas, our new Director of Children and Youth Ministries, is making the arrangements for interested youth to attend. The cost is only \$65.00 (check payable to Calvary UMC) with IGNITE in the memo section.

Parents/Grandparents of youth: If you haven't already, please contact Justin (cell: 517-331-2665; or email: christened.calvmohn@gmail.com or jthomas.sitka@yahoo.com) ASAP if you have a youth interested in participating in this amazing annual event!

IGNITE is more than just a high-energy youth conference with powerful music and profound speakers. It's about a generation united and energized as young disciples of Jesus Christ. They are a generation, guided by dedicated adult leaders, who are becoming ready, willing and able to "Go into all the world" (Mark 16:15) and share their faith with others from the inside out.

To learn more,
go to:
2024 Youth IGNITE

LOOKING FOR Sunday School teachers for children (ages 4 yrs. – 5th grade) and youth (6th-12 grade). Please see Justin Thomas, Dir. Of Children & Youth Min., or call/text him: 517-331-2665.



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 26 – Aaron Dearstyne
800 Golden Dr., Apt. C4
Blandon, PA 19510
- 29 - Morgan MacMahon
702 Sycamore Rd.
Mohnton, PA 19540
- 31 – Samantha Wager
122 Hemlock Rd.
Reading, PA 19607

Upcoming

**Last Summer
Worship @ 9AM on
Sunday, Sept. 1st.
Communion**

RALLY DAY!
**Sunday, Sept. 8th @
10:30AM
11:30AM Luncheon**

Sunday, Sept. 15th
8AM Praise service
9AM Sunday school for
all ages begins:
9:00AM Adult class
9:15AM children &
youth
10:30AM ~
Traditional Service



After many years of dedicated service, Bob and Joann Werner are stepping aside as the "unofficial" liaison between Calvary United Method Church and SAFE BERKS of Reading. I have agreed to lead our congregation's efforts to support this important cause in our community. In the coming weeks you will receive more information on several upcoming events and the opportunities to serve. In the meantime, I want to pass along this request from Mindy McIntosh, the Director of Development at SAFE BERKS.

"I think our biggest needs right now are still pillows, twin size sheet sets, size 5 and 6 diapers, and misc gift cards for grocery stores, gas, Walmart or Amazon. We give these out to survivors as needed."

Items may be placed on the back counter at the end of the main hallway, designated with a sign for SAFE BERKS. I will be checking for donations and delivering on a regular basis. Your contributions are greatly needed and appreciated. Thank you!

Diane Anderson

The General

Chaplain Kenneth E. Dearstyne, Sr.

I don't suppose many who attended the general's staff meetings knew the source of the words he used to close every one. He was famous for the brevity of those weekly get-togethers. They rarely lasted more than thirty minutes. They always began with a brief invocation and, at the end, the general would stand and say those familiar words, "Well, gentlemen, let's press on." Of course, they were the words of the Apostle, Paul, in his letter to the church at Philippi (3:12 & 13). It is a letter of encouragement written from a Roman prison. After expressing his own unshakable faith, in circumstances that ultimately led to his death, Paul says these words, "...One thing I do, forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize..."

The general knew, full well, the origin of the words and their context. He was a quiet Christian, not one to force his religious belief on others. He didn't "talk the talk", he "walked the walk".

If I used his first name in this story, it would be easy to find his biography with your computer. I doubt that there has ever been a senior Air Force officer with that name. The full-page biography I found gives an amazing record of achievement. He flew hundreds of combat missions over Korea, Vietnam and Laos, was a test pilot in the development of many aircraft and flew 18,000 hours in 68 different types and models of Air Force planes. He had a long record of command assignments, retiring as Major General and Deputy Director of Strategic Mobility under the Joint Chiefs of Staff in the Pentagon.

I knew him as a friend and mentor who insisted that, in privacy, I address him using his first name, the only general I ever knew to make such a request.

After serving with the general for a short time, he set up a schedule for us to meet informally once a week. Since the chaplain is the designated morale officer on base, he wanted to know if, during the week, I had recognized anything that might need his attention. I well remember one such problem. As was the custom on many military bases at that time, Friday "Happy Hours" at the officer and NCO clubs concluded every week and, at our base, there had been an increasing number of DUI arrests not far from the front gate. The final straw was a three-car crash in which two young officers and a civilian were killed. It was not a popular cause, but the general took the lead, personally addressing the issue at mandatory general assemblies. On his orders, the clubs on base began monitoring and controlling alcohol consumption. ~ 3 ~

Personnel were held responsible for their conduct. Military police stopped drivers at the gate if they appeared too impaired to drive and designated drivers were made available. In days, the problem was solved.

No concern was too small for his consideration. If a family was financially distressed, a spouse or child seriously ill or a situation in one of the on base shops with a problem of unfair or discriminatory treatment, the general would quietly refer the problem to the appropriate service on base or take care of it himself.

His family always attended chapel. He taught a class of teenagers in Sunday school; his wife sang in the choir, and the children were active in youth group. They all "walked the walk".

In the Smokey Mountains where he was raised, he had been a member of a small church congregation. One evening, we talked about the little church and what it had meant to him in his early years. "Ken", he said, "After I retire, I would like to pastor a small church just like that."

We served together for several years, I retired, and he went on to higher levels of responsibility and retired in 1985. As often happens, we lost contact and followed different paths, but I have often wondered if he realized his dream. If he did, he would have been following in the footsteps of a British soldier, Capt. Thomas Webb, who, in the years before the American Revolution, established many church congregations throughout the American colonies. Dressed in his regimental uniform, he would enter a pulpit and deliver a sermon in the tradition of John Wesley in England, who had been responsible for his conversion.

It was with sadness that I learned of the general's death in 2004. I hope that he was able to live his dream.



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When someone says they are "plugged into Jesus," they are using a metaphor to describe a **deep, personal connection with Jesus Christ**. This phrase suggests that the person is spiritually **connected to Jesus in a way that they draw strength, guidance, and inspiration from Him**, much like how an electrical device draws power when plugged into a power source.

Being "plugged into Jesus" can also imply that the person is actively living their faith, staying close to Jesus through

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prayer, worship, reading the Bible, and following His teachings. It's about maintaining a constant, life-giving relationship with Him, which empowers them to live out their faith in everyday life.

In John 15:5, Jesus says, *"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me, you can do nothing."*

Today, we are reminded of the incredible gift of being connected to God the Father through Jesus Christ. In a world where connections often feel fleeting and unstable, the connection we have in Jesus is unshakeable, transformative, and life-giving. Today, we will explore what it means to be "Plugged into Jesus" and how this connection empowers us in our daily walk of faith.

Why do we plug in, and how can it help our daily faith journey?

1: Plugged In for Strength (Verses 14-16) ¹⁴ *For this reason I kneel before the Father,* ¹⁵ *from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name.* ¹⁶ *I pray that out of his glorious riches, he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being.* Paul begins his prayer by kneeling before the Father, through Jesus Christ, acknowledging the source of all life and strength. He prays that out of God's glorious riches, we may be strengthened with power through His Spirit in our inner being.

When we are plugged into Jesus, we are connected to an endless supply of strength. This strength is not just physical but spiritual, empowering us to withstand the trials and challenges of life. It's a strength that sustains us from within, allowing us to persevere, to stand firm in our faith, and to live out the calling that God has placed on our lives.

2: Plugged In for Love (Verses 17-19) ¹⁷ *so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love,* ¹⁸ *may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ,* ¹⁹ *and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.*

Paul continues by praying that Christ may dwell in our hearts through faith and that we may be rooted and established in love. He prays for us to grasp the vastness of Christ's love—its width, length, height, and depth—a love that surpasses knowledge.

Being plugged into Jesus means being deeply rooted in His love. This love is the foundation of our faith, a love that not only fills us but overflows into the lives of others. When we understand and experience this love, we are

empowered to love others selflessly and unconditionally, reflecting the love of Christ in our actions, words, and attitudes.

3: Plugged In for Fulfillment (Verses 19-21) ²⁰ *Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us,* ²¹ *to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen.*

Finally, Paul prays that we may be filled to the measure of all God's fullness. He concludes with a powerful doxology, proclaiming that God is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us. The themes are connection, strength, love, and the immeasurable blessings that come from being plugged into Jesus!

When we are plugged into Jesus, we are not only filled but fulfilled. God's power working in us brings about a life that is full of purpose, meaning, and joy. It is a life that goes beyond our wildest dreams and expectations because it is a life lived in the fullness of God's presence and purpose.

We will have peace, be satisfied, contented and happy with joyful spirit because if we have Jesus, we have everything and all that we need. JESUS is ENOUGH.

Let us declare Jesus to people whom we meet, to people who need peace, comfort, and healing. Let us share the love of Jesus and speak Jesus to those who are captive by addiction and depression, to those who feel anxious, fearful, and hopeless, and to people who are living and yet do not have life.

As we reflect on what it means to be plugged into Jesus, let us remember that it is through this divine connection that we find strength, are rooted in love, and experience the fullness of life that God intends for us. Let us remain plugged into Him, trusting that His power is at work within us and that He is able to do more than we can ever imagine. LET US SPEAK JESUS. In the name of the Father, the son and the Holy Spirit, Amen.



From the book, *Holy Moments: A Handbook for the Rest of Your Life* by Matthew Kelly:

A Holy Moment is a single moment in which you open yourself to God. You make yourself available to Him. You set aside personal preference and self-interest, and for one moment you do what you prayerfully believe God is calling you to do.

↓ Rally Day is Sunday, Sept. 8th ↓
10:30 AM worship with luncheon

Volunteers are still needed to provide the menu items. Please **contact Sara Erb** at sara@lhbridalrack.com or call/text her at 484-663-1548. Please respond as soon as possible.

Menu: Sandwiches, chips, cold side salads, and cookies

Sandwiches – I would like you to make 10 sandwiches from a loaf of bread (white, wheat, oat or gluten free) and slice them in half. Ham and cheese, turkey and cheese, or roast beef and cheese, tuna, chicken salad as suggestions. NO Condiments on the bread.

→ 4 more people to donate 10 sandwiches each.

→ 4 dozen cookies; homemade is fine.

→ Cold side salads: 4 more donations.



This beautiful card was hand painted by Karen Wade and sent to Pastor Nova with a note inside. Karen is a former member of Calvary who has been struggling with ongoing health issues. Prayers appreciated!

Mifflin Community Clothing Giveaway

@ Zion EC Church, Corner of East Summit Street &
N. Church Street, Mohnton, Pa. 19540

"And my God will meet all your needs according to his
glorious riches in Christ Jesus." Phil. 4:19

Drop Off Dates & Time:

Tuesday, Sept. 24, 2024 from 9 AM to 1 PM;

Wednesday, Sept. 25, 2024 from 9 AM to 1 PM;

Thursday, Sept. 26, 2024 from 9 AM to 7 PM.

(**NO** DROP OFF after Thursday)

PLEASE, **ONLY** CLEAN, GENTLY USED CLOTHING WILL BE
ACCEPTED.

Giveaway Dates & Time:

Friday, Sept. 27, 2024 from 9 AM to 7 PM;

Saturday, Sept. 28, 2024 from 8 AM to 12 Noon.

NO TVs, APPLIANCES, FURNITURE, COMPUTERS,
COPIERS, HOUSEHOLD GOODS, TOYS, BOOKS, CDs or
DVDs WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Zion E.C. Church is not responsible for lost or stolen items

If you'd like to get caught up on all that's been going on in the Eastern PA and Greater New Jersey Conferences, the summer newsletter is available online at Summer NewSpirit Magazine.



Note

from the Office