



1 W. Wyomissing Ave., Mohnton, PA 19540

February 23- March 1, 2026

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

[www.calvaryumcmohnton.org](http://www.calvaryumcmohnton.org)

Office Hours- Mon.-Thur. 9-2

610-777-8441

[Administrator.calvmohn@comcast.net](mailto:Administrator.calvmohn@comcast.net)

## BLESSED BONDS

### Next Lunch Dates

Wednesday, March 11,  
11:30 AM at State Hill  
Restaurant in  
Wyomissing.

Reach out to Linda Chandler  
with any questions.

**ALL ARE INVITED!**



24 – Susan Wahl  
25 – Rich Dodson  
26 – Hank Shannon  
27 – John Gingrich  
27 – Mark Webster  
28 – Dave Spangler  
29 – Carrie Diedrich

### March 1, 2026

9:15AM ~ Sunday School

10:30AM ~

Communion/Traditional Service

Pastor Nova, preaching



In Paul's second letter to the Corinthians, he uses the church at Macedonia as an example citing their amazing financial stewardship, contributing beyond their means without Paul's prodding, but rather as a response to God's Grace and generosity in their lives. What a great example the church at Macedonia was to the Corinthians and can also be to us today.

Sometimes I dread approaching the lectern to introduce another stewardship project or even to update progress in our campaign. Churches always seem to stress tithing and offering our monetary gifts to the lord. Well guess what, I'm not doing that today! Following Paul's example and the example of the Macedonian church I am not asking for financial contributions but rather only updating our progress in the current capital campaign.

Many in our congregation have expressed their thanks for God's grace and generosity in their lives by contributing a total of \$95,381.75. Our original goal was set at \$100,000 so we currently are just \$4618.25 short of that ambitious figure. Remember, I'm not asking but just reminding that if you are thankful for receiving the grace of God in your lives, stewardship of your time, talents, and treasures are a great way to show your appreciation to God while helping Calvary continue effective ministry in our Christian community.

**-Bob Werner-**

# YOUTH NEWS

GROUP

**Thursday, February 26, 2026 –  
Winter Jam at Santander for  
older youth.**

**If you are interested in  
attending, please  
contact Justin Thomas.**



The link below will allow you to register for our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration on Saturday April 25<sup>th</sup> from 8:30am-10:00.

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/20th-anniversary-celebration-and-fundraiser>

Due to Stacey's resignation, we are starting a search for a regular full-time Director. If you know of anyone interested and qualified, please drop off to the church office during office hours or send a CONFIDENTIAL resume to the church ADMINISTRATOR and cover letter to

Administrator.calvmohn@comcast.net.

Minimum qualifications are an associate degree and related field experience running an early learning center. The Job Description has been reviewed and in final stages of completion. The hiring team will be back in touch once reviewing all resumes and applications of interest and available to answer any questions.

We are deeply grateful for your continued prayers and support. For 50 years, Calvary Care has been a vital, Christ-centered ministry of this church, touching countless lives. We trust that God will continue to guide us with unity, wisdom, and faithfulness in the days ahead. We will keep you informed as more information becomes available.

Thank you, and God bless. Susan Gross

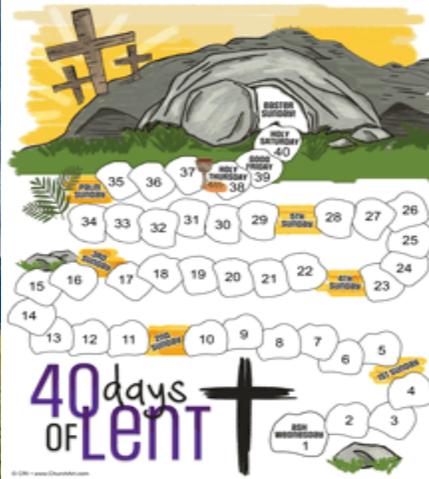
## **Attention Veterans:**

**I am writing to inform you that I am a Veteran Service Officer employed with the VFW. I am employed as Part Time and I usually help veterans over the phone. I can help veterans get enrolled in VA HealthCare, help with VA benefits and help spouses of a deceased veteran with VA benefits. I can also help with explaining burial benefits and paperwork. I can possibly help a veteran receive an increase in their VA rating if they need to submit additional disabilities and also veterans who never applied for VA benefits.**

**Liz Graybill**

**Please contact me at  
[lizgraybill@yahoo.com](mailto:lizgraybill@yahoo.com) or 484-577-6898**

**Veterans Social Center  
645 North 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Reading, PA 19601**



## “How is it with your soul today?”

This simple question invites us to pause, to breathe, and to become aware of God’s presence within us. Before we walk, before we speak, before we pray for others, we gently ask ourselves how we truly are in spirit, mind, and heart. It is an invitation not to judgment, but to honesty—bringing our joys, worries, hopes, and burdens before the Lord who already knows us and lovingly walks with us.

Please join us for our 40-Day Lenten Bible Study Journey as we prepare our hearts for Easter together. We will meet at 6:00 PM. During these 40 days, we will walk together through the devotional book “Journey to the Cross” by Paul David Tripp. This study will help us slow down, reflect on Christ’s sacrifice, examine our hearts, and grow spiritually as individuals and as a church family. Our prayer for this season is renewal, deeper faith, and spiritual growth—for our congregation and for our personal lives as well.

### Daily Participation Option – In-Person and Zoom Bible Study

Each day, you are invited to join the daily in-person and Zoom meeting where we will pray together, have a designated reader to share the day’s devotional reading from *Journey to the Cross*, and have a discussion and sharing.

### Morning Prayer Walk – 9:00 AM Daily

We will also gather every morning at 9:00 AM at the church for a Prayer Walk (not on Sundays). Weather permitting, we will walk outdoors around the community. In case of inclement weather, we will remain inside the church and continue our time of prayer there. As part of our prayer journey, we are planning Jericho Prayer Walks around key places in our community, including Borough Hall, the YMCA, the Police Department, the Fire Department, Calvary Care Preschool, the church vicinity, and other nearby establishments. All are welcome to join as we walk, pray, and lift up our church and community together. We will begin with a short prayer and a brief devotional reflection, then we may walk around the church grounds, around Mohnton, or remain seated in quiet prayer inside the sanctuary. This is a gentle and meaningful way to center our hearts daily during Lent.

Whether you join daily or occasionally, we would be blessed to walk this journey with you. Friends, don’t think. **JUST DO IT!** Be The Light! Ignite! **Shalom, Pastor Nova**

# In Loving MEMORY



*December 31, 1938- February 4, 2026*

Marianna Wonder Wolfe, born December 31, 1938, in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, was the daughter of J. Homer Wonder and S. Kathaleen Miller Wonder. She lived a life defined by service, faith, leadership, and compassion for others. A proud graduate of Johnstown High School, Class of 1956, she continued her education at Albright College, earning a Bachelor of Science in Home Economics in 1960. That same year, on August 27, 1960, she married Dr. Charles James Wolf, Jr. They shared 45 devoted years of marriage until his passing on April 19, 2006. She later earned her Master of Professional Studies in Social Science from The Pennsylvania State University in 1986, further strengthening her lifelong commitment to helping others. Her professional life reflected her passion for improving lives and advocating for those in need. She served as a Therapeutic Dietician at Temple University Hospital in Philadelphia, an Institution Teacher at Willowbrook State School in Staten Island, New York, and a teacher at Dillingham High School in Alaska. She dedicated much of her career to public service and mental health advocacy, serving as Executive Director of Threshold of Berks County, Coordinator of Special Services for the Berks County Mental Health/Mental Retardation Program, Case Manager at the Family Guidance Center, Director of Service Access & Management (SAM), and ultimately Administrator of the Berks County Mental Health/Mental Retardation Program, retiring on December 31, 1998. She also worked as a Realtor Associate with Conrad & Flickinger in Wyomissing. Her leadership extended into numerous professional and civic organizations. She served on boards and committees including the Mental Health/Mental Retardation Program Administrators Association of Pennsylvania, Service Access & Management, Visiting Nurses Association of Berks County, and the YWCA of Berks County. She co-chaired important state committees and contributed her expertise to advancing mental health services across Pennsylvania. A woman of deep and abiding faith, she was a devoted member of Calvary United Methodist Church in Mohnton, Pennsylvania. Her involvement included serving as a Stephen Minister, choir member, Administrative Board member, Staff/Parish Relations Committee member, LIFE Group participant, and mission volunteer. She participated in multiple mission trips to India with the Good Shepherd Mission and to Mississippi following Hurricane Katrina. She was also active with the Good Shepherd Mission Foundation and AGAPE Ministry. Her many contributions were recognized by her community, including honors from Goodwill Industries, KidsPeace, and the American Business Women's Association, which named her Business Woman of the Year in 1997. She was also featured in the Reading Eagle's "20 Questions." She is survived by her brother, Dr. Jay H. Wonder (Janet); her nephew, Dr. Jeffrey S. Wonder (Maria); her nieces, Jamie Lynn Wonder Piersol (Michael), Dr. Jill Wonder Colson (Dr. Chad), and Linda Chavey; and her godson, Christopher D. Schearer (Colleen), along with extended family, friends, colleagues, and countless individuals whose lives were touched by her kindness, leadership, and service

**Nova Vitug- Thomas February 15, 2026**

**Sermon: Glory Revealed In The Waiting Exodus 24:12-18; Matthew 17:1-9**



There was a commercial many years ago with a simple tagline: “We hate to wait.” Most of us don’t even remember what it was advertising, but we remember the line—because it is true. We hate to wait. As a culture, as a people, as individuals... we do not like waiting. Patience may be on the list of virtues, but it is not one we cling to very well. We want fast food. Fast internet. Fast replies to texts and emails. Fast healing. Fast miracles. Waiting feels like

wasted time. But when we open Scripture, we quickly discover something surprising: God is rarely in a hurry. In our Exodus reading, nothing is rushed about this encounter with God’s glory. God calls Moses up the mountain. Moses goes. And then... he waits. Six days in the cloud before God speaks. Six days of silence. Six days of wondering. Six days of obscurity. And then forty days and forty nights more. The people wait. The elders wait. Everyone waits. And we know what kind of trouble came from that waiting. Impatience led to confusion. Confusion led to a golden calf. When people cannot see clearly, they often try to create their own certainty— their own solution, their own god, their own timeline.

**WHEN WE DON'T WAIT FOR GOD, WE MAKE MISTAKES!**

Then we come to the Gospel of Matthew, and it begins with these words: “Six days later...” Six days after Peter had spoken out of turn. Six days after he probably wished he could rewind the moment. Imagine those days—awkward, quiet, replaying everything in his mind. Waiting, but unsure what comes next. We know that feeling, don’t we? When we make a mistake... when we are unsure where we stand... and we just wait, hoping things will be okay again. Then Jesus calls Peter, James, and John up the mountain. And something amazing happens. Jesus shines with light. Moses and Elijah appear. For a moment, heaven feels very close. And what does Peter do? He starts talking. He wants to build tents— to hold onto the moment and make it stay. But before he finishes, a voice comes from a cloud: “This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him.” Notice this—the voice comes from a cloud, not a clear sky. Clouds mean God is near, but we cannot see everything clearly. Isn’t that how life feels sometimes? A diagnosis. A loss. An unanswered prayer. We know God is there, but everything feels cloudy. I was reminded of this during my trip to the Philippines— 14 hours on a plane,

4-hour layover, then another 6-hour flight. You cannot rush it. You simply sit... and trust you are still moving, trusting you will safely reach your destination. And when you finally arrive— seeing loved ones, hearing familiar voices— the waiting suddenly makes sense. The waiting was not wasted. It was part of the journey. That is how it is with God. Sometimes we are in a spiritual layover asking, “God, are we there yet?” But even when we feel still, God is still moving us forward. And what comes from the cloud? Not a long speech. Just two simple things: A reminder of love. An invitation to listen. Have you heard about the story of the Chinese Bamboo? There is a well-known story about the Chinese Bamboo tree. When a farmer plants the seed, nothing seems to happen for a long time. He waters it every day. He fertilizes the soil. He protects the ground where it is planted. But for the first year—nothing breaks through the surface. The second year—still nothing. The third year—no visible growth. The fourth year—still just soil. Anyone passing by might think, “That seed is dead. The effort is wasted.” But the farmer keeps watering. Keeps tending. Keeps trusting. Then, sometime during the fifth year, something remarkable happens. A small shoot appears above the ground... and within just a few weeks, the bamboo can grow up to 80–90 feet tall. The question is often asked: Did the bamboo grow 90 feet in a few weeks? Or did it grow for five years? The truth is—it was growing the whole time. It was developing a strong root system underground, roots deep enough to support the height that was



coming. If it had grown tall too soon, it would have fallen over. The years that looked like nothing were actually years of preparation. And that is often how God works in our lives. There are seasons when we pray and do not see change. We serve and do not see results. We wait and wonder if anything is happening at all. But beneath the surface, God is growing roots— roots of faith, roots of patience, roots of character, roots strong enough to hold the blessings that are coming. Waiting is not wasted time. Sometimes, it is the season where God is preparing us for growth we could not yet sustain. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.