



1 W. Wyomissing Ave., Mohnton, PA 19540

Sept. 29th, 2024 – Oct. 5th, 2024

www.calvaryumcmohnton.org

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL for all ages

9:15AM-10:15AM

Adult class—Meeting in the Chapel & via ZOOM

Children & Youth—Meeting in the Social Hall

5 yr. olds — 5th Grade ~ 6th – 12th Grade & up



September 29th, 2024

9:15AM ~ Sunday school

10:30AM ~ Traditional Service

Sermon Series:

What to Do

When You Don't Know What to Do

Celebrating God's Grace

Pastor Nova Preaching

**SUNDAY LIVESTREAM
CTRL + CLICK HERE**



7:00 PM in the Music Room

Senior Choir Rehearsals:

OCTOBER 23rd

NOVEMBER 6th & 20th

All who would like to sing praise to God to enhance our worship experiences are welcome to be a choir member!

Questions? Call Jim Adams at 484-332-1332 or Julie McGettrick at 603-540-3215.

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Lower Level/Social Hall

Big Faith is a well-rounded curriculum “where fun meets adventure, imagination, and trusted theology for a special connection to heart and home”. *Big Faith* will guide your children in discovering, developing, and practicing faith within a supportive community. Each session includes storytelling, videos, hands-on activities, and reflections to cultivate faith as an integral part of everyday life.

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to teach or assist (flexible scheduling) please contact Justin Thomas at 517-331-2665 or jthomas.sitka@yahoo.com or christianed,calvmohn@gmail.com

The Adult Sunday school class gathers for bible study in the Chapel (& via Zoom). The *NIV Standard Bible Commentary* will be used to facilitate discussion around biblical stories/verses that focus on worshipping in a covenant community. The key areas that will be presented in next several months will be:

- Biblical Leaders Set a Worship Example (Hezekiah, Josiah, Moses & Miriam)
- Songs of the Old Testament
- Psalms of Thanksgiving & Praise

Dave Svetz is guiding the weekly discussions. We are, of course, praying that Michelle Daniels will soon regain her health and also be a study leader.

If you are unable to attend in person, you may join the group using the Worship Zoom link, which is available on Calvary's website homepage under the Worship tab. Or click in the following: [Adult Sunday school](#).

Stewardship Update a/k/a P.R.I.S.M. **People Representing Inspired Spiritual Movement)**

In an effort to keep our congregation informed about finances within Calvary church we would like to provide this update.

Parsonage Project: The parsonage attic insulation installation has been completed.

Church Budget:

As of August 31st, we are currently 11% behind in the giving needed (YTD) to meet our budget requirements. As often happens, we experienced a downturn financially during the summer months, so, our current situation is still a bit concerning. We are initiating a voluntary stewardship experiment to help solve the problem.

SUNNY DAY FUND UPDATE

Hopefully by now, everyone knows about the P.R.I.S.M. team's Sunny Day Fund. If not, here's a quick review. From now until Dec 1, (or longer if you prefer) keep track of the money you spend just to treat yourself i.e. going out to eat, going to the movies, vacationing, etc. Set aside 10% as thanksgiving for your good fortune and bring that amount to church on Dec 1, the Sunday after Thanksgiving. We are hoping for a high degree of congregational participation to help us meet our 2024 budget needs, so we don't have to dip into our rainy-day savings.

The 10% may not seem like a lot, but Joann and I have been keeping track since September 1 and our current SDF balance is \$152! The P.R.I.S.M. team hopes you accept our invitation to not only celebrate life but also the One who makes it possible.

~Bob Werner
P.R.I.S.M. Chairman



Safe Berks 23rd Annual Silent Witness March & Dedication



Monday, October 14, 2024

11 a.m. – Gather at Safe Berks, 255 Chestnut St., Reading

**11:15 a.m. – Silent March to The Miller Center for the Arts-
Reading Area Community College (RACC)**

Noon: Dedication Ceremony at RACC, followed by lunch

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

There are several ways our congregation can support this SAFE BERKS event, and they are all completely free! The walk and luncheon are open to the public. You may choose to participate in the entire event or, depending on your time and abilities, attend either the walk or the dedication/lunch portion.

No reservations are required, but it is helpful to their planning if we give them an idea of how many people will be attending the luncheon. I am hoping to be able to attend both portions of the event and encourage each and every one of you to prayerfully consider joining a Calvary team to show our community support.

No matter what you decide, everyone can offer their prayers for the success of this event and for an end to the tragedy of domestic violence homicide. For further information, questions and to express an interest in participating, please contact Diane Anderson @ 484-269-7599 or e-mail dkanderson52@live.com



CURRENT NEEDS FOR SAFE BERKS

Pillows, twin size sheet sets, size 5 and 6 diapers, and misc. gift cards for grocery stores, gas, Walmart or Amazon.

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!



**The Mohnton Community Thanksgiving
Eve worship service will be hosted by
Calvary UMC on MONDAY, November
25th, at 7PM.**



MEETING TIME: 4PM – 5PM

September Schedule – Pizza will be provided

Sunday September 29, 2024- Kids Club (1st – 5th grade)

Children Club and Youth Group schedule starting October 1

1st and 3rd Sundays will be children.

2nd and 4th Sundays will be Youth Group

(Schedule is subject to change.)



"Let's Talk About It" Bible Study/Life Group

Join us every Thursday at 9:30AM, starting October 3rd, for an engaging and open discussion led by Pastor Nova. Whether you're new to the Bible or have years of experience, this group offers a welcoming space to explore Scripture and share life experiences with honesty and without fear of judgment. Together, we'll grow in faith and understanding. We'll meet in the chapel, so come as you are, ready for meaningful, open-hearted conversations and spiritual growth.

Prayer Warrior's Night

Join us on the 1st Thursday of every month at 7pm, starting October 3rd, for an evening of powerful, faith-filled prayer. Led by Pastor Nova, this gathering is a time to come together as a community to lift up our needs, stand against spiritual battles, and seek God's guidance and strength. Whether you're seasoned in prayer or just beginning, all are welcome to unite in intercession and experience the power of prayer together. We meet in the chapel—come ready to pray boldly!



30 – Matt Doran
206 McClellan St.
Reading, PA 19611



01 – Marlene Burkard
2611 Cumberland Ave.
Reading, PA 19606

02 - Tyler Brumbach
18 Bare Avenue
Reading, PA 19607

03 – Jerry Kinsel
20 Matthew Dr.
Sinking Spring, PA 19608

Be prepared ... to wait

My husband always keeps a book handy. When he picks up our kids or heads to an appointment, a current title is tucked securely under his arm. He expects to wait — and is prepared to do so. What could have been a frustrating delay turns into extra time to delve further into the story.

I, on the other hand, get caught off-guard if a doctor runs late or a meeting runs long. As the minutes tick by, my down time gets wasted — unless I quietly reflect on God's goodness, return an email, take a short walk or chat with the person next to me.

"Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord," says Psalm 27:14 (NIV). That's an important reminder as Advent nears. Scripture advises us to use our waiting time wisely, preparing for God and drawing closer to him. What will you do while you wait for Jesus?

~Janna Firestone

[www.churchart.com]

DAVE

by Chaplain Kenneth E. Dearstyne, Sr.

He was born during World War II while his father was serving as a Marine in the Pacific. He had been too young to remember his mother's grief when his father's body was returned to be buried in a military cemetery in 1946, but he was never allowed to forget his father's military service. His mother had kept a journal during the war, documenting her husband's assignments. She kept his letters, displayed his medals and had scores of photos. To put it mildly, he grew up in his father's shadow.

He never really forgave his mother when she remarried. To his young mind, it was a betrayal of his hero. His stepfather had been a good man who tried very hard to relate to the boy, but he was never able to penetrate the wall of isolation.

He did well in high school, graduating near the top of his class, but there was no money for college. His fallback option was the Marine Corps. He completed boot camp and tech school just in time for the Vietnam War.

During the early Marine years, he fell in love and entered the first of two disastrous marriages. Before he left for his first deployment to "Nam", his wife was pregnant. A boy would be born before he returned and the marriage would end in less than two years. Another marriage several years later repeated the same violent history. His Marine career ended abruptly after repeated problems with discipline. He was fortunate to receive an honorable discharge.

When I met him on our admissions ward, he was an angry, belligerent, rebellious, young man who wanted nothing to do with anyone wearing a white collar. He called us "Holy Joes".

He arrived early in the summer and, since he was not psychotic, he was soon transferred to an open ward. Frequently, I saw him walking alone on the campus. One day, he was sitting on a bench near our new chapel, and I asked if I could sit down. Neither of us spoke for several minutes and then, to my surprise, he said, "I'm sorry for the way I greeted you a few weeks ago." We talked for quite a while that day and he told me much of what I have written in the early paragraphs of this story.

It took time, but it was the beginning of a friendship. He began to stop by the office every day or two. I soon discovered that behind the angry façade that pushed

people away was a fatherless boy, ashamed of his failures as a husband and a Marine. He needed to remove the bitter wall of resentment and distrust and find ways to connect with people.

He began, tentatively at first, to attend a small group that met in the chapel on Tuesday evening after an informal service conducted, in part, by volunteers. Slowly at first, he came from behind his defensive wall and began to participate in the discussion. He discovered that other vets had stories similar to his own. After a few weeks, I began to see him walking and talking with others on campus.

One day in my office he said, "Chap, if you are sure the roof won't fall on me, I think I would like to come to chapel this Sunday." And he did.

During the remainder of his hospital stay, we had frequent serious discussions. He questioned the injustices in the world, war, violence, poverty, and hypocrisy. I know that all of his questions did not find answers, but he came out of his shell and the wall of isolation came down.

In late summer of the next year, I was present when he met with the staff prior to discharge. With help from the social worker, he was registered at a community college and would receive funds under the G.I. Bill. All his issues were not resolved. There were scars that might never heal, but he had developed confidence in himself and the ability to reach out to others. Only a little of the wall of isolation remained. To those of us present at the staff meeting, he again seemed ready to face the world.

Later that day, when I returned to the chapel, my secretary told me that something had been left on my desk. More than forty years later, I still have that gift. In fact, it motivated this story. It is a hand tooled leather Bible cover. On the front are a cross and my initials. On the back are hands held as though in prayer. But, inside the cover are the words that prompted me to write this story. They are: "To the best friend I ever had", Dave.

