More than Bread and Grape Juice

As the Sunday of chocolate eggs and bunny paraphernalia surges towards us, it’s easy to shake our heads and bemoan how the meaning of the season is so callously cast aside for candy and consumerism. (How is this complaint different from what has happened to Christmas?) What does it mean to the world to consider resurrection and faith, self-sacrifice and persecution, living in empire? These are significant questions with no easy answers and maybe it’s just easier to distract ourselves with chocolate and bunnies.

At Calvary, we are facing some significant questions with regard to staffing as two of our team will be retiring this year and the Ministry Mission Profile Committee examines the wider work of the church and its staff to recommend a path forward to address these coming vacancies. On a similar, but unrelated track, the Education and Students Committee of Middlesex Presbytery requested and encouraged our Recognized Designated Lay Minister, Beth Parsons, be trained in the administration of the sacraments. As Beth and I have met, discussed and pondered the various meanings of communion, I thought that it might be helpful to broaden this exploration by bringing such a focus to worship in the season of Lent.

In John 6, Jesus explains to his followers (in verses 55-57): Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me.

This teaching proves to be too much for them to understand, for a Jewish rabbi to speak of drinking blood, let alone cannibalism, and many followers left Jesus because of it. This Lent, we have spent (or will spend) time in worship learning about lesser-known biblical aspects of the Bread of Presence, the Four Cups and the priesthood of Melchizedek. We will reconnect communion’s connection to the Jewish Passover and really appreciate what that meant. It relates to what we think we know and understand about the Messiah.

When we have puzzled out what the meaning of communion is for each of us, and experience the feast as something more than a ritual or religious duty, it leads to a more deliberate and purposeful eating of bread and wine. When our entire being is consumed with the brief moment of taste, touch, smell, sight, and sound, the eternal can become very close and intense. The Buddhist tradition calls this attention to the moment “mindfulness” and encourages us to live fully into each opportunity we have.

With such a spirit of mindfulness, we know in every part of our being that communion is more than bread and grape juice, that life is more than the passage of lengthening days, and that Easter is more than chocolate and bunnies. Or even chocolate bunnies.

May we all abide in Christ, risen and real!

Blessings of a long-promised spring,

Rev. Kenji Marui

This is your invitation to Communion on April 13th, 2014. Delivered by:

“A person’s rewards in life are in direct proportion to their contributions.”
From the office files

Sarah Evelyn Rose Jones, daughter of Kolin and Erin Moody-Jones, was baptized at Calvary.

Watch for the New

Sometimes it is difficult to get our heads around the message that the season of newness is upon us. St. Paul once wrote, “The past is over, the new has come.” With ice and snow still piled high, I kind of wish that he was referring to winter and that the new season would come – quickly! However much we want the spring to come, we can be assured that it will; always does, and at the right time.

It is much more challenging for us to be enveloped in difficult, painful situations and look for signs of newness. Our United Church congregation in Lucan (as other churches in our Presbytery have been) is in that unthinkable, heart-wrenching experience. Faced with dwindling numbers, shrinking dollars and escalating costs, the congregation must consider what is a faithful response to these realities. It might mean closing the doors and ceasing to be a presence in the town, or having a much reduced ministry, or perhaps an amalgamation with an existing nearby congregation. Everything and anything can be considered. The challenge is to discern the message of resurrection and hope that when the past is over, the new can come. When death marks the end of a life, a congregation, a relationship, God promises to make something new – even beyond our feeble imagining. May God grant us hearts of courage, and the eyes of faith to see that assuring love, in whatever circumstances make us fearful.

Let us live in faith, live in love, live in hope this Easter season. And remember to uplift one another in prayer.

Gord Duncan
Minister of Visitation

WORSHIP, WEEK-BY-WEEK

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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| April 13 | Palm Sunday Communion  
“The Fourth Cup” |
| April 17 | Maundy Thursday potluck and worship at 6:00 p.m. |
| April 18 | Good Friday worship 10:30 a.m. at Calvary |
| April 20 | Easter morning  
“The Conspiracy of Christ” (Matthew 28: 1-15) |
| April 27 | In the spirit of Earth Day:  
“The Lorax” musical |
| May 4   | Study Leave |
| May 11  | Mother’s Day  
“A Mother’s Pride” (Acts 2: 42-47) |
| May 18  | Victoria Day weekend  
“Stoners and Salvation” (Acts 7:54 – 8:1) |
| May 25  | London Conference weekend |
| June 1  | “May be One?” John 17: 1-11 |

Spiritual food for a spiritual hunger!

MPRC
Middlesex Presbytery Resource Centre
Library, Store and Meeting Place
If you haven’t had a chance to visit us at our new location, we invite you to drop by for a tour soon!

Our new space is a wonderful fit for this unique ministry – centrally located and convenient for the people and ministries we serve – with enough room to do all the things we do. Browse, read and borrow at the MPRC library. Book the meeting room for your group. Invite us to bring a Book Display to your event. Visit our store for all kinds of books, resources, gifts, games, greeting cards and more!

We are now located at Dundas Centre United Church, 482 Dundas Street (Dundas at Maitland) Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. 519-434-6427 or email us at : mpr1@bellnet.ca

– Submitted by Karlene Kimber, MPRC director

CALVARY CATALYST

The Calvary Catalyst is published four times a year. Its purpose is to inform and report on news and events at Calvary United Church.

Submission deadline for the next issue is May 16th, 2014. Catalysts will be available in the sanctuary June 8th, 2014.

Submissions should be sent to Bruce Jones at: scouterbruce@rogers.com

The Catalyst, including previous issues, is also available online at: www.calvaryunitedchurch.on.ca

Calvary United Church
290 Ridout Street South, London, Ontario N6C 3Z1
Phone 519-434-5526 • E-mail: calvunitedchurch@execulink.com
Today we join in a time of remembrance and thanksgiving for persons of our Calvary family who have died this year. We are glad to welcome family and friends who have come to honour their loved ones. We know there are others among us this morning who have also lost loved ones, names which are not on our Memorial Roll but whom we hold dear in our hearts.

We remember and honour those this morning who worked with children, teachers, patients and doctors as educators, administrators, nurses and bankers. We think of how they put family first, revelled in nature, delighted in music, laughed at a good joke or always found time for a game of cards.

They made friends easily, they also kept their circle of friends close. They were gardeners and baseball fans, of Blue Jays’ baseball. They loved to laugh, pushed themselves to succeed, to provide for others. They had green thumbs and a photographer’s eye. As parents, they gave their children strong roots while encouraging them to soar with their own wings.

They fought in wars to support their country, they served God’s purpose in the world through involvement here at Calvary United, and at other churches nearby or further away, as people of faith, following the call of Christ, in all the ways we live our lives. As people good with names, or faces, or numbers, or handiwork, as people of big dreams or sticklers for detail, God loves and cares deeply for them and for us.

More than all of this, greater than the sum of every experience, is the identity and relationship they have for us: mother, father, sister, brother, daughter, son, aunt, uncle, grandparent, in-laws, members of complicated families, or very simply neighbour and friend.

For all that these people have been and done, not even the steady decline of age, or the suddenness of heart attack or stroke, or the betrayal of cancer can erase the moments of joy and thanksgiving that mean so much to us. The passage of time, the arrival of death itself, is undone by a faith in Christ for whom our preparations are made in this coming season.

Evelyn Brown
Murray Fox
Stella Hardingham
Earl Haskell
Doris Hopper
Helen Jeffrey
Vivan Langford
Phyllis McArthur
Theda McKenzie
Martin McLay
George McNichol
Mabel Morrison
Gertrude Muir
Betty Scholfield
Al Smalley
Ron Tucker

Financial Support for Pursuing Post-Secondary School Education

Application Deadline April 30, 2014

The Board of Trustees administers two programs designed to provide financial assistance to eligible applicants pursuing post-secondary school education at a Canadian university or college. The application deadline for the school year starting in September of this year is April 30. Applications will be reviewed by this year’s Selection Committee appointed by the Board of Trustees. Full details of the programs and application forms are on the church’s website (www.calvaryunitedchurch.on.ca).

Calvary Scholarship Program

Eligible applicants are members of Calvary or relatives of members who are under age 21 as of April 30. The amount of each scholarship has been raised starting this year from $400 to $500. The maximum number of recipients in any year is three. The scholarship is awarded for the first year of post-secondary school education. The criteria for awarding the scholarship include personal involvement in the life of our church. This scholarship program was established in 2005 with an initial donation of $1,200. Since then the scholarship fund has increased with new donations including a donation from the Trustees of $3,500 in 2013. Currently, the balance in the fund is $4,500. In the last nine years, there have been 11 scholarships awarded for a total amount of $4,400.

Calvary Bursary Program

Eligible applicants are members of Calvary or relatives of members who are under age 21 as of April 30. The amount of each scholarship has been raised starting this year from $400 to $500. The maximum number of recipients in any year is three. The scholarship is awarded for the first year of post-secondary school education. The criteria for awarding the scholarship include personal involvement in the life of our church. This scholarship program was established in 2005 with an initial donation of $1,200. Since then the scholarship fund has increased with new donations including a donation from the Trustees of $3,500 in 2013. Currently, the balance in the fund is $4,500. In the last nine years, there have been 11 scholarships awarded for a total amount of $4,400.

This program was funded through the estate of Miriam Lois Gibson.
Another brain-testing night of Trivia was held recently in the lower hall of Calvary. It was a tightly-fought battle of useless knowledge and lucky guesses, that went to a tie-breaking question. The winners were the Stray Cats (made up of folks who showed up without a team!) Proceeds went to help support the Church’s operating budget. Many thanks to all who participated.
Spiritual but Not Religious? Please Stop Boring Me


On airplanes, I dread the conversation with the person who finds out I am a minister and wants to use the flight time to explain to me that he is “spiritual but not religious.” Such a person will always share this as if it is some kind of daring insight, unique to him, bold in its rebellion against the religious status quo.

Next thing you know, he’s telling me that he finds God in the sunsets. These people always find God in the sunsets. And in walks on the beach. Sometimes I think these people never leave the beach or the mountains, what with all the communing with God they do on hilltops, hiking trails and... did I mention the beach at sunset yet?

Like people who go to church don’t see God in the sunset! Like we are these monastic little hermits who never leave the church building. How lucky we are to have these geniuses inform us that God is in nature. As if we don’t hear that in the psalms, the creation stories and throughout our deep tradition.

Being privately spiritual but not religious just doesn’t interest me. There is nothing challenging about having deep thoughts all by oneself. What is interesting is doing this work in community, where other people might call you on stuff, or heaven forbid, disagree with you. Where life with God gets rich and provocative is when you dig deeply into a tradition that you did not invent all for yourself.

Thank you for sharing, spiritual but not religious sunset person. You are now comfortably in the norm for self-centered American culture, right smack in the bland majority of people who find ancient religions dull but find themselves uniquely fascinating. Can I switch seats now and sit next to someone who has been shaped by a mighty cloud of witnesses instead? Can I spend my time talking to someone brave enough to encounter God in a real human community? Because when this flight gets choppy, that’s who I want by my side, holding my hand, saying a prayer and simply putting up with me, just like we try to do in church.

Information from the Board of Trustees

At the November meeting of the Board of Trustees, a lengthy discussion was held concerning matters pertaining to the insurance coverage provided by our present policy. This policy not only provides coverage in case of fire but also includes coverage for a multitude of other occurrences. One of the items of coverage is for bodily and personal injury which applies to incidents to persons injured while attending a church-related event. Examples of these events might be: worship services, Sunday School, UCW, Second Milers, weddings, funerals, etc.

For many years, Calvary has promoted and encouraged outside groups to use some of our facilities for their meetings, banquets, and other functions. Rental income and/or donations from these sources provides great benefit to assist with budget requirements and more importantly is a large part of our church’s community outreach. However, in recent times, the matter of personal liability while using church facilities has become an increasing concern to the extent that insurers are refusing to cover lawsuits brought against churches for injuries suffered by individuals while attending these functions.

Recently, the General Insurance Plan for the United Church of Canada and the insurance carrier, Hub International has stated that a group using the facilities for non-church activities will be required to arrange separate liability insurance coverage to cover the risk associated with the use of the facilities. At present all groups have arranged for this coverage, including Girl Guides of Canada, Scouts Canada, Calvary Group, Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada and Yoga with Susan.

Non-church activities may include such activities as non-United Church of Canada meetings, birthday parties, anniversary celebrations, musical productions, concerts and any other function which is not open to all members of the congregation. Liability coverage for any event at the church can often be obtained through your personal insurance agent. Insurance coverage for any of these functions is readily available through Hub International for a nominal fee (www.hubinternational.com). If you are considering the use of church facilities for a non-church event, please obtain information from the church office prior to any insurance booking to ensure that you are aware of the specific requirements and associated costs.

– Gerry Admans

Christmas Eve at Calvary

No, this ladder, standing straight up outside the North wall of Calvary was no balancing act. It was safely and firmly affixed to the handrail of the access ramp on Garfield Avenue by Dick Kussner and Peter Ferguson. Atop the 25 ft ladder was a spotlight illuminating the last stained glass window on the side – showing Jesus and Mary at the Nativity. Part of the Christmas Eve celebration at Calvary.
Welcome to our New Members
On December 8th we welcomed new members to Calvary.

EASTER IN CALVARY LIBRARY

The Case for Easter by Lee Strobel
A legal journalist investigates the evidence for the resurrection. How credible is the medical evidence, the evidence of the missing body, and the evidence of appearances? Is the resurrection a superstitious myth or life-changing reality? Mr. Stobel’s books, The Case for Christ and The Case for Faith, are also available in Calvary Library.

Our Family Easter Book, compiled by Mary Batchelor
Included are stories and activities for the family. For example, read excerpts from C.S. Lewis’ The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe and John Bunyan’s Pilgrim’s Progress. Compare each to the Easter story. Read the chapter ‘Looking at the Evidence’ and discuss questions surrounding the resurrection. You could try a new recipe or work on a craft together.

An Easter Carol, a Veggie Tale DVD
The story is based on A Christmas Carol. It addresses the commercialism of Easter. The mechanical chickens and chicken rap are hysterical. Hope, a music box angel, helps Ebenezer Neezer in his discovery of the real meaning of Easter. There’s a karaoke session and children get a lesson in drawing mechanical chickens and the angel Hope.

Happy Easter All
from your Calvary Library Committee

From our Catalyst Youth Correspondent Kayla Lindsay
Throughout the Scouting program there are many levels. There are Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers, Med vents, and Rovers. I have personally only been in two of them, Scouts and Venturers.

Now the Scouting program doesn’t mean only your age categories, it means more. It means that you are ready to go to the higher level and learn new things and have fun while doing so. In Scouts I learned how to tie knots, make a shelter with only a tarp and rope, etc.

Through Venturers we take what we have learnt in the program and bring it up to the next level. We learn to build shelters with only twine and we don’t just talk about being a leader, we become our own leaders and help to prepare the Scouts for the challenges up ahead.

– Kayla

Kayla and some of the 31st Venturer Company help out regularly at the Youth Dances run by the 31st Scout Troop. Matthew, Kayla, Lucas, Alex and Madie.
Spring Busyness...

As the busyness of spring (we hope) unfolds, so too is the busyness at Calvary. Here are some events on the horizon. Registrations are filling quickly, so don’t delay! For events related to London Conference, please register online at www.londonconference.ca.

If you have any questions about events, do not hesitate to contact me.

Happy Spring!

– Beth

Daffodil Tea

Sunday, April 6th after worship
Proceeds to Pediatric Cancer

Calvary Fun Camps

Mark your calendars for two camps being offered this summer at Calvary.

July 7 to 11th & July 21st to 25th
Registrations will be mailed out or available in the office by the end of March

Youth Forum 2014

“Spare Some Change”
April 10th to 13th @ Pearce Williams

White Oaks United Church Food Pantry

For years we at Calvary have collected non-perishable groceries to help stock White Oaks United Church’s food pantry. Traditionally, members have brought dry and canned goods on the first Sunday of each month and placed them in the bins at the back of the church.

The “pantry” is always in need of items such as school snacks, cereal, juices and canned meats. Please feel free to bring items on any Sunday. Thanks to everyone for their generous donations over the years.

Also a big thank you goes out to Mary Margaret Farrow and Anne Beattie-Stokes who have delivered everything to the pantry from month to month.

At the Annual Meeting

Our Treasurer, Nancy Hind, smiles as she presents the 2013 financial report at the Annual Congregational Meeting. She stated she wore black to celebrate being “in the black” on the year’s budget, then jokingly pulled out a red scarf to remind us there is still some “red ink” from previous budget shortfalls.
The youth of the church turned out in force to help with our Shrove Tuesday/Pancake Day preparations. They set the tables, mixed up the batter, made coffee, cooked the pancakes, prepared the ham and laughed a lot. After the meal they helped to collect the dirty dishes and delivered them back to the kitchen.

Preparations for Shrove Tuesday started off the night before when the Scout Venturers finished their meeting at 9:00 p.m. They went down to the lower hall and put up the chairs and tables for the next day’s event. (Beth and I had made arrangements to meet Tuesday at 8:30 a.m. to do this!) We were thrilled the next morning to find the job done. Thanks Venturers.

“By far the best Pancake Day we’ve ever had!” was a sentiment that was expressed by more than a few people. The big difference was Ken McLagan and his Uptown Dixieland Jazz Band playing on the Calvary stage.

One small difference we encountered this year was that we ran out of coffee. We made the same amount as other years but not to be deterred we used the smaller coffee makers and made 36 more cups. When that ran out we made another 30. Those coffee urns were emptied too! Why the difference in coffee consumption? Here’s our guess. After finishing their meals, rather than leave, people got another cup of coffee and sat back and listened to the music as it transported them back to New Orleans just as Mardi Gras finishes.

Not only did we have a wonderful evening but the students in Haiti will benefit as $600 dollars will be coming their way to help with school supplies for the schools destroyed by the earthquake.

Thank you to everyone involved.
The Youth Group has switched their meeting time from Sundays to Fridays. The hope was more students would be...
Calvary Happenings

Christmas Eve service. Some past “Groupies” home for the holidays.

able to attend if we switched the day. Good try but it didn’t work as well as I had hoped. After switching, I learned that the students who were attending on Sundays were busy on Fridays. Those who couldn’t make it Sundays because of homework also haven’t made it on Fridays, yet. A few students attend most weeks.

We’ll keep trying but the youth group has evolved into an “events youth group” which most other youth groups are already. Some event is taking place when they meet... bowling, camping, lake days or tobogganing.

I prefer the weekly meeting type of youth group. It doesn’t stop the events from happening and even makes the events more worthwhile as the members have a hand in deciding what event we’ll be involved with and how to go about it. Events-style youth groups make it more difficult to discuss the Bible or any other subject the students are concerned about.

– Phil

Christmas Eve service. Some past “Groupies” home for the holidays.

On Music Sunday the Senior Choir, Jim and Tina presented “Gloria” by Antonio Vivaldi.

Music Sunday... Beth, Ron, Vince, Fran and Kaitlyn.

Guarding the Timbits on Baden-Powell Sunday... Rev. Kenji in his finest Scouting attire.

One Liners

Coincidence is when God chooses to remain anonymous.

We’re called to be witnesses, not lawyers or judges.

The Lord didn’t create anything without a purpose, but mosquitoes come close.

When you get to your wit’s end, you’ll find God lives there.

People are funny; they want the front of the bus, the middle of the road, and the back of the church.

Opportunity may knock once, but temptation bangs on the front door forever.
Calvary Happenings

Our Guest Speaker on Jan. 5th was David Exley. The whole family was here for the service... David and Betsy with daughters Leah and Emma.

Beth and Calvary’s Youth (plus Brian of course) put on the 2013 Christmas Musical: The Miraculous Christmas Wish Radio Show. The cast was made up of: Katelyn, Bryden, Matthew, Jennifer, Alyssa, Heather, Sheina, Kayla, Steven and Kai. Additional voices: Val, Danielle and Kaitlyn. Set design by: Reiko, Jennifer, Sheina and Heather. Sound: Ken. Music by Jim. Thanks Beth! Thank you to all these talented people for an amazing show.

The Calvary Sanctuary Tree all decorated with mittens, hats & scarves donated to the London Community Chaplaincy. Thanks everyone for your support. – Beth

Matthew performed an awesome “You Raise Me Up” on Memorial Sunday following the reading of the Memorial Roll.

Wow, what a performance... Heather, Sheina, & Alyssa!
Stewardship & Finance Committee

2013 was a challenging year as Calvary started with a deficit of $22,669. With the 2013 budget approval of a deficit for the year, Calvary would have ended the year with a total deficit of $58,144. The Stewardship & Finance Committee had an open meeting in April to discuss ideas to increase givings. Due to the suggestions implemented from this meeting, Calvary ended 2013 on a positive note. For the year 2013 we ended with a surplus of $8,044. Thank you for your increased donations.

However, Calvary still started 2014 with a Cumulative Deficit of $14,626. So please continue with the increased givings that you started last year.

Just a reminder about our Annual Rain Barrel sale coming again this May. Details with be coming soon.

**Have you started using the Shopping/Gift Card Fundraiser?**

The Shopping/Gift Card program is easy and costs you nothing but a bit of planning. Contact Nancy Hind 519-434-4048 or nancyhind@rogers.com with questions. Upcoming order dates are: April 13 & 27, May 11 & 25, June 8 & 22, July 6 & 20, August 3, 17 & 31 ... and every other week thereafter.

– Nancy

London Community Chaplaincy Walk-A-Thon

A Walk-A-Thon in support of the London Community Chaplaincy was held on Sunday, Nov. 10, 2013, at the BMO Sports Centre. We are pleased to announce that $1,300 was raised for this very worthwhile cause! A sincere thank you to the Calvary congregation for sponsoring me at this Walk-A-Thon!

– Linda Baker, Outreach Committee.

The Second Milers

The Second Milers met for their semi-annual luncheon the last week of November. The event was catered by Linda Arthur and she lived up to her reputation of delivering a fabulous lunch plus a dessert tray to die for. After the meal, Kay Casler spoke to the group about her services for seniors. It was an extremely enjoyable day.

Kay speaks to the group about her services for seniors.

Enjoying the luncheon.
Community Breakfast

For more than a decade, one of Calvary’s outreach activities has been the community breakfast. On the third Saturday morning of every month, our church hosts a breakfast from 9 to 11 a.m. for members of the community. There are four teams, each of which are responsible for hosting three breakfasts throughout the year.

Other churches in the Old South/Wortley Village community take turns hosting on the remaining Saturdays of each month. A full breakfast including pancakes, scrambled eggs, ham, oatmeal, cold cereal, toast, fresh fruit, juice, milk and coffee are served. Some teams have “quirky” names for the various combos: e.g. The Full Monty includes ham, eggs and pancakes and a Dr. Seuss consists of eggs and ham. Each month we serve an average of 60-75 people, some months over 100. All together we have served approximately 10,000 meals!

New volunteers are always welcome! Please contact Brian and Bonnie McNichol at 519-681-6677 if you are interested in helping.

Commissioner’s Corner

Our founder of the Scouting movement, Lord Baden-Powell, was born on Feb 22nd, 1857. Every year we honour BP with a week of exciting activities that include BP Fun Night, where each of our Scouting sections present songs and skits to each other, leaders and parents. We also have a Scouting Family Knight to watch the London Knights in action.

Another highlight is BP Sunday where our Scouting members join church members for the BP Sunday service. The Scouting Charter is presented by Calvary to the 31st Scout Group. The 31st Scout Group really appreciates the long-term support of Calvary. We take this opportunity to recognize Scout Leaders and Youth that have been presented with awards. This year we created a new 31st Group Award. The Adrienne Saunders Award for Perseverance was presented to Adrienne in appreciation of her long-term contribution to Scouting while MS attacks her body but not her Scouting Spirit. Rev. Kenji always does a great spiritual service with excellent linking to our Scouting youth. We especially enjoy the Story Reading.

See you next BP Sunday!

John Blacklock aka Scouterjack
31st London – Group Commissioner
519-439-2905

Remembrance Day

Calvary United Church Honours their Veterans, Remembrance Day Service 2013
From top left: Don Tuckey-RCNVR, Bruce Griffeth-RCAF, Jack Kerr-RCNVR, front: Peter Brown-RCAF 404 Squadron, Paul Gaskin-RCNVR, Glen French-RCR, Thank you.

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The Annual Turkey Dinner

This year’s Turkey Dinner was another great success. The Lower Hall was packed with appreciative diners. Congratulations to Mary Kannako, Marg LaRocque, Liz MacDonald and Nancy Hind. Plus Karen Dickie for ticket sales. Thanks to all the volunteers!

Full plates for everyone... Deb, Kris and Linda.

Donna and Vaughan... clean hands and dirty hands!

Service with a smile from Christine and Paul.

Karen, Kay and Grace serving dessert for all who still had room for it!
Calvary’s 2014 Lenten Project – Education Projects Near and Far

This year, Calvary’s Lenten Project is called “Education Projects Near and Far” and consists of three projects featured in the United Church of Canada’s Gifts with Vision catalogue www.giftswithvision.ca/projects. The projects were chosen by the Outreach Committee and support education initiatives in Haiti, Mozambique and right here at Western University in London, Ontario.

The three projects are:

1) Fund School Books – Price: $50.00

With the United Church as the largest single donor, the Karl Lévêque Cultural Institute has completed a school in Codtrelle, a village on Haiti’s south coast. The old two-room, thatch-roofed building has been replaced by a concrete-block, four-room school. Now you can help equip it.

Your gift will pay for new books and supplies for one student. Gift code: GWV13-05

2) Make Dreams Come True – Price: $300.00

Educate a girl and educate the nation. This is a saying in Mozambique and a dream for many rural girls who are unable to afford an education.

The Christian Council of Mozambique helps farmers cover school costs with bursaries for fees, transportation, uniforms, personal products, and school supplies. Help a girl realize her educational dream.

Your gift will provide a one-year bursary for a girl in Mozambique. Gift code: GWV13-07

3) Exam Oasis: United Church Chaplaincy Office at Western University – Price: $50.00

United on Campus is a full-time affirming spiritual community at Western University in London, Ontario, based on the mission of the United Church to promote respect, dignity, safety, and compassion.

Your Gift will contribute to community meals and Exam Oasis programming.

Gift code: GWV13-03

You may choose to support a portion of one project, all of one project, or allow the Outreach Committee to combine your donation with other donations for a specific program. Indicate your choice on the front of a donation envelope which can be found at the back of the church. Please make your cheque payable to “The United Church of Canada” and write Gifts with Vision and the gift code in the memo line. Tax receipts will be issued by the United Church national office.

Place your donation envelope on the offering plate or return to the church office by Sunday, April 27th.

Thank you, your gift is gratefully received.

About those tiny envelopes attached to your Catalyst

Attached to this issue of the Catalyst you will find a tiny envelope. Inside the envelope will be two church business cards for each member of the church.

We are asking that each of you, over the course of this year, hand out your two cards to people you think would be good people to join us here at Calvary.

I know it goes against most of our natures to solicit business for the church but the importance of this is becoming more and more apparent.

We need more people. We especially need more young families.

Maybe if we all do our part we’ll find by this time next year we’ll be seeing lots of smiling little faces racing up to the front for Children’s Time.

– Phil Downes

YOU ARE NOT ALONE
You are welcome here
Calvary’s 123rd Anniversary

On Nov. 17, 2013 Calvary celebrated its 123rd Anniversary. It was a wonderful service with beautiful musical moments. Our guest speaker was the Rev. Matthew Stevens, Retired Minister of Social Justice, United Church of Canada. The service was followed by lunch in the lower hall courtesy of the Worship Committee.

Alyssa sang a marvellous “Colours of the Wind”.

Matthew Stevens shares a moment with Isabel, Ezra and Penelope at the lunch following worship.

Kenji, Matthew and Jim following the service.
Mathew Hurlbut
Mathew is in his final year at Lambton College, Sarnia and will graduate in June with his Industrial Millwright Technician Diploma. He spent the summer in Fort McMurray, Alberta as a Welding Apprentice. He was awarded the Bourque Mechanical Technician Award, for first year students in October 2013. Mathew has been invited by Aqua Industrial, to join the Fort Mac crew full time and will head west to continue to work towards his journeyman tickets in Welding and Industrial Millwright. Thank you Calvary, for your scholarship and bursary support, it has been a great help.

Michele Hurlbut
Michele is graduating from McMaster University this spring with a Bachelor’s Degree in Sociology. She has been busy this past year as the President of the Sociology Society and participating in the interview process to choose the new Chair for the Sociology Department at McMaster. This summer, she will be continuing her work at a Long-Term Care facility in Hamilton, Ontario. Michele has been accepted to a post-grad program for Human Resources Management at Mohawk College, and will begin in the fall of 2014.

Peter Jones
Peter is currently in Tübingen, Germany working towards a Ph.D of Applied Physics in Neuroengineering. He works at the Natural and Medical Sciences Institute (NMI) at the University of Tübingen. He manages to get away for travel and came home for Christmas this year.

Lindsay Kernohan
Lindsay is currently a Master of Arts candidate in the Department of History at Western University. Her research focuses on 19th century England, examining crime and societal issues which affects the constructs of family, marriage, and childhood. She works as a Graduate Teaching Assistant; teaching a course on Early Modern European History. Lindsay remains heavily involved with both the UWO History Society and UWO Dance Force. She graduated with her BA, Honors Specialization in History from Western University in Spring 2013.

Robert Kernohan

Rachel Lee
Rachel started her first year of Pharmacy School at the University of Waterloo this January. She had the past eight months off and spent her time working in the pharmacy at Shoppers Drug Mart, taking a few interest courses at Fanshawe College and travelling.

Kaitlyn McLagan
Kaitlyn is currently attending Western University for a major in Vocal Music and a minor in Psychology. She plans to combine her studies for a career as a music therapist. During the summer months and during the year she works part-time as a Sports Advisor at National Sports.

Sarah McLagan
Sarah is currently at Queen’s University in Kingston in the Concurrent Education Program pursuing a career as a primary teacher. During the summer Sarah scooped ice cream at the Double Decker Ice Cream Bus.

Danielle McNichol
Danielle graduated from Laurier Secondary School in June 2013. She returned for one semester to complete a Co-op in Interior Design with Bonnie McArthur Interior Design. Danielle recently accepted an offer from Humber College in Toronto to their four-year Interior Design program, starting in September 2014.

Valerie McNichol
Val graduated from the Fanshawe-Western Nursing program in June 2013 with an Honours BScN. She has been working at University Hospital in London since November 2013 on the NRU (Nursing Resource Team).