1 W. Wyomissing Ave., Mohnton, PA 19540

November 16-30, 2026

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

www.calvaryumcmohnton.org
Office Hours- Mon.-Thur. 9-2
610-777-8441
Administrator.calvmohn@comcast.net



FROM THE PASTOR

The Grace We Fail to Recognize
Scripture: Luke 17:11–19

As we approach Thanksgiving, we are reminded of an important truth: We are often very good at recognizing what is missing in our lives, but not always as good at recognizing the blessings we have already received. We notice our difficulties, disappointments, and unanswered prayers, yet we sometimes overlook the quiet ways God's grace is at work in our daily lives. The simple blessings of waking up each morning, sharing a meal, or spending time with loved ones can easily become things we take for granted.

In Luke 17:11–19, we encounter ten men suffering from leprosy who cried out to Jesus for mercy. Jesus instructed them to go and show themselves to the priests. Remarkably, they were not healed immediately. Rather, as they obeyed Jesus and began their journey, they were made clean. Their experience reminds us that God's grace often comes before we recognize it. Sometimes we must continue walking in faith before we discover how God has been working in our lives.

All ten men received healing, but only one returned to Jesus, praising God and giving thanks. Interestingly, he was a Samaritan, someone considered an outsider by many in that society. While all ten experienced the blessing of healing, only one returned to acknowledge the Giver of that blessing. His response teaches us that true gratitude begins when we recognize the source of our blessings.

In our Methodist tradition, John Wesley emphasized God's prevenient grace—the grace that goes before us, working in our lives even before we are aware of it. God's grace is not something we earn or deserve. It is God's loving initiative toward us, inviting us into a deeper relationship with Him.
When the grateful man returned, Jesus told him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well." All ten experienced physical healing, but the one who returned experienced something deeper—a restoration that touched his relationship with God. Gratitude is more than expressing appreciation; it draws us closer to God and transforms the way we live.

This does not mean that gratitude removes life's difficulties. Rather, even in times of uncertainty, suffering, or disappointment, we can recognize God's sustaining presence. As the Apostle Paul reminds us, we are called to "give thanks in all circumstances" (1 Thessalonians 5:18). We may not always understand why certain things happen, but we can trust that God's love remains constant. Sometimes the greatest blessing is simply knowing that we do not walk through life's challenges alone.

As Thanksgiving approaches, let us ask ourselves: Are we among the nine who received God's blessings and continued on their way, or are we like the one who returned to give thanks?

May we learn to recognize God's grace in ordinary moments, respond with grateful hearts, and allow our gratitude to become a way of life—expressed through our love, kindness, and service to others.



BLESSED BONDS
Wednesday, December 9th, 11:30 AM
Austin's in Wyomissing

SEND BILL A CARD!
new address
William Ruth, Jr
Phoebe Berks Village Commons
Apt #93
1 Reading Drive
Wernersville, PA 19565

Preaching Schedule

10:30AM ~ WORSHIP

November 22- Pastor Jong Kim

November 22- Community Service 4PM

November 29- Pastor Jong Kim
First Sunday of Advent

NOVEMBER ATTENDANCE
includes visitors & streaming
November 1- X *people*
November 8- 72 *people*

CHURCH SERVICES AND HOURS
1ST SUNDAYS- COMMUNION SUNDAY
ALL SUNDAYS 10:30 AM - WORSHIP SERVICES
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:15 AM ADULT (September-May)
3RD SATURDAY, 9-11 AM – MIFFLIN FOOD PANTRY AT ZION
4TH SATURDAY 5-6:30 PM -DINNER CHURCH AT ZION

The Mohnton Community Thanksgiving Eve worship service will be hosted by Zion's ECC on SUNDAY, November 22ⁿ 4:00 PM.



Fall Bible Study

New Bible Fellowship:
Our Journey of Walking with Jesus
You are warmly invited to join us for a new four-session Bible study, "Our Journey of Walking with Jesus," beginning Thursday, November 5. Following Jesus is a lifelong journey of faith, trust, and spiritual growth. The heart of this study is to share our personal faith journeys, reflecting on our experiences in light of Scripture and discovering how God's Word speaks to our lives. Through biblical reflection and open conversation, we will learn from one another, deepen our relationship with Christ, and encourage one another along the way. All are welcome!
Dates: Thursdays, November 5, 12, 19, and December 3 (no meeting on Thanksgiving Day) at 6 PM.
Zoom is available for this study.

'RECREATIONAL BOWLERS WANTED ! JOIN US TUESDAY EVENINGS FROM NOVEMBER THRU APRIL AT 'LUCKY STRIKE BOWLING LANES' (FORMERLY BERKS LANES) FOR 3 GAMES OF 'JUST-FOR FUN' BOWLING. $16.50 INCLUDES BALL AND SHOES IF NEEDED. TWO LANES CAN ACCOMMODATE UP TO 10 BOWLERS. WE AVERAGE ABOUT 5. SHOW UP WHEN YOU CAN, OR LET US KNOW AHEAD IF POSSIBLE. OLDER TEENS AND ADULTS ONLY PLEASE. ALL SKILL LEVELS WELCOME.

FOR INFO, CONTACT BRUCE MORTON 484-794-0744



From the MUSIC DIRECTOR



Thanksgiving Community Service Choir
November 22, 2026
At Zion's ECC 4:00PM report at 3:30PM

Rehearsal- November 18th at CALVARY UMC 7:00PM

Are you seeing RED in Mohnton?

submitted by Bob Wagner

In your travels through Mohnton (and many other neighboring communities) have you ever wondered why many churches choose the color RED for their primary entry doors? I've discovered that red church doors have a long history in Christian tradition. Here are a few of the meanings I have uncovered regarding RED church doors

- **Red symbolizes the blood Jesus shed on the cross for the forgiveness of sins. It serves as a reminder of Christ's sacrifice and the salvation offered through Him.**
- **In some Christian traditions, red doors symbolize protection and sanctuary. They can remind worshippers of the Old Testament Passover, when the Israelites marked their doorposts with the blood of a lamb (Exodus 12:7).**
- **Historically, red doors in some churches indicated a place of sanctuary—a place where people could seek safety, shelter, and protection.**
- **Red doors can symbolize an open invitation to enter God's house, worship Him, and find fellowship with other believers.**

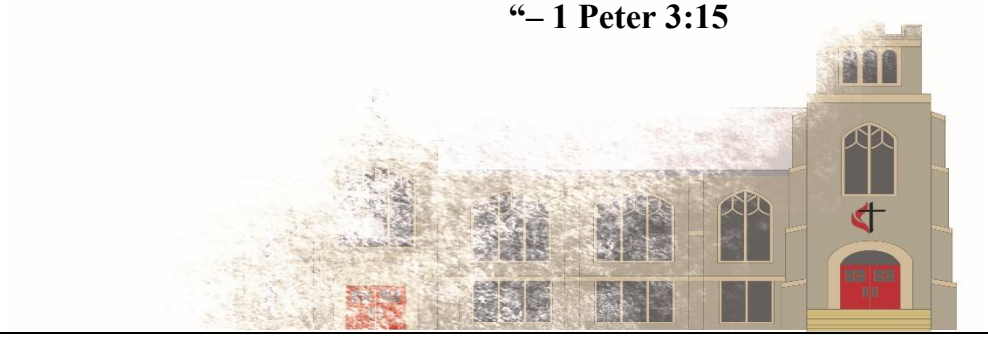
However, I was not able to find a biblical command that churches are required to paint their doors red. The color is a tradition whose meaning varies but it serves to remind us that we enter God's house through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

The tradition of red church doors is found across several Christian traditions, but red does not have one universally accepted meaning in Christianity. Its significance depends on the denomination, the congregation's history, and sometimes the architectural traditions of a particular region.

For some churches, red is deeply theological, representing the blood of Christ. For others, it represents the Holy Spirit, martyrdom, sanctuary, or simply a longstanding architectural custom.

Methodist churches have been known to use red doors, sometimes with several overlapping meanings including Christ's sacrificial love, the Holy Spirit's presence and its connections to Passover, Christ's blood, and sancRegardless of denomination, red church doors can communicate a beautiful Christian message. Outside the doors, people may experience hardship, grief, uncertainty, and struggles with faith. At the doors, the red color can remind them of Christ's sacrifice and God's promise of salvation. Inside the doors, they are invited into worship, fellowship, prayer, forgiveness, and spiritual renewal.

Remember: "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect. "– 1 Peter 3:15









REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

A Reverse Advent Calendar is where you pick up one item a day to donate to the FOOD MIINSTRY and put it in a box. Most Advent Calendars are comprised of a series of doors or windows to open one per day, revealing a small chocolate, a picture, or a little gift for each day. The Reverse Advent Calendar turns this tradition around. Instead of receiving a gift, you participate by donating and "Giving" an item each day to the food bank. These calendars were marketed to assist children in counting down the days until Christmas. Thank you for opening your heart and giving to families in need in your local community.

DECEMBER 1	BOX OF CEREAL
DECEMBER 2	PEANUT BUTTER
DECEMBER 3	YAMS CANNED
DECEMBER 4	SPAGHETTI SAUCE
DECEMBER 5	CAN OF FRUIT COCKTAIL MIXED FRUIT
DECEMBER 6	100% JUICE 64OZ. CONTAINER
DECEMBER 7	CAN OF SOUP
DECEMBER 8	CAN OF PINEAPPLE
DECEMBER 9	APPLESAUCE
DECEMBER 10	CAN OF PEACHES
DECEMBER 11	CAN OF RAVIOLI
DECEMBER 12	MAC AND CHEESE
DECEMBER 13	CAN OF MANDARIN ORANGES
DECEMBER 14	INSTANT POTAOES
DECEMBER 15	CAN OF MIXED VEGETABLES
DECEMBER 16	CAN OF PEAS
DECEMBER 17	CAN OF CARROTS
DECEMBER 18	CAN OF GREEN BEANS
DECEMBER 19	CAN OF KIDNEY BEANS
DECEMBER 20	CAN OF BAKED BEANS
DECEMBER 21	CANNED CHICKEN BREAST
DECEMBER 22	CANNED TUNA
DECEMBER 23	CAN OF DICED TOMATOES
DECEMBER 24	CAN OF PEARS

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING AND BEING A PART OF THIS PROJECT TO HELP BRIGHTEN SOMEONE ELSE'S CHRISTMAS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!

Special Christmas Gifts

A variety of gifts may be given in honor of or in memory of loved ones. Please indicate your choice(s) below.
Checks may be made payable to "*Calvary UMC*" with the *gift designation in the memo section.*
The dedications will be printed in the January 2027 *Calvary Connection* .

_____ A Poinsettia to adorn the sanctuary (**$13** each)

_____ Pastor's Discretionary Fund ($10) _____ Safe Berks ($10)

_____ GSM Christmas Program ($10) _____ Calvary UMC Music Program ($10)

NAME: _____Env. #_____
(if applicable)

IN HONOR OF _____

_____

IN MEMORY OF: _____

_____

Please mail your donation and dedication(s) to:
Calvary UMC, Attn: Special Christmas Gift, 1 West Wyomissing Ave., Mohnton, PA 19540



Calvary Christmas Card EXCHANGE

- Calvary will continue our tradition of exchanging Christmas cards among our LOCAL church members and friends. (In the past, many cards have NOT been picked up; therefore, we ask that cards NOT be left at church for out-of-town members.)
- Bruce Morton will set up a drop-off/pick-up table in the narthex after Thanksgiving.
- Please alphabetize your cards.
- Cards addressed to local shut-ins will be delivered by a member of Calvary, but if you have time to hand deliver shut-in cards, you are encouraged and welcomed to do so.







NEW ADDRESS

Lyle & Cheryl Neal
375 Freedom Blvd.
Coatesville, PA 19320

610-507-2750- Lyle
610-416-9981 - Cheryl

SAFE berks℠

Educate • Advocate • End Abuse

Dear Calvary Family,

Christmas is about a baby; a baby and its parents searching for a safe place for a new life to begin. That sounds very much like the mission statement for SAFE BERKS, "Safe Berks provides a safe haven and support..."

In the spirit of the season, let us do what we can to offer support for families seeking a safe environment, free from violence and abuse. For our Christmas giving, we will be collecting baby items: Baby lotion, Baby Wipes, Evenflo Feeding Baby Bottles and as always, diapers in all sizes. Please bring your donations to the church by December 20. Amazon gift cards are also welcome. All items can be placed on the designated SAFE BERKS counter at the end of the hallway.

Thank you in advance for showing the love of Christ to the world.

Diane Anderson

MIFFLIN COMMUNITY FOOD MINISTRY

is collecting
HOLIDAY ITEMS for



SUGGESTED DONATIONS:

- Socks – any type/style
- Body Wash
- Deodorant
- Toothpaste and toothbrushes
- Shampoo
- Hand soap
- Washcloths
- Children's Board Games
- Batteries – AA

Your support is greatly appreciated!