

# News from Calvary

Calvary Baptist Church  
120 W. Pennsylvania Avenue  
Towson, Maryland  
Telephone 410-825-3360

Visit Calvary on the Web, point your  
browser to:

<http://www.calvarybaptist-towson.org>

## From the Pastor:

The other day I received a call from a professor at St. Mary's Seminary asking if I would consider meeting three times with a student studying in preparation for the priesthood. This was to be done to guide the student to an understanding of the Baptist tradition's thoughts about inter-church relationships. Other students would be meeting with pastors from other Protestant traditions, and in the end they would present their experiences in a course next semester on Ecumenical studies. I said yes. So, in preparation for these meetings I have been reading some books on Baptist History so that I could recommend some appropriate texts to the student.

It has been interesting to read again about the roots of our tradition, and to see how we as Baptists have suffered from persecution without and turmoil within. In our beginnings, and possibly even now, there were many places in England and America which questioned our ability to be "good citizens." The Cambridge Platform of 1648, in its concluding words, would have definitely included Baptists among those who would suffer the Magistrate's "coercive powers." "9. *If any church one or more shall grow schismaticall, rending itself from the communion of other churches, or shall walke incorrigibly or obstinately in any corrupt way of their own, contrary to the rule of the word; in such case, the Magistrate is to put forth his coercive powr, as the matter shall require. The tribes on this side Jordan intended to make war against the other tribes, for building the altar of witness, whom they suspected to have turned away therin from following of the Lord. Finis.*" So it was, early in our nation's history, that Baptists were believed to be less than good



neighbors and therefore were expelled from the Massachusetts Bay Colony.

In our own native Maryland our act of Toleration in 1649 it is obvious that Jewish people were hardly welcomed in this state: "*Be it Therefore enacted that noe person or persons whatsoever within this Province, or the Islands, Ports, Harbors, Creekes, or havens hereunto belonging professing to believe in Jesus Christ, shall from henceforth bee any waies troubled, Molested or discountenanced for or in respect of his or her religion nor in the free exercise thereof ...*"

Our nation has had a long history of distrusting people of other faiths. I can remember the questions in 1959 about whether John Kennedy, a Roman Catholic, could be trusted to serve in the office of the President. Knowing this history it comes as no surprise that there are people today questioning whether Muslims can be "good citizens." Someone recently sent me an internet article on this subject, and I thought it might be good for us to talk about the article and this question in a "Thinking Together" time on October 17<sup>th</sup> from 4:00-5:30. Call if you are interested in the article. I am hoping the Ravens will have put away their opponent by 4:00 on that day.

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**Wednesday Evening Programs as usual.**

**October 2nd** Return cakes.

**October 3rd** Communion.

**October 10<sup>th</sup>**  
**Coffee Hour** following Church Service.

**October 11th**  
**12 Noon Annie Armstrong Circle** meeting in church social room, hostess Mary Frantz. Please bring a sandwich.

**7:30 p.m. Needles and News** meeting in the home of Judy Weimert.

**October 20th 5:45 p.m.** Deacons' Meeting

**October 14<sup>th</sup> 3:00 p.m.** Shelter Meal Preparation

**October 17<sup>th</sup> 4:00 p.m.**  
**Thinking Together**  
Can Muslims be "Good Citizens"

**October 23<sup>th</sup> 4:30 p.m. Fall Fest**  
**get-together.**

*Everyone is invited to help celebrate the Fall Season. There will be pumpkin carving at 4:30. Dinner will be served for all at 5:30, program to follow. Be sure to mark this date on your calendar now. Contributions are accepted for our Mission Project. Sign up on the sheet at the back door or on your attendance cards for an evening of family fun and activity.*

**October 26th** 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. **Sarah's Hope.** Volunteers are needed.

**November 7th Set your clocks back one hour.**

**November 7th 9:00 a.m.** Plans are being made now for our **Missions Breakfast.** Sign up on the cards and let us know if you would like to help with the preparation of or clean up after the meal.

**Tithes & Offerings Budget to date**

**\$117,794**

**Tithes & Offerings Received**

**101,579**

**-\$ 16,215**

Dear Calvary Friends;

Thank you for all of your cards, calls, and encouraging messages. Your kindness and encouragement is greatly appreciated.

Gratefully, Joe Bradley

The Assistance Center is planning for its annual **Thanksgiving Basket Project.** Last year, the supporting Churches and Towson Community contributed 2300 baskets for distribution throughout the area. The Center must be notified as to the number of baskets we will provide by **October 30<sup>th</sup>** so that a specific number can be pledged to the Dept. of Social Services and this also determines how many gift certificates they will need to purchase. A list of items, needs, and instructions are in the Church office. (Dry milk is off of the list). It is important these instructions be followed to keep the baskets consistent. The food baskets are to be delivered to and distributed from Trinity Episcopal Church's Memorial Hall. Volunteers are needed to help in the preparation and distribution of these baskets. All who are interested in participating by contributing items of food,

cash, or by volunteering, please contact the Church office 825-3360 for any information you may need.

## **2010 ACTC THANKSGIVING BASKETS**

Please include **ONLY** the following items in each basket:

All additional items should be in separate bags and marked "MISCELLANEOUS"

- 1 can sweet potatoes/yams (23-29 can)**
- 2 cans meat/main dish: beef stew or chili- (15-24 oz cans)**
- 1 large can fruit (20-30 oz can)**
- 4 cans vegetables (green beans, peas, corn- 15 oz cans)**
- 1 cranberry sauce**
- 2 pkg macaroni & cheese**
- 1 box instant mashed potatoes**
- 1 cake or brownie mix**
- 1 bag or box of stuffing mix**
- 1 lb bag or box of rice**

**\*Attention: Dry milk has been deleted from the list. We are asking that instead of this item, the donor might give a monetary contribution to be used for SuperMarket Certificates or gift cards.**

### **PLEASE DO NOT PUT MONEY IN THE BAGS.**

Please be careful when packing. Put large cans on the bottom and lighter or bagged items on the top to ensure the stability of the bag. Identify, again this year, on each basket whether its contents are complete or incomplete. Incomplete bags should be marked with what is missing.

This identification on each bag helps the committee be sure that each family receives a complete Thanksgiving Basket.

It is requested that items be packed in a double paper grocery bag inserted in blue plastic bags with handles or in an appropriate size box. Packing items in a reusable plastic basket or trash container would be a welcomed bonus.

Baskets should be delivered to Trinity Episcopal Church Memorial Hall on Wednesday, November 17th through 19<sup>th</sup>, between the hours of 10 and 3.

Someone from the Thanksgiving Basket Committee will be there to meet you on those days only.

### **PLEASE TRY TO ARRANGE DELIVERY TO TRINITY CHURCH DURING THE SCHEDULED DATES AND TIMES.**

If you have questions **OR** problems, please call us at 410-296-4855.

Thank you for your faithful support, Co-chair Thanksgiving Project,

Leesa Sipe –St John’s Methodist (410-525-7562)  
Mark Stokes-Immaculate Conception  
(410-825-2540)